Parking problems are overstated

BY AUSTIN MACKENZIE STAFF REPORTER

Despite the general feeling that parking is a problem on campus, a recent polling suggests that things may not be nearly as bad as we might think.

In a poll conducted by three students as part of a statistics project, 72 percent of the 90 students polled said they could find a place to park within five minutes of entering the parking lot.

The poll was conducted within the Highline Student Union between 10 p.m. and 1 p.m.

Sixty-five percent of students polled said they found a parking space within five minutes, 19 percent found one within 10 minutes, 6 percent found one within 15 minutes, and 3 percent found one within 20 minutes.

The times of arrival for the students polled were quite diverse, ranging from 6 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and students who found parking within one minute fell within every part of that time frame.

It should also be noted that while there is a trend of later arrivals having to search for parking, there were several people who arrived within a time frame where there is readily available parking that still had difficulty finding parking.

This was confirmed by comparing the time of arrivals and time spent finding parking.

For example, a few of those polled who arrived at 9 a.m. or 10 a.m. spent between 15 and 20 minutes looking for parking.

However, several other students within these time brackets reported times ranging from one to seven minutes.

Interviews with students shed some light on the situation.

Many of the students who had had experiences with finding parking often spoke of how difficult it was to find parking in the east parking lot.

However, when asked why they didn't park in another lot, they brushed the solution aside, figuring it would not work or saying that they did not wish to walk.

Given the results of the poll and the attitudes of some of the students polled, it can be hypothesized that the parking problem is publicized by a small but vocal minority of students who do not attempt to park in other lots or who arrive within five to 10 minutes from the hour.

This can be corroborated by the research, as of the few who had trouble finding parking within 10 minutes, most arrived near the starting time of class when the lots are typically full.

What is certainly clear is that the student body, as a whole, seems to believe that parking is a grave problem, despite the admittance by most students that it was not a problem for them personally.

Of the 90 polled, 88 believed that parking was a problem, the only two negative answers being from someone who was unsure and someone who didn't care.

All 90 of those polled believed that the college was not doing enough to address the issue.

The arrival times were broken down fairly evenly in the middle hours, often considered the peak hours of parking, as well as a few in the outlying times.

Three percent arrived between 6 a.m. and 7 a.m., 17 percent arrived between 7 and 8 a.m., 27 percent arrived between 8 and 9 a.m., 17 percent

See Parking, page 11

Students can start their college classes on the weekend

BY ALEX CAHAN STAFF REPORTER

Some students really want to further their education, but can't because of family and work obligations. To combat this, Highline has a new program, especially for the busy student starting Winter Quarter.

Weekend College is a selection of hybrid courses. A hybrid course is where some work is done in the classroom, and the rest is done online.

"The purpose of Weekend College is to offer a program to students who are working adults with families, full-time jobs, and need their time during the week," said Sue Kelly, of the Transfers and Pre-College Studies departments.

Weekend College is mostly done online, when it is convenient for the student.

The class time is reduced to a few hours every other weekend.

"It was born out of the idea of a need to have an alternative schedule for working individuals," said Kelly.

Weekend class times can be Friday evenings, Saturday mornings or Sunday afternoons.

Since it is only every other week a student is expected to be at class, it is more convenient for students who want to continue working or don't have time during the week.

The recent drop in student enrollment is part of the reason this system has been offered.

Some students have dropped out or not come to Highline in the first place because of time commitments. It is hoped that this new program will turn potential students into actual students.

"It may attract students we haven't had before. Hopefully we can attract students to come to Highline," said Kelly.

The program has been available through Bellevue Community College, and it has had a successful run.

Highline also held a similar program, just completed last year. It was a two-year program for an associate's degree in education.

"The hybrid model worked very well for us," said Joan Graham, the adviser for the Elementary Education program. "The real drop those first two years of the program, however, was that the students had to give up every Saturday for seven quarters. Some had to drop out for a variety of reasons, but, amazingly, a number of them did complete the requirements for the AA Transfer in Education."

"The program has since

See Weekend, page 11
Don't just sit and let people make decisions for you. Get involved, that is the motto of the Black Student Union (BSU). The BSU was started up again officially a few weeks ago. Members have been meeting for several weeks now, but they were recognized as an active club on Nov. 8 at the last Student Government meeting. The BSU was already formed but just wasn't active," said club President, Lamont Styles. "I talked to Yoshiko (Harden) and got signed up." The BSU's mission statement says that "in the Black Student Union we are devoted to our school and our community. Our goals involve not bringing awareness and education about situations and issues in our community, but creating activities and forums to brainstorm solutions." Yoshiko Harden and Darryl Bricc are the advisors for the BSU.

"We're trying to work with some African students and trying to get them to participate," said Styles. "We try to reach out to other clubs like the United Latin American Association (ULA); Juliana is trying to form an alliance to get more information about different cultures." The BSU's goals also include getting more students of color to come to Highline.

"We're trying to get a better turnout, a better support group from the community," said Styles. "We want more minorities to come to Highline. An upcoming event that the BSU is sponsoring is Open Mike Poetry Reading to celebrate Kwanzaa.

Students who would like to read poetry should submit their work to Styles prior to the reading. One of the holidays that the BSU is celebrating is Kwanzaa. Kwanzaa is an African-American and a Pan-African holiday celebrated by millions in the world African community. Kwanzaa was created by Dr. Maulana Karenga, in 1966 during the Black Freedom Movement. The name Kwanzaa is derived from the phrase "Matunda ya Kwanza" which means "first fruits" in Swahili. The goal of Kwanzaa was to introduce and reinforce "Nguzo Saba" or The Seven Principles. The seven principles are:

*Ujima (Unity)-To strive for and maintain unity in the family, community, nation and race.  
*Kujichagulia (Self-Determination) To define ourselves, name ourselves, create for ourselves and speak for ourselves.  
*Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics) To build and maintain our own stores, shops and other businesses and to profit from them together.  
*Nia (Purpose) To make our collective vocation the building and developing of our community in order to restore our people to their traditional greatness.  
*Kuumba (Creativity) To do always as much as we can, in the way we can, in order to leave our community more beautiful and beneficial than we inherited it.  
*Imani (Faith) To believe with our heart in our people, our parents, our teachers, our leaders and the righteousness and victory of our struggle.  
*Kwanzaa begins on Dec. 26 and continues until Jan.1.  
"Ultimately I think that the principles should be adapted to everyday life, and not only be isolated in a certain time of the year," said Vice President, Kiama Hayes. "I understand that's the time it's celebrated, but the concepts are something that should be applied to your everyday life." The Open Mike Poetry Reading will be on Nov. 30 from 1-2 p.m. – 3 p.m. in Building 7. It is open to everyone and refreshments will be served. The BSU meets every Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Building 10, room, 201. All students and community members all welcome.

For more information contact Styles at Lamont_styles@yahoo.com or Harden at 206-878-3710 ext. 3041 or Bricc at 206-878-3710 ext. 3648.
Learning within before discovering outside.

That was the focus of last Friday’s Science Seminar presented by Highline physics instructor Igor Glozman.

Glozman’s presentation, titled In Search of Gaia, focused on the search for what he describes as the Holy Grail of Astronomy: life outside Earth.

Before we can find life outside our planet, however, Glozman said we need to discover what makes a planet like Earth able to support life.

According to Glozman, Earth’s perfect combination of water, oxygen, ozone and plate tectonics makes it possible to harbor life.

Earth owes this winning combination mainly to its ideal location in the solar system and what is known as the Goldilocks Theory: “It’s not too hot, it’s not too cold.”

According to Glozman, our solar system was formed from a contracting nebula that is constantly moving and spinning “like the way a pizza crust is made.”

“We have computer simulations that show this to be reasonably likely to have happened this way,” said Glozman.

“Everything in space is moving. Nothing stays still.”

Every solar system orbits a star similar to our sun has what is known as a Habitable Zone. The habitable zone of a solar system encompasses the distances from a star where liquid water can exist on a planet’s surface.

It’s this area of any given system that scientists believe is most likely to contain Earth-like planets.

Scientists use several different methods to search for planets outside of our solar system.

According to Glozman, the most effective method is detecting a planet by noting its wobble with what is known as the Doppler Effect.

Using Doppler radar, a planet can be discovered when its wobble causes a shift in the light rays it emits.

If the planet is moving away from Earth, the detected light rays would be more towards the red side of the color scale.

If the planet is moving towards the Earth, the detected light rays would be shifted towards the blue side of the scale.

Sometimes the detected wobble of a known planet can lead to the discovery of a totally different entity.

“The wobble of Uranus led to the discovery of Neptune,” said Glozman.

In 1995 scientists discovered the first extrasolar planet (planet outside our solar system) orbiting the star 51 Pegasi, a star similar to our sun.

The planet is 50 light years away and has an orbit about 13 percent that of Mercury’s.

**Highline physics instructor Igor Glozman presented at the Science Seminar: In Search of Gaia.**

**Photo by Aliisa Mendez**

Fred Capestany, lead coordinator of the project, said the topic was “Leading From Within” theme.

“We selected this theme because we believe that the first step toward effective leadership is to get to know yourself,” said Capestany.

He said leadership training helps students prepare for jobs or further education.

“You will gain a deeper understanding of who you are. You will learn more about your core values, your purpose/mision, what is important to you and how you can make deeper/stronger connections with your community,” Capestany said.

A light-year is the distance light travels in one year.

To get a general idea of how far away the newly discovered planet actually is, our sun is 93 million miles away from Earth or .00001585 light years away.

Glozman made a point to emphasize how huge and expansive distances are in space.

“If you were to shrink the Earth to the size of a golf ball and placed it in Chicago, our nearest star, the sun, would be on the east coast,” said Glozman.

Scientists will be receiving a new array of tools to overcome these great distances in the very near future.

Located atop Mauna Kea, Hawaii, the new Keck Interferometer will use the world’s largest pair of optical telescopes to survey sky dust of distant solar systems.

NASA’s Kepler Spacecraft will be given its mission to search for habitable planets in other solar systems by constantly monitoring up to 100,000 stars simultaneously by 2008.

Kate Gulliford will be host and a presentation on The Chemistry of Illlicit Drugs on Friday, December 2.

Science Seminar is held from 2:10 p.m. to 3 p.m. in building 3, room 102 and is open everyone.

For more information call 206-687-3710.

Students are encouraged to join the leadership retreat
Keeping healthy and rested for finals week

With the approach of finals, it is important that students are taking care of their bodies and minds. While it is not uncommon for finals week to be accompanied by a great deal of tension and stress, there are many things that can be done to prepare and hopefully lessen the feelings.

First and foremost in importance is getting enough sleep. This is obviously difficult for many to do because of work and school, but it is one of the best ways of ensuring that you are performing at your peak potential.

Lack of sleep can cause you to remember things poorly and not absorb material as well, two things that can prove absolutely disastrous to preparing for an exam. As with lack of sleep, lack of food can also stunt the mind's ability to learn and recall, and eating well is a good way to keep healthy.

All in all, the only thing worse than taking an exam is taking an exam while ill.

Equally important is ensuring that one is prepared to take the exam. While it is natural to fear an exam, if one has prepared properly there is far less to fear.

One of the major things to avoid in this situation is the last-minute cramming. Instead, take the time left until finals to learn the material, and learn it well.

Spend some time over the course of a few weeks reviewing and testing yourself on the material, you'll find that your levels of recollection will be much higher than if you had just spent the last few nights cramming.

For those that feel cramming is an absolute necessity, I will stress my prior point. Do not cram. Cramming is not helpful in the long run, and it will not serve you well in important tests such as this. Retention is low, and the potential abuse the body might suffer in a cram session is not worth it.

Another aspect to consider is the attitude. If you continue to let yourself be afraid of the exam, it will continue to weigh heavily on you and stress you out.

If possible, try to approach it with more of a "can-do" attitude. You'll find that your stress levels are much lower if you are more certain of yourself. If you follow the above advice, there is no reason for you to think that you aren't ready.

Get enough sleep. Eat properly. Learn the material. Don't just cram right before the test.

These things can help you excel at most any exam you might take.

So long as you take the time and put forth the effort, there is no reason why you cannot do well on these tests.

With this all firmly in mind, there is no reason to worry at all.

Less than two weeks ago, I fretted about many things. My fantasy football team, my car that needs some body work, the stock market and many other things I now deem much less important.

I am much happier and more content than I have been in years, and I owe it all to a 10-day trip to Peru. My reason for going to Peru was to hike the Inca Trail to the famed Incan ruins, Machu Picchu.

More than just seeing one of the world's most stunning sites, my wife and I also went for the challenge of walking the 27-mile trail in the Andes Mountains, much of it very steep and at elevations that reached nearly 14,000 feet.

The four-day hike was everything I dreamed it would be, but it is not what I will remember the most from the trip.

The most vivid images are of the Peruvians: from the pre-school kids begging you to buy finger puppets for about a quarter, telling you they are hungry, to the farmers manually plowing their fields with the help of cows. When you see a cute little kid tell you that paniers is slow and they aren't eating, it makes getting mad over how many touchdowns Peyton Manning threw seem ridiculous.

If someone cuts me off on the road, I am going to remind myself to be happy that I have a car. You don't see many cars in the mountains of Peru. People there can't afford cars.

You don't see many canes in the mountains of Peru. People there can't afford cars. I won't forget the looks of anxiety from women selling handcrafts they had worked hours on, just hoping I would find them worth $5.

I will remember that the next time I am anxious that I might miss the first few minutes of a basketball game.

The next time I complain about how much money I make, I will think about the porters who carried all of our belongings, food and sleeping gear on the hike. I will remember that they are paid about $5 a day.

I will also remember that despite living in poverty that most Americans would likely find unbearable, the people of Peru seem genuinely happy, and were forgiving of tourists' excesses.

How many times have you been told you should be happy with what you have? That you are fortunate compared to others. I have heard it, and I have said it to others, and not for a second did I buy into it.

But something happened to me in the thin altitude of Peru. I became more grateful. I became more thankful, and I hope those feelings don't fade.

I saw beautiful mountains, met some great traveling companions and saw some amazing ruins, but what I will be celebrating on this Thanksgiving is a new, healthier attitude toward life.

Scott Hanson is the advisor for the Highline Thunderword

"Photographer stabbed with copper llama."

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The Thunderword

Opinion

Guest Column

Scott Hanson
Letter to the editor

"When was the last time I was in line at a grocery store, bombarded by images of what a woman should look like and feel inadequate as a woman?"

Never.

Not to say that I'm not bombarded with images of what MEN should look like.

And not to say that I am concerned for what my wife's image is of herself based on those same images.

There are magazines and movies attempting to change media perceptions of women. Images of full-figured women, commonly referred to as Big and Beautiful Women. I applaud such efforts.

Anyone who's seen me on campus knows I'm big, fat, and bald.

I'm not going to be criticizing women for not measuring up to media standards.

My wife has also gained weight since we were married 20 years ago.

I love her just as much now as I did then and I let her know. Millions of dollars may be lost, but there are millions of dollars to be made in those same realistic portrayals of women of any age, race or size.

There have been more than 200 years of democracy dominated by men. I thought this discussion might be about how the NEXT 200 years might be about MORE than democracy, dominated by men.

We might not be there yet, but there are more women in power now than there were 30 to 40 years ago and hopefully will be more than 30 to 40 years from NOW than there currently are. We can't change the past. We can change the future.

I, further said, also true, that men aren't the only ones making decisions on stories about women which impact media portrayal of women, and men and women see women as sex objects, and men and women prefer looking at attractive women in the media.

One of the top rated shows on television right now is "DESPERATE HOUSEWIVES".

I don't watch it, but, MILLIONS of people do. They're not all men. And the ratings also say something about what is tolerated as a woman's image in the media.

I absolutely believe that speaking out is an appropriate thing to do.

As is not watching and writing to those in power known what it is you like AND don't like.

Failure to do so is equal opportunity. I'm stating here that I wholeheartedly believe in the empowerment of women.

You'd like me to stay out of the way and keep my big mouth shut - fine.

If you'd like me to acknowledge that women deserve better portrayal in the media and equal access to power and privilege, I'm all for that too.

You might disagree with me, but, I don't think we're on different sides on this issue.

Respectfully,
Mike Moore

The Perfect Gift

Holiday shopping made easy

It's that time again. No matter what your particular spiritual beliefs, you can be sure that one way or another some shrill little best is going to be demanding that you render unto them a king's ransom in presents in celebration of corporate America's rape and mutilation of religious celebrations.

So what does this mean to you?

Well, unfortunately since you're in college it is probably a fairly safe assumption that you are not exactly rolling in money.

This means you're going to have to be a bit flexible if you want to get out of the holiday season completely unscathed.

The first thing to remember is that credit card companies are evil, unscrupulous and utterly demonic entities hell-bent on squeezing every last penny out of you.

So buying on credit isn't the best way to go, unless you want to still be paying off interest come next December.

For most of you, it means that you're going to have to be a bit creative. Hopefully you aren't boycotting Wal-Mart or Target due to their inherent evil, otherwise that could make things all the more difficult.

We'll start with the children's presents; they're most likely to complain if they don't get anything.

Remember, due to the marvelous of modern television, children have been brainwashed into thinking that they aren't cool unless they have the newest model of toy or gadget.

Unfortunately, they can cost over $100, which is about $99 more than you can afford to spend. One idea might be to appeal to their sweet tooth. One of the standard practices of dealing with children is, after all, giving them sugar and shipping them off to let someone else deal with them.

So long as they aren't your kids, this is probably the best way to go.

Unfortunately, to offset the hell you'll be putting their parents through, you'll have to get them a rather spectacular gift that makes up for the fact that you gave them kid sugar enough to last them for several hours at least.

Thus, such a tactic is probably best reserved for the children of people who you dislike.

They've probably already planned the hell they're going to send you through well in advance anyway, so it's not as if you'll actually be doing anything wrong, I think.

This is the kind of gift that is best purchased at the aforementioned Target or Wal-Mart. It is cheap, easily obtainable and can be used in a pinch. It always seems to be in stock.

Buying gifts for adults can be just as simple, if handled the right way.

There are many little niceties that can be bought to spruce up any given space. These make excellent gifts for women and are generally relatively inexpensive.

Don't even bother with a present for the men, they have more than likely forgotten to get something for you.

If they make an indication of giving you a gift, get them a nice ball for some sort of sport. Not too expensive, and it works.

Should you be unfortunate enough to know a guy who is both willing to give gifts and expects their return but doesn't like sports, then chances are you're screwed.

In this situation it is best to just cut off all ties with them. They're going to hate you after you fail to give them anything anyway.

All that's left is the teenagers. Generally they prefer large wads of money or designer clothes, both of which are generally too expensive.

My advice is to give them coal and tell them that when they stop being such a self-absorbed prick, you'll get them something nice. Hey, it's not their fault their personality is so fundamentally flawed, right?

If you feel that you absolutely must give them something nice, you might want to try spending a little time with them.

Nothing warms a teenager's heart quite like attention, and if you aren't seeing them they will likely want to either love you or come up with some elaborate scheme to kill you so that you stop making them look bad in front of their friends.

By this point in the Christmas season, you can't go wrong with either of these scenarios.

Those wishing to spend time with their teenagers should utilize tried-and-true methods such as following them wherever they go, appearing at all events where they play even a small part in, and making sure that they're aware of your presence by yelling loudly wherever you see them on stage.

With these ideas firmly in mind, there is absolutely no reason why you cannot survive the holiday season with your wallet intact.

How well you will be getting along with your friends and relations after the holidays are over, is another matter entirely.
Choir goes back to the wild west

BY LARA TOSCH  STAFF REPORTER

The sounds of moving west and early American folk music will be revived in song and performance at Highline’s fall choir concert. Highline choir students and volunteers will perform in American’s fall choir production at the end of this month.

The performance will celebrate and educate the audience about the influential sound and history of early American music.

Highline’s choir group will perform the first half of the production wearing traditional costumes. The second half will feature musicians Kent Steadman and Cary Long, two experts of early folk music, who are volunteering their talents. Steadman and Long will play several folk instruments, such as a very early form of the guitar. All of these details, including serving appropriate hors d’oeuvres, are part of the creation of American Music, which is this year’s theme. The choir’s objective is the “fusion of history, music, and culture to understand and promote diversity,” said Highline’s choir instructor, Dr. Sandra Glover.

Along with instructing choir and coordinating the choir performances, Glover teaches music appreciation, class voice, and sight and seeing ear training at Highline.

Last year’s performances had the theme of Cultural Awareness, promoting a multitudinal view of history.

The winter production will focus on Broadway and the spring production will focus on jazz, both expanding the year’s choir theme of American Music. The fall concert is an on-campus entertainment and educational opportunity.

It is free and will take place Tuesday, Nov. 29 at 7:30 p.m. in Building 7.

For more information about the choir program at Highline, contact Glover at sglover@highline.edu.

People can watch choir practice in Building 4, Monday through Thursday at noon.

Artist turns candy wrappers into clothing

BY LUKE BERGOUST  STAFF REPORTER

Garments and quilts made by local artist Shelly Hedges will be on display at the Kent Art Gallery until Nov. 28.

She brings to life bright colors in her unusual works in a unique interpretation of what some might simply discard. “Candy wrappers, wine foils, cocktail umbrellas, used stamps... An ongoing magpie list of precious bits of color,” Hedges said.

All of Hedges’ work is composed of items that are discarded every day.

In her work Tootsie, Hedges creates a brilliantly colorful dress made entirely of Tootsie-Pop wrappers.

“I think about the people who designed a wrapper for a piece of candy, and the machine that prints the design on the wrapper,” Hedges said. “How much work is in a one and a half square inch of paper that is crumpled and forgotten by the time the candy has been eaten?”

Hedges has exhibited her work in Oregon, Kansas, Texas, Florida and Washington.

She designed something for those with a sweet-tooth too. Equal is a dress created completely out of equal packets. In another work she made a dress out of sugar bags.

Several quilts are made of wine full wrappers. The dark red colors mixed with the shimmer of foil create a dazzling effect. Another quilt is made from used stamps.

Each of the quilts is about two feet by three feet and one has to wonder how long it took to collect the materials for her work.

“Quilts are traditionally made from old clothes or scraps of material too small for any other purpose,” Hedges said. “I think of found materials as fabric scraps.”

The gallery is open to the public Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., except national holidays.

Hedges collages and garments can be seen at the Kent City Hall at 220 Fourth Ave. S. The Kent Art Gallery is located on the fourth floor of the Kent City Hall.

For more information you can contact the Kent Arts Commission at artscommission@ci.kent. wa.us, or call 253-856-5050.

Jared Thomas lights up Highline’s little theater

BY BRIONN SLAKEY  STAFF REPORTER

Every good play needs to have a good cast and the Highline Drama Department’s production of 10 Little Books of Days was no exception.

One of the actors who contributed more than his fair share to the success of Book of Days was Jared Thomas, who has participated in an assortment of plays over the years.

"Here in this program, this is the start of my fourth quarter and my second year here," Thomas said. "Before that I performed mainly just in high school; four years in high school and one in middle school."

Even after all this experience, Thomas says he still gets nervous when it’s time to perform.

But he says that this is a good thing.

"No one is never nervous," Thomas said. "You’re always nervous no matter how many times you’ve gone up."

That’s a good thing though because nerves help keep your energy up which means you are more entertaining.

Thomas particularly enjoyed this performance as it gave him the chance to play a villain, a typical character he usually doesn’t get a chance to play.

"I love it, I was cast sort of against type and it’s a really great stretch for me as an actor," said Thomas. "I’m a politician and lawyer who is the son of the owner of the cheese plant dies in a tornado and it’s uncovered that it was a murder."

That murder was planned by Thomas.

In the past, Thomas has been more accustomed to playing guards and policeman and has even played a super-hero, but enjoys the opportunity to play the opposite of these characters.

"Bad guys are always fun," said Thomas.

Thomas’ interest in acting started in fifth grade when he went to see a production of The Scarlet Pimpernel.

"I just loved the stage effects that they had there; I wanted to be up there doing it with them," Thomas said. "They looked like they were having such a good time and the characters were really clear and vibrant. It was just a fantastic show."

Plays aren’t the only things that have influenced Thomas over the years. Certain actors and movies have left an impression on him as well.

"I definitely love the characters that John Ritter played in Nuts Off, and also the character that Christopher Reeves played in that. They’re both fantastic portrayals of actors on stage and what it’s like,” Thomas said. "Also, Patrick Stewart really inspired me, just his on-screen presence and his projection of voice and authority in his voice."

Movies that have inspired Thomas include Guy Ritchie’s Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels; the Danny Boyle directed Trainspotting, as well as the movie Plunkett & Maccleane.

The future for Thomas offers many possibilities.

For now, he will continue acting at Highline, auditioning for the Drama Department’s show for the winter quarter.

In the near future, Thomas will even have the opportunity to direct a one-act play here at Highline. This is an opportunity given to second-year students in the Drama Department.

Eventually, Thomas would like to see his acting turn into a career.

"I’d like to continue with it as a profession," Thomas said.

"If not, I’d like to explore the literary aspects or even design aspects of it."
The Thunderword

Objective: Tri-Cities for the men

2005-06 Highline Men’s Basketball

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<td>Guard</td>
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This year’s Highline team was a tough non-league schedule, and Dawson expects the T-Birds to still figure they have a shot at qualifying for the NWAACC Championships. The team’s goal is to make the NWAACC Championships, “I firmly believe that by

Some teams would be pleased with an 8-8 division record. That wasn’t the case for the Highline men’s basketball team. The goal for Highline last year was to be in the Tri-Cities for the NWAACC Championships, but it was unable to qualify due to a 12-14 overall record.

“We were very disappointed that we did not make the playoffs,” said coach Che Dawson. “We had the tools to get there, but were unable to capitalize on the opportunities.”

Highline opened its season last Saturday, Nov. 19, at North Idaho College out of the National Junior College Athletic Association.

Highline played tough throughout the game but lost 81-73.

“We played a very winnable game for us,” said Dawson. “We were down by three at half time, but were not able to capitalize on the opportunities, plus we need to minimize the mistakes.”

One of the biggest things that hurt Highline last year was its shooting, and Dawson expects that to change this season.

“I expect us to have better shooting this year,” said Dawson. “Our shooting got exposed the second time through the division games (last year).” For the second consecutive year, Highline will be playing an extremely tough non-league schedule.

“With a tough non-league schedule, it helps the team deal with adversity,” said Dawson. Highline’s goal is to make the NWAACC Championships. “I firmly believe that by

Highline has four returning starters from last year’s squad: Jesse Campbell, Nate Jackson, Shelly Skward, and London Carter. The biggest loss from the squad was 7-foot Nick Span.

Span was last due to medical reasons and has not yet been cleared to play.

Inexperience may hurt Highline this year with nine freshmen on the squad, but the T-Birds still figure they have a shot at qualifying for the NWAACC Championships. “The teams to beat this year will be Lower Columbia, Grays Harbor, and Pierce (Lakewood),” said Dawson. “Lower Columbia won the NWAACC for the second straight year, so they will really be a contender again this year.”

Grays Harbor figures to be a

Lady T-Birds claim third place

The women’s soccer team season ended in disappointment as they crashed out of the NWAACC championship with a 2-0 loss to defending champion Clackamas. Although they finished in their best position ever, third place, the season ended in disappointment.

The game was dominated early by Highline but Clackamas scored a goal in each half to win the game.

Highline nearly scored in the first 15 seconds of the game, but a shot from Hiroko Kanno was blocked by the Clackamas goalkeeper.

After missing several other chances, Highline was punished when it let in a goal in the 17th minute.

After letting the goal in the T-Birds went away from their style of play and played badly the rest of the half.

In the second half Clackamas scored an early goal and Highline was unable to respond.

Late in the game midfielder Stephanie McLaughlin got a red card and was unable to play in the consolation game.

Clackamas went on to win their second straight NWAACC championship.

In the consolation game Highline played Shoreline.

In two previous meetings against the Dolphins, the T-Birds lost once and tied once.

This time around Highline won 1-0.

Kanno scored the only goal off a Jessica Venable cross. Bri Klauser recorded the shutout with several key saves. Highline ended the season with a 13-3-3 record. Shoreline ended with a 13-2-4 record. After being ineligible for most of the season, Kanno came up big in the playoffs.

She scored the game-winning goal in the quarterfinal game against Spokane and in the consolation against Shoreline.

Nina Kappi fighting for a loose ball in the semifinals against Clackamas on Nov. 19.

**Sports Quiz**

1. Name the only player to win the Triple Crown twice in the National League.
2. How many major league players have recorded 500 hits and 150 stolen bases before turning 24 years old?
3. How long was the Denver Broncos’ winning streak that stretched between the 1997 and 1998 NFL seasons?
4. When was the last time in men’s college basketball that the Naismith Award and Wooden Award (both for top college player) were given to different players in the same season?
5. NFL stars Ken Dryden, Bobby Hull and Stan Mikita all accomplished the same feat in 1983, name it

**Answers**

1. Rogers Hornsby in 1922 (401 batting average, 42 home runs, 152 RBIs) and 1925 (403, 39, 143).
2. Ty Cobb, Sherry Magee, Cesar Cedeno, Rickey Henderson and Carl Crawford.
3. They won 18 in a row, including Super Bowl XXXII.
4. In 1995, Ed O’Bannon won the Wooden Award and Joe Smith won the Naismith Award.
5. They were elected to the Hockey Hall of Fame.
Taliloa mixes basketball and motherhood

By Alex Cahan

Imagine being a full-time student. Now imagine doing that and being a student athlete. Here's the tricky part - imagine doing both of those, and having a baby.

Moana Taliloa is doing just that this quarter.

"It's hard to get up in the morning sometimes," she said. But thanks to the support of her family and team, she is able to successfully manage her time.

Taliloa is playing center for Highline's basketball team this year. Last year she was on the volleyball team.

Taliloa played varsity level for both sports while she was a student at Mount Rainer High School. However after getting married and having a baby, her scheduling got a bit more complicated. She had to make a choice between basketball and volleyball, and in the end she chose basketball.

Taliloa is the mother of a 11-month-old Adrianna. She can bring her daughter to practices, but usually her husband or mother help out, so it doesn't interfere too much with her playing.

Born in Western Samoa, she was raised mostly in California before she moved to Seattle in 1997. Originally her parents did not want her to play school sports. Her family is athletic, but they never did it on a school level.

"They felt that my grades and education were my priority," she said. "They didn't allow me to play until sophomore year. I asked them to give me chance to try and prove to myself that I could do it.

"When they saw that I was good (I was in varsity all three years in both volleyball and basketball) they kept pushing me to do it," said Taliloa.

Taliloa said her parents are probably her biggest influences because of this, and she wants her younger siblings to play school sports as well.

Taliloa is majoring in education and she is planning on staying at Highline until her A.A. is completed. She is not sure about pursuing basketball at a University level - she says that it is hard to get back into shape and spending time with the baby is her main concern.

But she is focused on getting her A.A. She is taking 12 credits this quarter.

She says she really loves kids, and she wants to teach and coach. She is currently coaching the J.V. volleyball team at Tyee high school.

Her most memorable moment in high school sports was senior year when they beat Kennedy High School, which was defending its 30 year championship title.

Taliloa won many honors during her high school career, which was illustrious both on and off the court.

Her junior year she got an Honorable Mention in volleyball, was the MVP senior year, and made the all-state first team.

In basketball she broke some of her high school's records including rebounding and scoring.

Taliloa was the Junior Class Princess, Senior Prom Princess, and Homecoming Queen her senior year.

She also sang at a lot of her school games.

"I'm kind of famous among my friends for singing the national anthem," said Taliloa.

Taliloa said Highline has a great basketball program, and her great coaches.

"Ever since I came here they've been really helpful. If it wasn't for them, I wouldn't be playing now."

"I hope to play well now that I've had the baby. I still want to perform my hardest and help out the team. And lose the post baby fat," she said.

"Basketball and volleyball are like a passion. It's what I love to do. Conditioning and everything else is hard, but it's addicting. I have to play it."

Inexperienced Lady T-Birds set high goals for season

By Raphael Cox

With seven new players, the lady T-Birds basketball team is looking to continue last season's success, when it went 21-10 overall and 13-3 in the NWAACC.

Coach Amber Rowe is optimistic about the teams prospects.

"We have some very good new players," coach Rowe said. "I think all of our new girls will make an impact in their own way."

The Thunderbirds are off to a good start, winning two of three at the season-opening Shoreline Tournament the past weekend. Highline finished in third, with wins over Portland and Olympic and a loss to Lane.

The Thunderbirds' newcomers have come from schools in the Seattle area: Denay Bowwell (Chief Sealth), Moana Taliloa and Olenethia Dishmon (Mt. Rainier), Grace Dobson (Kennedy), Natalie Schmidt (Auburn), Kristen Jones (Rainier Beach), and Stefania Green (Marysville Pilchuck).

Although the Thunderbirds lost two players who could have returned (Shelby Aavaa and Megan Triller) and chose not to, the T-Birds have set high expectations for this season.

"Our team goals are to win our division and win the NWAACC," Rowe said. "We think we have a shot to do this if everyone makes grades and we continue to grow together as a team. We have the talent."

The T-Birds finished in third in their division last year and are expected to be a contender again.

Last season, the T-Birds had issues with closing games out after taking comfortable leads. Lack of focus and being too relaxed let opposing teams back into games.

"This was the case with our last loss of the season when we were up big on Lower Columbia College and ended up losing by one point," Rowe said. "That one point should motivate us this year."

The Thunderbirds have added a new assistant to their coaching staff. Karen Nadeau is a former Highline all-star and most valuable player in 1999. After completing two years at Highline, Nadeau played at Colorado State. Nadeau led Colorado State in scoring for two years.

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The three brothers Nistrian helped lead Highline to another successful season and a division championship. All three were born in Brașov, Romania, where they lived until 1990.

Emanuel Nistrian is the oldest at 21, and is one of the captains on the men's team; he finished fifth in the league in scoring with 15 goals and added six assists.

"I started playing soccer when I was six," said Emanuel Nistrian. "My dad was a professional soccer player and he wanted to teach it to me. It was important to him." Nistrian's father started to play professionally when he was 18 and played for 22 years. "He played for Rapid Romania, and he got married when he was 29," Emanuel Nistrian said.

Emanuel Nistrian attended Highline High School and Thomas Jefferson High School, and played in Romania prior to coming to Highline. He sent a videotape of himself playing soccer to a team in Romania. The team told him to come in and try out, so he went to Romania.

"I went back to Romania in 2000 to play amateur soccer," said Emanuel Nistrian. Emanuel also played on amateur teams in Austria and Romania.

It was a good experience playing at Highline, said Emanuel. "The (team) started to grow on me, the coaches Jason and Tom are two guys I have a lot of respect for and they were two of the big reasons why I enjoyed this year," said Emanuel. "I think they're both great coaches and they have a lot to offer Highline.

"Soccer in the US is struggling in part because I think mentality and discipline are two key points that have to improve," said Emanuel Nistrian.

Emanuel Nistrian's goal is to be a professional soccer player. "If (soccer) were to become a profession of mine I would enjoy it more if I were in Europe," he said.

"There's a lot of talent in the United States, if those talented players were taught a different, a more cutthroat mentality they would succeed more," Emanuel Nistrian said. "A lot of success is just mental; a lot of players are not necessarily more talented, they just have more of a cutthroat mentality.

"I was living a little part of my dream when I was playing in Romania and Austria," Emanuel Nistrian said. "I'm getting an education as a backup plan."

Emanuel Nistrian is majoring in dental hygiene, and plans to be a dental hygienist if his plans to be a professional soccer player in Europe don't work out.

"My sister's going to be a dentist and she's going to open a practice here in Seattle," Emanuel Nistrian said. "I would like to support my family.

Emanuel Nistrian said religion is a part of his life, although he remains non-denominational.

"I believe in God, I don't believe in the religious part of it, the beliefs and my faith are the most important thing in my life, they're in my family and my profession," said Moise Nistrian.

At 19, Aaron Nistrian is the youngest of the three brothers on the team. He played soccer for Thomas Jefferson High School for two years before he graduated in 2005.

"I started playing soccer when I was 10, I kind of wanted to be like my older brothers," he said.

"I really got into soccer when I was about 12, and I really saw all the progress I had made so rapidly, and thought I could do something cool through soccer.

He played forward and outside mid for Highline and finished the season with seven goals and two assists.

"I really like it (playing soccer for Highline), it's a lot of hard work," said Aaron Nistrian. "I love pushing myself to the limit and Jason pushes us every day.

"I plan on using soccer to get as far as possible in my career," he said. "I eventually want to become a banker."

"If I can get to the top (playing soccer) I'll definitely do that, but banking is always something I'll come back to. It's challenging trying to use money, putting in the best investment. It sounds really interesting." Religion is also very important to Aaron Nistrian.

"My hero is Jesus Christ, the ultimate conquistor," said Aaron. "I feel like I should live my life on what I believe to be true. I believe the Bible to be true.

"Soccer is a vehicle that helps me reach out to people," said Aaron. "I try to set a good example."
No course is scheduled over the entire weekend, so a student doesn’t have to give up all three days. Different classes are offered on different days. As the packet of information given to staff and faculty states, “a math class might be offered on Friday, a writing class on Saturday, and an economics class on Sunday.”

The faculty for Weekend College may consist of existing faculty members as well as new faculty hired to teach these courses.

Many courses are offered throughout the school year, so it is possible to earn an entire degree through Weekend College. Degrees are available in Business, General Studies and Elementary Education.

The Business program offers a degree specifically designed to meet requirements for a bachelor’s degree at a Washington business school.

The General Studies is for a basic associate’s degree (method one – no emphasis) and will meet the requirements of most Washington public universities.

The Elementary Education degree is for aspiring teachers. It meets the teaching requirements and allows students to work with other students with the same professional goals.

“I am a big supporter of this new program,” said Jeff Ward, a program adviser. “The economy has picked up in Washington in the last year, and the job market is improving. What this means is that many potential students may feel confident about starting or continuing their education. With the Weekend College program they can do both. It is this alternate schedule flexibility that is one of the big benefits of the weekend program.”

“We’ve been working at least a year – researching into other schools and what students want,” said Allison Green, another adviser. “We’ve had a committee working for quite a while.”

This winter, the courses offered are Art 100; Writing 100; Math 085; Math 091; and Math 097.

For more information, contact Sue Kelley at 206-878-3710, Ext. 3373.

The adviser of the General Studies is Allison Green, Ext. 3512; the adviser for Business is Jeff Ward, Ext. 3354; and the adviser for Elementary Education is Joan Graham, Ext. 3409.

More information about the program can be found at www.highlinehighland.edu/weekend.

**DATING IS DIFFERENT IN DIFFERENT CULTURES**

**BY ALEX CAHAN**

**STAFF REPORTER**

Dating is common among college students, but it can be a complicated and daunting subject. Because of this, it was the subject of the Intercultural Exchange on Friday.

It was an informal discussion sponsored by Team Highline and the International Leadership Student Council (ILSC). The purpose of the discussion was to define what is socially acceptable for dating in the United States, compared to other cultures.

"Dating in America is mainly for pleasure," said Jennifer Graybill, an attending student.

She went and said that it is also a way to get to know someone and make decisions on whom to marry.

"I didn’t date specifically to get a girlfriend," said student Lance Jacobson. "I dated just to see what I liked. When I eventually met my wife, I kind of knew she was the one.

"Girls are supposed to have a steady boyfriend and it’s OK for guys to date around and play the field," said Doug Baugham, another student.

But playing the field is unacceptable in Vietnam, according to Oanh Nguyen, president of the International Club.

"Guys are supposed to have one girlfriend, and they usually date for maybe five years," said Nguyen.

When asked when it is OK to start dating, the answers varied. It was agreed that 12 and 13-year-olds really didn’t really date; they just liked having the titles.

"Once you get the car and drive, that is when you really start dating," said event organizer Brent Cleary. "It’s you and your date, not you, your date, and your mom."

"In Japan, kids usually hang out with friends, and would have to ask officially before they are boyfriend and girlfriend," said student Yu Takasugi.

However, in the United States, it doesn’t always work that way. People can’t always tell when people are officially going out.

"It’s gradual," said student Chelsea Nichols. "You see together, and they keep asking if you’re going out, and eventually you say yes.

"The similarities in cultures are who makes the first move, and dating conduct."

"The guy makes the first move," said Margarita Buryza.

"And it’s really important that the guy meets the parents.

"It was also agreed that the guy pays, picks-up, drives, and gets flowers.

In Latin American countries, it is acceptable for the girl to make the first move, or even propose.

In Ukraine, we never, never would ask," said student and staff member Tatiana Levchuk.

"Usually if the girl asks or makes the first move, she is considered too easy, and it degrades the guys. It has to do with honor."

There was also advice for dating girls, given by girls.

"Tell us how you look – we’re very emotional, and we want to know you care," said Brynza.

Opening the doors, compliments, and flowers all make great impressions.

"It’s the little things," said Brynza.

Religion has some influence on dating as well.

The Mormon religion was discussed regarding its influence on dating. The main points were about dating after the age of 16, going in groups, and avoiding inappropriate conduct.

This was similar to beliefs of other religions, although no others were specifically mentioned. Avoiding premarital sex was a common value.

"In Russia, we usually get married after about six months of dating," said Brynza, stating that sex was a motivation to marry early, although not the only one. Raising a family was also a major purpose.

The discussion left dating and went more into family, marriage, and divorce.

For second generation Americans, there can be some conflict with intercultural dating.

"The world is so globalized now, it isn’t about culture, it’s all about how smart you are," said Levchuk.

At the conclusion of the discussion, Cleary said he was impressed by the level of discussion turned out despite leaving the original subject dating.

"This is what I wanted to happen, but I was afraid it wouldn’t," said Cleary.
From noon to closing you will receive 25 percent off HCC clothing, greeting cards, 2006 photographic calendars, tradebooks and gift items!

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