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FEBRUARY 23, 2006

VOLUME 45 ISSUE 18

HIGHLINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Budget bucks scarce

Highline faces slim pickings

By MICHELLE ERICKSEN
STAFF REPORTER

Highline may be getting only part of what it asked from the state Legislature this year.

The college likely will get \$1.7 million for replacement of underground power cables. However money for maintenance and operation of the Student Union has not been included in the supplemental budgets now being hammered out by the House and Senate in Olympia.

"Both the House and Senate capital budgets include \$1,717,000 for the college's primary power bank replacement project," said State Rep. Skip Priest, R-Federal Way. "It is likely that it will remain in the final budget."



Priest

The money will go to replacing high voltage cables. Some of these cables are 40 years old and are malfunctioning, said Pete Babington, college director of facilities.

College officials are concerned about lack of money for the student center.

"The college will be impacted negatively by not having it," said Associate Dean for Student Programs Jonathan Brown. "The need is great. We're trying to expand."

Brown said the college will require the state to step up to the plate.

"I hope it's not too late for our state legislators to prioritize our needs," Brown said. "I have a lot of faith in our state legislators and representative that are pro Highline and that they will

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Puget orcas face extinction

By MICHELLE ERICKSEN
STAFF REPORTER

Resident orcas in the Puget Sound are not only endangered they may become extinct, Highline's marine biology expert Woody Moses said.

Moses spoke about the orca's predicament at a Science Seminar last Friday.

"They are very gregarious, they travel in tight family units called pods," Moses said.

Pods can have anywhere from three to 150 orcas.

The orca pods in question right now, are pods J, K and L.

Pacific Northwest orcas are found from the Puget Sound through Alaska. The pods, J, K, and L, summer in the area around the San Juan Islands feeding on the salmon runs.

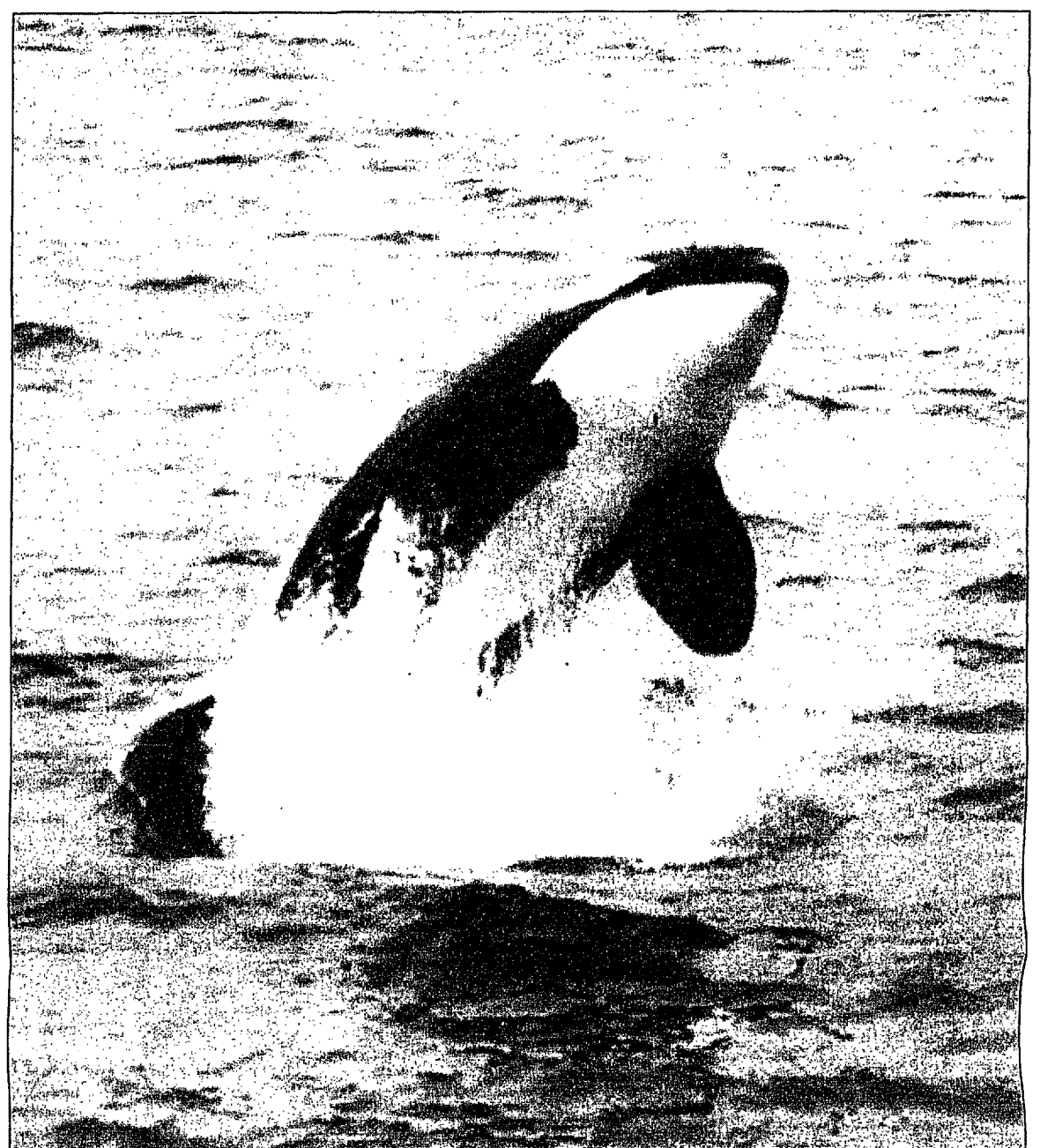
"No one knows where they go in the winter, all we know is that they go on the outer coast," Moses said.

"They've recently been listed under the Endangered Species Act," Moses said. "There may be some very, very serious implications for that."

Now that the orcas are listed they'll receive more protection, Moses said.

Orcinus orcas are the largest member of the dolphin family. They are commonly known in North America as killer whales.

Orcas can weigh anywhere from 2.6 to 9 tons. Adult males are the largest and are identified by their tall dorsal fins. Female orcas tend to have a more curved dorsal fin.



Photos courtesy of Seattle Aquarium

Orcas in Puget Sound face challenges that could lead to their extinction, experts say.

One of the main reasons orcas are endangered are polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). PCBs are highly stable oily fluids and solids. They are fat soluble and

reside in fatty tissue and were once widely used as transformers and pesticides in the United States.

PCBs however destroy im-

mune system functions, block hormone activity, and cause live cancer, pituitary tumors, leukemia, and lymphoma.

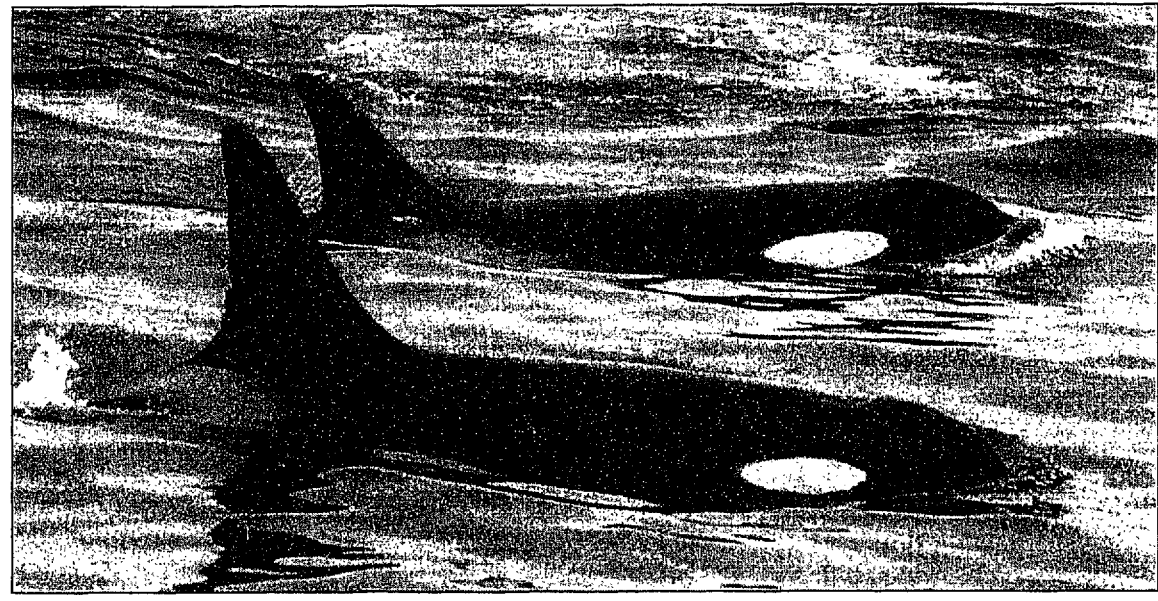
Because of their destructive properties they were banned in the United States in 1977. But many other countries still use them, and PCBs pretty much stay around forever.

"(Orcas) are the most contaminated marine mammal in the world," Moses said. "They have the highest levels of PCBs in their blubber of any marine mammal in the world."

There was a dead female orca found in the Dungeness spit, she had 1000 parts per million of PCBs in her blood.

"The orcas are being hit with

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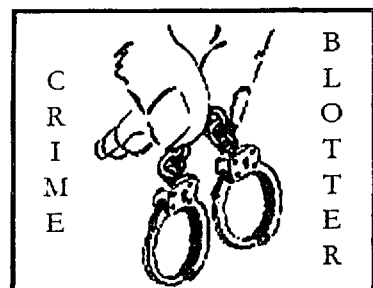
Boogie Brown
Band is the soul of
local reggae

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Jackson leads
mens's bball team
in spirit and points

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Childhood Center employee injured

A specialist working in the Early Childhood Center was accidentally hit in the face with a clipboard when another employee had the clipboard out, the employee turned and hit it, sustaining a red mark on her right cheekbone under her eye on Feb. 15. The employee did not leave work and did not need any medical treatment.

Student sprains ankle on stairs

A Highline student sprained his right ankle coming down the stairs from the third floor in the library on Feb. 17. Security made contact with him and gave him an ice pack and transported him to his vehicle.

Student has seizure at school

An 18-year-old male student at Highline suffered a seizure in Building 25 on Feb. 17. Personnel arrived and transported the victim to Highline Hospital where the student was later identified.

Rocks thrown at school buildings

Nine youths between the ages of twelve-to-fifteen-years-old were asked to depart the campus on Feb. 18 after the front desk staff in the building 25 called security to inform that they were throwing rocks in the courtyard. The warning was given and the nine subjects left.

Graffiti spotted in parking lot

Graffiti was spotted in administration parking lot. The Des Moines Police Department stopped by and requested that the power box in the lot be painted over immediately. The graffiti was gang-related, and was immediately painted over.

Teens making noise

Five different teenagers were asked to leave the library for being rowdy on Feb. 19. They left upon request.

Students try to bridge culture gap

BY AMANDA CABELLON
STAFF REPORTER

Highline's African and African-American students tried to bridge the gap between them at a panel discussion last week.

"Bridging the Gap" brought together a panel of eight students – four African-Americans and four Africans – before an audience of about 50 people on Feb. 16.

The panel aimed to tell people that although Africans and African-Americans may look the same, they are still different. Panelists acknowledged the two groups share similarities as well as differences.

"There's a lot of differences, different cultures," said Mahumid Ali, a panelist originally from Somalia.

African members of the panel expressed a great passion for where they were originally from, while African-American panelists spoke of childhood experiences that led them to judge their African heritage.

"It was negative to be viewed being from Africa," said African-American panelist Kiana Hayes. "I remembered



Photo by Roman Klimenko

Student panelists (left to right) Agnis Lukyamuzi, Ainalem Gbreananya, and Darrick Brown speak to the audience about the differences and similarities facing Africans and African-Americans.

as a child there was conflict. Growing up, anything related to Africa was bad, not good, shameful. That was my earliest understanding."

"We weren't given much information about Africa. I didn't learn anything in depth about Africa until college," said panelist Darrick Brown.

Africans new to America said they have faced some challenges here.

"Over here, black people are portrayed as jobless. They see black people as all the same whether you're African-American or African," said Ali.

"I remember when I was younger, I spoke English in a funny way, so my classmates used to make fun of me," says Ainalem Gbreananya, a panelist from Ethiopia.

"I did feel offended. I understand that in America, everyone is clumped into categories," Gbreananya said.

However, the disgrace as some of the panelists put it, of being or knowing an African in the past, are slowly fading away.

Both groups said they still have to deal with racism.

"As far as racism, I know who I am. It's clarification with our country, we have to see the

truth," says Agnis Lukyamuzi, a panelist from Uganda.

Brown, representing African-Americans said "If I approach them with respect, then I expect them to give it to me in return."

"The purpose of this panel was to dispel stereotypes and misconceptions that Africans and African Americans have about each other," said Shurvon Haynes, one of the panelists and secretary of the Black Student Union, which organized the panel.

"I felt I was able to get a glimpse of Africa through just by talking to my peers on the panel who were born and raised in Africa," she said.

Cultural Cafe educates students

This quarter's Conversation Café, hosted by Phi Theta Kappa, will focus on students of Vietnamese heritage.

The students will talk openly about their culture and experiences integrating their culture with the American students.

The purpose of the café is to reinforce the college's ties with the local immigrant groups.

During the past the café has featured Ethiopia, Ukraine, and

Korea.

Members of the community will bring in Vietnamese food for the students to sample.

The Conversation Café will be held Tuesday February 28 from 1:30-3:30 p.m. in Building 7.

For more information about Conversation Café contact Laura Manning at 206-878-3710 ext. 6037 or at lmanning@highline.edu.



Hayes

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Integration among MS office Applications

BTECH 211 is to learn office features and their applications and usage in an office environment using Microsoft Office Professional Suite: Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, Outlook, and Internet Explorer.

Got students?

Got a class you're hoping to fill up for Spring Quarter? Why not advertise it in the Thunderword? Get an ad this size for only \$25 -- get us the copy by Tuesday, Feb. 28 and see your ad in the March 2 paper. e-mail thunderword@highline.edu or call Sharonda at ext. 3291 for details.

Highline enjoys Fat Wednesday

By MARK MARAS

STAFF REPORTER

The tables were colorfully decorated with small candies, beaded necklaces and coins. On a few tables, there was a painted face of a mannequin with feathers on over the head.

Music was playing in the background. Many of the visitors that walked in did not know what to expect.

The event was "Mardi Gras With Meaning" held in Building 2 on Feb. 21. It was an event held by the class New Orleans: Myth or Magic, taught by Susan Rich and Larry Blades.

It was a necessity to let students know about a city that they might not know anything about, said Rich about the class.

At the door there was a donation bin.

"All the money goes to a donation called Art With Heart. It is an association that helps with the children of Hurricane Katrina and helps bring books to them," said student Eric Mejia.

The food served included New Orleans' famous gumbo—a spicy rice dish that had meat, spices and seafood. Sweet corn



Photos by Jocie Olson

Beverly Rainbolt throws beads at the crowd

bread, a warm rice-and-bean dish, and a potato salad were also served to bring in a taste of the type of food that is familiar

with Louisiana.

The guest speaker was New Orleans resident and author, Beverly Rainbolt. As soon as

Rainbolt came on stage, she started off the Mardi Gras spirit by swinging beaded necklaces at the audience. Rainbolt, a native of Louisiana, explained how thankful she was to be here. She talked about the festive mood and atmosphere that surrounds Mardi Gras.

"There is a whole lot more to it than *Girls Gone Wild* and boys drinking beer," she said.

With the events of Hurricane Katrina about six months ago, Rainbolt got onto the main topic of the event.

"Is the culture of Mardi Gras still alive after Katrina?" she asked as she talked about a region that the news media seems to have forgotten about as time went on.

Rainbolt also talked about the parades held during Mardi Gras. Each parade has its own personality. While some parades may be artistic, others might be satirical [and she says there will be some satire over the government response to Katrina].

After the presentation, there was a belly dancer named Zorina. Dressed in a cabaret costume, she did three dances.

"My brother-in-law [Jack

Siegel] was in this class. He invited me to perform and I was happy to do it," Zorina said.

In the 'Myth or Magic' class, each student is required to do a Service Learning Project, and their volunteer project was this event.

Despite the devastation Katrina caused, Mardi Gras will still take place in New Orleans next week.



Zorina, the belly dancer, entertained the audience

Test anxiety can now be a thing of the past

By GREGG WALDON

STAFF REPORTER

Students with test anxiety can learn how to deal with it in a matter of days.

Highline's Patricia Haggerty gave a work shop on how to reduce test anxiety in the Math Resource Center in Building 26, room 319, on Jan. 20.

Test anxiety shows up in both mental and physical symptoms, Haggerty said.

The physical symptoms include racing heart, tense muscles, perspiration, queasiness, shortness of breath, frequent urination, dizziness, trembling, feeling shaky, headaches, dry mouth, and restlessness during or before a test.

The mental symptoms are freezing up and going blank on questions, rereading questions with no understanding, overwhelming fear of failing, unable to concentrate, doing poorly on tests even when you know the material, negative self-talk, forgetting information, misreading questions, and feeling apprehensive before or during a test.

Haggerty went over a lot of solutions to help reduce test

anxiety in the workshop, ranging from over-learning the material to not cramming the night before.

Over-learning can help you recall material even when you're under stress, she said, while cramming doesn't help you remember much.

Try to study throughout the quarter, Haggerty said. Practice good time management and avoid laziness, daydreaming and procrastination.

Concentrate on the material by generating questions from your textbook and lecture notes, she said. Focus on key words, concepts, and examples in your textbook and lecture notes. Make charts and outlines which organize the information from notes and textbooks.

Maintain a healthy lifestyle. This means get enough sleep, have good nutrition, and exercise.

Also getting everything together the night before the test like getting pens and pencils. If it's a math test, get a calculator and a ruler -- anything that will be needed for the test.

Don't be late for the test and don't talk to other people about

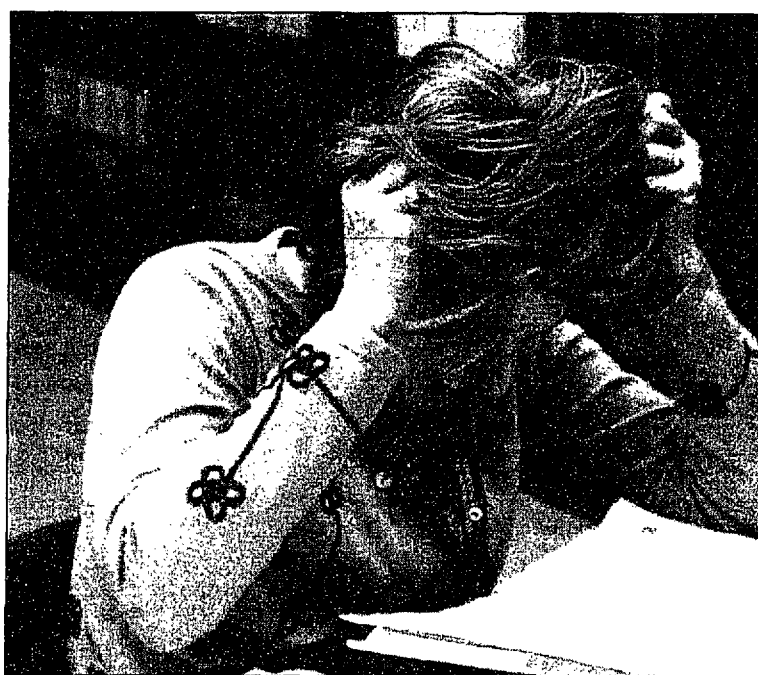


Photo by Jessica Bennett

Bernadette Jeffers anxiously studies for a test

the test because that just might cause confusion.

During a test students can still do things to help with they're anxiety: sit in a location where there is the littlest distraction and focus only on the test and not on what is going on around the room.

Haggerty thinks that students don't change because they fear change -- we believe that we can't break a bad habit, we are

ignorant about how to break a habit and we don't want to take the time to change.

Physical exercise and well-being also can help with test anxiety, she said.

It only takes three to five times a day for about 21-30 days to get into the habit of doing physical exercises to help anxiety, said Haggerty.

One thing that can help is a simple breathing exercise. To do

this relax your body and mind, breathe deeply and slowly closing your eyes and concentrating on the air going in and out of your lungs.

Put your hands on your tummy then take long, slow deep breaths to make your tummy expand. Fill your lungs and abdomen slowly to a count of four, hold for a count of four, then exhale slowly to a count of four and hold for a count of four, when you exhale your tummy should move inward as if to touch you spinal cord.

The other physical exercise is head rotation. To do this slowly bend your head forward with your shin to chest, then back up, then bend your head back, chin to ceiling, and then back up. Then slowly turn head to right looking over your shoulder, back to center, then to the left and back to center. Do two rounds of the head rotation exercise three to five times a day and in about 21-30 days it will become a habit to help solve anxiety.

The last thing that will help any student that has anxiety is to stop drinking so much coffee, tea and cola, Haggerty said.

Editorial

Highline should start marketing itself

Highline needs to advertise itself. We know that enrollment is down, and we know that Highline sees this as a problem. While Highline seems to be doing well in the retention area, but retention doesn't last forever. It's time that Highline steps up its efforts on the other part of enrollment: recruitment.

Let's face it; community colleges aren't considered the most prestigious of institutions of learning. Without a way to market itself, Highline's enrollment problems may never be solved.

Fortunately, all is not lost. Highline is not a bad school by any stretch of the imagination. The problem lies in convincing the general public of that.

For the past two years, Highline has been working on a brand identity. This is a good idea, and it could potentially do a great deal for Highline. The problem, however, is that they've been at it for two years and still haven't decided on one.

How can we market the school if we can't even decide on a brand?

It's time to start marketing Highline. True, we don't have a brand, but we already know what we do.

Highline recently took part in making a commercial to advertise itself. This is a good idea, if handled correctly it can bring Highline's name to a far broader audience and bring it many more students.

Most of us have seen the advertisements for places like Bryman and ITT Tech at some point in our lives. Both of these schools put out catchy commercials where relatively attractive people extol the virtues of their school's programs and their well respected name.

Despite the fact that it's not exactly a secret that employers generally do not look favorably on people who have a certificate like that and the reputation of an institution like Bryman or ITT Tech generally does more harm than good, they still manage to get plenty of enrollment.

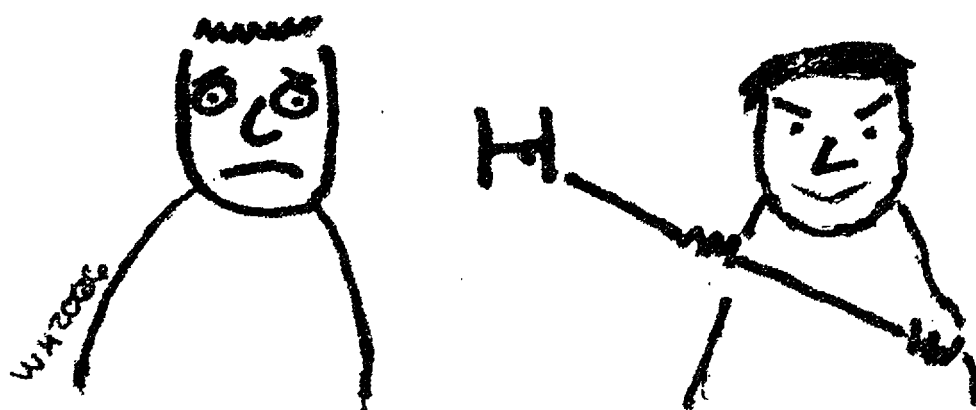
What Highline has that Bryman or ITT Tech does not is an actual accreditation and the opportunity to continue one's education after leaving Highline. While places like ITT Tech are spinning fairy tales about how universities aren't addressing real world concerns and about how employers actually care about their certificates, Highline is offering an associates degree that is transferable in four-year universities.

The commercial is a great start, but Highline can't stop there. More advertisements both on television and the radio are a great way to get the word out and help improve Highline's image.

There's a whole generation of untapped potential that's being wooed away by lesser institutions. They're spending more money for less beneficial education. These are students that Highline could be attracting, students who can be molded into productive members of society instead of being shunted into low-paying positions with the constant stigmatism of a lesser degree.

Highline has a lot to offer many potential students. It just has to make others aware of that fact.

HIGHLINE TURNS TO BRANDING
TO ATTRACT STUDENTS



"DON'T WORRY, KID - IT WON'T HURT
FOR LONG, & EVERYBODY'S GOING TO
KNOW YOU WENT TO HIGHLINE."

The Canterbury Fair is history

The Canterbury Fair by name alone may evoke images of overly pale people in gaudy medieval-style outfits bowing and scraping to each other with an over-dramatic flourish. Thus, most people probably don't care that it's being merged with the Cornucopia Days and that the renaissance aspect of it is being obliterated.

But inside each and every one of us, our inner geek is sobbing in anguish.

Because there really is a certain sort of charm about people trying to faithfully recreate the feel of a medieval festival. It's obvious by watching them that they really care about and enjoy the roles that they're playing.

Not to mention that watching them wend their way through overly complex formalities can be quite amusing.

So it is with at least a partially heavy heart that we bid farewell to this time-honored summertime geek tradition.

It's true that losing the Can-

terbury Fair won't mean that there will be no access to a renaissance fair. There is a fair in Gig Harbor which also draws a large crowd, as well as the Camlann Fair in Carnation. But who really wants to drive out to Gig Harbor or Carnation? For many people, that's a few too many miles for their inner geek to withstand.

Comment



Austin MacKenzie

Also, having been to both the Gig Harbor Fair and the Canterbury Fair, I can say that the Canterbury Fair is a lot better at sticking to the medieval fair aspect. I cannot speak for the Camlann Fair, having never been there, but it attempts to be a representation of medieval life in general.

The Gig Harbor fair is more open to the fantasy aspect of the medieval period. There are a lot more people who dress up as elves or wizards and several of the events involve fantasy aspects, sometimes to the point of utter ridiculousness.

For example, the Gig Harbor fair has a sort of tournament

where actors duel each other in contests such as jousting and swordplay, all staged of course. One of the battles is the "Wizard's battle," which involves two scantily clad women gesturing at each other and pretending to be hit by "magic." I must say that after witnessing this, I had had quite enough. And for a huge fantasy buff like me, that's really saying something.

While the Canterbury Fair made light of the period, I appreciated the fact that it was really attempting to recreate a medieval festival, a time of high spirits, bright colors, and lots of laughter.

The Canterbury Fair was close, it was easily accessible, and it was a lot of fun. They had a lot of events, some of which could even appeal to the lesser geeks. Its loss is truly a tragic thing. These fairs aren't terribly widespread and having one less is hard on those who really enjoy them.

Not that you are geeky enough to care, of course.

Austin is the supreme ruler of his very own tiny kingdom, but he is no longer required to bow to himself.

THE THUNDERWORD

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THE THUNDERWORD

Nelson paints the Northwest

BY RACHEL LUSBY

STAFF REPORTER

Highline's own Gary Nelson depicts the Northwest environment in his paintings now displayed at the Arthead Gallery in Seattle.

Nelson is a traditional watercolorist who also works with the more painterly media of acrylics and oils.

He paints Northwest scenes, seascapes, landscapes and heavy machinery.

"I like the Northwest environment," Nelson says. "I think we live in one of the most beautiful places in the country."

Nelson is also a teacher at Highline.

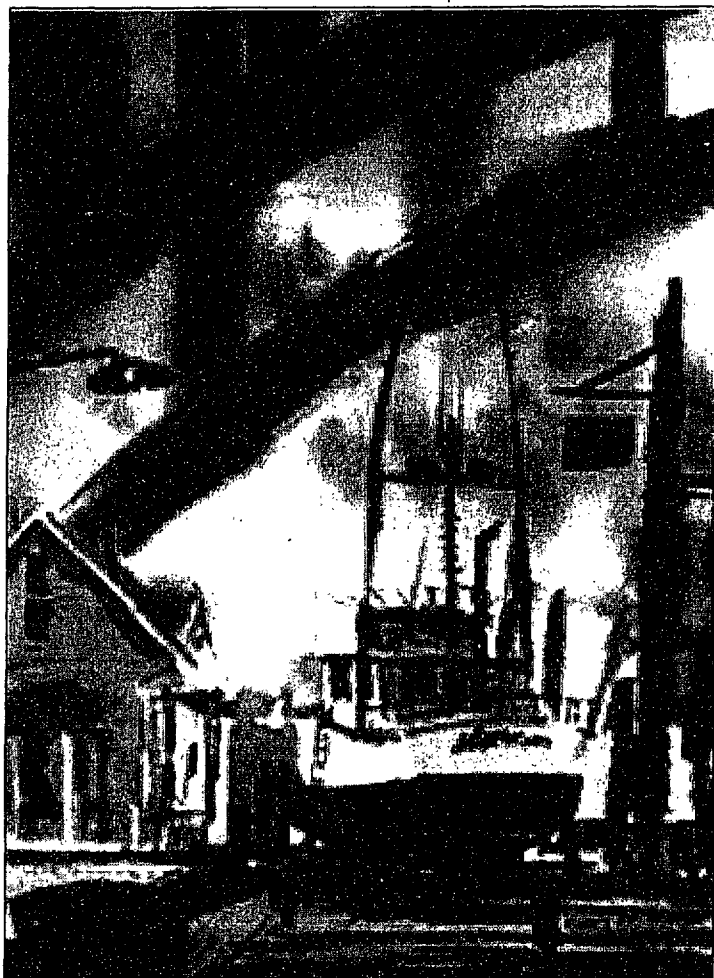
He is the project coordinator for the Visual Communications Department and teaches graphic design, painting, lettering, interior rendering, and perspective.

He studied at and received a degree from the Burnley School of Professional Arts at Seattle University in 1968 and started working at Highline on a grant.

"I taught at Seattle Central Community College before Highline for about three years or so," Nelson says.

"I also taught at private places such as parks departments."

Thirty-seven of Nelson's paintings are now being exhibited at the Arthead Gallery which



Artist Gary Nelson teaches art and graphic design at Highline.

is located between the U-District and Greenlake in Seattle's Wallingford neighborhood.

All of his works that are hanging there were done in recent years and are watercolor, acrylic or oil paintings.

Nelson does not paint on modern materials. Instead, he

paints on the more traditional French, hand-made paper that is 100 percent cottonrag.

"When I learned, the modern stuff was not available. I got comfortable with the traditional materials and to use the new materials I would have to reinvest in a new learning curve,"

Nelson says.

"Also, buyers tend to expect the more traditional materials. I do use synthetic brushes though, they work just fine." Nelson discovered art when he was quite young.

"My mother's younger brother was a painter," he says. "I used to go visit him at his studio."

On average Nelson spends about seven to eight hours each week on his art.

"That's not enough," he says. "A lot of artists spend that much time each day on their art."

Despite his busy schedule though, he is still able to create the works that hang in gallery exhibitions.

He has had multiple shows here at Highline and has also exhibited at the Frye Art Museum, the City Center Plaza, and the Laughing Gull Gallery.

Nelson isn't the only artist in his household. His wife Diana is a mosaic artist who works solely with natural materials.

"She'll be at the Tacoma Home and Garden Show," he proudly states.

Gary Nelson's work will be exhibited at the Arthead Gallery until March 25.

The gallery's hours are Tuesday through Saturday, noon-5 p.m.

The gallery's address is 5411 Meridian Ave. N.

Pageant pro seeks Seattle crown

BY KEITH DAIGLE

STAFF REPORTER

Highline student Amelia Gilbert is no stranger to beauty pageants.

She has competed in eight pageants and will be participating in her ninth this weekend when she runs for Miss Seattle.

Another Highline student, April Curtis, will also be running this weekend.

This year two women out of the 15 competing will receive titles. One will be crowned Miss Seattle and another will be crowned Miss Emerald City.

Both women will have the opportunity to compete for Miss Washington.

Two titles are not usually available, however in years when enough candidates are deserving, then a second title is offered.

If Amelia wins this weekend she will be competing against her sister Melody, the current Miss Burien, for the Miss Washington crown.

This will not be anything new for them though. Amelia competed against her sister for Miss Burien last year.

Amelia Gilbert said that it was not a big deal competing against her sister.

"We didn't think about it a lot," Gilbert said.

She has held two titles; Miss Puget Sound in 2004 and Miss Burien in 2005.

She was also the first runner up in the 2006 Miss Washington competition.

Amelia Gilbert said that she only participates in the Miss USA programs because of their scholarship program and because you don't have to pay to enter.

She said that she liked participating in the pageants because "you get a lot of self development."

"It creates a more well-rounded person," Amelia Gilbert said.

This is Amelia's last quarter at Highline. Her major is speech and communications.

After this she will be going to the University of Washington.



Gilbert

Highline talent takes her act on the road

BY ERIK BREAKFIELD

STAFF REPORTER

The jazz world welcomed a new voice last weekend, when Highline's own Michelle Searle performed at her first professional concert in Portland, Ore.

The 33-year-old bartender, who studies music at Highline, had her first big gig this weekend, singing with the band Trick Deck. The concert was at Free Geek, a no-cover charge rave in Portland.

Since the rave was free, Searle was not paid, but her producer, Mark Wand paid for her hotel and parking with totaled \$75.

"I'm pretty psyched," Searle said, before the show. She was very enthusiastic, considering the fact that she was about to be performing in front of a lot of people and believes that her fear and her own insecurities in this area are her biggest obstacle.

This concert was of course, much bigger than the karaoke machine she first started unleashing her rich jazz vocals on. Searle went in confident however, stating that she had been given great confidence by her close friends and also by the entire Music Department at Highline.

"They have given me the confidence to get out there," Searle said, as she continued to beam from under her rainbow beanie.

Searle first started singing with a band when she played with a jam band for two years.

The whole idea for the band was to just have fun with the music, which meant stretching a song into a non-stop half hour track.

"It was my first time putting myself out there and believing that I had this ability," She said.

During this time, Searle was also working and attending evening classes at Highline, but she didn't start her vocal training here until just two years ago.

She got a lot of compliments on her voice from other members of the band, and that is what prompted her to start studying vocal performance.

Searle has received scholarships from Highline for her singing ability, and has now branched out to also study the piano.

"I don't want to rope myself to one thing," Searle said. "There is so much beautiful music out there; I have only scratched the surface."

Searle speaks highly of ev-



Photo by Roman Klimen-

Michelle Searle sings with two other choir members.

ery music genre, and says to remember that each song is meant to create a different mood.

Searle plans to continue attending school and views her education as very important. She also plans to keep singing at the professional level after last weekend's success.

"This past weekend went awesome," Searle said. Her band was the only band at the rave that was playing original music, the rest of the performers were all DJs.

You can hear Searle performing with Trick Deck when you buy their new album that

is coming out, titled Psyche ill Logik.

Searle plans to make a name for herself with this band by using their unique blend of jazz and fusion style music.

"The difference between people of success is that they choose to do something extraordinary with their lives," says Searle, who plans to live by these words.

For information on Trick Deck's new album, or to listen to selected tracks, you can visit their webpage at www.trick-deck.com, or check out their profile on www.myspace.com.

The Boogie Brown Band boogies on

By KEITH DAIGLE

STAFF REPORTER

Reggae lives on in the Northwest through the talents of Clinton Fearon.

Clinton Fearon is the frontman for the local reggae group the Boogie Brown Band.

Fearon played by himself in Team Highline's The Blend and the Boogie Brown Band performed in the Student Union for Martin Luther King Week in January.

Fearon has been playing guitar, bass and singing professionally since he was 19, beginning to play guitar when he was a kid.

He built his first guitar by hand when he was 9, carving it out of a single piece of wood with a machete and hollowing it out, then using a piece of Formica as a top.

The first band he was with was the Gladiators, an internationally recognized reggae group.

"We were one of the No. 1 groups in Jamaica," Fearon said.

Fearon played bass and sang with the Gladiators for 18 years, which he described as "a lifetime."

"He's a filthy bass player, he's just got the touch," said Izaak Mills, Boogie Brown's saxophone player.

Born and raised in Jamaica, Fearon first came to Washington while on tour with the Gladiators.

After the Gladiators, Fearon toured for a while in Washington with the Defenders.

Davee C, the current drummer for Boogie Brown, remembers Fearon when he was a part



PHOTO BY KEITH DAIGLE

Boogie Brown Band leader Clinton Fearon playing guitar in his Seattle home.

of The Defenders.

"(The Defenders) were like the group. That was it. They were off the hook. It was like magic right before your eyes," said Davee C.

"I've known about Clinton Fearon for a long time," the drummer said.

"He's a pioneer. He helped open the door so we can do what we're doing. He opened a lot of doors for people like us to do our own thing."

Shortly after the Defenders broke up, Fearon began calling

musicians he knew around the area, not wasting any time getting another band going.

"I found some musicians from around here, put Boogie Brown together. It's like anything else you know, musician comes and musician goes and you have to find someone else," Fearon said.

The dreadlocked Fearon is the epitome of a veteran reggae performer. His perpetual smile is broken only by his words, uttered in a lilting Jamaican accent.

He plays guitar and sings for Boogie Brown, as well as writing most of the music and all of their lyrics.

Boogie Brown's sound is older style reggae. It is upbeat gentle music that you can listen to any time. They have a very mellow yet complex sound.

Fearon and keyboardist Barbara Kennedy are the only two original members still with the Boogie Brown Band.

Other current members include Mills on tenor sax, Davee C on drums, Jeff DeMelle on

bass guitar, Bill Jones on trumpet, and Ire on percussion and harmony vocals.

Fearon said that it would be nice to keep all of the original members, but that that rarely happens.

"You just realize hey, you can wish for that, but that's not what usually happens," he said. "You need to get comfortable with (people leaving)."

Clashing personalities is of the hardest things bands have to deal with, Fearon said.

"There's never a perfect band. You have to give and take. One of the big things is being able to give and take from one another," Fearon said.

This attitude is reflected in his music.

"I truly think that peace of mind is the ultimate goal. That everyone is searching for or striving for. And when you have peace of mind there is no better time to feel love. They work hand in hand," said Fearon.

"It don't necessarily mean money, it means that you are comfortable."

Loving what he does is the reason Fearon said he keeps playing.

"It just makes me feel good," Fearon said.

"The more I do it (music), it keeps getting better. I love it more and more. Each time I love it even more. Each time I discover something more about it I love it even more."

Boogie Brown Band plays at a variety of local venues, occasionally traveling to Oregon or Idaho, wherever the gigs take them.

For information on upcoming shows, or to buy their CD visit BoogieBrown.com.

Chappelle's Rockin' Block

By AUSTEN LAVERY

STAFF REPORTER

Although definitely not a movie to take the family to, *Dave Chappelle's Block Party* is comedy and music blended into a nice mix that mostly anyone can enjoy.

It all began when Chappelle, from *Half Baked* and Comedy Central's *Chappelle's Show*, wanted to throw a free block party. Chappelle would have his close musician friends perform

Central Park was an original suggestion for where the concert could be held. Brooklyn was another. Chappelle jumped at the idea knowing that some of the performers had grown up in that area.

During the week of the con-

cert, Chappelle was wandering through hometown in Ohio. He stopped a dozen or so people, giving those lucky few "golden tickets" to the concert.

The biggest surprise for Chappelle came when he accidentally bumped into Ohio's Central State University marching band. The band's plans for that Saturday were put on hold as Chappelle was allowed to take the band to New York, where they kicked off the celebration alongside Kanye West.

The roster of performing artists included West, Mos Def, Talib Kweli, Common, Dead Prez, Erykah Badu, Jill Scott, the Roots, Cody ChesnuTT, Big Daddy Kane, and - reunited after seven years apart - the Fugees.

Divided into two parts, the

week prior to the concert being the first half, follows Chappelle and crew behind the scenes, but mostly of Chappelle rehearsing some new material which guarantees a laugh or two.

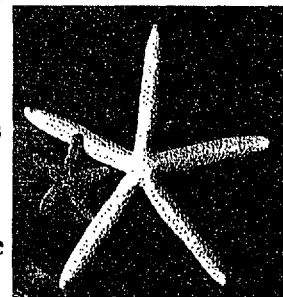
The second half is a majority of the concert, mostly consisting of interviews with the performers before they took the stage.

For any hardcore Chappelle fans out there, this movie will help to satisfy their cravings for Chappelle after his disappearance last year.

But for the majority of those who have not heard of Chappelle before, don't waste your time with this unconventional documentary. The music far surpasses the dry comedy. Watch Chappelle's television show instead.

Classes at the MaST Center Spring 2006

If you're interested in taking a science course that puts you in the environment, sign up for a class at the MaST Center. All of the courses are 5-Credit lab sciences and only meet two days a week. For more information, check out the webpage at flightline.highline.edu/mast.



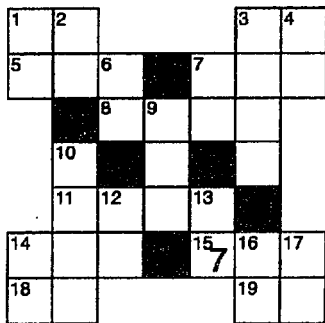
BIOL 103: Seabirds & Marine Mammals (6006) TTh 11:30A-2:20P Inst: Moses
BIOL 110: Marine Biology (6008) MW 11:30A-2:20P Inst: Shabb
OCEAN 101: Survey of Oceanography (6064) MW 7:00P-9:50P Inst: Higley

GOT NEWS? SUBMIT IDEAS TO THE
THUNDERWORD AT TWORD@HIGHLINE.EDU

Rational Numbers

by Linda Thistle

Using the clues, simple arithmetic, and a little logic, place a single digit (0 to 9) in each empty box in the diagram. To help you get started, one digit has been entered in the diagram.



ACROSS

1. Two times 12-Down
3. Same digit repeated
5. Digits of 7-Across rearranged
7. 18-Across times 4-Down
8. Consecutive digits rearranged
11. Digits of 3-Down rearranged
14. One-half of 3-Down
15. Seven times 5-Across
18. The last digit is three times the first digit
19. 5-Across minus 3-Across

DOWN

1. Digits of 13-Down reversed
2. Nine less than 16-Down
3. Five hundred more

4. One-half of 2-Down
6. 2-Down plus 13-Down
7. Digits of 14-Down reversed
9. 10-Down minus 15-Across
10. One-fifth of 8-Across
12. One less than 6-Down
13. One more than 7-Down
14. 1-Across minus 3-Across
16. 13-Down plus 17-Down
17. One less than 18-Across

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1. ARCHITECTURE: Who designed the U.S. Capitol Building?
2. SCIENCE: Tectonics is a field of what science?
3. INVENTIONS: In what decade was the microwave oven invented?
4. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Sacajawea, the Native American guide who led explorers Lewis and Clark on their Western expedition, belonged to which tribe?
5. U.S. STATES: Which state is known as the Garden State?
6. MYTHOLOGY: What was the name of the creature in Greek mythology who was half man and half goat?

7. GEOGRAPHY: Where are most of the Sierra Madre mountains found?
8. HISTORY: Who founded the kingdom of Saudi Arabia?
9. LITERATURE: Who wrote the novel *Slaughterhouse Five*?
10. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president coined the term "muckrakers" for crusading journalists?

1. William Thornton
2. Geology
3. 1940s
4. Shoshone
5. New Jersey
6. Satyr
7. Mexico
8. Ibn Saud
9. Kurt Vonnegut
10. Theodore Roosevelt

Answers

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Directional Signals

Across

- 1 Aide: Abbr.
- 5 Motorbike
- 10 E-mail competitor
- 14 Mystery game
- 15 Blazing
- 16 Chicago landmark
- 17 Cape Cod concern
- 19 Utter indistinctly
- 20 Barnyard Mom
- 21 Ball of fire
- 22 Corporation, e.g.
- 24 West German capital 1949 to 1990
- 25 Piggishness
- 26 Fleeces
- 29 Speedboat appendage
- 32 Tantalize
- 33 Doled out
- 34 Sculler's need
- 35 Additional
- 36 Passover supper
- 37 Italian moola
- 38 Pilot's concern: Abbr.
- 39 Bucks
- 40 Relay need
- 41 Technicality, perhaps
- 43 In a foolhardy manner
- 44 Imperfections
- 45 High altitude habitat
- 46 New York lake
- 48 Likewise
- 49 Tom Brady, e.g.
- 52 Walk in water
- 53 Cuba, Jamaica et al
- 56 At all times
- 57 _____ flu
- 58 Gemstone
- 59 Hideaways
- 60 2005 and 2006
- 61 Roman Emperor

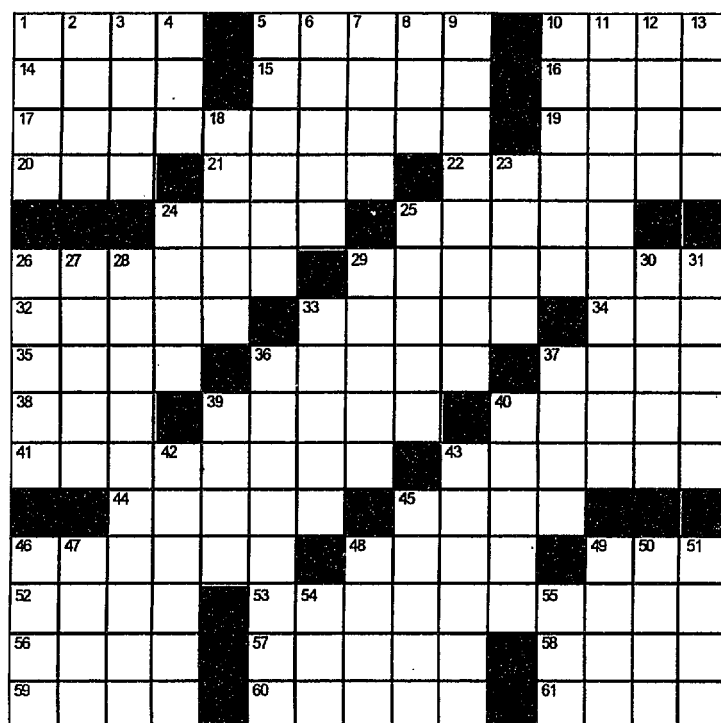
Down

- 1 Skin problem
- 2 Sluggish
- 3 Certain
- 4 Comes before ball or shirt

By GFR Associates ••• Visit our web site at www.gfrpuzzles.com

Crossword 101

By Ed Canty



- 5 Bricklayers
- 6 Frequently
- 7 Dock
- 8 Stray
- 9 AWOL soldier, perhaps
- 10 Northern Ireland
- 11 Former Democratic electoral stronghold
- 12 Brood
- 13 Agile
- 18 Worship
- 23 Requirement
- 24 Foundation
- 25 Computer entrepreneur
- 26 Great bargain!
- 27 Word of welcome
- 28 Steinbeck novel
- 29 Golf iron
- 30 John Paul II to his Mother
- 31 Sarcasm
- 33 Restaurant offering
- 36 Free rider
- 37 Piece of cake
- 39 Herring's cousin
- 40 Nobleman's title
- 42 Tool box staple
- 43 Sticky organic substances
- 45 Church table
- 46 Still unpaid
- 47 Church area
- 48 China container
- 49 Water carrier
- 50 Back
- 51 National capital
- 54 First mate
- 55 Comedian Knotts

Quotable Quote

People, like nails, lose their effectiveness when they lose direction and begin to bend.

Walter Savage Landor

Last week's solution

CRONIES



Arts Calendar

Movie Fridays will present *North Country* on Feb. 25 in Building 7 starting at 12:30 p.m. The movie will run for about an hour and a half and there will be a discussion following the movie.

Gary Nelson's art class will exhibit their work in the Student Union next to the Bookstore beginning Monday, Feb. 27. The works are based on the book *Fast Food Nation*, which is being read by the Highline Reads. The exhibition will be up until Friday, March 3.

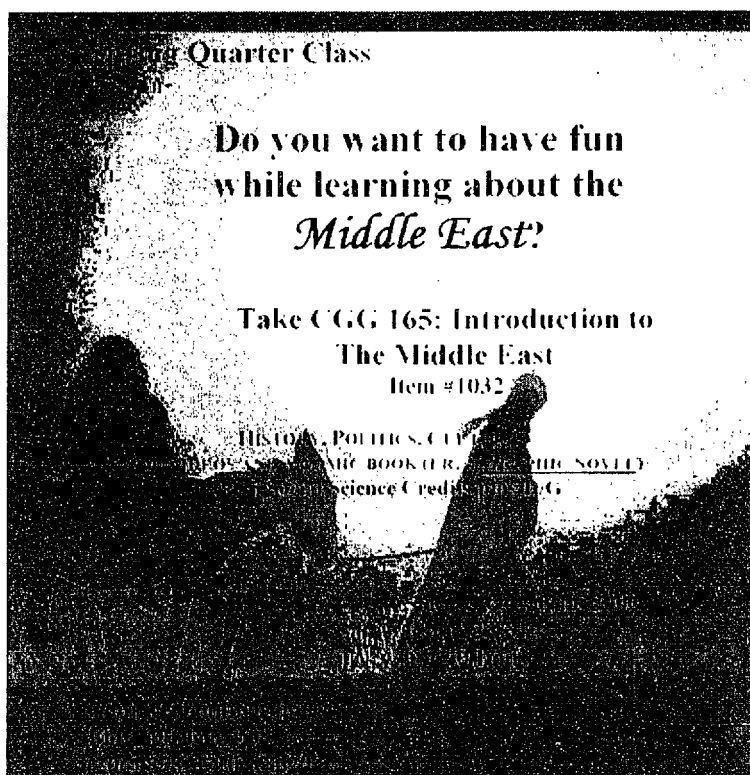




Photo by Austen Lavery

Brad Padgett wrestles Lionel Orji in practice earlier this week for nationals.

The magnificent Padgett

By MARTHA MOLINA

STAFF REPORTER

As you read this, Highline freshman Brad Padgett is preparing himself for national two-year college wrestling championships.

Padgett is in Rochester, Minn. this weekend, hoping to become the second T-Bird wrestler to win a national title. His training partner, redshirt sophomore Yura Malamura, was the first after winning last year.

Padgett earned his chance by winning the Region XVIII tournament at 184 pounds on Feb. 11. He beat the No. 6 wrestler in the country, North Idaho's Josh Edmondson, in the finals, 14-7.

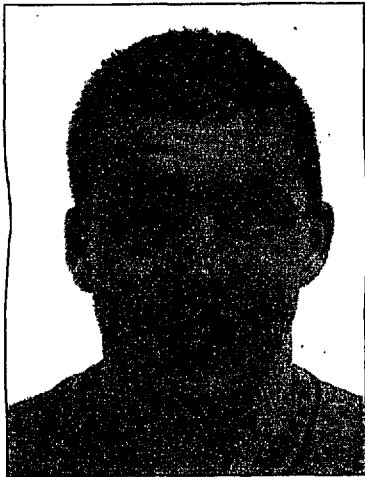
"I expect to win," Padgett said before leaving Wednesday morning for Minnesota. "I expect to be at least an all-American," which would mean finishing in the top eight wrestlers.

This won't be Padgett's first trip to a highly competitive tournament. In high school, he participated in a national tournament where he earned sixth place, and in the Pacific Coast Tournament, where he placed 10th.

Padgett's exact seeding in Minnesota wasn't available at press time, but he was seeded high enough to get a bye the first round. For his first match, he will be wrestling the winner of the match between Waubesa's David Auguiano and Iowa Central's Rory Miller.

Padgett's ambition to become a wrestler came from his desire to be like his father, Bryan Padgett.

"I wanted to be like my dad," he said. "When he was in high



Brad Padgett

school, he wrestled but never made it to state."

Making it to state wasn't the ultimate goal on Padgett's mind. His dream was to some day become state champ, he said.

Padgett attended White River High School in Buckley. He made consecutive trips to the Mat Classic and placed every year.

As a junior, he finally had the opportunity to be champion, weighing in at 189 pounds. Padgett wrestled Chet Slevin from Ferndale High School, to whom he lost 10-8.

"He was very disappointed and upset," said Bryan Padgett, his father. "He had set the goal of becoming state champ at the beginning of the season."

The following year Padgett not only went undefeated and was state champ at 215 pounds, he also set a school record for most wins with 114.

After graduating from high school, Padgett had many offers to wrestle at four-year schools, but wasn't offered room and board. He decided to stay home, close to friends and family, so he came to Highline.

"It would have cost me about \$5-6,000 a year," said Padgett

of moving away. "I also wasn't ready to leave home."

His father has been very involved with his wrestling experience, from getting Padgett to practice taking care of financial expenses, and making sure that the family is there.

"I want to make sure that everything that he needed to do is wrestle," said Bryan Padgett. "I also provide him with positive feedback (when he has a tough match)."

Coming to Highline has also provided Padgett the opportunity of training with former national champ Malamura.

"I taught him everything he knows," Malamura said, laughing. "He's a great wrestler because he's very positive and doesn't waste time."

"Padgett studies his enemies and improves all the time, recognizing his mistakes," said Malamura.

"He can be in the worst case scenario position, ready for the other guy to score, and comes out on top," said Bryan Padgett.

Padgett's style of wrestling involves a lot of tying up and shooting, said Malamura.

"He uses the fireman's carry and has a great underhook," he said.

Padgett is just working on earning his associates of arts degree right now, and is open on where he would like to go after Highline.

"I want to see what kind of options I have after next year," said Padgett.

Padgett will be joined by six teammates at the national tournament this weekend.

"I don't see why he won't be an All-American," said Malamura. "He leaves no room for error."

T-Birds head to wrestling nationals

By TREVOR KULVI

STAFF REPORTER

Highline's wrestling team will be participating in the national tournament this weekend.

"It's risky business up to this point," said Assistant Coach John Clemens. "We're optimistic about our chances."

Despite the fact that experience is a problem for Highline, the T-Birds hope to put that behind them at the national wrestling tournament in Rochester, Minn.

The national tournament will begin on Friday, Feb. 24 and continue through the weekend.

It is a 32-man bracket in each weight class, and the top eight wrestlers in each division will be named All-American- the top junior college wrestlers in the nation.

After a long and painful season of hard work, the T-Birds are preparing themselves for the national spot light.

"There are no clear favorites in each weight class," said Clemens. "Our region is so darn tough, anything could happen."

The T-Birds are taking seven wrestlers to nationals. Amongst the seven wrestlers, Brad Padgett at 184 pounds was the only one who went undefeated in the regional meet.

One thing that is hurting the T-Birds this year is experience. None of this year's wrestlers qualified for the nationals last year.

The other six wrestlers are Desean Willis at 125 pounds, Tanner McCoy at 141 pounds, Justin Struder at 149 pounds, Michael Markey at 157 pounds, Norman Ore at 165 pounds, and Raymond Pouncey at 285

pounds.

Last year Studer had to red shirt due to a neck injury.

The only injury to hit the T-Birds was a bruised elbow to Ore.

"There were no significant injuries to us," said Clemens. "Norman suffered a bruised elbow and he is battling through it."

Since the national tournament is a two-day affair, a wrestler's performance on the first day determines whether he qualifies to compete on day two.

In any wrestling tournament, you must win two matches before you lose two in order to place.

If you lose two matches before winning your second one, you're eliminated from the tournament.

If a wrestler qualifies for day two of the match, then he will be guaranteed a top eight finish nationally and be recognized as an All-American. Their performance on day two determines what place they earn.

The national meet will also keep team scores, which will produce a national team champion.

North Idaho is considered the heavy favorite to win the team title. Also in contention to win the title from the region is Lassen College.

"Lassen is a national title contender," said Clemens. "They have won it before in the past, and their experience will really help."

Also expecting to contend for the national title will be Labette College of Kansas, Iowa Central, and Northwestern College of Wyoming.

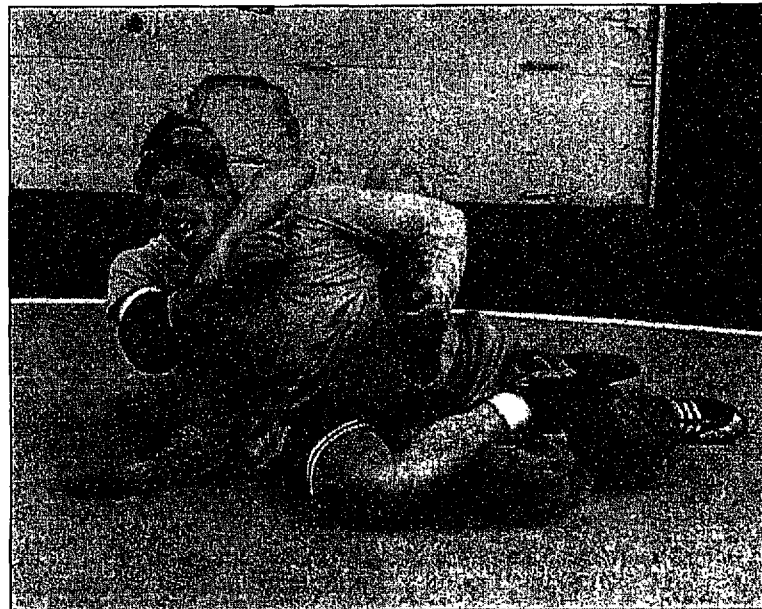


Photo by Austen Lavery

Two wrestlers practice for the upcoming national junior college wrestling meet in Rochester, Minn. on Feb. 24-25.

T-birds drop to second place

By GAVIN JOHNSON

STAFF REPORTER

The Highline men's basketball team suffered their second loss in the Western Division, dropping them into second place behind Lower Columbia with a record of 10-2.

The T-Birds took on Centralia on Feb. 15 at Centralia. Unfortunately, they came up short with a final score of 78-76 in overtime, making it their second consecutive game in overtime.

"Yeah, this loss hurts a little bit, but with our team's character I know this is a game we can overcome. We need to keep our valleys small, so it's easier to get out of any slump," said Head Coach Che Dawson.

Highline started the game off strong finishing the first half with a lead of 46-39. Going into the second half a little confident, too many inefficient shots were taken resulting in very few offensive rebounds for the T-Birds.

The Trailblazers however came out on fire with their leading scorers, Marcus Hinton who finished with 23 points, and Keegan Fulton with 21 points. Their offense wasn't the only thing in their favor, but their ability to shut down Highline in the paint by holding forward, Zach Bruce to only 3 points was a key factor as well.

"It was definitely a tough loss, but its small things that we need to fix. Our focus is on the rest of the season, not this loss," said Jaxin Skyward.

Although the T-Birds finished with high field goal percentages around 45 percent and free throws above 70 percent, they couldn't get that last shot they needed in overtime.

Key players of the game for Highline were Skyward with 16 points, Anderson with 13 points, and Mgebroff with 12 points, 7 rebounds.

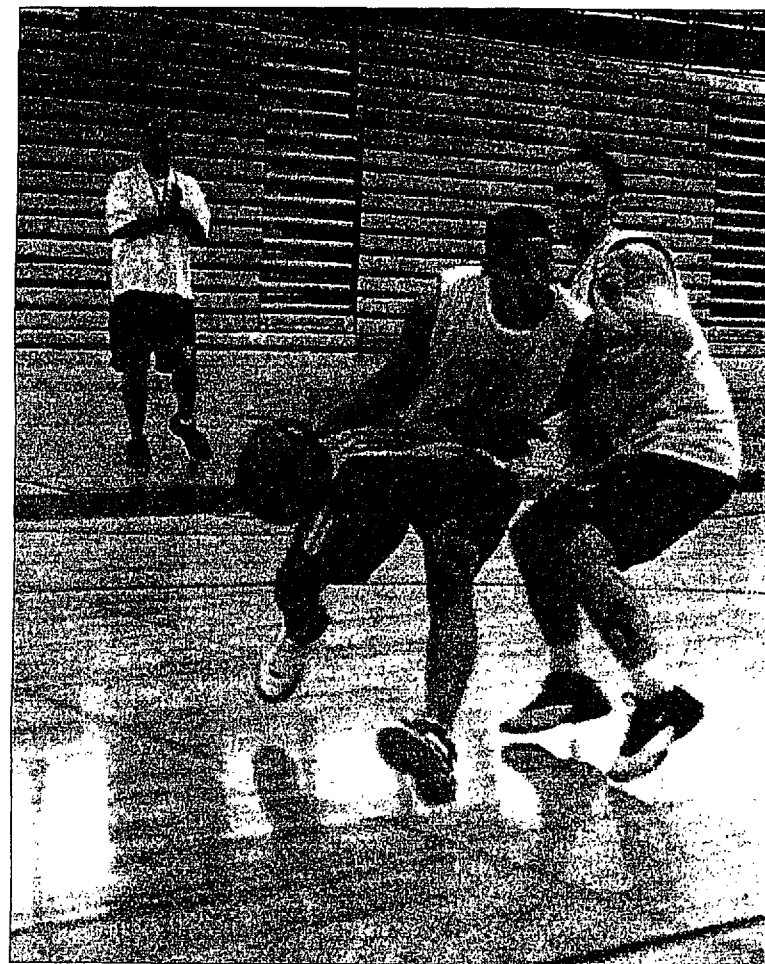
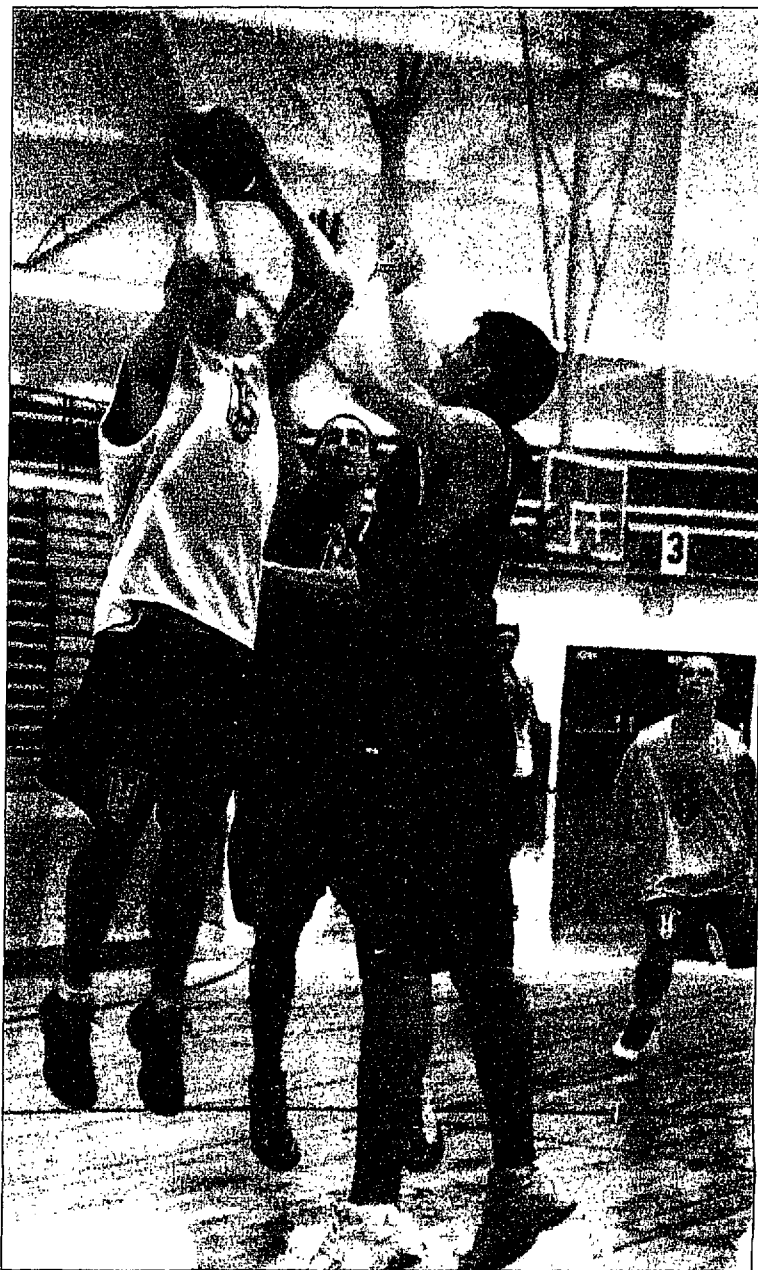
The T-Birds had a bye on Saturday Feb. 18.

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

Highline won the last meeting against South Puget Sound by a score of 95-70 back on Jan. 21 at home in the Thunderdome.

The Highline Thunderbirds' next two games will be Saturday, Feb. 25 against Clark at home at 3 p.m. and Wednesday, March 1 against Lower Columbia at the T-Dome at 8 p.m.

The last meeting against Lower Columbia was in Longview, where the T-Birds encountered their first loss 92-76. This time the Red Devils will be coming



Photos by Alicia Mendez

Left photo: Post, Matt Mgebroff, 42, (left) pulls up for a jump shot during practice while Mike Dorr (center), 13, and Zach Bruce (right), 31, attempt a shot block.

Above photo: Guard, Derrick Webb (left), 5, drives up the baseline against Brandon Smith (right), 2, during practice.

to the T-Dome to defend their league title.

"We've been working really hard this past week and feel that we're ready to compete against any team," said Zach Bruce.

The Western Division allows four teams to advance to the playoffs, and most likely the current league leaders will be attending which include: Lower Columbia (11-1), Highline (10-2), Grays Harbor (9-3), and Centralia (8-4).

The NWAACC tournament will be held in the Tri-Cities, March 8-12 and a total of 16 teams will be competing for the

title.

"The one thing I want our guys to remember during any tough time is, don't panic. Stay together and we'll be just fine," said Dawson.

In their last meeting with the Penguins of Clark, Highline came home from Vancouver with a convincing 94-69 victory.

The win was even sweeter for coach Dawson. The win at Clark marked the first time that coach Dawson had beaten Clark on their home court since being the head coach at Highline.

Highline has won the last two

meetings against the Penguins, and Clark is hoping to stop the streak.

However, Clark will be entering the game as huge underdogs.

Clark currently has a league record of 1-12 and an overall record of 3-21 which is good enough for last place in the western division.

After the Clark game, the Red Devils of Lower Columbia will storm the T-Dome. Highline will be looking for revenge against Lower Columbia after getting pounded in their last matchup.

Lower Columbia's last loss

to Highline came last year by a score of 63-55.

Lower Columbia then took the rematch later that season by a score 74-64.

The win over Highline helped propel the Red Devils to their second consecutive NWAACC Championship.

After the showdown with Lower Columbia, the T-Birds head to Auburn to take on arch rival Green River in the rematch of the Valley Cup series between the two programs.

Highline won the last meeting against Green River by a score of 79-73.

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Lady T-Birds late run comes up short at Centralia

BY STEVE PIROTTE

STAFF REPORTER

The Highline women's basketball team took a step back from winning the NWAACC Western Division by losing 67-64 to Centralia last Wednesday, Feb. 15.

The T-Birds now lie in third with a 10-2 record behind Centralia and Lower Columbia, who both have an 11-1 record.

"We had a six or seven-minute period where we just hung our heads," Head Coach Amber Rowe said. "For some reason this team just can't deal with the ebb and flow of a basketball game. We finished strong, we just ran out of time."

Another big impact was interior defense.

"We gave up way too many lay-ups," Rowe said. "Whether it was an offensive rebound or a cross screen, we gave away too many lay-ups to be successful."

"This comes down to interior defense. We forced a lot of turnovers and had good pressure, but the lay-ups killed us."

The players did not take the loss well.

"They were pretty solemn in the locker room," Rowe said. "It was a big game and one we needed to win."

"We're still not playing our best basketball, which is upsetting because there's only three weeks left in the season."

Ashley Cavalieri led the Lady T-Birds with 11 points and went three for four from behind the three-point line.

Natalie Schmidt added 10 points and Marisa Cain led the team with eight rebounds and five steals.

Although this loss hurts Highline's chances of a division title, it's not impossible for the T-Birds to win at least a share of the title.

If Highline wins out and Lower Columbia defeats Centralia on the last day of the season, then those three teams will finish in a three-way tie for first place.

In this scenario, all three teams would share the league title, but Highline would be given the No. 1 seed.

The seeding is based on a matrix system that puts a different team in first in case of a tiebreaker, and this is Highline's year in first.

A three way tie is a plausible scenario. Lower Columbia has already defeated Centralia on the road, and Highline beat Lower Columbia in Longview.

The T-Birds host the Red Devils next Wednesday, March 1 at 6 p.m.

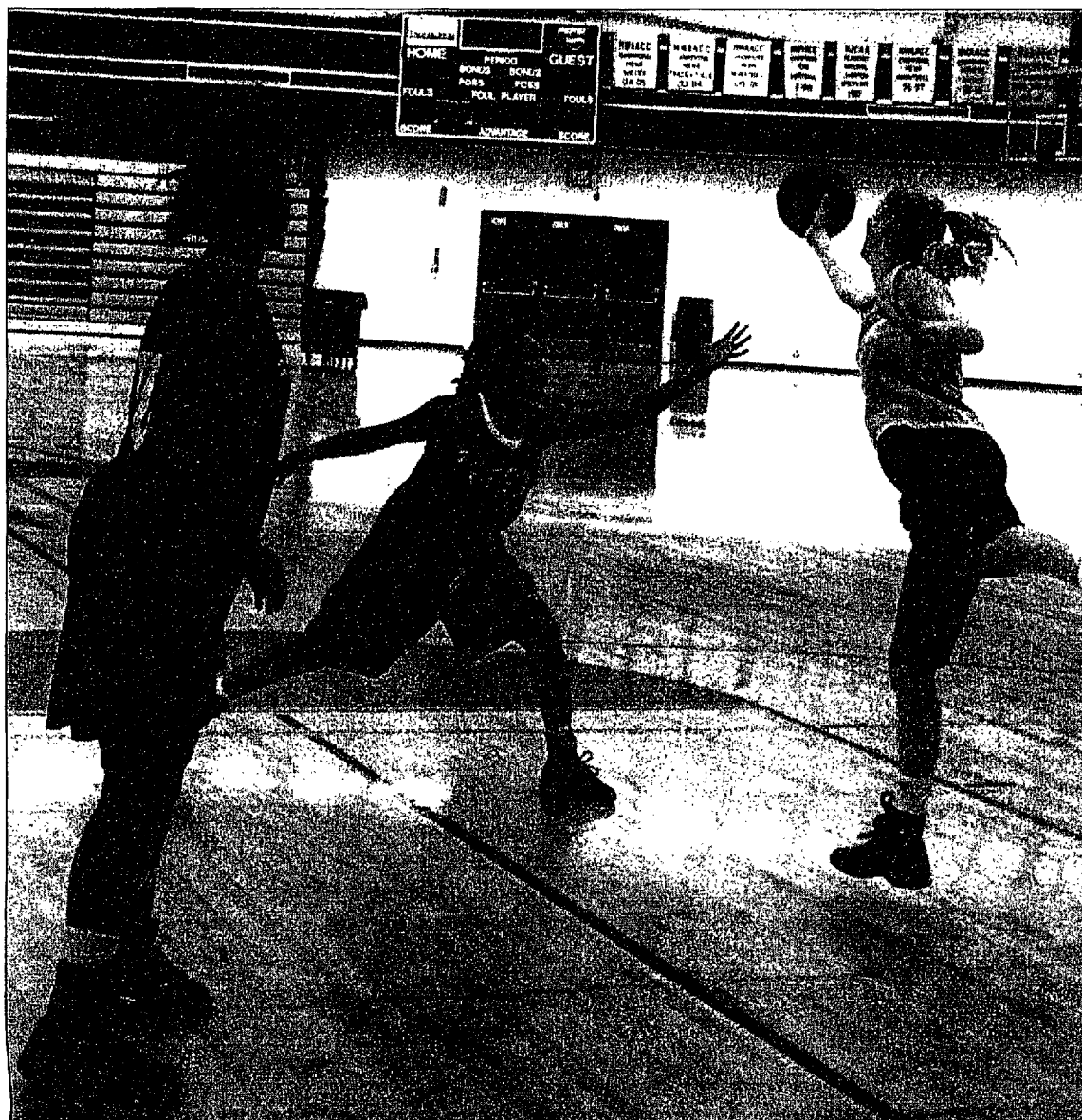


Photo by Austen Lavery

Marisa Cain (left) looks on while Ashley Clark (right) and Kristen Jones go after a loose ball during practice earlier this week.

In practices previous to the game Rowe planned on working on rebounding. The T-Birds were outrebounded by Centralia by 20.

"Rebounding is tough to work on," Rowe said. "It's more of an attitude than anything else. If you want the ball you'll get it."

"When we work on blocking out in practice we do it well, we just haven't made it a habit going into games. Centralia has a lot of big players and they just got rebounds over the top of us."

Although rebounding has been a weak point, it has not necessarily held the team back.

In all but five of the games the other team has had more rebounds, but Highline still has a 10-2 league record.

"If you had told me at the beginning of the season that we'd be 10-2 with our rebounding I wouldn't believe you," Rowe said.

Rowe was still able to see positives in the game. "If the team can figure it out we can beat anybody. Our defense is that good. We were down

14 points at one of the hardest places to play and we still had a shot at it in the end. It took a lot of heart to make that comeback, and we just fell short."

After a bye on Saturday, Feb. 18 the T-Birds traveled to South Puget Sound on Wednesday, Feb. 22. The results for the game were unavailable at press time.

South Puget Sound was tied for fourth with a 6-7 record, but Coach Rowe took nothing for granted.

"South Puget Sound is playing good basketball right now. They only lost to Centralia by one point over the weekend. We're not in a position to take anybody lightly or come out flat."

Highline next plays host to the Penguins of Clark at 1 p.m. on Saturday. Clark is currently 5-8 in league and 9-17 overall. Highline won the last meeting with ease 76-59 on the road.

Next Wednesday, the Lady T-Birds will play host to the current division leader Lower Columbia. Highline beat the Red Devils earlier this year on the road 54-53 and are looking to repeat.

Lower Columbia is currently 11-1 in the regular season and 16-6 overall.

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Jackson leads offense for men's basketball

By STEVE PIROTTÉ

STAFF REPORTER

In a recent basketball game against Green River Highline narrowly won 79-73. Several players stood out with their flashy play, but Nate Jackson did not. At the end of the game, however, Jackson had 13 points and 3 steals. He leads the Highline men's basketball team in points, but you might not notice him.

Although he is one of the best pure shooters on the team, Jackson prefers to play a team game.

"My strengths are quickness and hitting the open shot," Jackson said. "But I mostly like to penetrate and get my teammates involved. Also, I play solid defense, something the coach stresses."

His style of play is not flashy, but he gets the job done.

"I try to lead by example. I'm not that vocal but I make things happen."

Jackson believes Head Coach Che Dawson is one of the reasons he has been so successful this year.

"Coach Dawson stresses defense and keeping it simple. He likes to get the team involved and focus less on me. That has really helped me this year,"



Nate Jackson

Jackson said.

Coach Dawson has put Jackson into a role he is not used to. Last year he played point guard, but this year he is in a more offensive role as shooting guard.

"If I could have it my way, I'd play both," Jackson said. "I like to play both occasionally in games, but my first love is point guard."

Highline currently sits in second in the NWAACC Western division. Even with the stress and pressure of playoffs, Jackson enjoys basketball.

"It's the funnest thing for me. I look forward to it every day. It's simple, yet complicated. I want to someday be a coach."

Although he has been playing basketball since third grade, it has not always been his favorite sport.

"My first love was baseball. I played center field all through high school. But when I went to college I had to make a choice and I decided on basketball."

Jackson plans to play basketball as far as it will take him.

"I'd like to play basketball for an East Coast school. I want to go out of state to experience new things and new people."

Pursuing a college career in basketball is one of Jackson's main goals, but it is not his only one. He has a life outside of basketball.

"Family, religion, and God are most important to me," Jackson said. His father is a pastor, so he has a strong Christian upbringing. Family is a priority for him.

"I have 16-year-old sister who's an All-American at basketball. I feel like it's one of my accomplishments because she's a point guard. I taught her everything and I'm really proud of her."

In his free time Jackson is a writer. He writes poetry and short stories and would like to be a novelist.

"Writing poetry relieves stress. I get my thoughts on pa-

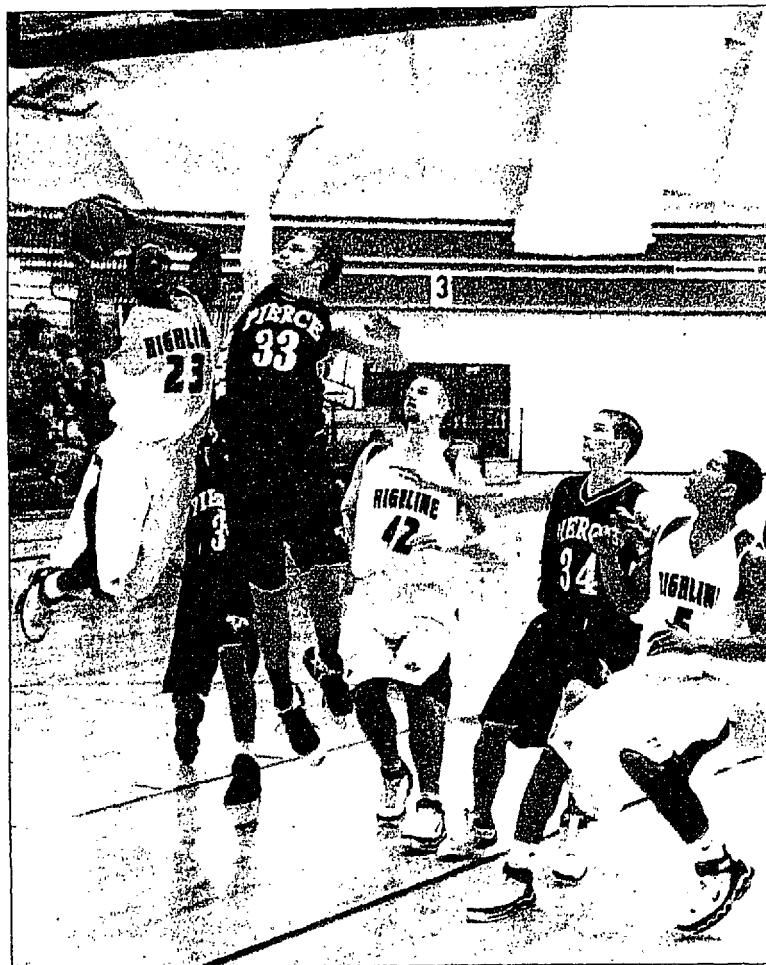


Photo by Alicia Mendez

Nate Jackson goes up for a layup against Pierce.

per and it relaxes me," Jackson said.

Jackson has high hopes for the team this year.

"We can definitely win the championship. We need to stay

together as a team. We need to listen to Coach Dawson and execute the game plan and step up defensively," Jackson said. "And I just have to play with heart and the will to win."

Table tennis club holds first championship

By ROBERT FITZGERALD

STAFF REPORTER

Anh Tran paddled his way to victory in the Table Tennis Club's premier championship Feb. 17.

Tran, clad in green athletic shorts and white tennis shoes, was misted in a fine sweat when he beat his opponent, Duke Nguyen, four games to two.

The championship game was a flurry of excitement — the two players danced and dove at their respective ends of the table, watched by the eliminated participants who crowded around the stage of the Student Union.

Tran, with his peculiar grip Softball auction Friday

The Lady T-Birds fastpitch team's sixth annual Diamond Bash Auction is Friday, Feb. 24 at 5 p.m. in the Student Union building. Auction items include rounds of golf at local courses, Sonics tickets, trips and more.

Tickets for the auction and dinner are \$15 and are available through the Highline Foundation or at the door. Donations still are welcome. For more information, contact the Foundation at 206-878-3710, ext. 3446.

and serpentine serve, remained cool and expressionless throughout the match.

Despite his victory, Tran said he doesn't know if he will be victorious the next time around. "I can't tell because there are good players today that didn't show up."

Tran has played table tennis since he was 12, but said that he didn't take it seriously until he started playing in the Union last year. "This experience is very

different from playing in the rec room," he said.

"Here it's a competition. You have pressure. Playing [in the rec room] is relaxed — you don't care about winning or losing."

However, recreational games do hold meaning. Club President Lance Jacobsen started the club two years ago, and has made efforts to breathe importance into recreational games.

"We've been doing a ranking

system in the rec room," Jacobsen said. "Basically, we knew the quality of the players so we could put them into classes."

Friday's tournament was a test run for the club's open tournament on April 21. The event will be open for all Highline students, not just club members.

Despite the recent slew of organized events, the Table Tennis Club focuses on recreational play and comes from humble beginnings. "The reason we started the club was to get a net," Jacobsen said with a laugh. "It was 50 bucks."

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Budget

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do everything they can to help Highline on this issue."

Though the state typically will not pay for non-instructional buildings, Highline has been trying to prove that learning and instruction do occur in the Student Union.

"As of September '05 to January '06, we've estimated 149 hours of instructional learning in the Student Union," Brown

said.

"It will be a huge monetary loss if we don't get it," said Student Government President Paul Kalchik.



Kalchik

"With-out securing M&O money, it's a financial burden for students because they paid for it," Kalchik said.

"Worst-case scenario is it will come out of S&A fees."

Goodbye tedious paperwork, hello Financial Aid checks

By ROBERT FITZGERALD
STAFF REPORTER

Students will no longer have to spend their time and energy on attendance checks to receive their financial aid.

Financial Aid Director Steve Seeman said that students entitled to financial aid can now pick up their checks at the start of the quarter, without having to deal with the previously required paperwork.

"We are going to do away with financial forms," Seeman said.

Previously, students would have to obtain their instructor's signature, confirming the student was indeed in the class they were receiving financial aid for.

Seeman mentioned several causes for the change in policy. "The best reason is to get students access to their funds earlier in the quarter," he said.

Students may need their books on the first or second day for class, Seeman said. Having to hunt down teachers and file

the necessary paperwork could cause issues for students who needed their money right away.

"There were some complaints," he said. "We evaluated what we could do."

Eliminating the attendance checks seemed like the best option. "The faculty loves it. The students are going to love it."

Student Amy Le has already professed her adoration. "That's awesome. That's really cool—it saves a lot of time."

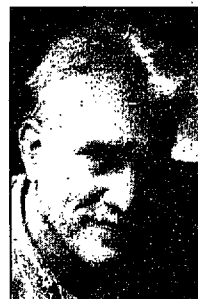
Le, who has received financial aid for approximately two years, said that she has had issues with attendance checks in the past. "It's kind of a pain in the ass."

"It's kind of hectic," Le said, explaining the process of obtaining the signatures. "One day I remember, but then I forget the paper at home."

Seeman hopes all students will respond positively to the change, but won't dismiss the

issues that could result from the new policy.

"Say you just picked up the money and hit the road." Seeman admitted that students have taken the money and left in past cases.



Seeman

Financial Aid hasn't enacted any preventative measures to ensure that students don't take advantage of the new program. "We're going to wait and see what happens," Seeman said.

While Seeman hopes that everything goes as planned, the possibility of difficulty still lingers, a possibility that he can't completely dismiss.

"We'd contact the student and ask for the funds back." But the college will send people to collections, Seeman said.

While that may serve as an ultimate line of defense, it's a line that Seeman hopes not to cross. "It's a very last resort. Nobody wants to go through that process."

Orca

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"The orcas are being hit with a double whammy," Moses said. "PCBs don't affect them as long as they stay in their blubber but because salmon runs are low they're burning their blubber and PCBs are getting into their blood stream."

Orcas are at the top of the food chain in the ocean.

In food chains biomass moves from one organism to another as each eats a lower member and in turn is eaten by a higher member. Ecological efficiency is only 10 percent.

For example 1,000 grams of grass would only support 100 grams of mouse.

Although not all the nutrients move up the food chain, all the pollutants do.

Because of biomagnification, animals that feed at the food chain only carry a few PCBs, while the orca consumes all the pollutants.

There are two different types of Orca whales, transient orcas and resident orcas. The resident orcas in the Puget Sound area are the ones that were placed on

the Endangered Species List.

Transient orcas live offshore and feed mainly on marine mammals; they hunt in packs of three to four and are very quiet.

"Their known as the silent predator," said Moses. "Their very brutal, they're the ones you would see gang up on a blue whale and rip its tongue out."

In comparison to the transient orcas, resident orcas are very vocal, live near shore and feed off fish.

"They love salmon," Moses said. "Their migration patterns fit very largely with the migration of the salmon."

"They won't eat seals," he said.

Joy Strohmaier will be talking about the book Fast Food Nation, at next weeks Science Seminar on Feb 24, in Building 2 at 2:20 p.m.

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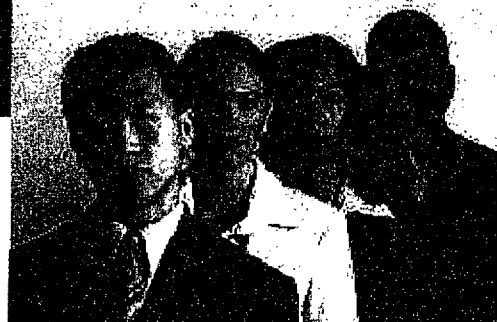
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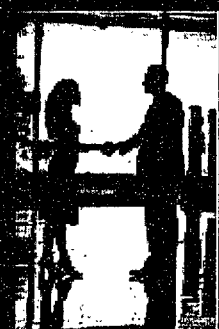
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