

THE THUNDERWORD

MARCH 9, 2006

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HIGHLINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Budget ax begins to fall

26 to be laid off at year end

By MICHELLE ERICKSEN
AND ALEX CAHAN
STAFF REPORTERS

Highline will lay off 26 people as a part of its ongoing effort to balance its budget in the face of declining enrollment.

The layoffs are part of a \$1.7 million budget cut to take effect in the new fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006.

For three straight years, enrollment has been down from a peak of almost 6100 full time equivalents (FTEs) to a little over 5200 for the 2005-2006 fiscal year.

Dr. Bell said Highline will no longer be dipping into reserve funds to cover expenses, which

it had been using to cope with the low enrollment.

"Actually our budget crisis is not a crisis, I don't want to call it a crisis," said Dr. Bell.

"We've had a structural budget problem that was exasperated by low enrollment." "We've seen a tremendous shift in demographics," she said. "We've not adapted to the changing community. We've responded some but not adequately."

"Tuition has gone up and enrollment has gone down," Dr. Bell said. "We need to be out in the adult population and letting people know about programs here at Highline."

The majority of the cuts will come from eliminating positions, Dr. Bell said.

These budget cuts include laying off administrators including Vice President of Student Services Ivan Gorne, Chief



Fisher

Seeman

Gorne

of Security Richard Fisher, and Director of Financial Aid Steve Seeman.

"I'm surprised but I'm not shocked," said Fisher. "I'm probably going to retire or go back to school."

"I'm going to do something else besides police work; I've been doing that for over 40 years. I might be a real estate appraiser."

Highline currently has about 1,000 people on the payroll.

This includes 154 classified staff, 132 exempt and administrative workers, 160 full time faculty, 136 hourly employees, and 238 part time faculty, and 222 student workers.

Exempt workers are not covered by either the faculty or classified staff unions. They are in professional positions with duties that extend beyond a single job description.

The school will also be cutting back on expenses as far as

classes are concerned.

Instruction will drop 85 sections of classes beginning in the summer of 2006. Classes that normally have low enrollment will be difficult to keep, and the schedules will reflect demand for classes, college officials say.

Full time faculty will not be getting laid off. However \$440,000 will be cut from the part time faculty budget, reflecting reduced use of part-timers.

Student Services will be undergoing some restructuring this next fiscal year.

"The plan is the restructuring will allow us to provide the same level of service we have been, and there is hope that we may even improve," said Gorne.

Resources are being moved to help maximize student enrollment, which is where the college needs help, Gorne said.

Disasters can be survived -- with preparation

By ALEX CAHAN
STAFF REPORTER

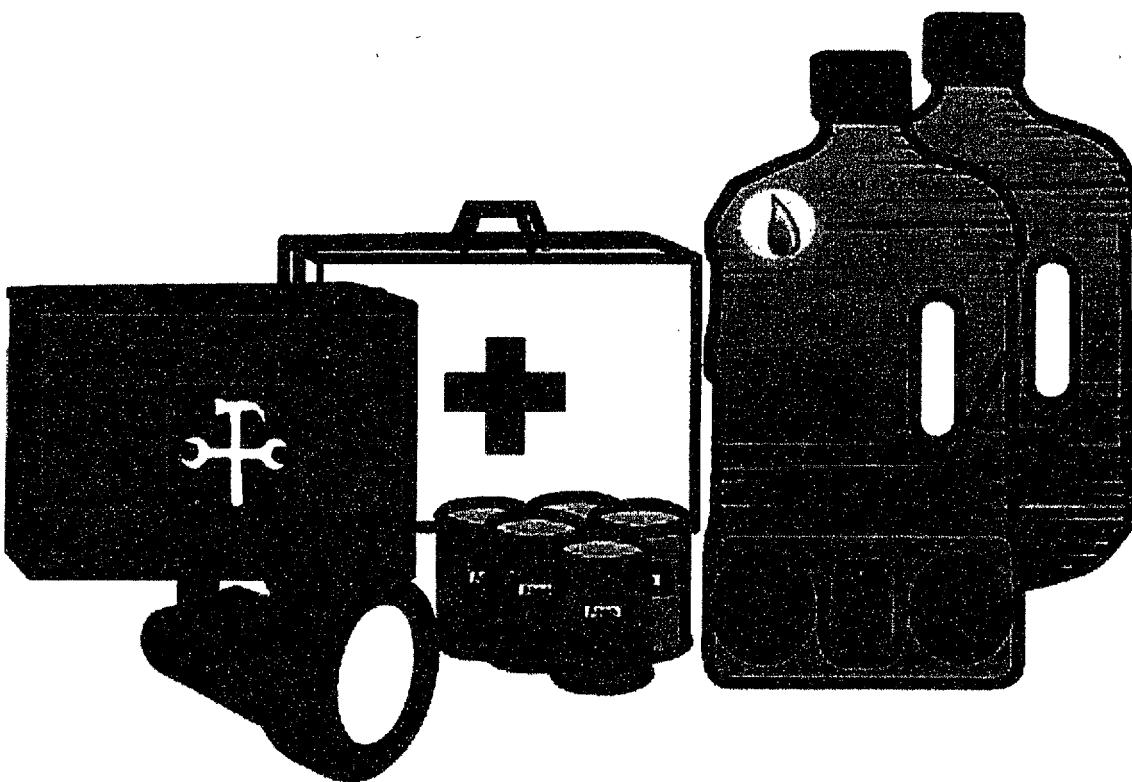
Buildings crumble to the ground as the earth violently shakes. When the tremors stop, fire departments and hospitals are unable to care for everyone that needs their help. If this were to really happen, would you be ready to deal with it?

Hurricane Katrina showed us that in the event of a truly destructive disaster, the government won't always be able to take care of things.

As a result, the BTECH 254 class (Project management leadership, taught by Fred Capes-tany) decided to have a seminar on Emergency Preparedness, so that the same thing won't happen to us.

"We thought it was necessary -- it was an important thing to bring to students," said Hector Bravo, one of the students in the class.

Taught by Public Education Officers within South King Fire and Rescue, this seminar went over what ordinary citizens can



Graphic by Marquis Falcon

do to be prepared for a disaster when it comes.

According to the presentation, there are several reasons why people don't prepare. These include procrastination, laziness, doubt of an event actually occurring, and the belief

that the government will take care of everything.

"I think these are realistic, and then I usually ask what it would take for them to make it a priority, and try to get them to think in a different way," said Debbie Goetz, one of the Public

Education Officers who taught the seminar. "Mostly, we've seen, it takes an earthquake, unfortunately. After they've had the experience of being helpless and not knowing what to do, that's when we see them get motivated."

There is the problem of denial, to which there are four stages. The first is that a disaster won't happen around here, followed by the belief that if it does happen it won't be that bad.

Those people who believe that it will happen and that it will be bad tend to believe it won't happen to them, and if it does happen to them they're going to die, so there is no point to prepare.

"The good news about a disaster striking is that you will survive," said Goetz. "The bad news is that you will survive."

The main message the fire department had is that how well you do after a disaster depends on what you did before.

"If you have no other reason to do anything, do it for your own selfish reasons -- to protect you and your family," said Goetz.

This area is subject to several kinds of disasters, both natural and technical, said Goetz.

These include windstorms,

See Disaster, page 16

INDEX

ARTS.....PAGES 5-7
CAMPUS LIFE.....PAGES 2-3
OPINION.....PAGE 4
NEWS.....PAGES 1,14-16
SPORTS.....PAGES 8-13



Drama production gives life to 'The Seagull'

See story, Page 5



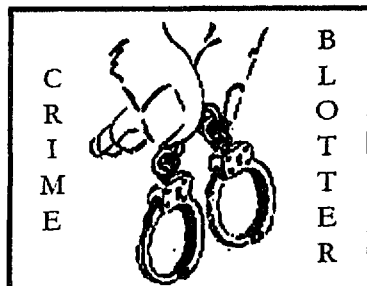
Women, men head to NWAACC tournament

See story, Page 9

3/9/06

THE THUNDERWORD

CAMPUS LIFE



Visitor suffers minor chest pains

An adult male visiting Highline suffered chest pains in Building 5 on March 2. The South King County Fire Department came and checked the man out and he was reported to be fine. The man was transported home by a friend.

Student suffers anxiety attack

A Highline student suffered an anxiety attack on the second floor of Building 30 on March 7. The South King County Fire Department came and checked the student and reported that she was fine. The student departed campus after that.

Man disrupts classes, then leaves

A Central Washington University staff member contacted security regarding a man walking around campus on March 2, looking into windows and entering classrooms while class was in session. Security contacted the man and he did not show any identification and he was not a Highline student. Security asked him to leave and he complied.

Student hits head -- mother rescues

Security had to provide an ice pack to a Highline student who fell and hit her head on March 7. Sources could not confirm how the student hit her head. The student's mother came to pick her up after the incident.

Student falls down while on crutches

A Highline student on crutches fell on the east side of Building 29 on March 7. The student was given a lift by a security officer and was not badly injured.

Vehicle assist

A Honda had to be jump-started after it suffered a dead battery in the east parking lot on March 7.

-Compiled by M. Maras



Photos by Alicia Mendez

Bosnians dance the night away



Friends of Bosnia celebrated International Women's Day on Saturday, March 4 in the Highline Student Union Building. During the end of a dance (left) the team holds up the Bosnian flag. Two dance teams (above and right) woo the audience with their crafty steps and flashy outfits. More than 400 people attended the event.



Award winners announced

The winners of Highline's Academic Achievement Award tuition waivers have been announced.

The winners are: Lynnette Bird, Karin Carr, Parminder Dhillon, Annamaria Eisen, Caroline Klevemann, Megan Kress, Dana Lashbaugh, Tiffany McGuyer, James Rudd, Nadexhda Ryabets, Jodi Sanborn, Emily Scannell, Andre Scott, Leonard Seivwright, and Jaime Williams.

There will be no awards given out in Summer quarter but students can register for Fall quarter in early spring.

For more information about the Academic Achievement Award, contact Laura Manning, speech instructor and Phi Theta Kappa co-adviser, at 206-878-3710, ext. 6037 or at lmanning@highline.edu.

Donate gifts for silent auction

Women's Programs is now accepting donations for their annual silent auction.

All the proceeds from the

auction will go to the Emergency Scholarship Fund which is designed to help Highline students say in college.

Some items and baskets that the auction is looking for are handcrafted blankets and quilts, theater tickets, chocolate basket, and a workout basket.

They will be accepting donations until May 5 and the auction will be held on May 9.

For more information about the Women's Programs auction contact Jean Munro at 206-878-3710, ext. 3365 or at jmunro@highline.edu.

Discuss cloning and stem cells

This week's Science Seminar will argue bioethics.

Karen Francis-McWhite will discuss cloning, stem cell research, and genetically modified foods.

The seminar will be held Friday, March 10 from 2:20-3:10 p.m. in Building 3, room 102.

For more information about Science Seminar contact Woody Moses, biology instructor, at 206-878-3710, ext. 3649.

Thunderword staff changes

Several staff members are being promoted at the Thunderword for spring, editor Michelle Ericksen announced.

Alicia Mendez is being promoted from photo editor to managing editor, where she will be in charge of the news section of the paper.

Keith Daigle will move from arts editor to photo editor. Reporter Rachel Lusby is being promoted to arts editor.

Reporter Steve Pirotte is being promoted to sports editor.

Austin MacKenzie is moving from opinion editor to news editor. Reporter Robert Fitzgerald is being promoted to opinion editor.

Alex Cahan also returns as news editor.

The newspaper recently hired Candace Kruger as advertising manager and Sharonda McCa-rver as sales representative. Kiana Hayes continues as business manager and Aleksey Malyugin as office manager.

Wine and Dine classes offered

The Wine and Dine program

will be showing people how to pair food of the season with regional wines.

The class will be led by Chris Brandmeir, hotel and tourism management professor, accompanied by guest professionals.

The classes cost \$99 for individuals plus a \$75 lab fee and \$185 for couples plus a \$135 lab fee and will be held May 5-19 from 6-8 p.m.

The Extended Learning program will also offer six classes in addition to the Wine and Dine classes.

They will be listed as Hotel 282, Wines of the World.

For more information contact Chris Brandmeir at 206-878-3710, ext. 3855 or at cbrandme@highline.edu.

Also you can call the Extended Learning office at 206-870-3785 to receive complete program information.

Co-Opportunity COOPERATIVE EDUCATION

Build your career with Internships!

Employers want education and experience. How to get both? Highline's Co-op office has the connections you need for the internships you want. For details, visit the Cooperative Education office in Building 9. What are you waiting for?

**Get real world experience while earning real college credit.
Building 9, bottom floor**



Spring break is almost here

Students discuss plans for their upcoming vacations

By AMANDA CABELLON
STAFF REPORTER

Highline students are ready for a break.

It's obvious that this spring break will be filled with fun and relaxation.

Many of the students have decided to travel to different places during their break with friends and family.

"I'm going to Hawaii, and I've never been there before. I just want to go there for fun, to get out of the state. I haven't gone anywhere since 1997," said Gina Sadettan.

"I'm going to Louisiana with my family. It was a spur of the moment thing," said Teresa Fuller.

"I'm going home to Southern California, to lay out by the pool, get a tan, and maybe make a few trips to the beach," said Jessica Wilson.

"I'm going to Florida to visit my brother," said Leann Paperfuss.

"Me and my friend are going to Canada. We're going to visit her boyfriend," said Mary Ollman.

"I'm going to travel to Canada, to visit my friend, and maybe see something I didn't see before," said Jane Wang.

While Ollman and Wang go to Canada, Sarah Rogers decides to go to Olympia, "Well I'm going on a retreat. We're just going to a camp and swimming. And I'm excited about it."

Nick Paul plans on going camping as well.

"I'm going camping, that's pretty much it. Camping and nothing else down in Lake Kalaloch," Paul said.

Then there are those who decide to stick around during spring break, but still have plans up their sleeves.

"I'm going up to Wazzu to visit some of my friends," said Brinton Slaeker.

Travis Underhill says, "I'm going to a Thai Temple. It's somewhere near Enchanted Village for the Thai New Year."

"I'm going to sleep," said Mike Waller.

"I'm excited about spring break. I have a friend coming from Spokane visiting me. I haven't seen her in awhile. We're probably going to Seattle



Photo by Alicia Mendez

Rio Yazaki takes advantage of the sunshine by playing kickball outside the Student Union

for a couple days," said Abby Toohey.

"I'll be spending time with my girlfriend," said Bobby

Vang. "I also want to go to some break dancing battles, so I'm really excited about that."

Some students have decided

to work on their special talents.

Brad Steenrov, who plays the guitar says, "I'll be sleeping and playing guitar. I've been playing for three years."

And Katie Heinisch is excited for the new drama show she'll be taking part in.

"My show Footloose will be opening! I'm thrilled! So excited! Can't even wait," said Heinisch

However, while some students decide to use spring break as a time to have fun, others sometimes use it to prepare themselves mentally and even financially for next quarter. Some are even preparing to go somewhere other than Highline.

"I'm probably going to chill at my house and relax. Prepare myself for next quarter," David Huynh said. "I don't know what else I'm going to do. I just want to relax and take advantage of the break."

"No parties for me. Just work, work, work," said Alex and Nathan Basisty, two brothers who attend Highline together. "We just want to get enough money for tuition for next quarter."

"I'm going to be working, save up some money. I have a son, so I'll be taking care of him and working. No trips or anything," said Stacy Dean. "I wish I could go to Mexico, Vegas, anywhere."

"This Spring Break I'm going to figure out what college I'm going to be going to," said Selena Salihovic.

Reporter Michelle Ericksen contributed to this story.

President Bell's career led her to Highline

By MICHELLE ERICKSEN
STAFF REPORTER

Highline President Dr. Priscilla Bell found a career in community colleges and hasn't looked back since.

Dr. Bell spoke to a group of students at yesterday's Honors Colloquy about subjects from her education experience to Highline resources.

Although she grew up in Texas, she attended college in California.

"I grew up in the 1960s in Texas. There was a lot of discrimination," Dr. Bell said.

The junior college movement was an open door providing opportunity for people regardless of race or social class, Dr. Bell said.

There were very few two year colleges in Texas, she said.

"It was clear to me that this was the environment where I could live my values," Dr. Bell said.

"It all had to do with following my own values."

Dr. Bell said community colleges were institutions of golden opportunity.

"My first job, I coordinated student activities, I worked with students," Dr. Bell said.

"We had a ball, we had so much fun. I decided to join the community college field."

Dr. Bell got a nine-month position at Tacoma Community College.

She kept on getting promoted and ended up working there for 17 years.

"I got an invitation to go to a leadership institute," Dr. Bell said. "It was there I heard the announcement about the Ph.D. program in Texas."

"I thought I would just do the coursework and not the thesis, but one thing led to another."

"The more women presidents I saw, I thought maybe I ought to do this," Dr. Bell said.

Highline President Dr. Shir-

ley Gordon became one of Dr. Bell's role models.

Gordon was one of the first women presidents of community colleges in Washington state. She was the first woman president of Highline in 1976-1990, and was the very first woman president of the President's Organization of community colleges in Washington state.

Bell went on to become the president of Fulton Community College, a two-year college in upstate New York where she worked for six years until returning to Seattle area.

"I'm really a Seattle-area person," she said.

Dr. Bell took up her presidency at Highline in July 2000.

"I don't think there's a better



Dr. Priscilla Bell

job, than where I am right now," Dr. Bell said.

"I don't know how you can go up from this."

"I like being able to connect with people that are studying

and learning."

Dr. Bell said she plans on retiring in 10 years. She also said she would like to see more students take advantage of resources at Highline.

"The clubs are fabulous, the lectures, the student leadership training," she said.

Outside of the classroom learning is important, she added.

Dr. Bell mentioned groups and resources such as Phi Theta Kappa, the Tutoring Center, and the Math Resource Center.

"We have counseling, your advisers are really crucial to you," said Dr. Bell. "They really are."

This was the last Honors Colloquy for Winter Quarter. The next session will be held on Wednesday, March 29. It will be an organizational session. The first speaker for Spring Quarter is going to be on April 5. The first speaker has not been announced.

Editorial

Sidewalk plans need to be made reality

College officials said last week they will build a sidewalk alongside the access road that connects the North Lot with 20th Avenue South. This is something we've needed for quite some time.

The current lack of a sidewalk is dangerous. The hill is steep and can often become slippery, especially during the rainy season.

Furthermore, many people drive far too fast on that hill, and it's only a matter of time before someone gets hit.

If someone were to be hit while walking on the hill, Highline could be liable.

The fact that somebody hasn't been hit already is a minor miracle.

A sidewalk could also potentially increase the amount of people willing to walk to school.

Students living within walking distance might be more inclined to walk if there was a safer and easier way to reach the campus, which this sidewalk would provide.

At a time when the college faces a lot of pressure on its budget, we hope the college still will find the money to complete this needed addition to campus.

Highline needs help for campus repairs

We should soon be receiving \$1.7 million in order to help us repair the failing underground power cables on campus.

If the State Senate and the Governor both approve this new supplemental bill, we will have the funding to this important problem on campus.

But that alone isn't enough.

The Highline campus is in severe need of further funding.

Our enrollment is declining and there are several buildings, old and new, that require some sort of maintenance or funding.

Right now it is crucial that this campus receive government support to keep it functional. Building 5's roof is sagging; Building 4 is in bad shape and is in sore need of being replaced.

However, the state government continues to hold a short-sighted view on the needs of the college.

It's good that we're getting the \$1.7 million for the power cables. But it's not enough.

The state of some of these buildings makes them hazardous, and we need the money to be able to properly maintain them.

Without help from the government, this is impossible.

A campus such as this will require a steady degree of maintenance to keep it functioning.

Certain buildings, especially older buildings, are simply not within the school's budget to replace.

Without governmental aid, the buildings will do nothing but continue to deteriorate, until they finally fail.



Celebration transcends religion

I've always found it rather ironic that two relatively large holidays in American culture are part of a concept that most Protestants, especially American Protestants are supposed to abhor.

Saint Valentine's Day and Saint Patrick's Day are two holidays that evolved from the catholic tradition many Protestants consider to be definitively heathen and proof that Catholics aren't "true" Christians, despite having been the original Christian church established supposedly directly from the worshippers of Jesus.

The tradition I am referring to, of course, is that of the veneration of saints, something many Protestants (incorrectly) see as venerating humans as the equals of God.

Yet in spite of this, both of these holidays have attained a great deal of both social and commercial recognition.

Saint Valentine's Day I can

understand. The issue of romance is easily capitalized upon, especially in our current society. It's an easy way for companies to make money on cheesy cards and poetry.

However, Saint Patrick's Day is something entirely different. The day venerates a saint who was instrumental in the spread of Catholicism in Ireland.

Historically, the Irish were not treated well in America, being seen along with the Germans as indolent heathen drunkards. The historical schism between the Catholic Church and the different Protestant sects that arose from it left deep scars, and there were not a lot of good feelings between the Protestant and Catholic Americans.

And yet here we are today using the day of the patron saint of Ireland as an excuse to drink to excess. So much for the days of prohibition.

Really though, it could be considered a sign of progress, if you wish to call it that. What was once a Catholic celebration,

a celebration most Protestant Americans at the time would have found utterly abhorrent has become a day to celebrate and do what many earlier Americans frowned upon: drink.

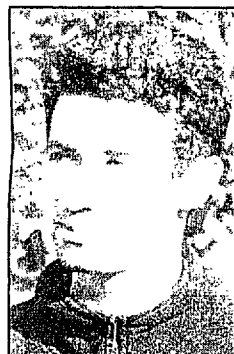
Of course, the argument could be made that our society is simply becoming more debauch and this is merely an excuse to further our own decline. There has been much criticism of the widespread drinking that often accompanies Saint Patrick's Day and there is a real danger in the idea of a day where everybody drinks far more than they ever should.

However, while the concept of excessive drinking isn't necessarily ideal, in this case it actually shows a bit of progress (mixed with a little regression) in our country's views. If we're able to use a Catholic holiday to celebrate nationwide, that must mean that we've come a long way in accepting non-Protestant faiths, albeit faiths that conform to Christian principles.

So there's a little good and a little bad in this societal evolution. But at least it's progress.

Austin celebrates St. Swithin's Day with a cold mud bath.

Comment



Austin MacKenzie

THE THUNDERWORD

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3/9/06

THE THUNDERWORD

Choir goes Broadway for concert

BY RACHEL LUSBY

STAFF REPORTER

Highline's choir is 'puttin' on the ritz' for its March 13 concert.

This quarter the choir is featuring its second study of American-born music, the Broadway musical.

"We are singing medleys from early, historically important musical writers," says Dr. Sandra Glover, a member of the voice faculty at Highline.

The choir will be singing Broadway classics such as Irving Berlin's *No Business Like Show Business* and Cole Porter's *De Lovely*.

They will also be singing selections by Kurt Weill, a German-born composer.

Singing is not the only task the choir is undertaking for this performance, however.

There will be choreography and acting as well. Gwen Knechtel, has done the choreography for the concert includ-

ing a scene with the '20s dance move, the Charleston

Members of the choir are getting a special treat this quarter. They have invited two professional actors and one professional director.

Actors Lawrence Albert and Sam Vance as well as stage director Faith Russell have been invited to observe and work with the ensemble on acting.

"The actors will also work with the soloists," says Dr. Glover.



Photo by Jocie Olson

Allen Rittenhouse and Katherine Harris dance along.

The concert is on Monday, March 13 at 7:30 p.m. in Building 7. Admission is free for ev-

eryone and the concert will end with a question and answer time with the guest professionals.

'Seagull' soars -- for one night

Acting highlight in subtle play

BY AUSTEN LAVERY

STAFF REPORTER

Anton Chekov's *The Seagull* has been properly adapted for its flight on the Highline stage.

The *Seagull*'s story is at times hard to follow, mostly because of the subtext and yet Highline's distinct cast was able to pull off the production with ease.

The story centers around four major characters: the fading actress Irina (Amber Johnson), her playwright son Konstantin (Matt Dimmitt), his love interest Nina (Kate Muldoon), and the well-liked writer Trigorin (Mak Zuljevic).

The cast gave life to the flat story, but mostly from the comic relief of Pyotr (Steven Grawrock) and Yevgeny (Jared Thomas), both of whom fitted their characters suitably, having the audience laugh with each quirky action.

The story revolves mostly around a countryside estate owned by Pyotr. At the estate, the small group has gathered to watch Konstantin's first play, starring Nina. The play within the play is interrupted several times by the confusions of love and anger.

Dimmitt and Muldoon's performances together convey

the impression of affection and pandemonium of every relationship.

Johnson did a good portraying the fading actress as never wanting to leave the spotlight. Zuljevic depicted his character as wanting to absorb everything around him and turn it into a story.

Inside the Little Theatre, the stage has been transformed by designer Richard Lorig, with trees sprouting from the ground and a lakeshore in the background.

The occasional sounds of chirping crickets, barking dogs, and everyday urban life provided the sense of being a part of the play.

Director Aimee Bruneau helps point the cast and crew in the right direction, capturing the flow of the story.

Chekov's play doesn't beat you over the head with simplicity, but speaks more in subtlety. The *Seagull* might fly over the heads of some college students, but with the good acting and directing, it has become easier to understand.

The *Seagull* continues to run March 9, 10, 11 at 7:30 pm at the Little Theatre in Building 4. Tickets are priced at \$8 general and \$7 for students.



Photo by Austen Lavery

Jared Thomas (Yevgeny) left, and Steven Grawrock (Pyotr) right in "The Seagull"

Technical difficulties leave play in the dark

BY ERIK BREAKFIELD

STAFF REPORTER

Those expecting to see the Drama Department's production of *The Seagull* last Friday were left in the dark after a light-board malfunction shut off the lighting to the show.

Almost a quarter-length into

the performance, the stage went into a premature blackout and the tech crew was unable to restore full control over the stage lighting.

Rather than running the show on classroom lighting, the decision was made to cancel the performance and to try to restore power for the next day's show.

After working all day, set designer and theater professor Rick Lorig was still unable to fix the problem and the cast was forced to cancel Saturday's show as well.

As of Wednesday, Lorig said that there will be lighting for this week's performances, March 9-11.

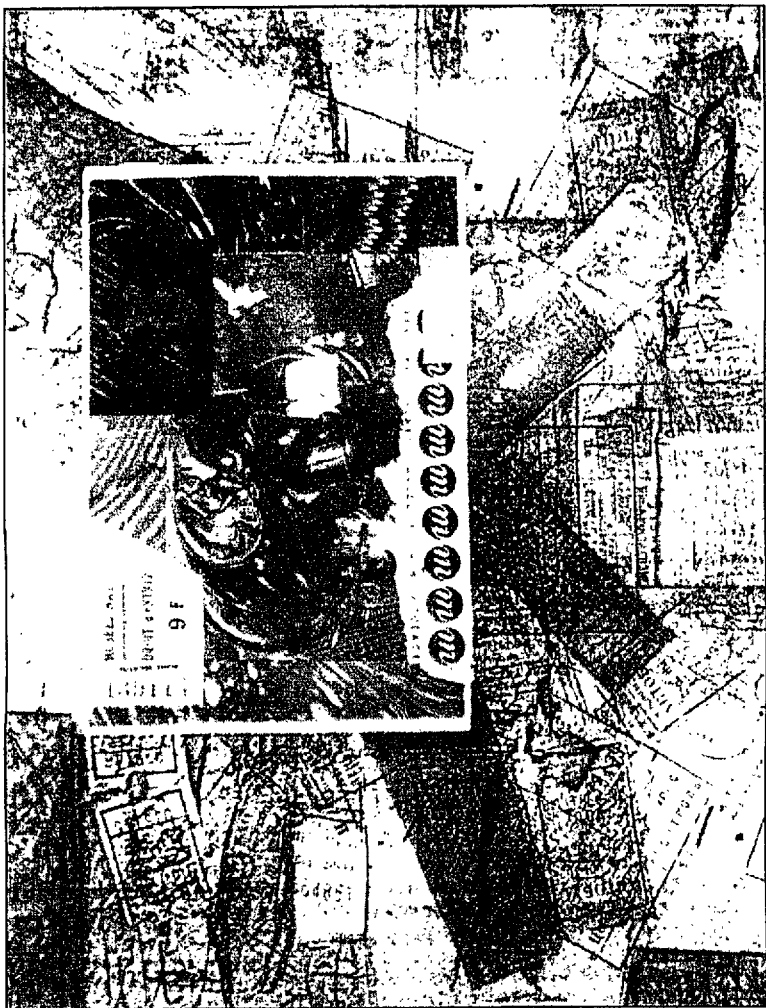
The cast's reaction to the delay echoes that of the audience, both are disappointed by the delay and the cast is eager to start up again and run the show they have been practicing all quarter for.

The Seagull is held at the performing arts theater located in Building 4, room 122. The

show starts at 7:30 p.m.

The ticket stubs from those who had paid for Friday's show can be used to get in to any of the show's performances this week.

If you would like to order tickets you should call 206-878-3710, Student ticket prices are \$7, and general admission is \$8.



Kendall Reid's 'Double,' on display now on the fourth floor of the library.

Artist transforms trash to treasure

By KEITH DAIGLE

STAFF REPORTER

Collage artist Kendall Reid uses clippings from magazines, ads and street trash in his art.

Reid's art will be exhibited in the library art gallery through the month of March.

His art is mellow; he uses muted colors in his work because that is what he is used to.

"I like to use mid-range colors because I know how to work with those," Reid said.

Reid creates his images by making color photo copies, and then he edits them with a colored pencil.

He said that likes to use street trash because of its texture.

"Street trash has a lot of character to it," Reid said.

Reid has been working on collages for 15 years.

He, however, says he hasn't had much time to spend on his art during those 15 years.

"It's something that I like to do, but I don't get to do it a lot," Reid said. "I usually spend short amounts of time on it. Three hours a week is the most I do." Adding, "It is something I wish I could do more."

He said that he was afraid to spend more time working on art because he enjoys it so much he is afraid that he would not get anything else done.

He said that he always feels good after he has been working on his art.

"It's such a pleasure to do. After I do it I always feel better," Reid said.

The library will be Reid's first showing.

His art will be displayed on the fourth floor of the library beginning today through the rest of the month.

'The Nerd' set to take over Des Moines

By RACHEL LUSBY

STAFF REPORTER

The Seattle Performing Arts Fellowship is bringing the comedic play *The Nerd* to Des Moines.

All performances are held at the Victory Baptist Church.

Admission to the show is \$12 for adults, \$9 for students and seniors, and \$8 for pre-regis-

tered groups of 10 or more. The show opens March 17. Performances are Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 p.m. and Saturday matinees are at 2 p.m.

The Nerd, written by Larry Shue, is a story about a young architect named Willum Cubbert who writes to the man, Rick Steadman, who saved his life in Vietnam telling Rick that as long as he is alive, he will al-

ways have someone on this earth who will do anything for him.

To Willum's delight his comrade shows up at his apartment, but it soon becomes apparent that Rick is not what Willum had expected. Rick is a bum-

bling oaf and when he continues to stay on Willum begins to contemplate violence.

The show will be at the Victory Baptist Church in Des Moines and will run until April 1.



Photos by Jocie Olson

Keyboardist Ryan Smith and singer Felicia Loud, along with percussionist Anthony Davis (not pictured) introduced the blend audience to the sounds of "new soul."

Loud gives soul to The Blend

Felicia V. Loud and the Soul came to Highline's Bistro on Wednesday.

The band describes their sound as "new soul."

They have been together for five years.

"The intention of the band is to sound different from the traditional R & B musicians through our harmonies, arrangements and chords," said lead singer Loud.

They enjoyed performing at The Bistro.

"I liked the sound and the audience was great," said



Felicia V. Loud

Loud. "They seemed surprised and attentive. They were really listening to the

lyrics."

The band's set up is normally larger, but since the space was smaller, they had just a keyboard, played by Ryan Smith, and a small drum kit, played by Anthony Davis.

"Normally we have a full drum kit, base, and a guitar," said Loud.

The band's next performance is on May 5 and 6 at the Langston Hughes Cultural Arts Theater on 104 17th Ave. and Yesler in downtown Seattle.

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Location:
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Yes, we will be open Monday March 13.

Rational Numbers by Linda Thistle

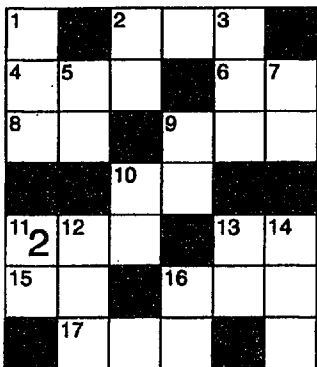
Using the clues, simple arithmetic, and a little logic, place a single digit (0 to 9) in each empty box in the diagram. To help you get started, one digit has been entered in the diagram.

ACROSS

2. The last digit is the sum of the other digits
4. One-half of 3-Down
6. Consecutive digits in ascending order
8. Seven less than 11-Down
9. One-fifth of 17-Across
10. 7-Down minus 8-Across
11. 12-Down minus 16-Across
13. Digits of 2-Down reversed
15. 5-Down plus 10-Down
16. Two times 13-Across
17. Eight more than 1-Down

DOWN

1. The first digit is the sum of the other digits
2. Four more than 5-Down
3. 9-Across plus 14-Down
5. 16-Across minus 13-Down



7. Digits of 15-Across reversed
9. One-half of 6-Across
10. Consecutive digits in ascending order
11. The last digit is four times the first digit
12. Twenty less than 4-Across
13. Thirty more than 8-Across
14. Five more than 2-Across
16. Seven less than 9-Down

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1. U.S. STATES: What was the last state to join the Union?
2. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital city of Sicily?
3. TELEVISION: On "Star Trek," what was the color of Mr. Spock's blood?
4. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which succeeding president said, "In the memory of our fallen president, we shall not fail"?
5. COMICS: What kind of creature was Pogo in the comic strip of the same name?
6. MOVIES: What was Elvis Presley's first movie?
7. SCIENCE: What is the Periodic Table symbol for

- the element potassium?
8. MYTHOLOGY: What was the name of the Roman goddess of flowers?
9. GAMES: What is the standard height of the net on a tennis court?
10. MEASUREMENTS: On the Celsius scale, what is the freezing point of water?

- Answers
1. Hawaii
2. Palermo
3. Green
4. Harry Truman
5. A possum
6. "Love Me Tender"
7. K
8. Flora
9. 3 feet at the center strap, and 3 feet, 6 inches at the post
10. 0 degrees C

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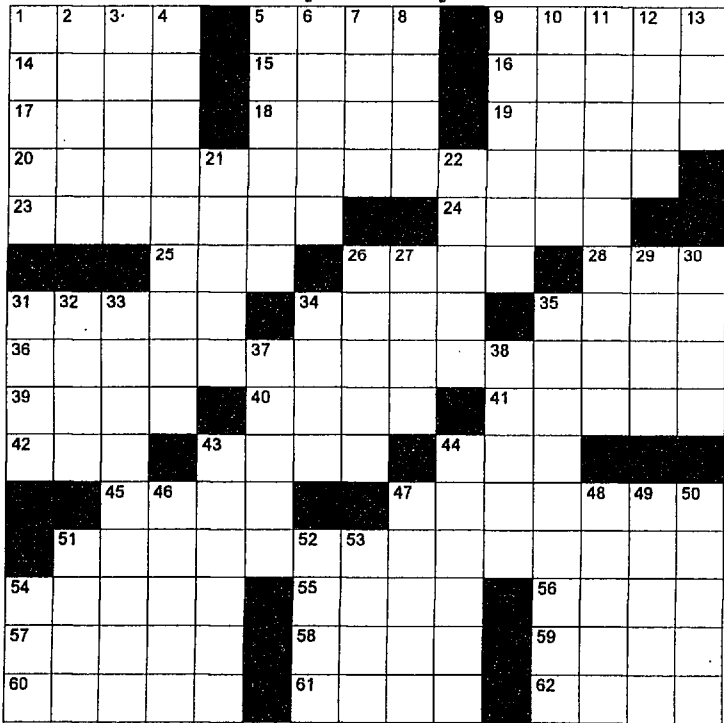
in the Miss Burien contest will be 2-4 p.m. Sunday, March 19 at the Burien Library. Women between the ages of 17-24 who live, work, or go to school

within the Highline or Tukwila school district boundaries are eligible to participate.

The Hi-liners present the '80s dance film classic *Footloose*, adapted for the stage, March 18 at 7:30 p.m., March 19 at 1:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m., March

Crossword 101

By Ed Canty



Alley Cats

Across

- 1 Heroin:Slang
5 Loft dweller
9 Pale
14 A remarkable idea
15 Mine find
16 Task
17 Texas crock
18 Oscar & Tony's cousin
19 Sesame's Dracula
20 Be lavish
23 Pistol
24 Parisian thought
25 53 Down offering
26 Actress Russo
28 Stir-fry need
31 Extend the life of a tire
34 Plumber's mystery?
35 Elegant
36 Go half and half
39 Garment
40 Ms. Lane of The Daily Planet
41 Lunch treats
42 Wee Reese
43 Lean to one side
44 A Guy Named
45 Like a Broadway light
47 John Kerry, e.g.
51 Union ultimatum
54 Large body of water
55 Perfect scores
56 Feed the kitty
57 Fake
58 In addition
59 Scan
60 Dislodged
61 Property right
62 Charts

Down

- 1 Walk through wet snow
2 Mea
3 Comedian Sherman
4 Highway safety device

- 5 Follows Fifth
6 Failure
7 Prison term
8 Gemstone
9 Give in
10 Glistened
11 Married woman
12 Gray sea eagle
13 Bottom line
21 Anwar Sadat's locale
22 Little finger
26 To be made useful again
27 Corrodes
29 Fully aware of
30 Car need
31 Wedding invitation request
32 Olympic sport item
33 Customers
34 Leo, for one
35 Danger warning
37 Cut of steak
38 Discovered
43 Made up a phrase
44 Time of year

- 46 Delete
47 Feel
48 Ringworm
49 Beer offering
50 Woodwind instruments
51 Blemish
52 Legal inclusive
53 NYC food locale
54 Before Broadway or balance

Quotable Quote

I know not with what weapons World War III will be fought, but World War IV will be fought with sticks and stones.

Albert Einstein

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24 at 7:30 p.m., March 25 at 1:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and March 26 at 1:30 p.m. Tickets are available online at www.hi-liners.org. The show will be performed at the Highline Performing Arts Center in Burien.

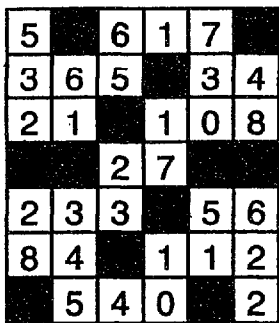


Movie Fridays presents *Walk The Line* on March 10 in Building 7 starting at 12:30 p.m.

An informational meeting for women interested in competing

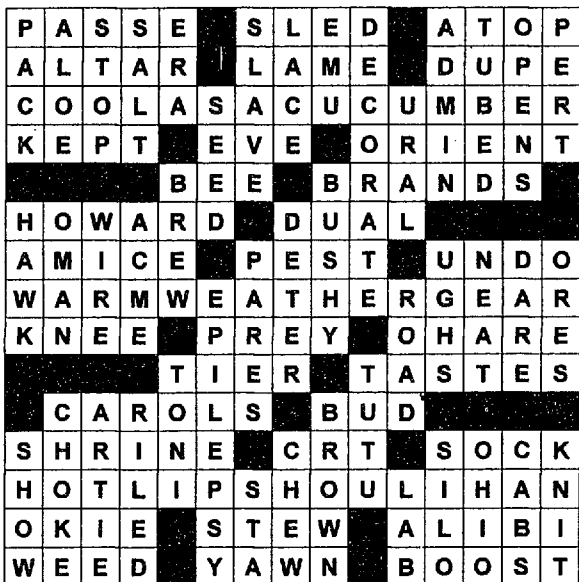
Rational Numbers

answers



Last week's solution

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Women finish second in west - again

By STEVE PIROTTE

STAFF REPORTER

A 14-2 league record would make most coaches very happy with their season. However, women's basketball coach Amber Rowe is not pleased.

"I'm really bumming," Rowe said. "The last three years we've finished one game away from the league championship."

Highline ended the season in second place in the NWAACC Western Division, one game away from Centralia, who ended with a 15-1 record.

"It's my fault," Rowe said. "I can't get them over that hump. We are always so close. I think that there were moments of brilliance, but there were more moments of horror."

The T-Birds appeared to be in a good position to share the title after a 63-56 home win over then second-placed Lower Columbia.

To share the title Centralia had to falter at Lower Columbia. However, the Lady Trail Blazers prevailed, 48-44.

Against Lower Columbia the T-Birds played brilliantly.

"We were ready to go mentally," Rowe said. "We were psyched. It was sophomore night and the sophomores started. We jumped on them early and we didn't let up. At one point we were up 10-0."



Photo by Jocie Olson

Ashley Cavalieri drives to the basket past a Lower Columbia defender in a recent game last week.

After leading by 15 at half, Highline slipped a bit in the second period. Lower Columbia cut the lead to six.

"I told the team at halftime that they would go on a run, and we needed to be prepared," Rowe said. "I was worried because of how this team has responded to that in the past. But we handled it well and brought the lead back up to ten or twelve and held that the rest of the game."

Rowe believes efficiency is the reason the team was able to win easily.

"In the first half we only shot five 3-pointers," Rowe said. "We also did a great job defensively. We held their leading scorer [Nicole Hallman] to four points, two assists, and six turnovers."

I told them before the game that if we could contain her we would be successful."

The T-Birds finished the sea-

son against Green River last Saturday.

"I thought we were playing our best basketball when we beat Lower Columbia," Rowe said. "I thought we figured it out. I was very excited for the NWAACC tournament. But then Green River happened."

Against Green River, Highline eked out a 55-53 win. After trailing most of the game, Highline took the lead with three minutes remaining. The T-Birds

were able to keep the lead for the rest of the game.

"It was a lack of mental preparation," Rowe said. "Perhaps it was my fault, but I don't know how to mentally prepare them at this point. If I did I would be a wealthy genius."

In a scrappy game, Highline committed 28 turnovers and shot 35 percent from the field.

"We got out-hustled, out-energized, and out-efforted," Rowe said.

Rowe must now forget the most recent performance and focus on the playoffs, where they play Spokane in the first round.

"On paper we're a better team than Spokane. For us to be successful we need to take care of the ball. That means we can't have travels or commit silly turnovers. We have to recover quickly from mistakes. If we do those two things we have a shot at beating anybody," Rowe said.

The players remain confident that they can win. Sophomore guard Christine Kim is glad to be back in the tournament.

"I'm very excited to have a second chance," Kim said. "It's our opportunity to show everyone what we can do, even though we got second in our division. It's going to be tough but I definitely think we can win it."

Men take second despite losing last two games

By GAVIN JOHNSON

STAFF REPORTER

The Highline men's basketball team lost its last two regular season games last week to Lower Columbia and lowly Green River.

Despite both losses the T-Birds still finished in second place in the Western Division with a record of 12-4.

Highline hosted the Red Devils at the T-Dome March 1, where they were lost by a final score of 84-75.

The game started off neck and neck up to the end of the first half with the score tied at 36-36.

"I expected our team to come out with a high level of intensity, but by the end of the second half we were sucking gas which gave Lower Columbia a slight advantage," said Head Coach Che Dawson.

In the second half Highline came out strong, leading the Red Devils by six, but Lower Columbia answered back scoring a total of 48 points giving

them the lead by nine to finish out the game.

Highline was led by Nate Jackson with 20 points, Derrick Webb with 12 points and eight rebounds, Jaxin Skyward with 12 points and seven rebounds, Mike Dorr with 12 points and Zach Bruce with 13 rebounds.

Lower Columbia's key players were Krayem with 21 points, Jordan with 18 points and 11 rebounds, Moore with 16 points and eight rebounds, Womack with 12 points and Ohrberg with 11 points.

The Thunderbirds traveled to Auburn to compete for the Valley Cup against Green River on March 4 to finish their regular season.

The last time these two teams met was a close score of 79-73 in Highline's favor; unfortunately the T-birds came up short this time by losing 81-76.

The Gators started the game strong leading at halftime 41-29, and in the second half there was no turning back.

The T-Birds fought hard to take the lead but it wasn't

enough to beat the Gators.

"This isn't the way we wanted to finish our season, but everyone has to keep their heads up to compete in the tournament," said Skyward.

Highline was led by Jackson with 17 points, Matt Mgebroff with 12 points and seven rebounds and Skyward with 10 points and eight rebounds.

The Gators leading scorers were Williams with 19 points, Landers with 16 points and nine rebounds, Pendleton with 15 points and nine rebounds and Madren with 11 points.

Holding onto second place in the Western Division has given the Thunderbirds a solid berth in the NWAACC tournament. Highline's first game of the tournament will be at noon today against the Yakima Valley Yaks who finished third place in the Eastern Division.

It will be a double elimination system, and according to the NWAACC hand book if you have one loss the best you can finish is third place. The tournament will be held in the Tri-Cit-

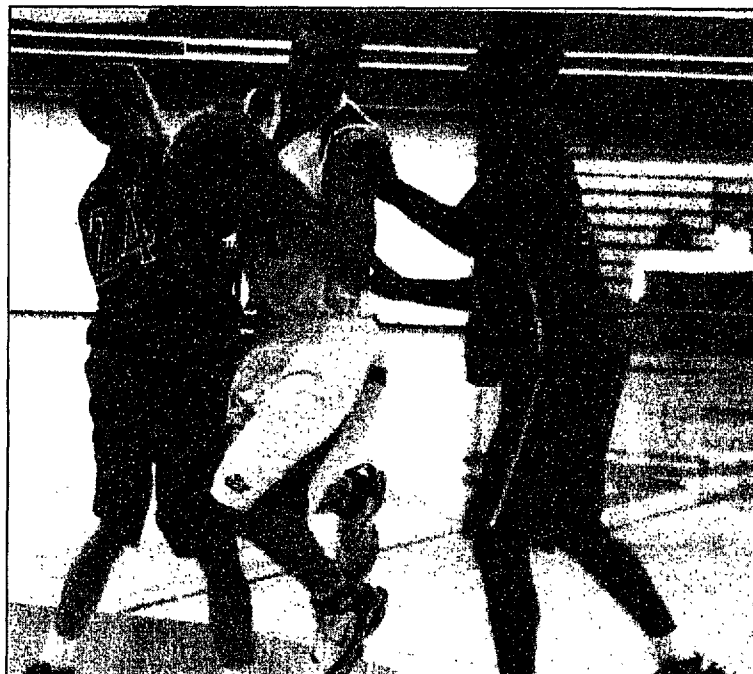


Photo by Alicia Mendez

Mike Dorr fights through two defenders of Lower Columbia.

ies March 9-12.

"We had a tough finish, but we start a whole new season on Thursday. What it all comes down to is believing we can win the NWAACC tournament," said Coach Dawson.

Highline's first game in the tourney will be against the Yaks

of Yakima Valley.

Yakima comes into the tournament as the number three seed from the east division which was won by the Sasquatch of Spokane.

Highline also enters the tournament ranked fifth in the final coaches poll of the season.

T-Birds size up competition for NWAACC

BY JAMIE GROSSMANN
AND STEVE PIROTTE

STAFF REPORTERS

March madness has arrived for the Highline Lady T-Birds and the rest of the NWAACC. The 42nd annual NWAACC Basketball tournament begins today at the Toyota Centre in the Tri-Cities. Twelve of the 16 teams are making return trips.

Surprisingly, last year's champion and early season favorite Columbia Basin will not be making the trip after finishing fifth in the East. Peninsula, Clark, and Edmonds are the other teams that will not be making the three and a half hour road trip to the tournament.

With the Columbia Basin out the fight for the championship should be exciting as perennial favorites Lane and Clackamas lead the way. Other favorites include Yakima Valley and Wenatchee Valley.

Highline having finished second in the West will take on the third place team from the East, Spokane. The Lady T-Birds are riding a four-game win streak including a season sweep of Lower Columbia and a spirited victory over Green River.

Spokane comes into the game having lost its final regular season game to Wenatchee Valley.

Both Highline and Spokane

played into the third round during last year's tournament and will be looking to remain in Pasco through Sunday.

Highline Coach Amber Rowe believes Highline are favorites to advance.

"On paper we're a better team than Spokane. For us to be successful we have to take care of the ball. We can't have travels or silly turnovers," Rowe said.

Spokane Coach Bruce Johnson said luck is a key factor in the tournament.

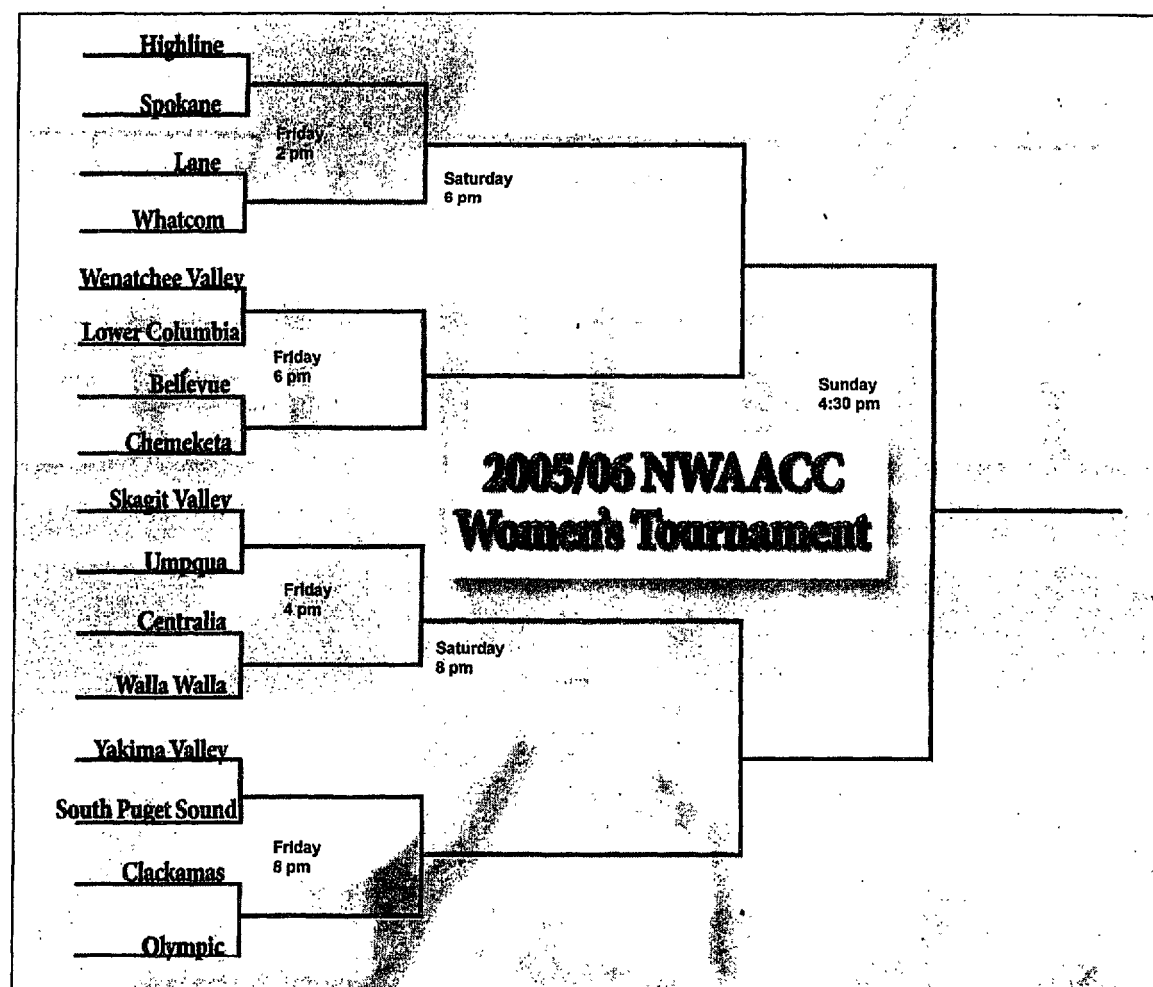
"We're not as deep as other teams, we started a lot of freshman. We'll need luck on our side to advance," Johnson said.

Should Highline win they will play the winner of the Lane-Whatcom matchup.

The tournament opens at 8 a.m. with the "Egg McMuffin Game" which pits last year's seventh place finisher Umpqua against Skagit Valley. Skagit Valley finished second in the North and Umpqua finished third in the South.

The Cardinals made a short appearance in the tournament as they were two and out.

"We are a very mature hard-working team," said Skagit Valley Head Coach Steve Epperson. "We play good defense, but our offense is inconsistent. Some nights we are on and other nights we aren't."



"We will need to shoot the ball well," said Epperson. "I've had four teams win the title. It's all about getting hot at the right time."

"We rebound very well and shoot well," said Umpqua Head Coach Dave Stricklin. "We haven't been very consistent in our play and our depth may cause us problems."

Wenatchee Valley, who is returning to the tournament after failing to make it last year, will face off against Lower Columbia in the 10 a.m. game.

Lower Columbia is coming off a two straight losses to the Lady T-Birds and Centralia. During last year's tournament the Lady Red Devils eliminated Highline in during the third

round, 59-58. Lower Columbia went onto finish fifth overall with a victory over Edmonds.

"We're going to take it one game at a time," Lower Columbia Head Coach Jason Hosenev said. "Every team wants to win it, but it takes a lot of luck to

See Women, page 13

Team-by-team preview

Highline Thunderbirds

Record - 14-2 (21-8)

Last year - 21-10, lost to Lower Columbia in third round

Key Players - Allison Maas 12.1 ppg, 7.6 reb; Marissa Cain 10.8 ppg, 7.1 reb; Kristen Jones 10.1 ppg, 4.8 stl

Centralia Trailblazers

Record - 15-1 (26-3)

Last year - 26-5, lost to Walla Walla in third round

Key Players - Andrea Staley 16.8 ppg, 3.1 stl; Sade Smith 15.3 ppg, 9.6 reb

Lo. Columbia Red Devils

Record - 13-3 (18-8)

Last year - 26-5, placed fifth in last year's tournament

Key Players - Vanessa McCormick 9.5 ppg, 4.5 reb; Nicole Hallman 9.1 ppg, 4.7 ast

S. Puget Sound Clippers

Record - 8-8 (11-16)

Last year - 8-19, didn't make the tournament

Key Players - Aiesha Ailey-Brown 19.4 ppg, 5.6 reb; Katie Carns 12.3 ppg, 2.2 stl

Skagit Valley Cardinals

Record - 11-5 (19-7)

Last year - 18-12, lost to Lower Columbia in second round

Key Players - Hannah Wells 14.5 ppg; Tanaia Keyes 12.1 ppg, 6.3 reb

Bellevue Bulldogs

Record - 11-5 (17-10)

Last year - 4-21, didn't make the tournament

Key Players - Nicci Land-deck 16.2 ppg, 7.8 reb; Luv Rattler 12.8 ppg, 5.4 reb, 2.6 stl

Olympic Rangers

Record - 10-6 (17-9)

Last year - 20-10, lost to Chemeketa in the second round

Key Players - Brittney Milne 12.6 ppg, 3.9 ast, 2.1 stl; Sharon Daly 12.4 ppg

Whatcom Orcas

Record - 9-7 (17-12)

Last year - 16-12, didn't make the tournament

Key Players - Sara Bergner 15.1 ppg, 7.1 reb; Alissa Wright 11.2 ppg, 6.5 reb

Yakima Valley Yaks

Record - 12-2 (25-3)

Last year - 24-9, place sixth in last year's tournament

Key Players - Tiffanie Ulmer 14.5 ppg, 5.1 reb; Elyse Mengarelli 12.7 ppg, 2.5 stl

Wen. Valley Knights

Record - 10-4 (22-7)

Last year - 18-11, didn't

See Teams, page 13

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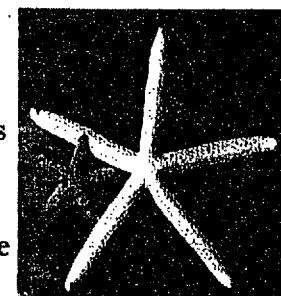


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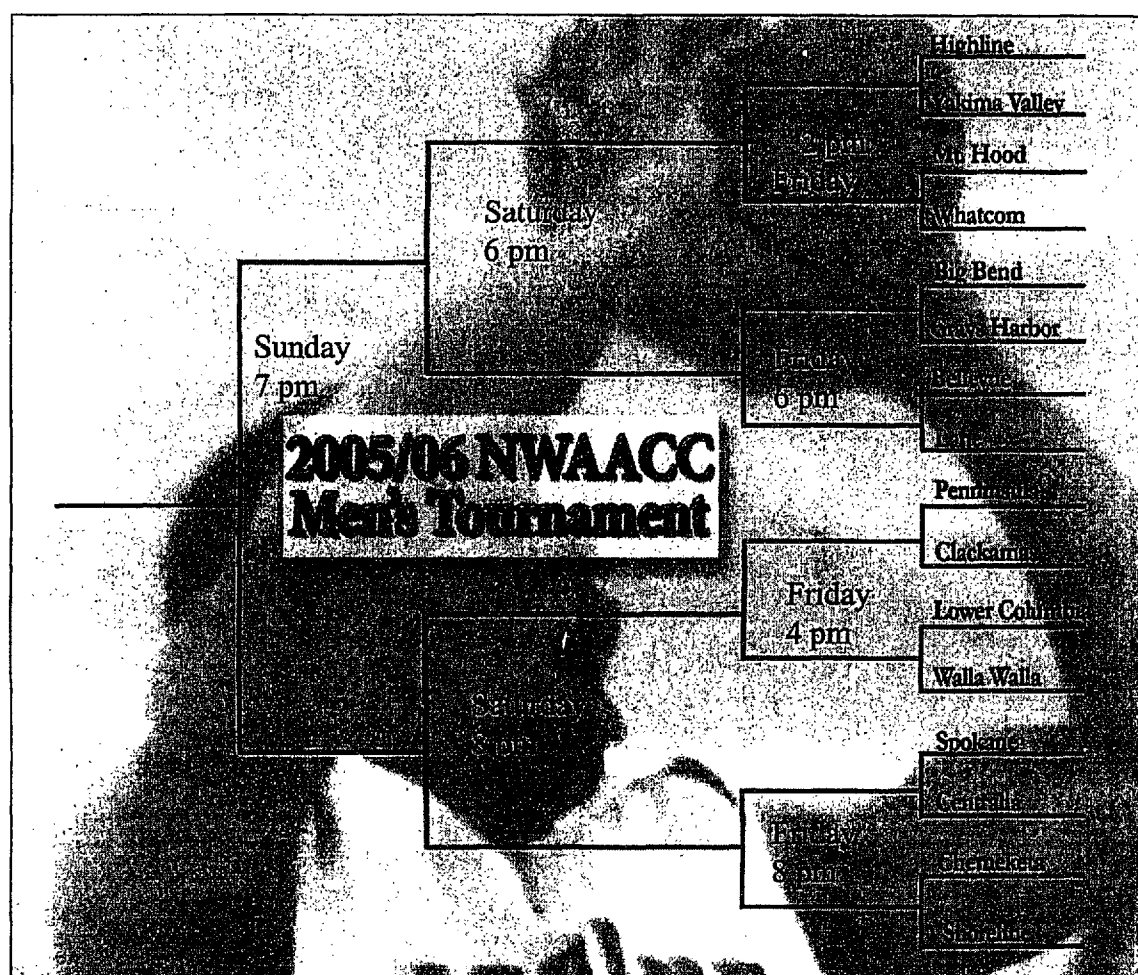
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BIOL 110: Marine Biology (6008) MW 11:30A-2:20P Inst: Shabb
OCEAN 101: Survey of Oceanography (6064) MW 7:00P-9:50P Inst: Higley

Men march towards a team title



BY TREVOR KULVI AND
GAVIN JOHNSON

STAFF REPORTERS

The 42nd annual men's NWAACC tournament begins today at the Toyota Center in the Tri-Cities. Ten of the 16 teams are making a return trip including the two-time defending champions, Lower Columbia Red Devils.

Lower Columbia also enters the game as the top ranked team in the league according to the final coach's poll of the season.

The tournament begins today with an 8 a.m. game today and will culminate with the championship game Sunday at 7 p.m.

The tournament opens today with Highline taking on the Yaks of Yakima Valley.

Highline will be making its first trip back to the tournament since the 2003-04 season.

Last year, Highline finished fifth in the west division, one place away from the tournament.

Tip off is set for noon. Highline hopes to regain its momentum after suffering a two-game losing streak to end the season.

The winner plays the winner from the Whatcom-Mt Hood match up.

"Our strengths are our depth and versatility," said head coach Che Dawson. "The number one reason to give ourselves a chance to win is to believe we can win it and we need to focus on rebounds and the extra pass."

Another strength that Highline has is their shooting.

Yakima Valley enters the tournament as the third seed out of the eastern division while winning two of its final three games of the season.

"Our strengths for us are our backcourt play, and our 3-point shooting," said Spokane Head

Coach Eric Hughes. "Our size and our team depth may hurt us in the tournament."

Highline hopes the tournament gets off to a great start in hopes of ending their two-game losing streak that ended their regular season.

As of right now, the odds-on favorite to win the tournament is two-time defending champion Lower Columbia.

"The favorite to win is Lower Columbia," said Chris Scrimsher, head coach at Whatcom. "They are well rounded at every position."

Other teams expected to make a run at the title will be the Saints from Mount Hood and the hometown Highline Thunderbirds.

"Highline should contend for the title," said Hughes. "Everyone is beatable in the tournament, and it will take a lot of luck for us to win it." The NWAACC Tournament is like the NCAA tournament, but different in few ways.

The tournament is a double-elimination format. If a team loses two games, then its season is over.

Another thing that makes the tournament different is how the double-elimination method works.

According to the NWAACC handbook, if a team loses a game the best they can finish is third.

"It will have to take a real big run to win the tournament," said Lane Schumacher, head coach of Columbia Basin.

Whatcom was dealt a huge blow to their chances when leading scorer Chris Osbeard was lost to an injury.

Osbeard suffered a broken jaw against Skagit Valley on Feb. 15 and his jaw has been wired shut since and he will not be playing in the tournament.

Team-by-team preview

West Division Participants

Highline Thunderbirds
Record- 12-4 (League), 19-7
Last year- 12-14, did not qualify for tournament
Key players- Nate Jackson 15.0 ppg, Jaxin Skyward 13.6 ppg, 3.1 rpg

Lower Columbia Red Devils
Record- 15-1 (League), 28-1
Last year- 26-7, won NWAACC Title
Key players- Germain Jordan 16.5 ppg, 8.7 rpg, Nick Moore 14.3 ppg, 7.5 rpg

Grays Harbor Chokers
Record- 12-4 (League), 20-8
Last year- 18-13, placed sixth in tournament
Key Players- Bill Richardson 20.9 ppg, 6.9 rpg, Eric Fink 11.5 ppg, 4.0 rpg

Centralia Trailblazers
Record- 11-5 (League), 14-14
Last year- 11-17, did not qualify
Key Players- Andre Thompson 17.6 ppg, 4.7 rpg, Marcus Hinton 25.4 ppg, 3.4 rpg

East Division Participants
Spokane Sasquatch
Record- 10-4 (League), 21-7
Last year- 24-9, placed fourth at tournament
Key players- Jeremy Mangum 15.7 ppg, 4.4 rpg, Erik Bell 15.4 ppg, 3.1 rpg

Big Bend Vikings
Record- 9-5 (League), 18-10
Last year- 18-11, did not place at tournament
Key Players- Blake Solomon 20.0 ppg, 4.3 rpg, Jordan Baker 15.6 ppg, 6.7 rpg

Yakima Valley Yaks
Record- 9-5 (League), 14-13
Last year- 19-10,
Key players- WaLynn Burgess 18.6 ppg, 7.0 rpg, Donnie Harrison-Davis 18.2 ppg, 2 rpg

Walla Walla Warriors
Record- 8-6 (League), 14-13
Last Year- 16-10, did not qualify
Key Players- Curtis Carlson 19.5 ppg, 8.1 rpg, Paul Hautzinger 20.0 ppg, 5.0 rpg

South Division Participants
Mt. Hood Saints
Record- 14-0 (League), 25-3
Last year- 27-4, placed fifth
Key Players- Nick Klinger 16.0 ppg, 3.3 rpg, Jake Glisson 16.6 ppg, 5.3 rpg

Chemeketa Storm
Record- 11-3 (League), 19-8
Last Year- 25-8, placed eighth
Key players- Riley Luettgerodt 27.0 ppg, 7.6 rpg, Steven Davis 11.9 ppg, 4.9 rpg

Lane Titans
Record- 8-6 (League), 14-14
Last year- 12-16, did not

qualify
Key players- Josh Akwe-nuke 23.4 ppg, 7.9 rpg, Micheal Marek 14.4 ppg, 5.2 rpg

Clackamas Cougars
Record- 8-6 (League), 19-10
Last year- 24-7, placed third
Key players- Ervin Sims 17.2 ppg, 7.8 rpg, David Cernin 14.6 ppg, 4.0 rpg

North Division Participants
Bellevue Bulldogs
Record- 14-2 (League), 23-5
Last year- 22-9, did not place
Key players- Bryce Daub, 19.5 ppg, 8.6 rpg, Josh Lostlen 12.4 ppg, 3.1 rpg

Peninsula Pirates
Record- 13-3 (League), 19-7
Last year- 15-15, did not place
Key players- Divaldo Mgunya 14.2 ppg, 7.2 rpg, Scott Hopenstell 16.1 ppg, 8.1 rpg

Shoreline Dolphins
Record- 11-5 (League), 19-9
Last year- 11-16, did not qualify
Key players- Sean Tracy 14.4 ppg, 6.2 rpg, Delvaughn Tinned 16.0 ppg, 2.5 rpg

Whatcom Orcas
Record- 9-7 (League), 16-11
Last year- 12-13, did not qualify
Key players- Brandon Foote 15.3 ppg, 6.9 rpg, Azubo Bearden 16.1 ppg, 2.7 rpg.

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Fastpitch hopes for a great 2006 season

By JAMIE GROSSMANN

STAFF REPORTER

Coming off of a season of disappointment and setbacks the Lady T-Birds are looking to bounce back from their worst season in 12 years.

Last year, the Lady T-Birds struggled through their worst season since 1994 as they went 3-29 in league and 3-34 overall.

This year the Lady T-Birds will be looking to turn things around as they will have a new look with nine incoming freshmen and four returners.

The team will be led by sophomore infielder/outfielder Kristy Richardson, who will be returning for her third year with the team. Richardson suffered a broken finger during winter training sessions last year and took a medical redshirt to save her final year of eligibility.

Along with Richardson the women will have outfielders Leah Perkins, Erin King, and Sandra Proulx. Proulx will be joined by her sister Amanda who transferred from Bellevue during the off-season.

The team will be filled out by nine freshmen. Among them are centerfielder Amanda Houser, pitcher Jennifer and middle infielder Jessica Ventoza and middle infielder Keresa Steichen.

The team also will be welcoming back Assistant Coach Mark Hall.

"Mark and I work well together," said Head Coach Anne Schmidt. "We are on the same page; there is a lot of unspoken understanding between us."

"We expect players to treat each other well and take care of business and their responsibilities just as we do," said Schmidt.

The team will have some of the same problems as last year as they will be relying on only two pitchers, Bree Klasen and Jennifer Ventoza. Klasen also plays third base.

"Pitching and catching will be our biggest concern. Both pitchers are confident but they also have high pitch counts," said Schmidt. "If we can keep the pitch count low, it will help to keep our defense in the game."

"Jennifer is the only true pitcher we have," said Coach Schmidt. "Bre is a team player. She last pitched as a freshman in high school so it will take awhile for her to feel comfortable."

"Jennifer knows that there is a lot of weight on her shoulders, but she has worked hard all winter and is ready to go."

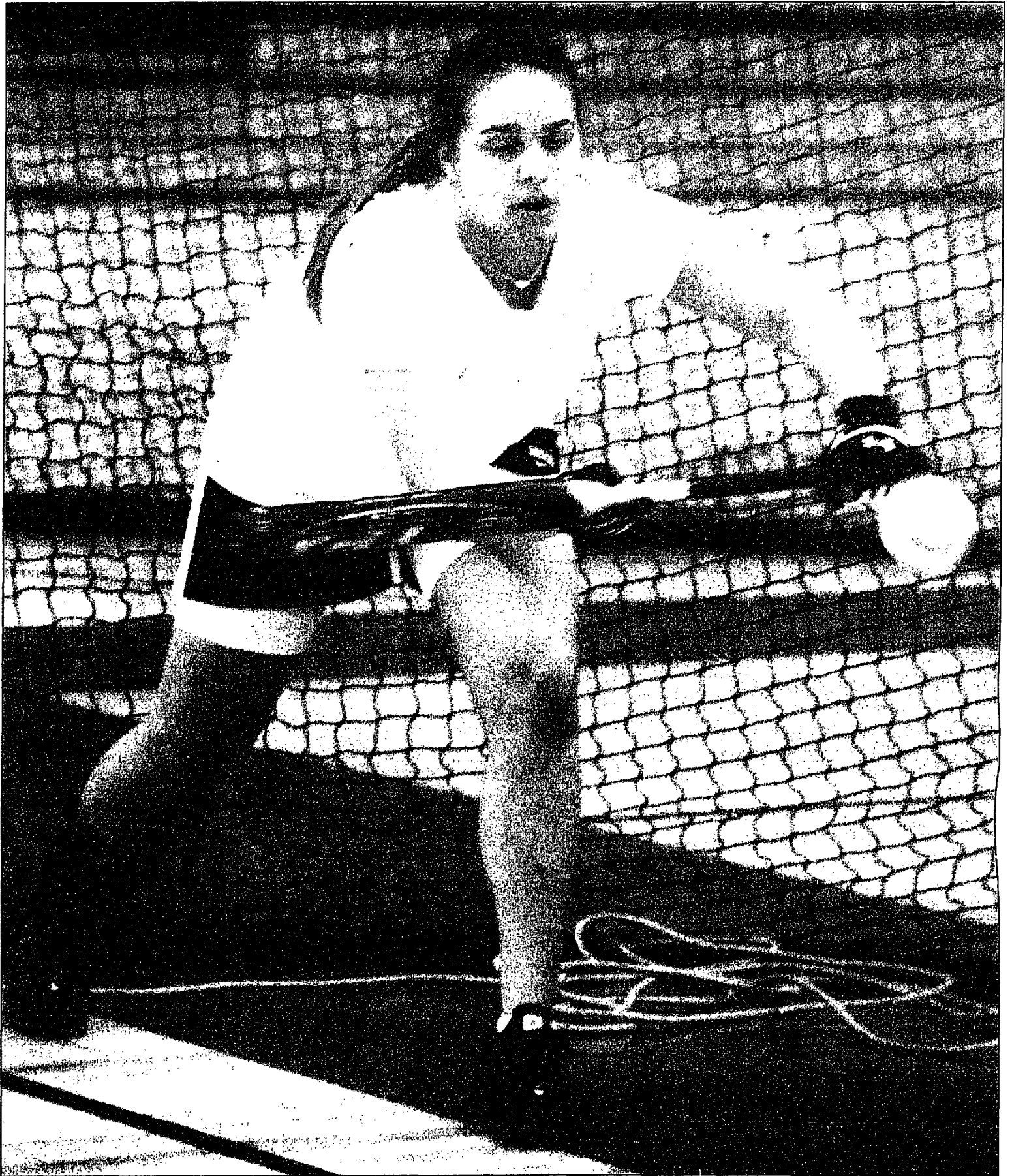


Photo by Jocie Olson

Keresa Steichen practices bunting yesterday as the Lady T-Birds were forced to practice in the Pavilion due to poor field conditions and unfavorable weather conditions outdoors.

The team expected to have Ventoza and two additional pitchers but the other two pitchers flaked out.

"They are a very inexperienced and young team that is still trying to figure out who they are as a team," said Schmidt. "This year though we have a higher level of talent in general."

"We have some pretty good bats and speed," said Schmidt.

Aside from being shorthanded at pitching, the team is rather deep everywhere else.

"We have a strong infield that got plenty of practice this winter," said Schmidt. "We have seven outfielders. Since not all can play some of them won't be happy."

The depth will help to relieve some of the problems that plagued the team last year.

While no clear leader has stepped up, a few players are showing promise and can be expected to shoulder some of the leadership responsibilities.

"Vocally, Jessica Ventoza will be a leader," said Schmidt.

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"She has good natural instincts."

"Amanda Houser communicates well with the other outfielders and leads by example," said Schmidt. "She does a good job directing the outfield as well."

The Highline Lady T-Birds open the preseason this afternoon as they host Bellevue at 2 p.m.

The Lady T-Birds will continue their preseason with a tournament March 18 and 19 in Pasco at the Trac Athletic Facility.

After the tourney in Pasco, Highline will return home to play Chemeketa on March 31. The game will begin at 2 p.m.

After the Chemeketa game,

Highline begins their regular season on the road at South Puget Sound on Saturday April 1.

The first home game of the regular season is set for Thursday April 4 against the Lady Trailblazers of Centralia.

Once the Centralia game is done, Highline plays four of its next five games on the road, two of which are in Wenatchee Cross-over tournament.

The lone home game in that stretch will be against the Lady Chokers of Grays Harbor.

The ultimate goal for the Lady T-Birds is to qualify for the NWAACC Softball tournament in Portland, Ore. on May 19-20 at Delta Park.

Small track team has huge goals for year

By ERIK BREAKFIELD

STAFF REPORTER

Quality over quantity describes this year's track team as they prepare to begin their outdoor season this March.

The team is extremely short on numbers this year, having only 15 men and 5 women but the coaches insist that all of the athletes will be top competitors in their events.

"We don't have a big team, but we have quality individuals," Assistant Coach Les Black said. He added that he expected high marks from his sprinters though, who include last year's 100-meter champion Bruce Hubbard.

Black also expects a lot from his new runners, freshmen who are competing at the college level for the first time.

"Many newcomers are still getting a feel for the team," Black said. He has noticed however that they have been adjusting very well so far.

Freshmen are not the only ones who have had to adjust however, the returning athletes have had to adjust to the new coaching staff that was hired this year.

"The coaches know what they're doing, they are veterans. I am lucky to be surrounded by such great coaches," Head Coach Amber Rowe said.

The plague of this season is the fact that Highline does not have enough numbers to compete for points against schools with a full team, but the individuals they do have will be putting up impressive scores.

Rowe's only goals for this season are to keep her team's



Photos by Roman Klimenko

(Left to right) Brandt May, Rosie Meeker, and Muhammed Ali warm up by running laps around Highline's track.

grades up so they are eligible to compete and for her athletes to improve their skills and set new personal records in their events. Like Trevor Kulvi, who already set a new personal record for himself on the 3,000 meter race at an indoor meet at the Univer-

sity of Washington on Feb. 12.

However, since Rowe is still coaching basketball she has only had time to focus on the grade eligibility of her competitors. Each member of the track team must pass at least 12 credits, score at least a .7 in every

class and have a 2.0 cumulative grade point average.

Individual athletes who have made their grades in the classroom and are now projected to earn high scores in the field include Kenjamine Jackson, Bruce Hubbard, Brittney Smith, and Sheree Barbour.

"To be a contender," is Jackson's goal for the upcoming season. Jackson has already been competing at the indoor events over the winter and was keeping pace well with the athletes from four year universities.

Hubbard, Jackson's teammate and fellow sprinter, has set his goal slightly higher than Jackson's. Hubbard plans to repeat his championship title at 100-meters and to take the 200 meter title this year as well.

He will be hard pressed however; he said that his toughest competition will be his teammate Jackson.

New school records have already been set in the triple jump and long jump this year, during the indoor competitions. Freshman Brittney Smith set both records and is now preparing to improve those scores by even more during the outdoor season.

"The weight room has really helped, I didn't do that in high

school," Smith said. She also mentioned that she feels more comfortable outside and that when she set the record it was actually her first time jumping indoors.

"Getting over being nervous is the hardest part," Smith went on; her feelings are shared by most of the new freshmen competing at the college level for the first time.

Barbour however, believes that the hardest part for her will be fulfilling the coaches expectations and just proving herself. She isn't nervous; in fact, she is confident her goals are to run 2:10 in the 800 meters, and 58 seconds in the 400 meter.

Her confidence for this season is expressed in her statement, "Returners better look out for me."

The first meet that the track team will be participating in will be held on March 18 at the University of Washington at 9 a.m.

The meet will feature several division two schools and local club teams.

After the UW meet, Highline will compete in two meets hosted by the University of Puget Sound. The UPS Open on March 25 and the Shotwell Invite April 7-8.



(Left to right) Freshman Kenjamine Jackson, sophomore Bruce Hubbard, and freshman Noah McDonald-Robbins warming up for a recent track practice earlier this week, while freshman Lindsey Farah, background, does stirdes as part of her warm up.

Skyward's gutsy play helps T-Birds win

By ALICIA MENDEZ

STAFF REPORTER

Jaxin Skyward, sophomore team captain and starting point guard, leads the men's basketball team in both spirit and talent.

"I'm one of the four returning players. And I'm one of the more vocal players. People tend to respect me pretty well on the team—I'm a suitable captain, I figure," Skyward said.

Skyward has contributed an average of 10.4 points per game and has 65 assists. He has been a big factor in Highline's rise to 2nd place position in the west division.

Skyward helped lead the T-Birds to the NWAACC tourney for the first time since the 2003-04 season.

Before shining in the Thunderdome, Skyward shined on the elementary courts of his youth.

"I was more of a recess all star," Skyward said.

Skyward spent his life growing up in South Seattle, where he attended Franklin High School. During high school Skyward played soccer and basketball, and even though he was better at soccer, he enjoyed basketball much more.

"Basketball was my first love. I had hoop dreams before I had soccer dreams," Skyward said.

Not only did Skyward find his love for basketball at Frank-

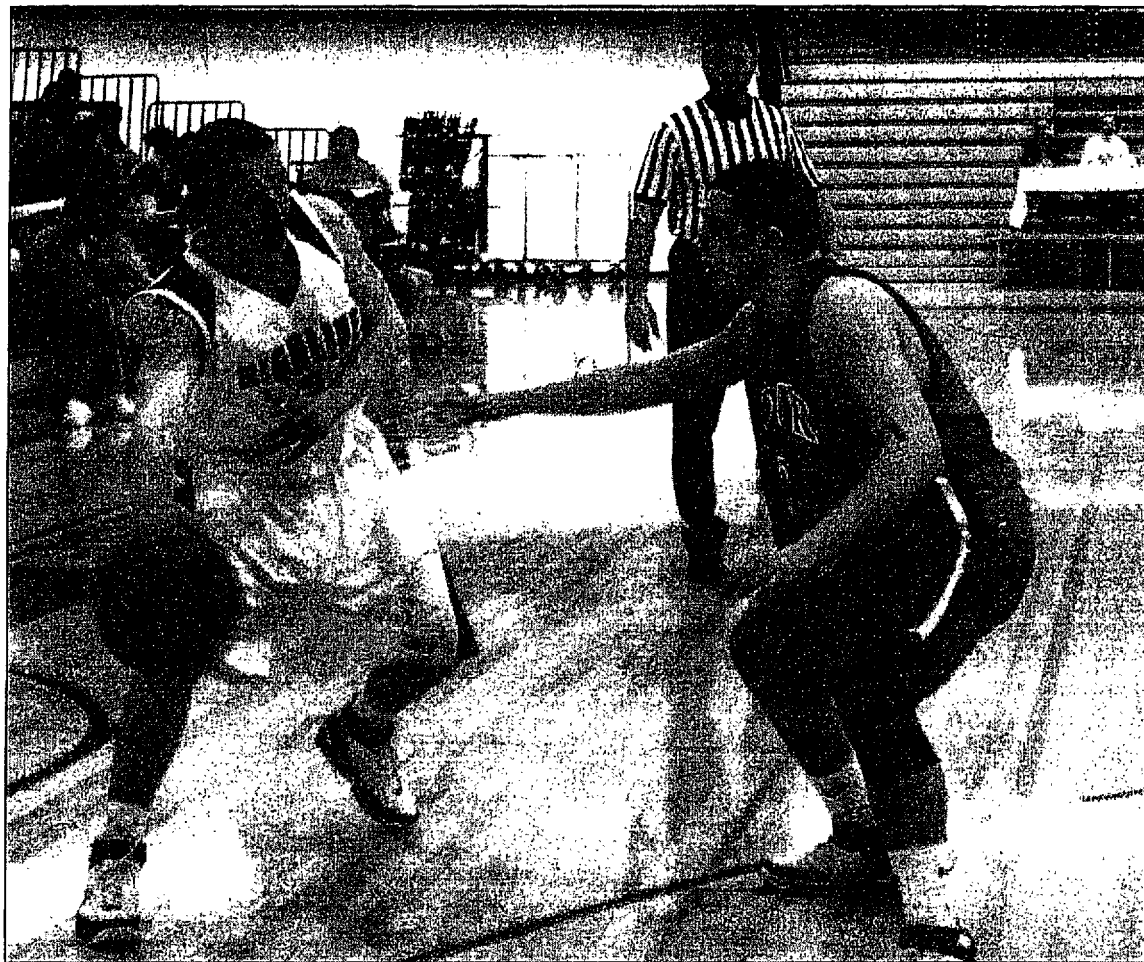


Photo by Alicia Mendez

Jaxin Skyward going up for a layup in last week's game against Lower Columbia. Highline lost the game 84-75.

lin, he also found that he was able to adapt to just about any situation.

"I went to an inner city high school. I was the only white player on the varsity basketball team for two years. I kind of stuck out on the team," Skyward said.

Skyward's high school basketball team earned the state

championship title during his senior year of 2003.

After a successful high school career, Skyward attended Washington State University for only a year.

At WSU, Skyward realized he wanted to get back in the game.

A few high school buddies sparked Skyward's interest in

playing for Highline's basketball team.

"Coach (Che) Dawson said he was definitely interested in having me play on the team. So, I got recruited from that and coming to the open gyms," Skyward said.

During his two years at Highline, Skyward decided he would like to major in broadcast jour-

nalism.

"I'm very into sports broadcasting. I often find myself giving play by plays at home," Skyward said.

After this quarter Skyward will have earned his AA degree. He aims to transfer to a four year university to continue his collegiate career and possibly his basketball career.

"There are a couple of schools who have shown interest in me playing basketball.

"I'm taking spring quarter off to sort out what I'm going to do for next year," Skyward said. "I'm going to travel to go visit some schools; meet with a few different programs and find out if I want to continue to pursue basketball."

In the meantime, Skyward plans to finish this basketball season strong with his team.

From last year to this, Skyward said this team has come a long way.

Skyward attributes much of the T-bird's success to the chemistry and closeness of the team.

"There's just not as many egos on this team. We're a very deep team and people have come to an understanding that everybody is going to play," Skyward said.

"Every night we're going to have a different hero or star player," Skyward said. "Our team has come to understand that that is why we are so good.

"It's not just one player. It's all of us."

Women

Continued from page 9
win first game."

Wenatchee Valley coach Jessica Schutt believes her team can do well.

"We need execution, tough defense, and to control the ball on offense to win games," Schutt said.

West Division champions Centralia will be the odds on favorite against Walla Walla. This will be a rematch of last year's third round tournament game that saw the Lady Warriors pull out a double overtime victory to send the Lady Trailblazers home. Walla Walla, who finished fourth in last year's tournament, is hoping to recapture their form from mid-season.

"We need to play flawlessly and play like we did in the middle of the year," Walla Walla Head Coach Bobbi Hazeltine said. "We need to minimize turnovers and shoot the ball well."

North Division champions

Bellevue will face off against Chemeketa at 4 p.m. Bellevue is currently riding a Cinderella season as they went from 1-15 last year to 11-5 this year.

"We only have one sophomore and nine freshman," said Bellevue Coach Cheryl Sorenson. "We have settled in and found our roles. I have high expectations of the girls and they work hard everyday to meet them.

"Defense has won a lot of games for us," said Sorenson. "For us to win we have to play defense, rebound well, and take care of the ball."

Chemeketa again enters the tournament as the fourth seed from the South. Bellevue is the favorite but Chemeketa can't be counted out as they have the tournament experience and contended for the championship two years ago.

Lane, who is always a favorite, will face off against Whatcom at 6 p.m. Last year, Lane road a deep bench and fundamental play all the way to the championship game but came

up short against Columbia Basin. With Columbia Basin not making the trip, Lane will automatically be the team to beat.

"Our depth has been our strength and our weakness for us this season," said Lane Coach Greg Sheley. "We will have to play four good games to win them all."

Whatcom will be making a return to the tournament after missing out on the playoffs last year. However, Whatcom earned its way in having to play in a loser-out, four-team playoff for the fourth and final spot out of the North.

Last year's sixth place finisher Yakima Valley will face off against South Puget Sound. This will be the Clippers' first trip back to the tournament in two years.

Yakima is heavily favored in this matchup and picked by many to win it all. Even so, Head Coach Cody Butler says luck is important.

"We have a lot of depth, but we need to play consistently for four days. Health, and of course

luck are big factors," Butler said.

South Puget Sound relies heavily on its two top scorers, Aisha Ailey-Brown and Katie Carns. Brown averages 19.4 points per game and Carns averages 13.2. To be successful they will need both to be in top form.

Teams

Continued from page 9

make the tournament

Key Players - Amber Harmon 18.2 ppg, Kassie Lude-man 13.2 ppg, 6.2 reb

Spokane Sasquatch

Record - 9-5 (19-10)

Last year - 18-15, lost in the third round to Umpqua
Key Players - Sarah Scates 10.8 ppg, 4.2 reb; Emily Wittkopf 10.7 ppg, 5.5 reb

Walla Walla Warriors

Record - 9-5 (19-8)

Last year - 25-6, placed fourth in last year's tournament

Key Players - Mandy Troutt

13.8 ppg, 7.7 reb; Sadie Short 9.9 ppg, 7.4 reb

Clackamas Cougars

Record - 13-1 (23-4)

Last year - 26-7, placed third in last year's tournament

Key Players- Charday Hunt 21 ppg, 8 reb; Kellie Morey 14.0 ppg, 5.8 reb

Lane Titans

Record - 13-1 (29-1)

Last year - 31-3, placed second in last year's tournament

Key Players - Lisa Fernandez 13.0 ppg, 7.1 reb; Cora McVey 10.9 ppg, 6.2 reb, 3.1 stl

Umpqua Timberwomen

Record - 10-4 (22-7)

Last year - 28-5, placed seventh in last year's tournament

Key Players - Moina Snyder 18.1 ppg, 9.5 reb; Micaela Williams 15.7 ppg, 7.9 reb

Chemeketa Storm

Record - 6-8 (9-16)

Last year - 15-16, lost to Edmonds in the third round

Key Players - Alyse Carlson 13.0 ppg; Megan Johnson 10.3 ppg, 9 reb, 2.4 stl

Tutoring Center offers quality aid to students

By ROBERT FITZGERALD
STAFF REPORTER

Wenchu Tsai may face difficult assignments, but that doesn't keep her from laughing. Tsai, who left her native land of Japan eight months ago, giggles playfully with her writing consultant, Paula Aranda.

The two are sitting at a table in Highline's Writing Center, a small, comfortable room on the second floor of Building 26. Tsai hovers questioningly over an essay, a pen pressed to her lips as she adjusts the skirt of her schoolgirl outfit.

Aranda, who is bundled in a thick black jacket, points encouragingly at a line of text. Tsai croons with understanding and marks her paper, smiling at Aranda.

This is a normal scene for both women. Tsai frequents the Writing Center, which is a free service provided by Highline. Students can walk in and make appointments to work on any piece of writing, no matter what stage of development it's in.

The Center is open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. until 7:30 p.m. On Friday, the Center is closed from 12:30-2 p.m., and shuts down again at 4.

Tsai pushes her amber brown hair away from her shoulders and looks sheepishly at her spectacled tutor before explaining her first visit to the Writing Center. "My writing teacher say here is very helpful," she says, her wide eyes made brighter by her smile.

Aranda has helped her work on all aspects of her paper, Tsai said. "Everything — brainstorming, grammar, conclusions — everything."

Tsai clicks the heels of her black calf-high boots together as she estimates the frequency between visits to the center. "Few

times every couple weeks," she said.

"I usually work with Paula," Tsai said, explaining that sometimes she has difficulty communicating with other tutors.

Tsai smiles at Aranda. "She's the best."

Aranda, despite such claims, is nothing but humble. "With an ESL [student] you're going to have a language difficulty, but it's the same assignment," she says with a shrug. "That language barrier can be overcome with patience and being more of a listener than a speaker."

And as far as being the best, Aranda waves the claim away with a chuckle. "There are lots of really wonderful tutors who would love to help anyone out."

Liya Ivanschenko is one such tutor. As a writing consultant for the first time this quarter, she found she had some misconceptions about the center.

For instance, consultants aren't supposed to edit for tutees, Ivanschenko said. "It's not part of our job. Our motto is to help make better writers, not just better papers."

Ivanschenko had to familiarize herself with other policies as well.

"Students sign up for a session which is 25 minutes — you get only two hours a week and one hour a day."

Ivanschenko admits to never having used the Tutoring Center before her employment. "Now that I work here, I realize what a good resource it is," she says. "I have a math class next quarter — I have a feeling I'll be in here quite a bit."

The Tutoring Center, which encompasses the Writing Center, offers assistance for a variety of subjects and services over 2,400 students a year.

Math is one of the more popular subjects in the Tutoring Center, says Director Eena

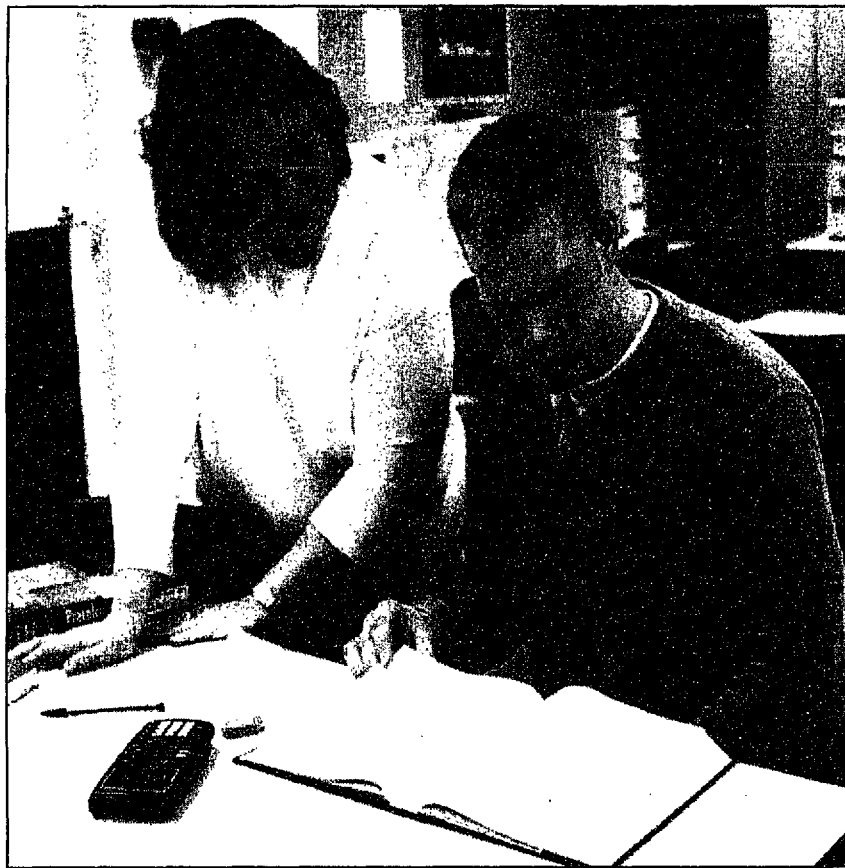


Photo by Roman Klimenko

Diana Lee helps student Brent Kunz in the Tutoring Center.

Hibbs. Other popular subjects include writing, science, and accounting; however, the center could offer a tutor for any subject a student could request.

"I train and supervise tutors that don't belong to any particular department," Hibbs says. Hibbs, the director since 1997,

has contributed to much of the center's evolution.

The Tutoring Center has come a long way in the last nine years, Hibbs says. When she arrived, she knew the center needed a plan. "We asked ourselves, 'what do we want from an ideal center?'"

Despite lacking resources, the center has accomplished its goal. "We have a great service," she says.

The College Reading and Learning Association agrees with Hibbs' statement: the group has recently awarded Highline's Tutoring Center with level three certification.

"We're a program that is at the highest level possible" Hibbs says. "Not many community colleges get it. We have great student tutors and faculty support."

While proud of the center's accomplishment, Hibbs still looks to the future; she hints at the possibility of both in-class tutoring and learning groups.


For Wenchu Tsai and Paula Aranda, however, the center works perfect

just as it is. "It's really fun," Aranda says. "We became friends through the writing center."

"We go shopping," says Aranda. "Going to Seattle and shopping—that kind of thing."

Aranda admits, however, that Wenchu has better taste.

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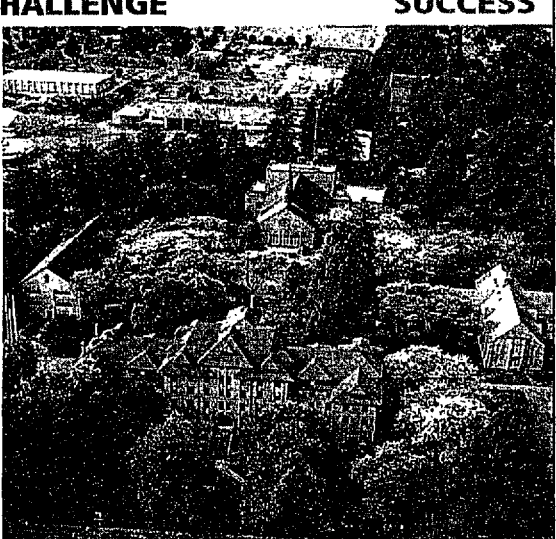
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Vietnamese students tell their stories

By ROSIE MEEKER

STAFF REPORTER

Vietnamese students at Highline want the rest of the campus to know more about them.

At a Conversation Café last week in Building 7, a panel of students shared experiences, cultures, and memories with a crowd of about 30.

"Pho is not the only food we have," said Debbie Nguyen. Nguyen was born in America but prefers Vietnamese food over any other.

"There are some fruits in Vietnam that you'll never see in the United States," said Karyn Mai, who came with her family to America 11 years ago.

Oanh Nguyen used to go from vendor to vendor with friends in Vietnam. Buying a drink at one, and food at another, "taking about the whole day," said Oanh.

Life in Vietnam on a daily basis is not going from vendor to vendor, however; that hap-



Photo by Roman Klimenko

Vietnamese students speak at the Conversation Café.

pens on birthdays and special occasions.

Most of students' time and energy is spent studying "Education is the most important thing," said Ly Ha, who first came to America as a transfer student, and liked it so much, she came back.

Ha said that when meeting someone for the first time, the first question asked is not what's

your name, but tends to be "How old are you, what school are you going to?"

The students who get the good grades attend the school with other students who also get good grades. The students who don't stand out as much go to the schools with students like them.

Education is such an important factor because the parents

work, but was really hanging out with friends. That didn't go over too well.

"Mom's afraid I wouldn't concentrate and study," said Christy Hoang, agreeing with Debbie Nguyen over the strict rules parents put on their children.

In Vietnam, it all comes down to family. Kim Trinh said that on the anniversaries of close

dead relatives, there is a banquet prepared to remember them by.

Parents, grandparents, close relatives, every year, generation to generation. The day they celebrate is the day that those relatives passed away on, not the day of their birth.

Karyn Mai spoke of a tradition that also deals with nonliving relatives. "After three years of a person's death, the family digs up the graves to change the clothes, only if no other family members have died."

Mai went on to explain that if another family member had died within those three years they would have to wait another three years, until no one in the family has passed away.

Outside of the family, resources can be very hard to come by. Brandon Tran spent the first 11 years of his life in Vietnam, and though he has some pleasant memories dealing with Vietnam, he said the coming to the United States "gave me a better appreciation on what you could have."

Highline presents career paths for select students

By LINDSEY FARAH

STAFF REPORTER

Selected young women and men from middle schools around the area will have the opportunity to get acquainted career paths and Highline at the Expanding Your Horizons Conference here on Friday, March 17.

Over the last 30 years, Expanding Your Horizons has been encouraging young women to pursue broader career opportunities.

"This program was originally set to get women involved ca-

reers," said Andrea Tinney, who works for the college in Outreach Services and is one of the conference coordinators.

The conference originally focused on math and science, but now it ventures toward many career fields. More than 400 students are expected, coming from middle schools ranging from Renton to Buckley.

The conference usually happens in the month of March in honor of International Women's Day. At the conference, young women participate in hands-on learning experiences led by

people from Boeing, Microsoft, Highline professors, and volunteers from local business.

Though this event was set for young women, often a small amount of young men attend too.

After all, this event is a learning opportunity, Tinney said.

The conference offers "more expanded knowledge," she said. "That prepares you to determine what you want to do, and go

ahead with it."

If anyone is interested this event will need volunteers between 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday March 17. Call Andrea Tinney at 206- 878-3710, ext. 3336.

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Brown gets down with Student Programs

By SIMONE SNOW

STAFF REPORTER

Jonathan Brown, associate dean for Student Programs, says he is devoted to student development.

For the past four years, Brown has provided leadership to Highline student programs such as Team Highline and Student Government.

Sitting down to talk about his experiences, Brown jests with passing students, instantly making everyone around him feel like an old friend.

"I love how different each day can be," Brown said with a wide grin, leaning forward in earnest over the table. "I love working with students who have



Jonathan Brown

boundless energy, great senses of humor, and are adults."

Pausing every now and then in careful thought, clasping and

unclasping his hands, Brown described what led him into such career.

Graduating with a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy and English from Seattle University, Brown was at a loss of what to do until he worked for student development at SU.

"I came into this field via being an involved student," Brown said. "The more I learned about the field, the more I felt it was a good fit."

Brown went on to earn his master of arts in student development administration and ended up working at the University of Redlands in Southern California. However, he stayed there for just under a year.

"It's hard to work in a place

with palm trees," Brown said with a laugh. "I always thought I was on vacation."

After working for universities, Brown began to look for other opportunities and found one at Edmonds Community College.

"I hadn't considered working in community colleges," Brown said. "The pay was lousy, but I said there's a job I think I can get."

At Edmonds he coordinated student programs, student orientations, student government, and even vanpool.

"I did it all," Brown said proudly.

It turned out to be very similar to what he now does at Highline, where he oversees the Stu-

dent Union, many conferences and events, and food services.

Brown also advises the Service and Activities Budget Committee, works closely with the graphic design team and student government, and coordinates between many other student programs to assist in providing leadership.

Brown's job is described in his résumé as requiring him to "...contribute actively to the overall direction and production of high quality and accessible student services for the Highline community."

"I think Highline's programs are very special. It's largely due to the extreme involvement level of students, but also staff and faculty," Brown said.

Disaster

continued from page 1

floods, landslides, volcanic eruptions, and earthquakes, as well as power outages, riots, fires, hazardous materials spills, and worker strikes.

In the event of a disaster, besides damage to buildings, there would be almost no utilities, roads would be blocked, no ATMs or gasoline, no accessible services like motels or groceries, and price gouging.

Proper preparation would make a family able to deal with all of these.

"No matter where you are, when you are, or who you are, you need to be able to take care of yourself for at least three days," said Goetz.

Goetz warned that the most devastating disaster that could hit this area would be an earthquake.

During an earthquake, the audience was advised to drop, cover, and hold on to something like a table leg. Stay away from windows. If you're inside, stay inside unless in immediate danger, if you're outside stay outside away from trees, buildings, and power lines.

If you're in bed, stay in bed and protect your head and neck; if you're in a car stay in the car — it's actually one of the safest places to be.

After the earthquake, check yourself for injuries, and then go do damage control. Get on a pair of sturdy shoes and work gloves. Check others for injuries and give first aid where needed. Look for and extinguish small fires — these tend to be the worst effect of an earthquake and cause the most damage. Eliminate fire hazards, and turn off

gas only if you can hear or smell it. Once it is off, leave it off.

Goetz said the primary emergency broadcaster for the area is KIRO 710 AM, so tune any available radio to that station. Expect aftershocks, and take cover every time you feel one.

Inspect your home for damage, and evacuate it if it is unsafe, and stay off the phone unless you absolutely have to use it.

Of course, everything will go smoother if you are more prepared for a disaster. Make a family plan before something goes terribly, terribly wrong.

Talk to everyone about what could happen, discuss an escape plan and find safe spots inside your home.

Teach and involve your children, but make it more interactive for them so they don't worry unnecessarily. Pick two places to meet, one at home and the other away from home.

Last, pick an out of area con-

tact. Goetz said you can usually place a long distance call more easily after a disaster because local lines will be tied up. Also, the further away your contact, the less likely the disaster involved them. This contact can relay information and messages to other members in your party in the event that you can't do it yourself.

Make sure you are capable of dealing with what you may come across.

"The very basics in getting prepared are to learn first aid and CPR," said Public Education Officer Kirsti Weaver.

These classes are offered by the local fire department, as well as the Red Cross. Besides learning first aid, also be sure to know how to turn off utilities, and teach your family members.

Update your insurance every few years so that you are best covered. Put all important documents in a safe place.

Have a disaster kit, and be sure to have maintained smoke detectors within your home.

According to the Public Education Officers, your disaster kit should have everything you need for a three day trip in the wilderness.

They recommend that you purchase or assemble a kit, and then be sure to customize it to your specific needs. Any medications or special equipment you might need be sure to have available.

Have a main kit at home and then smaller kits at work and in



Goetz

the car.

Be sure to include flashlights, batteries, a radio, and a corded phone. Candles are not recommended due to the fire hazard.

Also include warm clothing, water, food, and tools.

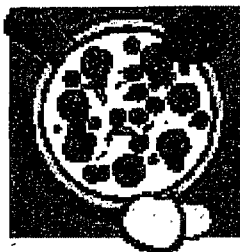
When a disaster strikes, be sure to eat the fresh, perishable foods first. Then move on to the frozen foods, and eat the non-perishable foods last.

At the end the Public Education Officers reiterated their point that how you fare after a disaster depends on your preparation before.

The members of the BTECH class hosting the event felt that overall everything went well.

"We could have had a larger turnout, but if we got to one person who took it to their family, then it was successful," said Ivory Ellison, one of the students who helped run the event.

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