



Men's bball
wraps up
second place / **P8**



Hip-Hop Summit
breaks it down at
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Highline Community College

The Thunderword

Clippin' away



Groundskeeper Joel McCluskey trims shrubbery in front of the Early Childhood Learning Center.

Lizeth Duran/ THUNDERWORD

Groundskeeper keeps campus trim and tidy

By Paul Song
Staff Reporter

In this gray, cold, and damp weather most people would be scurrying to get inside, but not Joel McCluskey.

"It gets to be rather cold and wet in the middle of winter. It's not pleasant, but it's better than being cooped up inside," said McCluskey, one of Highline's nursery and grounds keepers.

Before working at Highline,

McCluskey had a number of jobs. He worked with developmentally disabled adults where he became an assistant supervisor before the program ran out of funding and the program was eventually eliminated.

He also worked at an apartment developing firm in Tacoma.

"You never knew if the owner was watching you. If he didn't like what he saw he would fire you on the spot," McCluskey

said.

His last job was working as a shipping and receiving supervisor at a warehouse for 13 years before coming to Highline.

"Depending on the company there can sometimes be periods of downtime when working in commercial jobs," McCluskey said. "The work environment here at Highline is a lot better because it's stable and the hours are consistent. I generally get along with most of the staff."

His primary responsibilities are to take care of the grounds and the surplus furniture around campus, but he covers the entire Highline campus and works wherever and whenever he's needed.

When snow and ice cover the campus, McCluskey and the facilities staff are called in to remove the snow.

See Groundskeeper/ P16

Federal Way cuts down strong-mayor government

By Prashant Verma
Staff Reporter

Federal Way voters rejected a proposal to change the city's government to a strong-mayor system on Tuesday.

The city will keep its current form of government, the council-manager system.

The results were close as 54

percent (3,830) voted against the change and about 46 percent (3,321) voted for it. Almost 20 percent of Federal Way's registered voters turned out for the election.

In the council-manage system the city has an elected city council, who choose a mayor from amongst themselves. The mayor runs council meetings

and attends ceremonial outings, but has no more authority than the other six council members.

The council usually hires a manager to handle the daily city operations.

In the strong mayor form of government, voters would choose a separately elected mayor, who would hold executive power for city government,

leaving legislative power with the city council.

If voters had approved the change to an elected mayor, citizens would have elected a new mayor next November.

Federal Way's population is around 86,000, making it Wash-

See Federal Way/ P16

Committee to weed out potential presidents

By Carrie Draeger
Staff Reporter

Members of the Presidential Search Advisory Committee will meet today to narrow the field of presidential applicants from 26 to 12.

Highline has been without a permanent president since the firing of former President Priscilla Bell in November 2006. Dr. Jack Bermingham, vice president of academic affairs, has been serving as interim president since Bell's dismissal.

The advisory committee, which includes faculty, staff, student, and community members, will hammer out a dirty dozen with the help of consultant Dr. Don Hunter.

"I am really just overwhelmed with what they bring to the committee and their dedication and determination," said Rita Creighton, a member of both the Board and the panel. "They are a wonderful group of individuals."

The advisory committee consists of two board members, four faculty members, three classified staff members, three exempt employees, one student member, and three community members.

Searching for a president for a community college is different than at a four-year-college or a private school, Board Chairwoman Karen Vander Ark said.

"(Highline) is a college that acts within a community college system," Vander Ark said. "There is no process for funding to sustain this college if it chooses to remain insular in its decision making process."

The college belongs to the community, Creighton said of the college's responsibility to community involvement in the search process.

"A good portion of the president's time is spent not on cam-

See President / P16



Student tree climbers are apprehended by Security

Two Highline students climbed the trees located between Building 15 and Building 16 on Feb. 19 at 2 p.m. One of them decided to jump onto the roof of Building 15. Both students were warned by Security to not do it again or they will see the Dean.

Reports of screaming in Library turn out to be false

Des Moines Police Department reported that a 911 call was made from the pay phone near the Library at 5:50 p.m. on Feb. 15. The dispatcher stated that she heard a female screaming in the background. Security met with a Des Moines Police Officer and checked the Library out. Everything was in order.

Graffiti on the portable projection will be costly

Instructional Computer Center staff reported a vandalized portable projection screen to Security on Feb. 14 at 11 a.m. The screen was located in Building 19 in room 207. Apparently someone wrote across the screen in permanent green marker. The damage to the screen is estimated at \$200.

Shady characters arouse suspicions on campus

A suspicious person wearing a baseball cap was looking through the windows of Building 21 at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 13. He was reported to be heading to Building 29. Security checked the area and did not find him.

Students are here to learn, not to visit with classmates

A Highline student filed a complaint regarding three males being disruptive in class on Feb. 13 at 8:55 a.m. She stated that she yelled out and said “I’m here to learn, not to visit.” She also stated that they called her a name that she didn’t hear, but the teacher did.

Disturbance in the class causes students to protest

Three Highline students filed a complaint regarding two other students being disruptive and rude during class on Feb. 13 at 9:30 a.m. Security advised the teacher to call Security if they show up to her class again because they are not registered to be in her class.

-Compiled by Rachel Aleaga



Learn more about UW Seattle in meeting today

An undergraduate adviser from the University of Washington will be on campus today conducting a “How do majors work at UW Seattle” session. Kay Blaston will discuss basic information about majors at the UW, and how the Highline two-year degrees will transfer to the UW. Blaston will go into detail about: what majors are offered at the UW Seattle campus; how long it takes to complete a major; how Highline Spanish credits are transferred; if an associates of arts and associate of applied science will complete all of the general education requirements for the UW; and if all the classes on the AA and AAS planning sheet are transferable to the UW.

The session will take place today at noon, in Building 6, room 151.

Students can get informed on Global Fest this Friday

Students can meet this Friday to learn about Global Fest, Highline’s biggest annual event. On May 10 Highline will host Global Fest, an event where students share their cultures. This Friday, from 1-2 p.m. in Building 2, room 102, students can learn what Global Fest is through a PowerPoint presentation by International Student Programs. At Global Fest students get together to talk about their cultures. There are cultural booths, traditional dance performances,



Patricia O’Neill/THUNDERWORD
This mallard duck is swimming in the pond next to the Highline Tennis Courts.

food, and a cultural fashion show.

Students who are interested can attend the presentation, and sign up at the International Student Programs offices in Building 9, or call 206-878-8710, ext. 3384.

You can learn more about computer science today

Students interested in a career in Web Database Development, Computer Networking, or Data Recovery/Forensics can attend an informational session today. The Computer Science and Computer Information Systems Department is having an open house session today from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. and again from 6-7 p.m. in Building 29 room 202. Faculty advisers will be available to answer student’s questions and assist them in planning careers in this profession. For more information about the Computer Science and Computer Information Systems

Department, you can visit their website at flightline.highline.edu/cis.

Students can take a look at a career in journalism

Students are invited to attend a journalism conference hosted by Highline. The conference will take place on Feb. 28 in Building 7, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Local journalists from various types of media will be featured. Scheduled to attend is: Ruby de Luna, an award-winning radio reporter, at 9 a.m.; Shaniqua Manning, an award-winning Northwest Cable news reporter and anchor at 10 a.m.; Art Thiel

an award-winning sports columnist for Seattle Post-Intelligencer, at 11 a.m..

At noon students will have a lunch break and take the opportunity to visit the newsroom of the Thunderword, Highline’s award-winning newspaper in Building 10 room 106. The event is free and open to all, seats are limited to the first 150 people. For more information call T.M. Sell at 206-878-3710, ext. 3150, or at: tsell@highline.edu

Correction

A story in last week’s issue should have said that Sean Clemens is “not” into gangster art.

Co-Opportunity
Cooperative Education

Looking to bridge the gap between education and work experience?

Don’t be the one who let opportunity pass you by!

Get real world experience while earning real college credit.
Building 6, upper floor

Student Jobs



Legal Assistant Job #3476
~Part-time~

You will maintain calendars, manage dockets, prepare documents and filings, organize and maintain reference materials, forms, corporate records, trademark applications, and arrange travel and appointments.
Hours: 20-25, Monday-Friday
Where: Seattle How Much: DOE

Passenger Service Agent Job #3472
~Part/Full-Time~

Greet and check-in passengers and baggage, verify documentation, reschedule passengers with flight interruption, and assist passengers on arriving international flights.
Hours: 22, Mon-Sun
Where: SeaTac Airport How Much: \$10.00

For more information, log on to Interfase at www.myinterfase.com/highline/student or visit Student Employment in Building 6.



FREE TUTORING!!!
Feeling overwhelmed?
Get help!

Visit the Tutoring Center: Building 26, Room 319
We strive to help students to achieve their college success!

“If the only tool you have is a hammer, you tend to see every problem as a nail.”
~ Abraham Maslow

Sign up for help in:
Accounting/Business, Languages, Math, Science, Computers, Writing, and more subjects!

Mon-Thurs.....8:00am-7:30pm
Fri.....8:00am-1:00pm
<http://tutoring.highline.edu>



My Ong becomes an American citizen

By Catherine Dusharme
Staff Reporter

My Ong's eyes welled with tears as she recalled her life in Vietnam.

Ong, whose diminutive stature belies her huge heart, works full time in the Highline Early Childhood Learning Center and she just became a United States citizen. She says she is very grateful for her new life here in America.

In 1975, when Ong was 15, the Communist regime came to Vietnam and the new government took over her parents' business.

"They took all our money and made us leave the city," Ong said.

Her brother escaped on a boat to Malaysia in 1978 and then went on the United States.

Still in Vietnam, Ong was married in 1983 and had two daughters, but her husband became sick with cancer and died in February of 1991.

In the meantime, Ong's brother had come to Seattle, where the family had relatives, and had begun sponsoring family members to come to the United States.

Her three remaining brothers came over first and were joined soon after by her parents and three sisters.

Because she was still married at the time of the interview process, which occurred a few months prior to her husband's death, Ong couldn't go with her parents when they left in July of 1991 and she had to remain behind in Vietnam.

Following her husband's death, Ong was told she would be able to join her family in two years.

It took 11 years instead.

Newly widowed and without her immediate family, Ong moved in with her grandmother in a village outside Ho Chi Minh City.

"It was so hard to be alone," she said.

She applied to go to college, but was rejected because she was not a member of the Communist Party.

She finally came to Seattle in 2002 with her daughters and was directed to Highline by her sister, who had previously attended here.

After applying to the ESL program, Ong began working in the Childhood Learning Center



Lizeth Duran/THUNDERWORD

My Ong, a full-time staff member at Highline's Early Childhood Learning Center, recounts her journey of growing up in Vietnam to eventually becoming a United States citizen.

as a student and earned her Early Childhood Education degree in June of 2007.

"In my country, the children were not in good care," she said.

"The teachers weren't good either – they treated the children with money much better than they treated poor children."

Now a full-time employee, Ong is appreciated by staff and parents alike.

"She is lovely, very positive and cheerful, and the parents love her," said Center Program Manager Cathy Brewer. "They want her to stay with their child as they progress because she is so loving and gentle and she gives them superb individual care."

"She sets goals and accomplishes them, working through her barriers. She is a success story for Highline," Brewer said. Ong says she really appreciates the opportunities she has been given here in the United States, for herself as well as her two daughters.

They had to wait five years to apply for citizenship. They then were fingerprinted and had to wait two more months to take the American history test.

Her daughters, now 18 and 24, received their citizenship at the same time as Ong.

Her youngest daughter is a Running Start student and will graduate from high school plus receive her associate of arts degree in June.

She wants to be a social worker and plans to go on to The Evergreen State College and study psychology. Her other daughter is a medical student at UCLA and will also graduate in June with her bachelor of arts degree. She plans to take time off to volunteer in a foreign country, possibly Africa or Thailand, then return to the U.S. and become a dentist.

"I love working in my career, and when I have the money I want to continue my education and get a four-year degree," said Ong.

Ong says she feels very proud of what both she and her daughters have accomplished.

"It's exciting to be an American – I can vote now."

Suitable spring weather brings with it new construction, traffic delays

South King County commuters should expect more delays than the last couple of months, thanks in part to increasingly favorable weather conditions for construction crews.

A 11 lanes of southbound Interstate 5 at South 178th Street will be closed until 7:30 a.m. Sunday.

This process will begin with both northbound and southbound HOV lanes closing at 7 p.m., followed by the second southbound lane at 8 p.m., a third lane by 10 p.m., a fourth lane by 11 p.m., and the final lane being closed by 11:30 p.m.



A detour will reroute traffic to northbound I-405, then southbound State Route 167, to westbound SR 518, then back to I-5.

This process will be repeated on Saturday, March 1 and Sunday March 2.

The right lane of southbound I-5 between South 144th Street and Southcenter Boulevard will be closed tonight from 8 p.m. until 5 a.m. tomorrow.

The left lane of the off-ramp from southbound I-5 to Swift/Albro will reopen on Feb. 27 after a long closure.

The southbound I-405 HOV ramp to westbound I-90 will be closed from 9 p.m. tonight until 5 a.m. tomorrow.

Up to two lanes of southbound I-405 between I-90 and 112th Avenue Southeast will be

closed tonight, with the first lane closing at 10 p.m. the second at 11 p.m. Both lanes will reopen by 6 a.m. tomorrow.

The ramp from southbound I-405 to eastbound I-90 will be closed from 10:30 p.m. tonight until 4 a.m. tomorrow.

The left lane of the ramp from northbound I-405 to westbound I-90 will be closed from 10 p.m. tonight to 5 a.m. tomorrow morning.

This Saturday, traffic signals will be turned off at the intersection of 15th Street Northwest and the northbound and southbound SR 167 off-ramps from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. Washington State Patrol will direct traffic during this time.

One lane of southbound SR 167 will be closed from 8 p.m. tonight until 5 a.m. tomorrow.

The right lane of eastbound SR 518 near SR 99 (International Boulevard) will be closed from 10 p.m. tonight until 5 a.m. tomorrow.

The westbound ramp from SR 518 to SeaTac Airport will be closed tonight from 10 p.m. until 5 a.m. tomorrow. This work is weather dependent.

One lane travelling each direction on SR 519 between 4th Avenue South and Occidental Avenue South will be closed today and tomorrow from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The southbound SR 599 off-ramp to South 133rd Street will be closed from 9 p.m. tonight until 5 a.m. tomorrow. This work is weather dependant.

One lane of SR 900 at Boeing Access Road and Ryan Way continues to be closed around-

the-clock until further notice.

Expect the usual daytime traffic delays and lane restrictions on SR 99 (Pacific Highway) between South 272nd Street and Dash Point Road while major construction continues.

Traffic on this stretch is expected to be moved onto the newly paved portions of the road by mid-March.

The traveling lane underneath the Alaskan Way Viaduct between Columbia Street and Yesler Way remains closed until spring.

Expect traffic delays near Key Arena this weekend before and after the Sonics play Portland at 7 p.m. Friday and the Thunderbirds play Portland at 7:05 p.m. Saturday.

-Compiled by Nick Dalton

Editorial comment

Board needs to be transparent

Highline’s Board of Trustees needs to continue to have an open and fair presidential search process.

Within the next few months, Highline will finally have a permanent president, but who gets to have input on the decision is still in question.

Since the firing of Dr. Priscilla Bell in November of 2006, the Board has said time and time again that they want this search to be an open and transparent process.

But some of the faculty have expressed concern about the direction in which the process is going. The level of involvement from faculty and staff is important because Highline’s new president will have to work with the faculty and staff just as much as they will have to work the Board of Trustees.

Another concern that has been expressed by many people on campus is the Board’s desire to have a large amount of community involvement in the search. It is important to have the community involved but it shouldn’t be a concern that eclipses the concerns of the people who work here on campus.

In a memo sent to the Board, the faculty representatives on the search committee explained that some of the faculty are concerned about the level of participation that they will have in the final decision. In response to the memo, Chairwoman for the Board of Trustees Karen Vander Ark explained that the Board agreed they would not allow members of the search committee to be in the final interview of the finalists.

The Board does have the power to make this choice but it is questionable to have the decision entirely on the Board because it excludes both the campus and the community.

This puts the Board in the unenviable position of choosing the perfect president for Highline.

Not having anyone else at the decision table will mean the Board cannot share the blame if the person who they choose isn’t right for Highline.

This isn’t a decision that any one group of people should make. It should be a combination of the Board, the campus, and also the community. But we shouldn’t overlook the fact that the Board has tried to bring in diverse viewpoints and at the end of the day they are the decision makers.

The Board does need to continue to have the appearance of an open and collaborative process.

Staff

“It’s like looking into a crystal ball.”

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MaST center will be good for Des Moines

This year Highline will make a significant addition to the community — the new Marine Science and Technology (MaST) Center in Redondo. This one-of-a-kind facility will bring together science education, research, and community outreach. Highline is the only two-year institution in the state to have a multi-purpose center on Puget Sound.

The newly renovated facility will provide hands-on marine science learning and research experiences for students, faculty, scientists, and community members.

The college now seeks assistance from local community members in raising funds to cover the final third of the \$2.5 million necessary to pay for the MaST construction and operating endowment.

Previous community programming has already shown that the MaST Center is a valuable resource worthy of your support.

The Highline Community College Foundation’s \$2.5 million campaign goal will fund the new facility and create a \$500,000 operating endowment for community programs, scholarships and camps for kids. To date, the College Foundation has raised over \$1.6 million. A recent challenge grant by Des Moines residents Michael and Joan Allan has added an addi-

Guest commentary



Dr. Jack Bermingham

tional incentive for the community to get involved.

Imagine driving along Redondo Beach six months from now. The MaST Center renovations are complete and you are likely to see students working in the lab or community members enjoying the touch tanks in the aquarium.

Imagine for a moment the fifth-grader on a school field trip with hands in a touch tank whose eyes light up having science come alive like never before.

Seed the possibility of students’ being inspired to work harder on science studies.

If you contribute now, you will view each of these scenes

with a sense of ownership and pride.

This is your community and you can make a difference in science education for students of all ages. Your contribution, no matter the size, is important and meaningful.

By contributing to the MaST Center, you will invest in the community, its people, and the environmental health of Puget Sound.

Revitalizing the MaST Center is an ambitious—yet achievable—project. I ask you to help the college inspire a new generation of scientists.

Founded in 1961 as the first community college in King County, Highline is one of the state’s largest two-year institutions. Highline is the most diverse college in the state. It serves approximately 9,500 students each term and claims more than 350,000 former students who have benefited from the college’s focus on excellence in teaching and learning, workforce development, and educational opportunity for all.

For more information, call Rod Stephenson at 206-878-3710, ext. 3696, or e-mail rstephen@highline.edu. To learn more about the current center and its programs, visit <http://flightline.highline.edu/mast/>.

Dr. Bermingham is Highline’s interim president

may be subject to editing for length.

E-mail your submission to thunderword@highline.edu.

Letters and columns can be on any subject.

Topics of interest to the campus will take priority.

Write to us

The Thunderword encourages letters to the editor and columns from the college community.

Editorial cartoons on timely

subjects also may be considered.

Submissions will be edited for style.

Due to limited space, please limit your submission to 500 words or less.

Submissions that are too long



David Hsu/THUNDERWORD

Common Market, left, radio personality Tari Free, entrepreneur Shyan Selah, speaker/rapper Sean Good, and DJ Hyphen will appear at the Hip-Hop Summit.

HIP-HOP SUMMIT

BIG NAMES OF HIP-HOP WORLD TO TAKE ANNUAL EVENT TO NEW HEIGHTS

By Ashley Mathews
Staff Reporter

Forget everything you think you know about hip-hop. Highline's Student Programs say they want to thwart all the misconceptions and stereotypes people may have about the hip-hop and rap community at their third annual Hip-Hop Summit.

The Hip-Hop Summit will be an all-day function next Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 26 and 27. It will feature workshops with hip-hop enthusiasts, lyrical performances by students and local artists, and dance performances from Highline's own dance team and a Seattle-based break dancing troupe.

"It's the fault of the media and the artists. It's the 50 Cents and Jay-Zs ... There's more to hip-hop than what you see on the television," said Eddie Martinez, promotions consultant for Student Programs.

The purpose of the Hip-Hop

Summit is to introduce the hip-hop that doesn't exist on the TV or radio, but the hip-hop that exists in local schools and in the local community that have positive messages to spread, said Martinez.

The summit will begin on Feb. 26, and will mostly be dedicated to student performers with a special performance by Dyme Def, a Seattle rap group who just finished performing with Mos Def in Vancouver; and Massive Monkees, an award-winning break dance group also from Seattle.

"I'm excited about reintroducing to people what hip-hop means," said Aaron Green, also known as Yung Flow. Green is a first-year Highline student scheduled to perform on the first day of the summit.

"The truth is that the 50 Cents of today are just entertainers. At the Hip-Hop Summit, be prepared to be re-educated."

Tuesday's performances will

be back-to-back starting at 9:50 a.m. until 1 p.m. and will include: HCC Dance Team, Illoficial Family, Okey Dokeys, The Legion, La Rue, and GMK, another up and coming rap group to come out of Seattle.

Wednesday is the main day of the summit and will put the spotlight on four leaders from the hip-hop community.

The opening keynote speaker will be Shyan Selah, founder of Brave New World Entertainment, which has started its own record label of the same name. He will discuss the ways the media has negatively portrayed hip-hop and the misconceptions the public may or may not be aware of. His discussion will start at 9 a.m. in the Mt. Constance room of the Student Union Building.

At 11 a.m. in Building 7, Sean Good, founder and visionary of RMovement.com, will explain hip-hop's history through his Back to Basics Workshop to

Highline students. Through his website and his music, Good has been able to promote the benefits of self-awareness and the necessity of community. Students will have the opportunity to write rap verses in a group setting and get feedback.

The last performance of the day will be at noon on the first floor of the Student Union Building. RA Scion of Common Market will be performing songs that helped make Common Market one of the city's most popular rap groups.

"We want to let people know that there are positive artists out there," Martinez said. "Common Market is one of them."

To wrap up the day, a town hall discussion will take place from 1-2 p.m. in the Mt. Constance room of the Student Union Building.

"This is the marquee of the Hip-Hop Summit," Martinez said.

Students will hear educators

such as Mako Fitts, a professor at Seattle University who teaches a hip-hop class, speak about the culture and positive aspects of the music and its artists.

Radio personalities Tari Free and DJ Hyphen from KUBE 93 will also contribute to the town hall discussion. Shyan Selah, Sean Good, and Common Market will also stick around to join in the town hall.

Students are encouraged to bring their questions and knowledge of hip-hop to the Hip Hop Summit Town Hall

"(The Summit) is very important for people, even ones who aren't into hip-hop. It will be beneficial to everyone," Martinez said.

Anyone is welcome and encouraged to attend any part of the summit, or just drop-in for a listen.

It will be located in the Student Union Building from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on both Feb. 26 and Feb. 27.

'Mother of the Matrix' Sophia Stewart visits Highline to tell her side of the story

By Megan Wallin
Staff Reporter

Hollywood made billions of dollars from stealing her ideas, said Sophia Stewart, author of *The Third Eye*, last week at Highline.

Known also for her legal battles (still taking place in Utah) over the alleged use of her book's material to form films, whose derivations included *The Matrix* and the *Terminator* series, Stewart took this opportunity to



Stewart

make her case. She also spoke about the inspiration behind her writing. Stewart spoke about the relationships between religion, mathematics, and science fiction last week at Highline.

"God gave me the creative (energy) to write," she said.

As for the link between God and numbers, she explained that, "God our creator uses numbers to communicate."

Some examples included the story of Noah and the significance of the number of days and years given in the Bible. "The Bible is encoded and encrypted," she said.

This understanding and appreciation of numbers began in her early childhood. By the age of 11, she was doing taxes. She scored 98 on the IRS exam, and

did not go to high school but tested well and got into college.

Her education includes a double minor in law, work as a paralegal, a degree in journalism, and many other accomplishments. In fact, she studied at the same university as famed directors Lucas and Spielberg.

She said all this to inform us that she is "well versed in numbers," and told the audience, "Numbers follow you all your life. The whole universe is governed by numbers."

Numbers also govern her work, as she plans to sue the Wachowski Brothers and others for charges of "willful intent" and "criminal copyright."

"I shopped my work to Fox," she said. "Fox executives stole the work."

But people want to know how closely her work correlates with *The Matrix* and *Terminator* films.

Rich and sweet: Choklate melodies will melt away your worries

By Satori Johnson
Staff Reporter

Native Seattle soul singer Choklate wants to help students get through their rigorous day with her soothing music.

“Well I think with college kids, they’re looking for an outlet because school can become monotonous at times so anything to shake things up a bit is pretty nice I’m guessing,” she said. “Having a live show between periods could definitely arouse a needed boost of energy for the kids who happen to be really focused and need to treat themselves to something different, something a little special for all their hard work.”

The Blend is a bi-monthly music concert hosted by Student Programs that takes place at Highline’s Bistro. The shows are an opportunity for local artists and Highline students to reach college students with their work.

Next week’s Blend will be from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 21, and is free for Highline students, faculty

and staff to attend.

Choklate will be performing some of her original music and also do improvisational singing.

Her style is described as a fusion of hip-hop and R&B music. She has toured all over the U.S. and performed with high profile groups such as De La Soul, Jurassic 5, Blacksheep, and Boom Bap Project.

Blend coordinator Malcolm Jihad Bryant said that Highline is lucky to have Choklate perform because it is

hard to arrange an artist of her experience and caliber to perform at smaller, low-key events such as the Blend.

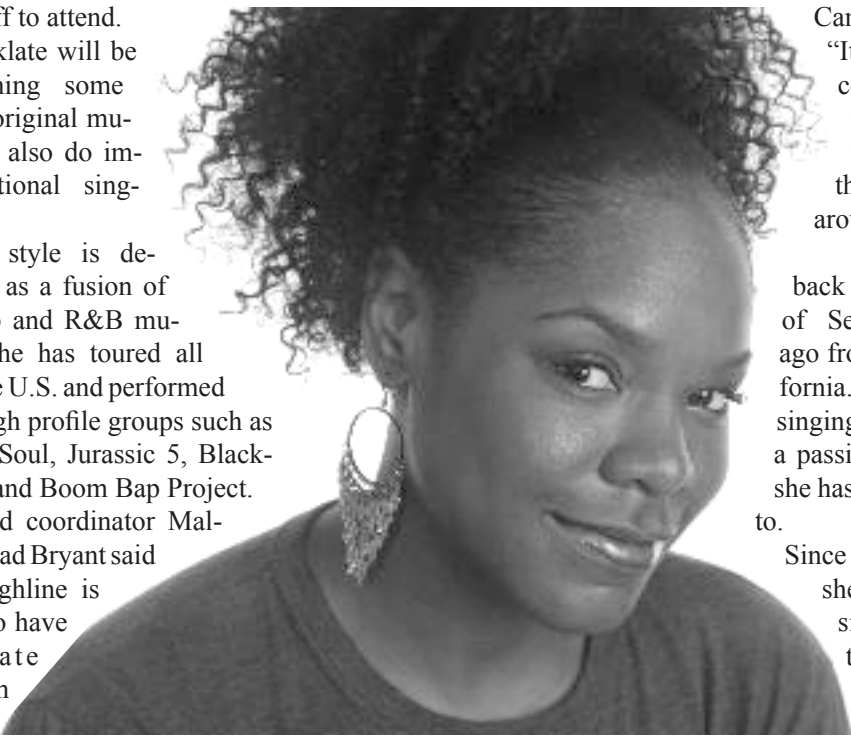
For Choklate, the Blend performance will not be her first time on the Highline campus.

“I went to school there when I first moved here to Washing-

ton,” she said.

While studying graphic design at Highline, Choklate served as the Black Student Union president as well as Student Government President.

“I wasn’t doing music in the same capacity and grew a lot as a person there on the Highline



Campus,” she said. “It’s always fun coming back when there are reasons to participate in the things going on around campus.”

Choklate moved back to her birthplace of Seattle four years ago from Southern California. Her interest in singing progressed into a passion for music that she has dedicated her life to.

Since moving to Seattle, she has become a significant figure in the local hip hop and R&B scene and has collaborated with many local music producers including Vitamin D (DJ Nu Mark, De La Soul).

Her most recent album, released in 2006 and featuring Chali 2na of Jurassic 5, is available for purchase from Tower Records.

Choklate has some huge projects in the making.

“I’m beyond honored and really excited to be making history this coming March 4 and 5 by being the first local artist in my genre to debut at the legendary Jazz Alley,” she said.

Dimitriou’s Jazz Alley in Seattle has been a premier jazz club for the last three decades. “It’s most definitely going to be a really good date night full of great sounds for those in attendance.”

Choklate also has planned an East Coast tour. For the remainder of March, Choklate will be traveling from Atlanta to New York and back to Seattle.

“I’m really stoked to be getting to open for a singer I admire, Bilal, on March 8 in New York City. That’s going to be a highlight for me,” she said.

She is also planning to debut in Miami, London and Spain for her first international solo performances and is working on her next album which will be released sometime this year.

“I can honestly say, for all the hard work, things are beginning to pay off and I’m thanking the heavens for that.”

Stewart

Continued From Page 5

“That’s why I want people to read (*The Third Eye*),” she said, before giving examples of her work’s resemblance to the films.

Some of the similarities between *The Third Eye* and *The Matrix* included: Agent Smith’s multiplying in *The Matrix*; Morpheus’s character being a symbol of John the Baptist and Trinity’s downloaded ability to fly the helicopter.

In the *Terminator* films, she said that the line “I’ll be back,” was her idea, as well as the uni-sex appearance of one of the characters. “(He) represents the Christ Child...He is purposely asleep until he awakes to his purpose.”

Surprisingly, Stewart has only seen the first *Matrix*; she has never seen the *Terminator*. She didn’t even know about that theft until 2001.

“I (haven’t seen the movie), but I know all about it because I wrote it.” She warned other writers about the risks of Hollywood. “The studios give writers no creative control...If you sell any work in Hollywood, be prepared...”

Whatever you believe about her claims, it is clear that religion plays a major role in her work, as she reiterated several times during her speech.

“(*The Matrix* is) a retelling of the Christ story,” she said, but

also of the second coming. “The Second Coming has never been expressed (through science fiction books or film) before.”

“Men have created (illusions) instead of the universal law of God. We’re seeing the creativity of God, but believing the lies of ignorant men.”

Her purpose, she informed us, involved not only writing, but seeing and participating in the changes in the world.

She told the audience, “I am not here to change the world. I was put here to see you change

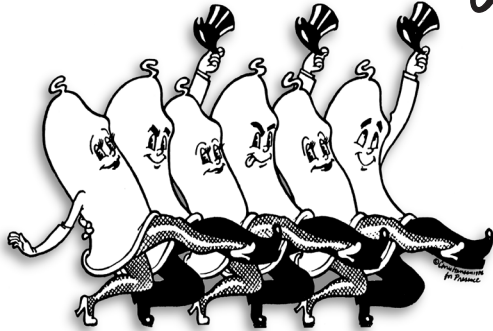
the world. Go out and make this world a better place.”

Stewart has more upcoming projects, including films and *The Sarah Chronicles*. For those who want to know more about Stewart and her work, they can purchase her book, *The Third Eye*, on amazon.com.

In closing her speech, she left her listeners with something to think about.

“The progress is going to happen whether you participate or not, but...why not participate?”

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Scarf is different. 2. Boots are higher. 3. Small shed is wider. 4. Puddle near left is missing. 5. Snow is gone from window ledge. 6. Bush on left has been moved.

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1. GEOGRAPHY: In what body of water are the Mal-dive islands located?
2. COMICS: What is Su-perman's dog named?
3. ROYALTY: In what fa-mous church were Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer wed?
4. MOVIES: In what movie does the character Popeye Doyle star?
5. ENTERTAINERS: Which comedian came up with the character called "the hippy dippy weatherman."
6. MUSIC: What is Elvis Costello's birth name?
7. ADVERTISING: What company's products are as-sociated with Elsie the Cow?

8. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president pledged a "New Deal" for the United States?
9. LITERATURE: Who wrote the novel *Dr. Zhivago*?
10. ANATOMY: What is a sarcoma?

- Answers
1. Indian Ocean
2. Krypto
3. St. Paul's Cathedral
4. "The French Con-
tion"/Gene Hackman
5. George Carlin
6. Declan Patrick Mc-
Manus
7. Borden
8. Franklin Roosevelt
9. Boris Pasternak
10. A malignant tumor in
connective tissue, bone or
muscle

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Stablemates

Across

1. Word with bar or color

5. Heart part

10. Conclusion starter

14. Do as directed

15. Continental divide?

16. Relax

17. Handed-down history

18. Capital of the
Yukon Territory

20. Society gal

21. Gets the picture

22. Ready

23. Traffic sign

25. New Year's Day game

27. More than dislike

29. Barnes & Noble,
for one

33. Pilotless plane

34. Grasps

35. Egg cells

36. Broadcasts

37. Reunion group

38. Skiers' aid

39. Dads

40. Summer refuge

41. Aesop tale

42. Enter unlawfully

44. Bottomless pit

45. Blunders

46. A three-point sound

48. Dark brown

51. Ringlet

52. Hold title to

55. Little Big Horn victor

58. Complimentary

59. Advance amount

60. Neighborhoods

61. Cybercafe patron

62. Scholarship criterion

63. Sen. Lott

64. Make over

Down

1. Winter woe

2. Slender reed

3. Barbaro, for one

4. CBS logo

5. "Wheel of Fortune"
purchase

6. Longed for

7. Luau souvenirs

8. Port vessel?

9. Compass dir.

10. Fairy tale bad guys

11. Roll call reply

12. Cold war inits.

13. Proof word

19. Doves' antitheses

21. Arid

24. Charged particles

25. Western capital

26. Cry over spilt milk

27. Show flexibility

28. Pipe type

29. Pitt and others

30. Nursery steed

31. Tracks

32. Skins

34. Corning product

37. Burn a bit

38. Bar bills

40. Floral display

41. Go bankrupt

43. Impounded

46. Actress Sarandon

47. Seize forcibly

48. Scrutinize

49. Marine eagle

50. Toast topping

51. Canadian tribe

53. Garden intruder

54. Detective Wolfe

56. Sombrero, e.g.

57. Bruin legend Bobby

58. Stole

Crossword 101

By Ed Canty

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18					19			
20				21					22			
		23	24				25	26				
27	28					29				30	31	32
33				34						35		
36				37					38			
39			40						41			
42			43						44			
			45				46	47				
48	49	50				51				52	53	54
55				56	57				58			
59				60					61			
62				63					64			

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

Cornucopia Days, July 11, 12 & 13, 2008. Main stage performances are 30 minutes to 1 hour in length. Application deadline: February 15, 2008.

Cornucopia Days Fine Crafts Market, July 11, 12 & 13, 2008. The Fine Crafts

Market is looking for artists specializing in handcrafted items. Application deadline: April 28, or until filled.

Cornucopia Days Children's Area, July 11, 12 & 13, 2008. The Children's Area is look-

ing for artists to lead hands-on projects in an outdoor festival setting. Visit www.ci.kent.wa.us/arts.

Arts Calendar

•Actor Frank Ferrante presents "An Evening with Groucho Marx" on Thursday, March 6 at 7:30 p.m. at Kent-Meridian Performing Arts Center, 10020 SE 256th St., Kent. The show features classic Marx Brothers songs, dances, jokes, ad-libs and audience interaction.

Tickets are \$24 for adults and \$22 for students and seniors. Tickets are available on-line at www.kentarts.com, by calling 253-856-5051 or in person at the Kent Commons (525 4th Ave. N.) Hours for phone and in-person sales are Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Box office is closed on Sunday.

•Bands, solo musicians, dance and theater groups,

crafters and artists are wanted for summer events in Kent.

Events include:
Fourth of July Splash, Lake Meridian Park, 14800 SE 272nd St., Kent. "Community Showcase." Performances approximately 30 minutes in length. Application deadline: March 22, 2008.

Last week's

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

2	8	9	5	1	7	4	6	3
3	5	6	2	4	8	7	1	9
7	1	4	6	9	3	2	8	5
8	7	3	1	6	9	5	2	4
5	9	1	4	7	2	6	3	8
4	6	2	8	3	5	1	9	7
1	3	8	7	2	4	9	5	6
6	4	5	9	8	1	3	7	2
9	2	7	3	5	6	8	4	1

Last week's crossword solution

ROADRUNNER

G	A	L	A	P	O	S	S	E	M	E	G	A
L	O	O	N	O	R	E	O	S	A	V	O	N
E	N	V	Y	W	A	L	L	S	T	R	E	E
N	E	E	D	E	L	L	R	I	N	S	E	
P	A	S	T	E	L	H	A	V	E	A	F	I
A	L	L	O	T	P	A	V	E	D	I	R	E
S	L	A	P	W	E	B	E	R	B	R	A	N
T	E	N	C	H	A	I	N	T	E	S	T	S
E	Y	E	C	H	A	R	T	G	O	A	T	E
H	I	T	S	C	R	A	M	P				
S	P	O	O	N	S	H	E	D	L	A	G	
P	A	R	K	A	V	E	N	U	E	T	A	L
O	N	C	E	A	D	O	R	N	S	C	A	R
T	E	A	R	T	O	W	N	S	P	E	R	M

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

8			6				2	
	3			2			5	9
		9			4	7		
9			1					6
7		6			3		8	
	2			7		1		
1			3				6	
	9		4		5			2
		4		6		5		

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★ ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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The Thunderword / Feb. 21, 2008

Thunderbirds secure second place in West Division

By Maxx Shelley
Staff Reporter

Highline Head Coach Che Dawson is still winless in Longview.

After five years of being head coach of the Highline T-Birds men's basketball team, he has yet to win a game at Lower Columbia.

"Besides the fact that they beat us last time and they were undefeated in league play, getting coach this win was one thing we wanted to do," sophomore forward Kris Rainwater said. "Unfortunately we were unable to do that."

This 71-70 loss ended Highline's eight-game win streak, a win streak that clinched them second place in the West Division of the NWAACC.

But the T-Birds might get another shot at Lower Columbia in the playoffs. And this time they're ready.

"I feel this loss will give us extra fire in the playoffs," sophomore forward Jesse Norris said. "It's hard to beat a team three times in a row."

Regardless, Dawson is still proud of the way his team played, despite the 71-70 final score.

"There is no shame in the way we played," Dawson said of his teams' performance. "Both teams played very hard, we just happened to end up on the bad side of the score."

The game came down to the final second and neither team was giving up on the win.

With less than a minute remaining in the second half, the T-Birds were down by four. Freshman guard Stedman Richardson got the ball outside of the 3-point line, with two seconds left on the play clock, and shot what looked to be a supreme air ball.



Jocie Olson/THUNDERWORD

Sophomore forward Kris Rainwater (center) powers up over Green River defender Travis Wagner (32) during last Wednesday's 73-62 victory over the Gators.

"It looked like it was going to be way off," Rainwater said. "But it was nothing but net. The team got super hyped."

The 3-point shot was followed by a foul on Lower Columbia's sophomore guard, Josh Troyer. The foul earned Troyer

a 1-1 free throw shot.

He missed.

Freshman guard Shedrick Nelson snagged the rebound and sent it to Richardson.

One second left to go and Richardson is halfway between the half-court line and the 3-point line when he sends the ball to the cup.

He misses the shot, game over.

Highline shot 51 percent from the field and made 47 percent of their 3-point attempts. As for Lower Columbia, they shot 49 percent from the field, 21 percent from the 3-point line, and an impressive 86 percent from the free-throw line.

Nelson led Highline in scoring with 18 points and Rainwater led the team in rebounds with six.

Troyer led Lower Columbia in scoring with 17 points and Alex King hauled in seven rebounds.

"He's a good shooter," Dawson said of Troyer. "You can't leave him open 'cause if you do, he'll make you pay."

With both teams shooting so

well, there were few rebounds from Lower Columbia, they had 31 total, and even fewer from highline, 29 total. However, Coach Dawson believes they handled the boards quite well.

"We were better on the boards this time around," Dawson said. "We limited them to one shot quite a bit."

Last Wednesday the T-Birds played the Green River Gators here at home. And after Highline's last meeting with Green River, the T-Birds just wanted to show the Gators what's really up with Highline ball club.

"We came out ready to play," Rainwater said. "We really wanted to get this one here at home because Highline hasn't lost to Green River at Highline in many years."

The T-Birds did a good job of carrying on the tradition of beating Green River at home, winning 73-62.

Last time these two teams squared off, Highline wasn't ready for their wacky 1-1-3 zone and just lost their composure and lost the game 78-64.

"This time we were ready for

it," Dawson said of their 1-1-3 zone. "And we made them pay for it. We attacked their zone much better."

Highline shot 38 percent from the field, shot 29 percent of their 3-point attempts, and 63 percent from the free-throw line.

Nelson led the team in scoring with 19 points as well as leading the team with 11 rebounds.

Green River shot 37 percent from the field, 33 percent from 3-point line, and 52 percent from the free-throw line.

Just as he did when the Gators beat the T-Birds earlier this year, Dave Massington led his team in scoring with 18 points.

"He can get to the cup and he knows how to penetrate," Rainwater said of Massington. "He has a scoring mentality."

On Wednesday the T-Birds traveled to Tacoma to face off against the Tacoma Titans. Results were not available at press-time.

On Saturday the T-Birds will play their last game of the regular season against Pierce Community College here at home. The game will be at 8 p.m.



Jocie Olson/THUNDERWORD

Freshman guard Kelly Edwards drives toward the hoop past Green River's Travis Wagner.

Sophomore wrestler went from gridiron to the mat

By Jason Baker
Staff Reporter

On the mat Zach Corbett is all work and no play but off the matt he’s a totally different person.

“I was big into football when I was younger. I started in seventh grade and really wanted to excel,” said Corbett.

“Come eighth grade I wanted to know what else I could do to stay in shape, so my coach suggested I join the wrestling team. So I did,” said Corbett.

Wrestling soon became as big of a part of his life as football was.

He was a heavyweight in junior high and high school but always wanted to wrestle like the lightweights.

“I would mess around with them in practice and when it came to match time I was always trying to do what they did, and it never really worked out too well,” said Corbett.

Once he got into Shelton High School he bonded with his coaches.

“They were like parent figures to me,” said Corbett.

He won districts two years in a row with his coach’s help.

His junior year he made it to the state tournament and was able to place sixth.

He never really had any rituals that he used to do before a match, Corbett said. “There was one time that we shaved one of my eye-brows, but we never had a set ritual. We just

liked to sit around and talk and do stupid stuff to make it fun as we waited for weigh-ins.”

His senior year he had high hopes and wanted to place higher in state.

He took first place at the hardest tournament other than state, the Pacific Coast Tournament, with an 8-1 win.

When it came to state though he had a tough time and went 1-2 and that was the end of his season.

Corbett knew that he wanted to continue playing sports in college and decided to go to Highline because he received a packet in the mail and read that they had a wrestling team.

He knew that he didn’t want to deal with football after high school because of some bad experiences toward the end of the year.

“There was a lot of drama going around and I didn’t want to have that in my life and carry it into college,” said Corbett.

Corbett started wrestling for Highline last year but was unable to get some mat time due to injuries, so he decided to red shirt.

Corbett had a tough time last year with Coach Scott Norton as well.

“It was different wrestling for him. I had been so close with my coaches in high school and it wasn’t the same with Norton,” said Corbett.

They were able to work it out and Corbett finished the season wanting to come back this year.



Jocie Olson/THUNDERWORD

Highline wrestler Zach Corbett has earned a trip to nationals this year in Rochester, Minn. Corbett placed fifth in regionals two weeks ago.

“There was a big difference between high school and college wrestling. College just requires more out of you. There’s no slacking at practice, the fitness and attitude levels are

greater, and they really keep on you about your grades,” said Corbett.

With a new attitude for the season, Corbett came in at 6’3” and 275 pound and has only

Highline wrestlers head to nationals

The national tournament will be held in Rochester, Minn on Feb. 21-23.

The seven Highline wrestlers that are traveling are Pano Dreves, 174 pounds; Marshall Giovanni, 157 pounds; Michael Morales, 197 pounds; Craig Jackson, 165 pounds; Chessjuan Monk, 149 pounds; Ionica Hanson, 141 pounds; and Zach Corbett, 285 pounds. All of which will be wrestling to win their weight class and take nationals.

dropped a few pounds since the beginning of the season but has kept up the aggressiveness.

Corbett wants to transfer to Oregon State University because it has that small town feel to it that reminds him of home, and they also have a good wrestling program.

Corbett wants to major in sports and exercise sciences and go on to become a personal trainer. He currently works as an attendant at the Highline fitness center.

In his free time he loves to watch movies.

“Friday Night Lights is one of my favorites just because it shows all the work that athletes put into their sports, even in high school,” said Corbett.

The food that Corbett enjoys and helps him make weight is steak, he said.

Scoreboard

Men’s basketball

NORTH	DIV	PCT	SEA
Everett	12-3	.800	20-7
Peninsula	11-3	.786	20-7
Whatcom	11-3	.786	19-7
Bellevue	10-4	.714	18-8
Shoreline	7-7	.500	15-11
Edmonds	7-7	.500	10-14
Olympic	3-11	.214	5-18
Skagit Valley	3-12	.200	6-19
Seattle	0-14	.000	3-22

EAST			
Spokane	12-0	1.000	25-1
Big Bend	10-2	.833	21-4
Yak. Valley	9-4	.692	21-6
Treas. Valley	6-7	.462	9-16
Walla Walla	4-9	.308	8-18
Wen. Valley	4-9	.308	7-18
Col. Basin	3-10	.231	10-16
Bl. Mountain	3-10	.231	6-18

WEST			
L. Columbia	14-0	1.000	21-5
Highline	10-4	.714	15-11
Clark	7-7	.500	14-12
S.P. Sound	7-7	.500	12-13
Grays Harbor	7-8	.467	16-10
Pierce	6-8	.429	11-16
Green River	6-9	.400	9-16

Tacoma	5-9	.357	7-15
Centralia	2-12	.143	3-20

SOUTH

Umpqua	11-2	.846	21-6
SW Oregon	9-4	.692	20-8
Clackamas	8-5	.615	16-12
Chemeketa	6-7	.462	15-12
Lane	6-7	.462	15-13
Mt. Hood	6-7	.462	12-15
Linn-Benton	4-9	.308	8-16
Portland	2-11	.154	4-21

Women’s basketball

NORTH	DIV	PCT	SEA
Everett	13-2	.867	20-7
Seattle	11-3	.786	18-7
Bellevue	10-4	.714	15-11
Skagit Valley	10-5	.667	18-8
Whatcom	7-7	.500	11-13
Peninsula	6-8	.429	10-13
Olympic	5-9	.357	8-16
Shoreline	2-12	.143	4-19
Edmonds	0-14	.000	0-23

EAST

Col. Basin	13-0	1.000	23-3
Yak. Valley	10-3	.769	22-5
Spokane	9-3	.750	18-6
Walla Walla	7-6	.538	20-6
Big Bend	4-8	.333	14-11
Treas. Valley	4-9	.308	7-19
Wen. Valley	3-10	.231	12-16

Bl. Mountain	1-12	.077	10-19
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WEST

Centralia	13-1	.929	22-5
L. Columbia	12-2	.857	19-6
S.P. Sound	12-2	.857	15-8
Grays Harbor	7-8	.467	8-6
Green River	6-9	.400	12-13
Highline	5-9	.357	9-16
Clark	5-9	.357	7-14
Tacoma	3-11	.214	4-20
Pierce	1-13	.071	1-23

SOUTH

Lane	13-0	1.000	25-3
Umpqua	10-3	.769	24-4
Clackamas	8-5	.615	18-9
Linn-Benton	8-5	.615	16-11
Chemeketa	7-6	.538	13-14
Mt. Hood	3-10	.231	9-18
SW Oregon	3-10	.231	9-19
Portland	0-13	.000	3-22

Men’s scores

Feb. 18
Shoreline 99, Seattle 63
Bellevue 94, Skagit Valley 67
Everett 108, Edmonds 85
Peninsula 68, Whatcom 66

Feb. 16
Yak. Valley 111, Bl. Mountain 57
Spokane 90, Col. Basin 50
Wen. Valley 70, Treas. Valley 68



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Lady T-Birds still fighting for last playoff spot

By Max Dubbeldam
Staff Reporter

Highline’s women’s basketball team is left with a tough challenge to secure the final playoff spot for the NWAACC tournament.

The Thunderbirds lost against both Green River (62-56) and Lower Columbia (65-50) last week. These two losses put Highline in sixth place with a division record of 5-9 (9-16 on the season).

With two games to go Highline is still in the running to make it to the playoffs.

On Saturday Highline lost to the second-placed Lower Columbia Red Devils by 15 points.

“We were in the game until the last two minutes,” said Coach Amber Rowe Mosley. “We were only down by four to six points most of the game.”

Toward the end of the game the Red Devils hit many free-throws, ending up with 21 total points from the line.

Sophomore Valerie Cook recorded a double-double for the Lady T-Birds with 13 points and 12 rebounds.

“She had a good first half,” said Mosley. “She should be averaging a double-double every game.”

The Red Devils had the game’s top scorer in Heidi Jackson. She scored 19 points.

“We played well defensively, but we gave them easy shots on the put-backs,” said Mosley. “Offensively we just didn’t make the shots.”

Highline lost at home last Wednesday in a hard-fought battle against fellow playoff hopeful Green River. The game was very competitive, fast paced, and physical.

A lot of fans came out to watch the game and the atmosphere was electric.



Jocie Olson/THUNDERWORD

Sophomore guard Kerstin Torrescano drives past Green River’s Whitney Valenta during last Wednesday’s 62-56 victory over the Gators. Torrescano scored eight points, dished out four assists and compiled four steals in the loss.

Mosley said that the Green River coach used to coach at Highline and that he probably hyped up the players and the fans.

Sophomore Valerie Cook said, however, that the added noise didn’t affect the Thunderbirds’ game.

Highline started the game off

well with an 8-0 lead but a stalwart Green River team fought back to take the lead.

In the last minute of the game Highline pulled the score back

to a one-point game but with five free throws in the last 30 seconds, Green River won the game.

“We had outside drama coming into the game, we didn’t have good focus,” said Coach Mosley. “The lack of focus led to missing easy shots.”

Forward Desiree Valentine led Highline with 15 points and guard Valerie Cook pulled down an impressive 17 rebounds.

Green River guard Kelsy Fedak scored a game-high 23 points.

The two losses have left Highline in sixth place but they still have a shot at making it to the playoffs.

Grays Harbor is currently in the fourth and last playoff spot. They have to play their last game against first-place Centralia and if they lose Highline has a shot of securing the last playoff spot.

Highline’s last two games of the season are against bottom-dwellers Tacoma and Pierce.

“If we can’t beat them we don’t deserve to be in the NWAACCs,” said Coach Mosley.

If Grays Harbor loses against Centralia and Highline wins their last two games the teams will be tied for fourth and they’ll have to play an extra game to see who makes it to the NWAACC tournament.

Green River also has a shot of making it into the playoffs but they also have to beat Centralia. If all of this happens then Green River will also partake in the post season games to see who gets to go to the playoffs.

On Wednesday, Feb. 20, Highline traveled to play eighth-place Tacoma but the results weren’t available at presstime. On Saturday, Feb. 23, the Thunderbirds play their final division game against ninth-place Pierce at home.

Three T-Birds earn academic honors

Three Highline Thunderbird basketball players were named to the 2007-08 All Academic Sports Team.

Sophomore captain Tammie Hilla and guard Kerstin Torrescano were selected from the women’s basketball team.

Sophomore guard Josh Broussard was selected from the men’s basketball team.

To be selected for the honor, each player must be a sophomore in eligibility, have a minimum of 36 credits earned, maintain at least a 3.2 cumulative GPA, and each player must be recommended by their college.



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History depends on the storyteller, speaker says

By Lizeth Duran
Staff Reporter

Author and professor James Loewen proved history wrong during his speech at Highline on Feb. 14.

Loewen was asked by Yoshiko Harden-Abe, Multicultural Services organizer at Highline, and Highline sociology instructor Darryl Brice to speak at Highline as part of Black History Month.

Loewen was inspired to write his book *Lies My Teacher Told Me* after his experiences as a teacher himself.

During his first full-time teaching job at Tougaloo College in Mississippi, he taught a freshman social science seminar, a class to introduce students to sociology, psychology, and political science.

"I had a new group of students...so I asked them 'What is Reconstruction? What happened then?' and what happened to me was an 'aha!' experience, although it might more accurately be called an 'oh, no!' experience," said Loewen.

Loewen said that to his astonishment, 16 of the 17 students in his class said Reconstruction was a period after the Civil War when blacks unsuccessfully took over the government of southern states and that whites had to take control again.

Three direct lies in that statement, Loewen said, are that blacks never took over the government of the southern states, blacks didn't fail and whites didn't have to consequently take control.

"This is, in fact, an example of what we in sociology call 'BS history,' that being, of course, for bad sociology," he said.

After this classroom experience, Loewen visited nearby high schools, where he watched black teachers teaching all-black classes "white supremacist BS

history because they were just following the book."

As a result of his disagreement with the material taught as Mississippi history, Loewen wrote *Mississippi: Conflict and Change*.

Loewen tried to get his book approved for use in the Mississippi school system, but it was rejected by state officials. This led to the lawsuit Loewen vs. Turnipseed, which the American Library Association considers a historic First Amendment case.

"This whole escapade taught me that history can be a weapon and that it can be used against you and that it had been used against my students," he said.

During his first day of teaching at the University of Vermont, he gave his junior and senior students a quiz. One question asked students to write down who the war in Vietnam was fought between. Twenty-two percent of students replied North and South Korea.

"And I later found doing research for [*Lies My Teacher Told Me*] that the average American high school class spends four minutes during the year on the war in Vietnam," Loewen said.

In order to write *Lies My Teacher Told Me*, Loewen collected and compared 12 of the most-used American history textbooks.

"Indeed, I am the only American ever to have read 12 high school history textbooks," Loewen joked. "It was a near-death experience."

In his book, Loewen writes of his findings of inaccuracy, Eurocentrism, and deliberate omissions in these commonly used history textbooks.

"A lot of students dislike history because it's told to them as the absolute truth and that it's static, and I argue that history's always changing based on who the teller is. It's very dynamic,



Lizeth Duran/THUNDERWORD

Dr. James Loewen speaks to a group about gaps and lies in the telling of history.

and I think Dr. Loewen brings that to life in a lot of his work," said Highline professor Darryl Brice.

Loewen also spoke about sundown towns. These are communities that intentionally exclude non-whites, especially African-Americans, from living there or passing through after the sun goes down. Some towns also exclude Jews.

As of today, Loewen has found around 500 sundown

towns in Illinois alone. He covers his research of sundown towns all over America in his book *Sundown Towns: A Hidden Dimension of American Racism*.

Loewen attended Carleton

College and has a Ph.D. in sociology from Harvard University. His other books include *Lies Across America: What Our Historic Sites Got Wrong* and *The Mississippi Chinese: Between Black and White*.

Study Abroad plans trip to London

The Study Abroad Program is going places, and going soon.

The Study Abroad Program is planning a trip to London in fall quarter of '08, and Highline's Study Abroad adviser, Fran Clark, said that it's an experience that shouldn't be passed up.

"It's a very good time to go to London. Right now, London is very expensive, so for the price of tuition, you get 10 whole weeks [of living in London]."

Clark also said that London is a good "first-timers" trip.

"London is a good trip for first time travelers. You don't

have to learn another language to go to this country."

"It will broaden your horizons and push your comfort level," Clark said.

For the trip, students will stay with host families, so they get a closer look at what there is to do in London.

On top of the courses that students will be taking, they also include a communication class required for every student.

The trip will look very good on applications and resumes, said Clark.

There are a few requirements to be involved in the program,

which include having completed one quarter at Highline, having a 2.5 GPA or better, and having a passport. You should also be 18 years or older.

To apply, call or e-mail Study Abroad Adviser Fran Clark to make an appointment to talk about the program.

If you're interested, but not sure about the program, there will be two info sessions about the London trip next week. The first session is on Tuesday, Feb. 26 at 1 p.m. in Building 7. The second session will be on Wednesday, Feb. 27 at 2:30 in Building 7.

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Burien Town Square aims to mix living, working

Big project selling houses despite market downturn

By Ashley Mathews
Staff Reporter

Burien Town Square is having no trouble finding buyers for the housing units being built as part of the project.

“Despite the (national) housing downturn, the live/work spaces are doing rather good,” said Dick Loman, economic development manager for city of Burien.

“Live/work spaces are condos that are built on the upper level of the buildings with businesses down below on the street front,” Loman said. With the condos averaging about \$224,950 and townhomes about \$659,950, the purpose of the live/work spaces are to give the buyer the convenience of not having to commute and being able to work where you live.

“Out of the 124 being built in the first phase, 40 have already been sold,” Loman said. You can expect the first buildings to be available for move-ins around December 2008.

Home sales have been falling across the country, pushed down by the soft economy and especially by problems in the mortgage (home loan) market.

The project, now being built at Southwest 152nd Street in downtown Burien, is set to open late 2009 to early 2010.

City leaders hope that Burien Town Square will improve the economic vitality of the city. It will hopefully increase tax revenues, create jobs, and thereby enhance the city’s appeal to citizens.

“Our budget is \$200 million with only \$6.5 million coming straight from public capital,” Loman said. About \$150 million of the budget came from private funds, making the financial burden lighter on the public.

“Burien Town Square will be a vibrant community and civic gathering place in the heart of Burien that will offer retail, housing, an one-acre park, and a new city call and library,” said Amy Hoffman, development analyst for the developers, Urban Planners.

Burien Town Square is referred to as a mixed-use development. Kent Station and



Jocie Olson/THUNDERWORD

Construction workers continue the process of building the Burien Town Square. When it is finished, the square will contain not only living spaces but also a library, shops, and restaurants.

Renton’s The Landing are examples of existing mixed-use developments. They boast not only entertainment and dining, but businesses and housing as well.

“Mixed-use developments offer an instant sense of community because they are a place to gather. Whether you’re meeting a friend at a local coffee shop, taking your family to see a movie, or having your weekly book club meeting... (this) is a place where all of this is possible,” Hoffman said.

With views of Mt. Rainier, a new King County library, a city hall, more than 70,000 square feet of retail space, restaurants, and more than 300 condominiums, the city hopes that it will be an ideal destination for Burien’s residents.

The developer envisions restaurants, coffee shops, book stores, gift stores, boutiques, and other small shops as a part of their retail and dining portion of the square.

In the center of Burien Town Square will be a one-acre park. The park will have a performance lawn with a stage, gar-

dens, seating areas, and a market promenade that will be home to a farmers market. A circular drive around the park with 12-foot sidewalks and special paving will promote pedestrian safety while allowing people to safely get to every part of the town square on foot.

But if you must travel by car into or through Burien Town Square, there will be adequate parking available. There will be more than 600 parking spaces. It will consist of street parking, a parking lot, a parking garage, and private parking for condo owners.

First Avenue will also be getting a renovation. First Avenue is the first street people encounter as they get off the freeway and only a block away from Burien Town Square.

Because of this, the city is turning the street into a boulevard, adding medians, re-doing all sidewalks, and adding landscaping to tie the modern styl-



Artist’s conception of what the Burien Town Square will look like when finished.

ing of the square unto the adjoining of the square onto the adjacent road.

The city had been planning this revitalization of the downtown area for 10 years. Originally bought from the city for a little over \$4.5 million, developers are spending over 44 times that amount on transforming the area.

“In today’s hectic world it’s not only important to have a place for community, but also to have a place where you can

get your daily needs in one location,” said Amy Hoffman, development analyst.

You may visit the construction site at Southwest 152nd Street and 4th Avenue South in Burien. For a comprehensive look at what Burien Town Square will look like upon completion, go to www.buriertown-square.com. Information about upcoming events and purchasing or leasing of apartments are also available on their website.

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Local carpenters burned up over Bray Brothers

By Bob Dawson
Staff Reporter

Local carpenter union officials say a Fred Meyer sub-contractor should pay its workers more.

Bray Brothers LLC is a non-union sub-contractor that was hired to help remodel the Fred Meyer store at 25250 Pacific Highway South in Kent.

Between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., Monday through Friday, protesters hold a banner on the corner of Pacific Highway in front of Fred Meyer that says “Fred Meyer Hurts Our Community.”

Fred Meyer officials disagree.

“We are one of the biggest unionized establishments in Washington state. We hire well-established and known contractors and have built quality relationships with our current contractors. We have no control over whom our general contractors hire,” said Melinda Merrill, the director of public affairs for Fred Meyer at their corporate headquarters in Portland.

Bray Brothers declined to comment on the union’s complaints.



Nathan Brown/THUNDERWORD

Protesters hold a banner outside of Fred Meyer in support of a local carpenter union that is upset over Fred Meyer’s labor contracting process.

“Fred Meyer has a responsibility to their community to make sure whomever they employ is doing their part in making sure there is a middle class who pay taxes, can go to the doctor and has the ability to retire at a reasonable age,” said Eric Franklin, community relations and communications di-

rector of Pacific Northwest Regional Council of Carpenters.

The carpenters’ argument is Bray is not paying area-standard wages.

“The definition of area-standard wages is: a living wage (\$12-20 an hour), a benefit program (medical and dental), some form of retirement program tak-

ing responsibility for supplying adequate training opportunities for their employees,” said Jimmy Matta, regional director of Western Washington for the Pacific Northwest Regional Council of Carpenters.

“Fred Meyer is undercutting the very standard of living that supports them by allowing Bray

Brothers to work as a sub-contractor on their work site,” said Pedro Espinoza, a representative of the carpenters.

Fred Meyer has the ability to put whatever they want in their bid request, Franklin said. They can put parameters on their sub-contractors such as pay, benefits and apprentice opportunities when accepting the lowest responsible bid, he added.

“By Bray not paying area-standard wages they are not a legitimate, responsible bidder,” said Franklin.

“Bray has a reputation of plucking their carpenters from Home Depot and Lowe’s parking lots,” said Franklin.

This means that they are having low-skilled workers doing high-skilled work, therefore undercutting the quality of work done, Franklin said. This could later cause problems for Fred Meyer, he added.

The carpenters have an apprentice program that trains carpenters and teaches them the proper tools of the trade and allows them to choose carpentry as a career, Franklin said. Bray has no such program, he added.

The carpenters are also disputing Bray Brothers at other locations in Washington.

Program aims to teach students skills for life

By Luis Lemus
Staff Reporter

Highline’s Project Management Program is providing students with the tools required for today’s business world, its professors said.

“The business world is moving to a project approach,” said instructor Sherry Chun.

The United States spends \$2.3 trillion on projects every year. In 1995 a survey was conducted and only 16 percent were successful, as in on time and on budget, Chun said.

A project is something that has a start date and a finishing date, Chun said.

“Everybody does a little project managing in their life, but we need to be better at it,” Chun said.

Highline’s Project Management Program offers students the opportunity to become better project managers and make a career along the way, she said.

After completing the program, students can obtain work managing small projects or as a project administrator on a large project such as construction management, software development, event planning and even entrepreneurship, Chun said.

“You would use the skills



Sherry Chun

learned in the program for your daily life,” said student Bonnie White.

The program offers the opportunity to obtain a certificate with a requirement of 45 credits or an associate of applied science degree with 95 credits. Students take classes such as project management, business procedures, practical accounting and other related courses.

The program prepares the students to be employable in the industry by teaching them how to manage different phases of projects including budgets, contracts, and people. It also teaches students to be leaders as well as team players, Chun said.

“I would like to work for the

city of Burien to help out my community,” White said.

A salary of \$32,000- \$45,000 a year is average for entry-level positions. Of course, it depends on where you work and the amount of experience you have on the field, Chun said.

Students are required to do an internship in addition to the project they have to present at the end of the program.

The internship gives us students the opportunity to get hands-on training in the field with a project manager, White said.

“For my internship I am going to apply with the city of Burien to work with the director of public work,” White said.

By the end of the program students have completed a project of their own. The project can be planning trips, researching parking alternatives on campus, or any other project that the students can come up with. Part of that project is finding a sponsor, Chun said.

At the end of the program students will present their project, explain if it was successful and how to take what they learned and apply it. For more information contact Sherri Chun, instructor at 206-878-3710, ext. 4316.

Highline will brew up new food service contract, seeks student input


Highline is stirring up a new food service contract soon.

In the next month, Highline will be sending out invitations to several companies to bid on the food service contract here, which is set to expire in November.

As of now, Cater Seattle is the company that operates the cafeteria on the bottom floor of

Highline’s Student Union Building, in addition to the Fireside Bistro on the second floor.

Jodie Robinett, the staff representative from Student Programs, is looking for feedback that represents the thoughts and desires of students. Robinett can be reached at jrobinett@highline.edu or 206-878-3710, ext. 3535.



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Speech 213 leaves comfort zone and is ready to perform

By Bernardo Serna

Staff Reporter

Musical performances, personal training, and a flight attendant demonstration will be among the acts at this quarters Speech 213 Performance Café.

Carel Neffengers Speech 213 Presentation Skills class is getting ready to impress and entertain.

All the performances will be at 12:10-1:13 p.m. in the Mt. Olympus room in the Student Union building.

The scheduled dates for these performances are; today, Feb. 21, next Monday, Feb. 25; Tuesday, Feb. 26 and Thursday, Feb. 28.

In some speech classes, the students are put in one classroom where they grow comfortable with their classmates, and Neffenger wants his students to break out of that shell.



Lizeth Duran/THUNDERWORD

Highline's Speech 213 class "shakes it off" as they prepare to perform their act in front of a Highline audience as part of their grade.

Neffenger has planned this café to expose the students to a real audience.

Students from the 213 class

will not only have to perform in it but they are also required to emcee the event as well.

It will be a potpourri of acts

this year with many cultural backgrounds such as the Kenyan National Anthem being sung and the reading of a poem

from Iraq.

Each performance will be two to three minutes long with a two to three minute commentary following. Each student will have a short time after to answer questions totaling an eight minute show.

With 27 performances planned, around five or six performances per day will be offered.

Neffenger describes the whole opportunity as a "loosely structured performance in front of a real audience."

He started teaching Speech 213 and did the café for the first time last spring.

Bosnian traditional dancing and ballroom dancing were some of the many interesting acts he had last year.

"The whole point of this café is to get real world experience [in presenting and performing]," Neffenger said.

"Grab lunch and come and watch us," Neffenger said.

Highline's Engineering program is building up its students

By Prashant Verma

Staff Reporter

The number of students in the engineering program at Highline is increasing.

A "record number of students are taking engineering courses. This past fall more than 70 students joined us and this quarter we have 35-plus students and are expected to increase more," said Bob Embrey, project manager for Northwest Engineering Talent Expansion Partnership.

The partnership is a statewide program that aims to increase women and minorities obtaining engineering degrees.

One of their goals is to increase engineering graduation by 20 percent in the next five years. Embrey is one of the team members of this program and its representative at Highline.

"Since the beginning of NW-ETEP in 2005, more students have enrolled and engineering courses have grown by over 40 percent," Embrey said.

Every quarter 40-50 high school students come to Highline to inquire about the engineering program.

"A part of our goal is to do a strong recruit program for high school kids. Embrey said. "We are very strong at building relations with students, helping them out to transfer to four-year schools."

"We have engineering work-



Bob Embrey

shops every Spring Quarter and girls from middle school come here to check out the program, he said.

"Even engineering students from other colleges transfer here because of our reputation," Embrey said.

Freshmen at Highline may need to do some planning on what classes to take if they are new to the engineering program.

"I would prefer engineering students to take Engineering 100 as soon as possible. It helps you decide which path you exactly want to go; it helps you find about what each engineering field has to offer," Embrey said.

There are several major branches of engineering such as mechanical, civil, electrical, chemical, and computer engineering.

"When most people think of

engineering, they think of civil. But lately electrical has been more popular at Highline," Embrey said.

Most of the students in this field are transferring to Washington State University since they have one of the best engineering programs.

"The Engineering Scholars Program grew from about 12 students in 2003 to 60 students in 2008. Most of them are women and under represented minorities," Embrey said. "The strength of our program is the faculty, our mentoring and advisory model and our scholarship program."

Highline offers scholarship and grant opportunities to engineering students.

The Engineering Scholars Program has recently expanded and will include computer science, mathematics and physics majors as well as engineering students.

Highline also offers a National Science Foundation scholarship program that provides Engineering students up to \$3,125 per year.

To qualify for this scholarship you must be eligible to financial aid and maintain a 2.5 GPA.

For more information on scholarships and grants you can contact Embrey at 206-878-3710, ext. 3972, or visit him in office, Building 29, room 307.

A lot of extracurricular activities and events go on in the Engineering Department.

"We provide engineering panels, field trips, internship opportunities and community building events," Embrey said.

One of the upcoming events is Engineers Week from Feb. 17-23. To celebrate this event, the Museum of Flight in Seattle is organizing a fair on Saturday, Feb. 16, from 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Several university engineering departments and student clubs will also be represented.

Activities will include an exciting popsicle stick bridge Load Competition sponsored by the American Society of Civil

Engineers. More information can be found at www.museumofflight.org.

"The engineering program at Highline has nothing but good things in future," Embrey said.

More and more graduates from high school are expected to join this program.

"Bringing students to this program is one thing and keeping them is a hard part and we are good at that," Embrey said.

"One advice to all engineering students: work in teams, talk to your instructor on frequent basis, see your adviser two times a quarter and always remember the goal of a four-year college degree," Embrey said.

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Former Highline professor preaches Darwin, evolution

By Max Dubbeldam
Staff Reporter

“Charles Darwin’s *Origin of Species* shook the entire globe when it came out in 1859, and it’s still shaking,” former Highline professor Charles Stores said at the Science Seminar last week.

Stores spoke about Darwin at the Science Seminar on Friday, Feb. 15. The seminar marked the end of Darwin week and celebrated Darwin’s 199th birthday.

Science Seminar is a weekly event organized by Highline geology Professor Dr. Eric Baer.

Stores said that it was impossible for him to be objective about Darwin because of the love he has for the man and his work.

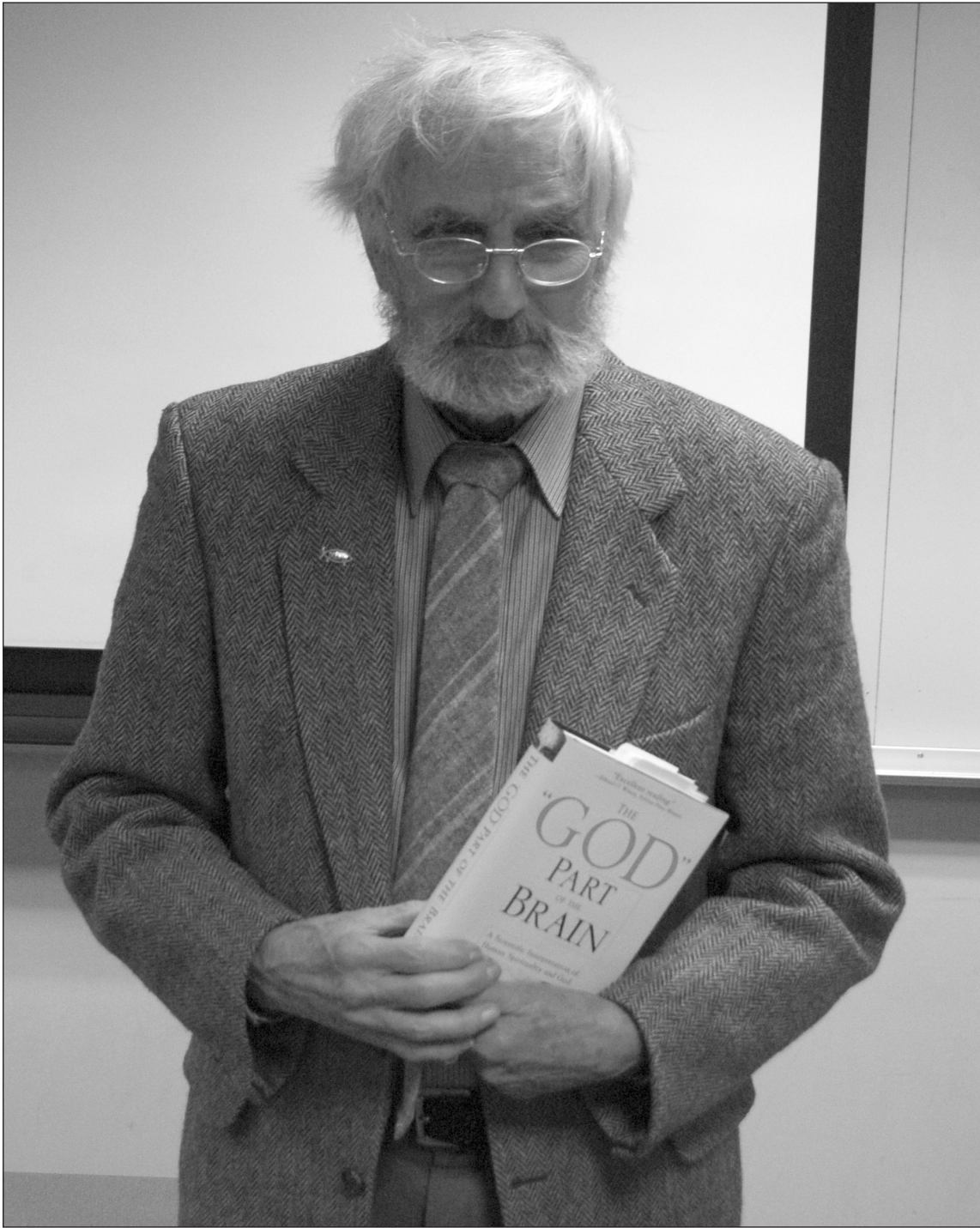
“I’m going to make things provocative,” said Stores. “But I’ll keep it within the limits of decency.”

Stores talked about the basic ideas of evolution, their implications, and the associated cultural concerns.

Stores began his lecture with a background of Darwin’s life.

Darwin started studying medicine but dropped out because of his hypersensitivity to the suffering of other people. In those times no anesthetics were given to patients before surgery and when Darwin witnessed an amputation on a young girl he fled the operating theater in tears.

Darwin then went on to study theology at the University of Cambridge and became a student of John Henslow, studying



Max Dubbeldam/ THUNDERWORD

Former Highline professor Charles Stores speaks about Charles Darwin and evolution.

natural history.

Subsequently after Darwin’s graduation it was Henslow who

recommended that Darwin join an expedition to chart the South American coastline on the HMS

Beagle.

The survey took five years, during which Darwin did a lot

of the research that led to his theory of evolution and the publishing of his book *The Origin of Species*. The book sold out on the first day.

“When it came out originally it was like an anvil hitting an ant hill,” said Stores.

Stores said that the theory of evolution is one of the greatest theorems ever thought up because it explains so many facts of life.

There is still a shroud of controversy surrounding the theory of evolution, however, with religious people trying to poke holes in the theory.

Stores said that out of the 480,000 scientists in the United States only about 700 don’t believe in evolution.

“There is an inverse relationship with intelligence and religion,” said Stores. “The more educated people are, the less they believe in religion.”

Stores said he doesn’t understand why there is controversy because the word theory means an explanation of facts in scientific terms and not a guess.

He said that there are a lot of facts and data backing evolution and there are close to none explaining God and creationism.

Stores said that it’s funny how religious people get skeptical about evolution but they believe the stories such as Adam and Eve and Noah’s Ark wholeheartedly.

On Friday, Feb. 22, Highline Mathematics Professor Ravi Manghani will speak at the Science Seminar about clean energy resources. The seminar starts at 2:20 p.m. in Building 3, room 102.

Business program to undergo change to better suit students

By Luis Lemus
Staff Reporter

Highline’s International Business and Trade program is going through a change in curriculum.

The International Business and Trade program prepares students to coordinate freight logistics without touching the product.

“We are looking at the people who are going to say ‘we need that box out of that warehouse and it needs to go on this ship and here is the paper work,’” said Raegan Copeland, instructor.

The program offers students the opportunity to obtain a certificate with a requirement of 54 credits or an associate of applied science degree with a requirement of 96-100 credits.

“We are in the process of changing the curriculum -- not

the context, but the way it is delivered,” said Copeland.

“We are finding that students need more flexibility,” Copeland said.

People who work in the industry want additional training, but don’t want to take a five-credit course that has a specific start and end time, Copeland said.

“We are looking at a more modular, start-any-time-you-want” approach, Copeland said.

“If you just want to know about documentation you do not have to take the entire class, you can just take a module in documentation,” Copeland said.

The field has a high demand for workers, she said.

“There are wonderful opportunities in the industry but we cannot find any people,” Copeland said.

The program is going to reach out to some of the immigrant

population that just need to upgrade their English language skills in order to obtain an entry-

level position in the industry, Copeland said.

Anyone interested in the

program can find information at flightline.highline.edu/cg/international.business.html.

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Groundskeeper

Continued From Page 1

They call us when the snow starts to stick so that can be anywhere from 5 p.m. to 5 a.m.," McCluskey said. They start from the facilities building to the upper/main campus, working their way to the lower campus, then to the parking lots, which are done by the supervisors.

"My main concern is weather-related," McCluskey said. "The ice can be dangerous and cause vehicular accidents in parking lots."

Though snow and ice are some of McCluskey's concerns, the biggest problem he runs into at the college is vandalism to college property, particularly graffiti.

"It's hard to pinpoint one particular item, but there's been a fairly high wave of graffiti; more than there was a year-and-half ago," McCluskey said. "By looking at the style of (most) graffiti, it looks gang-related. We try to remove it within 24



Joel McCluskey rakes leaves on campus recently.

Lizeth Duran/ THUNDERWORD

hours of noticing it."

One problem students and faculty members cause is littering.

"Be a lot more considerate about throwing trash and cigarette butts on the ground," McCluskey said.

Cigarette butts on the ground are one of his pet peeves.

"It really irritates me when they're five feet away from an

ashtray and there are cigarette butts on the ground. It's quite hard to say how much we pick up because of our projects and other responsibilities, but it's quite a lot," he said.

McCluskey's supervisor, David Kress agrees with McCluskey's point.

"We have designated smoking areas on campus for students and faculty, but it doesn't seem to stop them from using something other than the shelters," Kress said. "If they were home, would they throw away their garbage on the ground or the floor of their home? Probably not, most likely in the garbage can. We have ample trash cans on campus so there should be no excuse."

Kress said he is very happy with Joel and his fellow groundskeepers, Keo Bunthoen, and Manuel Soto.

They're great and hardworking. I commend them for weathering the elements everyday," Kress said.

"We get a lot of compliments about our campus and it's all due to those three guys."

Federal Way

Continued From Page A1

ington's eighth largest city. Thousands of residents of Federal Way attend Highline every year.

"I thought it was going to be a close vote," said Tom Pierson, the executive director of Chamber of Commerce, which opposed the change in government. Other city officials, including city council members and state legislators, also opposed the change.

"It shows Federal Way is growing up and the citizens are involved in the decisions the government is making," Pierson said.

Pierson said he also believes that this is the start of discussion, not the end of it.

The citizens' group, Accountability Comes to Town, favored the strong-mayor plan.

Roy Parke, the president of the organization, said he was pretty disappointed by the result.

"I want to thank all those who voted for us, it shows that the city wants a change but the majority of people voted against us," Parke said. "We plan to do this again but with a different game plan. We want to give more information to people."

Parke said he feels that people weren't fully informed when the debate was held regarding the issue in January.

"I would have made a big difference if I was there, I could have informed people about our views and plans," Parke said. "We respect the city's decision, Federal Way citizens are the ones who had to vote. We can't do much about that," Parke said.

President

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pus, but out in the community," Creighton said.

Part of Highline's presidential search profile says that Highline is looking for a candidate with the "ability to form partnerships with business/industry, educational, and other community agencies."

Required qualifications for candidates include at least a master's-degree, with a doctorate preferred, and "recent successful senior level community college leadership experience or equivalent required."

The profile says that Highline is looking for a leader committed to setting high standards, with demonstrated passion for the college mission, and "an understanding and appreciation for the proper relationship between the Board of Trustees and the President."

"The profile spells out exactly what people want. The most difficult point will be to find the individual who most closely fits that profile," Creighton said.

The search committee will use the profile, which is available online at <http://presidentialexchange.org>, to narrow the applicants from 26 to 12.

The profile was created with the help of Dr. Hunter.

Members of the campus community have raised questions about the necessity of a search consultant, but Creighton said it is a typical and normal practice.

"They (the consultants) have the knowledge and the background. Very few would feel well equipped to do that on their own," Creighton said.

The advisory committee was formed to assist with finding the right candidate.

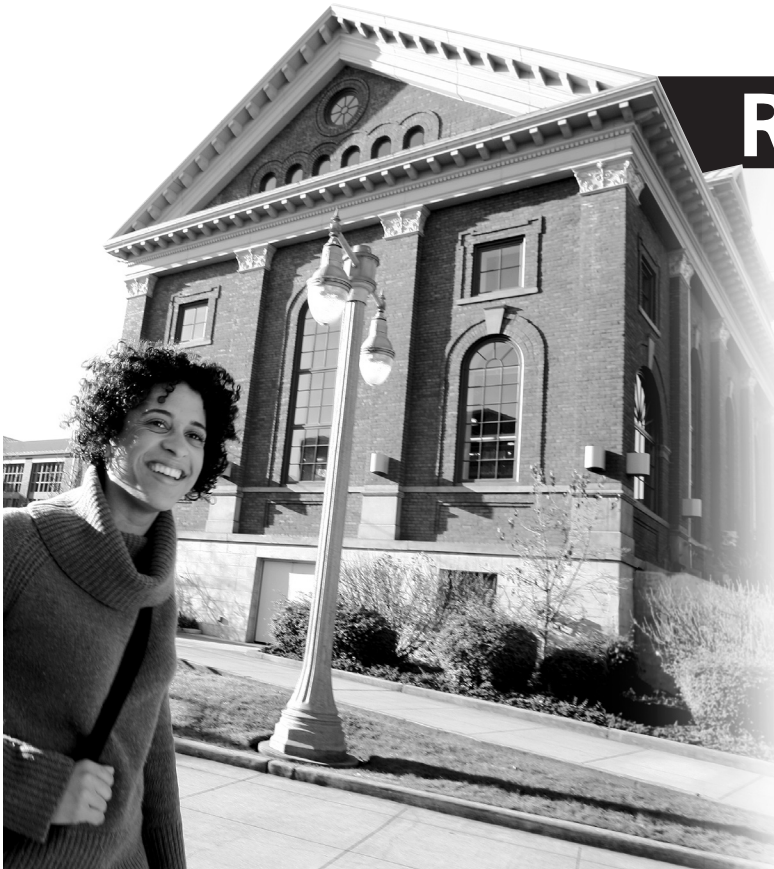
"I'm amazed at how the committee is already viewing the applications. These are some very busy people," Creighton said.

The applications include nine applicants with Washington state work experience, five with presidential experience, and nine vice presidents. All of the applicants have doctoral degrees.

The 12 applicants will then send in videos to be reviewed.

The advisory committee will use the videos to choose six finalists. Once the committee has chosen the six finalists on March 17 it will disband. Between April 21-29 the candidates will meet with the campus community and have final interviews with the Board.

The Board hopes to announce a new president in early May.



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