New vendor promises to cook up some change for Highline’s food service

By David Olerich Staff Reporter

Harry Carleton doesn’t hope that you will be impressed by the new food service at Highline. He hopes you’ll be blown away.

Carleton is the director of dining services for Chartwells, the firm that recently took over Highline’s food services. Chartwells replaced Cater Seattle, whose contract expired July 31.

He has big plans in mind for the service he will be providing for people here on campus.

“I think it’s really important to have many choices to offer for the faculty and the students here,” Carleton said.

He said he believes that having a diverse menu is essential as long as it doesn’t become excessive.

“We want to make sure that we give many choices to the students, because I don’t want to feel like they’re pigeon-holed into buying or getting what is the only thing we provide,” Carleton said.

“We will do vegetarian wraps and we’ll do vegetarian pizzas upstairs,” he said.

“I know that there are some vegans on campus; I will be addressing that issue as well.”

Carleton did reassure those of us who are not vegetarian:

“Don’t worry about the meat-
Robbery in the East Lot

A woman was robbed in the southeast corner of the East Parking Lot walkway on Sept. 17.

One male and one female assailant struggled with the victim and then took her purse.

Group fight at midnight

A person from the kitchen staff reported a large group of people fighting outside of Building 8 at midnight on July 19.

There were multiple intoxicated adult men with no shirts taking part in separate fights.

Five Des Moines Police officers arrived on the scene.

Pit bull on the loose

A pit bull was spotted outside the Child Care center on June 25 at 1:10 p.m.

A Highline Security officer chased the animal away by throwing pine cones at it.

Animal Control arrived 10 minutes later and picked up the animal.

Summer break-ins

Over the summer there were multiple car break-ins as well as a car that was stolen.

A Toyota Camry was reported stolen from the upper part of the South Lot on July 18.

A Volkswagen Jetta had its driver side window smashed in on Sept. 9, but it is unknown if anything was missing.

The car belonged to a volleyball player who had parked the car and had gone to an away game.

A Honda Accord was also broken into in the North Lot on July 29.

Un-brotherly tough love

A Highline student said he would press assault charges against his twin brother on July 29. The victim stated that he was tired of his brother hitting him, and that he wanted to press charges. A Des Moines Police officer was called to take care of the case.

Family trouble leads to threats and harassment

A harassment complaint was called in on June 19.

A woman made threats and left a note for the victim to find stating, “you can run but you can’t hide.”

The brother of the assailant, and wife of the victim, stated that his sister is bipolar and violent.

He said she is known to carry a knife and has used it recently to attack her boyfriend.

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Summer projects give campus a little facelift

By David Olerich
Staff Reporter

Several different construction projects have been taking place on Highline’s campus over the summer.

Projects have included: Building 19 is being renovated, roof replacement on Building 10, both the North and South Lots have been resurfaced, a boil-er has been re-tubed, a wall was torn down and replaced in Tutoring Center, an exhaust fan was added for better ventilation to Building 9, a classroom was expanded in Building 16, many modifications were made in the kitchen area, and a new room was added in the locker room building, Building 27.

College officials say that three of the projects are com-pleted and the rest of the proj-ects are near completion. The team room, the North and South Lots and Building 10 are all fin-ished.

A major renovation has been going on inside of Building 19 causing the relocation of many offices.

“Most of the interior of the building (19) was gutted down to the walls and bare concrete and built back up from there,” said Pete Babington, director of facilities.

“The work included new ceil-ings, lights, paint, and carpet.”

Food

Continued From Page 1

lovers; we’ve got them covered!”

He explained that there would also be an “Out Take” program, “where things are going to be prepared that morning” to buy.

Carleton said he plans to have different food stations such as a grill station, an authentic Asian station and a Southwest burrito station.

“We’re not going to do re-fried beans, we’re gonna do black beans. I mean that’s ex-actly what they do in the south,” he said.

Carleton said he also has a full-time baker coming in from Sunday through Thursday on a 40-hour-per-week schedule, so that come “Monday morn-ing all the items will be freshly baked.”

“We’re going to do all our bread for our hoagie sandwich-es,” he said.

The transition for Carleton and Chartwells has not been an easy one, college officials say, due to the change of equipment and the restructuring of the kitchen areas.

“Operationally, Chartwells was eager to get going. The physical transition has been less smooth, but not for a lack of ef-fort as there were many more equipment and systems prob-lems in the kitchen than had been reported by the previous operator,” said Pete Babington, Highline’s director of facilities.

“For the last month and a half, we’ve been scrambling, making things happen – coor-dinating contractors, hands-on repairs, assisting Chartwells in integrating with our campus systems,” Babington said.

Chartwells is a British com-pany which is part of the Com-pass Group.

“Chartwells has a very high standard reputation for putting out great quality food with the service that backs that up,” Har-ry Carleton said.

“I think you have to be suc-cessful with not just the quality of the food but the quality of service that goes behind that,” Carleton said.

Carleton says that Chartwells uses a particular method when pricing their food items.

“We do what is called a ‘mar-ket basket’ and basically it’s a way to look at your area, what competitors in your area have whether you go to KFC, Burger King, Sub Shop, or to the Mall and their food court items,” he said.

“It takes a matrix profile and puts all the items into the matrix, whether it’s a burger, soda, or a cookie, and formulates what the average market price is for your area. Then, what we do is price-point down below that, making sure that the student gets a good value,” Carleton added.

“All of our portion sizes as far as our sandwiches are above market portion size,” Carleton said.

Carleton believes in having passion for what he does in the food and beverage industry and that his workers must also share his same enthusiasm.

“It is important that the people that work for me and the people that I bring in have the passion to do what I think is important,” he said.

Carleton also says that a bal-anced career and home life is important to him as well and having a good balance of both is living successfully, of which he says Chartwells has given him that opportunity.

He signed on with Chartwells on Aug. 12, bringing 25 years of experience in the food and bev-erage industry with him.

Carleton’s last job was at the Seattle Sheraton Hotel as an outlet manager of the dining, lounge and room service areas.

He went to Federal Way High School growing up in the Re-dondo area, and attended High-line for a short period of time in the early ’80s, taking classes in advertising and business.

“I think it’s a great opportu-nity to be a part of a commu-nity that I grew up in,” Carleton said.

“I thought it was an exciting project when it was presented to me to be a part of something this large and dynamic and kinda from the ground floor up.”

He has a particular princi-pal that he strongly believes in when it comes to preparing food for others.

“I put out there what I would feed my family and if I wouldn’t feed my family, that I’m not go-ing to feed the students that.”

The Thunderword / Sept. 22, 2008

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It's time to register to vote

Oct. 4, 2008 is not a federal, state, or local holiday yet it should be marked prominently on the calendars of most readers of this newspaper.

Oct. 4, 2008 is the final day to register to vote online, by mail, or in person in King County. It should be marked prominently because this nation, region, state, and county have rarely had more at stake than exists today. Our futures and the futures of our families rest upon how we vote on Nov. 4.

For the first time in the history of our nation, we will have the opportunity to vote for an African-American for president or a woman for vice president. We can choose to affirm the truths that have been held evident in the Constitution of these United States of America and make possible the dreams of the framers of our great nation with either vote.

The nation is faced with a burgeoning economic crisis. We can choose to continue the course traveled for the past eight years or change direction. Should we place our trust in the hands of experienced leaders who carry overreaching changes. Changing the County Charter home care aides.

Locally, there is a slew of amendments to the King County Charter, most of which are not understood by the average voting citizen, yet they carry overreaching changes. Changing the County Charter is akin to changing the United States or State Constitutions. We will also vote on more funding for Sound Transit.

You can register to vote by going to http://www.kingcounty.gov/elections/registration.aspx. You can also get forms from local libraries, city halls and many schools.

So mark your calendar for Oct. 4. If you haven’t registered to vote by that date, don’t let it pass you by. All our futures depend upon it.

Welcome to Highline Community College’s 2008-2009 academic year. Those next few months will offer exciting opportunities for many of us to learn more about ourselves and our community, to make a difference in our own lives and in the community, and to shape change.

It’s not easy to change our world, but education can be a remarkable tool in the hands of individuals motivated to make a difference in their community and in the lives of others.

I am proud of student leaders who seize the responsibility and opportunity to strengthen the learning environment and who redefine what their educational experience can be at the college.

I marvel at those students who work hard to stretch their abilities through their studies and their broader engagement at the college.

I am inspired by students whose energy and character allow them to overcome social, economic, or physical disabilities.

Take advantage of your time at the college. Assert yourself, engage in conversations and inquiry, use fully the resources available to you, and set high expectations for yourself. A wise colleague has often told me that change comes one student at a time. For each student it comes with taking responsibility for fully participating in the educational experience.

It is time for us all to broaden our intellectual curiosity and to examine substantive issues facing humanity. Highline provides the educational environment to develop the skills to test the veracity of your ideas and analyses.

As the nation faces economic challenges, it relies on an educated, innovative, and skilled workforce to find and implement solutions. As the country struggles with war abroad and with depleting its resources, it depends even more on an informed public and their articulate voices to shape the changes necessary to improve security and build international friendships.

Can you grapple with the issues of our day? Can you find a substantive basis for your beliefs? Are you developing the skills that will be responsive to the workforce needs facing us? Will you make a difference in this community and the wider world?

For almost 50 years Highline faculty and staff have shared the commitment necessary for students to tackle these challenges, to make better lives for themselves and their families, and to make a difference in communities — large and small.

Whether it’s Chris Carrel leading the restoration of the Hylebos watershed or it’s Ezra Teshome facilitating improved water quality and vaccinations for children in East Africa, alumni of the college have made important contributions to our collective betterment.

Whether it’s Professor Darryl Brice mentoring students or it’s Administrative Technology’s Pat Daniels’s passion to address issues of sustainability, faculty and staff at the college embrace a culture of change within the educational process.

The bar is high here for each of us to participate in shaping change to advantage us all. We have great examples in some of those who came before us.

Fourty-five years ago Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke in Washington, D.C. about his dream of a better life for all. His words reached into our hearts to inspire the best within each of us to be a force for equality and social justice.

Whether you are a student or you are faculty or staff at the college, you enjoy the privilege of being at an institution that nurtures American democracy.

On our best days, Highline lives the dream and transforms King’s inspiration into daily action.

Now is the time for all of us to focus our energies on Dr. King’s dream and make it the dominant tide of history. I encourage you to take advantage of the college’s resources and to mobilize your ideas and skills for your personal and professional growth. Be a force of change. Make it your best year!

Jack Bermingham, Ph.D., is the president of Highline.

Letters and opinions from the campus community are welcome. E-mail your submission to thunderword@highline.edu. Please limit your submission to not more than 400 words.

Highline's people make a difference daily

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Opinion

The Thunderword / Sept. 22, 2008

Commentary

Dr. Jack Bermingham

...AND I AM JOHN Q. CITIZEN AND I APPROVE OF THIS MESSAGE! ...
There is no Jazz Band this quarter, but music professor Dr. Glover said that she hopes that the new class Vocal Jazz Ensemble will help revitalize it.

Vocal Jazz Ensemble is an open class that will give beginning students an opportunity to learn vocal jazz technique and more advanced students songs they can sign as solos in addition to the ensemble music.

There are no auditions for the ensemble.

Dr. Glover said the Jazz Band has fizzled out over the last couple of years. In previous years, the band had performed in China as well as in concerts around the area.

The vocal jazz group will require at least a rhythm section and Glover said she hopes to help bring the jazz band back as the vocal jazz students solidify into a solid ensemble.

The ensemble meets at 1:20 p.m. Monday through Thursday in Building 4, room 104. Any students interested in joining should show up during the first week of classes.

Auditions for Concert Choir begin today, Sept. 22, and will continue at the beginning of choir class during the first week at 12:10 p.m. Building 4, room 104. The chosen few will receive an e-mail with an entry code to the class from Music Department Head Dr. Sydney Stegall.

Music for this class is master composer level, said Dr. Glover. This requires more work, it is highly rewarding, she said.

The Concert Choir has been invited to perform in Washington, D.C. Dr. Glover said the decision on whether to go has not been made. Before presenting the trip to the administration she said she wants to make sure that there is a strong choral student base that will improve throughout the year.

Most students in the Concert Choir continue taking it throughout the year, even though it is only a one-quarter class.

Both choirs will give performances toward the end of the quarter. The Vocal Jazz Ensemble will enter local and regional jazz festivals.
James Rogers didn’t plan to be a photographer, but like his pictures, it all came naturally

By Rochelle Adams
Staff Reporter

James Rogers doesn’t like to cheat.

He says enhancing pictures through Photoshop instead of allowing a photograph to stand on its own merit is cheating.

Anyone who sees his art, now showing through Oct. 31 in the Library gallery, can be sure they’re getting the real deal.

This local talent grew up in Eugene, Ore. and moved to Washington 15 years ago for a job as a store manager. He now works at REI Adventures selling adventure trips.

Rogers said his art career was completely “unplanned,” a word he uses over and over.

Photography was never a dream of his. He merely enjoyed taking pictures. A work function inadvertently got him involved in selling the pictures he took as cards to his coworkers. Those became so popular, he turned selling cards into an annual arrangement at his job.

In another unplanned turn of events, an artist friend of Rogers’, who showed her own art at the former New Earth Books in Kent, encouraged him to exhibit his own pictures there. Despite having no portfolio prepared, the manager of the store bought 15 of his cards on the spot. He became the first and only man to exhibit art at that store.

Now Rogers is here at Highline for his second showing anywhere. “It’s definitely a good side project,” he said of his photographic work.

Rogers has been taking pictures since he was 10 years old, but never seriously until four years ago when he started making the cards for his coworkers. “I always enjoyed photography,” he said. “For me photography is a fun way to capture the world around me.”

Nature plays a major theme in his work. Most of his pictures are what he calls “floral art” and other outdoors shots from unique perspectives. Rogers said he comes upon pictures waiting to be taken by accident. In his mind, he sees how he wants to frame each shot and how close or how far away he wants it to be.

He said he has a “fascination of getting in close, especially with flowers. There’s an intimacy and sensuality with flowers.”

Rogers said that when people usually look at flowers, it is from a distance.

As those who visit his exhibit will see, Rogers is not scared to get up close and personal with his camera. Many of his shots are so close to their subjects that the subject expands beyond the edges of the photograph.

All of his work is unaltered and uncropped. “I don’t even put it in Photoshop,” Rogers said.

He admits to having an issue with Photoshop and other photographers who use it to fix their work. He sees altering pictures as cheating and calls it lazy. “Photography was originally used to capture reality,” he said. Photoshop is a “fake way to make the photograph better.”

Rogers said he dabbles in other arts, but is only serious about photos and poems. Poetry is another of Rogers’ side projects, having written it since high school. He doesn’t see that as a career either.

It’s “a way of getting the words out of my head,” he said. Despite his blasé attitude about his second hobby, Rogers has received a lot of acclaim for his work. He was published several times including in the magazine Prism and the Washington Poets Association’s yearly anthology. He also won the Charles Proctor award.

Unlike many artists he isn’t out to make money on his work. His only purpose is to “share the beauty that’s around us.”

That’s why he doesn’t price his work very high. For those interested in purchasing some of his photographs, the library’s front desk on the ground floor will be taking down names for Rogers to contact after his show is taken down.

The Library gallery is located on the fourth floor and is open Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday 2 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Enter, stage right: Drama seeks actors for fall production

By Max Dubbeldam
Staff Reporter

Break a leg: The Drama Department will be holding auditions for their Fall Quarter production.

The auditions are in the Little Theatre in Building 4, room 122, on Wednesday, Sept. 24, and Friday, Sept. 26 from 2 to 5 p.m.

“Everyone is welcome and if they want to watch, that is OK,” said drama coordinator Dr. Christiana Taylor. “Any one wishing to be involved who cannot make auditions should e-mail me right away and we’ll see about another arrangement before the second week.”

She can be contacted at ctaylor@highline.edu.

Dr. Taylor said anyone who is auditioning should have a short piece of a play memorized. Two minutes is good for a monologue. She added that if any one can’t memorize a piece by that time she will offer a cold reading with whatever material they have on hand.

“The best material is a character roughly in the actor’s age range, not more than 10 years older,” said Taylor. She also suggested not to use a mentally over-the-top and/or crazy character.

The department hasn’t chosen which script they are going to perform, but they have narrowed it down to a few selections. Taylor said that the final decision will be made after the auditions are completed.

“We like to have several choices so we can cast as many [people that] want to experience theater and can give the time and effort to [the] production,” Taylor said.

After the auditions, the rehearsals will be held every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday (with an occasional weekend) until tech week starts, when they will rehearse every day into the evening until the opening night of the play.

The play is scheduled to open on Nov. 13 and run through Nov. 22. Taylor said all cast members must enroll in an acting class.

“All cast members must register for a minimum of three credits,” Taylor said. “Credits are assigned based on the size of the role, up to five credits.”

Another way to involve yourself in the Drama Department is through stagecraft. If you are interested in stagecraft you should contact the Drama Department on Tuesday, Sept. 23 or Thursday, Sept. 25. You can also e-mail Rick Lorig, Highline’s designer and production manager, at rlorig@highline.edu.

“Many people help with stagecraft as well as do some acting in this program,” said Taylor. “We encourage everyone to try all the possibilities in the theater arts.”
Arts Calendar

Local comedian Kermet Apio will perform 7:30 p.m., Oct. 10, at the Des Moines Field House, 1000 S. 220th St. Tickets are $10 in advance and $15 at the door. Tickets are available at the fieldhouse.

Kermit Apio has performed with Sinbad, Weird Al Yankovich, the Smother Brothers, and more. The hilarious Apio has comedy samples available at www.ikerm.com. This will be an all-ages performance, hosted by the Des Moines Arts Commission.

For more information or for upcoming events such as the Waterland Music Series and Afternoon with the Artist, visit our website at www.desmoineswa.gov/artscommission.

Tickets are $25 for adults, $23 for seniors and $20 for youth. For purchase tickets, call Taproot Theatre’s box office at 206-781-9707 or Ticketmaster at 206-292-ARTS.

• Celtic band Gaelic Storm performs Saturday, Oct. 11 at 7:30 p.m. at the Kent-Meridian Performing Arts Center, 10020 SE 256th St., Kent. Tickets are $20 for adults and $18 for seniors and youths. 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.

• Got arts news? Contact arts editor Rochelle Adams at radams@highline.edu, or call 206-878-3710, ext. 3318.
Thunderbird men charge into first in the west

By Max Dubbeldam  
Staff Reporter

The men’s soccer team is soaring once again as it is undefeated in league play.

Highline is undefeated in top position of the West Division with 16 points out of six matches. They defeated Tacoma, Everett, Peninsula, Skagit Valley, and Olympic and tied Whatcom and have a 5-0-1 league record.

They did lose one non-league match against Wenatchee Valley to bring their overall season record to 5-1-1.

Head Coach Jason Prenovost is trying to form a team worthy of challenging the best in the NWAACC by not only winning but playing attractive, attacking soccer.

Prenovost is giving his team an extra dimension by having players play in positions they don’t regularly play.

“IT’s way good for playing at the next level. And it helps with reaching the next step,” said midfielder Tony Maxwell.

Maxwell was originally a forward but has mostly played in the midfield for Highline and even plays in the center of defense.

Highline started the league season with a win against Tacoma at home on Sept. 6. Prenovost’s men started well, putting high energy both on and off the ball.

The pressure paid off in the eighth minute when Tacoma’s goalkeeper Liviu Bird’s pass into the open net.

The next day, on Sept. 7, the Thunderbirds started to find their way on volleyball court.

Highline outclassed Olympic in soccer action last week.

Juan Salas leads the charge for Highline against Olympic in soccer action last week.

Freshman striker Bundu Koroma recorded a hat-trick as he slotted three goals past the Cardinals keeper.

The second half was much of the same as Robbie Gouk made it 5-9 in the 55th minute, and Zachary Taylor made it 6-0 in the 61st.

Josh Gilson did score a consolation goal for the Rangers after back-up goalkeeper Dave Lugo mistimed a tackle and Gilson rounded him and put the ball into the net.

After that goal it was business as usual as Jarrett Thom scored in the 65th and in the 73rd minute striker Bundu Koroma showed his touch as he put a gentle lob over distraught goalkeeper Dustin Gesens to make it 8-1, Thunderbirds.

“IT’s been a longtime staple of our programme,” said Prenovost. “It’s been a long time since we’ve had a point against them.”

Juan Salas leads the charge for Highline against Olympic in soccer action last week.

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Juan Salas leads the charge for Highline against Olympic in soccer action last week.
The women’s soccer team is short-handed for the third year in a row, but Head Coach Tom Moore isn’t worried about it. Highline is currently in second place in the West Division with 12 points out of seven games and a 3-1-3 record.

Even though they have a minimal amount of substitutes (at times none) and no regular goalkeeper, it seems that the Lady Thunderbirds have learned how to make due. With returning stars such as forward Kelsey Lusebrink and defender Brittany McKay, Highline is as competitive as ever. “I’m almost used to it,” said McKay. “We’re just as good as last year. I think we’ll go as far, if not farther.”

McKay added that it is harder to play short-handed because people get tired. “For girls [soccer] is not all cut chances, most coming from penalty kick. The next match was away at Everett. The next match they played on Sept. 5 with a scoreless draw at home versus Tacoma Community College.

Sophomore field-player Whitney Lynch played in goal against the Titans and kept the clean sheet.

The next match they played was on Sept. 6 when they played away at Everett. They tied the game at one-all after both teams scored in the opening five minutes of play.

Hayley Bustad opened the scoring for Everett in the second minute after receiving a pass from teammate Kaatlan Ducken to put the Trojans up 1-0.

Highline retaliated almost immediately when Kelsey Lusebrink set up Tammy Hilla to set the score even at 1-1, and rescue the point for Highline away from home.

In the Thunderbirds’ next away match on Sept. 9, they suffered a tough loss against Whatcom.

Highline scored the first goal in the third minute when Ivanka Freirichs received an assist from Lusebrink.

However, Whatcom struck back a minute later when Bianca Canaday found the net in the fourth minute.

Whatcom took the lead in the 10th minute when Canaday turned provided and passed to Laura Lichon who slotted the ball into the net.

Highline’s Lusebrink evened things up again at the 13-minute mark, making the score 2-2.

Whatcom retook the lead in the 33rd minute through freshman midfielder Nina Rivero to sum up the goal frenzy in the first half.

In the second half Whatcom put some space between the two sides when Tasha Parris buried a goal in the 55th minute to give the Orcas a 4-2 win.

Lusebrink bounced back from the loss and went on to defeat Lower Columbia at home on Sept. 11 by a score of 3-1.

Lusebrink opened the scoring for the Thunderbirds in the 20th minute. Six minutes later, however, Lower Columbia struck back through Zury Romero and the score was level going into half-time.

In the second half Lusebrink recaptured the lead in the 61st minute, and Alyssa Dale finished off the Red Devils’ chances against the Orcas.

Highline increased their lead in the 72nd minute.

On Sept. 16, Highline played at home against Olympic and squeaked by with a hard-fought, 1-0 win.

Lusebrink scored the only goal of the game in the 43rd minute after receiving a pass from Andrea Erdahl.

Highline might have had another scoring chance after Lusebrink went down in the 18-yard box. However the referee didn’t deem it to be enough to award a penalty kick.

Olympic did have some clear-cut chances, most coming from freshman Brittneay Gates. However, she was unable to convert them into goals.

Highline’s Erdahl recorded a hat trick, scoring three times in the first half. Kelsey Lusebrink scored twice to bring her season tally to seven goals.

Green River’s Carlii McCrabb did score in the 12th minute to tie the game at 1-1 but it was not enough the stop the Thunderbirds’ assault.

Despite the team’s success, Coach Moore doesn’t want to spend the season with only 10 players.

Moore said that he is accepting walk-ons and implores any women who are interested in playing for the Thunderbirds to try out. You can contact Moore at TMoore@Highline.edu.

Highline’s next two matches are at home. They play Belle vue on the 24th at 2 p.m. and the play Shoreline on the 27th at noon.

Highline’s next away match is against Tacoma on Oct. 1, also at 2 p.m.
New coach Baker hopes to cook up cross country renaissance

By Max Dubbeldam
Staff Reporter

Highline’s cross-country team is up and running once again. Head Coach Josh Baker is taking charge of the program after it was abandoned last year when then-coach Christina Loehr resigned two days before the season began.

Together with his wife, and Co-Head Coach Toni, Baker has been resurrecting the cross country program from scratch.

“We have had great support from people around campus; like John Dunn, our athletic director,” said Baker. “He has made it very clear that having a successful running program is important.”

Dunn said that he believes that Baker is the right man for the job and that he can bring the team back to its former glory.

“He’s already got more runners than we’ve had in like 15 years,” said Dunn. “He’ll do very well in the NWAACC’s once he has a full year to re-construct.”

Baker has a master’s degree in physical education and recruiting is a strong point of his, since he studied recruiting for community college athletics for his master’s thesis.

Baker may not have experience at being head coach, but he has been an assistant coach for the men’s basketball team and has gained valuable experience from Head Coach Che Dawson.

“Coach Dawson is an incredible coach and I have learned a great deal in following his lead,” said Baker. “Working with Coach Dawson has helped develop my own coaching style and philosophy.”

Dawson said that he thinks Baker has great potential and that he has a good handle on what makes players tick.

“He’s an incredible organizer and he’s very detail-oriented,” said Dawson. “He takes a lot of pride in everything he does and he’s very competitive.”

Baker said that the team will be competing in six races this year. The men’s team will be running eight-kilometer races and the women’s team will be running five-kilometer races.

The cross country team’s first race was in the Orca XC Invitational on Sept. 6. Eight different schools were represented, including Western Washington University and Simon Fraser University. The men’s team finished fifth overall and the women’s team ended up sixth.

“Our runners really put in a nice effort and gave us a great place to start from,” said Baker. “We are excited about the possibilities for this year.”

Simon Fraser University runner Ryan Brockerville took first place in the men’s event with a time of 26:17.

In the women’s portion of the meet, sophomore Sarah Porter from Western Washington University took first place with a time of 30:19 and 30:12; Nathan Tyson finished 67th with a time of 33:44 and Shane Khan finished in 71st position with a time of 37:31.

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Out of the eight Highline runners in that race, freshman Kevin Clancy finished highest, 73rd in a field of 71 runners with a time of 27:46. Colby Peters and Ryan Eidsmo finished 32nd and 33rd respectively in 28:19 and 28:23.


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In the women’s portion of the meet, sophomore Sarah Porter from Western Washington University took first place with a time of 22:04.


Krysta Renton and Catherine Nalley finished 77th and 78th respectively with times of 30:19 and 30:23.

Baker has his eyes set on the long term and is hoping to re-build Highline’s cross country team to be a powerhouse in the NWAACC.

“We are building a champi-

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The Thunderword, Highline’s weekly student newspaper, needs reporters, photographers, graphic artists/designers and ad sales representatives. Some of these are paid positions; some offer college credit. Current openings include:

• Sports editor: covers Highline sports, edits stories, designs pages. Relevant experience and/or training helpful.

• Graphics editor/designer: Designs ads and graphics in support of stories; coordinates with other editors and advertising manager.

• Photographers, artists, reporters and ad sales reps also are needed.

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MaST  
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the MaST center. There are lots of other reasons and ways to be involved.

Besides the water-weekend event on Saturdays, more will be offered during the school year. For example, there will be a speaker series at the MaST, comparable to the Science Seminars at Highline, Higley says.

There will be more sea animals to look at when the aquarium is ready for them.

“The two big creatures that we want or that we’ll have shortly are the octopus and the wolf eel,” he said.

“In the next couple of weeks we’re actually going to be working on taking one of the tanks that’s out there and octopus-proofing it,” Higley said.

That will involve, among other things, the use of Astro turf to line the tank lid. Higley explains that the reason they are going to great lengths to do this is because octopuses tend to escape very easily, even through holes the size of quarters.

Not every fish will be locked up. One of the other features that is available to the public are the touch tanks.

“The aquariums are a draw and being able to touch the animals and handle them,” he said. “The pre (K-12) school kids will be allowed to visit and have field trips to the facility which also will start up again.

Eventually, the MaST will have live video communication with divers, including the ability to see what the diver is seeing underwater.

“The diver has communication on his gear and our divers go into the Puget Sound while we have two 40-inch screens in the aquarium area and you can actually see what the diver’s seeing and talk to the diver,” Higley said.

Another plus is the center’s proximity to Highline.

Higley explained that other schools such as the University of Washington has its facility located eight hours away at Friday Harbor. Western University has its facility, “Enchanted Point,” located an hour away in Anacortes.

“We are the only facility in the Seattle area that offers a center close to its own campus,” he said.

“We are a research office that is going to be a place for researchers who come in from fishing wildlife, NOAA (National Ocean Atmospheric Administration), from many of the universities around that want access to a pier, to the water, and to other aquariums,” Higley said.

President  
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Bermingham said that the college will always face demands on its resources, especially as an open-door institution designed to accept any and every student.

As a result, he said, Highline must learn to be successful in getting money from the state and national governments, as well as private donors and grants.

He said the college has a “conservatively developed budget.”

“The economy will impact what we can deliver,” he said, “but we will meet those challenges together.”

Currently, state officials are warning that the soft economy will mean lower tax revenues and hence put pressure on state agencies such as Highline to trim spending.

“We’re going to have to do some serious budget monitoring this year,” Bermingham said. “We have to serve students but stay within our budget.”

Bermingham also cited a number of programs where Highline is succeeding, such as the Southwest King County Economic Development Initiative.

The SKCED is “a cooperative effort to enhance investment and employment opportunities in Southwest King County,” according to their site. In addition to the college, King County and the Port of Seattle also are involved.

Dr. Bermingham said the college needs to improve its ability to assess student progress to stay accredited, as well as develop talent on campus to staff administrative positions.

Dr. Bermingham said that “on some days, the best idea might just not be enough,” but that “it must always be OK to take those risks.”