Enrollment increases on all fronts

By JEANETTE DIMOCK
Staff Reporter

The weak economy and problems at four-year schools continue to drive Highline enrollment higher, college officials say.

Larry Yok, vice-president of Administration said that with four-year colleges raising tuition by 15 percent and putting a cap on enrollment, more students are choosing to get their undergraduate classes completed at Highline whenever possible.

Unemployment in the Seattle-Tacoma area is 8.8 percent as of November 2009, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. This is lower than the Washington state unemployment rate of 9.2 percent for the same time period.

Winter Quarter will likely be as strong as Fall Quarter in regards to the number of students enrolled at Highline, said Lisa Skari, vice-president of Institutional Advancement.

“In Fall Quarter, we served 10,891 students, representing 7,556 full-time equivalent students (a full-time equivalent student is equal to 15 credits),” said Skari. These numbers also include 2,352 Adult Basic Education students.

“Worker Retraining FTEs grew from 263 in Fall 2008 to 419 in Fall 2009, representing an increase of 59 percent,” said Skari. For those students who received state supported funding, the numbers grew from 5,991 in Fall 2008 to 6,378 in Fall 2009, a 6.5 percent increase.

Skari said that the trend is continuing in Winter Quarter. The initial numbers show Worker Retraining has increased from 288 in Winter 2009 to 470 in Winter 2010, representing a 63 percent increase.

Skari said that as of Jan. 7, 7,265 students were enrolled, representing 5,310 FTEs. This indicates an increase in enrollment from this time last year of 383 students and 368 FTEs. As enrollment is open all quarter, college officials expect to see a rise in enrollment similar to the fall.

Fall Quarter’s final registration numbers showed 10,891 students.

Please see Enrollment, page 14

Missing forms makes it hard to pay for school

By BRYANNA MALONE
Staff Reporter

Freshman Phylicia Bush had a terrible start to her second quarter at Highline. She started her new year off by finding out that she had been dropped from all of her classes because her tuition was not paid.

Bush had sent in her financial aid information in September 2009. She proceeded to call the registration offices to check on the status of her loans every month from then on.

During these phone calls she was told that the financial aid office had received all of the paperwork and that it was just being processed.

“During my calls with the financial aid office they told me that everything was correct and that they had all of the information,” Bush said.

Three days before class started, Bush called the financial aid office again to make sure everything was being processed and that she would get into her classes. The financial aid employee told her that a form was missing.

“We had no idea that we were missing a form,” Bush said. “There seemed to be nothing wrong.”

Bush then went to the financial aid office on Jan. 5 to figure out what was wrong. They told her that the form that she was supposed to have brought in after receiving a letter. Although Bush had received this letter,

Please see Forms, page 14

Legislators may cut Highline’s budget more

By CAITLYN STARKEY
Staff Reporter

Highline students begged legislators not to cut state college funding last week, but legislators say cuts are inevitable.


Rep. Priest and Rep. Orwall are both on the Education Committee in the House of Repre- sentatives; Rep. Hasegawa is Finance Committee vice chair- man; and as if that is not enough influence Sen. Keiser, Sen. Mc- Dermott, and Rep. Priest are members of the Ways & Means Committee, the primary fiscal committee, in their respective houses.

College President Jack Bermingham said that having a chance for Highline students to explain their opinions could possibly help, or at least not hinder, legislative funding next year.

“I think there’s a chance for students to talk with the legislators,” Bermingham said.

Students shared their educational struggles and dreams, specifically financial hardship, pleading with the legislators to not cut funding in 2010.

At age 26, Student Govern- ment President Chris Penning- ton came to Highline to com- plete his high school diploma.

Please see Legislators, page 13
**Crime and Punishment**

**Thieves strike at Bookstore**

Two separate unrelated incidents occurred on Jan. 5 at the bookstore involving attempted theft.

Bookstore staff contacted security, advising that they believe four males were possibly attempting to shoplift, the subjects left without incident.

Shortly afterwards a bookstore employee observed a male putting two books in a bag and leaving without paying for them. The subjects were not able to be identified.

**Homeless man trespasses at Highline**

A white male, apparently homeless, was kicking the smoking booth outside of Building 6 and then was spotted kicking things around in the building 3 restrooms on Dec. 28.

Des Moines Police Department were called out, however, the suspect could not be located. Then on Dec. 30, the same gentleman was found to be disorderly and screaming on a cellular phone, Des Moines Police were again called and this time the man was arrested for criminal trespass.

Upon further investigation it was determined that the man was previously admonished in August.

**Students’ car broken into**

A Highline student reported her vehicle was broken into on the North lot during the evening hours of Jan. 11, an unknown suspect shattered the left passenger seat valued at $250.

The passenger seat, valued at $350, was the only item stolen out of a student’s accounting text book.

A bag that included the student’s wallet, credit cards and other personal identification was found on the North lot during the weekend of Jan. 2.

Upon further investigation it was determined that the man was arrested for criminal trespass.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

Highline Community College provides equal opportunity in education and employment and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, creed, religion, or status as a veteran of war. Prohibited sex discrimination includes sexual harassment (unwelcome sexual conduct of various types).

**Beloved maintenance worker dies of heart attack**

Olavi Curtis Aho, a Highline maintenance worker died of a heart attack on Saturday Jan. 2. He was 57 years old.


More recently he was hired by Highline as a maintenance worker. Curt was married to Wanda in 1978 in Kenmore. He enjoyed hot rods, Volkswagens, repairing everything, paintball, scuba diving, fishing-boating, swap meets and garage sales. He also loved motorcycles and was a Member of HOG, (Harley Owners Group).

Funeral Services were Friday Jan. 8 at Tahoma National Cemetery. Full military honors were bestowed.

During his funeral procession he was given his "last ride" by a 1953 Harley Pinhead altered with a special sidecar for Aho.

**Naval Job Fair will be at Kitsap**

The Puget Sound Naval shipyard and intermediate Maintenance Facility will be hosting a career fair on Jan. 22-23.

Department of Navy hiring official will be present to inform people of job opportunities and talk about the different requirements for different positions.

More than 400 job vacancies that are waiting to be filled. Applicants must be U.S. citizens and must be 18 or older.

Department of Navy employees will be there to help answer questions and aid in discussions about “Managing Your Department of Navy Career.”

Those who do not attend the fair will be able to watch a video on Managing your Department of Navy Career at the website, www.donhr.navy.mil.

The Fair will be at the Kitsap Fairgrounds Pavilion, 1200 NW Fairgrounds Road, Bremerton.

**Highline is giving away STEM Scholarships**

Highline is giving away more than $350,000 in scholarships to Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics Majors. Those who wish to apply for scholarships for spring 2010, the deadline is Feb. 12.

STEM majors include many different courses including: Astronomy, Biology, Biotechnology, Botany, Chemistry, Computer Science, Computer Information Systems, Drafting Design Technology, Environmental Science, Engineering, Geology, Mathematics, Marine Science and Oceanography and Physics.

For eligibility and applications go to www.highline.edu/nsfScholarship.

**Calendar**

- Science Seminar Will be on “Biomachanics and the Physics of Injury,” presented by Tim Vagen. It will be on Wednesday, Jan. 24 from 2:20-3:10 p.m. in Building 3, room 102.

**Corrections**

The Dec. 3 issue of the Thunderword should have indicated there is a fee to use the computers in the Instructional Computing Building 30.

**HOT JOBS!**

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

**WE WANT JOBS!**

**American Assistant Part-Time #5773**

Answering phones, filing, faxing, data processing, marketing, and more. Must have knowledge of Microsoft Office, organized, attention to detail, good communication skills and bilingual in Spanish and English. 1-2 years experience required.

Location: Lynnwood
Wage: $10
Hours: M-F 1-6pm & Sat 9am-noon

**BEGINNING PIANO TEACHER-PART-TIME #5765**

Teach beginning piano to students ages 5 and up. Must be able to communicate and work with children. Must be punctual and at least intermediate level.

Some training provided.

Location: Renton
Wage: $12-$15
Hours: Tuesdays

For more information about co-ops, these jobs and more, log on to www.myinterfase.com/highline/student
Revolution: the word of MLK week

By LESLIE BLAND
Staff Reporter

The work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. will be examined in “Evolution of Revolution,” the college’s annual Martin Luther King Week.

MLK Week, Jan. 19-22, is Highline’s annual celebration of the work of the late civil rights leader.

The week will include lectures, seminars, workshops, poetry, a movie and a panel discussion. These events are open to all students, faculty and guests who would like to attend.

“When I think about Dr. King, I don’t just think of him as a leader, I think about all the people working with him on the movement,” said Natasha Burrowes, the assistant director for Student Programs and Diversity and one of the organizers of MLK Week.

“I hope students can learn about civil rights and social justice, and learn about issues through different vehicles,” said Burrowes.

The thematic focus of this year’s events was chosen by a team of individuals reading past speeches and watching clips of interviews with Dr. King.

[With this year’s events] I hope students will hear the knowledge and make meaning for themselves, and gain a sense of things they want to take a stance for,” said Burrowes.

The events of this year’s MLK Week will include:

• MLK Exhibit, Building 8, Mt. Townsend Stage, open all day starting the week of Jan. 19-22.
• Dream Fullfilled? The Legacy of Dr. King in an Obama Age in Building 7 at 9 a.m. and 10 a.m.
• Oedrick Muhammad, a senior organizer and research associate for the Program on Inequality and the Common Good at the Institute of Policy Studies in Seattle, will explore the link between education and the criminal justice system.
• Freedom When? Race and Labor, Then and Now, Building 7 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. A lecture by David Roediger, who has a doctorate in History from Northwestern University and teaches African-American Studies at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, followed by a question and answer session.
• Poetry Workshop, Building 2 at 11 a.m.
• The workshop will help to show how poetry can be used as a platform for expression.
• Open Mic Poetry, Building 8, Mt. Constance room from 7 to 9 p.m.
• Laurin “Piece” Kelly and Freshest Roots open the doors to anyone wishing to share their poetry in a like-minded environment.
• Friday, Jan. 22:
  • Freedom When? Race and Labor, Then and Now, Building 7 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. A lecture by David Roediger, who has a doctorate in History from Northwestern University and teaches African-American Studies at the University of Illinois. He will examine the history of race and labor from the era of slavery and conquest to current workplace traditions, followed by a question and answer session.
  • Movie Fridays: Slam, Building 7 from 12:30 to 2 p.m. Slam is a 1998 independent film that tells the story of a young man whose talent for poetry is hampered by his social background.

The events of MLK Week are sponsored by Student Programs Center for Leadership & Service, Multicultural Services and Learning & Teaching Center.

For more information go to http://www.highline.edu/stuSERV/programs/mlkweek.htm or visit Student Programs on the third floor of the Highline Student Union Building.

Rainy days return

By JON BAKER
Staff Reporter

The wet winter weather this quarter has made umbrellas a campus constant.

The Thunderword / January 14, 2010

Highline Heroes

Front-office assistant leaving

By JON BAKER
Staff Reporter

Lynnie Bracco will be leaving Highline soon. “I’m sorry to leave now, but I have to go home to family. My whole family is in California and I have new grandchildren,” Bracco said.

Bracco is the front office assistant for the Facilities Department here at Highline.

Her job requires her to do everything from answering the phones to managing maintenance databases and paying the utility bills for the college.

Bracco came to Highline 12 years ago after moving from Washington to Roseville, Calif.

“My daughter talked about Highline like it was a shrine,” Bracco said. “I also had a friend that worked here part time and I thought it would be fun to work here.”

Bracco brought experience with her when she came from California. “I worked for the State of California for 12 years. I started out as a secretary and moved up to an analyst.”

“I knew I wanted to work for the state of Washington,” said Bracco.

Bracco said that part of the reason she has stayed here has been the people.

“There have been many, many challenges here in this department. Now we have a wonderful team. I like the atmosphere of the educational facility.”

Highline isn’t just a good place for Bracco to work. “My daughter Carolyn works here,” she said. “She was only going to work here for three years and now she has been here for 10.”

Bracco has enjoyed her time here at Highline and will be missed by the campus community.

“Highline Heroes” is a new weekly feature. If you there is someone you would like to see here, send an email to Thunderword@highline.edu.
New budget will hurt us all

After the Washington State Legislature reconvened on Monday, the first item in the news from the new session is the new $2.6 billion budget shortfall. This is on top of the nearly $8 billion shortfall the Legislature predicted last year. The next step after figuring out that there will be a shortfall is figuring out just what to do about it.

Any number of programs and departments could see cuts, just as higher education has already. K-12 education is really the only exception here, since their funding is mandated by the state constitution. Taxes are one of these options. So far, legislators have discussed raising the state sales tax from 6.5 percent to 7 percent; extending the tax to candy, gum and bakery products; repealing the non-resident sales tax exemption; increasing the cigarette tax; and adding a new tax on bottled water.

According to the State Department of Revenue, these taxes will raise just under $1 billion, which still leaves the other $1.6 billion up for debate. Higher education could end up taking another hit, including financial aid for lower-income students. More parks and trails could be closed.

State-subsidized health insurance for those in need could also be cut.

In the end, something will happen to give people a reason to be unhappy. The state is, unfortunately, faced with a series of bad choices to make, but there is no alternative. State Treasurer Jim Mcintire has warned that without changes, the state could run out of money in a few months.

The best way to make the pain as bearable as possible may be to cut programs across the board, but make sure that nobody ends up taking more of a reduction than anybody else.

Sharing the pain in these times of economic recession may not be the most popular view, with people starting to have more of an every-man-for-themselves mentality.

However, to make the recovery as quick as possible, it will be necessary for everybody to feel the pain right now.

Profiling not racist if done right

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has been working to make travel in this country safer since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. The Christmas Day terror plot involving a Nigerian citizen, 23-year-old Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, who tried to blow up Northwest Airlines flight 253, brought the ever-present concerns of terrorism back to the forefront.

For anybody who has flown since the events in 2001, security has become quite the burden. In the end, something will happen to give people a reason to be unhappy. The state is, unfortunately, faced with a series of bad choices to make, but there is no alternative.

President Barack Obama called the most recent attempt a “systematic failure,” and he was right for doing so.

Next came the accusations and the ideas of what to do to make the system better.

Going through everybody’s bag at the gate before they board a flight bound for the U.S. and only allowing passengers one carry-on bag are both valid solutions, but they are unnecessary for everybody.

Which brought on the most controversial solution, which is screening passengers based on profiling.

Organizations such as the American Civil Liberties Union have already objected to the profiling, just as they did to the full-body scanners the TSA wanted to implement in airports around the country.

The U.S. is supposed to be a free country, and nobody should be subject to that kind of invasion of their privacy, they say.

While it is true that individual freedoms are an important right to protect, most people would also agree that they don’t want to be blown up flying home from a trip. This profiling is a good idea because it will allow officials to focus on those that are actually a threat.

It will be a refreshing change from being paranoid about 70-year-old women taking knitting needles on a plane.

The idea of profiling is generally frowned upon, and it’s not something that should be widely practiced without good reason.

However, it’s not racist or xenophobic if the criteria for selection are well-chosen.

The 14 countries whose citizens will be subject to additional screening are all either sponsors of terrorism or “countries of interest,” such as Yemen, which is where the Christmas Day bomber studied under al-Qaeda.

With this profiling, Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab would never have been allowed to board the plane in Amsterdam.

He was a person of interest even before he boarded that plane, but somehow he almost managed to cause more grief to innocent people.

As far as the full-body scanners go, they could also be used effectively.

The main objections people have with the scanners are that they are too revealing, but that is a shallow concern.

If people really care that much about what they look like, they should probably never go to the doctor for a physical ever again.

This misplaced paranoia, coupled with the usual American can prudishness, all misses the point that the reason for these measures is to ensure the safety of everybody who travels in this country.

Unfortunately, because of the way we live and some of the things our government has done and continues to do, the U.S. is a target of terrorists. That isn’t going to change anytime soon, so we might as well protect ourselves from those that are potential terrorists.

Here are the facts: 70-year-old retirees do not make bombs and hide them in their underwear.

There is no way they should be subject to the same treatment as a man in his 20s who buys a one-way ticket with cash, checks no baggage, and whose British visa has been revoked.

Write to us

The Thunderword invites letters and guest commentary from members of the campus community.

You could write a letter to the editor to express your opinion about something.

Begin your letter with, “Dear Editor:” and write whatever is on your mind.

Tell us your name and include your relationship with the college.

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

Letters should be no more than 200 words.

Commentaries should be 500 words or less and arrive no later than Monday for publication that Thursday.

Please provide contact information for confirmation purposes.

Submissions may be condensed and/or edited for spelling, grammar and length.

We strive to publish all submissions.
Puzzles

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

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Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Trivia test by Fú Rodríguez

1. U.S. STATES: What is the highest capital city in the United States?
2. SLOGANS: What was Woody’s Owl's message from the federal government?
3. RELIGION: When is Maundy Thursday in the Christian religion?
4. MUSIC: What entertainer has been called “The Man from Memphis”?
5. DISCOVERIES: Who is credited with discovering streptomycin?
6. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president had a pet badger?
7. MATH: What is the decimal equivalent of the fraction one-third?
8. MOVIES: What film features the theme park “Walley World”?
9. GEOGRAPHY: Where is the Lombardy region?
10. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is a psychogalvanometer measure?

Arts Calendar

• Breeders Theater presents Snowbound, a comedy/drama about seven people trapped in a mountain lodge with someone who might be a killer, opens Jan. 15 at E.B. Foote Winery in Burien.

Performance dates continue on Jan. 16, 20, 22, 27, 28, 29, 30 at 7 p.m. and Jan. 17, 24 and 31 at 2 p.m.

Tickets are $20 including wine tasting. Tickets are available at the winery, 127B SW 153rd St., and Corky-Cellars, 22511 Marine View.

Dr. S., Des Moines.

Ticket sales from the Jan. 20 performance benefit the Highline College Foundation, providing scholarship support to Highline students.

• The Omaha Theater Company brings the classic tale of The Little Engine That Could to Kent’s Spotlight Series on Saturday, Feb. 6 at 2 p.m. This family-friendly performance will take place at Kent-Meridian Performing Arts Center, 10020 SE 256th St. This is a Spotlight for Kids performance (best for ages 4 to 9).

Tickets are $10 for adults, $5 for seniors and $8 for 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 the arts editor, Courtney Sankey by calling 206-879-3710, ext. 3317, or by e-mail at csankey@highline.edu.

Campus events will get priority, but all non-campus items are welcome. Please include time, date and location of the event, plus contact information.

Snowy Thoughts

Across
1. Saintly circles
6. _ button
11. Occurred
14. Make into law
15. Greek marketplace
16. Mischief-maker
17. Fan-planted crop
19. Sports venues
20. Like some kitchens
23. To a small degree
26. Passionate
27. Most frigid
28. Upper classman
30. Macy’s section
31. Garfunkel’s ex partner
32. Prosciutto
35. Yankee’s club
36. Short of
38. First of a Latin trio
39. A wee hour
40. Lift up
41. Bard’s river
42. Do an electrical job
44. Current amount
46. Shade of blue
48. Actor George or singer Rosemary
49. He followed Franklin
50. Broadcasters
52. Harry’s follower
53. December noaster, e.g.
55. Eyes are there
59. Lab heaters
60. Contented cow
61. It’s kept in a pen
62. Gave a hand to English university town

Down
1. Chop
2. “Wheel of Fortune” buy
3. PC linkup
4. Gas ratings
5. Cardwood units
6. Chess pieces
7. Turkish leader
8. Some votes
9. 401(k) alternative
10. Furnishing food
11. Florida city
12. At full speed, at sea
13. Exhausted
14. Relax
15. Big fuss
16. Bar dance?
17. Continental divide?
18. December recess
19. Soon
20. Move like a snake
21. Burn
22. Dean Martin’s “That’s
23. Bucks
24. Like a blushing bride
25. Door sign
26. Judge, for one
27. Canal locale
28. Yankee, e.g., briefly
29. Tidbit
30. Blood pressure
31. PC linkup
32. AAA linkage
33. English unit
34. Turkish leader
35. Gooseneck
36. Texas cook-off dish
37. Like some old buckets
38. Colgate rival
39. “The King and I” role
40. Font option, for short
41. Resident: Suffix
42. Suffix with lax-
43. December recess
44. Continental divide?
45. PC linkup
46. Texas cook-off dish
47. Like some old buckets
48. Colgate rival
49. “The King and I” role
50. Font option, for short
51. Resident: Suffix
52. Suffix with lax-
53. Clear (of)
54. Some MIT grads

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each new across, each column down and each small 3 x 3 box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: **

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Last week’s crossword solution

YULETIDE GREETINGS

Across
1. Rob
2. Oake
3. Inane
4. Aper
5. Base
6. Puts
7. Fischer
8. Price
9. Toy
10. Ene
11. Rant
12. Nopets
13. Pause
14. Ndash
15. Als
16. Tyrranny
17. Lotta
18. Oboe
19. DNA
20. Achr
21. Mascarol
22. Nos
23. Rhea
24. Trade
25. Sputnik
26. Ages
27. Papa
28. Limbo
29. Lamarr
30. Ella
31. Nyc
32. Stocking
33. Stuffer
34. Aire
35. Shoe
36. Lille
37. Toed
38. Else
39. Style

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

Quotable Quote

Cleaning your house while your kids are still growing is like shoveling the walk before it stops snowing. • Phyllis Diller
From school project to art gallery show

High school students come together to honor MLK

By STEPHANIE KIM Staff Reporter

Diverse art by local high school students tries to mirror the diversity at Highline in the library gallery's new show. The gallery is currently displaying "Capturing His Words: A Teenage Interpretation of MLK Jr." in honor of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday through the end of January. This art exhibit features a collection of pencil and ink sketches, photography, poems, personal narratives and colored pencil drawings from students of Mt. Rainier High School, Seattle Christian Schools and Aviation High School.

This exhibit started as a school project for seniors Dorothy Franks and Suhmin Chern of Mt. Rainier High School. However, Franks and Chern developed a different approach as time passed.

"It was realizing that I was being [discriminated against]," said Franks. "I was at a restaurant and I gave the waitress money and then she gave me back the cash, but she didn’t give me back my change.

"We wouldn’t do that to my parents. But because I’m a teen you think you could take advantage of me. It was a matter of respect. We’re adults."

Franks and Chern wanted to hold the exhibit at Highline because they both felt Highline was the best place to express diversity.

"Highline Community College and our school district are very diverse and it’s a great value," said Franks.

Chern said she wanted to have an exhibit of Martin Luther King Jr. because of "his values and ideology of equality for everyone. He fought for civil rights."

"It would be really great to show how he’s an influence," said Franks. "We’re looking at people like Martin Luther King and valuing what they’ve done."

Although Franks and Chern began this project in May 2009, they faced a difficult obstacle of getting students to participate. The two sent out multiple e-mails to 50 local school districts and less than 10 responded back.

"We didn’t even hear back from Kent or Federal Way at all," Franks said. "They weren’t listening. All we wanted was to give an opportunity for their students."

Seattle Christian senior Erin Yoshida contributed three of her pieces to the exhibit. Yoshida’s scratch art piece All began as an assignment in her art class. The piece displays the words of Cecil F. Alexan- der’s hymn All Things Bright and Beautiful. Yoshida’s inspiration for this piece was her va-cation to Hawaii.

"I wanted to capture the beauty of what I saw in Hawaii and the words to All Things Bright and Beautiful kept pop- ping up in my head," said Yo- shida.

Yoshida’s piece What’s in your heart? was done in pencil with the words “love,” “hate” and “pain” written. The muse of this piece came from her ana- ger she felt at the time.

With the What’s in your heart? Yoshida felt she could let go of her anger in the process of drawing it by focusing on the detail of the piece.

Of her three pieces displayed in the exhibit, this one was the most time consuming because of the amount of detail.

Yoshida said that most of her pencil sketches are done in class because there is always a notebook and a pencil in front of her.

Yoshida’s last piece entitled See Who I Really Am displays important aspects of her life.

"The Behind What’s in Your Heart? I could see what I was," said Yoshida.

The important aspects of her life displayed in the drawing in- clude mountains, music, flowers and a broken heart.

This piece demonstrates the importance of music to Yoshida with the use of a treble clef on her eyelid. Repetitive music notes are also shown throughout the entire piece.

Yoshida’s inspiration for cre- ating art comes from the works of M.C. Escher. She received a book of his artwork during her sophomore year.

"I really liked how complex and detailed his pieces were," said Yoshida.

Freshman Jodynn Denton contributed a poem entitled If I Were Invisible for a Day. Den- ton wrote, "I would play my vi- olin in the middle of downtown Seattle” and “I’d save all the cows I could from a slaughter-house.”

“T was an artist, I would feel like this was such an ac- complishment," said Chern. The two say they’re happy with the success of the exhibit.

“We can be heard, we can achieve this, we did do it,” said Franks. “The fact that we were able to pull this exhibit off shows something."

Franks and Chern will have an opening for their exhibit on Friday, Jan. 22 from 5-6 p.m.

“Capturing His Words: A Teenage Interpretation of MLK Jr." will be available on the 4th floor of the library.

Hours of the Exhibit and Art Gallery are Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. – 9 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday from 2 p.m. – 9 p.m.

This exhibit will be available to students and public alike until Jan. 31.

COURTESY HONOROSKI/THUNDERWORD
This piece all encompasses Dr. King’s famous words, which she is also named for. They will not be judged by the color of their skin, but the content of their character. The collage was made by Linnaea Franks.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT PHOTO
This piece is entitled "Holding Court." Courtney Sankey.

Ho, ho hum holiday movies

Here we come a caroling to the theater, without holiday movies.

What happened to the holi- day movie? When was it de- cided that the holiday movie season would no longer consist of happy-go-lucky, Christmas-themed movies made for people of all ages and become a block- buster factory?

During the course of my win- ter break I went and saw a few movies, and then I realized that none of them were a holiday feature. This is not usually the case.

When I went and looked up what sort of fun holiday films I could go and enjoy I came to find out that only one such mov- ie actually existed, Disney’s A Christmas Carol.

Which again brings me to my query; what happened to the holiday movie? Usually, during the month of December and the latter part of November, the silver screen is strewn with the remake of a holiday favorite or the trials of some new, soon-to-be holiday favorite.

This year the holiday sea- son came and went with noth- ing more than another animated remake of a classic story, sur- rounded by record breaking movies of epic proportions.

Disney’s A Princess and the Frog, Disney introduced their first ever colored princess. Movie audiences and crit- ics alike swam to see how she would perform.

Then came the gripping story of world-renowned detective Sherlock Holmes.

I sat but certainly not least, came the long awaited James Cameron money-maker Avatar. This movie in and of itself, has become an international phenomenon breaking box office re- cords in their first week- end alone.

With all of these wonder- ful movies and more out, and I went and saw some of them, I still yearned for my traditional holiday movie? Which again brings me to my query; what happened to the holiday movie?

Am I the only one left wait- ing for these movies? Cheers to a not so jolly holiday movie selection.

Courtney is starring in her own holiday movie. It will pre- meer on Dec. 25, 2010.

COURTESY HONOROSKI/THUNDERWORD
Dramatic showing for drama’s winter production

By COURTNEY SANKEY
Staff Reporter

The stage is set for another production put on by Highline’s Drama Department.

Debra Pralle reprises her role as director for the upcoming play, Antigone.

Antigone was originally written by Sophocles, but was adapted in 1945 Jean Anouilh.

The latter of the two is what the Drama Department will be performing, that is they will update it to the early 1960s to set it in the Vietnam War instead of WWII.

"Obviously we aren’t placing it match for match in America necessarily," Pralle said.

"But we wanted to move it out of the era in which this particular version was written."

Even through the setting and wording get an update the story as a whole will stay true to the original play.

"How ever ‘contemporary’ it may seem, it will still retain many Greek traditions: rituals, kings, The Gods, the Greek Chorus, etc.,” Pralle said. Auditions were held late last week, with a crowd of about 35 people.

"Some just did it for the love of music and classical arts, people."

"Some just did it for the experience and extra credit in their (acting) classes," said Pralle.

The Seattle Philharmonic Orchestra is due to perform at Centerstage, offering a classical music experience on March 4.

As of July, Centerstage changed from renting out the Knutzen Family Theater to managing its own productions.

This was done in hopes to bring new artistic productions to Centerstage.

Alan Bryce, managing artistic director, said it’s “real important to have diverse productions at Centerstage,” hoping to bring new and assorted audiences.

Bryce said that productions are going good so far, and have been exceeding the theater’s expectations.

The same is to be expected for the Seattle Philharmonic Orchestra’s upcoming concert.

The Seattle Philharmonic has been a part of the Seattle arts culture since 1944, producing low-cost, high-quality concerts for the region.

The Orchestra is comprised of talented members of the community who share their common love for music and classical arts by performing for the public.

The director of the orchestra, Adam Stern, has previously led the Seattle Symphony, the New York Chamber Symphony, and the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center in Washington D.C.

Stern will be conducting the 50 plus musicians while they perform the pieces Petite Suite and Sarabade by Claude Debussy, and Minuet on the Name Haydn by Maurice Ravel.

The Philharmonic will also be playing many favorites by Beethoven and other famous composers.

The musicians will play instruments ranging from violins and cellos to oboes and a harp.

The concert itself is rated family friendly, making it appropriate for all ages and audiences.

Tickets prices range from $10 to $25; $25 for senior admission, $20 for student, and military, and $10 for youth 17 years of age and under.

Tickets can be reserved on the Centerstage website, www.centerstagetheatre.com, or by phone. Call: 253-661-1444.

The theater may also be reached for directions at 253-835-2000.

Look for Centerstage at The Knutzen Family Theatre located at the Dumas Bay Centre, 3200 SW Dash Point Road, Federal Way.
The Thunderword / January 14, 2010

**Lady T-Birds lose two sophomores to injury**

By BRIAN GROVE
Staff Reporter

The Highline women’s basketball team is going to have to dig deep on the bench if it wants to make a run for the NWAC conference tournament in March.

Over the break, the Lady T-Birds suffered the loss of two sophomores, Patrice McKinnon and starting point guard Dani Carlman.

Highline Head Coach Amber Rowe said both players will be out for the remainder of the season.

“Dani has a stress fracture in her foot and will not be back this season. Both her and fellow sophomore Patrice McKinnon are redshirting and plan to return next season,” she said.

“Losing our starting point guard is a big blow. However, I think Jordan Beale has stepped in well.”

Beale, a sophomore guard from Pomeroy High School shot 46 percent from the field in 22 games for Highline last season.

Highline is currently in fifth place in the West Division, 1-1, and 5-6 overall.

Over the course of the pre-season, the Lady T-Birds played nine games which included three tournaments with historically strong teams such as Walla Walla, Lane and Bellevue.

On Friday, Dec. 4, Highline went head to head with Treasure Valley in its first game of the Bellevue College Tournament. Highline chucked the Chukars out of contention, 76-69.

Highline’s leading scorers included Tera McCann-Soushek, Lauren Hill, and Dani Carlman with 18, 13, and 11 points, respectively.

The Lady T-Birds’ next game on Saturday, Dec. 5, did not go as smoothly. Highline was defeated by the Bellevue Bulldogs, 75-64.

Hill was the outstanding scorer for Highline with 21 points.

Unfortunately, it was not enough for the combined efforts of Alisha Love and Madison Miller, who scored 19 and 18 points respectively for the Bulldogs.

The Lady T-Birds battled it out with Big Bend for third place in their final game of the tournament on Sunday, Dec. 6.

The Vikings came out on top, 74-67. Highline led in the first half, 34-32 but the inability to hit late free-throws, coupled with seven three-point shots from the Vikings, most during the second half were too much for the Lady T-Birds to overcome.

Highline played its next game on Tuesday, Dec. 15, when the team hosted the Peninsula Pirates.

The Lady T-Birds put an end to the Pirates swashbuckling and cut their sails, 71-55.

McCann-Soushek and Ariassa Wilson led Highline’s offense with 17 and 14 points, respectively, Wilson and McCann-Soushek also had 26 combined rebounds.

On Friday, Dec. 18, 2009, Highline played Green River at Green River College. Highline was defeated by the Vikings, 56-45.

Highline’s next two games were against division rivals Lower Columbia, Saturday, Jan. 16, 1 p.m. at home and Pierce, Monday, Jan. 18, 6 p.m. at home.

Lower Columbia along with Centralia are perennial powerhouses in the West Division.

Rowe said if Highline shows up mentally as well as physically, they have good chances in each game.

“We’ll keep focusing on what we need to work on. If we fix what we do and come play the way we can we should be fine.”

**Thunderbird wrestling lethargic in loss after winter break**

By JON BAKER
Staff Reporter

Highline’s wrestling team was not served well by the winter break.

“Going into the break Highline had a good showing against Southwestern Oregon, posting a 28-15 win over the Lakers.”

Winar for Highline Justin Purves (125); Aaron Smith (133); Marshall Giovannini (157); Sam Ottow (141); and Jason Gray (149); Tate Collins (184); and Darren Faber (197).

After the Dec. 11 match, Highline had a long layoff.

“We practiced the starters three times a week over break,” said Brad Luvas, assistant coach.

“Our goal was to keep them in shape, but still rest them,” Luvas said. “Wrestling is the longest sports season we have and the guys need to be ready for nationals.”

Highline got heavyweight David Lopez back after he recovered from a knee injury. However, the team lost two wrestlers, Faber and Casey Park.

Faber had surgery during the middle of December and is expected to be back soon. Park on the other hand will be gone for the season. “He tore the labrum in his shoulder. We have asked for a medical redshirt and we think we’ll get it,” said Luvas.

Having a month off from competition did nothing good for the team.

Highline lost its next match to Southern Oregon 19-18. “We were lethargic. We didn’t wrestle like we were supposed to or have rallied in the past 6 p.m. away,” Smith, Gray (149), Giovannini (157), and Lopez all recorded wins for Highline.

Highline took on North Idaho on Wednesday in the Pavilion. Results from the dual were unavailable at press time.

The T-Birds travel to Oregon for the Clackamas Open this weekend.
After a rough start, the Highline men’s basketball team has rebounded to a .500 record through their first 10 games.

Highline Head Coach Ché Dawson said that even though their record isn’t flashy it doesn’t represent their raw talent.

“We get better, but were still inconsistent,” Coach Dawson said. “We think we played some tough teams and our record is not indicative of our potential.”

Before the winter break began, the T-Birds had some early season struggles against both Peninsula and Spokane.

Following those two early season losses, Highline took an out-of-division rival in Bellevue on Dec. 11. The final score of the game was 98-94, giving the T-Birds their first win of the season despite nearly giving the game away in the second half when they allowed 62 points and only countered with 42.

Leading the way for the green and white was Stephen Reinhart, a 6’3” freshman guard, who finished with 24 points on 8 of 11 shooting from the field and an impressive 6 of 8 from beyond the arc. He also contributed 4 rebounds and 3 assists in his 30 minutes on the court.

Another key factor to the win was the starting center Kyle Perry, a 6’10” sophomore. Finishing with an impressive all-around stat line of 12 points on 4 of 6 shooting from the field, 6 offensive and 12 total rebounds and 5 blocks in just 22 minutes on the court, he had the best game statistically of his career at Highline.

Despite a good result against a team that is now 8-3 and 1-1 in league play, it wasn’t without flaws for the T-Birds as they committed 22 turnovers in the game, 10 of which resulted from steals for Bellevue. 21 points came off the turnovers created by the Bulldogs.

Paving the way for Highline in this one was the 6’10” sophomore forward Dan Young, who finished with a sound 19 points on 7 of 18 shooting and 12 rebounds. Williams also contributed with 19 points of his own and had 5 rebounds and assists to go with that.

Reinhart also provided a solid boost with 15 points on just 4 of 11 shooting and 10 rebounds. He also added 4 assists and 2 steals.

In what will more than likely be their hardest competition of the year, Highline traveled to Idaho to take on the powerful Lower Idaho College Cardinals in their annual meeting. Although North Idaho plays in the NCIAA, they often play teams such as Highline in their pre-season.

Recently Highline hasn’t had much success against North Idaho, losing to them the last three years, and this contest was no different as the Cardinals came out toppered with a score of 91-79.

In the second round of the tournament, Mt. Hood, currently 9-2, disrupted the T-Birds’ run of success when they defeated Highline 66-56 on Dec. 19.

Even though both teams were poor from the field, with Highline shooting just 34 percent and Mt. Hood shooting 37 percent, the Saints had more opportunities from the charity stripe and made them count, making 16 of their 26 attempts. Highline finished with just 12 attempts, but were successful on 9.

Despite shooting just 4 of 13 from the field, Moyer led Highline in scoring with 14 points and also added 5 rebounds and 3 steals.

T-Birds starting point guard Darnell Williams, a 5’10” freshman guard, and Darnell Williams, a 6’3” freshman guard from Sunset High School in Portland, came on the scene in this game when he put up 15 points on 6 of 12 shooting.

In the prior three games he had been relatively quiet when it came to the box score; however, even since this game, he has become one of the best players on the team.

Following the tough Idaho excursion, the T-Birds went back to Washington the next day to have a rematch against Spokane.

Although Spokane edged Highline out Highline again, by a score of 85-79 this time, the T-Birds managed to play in control all game and only had 9 turnovers as a team.

Playing a big role was Julian Fernandez, a 6’3” sophomore guard from Enumclaw High School, who had 17 points on 6 of 9 shooting from the field.

Even though Highline finished 3-5 in non-league games, Moyer said the tough schedule will only help in the long run.

“The games away from home have really helped us,” Moyer said. “Coach Dawson does a great job with our schedule and playing tough games away from home has really prepared us for league play. Starting off well is really important because any team can win on any night. We can’t take any team lightly and have to continue to get better.”

Next up on Jan. 2 was the first West division game of the season at 7-4, 0-2 South Puget Sound. Although Highline played a good game and deserved to win it, South Puget Sound shot themselves in the foot with an abysmal shooting percentage of 35 from the field and 20 from beyond the arc. However, amazingly, they only had 4 turnovers.

On Highline’s side it was the guards that ruled the day as Moyer led all scorers with 17 points on 7 of 12 shooting to go with his 4 rebounds and 3 assists.

In the second league game for Highline, they faced Clark at home, who like South Puget Sound couldn’t buy a basket all game. They finished with a shooting percentage of just 28 from the field, 13 from beyond the three-point line and 57 percent from the free-throw line.

Leading the way for the T-Birds was Mt. Hood, a 5’10” sophomore forward, who had 11 points on 5 of 10 shooting and 14 rebounds.

Although Williams said the team was lethargic to start their first league games, they still managed to pull out two victories.

“In both games we got off to a slow start, but we played hard and together, followed our game plan and got the wins,” Williams said.

On Jan. 13, the T-Birds squared off with division rival Green River on the road. Score and stats were unavailable at press time for this game.

Following the Green River game, Highline will return home on Saturday to play NWAACC powerhouse Lower Columbia, who in fact beat Highline last year in the semi-finals of the NWAACC tournament before losing to Clackamas in the finals. This year Lower Columbia is 11-1 overall and 2-1 in league play and is currently ranked first in the Horizon Air Coaches’ Poll.

Young said that with the way the West is this year, that every game will be important in repeating their success from last year.

“Starting out the season 2-0 is putting us in a good place. That’s what we want to be,” Young said. “The league title could come down to one game, and currently we are the only team in the West that has complete control of their destiny.”

Highline players Wade Moyer and Antonio Gonzalez go against each other in a practice with assistant coach Jason Mgbroff looking on in the background.

William Schlupp/THUNDERWORLD

Ché Dawson

By CHRIS WELLS
Staff Reporter

Tough schedule has T-Birds ready for league play

Leading the way for the T-Birds since their 26 attempts. Highline finished with just 12 attempts, but were successful on 9.

Playing a big role was Julian Fernandez, a 6’3” sophomore guard from Enumclaw High School, who in fact beat Highline last year in their annual meeting. Although Spokane edged

Although Highline won on Saturday to play NWAACC powerhouse Lower Columbia, who in fact beat Highline last year in the semi-finals of the NWAACC tournament before losing to Clackamas in the finals. This year Lower Columbia is 11-1 overall and 2-1 in league play and is currently ranked first in the Horizon Air Coaches’ Poll.

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Highline players Wade Moyer and Antonio Gonzalez go against each other in a practice with assistant coach Jason Mgbroff looking on in the background.
Scallop puts some wallop in your potatoes

By KANDI CARLSON  
Staff Reporter

Scallop potatoes are easily made from scratch and will impress any house guest. You will need the following ingredients:

- 2-quart casserole dish
- 6 large potatoes (choose your favorite kind)
- 1 can of condensed cream of mushroom soup
- 1-1/4 cups of milk
- Seasoning

Using whole milk will add more flavor. Sometimes you just need the fat. If you would like to you can add a sliced onion. Walla Walla onions are the best for this dish because they will not overpower the potato. You can also add fresh herbs such as parsley or cilantro. You will want to finely chop them.

Begin by preheating your oven to 375 degrees. Grease your baking dish with oil or shortening. A little trick I use is using a paper towel. Applying the shortening to the paper towel allows you to better control the amount being used.

You only need to grease the baking dish so the sides and bottom are coated.

Next, slice your potatoes. You can peel them if you want to but it really does not matter and will not change the flavor. It will add a bit more texture to the dish. It is very important to slice your potatoes the same size. This will ensure even cooking throughout the dish.

The use of a slicer makes this much easier. Check your cheese grater. There is usually one on it. Place the sliced potatoes, onions and herbs in your greased baking dish. Combine soup, milk and seasonings in a separate bowl. Do not add water to the soup. Mix thoroughly. Add your potatoes in the baking dish.

Having the proper utensils and accessories is just as important as having your cupboard stocked.

You need: an 8 or 10-inch frying pan, 2-quart sauce pan, colander or strainer, casserole dish, baking sheet, a spatula, a large wooden spoon, tongs and a good set of knives.

There is not anything you can’t cook if you have this simple set.

This best investment you can make is in a heavy cast iron skillet. Don’t waste your money on one that is thin. The older ones are the best and the new-style heavy ones are outrageously expensive.

Garage sales and thrift stores are friends here. A cast iron skillet that is rusted and appears to be in desperate need of a burial is not as dead as you think. These skillets are designed to take a beating.

People tend to “just get by” when it comes to their cutlery. You don’t have to do that. Really good knives are expensive but good knives aren’t.

You just need to know where to look — the thrift store or a garage sale.

The knives there are most often discarded because someone purchased or received a better set. Not because there was something wrong with them. You will most likely have to have them cleaned and sharpened. You should be doing this with all your knives on a regular basis anyway.

If you are unsure how to properly sharpen a knife, don’t. You can seriously hurt yourself doing this.

There are places that will clean your knives and sharpen them at very little cost.

Check your local mall. Often there is a small kitchen or knife store that offers this service.

If you purchase a $40 knife at the thrift store for $4 and have it sharpened for $5, you still saved yourself $31 and have a good knife.

Take your time and build up a good set.

With these newly sharpened knives you can cut up some meat. Meat is a great thing to have in your freezer.

Buy when it is on sale. Every market, even the butcher has a sale each week. Keep an eye out for a special as you are shopping or drive by. There is not a single cut of meat that cannot be frozen.

If done properly, the meat can last months. So, do not go crazy, buy just enough to last you and your family.

Properly freezing meat does mean that you have to spend your money on the expensive freezer storage bags.

It is worth the cost and you will have to spend less time preparing the meat to be stored in the freezer.

If you prefer not to buy the expensive bags, wrap the meat in plastic wrap before placing in the storage bag. This will help prevent freezer burn.

That brings me to the kitchen accessories every kitchen should have: aluminum foil and plastic wrap.

These two items are mainly for cooking and food storage. Aluminum foil is a great substitute for cooking.

Plastic wrap will help preserve your leftovers so you can use them the next day.

With a little effort and ingenuity, you can get started cooking up your gourmet kitchen today.

Tip of the week: To get out a grease stain use Suave shampoo, which works wonders. Rinse stained area with cold water and apply a very small amount of shampoo.

This will cost you only a dollar or two.
Monfort charged, pleads innocent in shootings

**By AMBROSIOS AGUSTIN**  
Staff Reporter

Former Highline student Christopher J. Monfort pleaded innocent to the charge of the Oct. 31, aggravated murder of Seattle Police officer Timothy Brenton in King County Superior Court.

Monfort attended Highline from 2002-2004 and briefly served in student government before transferring to the University of Washington where he majored in Society and Justice. During his arraignment on Dec. 14, Monfort sat in a wheelchair.

During the course of his arrest he was shot and left paralyzed from the waist down.

Monfort faces an array of charges including arson in the first-degree, three first-degree attempted murder charges in addition to the aggravated murder charge. Since the murder involves a police officer, prosecutors may choose to seek the death penalty, but have not yet announced whether or not they will choose to pursue it.

In what seemed to be the first in a rash of recent police killings, prosecutors say that Monfort followed Officer Brenton and his partner Officer Britt Sweeney through Seattle’s Leschi neighborhood the evening of Oct. 31.

Monfort then approached the police vehicle with a .223-caliber rifle, and opened fire on the officers.

Officer Brenton was killed instantly, and officer Sweeney escaped the vehicle with minor injuries.

A tip from one of Monfort’s neighbors sent detectives to his apartment, where the Datsun 210 he drove the night of the murder was covered with a tarp.

Detectives approached Monfort to speak with him, but prosecutors say that he pointed a handgun at the head of one of the detectives, but the weapon failed to fire.

Monfort ran up the stairs of the building and around a corner, pointed the weapon again, and was shot by the pursuing detectives.

A later search of Monfort’s apartment turned up bomb making materials, the weapon used in the murder, and DNA evidence that helped place Monfort at the scene of an arson Oct. 22.

Christopher J. Monfort

Highline trying to get help to the people of Haiti

Highline faculty, staff and students are organizing to help the people of Haiti.

Haiti was devastated by a 7.0 magnitude earthquake Tuesday, Jan. 12. There were five aftershocks of magnitude 5.0 or greater.

This poverty stricken country does not have the resources to assist those in need of assistance. Relief experts say the nation lacks the basic infrastructure to even begin to recover from this latest disaster.

Haiti is on the island of Hispaniola in the Caribbean. It is the poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere. Last year it was devastated by storms. Many people are still missing and the death toll continues to rise.

If you are interested in getting involved with the aid effort contact Professor Kevin Stanley at kstanley@highline.edu or Professor Tracey Brigham at tbrigham@highline.edu.

Stanley, a Highline economics and Global Studies professor, said everyone on campus is invited to participate.

A student group, the Highline Volunteer Association, also is involved in the effort.

The volunteer group participates in a variety of community service projects.

For more information about the volunteer association, contact Shelly Caldejon at shellycaldejon@gmail.com.

**Students can feel safer in the parking lot**

By ISRAEL MAGANA  
Staff Reporter

More than half a dozen trees were removed from the Highline campus over winter break to improve the security of the campus, mainly at night.

“Seven to eight pines were removed from the eastern border to improve the security,” said Phil Sell, facilities engineer for the Highline campus.

Most of the pines that had been removed were located near the eastern border and close to the parking lot.

“The trees were removed by the recommendation of the Des Moines Police Department,” Sell said.

The trees grew to the point that they were covering the lights for the parking lot.

Removing them improves safety for students traveling in and around the campus at night.

The trees were also removed for cosmetic reasons and one was dead and removed for safety reasons. Various other items were removed from the campus.

Brush was removed to improve the look of the campus south of Building 1 and south of the east parking lot.

At the moment there are no plans to replant the trees or use the land for other purposes.

“The removal of the trees from the campus went by smoothly,” Sell said.

The total cost for the removal of all the trees and brush from the campus was close to $6,000, he said.

HELP WANTED

The Thunderword, Highline’s weekly student newspaper, has immediate openings for a librarian and an advertising representative.

- **Librarian:** 5-10 hours per week, organizing story files, mailing. Library experience essential; library majors encouraged to apply.

- **Advertising representative:** Sell ads to accounts on and off campus; keep track of advertising placement; some design work. Candidates must have a professional experience and transportation. Hours vary.

Respond by sending resume and cover letter to T.M. Sell at tsell@highline.edu.
Sugar plants have bittersweet implications

The introduction of sugar cane to the Caribbean changed the face of commerce

By SAM REASH
Staff Reporter

The introduction of sugar to the Caribbean changed the world, a Highline professor said in last week’s History Seminar.

Dr. Jennifer Jones, a geography professor on campus, opened the first History Seminar of Winter Quarter talking about the startling effects that sugar had throughout the world.

“There is a clear distinction between when we eat,” said Dr. Jones.

A big crop is a crop that was grown to sell for profit, and not necessarily because of any nutritional value.

As it turns out, this rather sweet crop has quite a bitter past.

Dr. Jones explained how originally sugar had only been available to the wealthy. She also explained why paintings of the nobles rarely included smiling; their teeth had been rotted out by sugar.

The Caribbean offered the perfect climate to grow sugar, so that’s what Europeans did.

“It grew like grass,” said Dr. Jones.

The sugar business was very labor intensive, but also extremely lucrative.

This led to heavy importation of slave labor.

“The became a monocrop,” said Dr. Jones. “They weren’t even growing food because all they grew was sugar.”

The living conditions for slaves on these plantations were awful and very often fatal.

“A sugar cane plantation is just about the worst place to be,” said Dr. Jones.

She said some slaves were tasking simply with standing guard near the grinders with machetes.

This was in the event someone’s finger got caught in the grinder. They would cut off the rest of the hand before they were pulled in, along with the sugar.

Dr. Jones also explained how the sugar cane market led to the infamous triangle trade (the first trade route between Europe, Africa, and the United States).

This trading route essentially relied on sugar, slaves, and rum.

The triangle trade allowed many other industries outside of the sugar cane market to flourish.

Eventually slavery ended, but that didn’t change the way things were.

The landscape had been changed so much that it was impossible to just start over.

“Because the good land was all planted as sugar, many of them had to come back and work on the plantations,” said Dr. Jones.

Dr. Jones said the sugar market is still a source of a lot of unfair labor today, but improvements have been made.

A lot of sugar is also being converted into ethanol.

History seminars are held weekly throughout the quarter on Wednesdays, at 1:30 p.m. in Building 3, room 102.

The next seminar will be done by Tim Clark, a history instructor on campus, who will be presenting on the Battle of Antietam, known as the bloodiest single-day battle of the American Civil War.

Neanderthals vanish, questions remain

Scientists are still uncertain about the fate of the Neanderthals

By TAYLOR JOAQUIN
Staff Reporter

Neanderthals may very well be walking among us today.

It has been widely debated among anthropologists as to whether modern humans interbred with these evolutionary relatives of humanity.

The truth is, nobody knows.

Dr. Lonnie Somer, who teaches anthropology here at Highline, presented “Did we exterminate the Neanderthals or are they us?” at last Friday’s Science Seminar.

Homo neanderthalensis evolved in Europe from an earlier hominid species called Homo erectus, the same species from which Homo sapiens (modern humans) evolved.

The word Neanderthal comes from the location of where the first fossil of its kind was found, Germany’s Neander valley in 1856.

Despite having a brain relatively as large as a human’s, there is a clear distinction between our body types.

“They were very strong, they were very powerful,” said Dr. Somer.

He also noted that in order to survive Europe’s cold climate, they evolved into having a short stockier build.

Although anthropologists may know their skeletal traits, little else is known about their lives.

“In terms of their culture it’s a wonderful mystery,” said Dr. Somer.

There has been little to no evidence of houses, needles, or any indicator of their lifestyle.

“When Neanderthals were evolving in Europe, humans were evolving in Africa,” Dr. Somer explained. “When we were expanding out of Africa they were spreading south and boom we ran into each other.”

So what happened when they ran into us?

“They were very strong, they were hunting and outcompeting them,” said Dr. Somer.

This idea is the basis for the Out of Africa Model.

According to the theory, modern humans evolved in Africa and later expanded, replacing all other existing hominids.

Others like to think that interbreeding took place.

Israel is home to two caves that favor this second theory.

There’s a cave called Skhul which was a temporary home to humans.

Literally a stone’s throw away there’s Tabon, a cave where Neanderthals lived.

Although anthropologists are unsure of when each of the caves were occupied, the presence of each still raises eyebrows.

This of course raises a huge question in the field: if humans lived in such close proximity of one another couldn’t interbreeding have taken place?

Dr. Somer thinks that this is unlikely, pointing to two differences between Neanderthals and humans that could have easily made interbreeding impossible.

The DNA differences could have been too great and any offspring would have been unable to reproduce.

Such is the case for mules. Mules are the result of the mating between a horse and a donkey. For the same reasons, Dr. Somer said, they are sterile.

Physical differences could have made interbreeding difficult as well.

The differences in pelvic bones and cranial size could have made the birthing process too dangerous or inhibited it altogether.

Although he seems to lean toward the Out of Africa Model, Dr. Somer says “I don’t know,” citing that there is not enough information or evidence to conclude what exactly happened.

The next science seminar will be held on Jan. 24 where Tim Vagen will be presenting “Biomechanics and the Physics of Injury.” Science Seminar meets Fridays at 2:20-3:10 p.m. in Building 3, room 102.
Further improvements to myHCC will improve communication

By DAVID LUGO Staff Reporter

Student campus-based e-mail is now available, said Tim Wrye, director of Instructional Computing.

Promised in Fall Quarter 2009 the e-mail system is part of the myHCC project.

The e-mail account is easy to access and use, said Wrye.

The service, which is similar to Gmail, and may be accessed by all students at students.highline.edu. Simply visit the site, use your myHCC name and password and the account is set up and accessible. The service may even be added to cell phone e-mail clients on phones such as iPhones and Blackberries.

The easy access makes it far more accessible to students, as no forms or inputs are needed from the student. The accounts are just waiting to be fully utilized by Highline staff and students.

While the service has been implemented, Highline is still in the policy making stage, creating the regulations that the college faculty, administration, and other staff, will use with the program to reach students effectively. The plan is to be able to reach students without bombarding them with messages, said Wrye.

Many instructors use Angel, or other online classroom software, to communicate with students. Campus based e-mail can improve communication between students and instructors who do not use Angel, or have online class components.

Highline administration could use the e-mail service to send students emergency or closure information regarding the college, and to inform students of important upcoming dates, such as tuition due dates, registration and other events.

The new e-mail system eliminates username and password duplication. The overall goal “one username and password to access everything they [students] need at Highline,” said Wrye.

For example, the same user name and password for myHCC also grants access to Angel online classroom services.

E-mail is the first of a few planned additions to myHCC. Possibilities for the future are print management, and incorporation of outside publishers, Wrye said.

Work is in progress to use myHCC as a print management device.

“We’ve had a lot of print abuse in the past,” said Wrye.

The focus is making Highline and myHCC, “one easy place” for students to access important class and college information.

-- Tim Wrye, director of Instructional Computing

Got news? tword@highline.edu

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To talk in confidence, with confidence.
Federal Way to choose new mayor in November

By CAITLYN STARKEY
Staff Reporter

This measure attempted pas- sage and failed last February. Until now, the honorary po- sition of mayor was held by a council member and was little more than a title.

Now Federal Way is chang- ing forms of government, com- pared to a city council and city manager form. “We are in the middle of dis- cussing the changes and what roles and duties the eighth per- son on the council will have,” Kochmar said.

Many of the local cities with strong mayor forms of govern- ment have a popularly-elected mayor and a city manager, due to the size of their city.

Federal Way faces additional challenges at the end of this term, because the previous city manager was asked to resign. This leaves the position allotted in the budget, but not filled. “We will not have a person in the position of city administra- tor,” Kochmar said.

After the popular vote af- firmed Proposition No. 1, the City Council voted on Dec. 12, 2009 to hold the mayoral elec- tion in November with the nor- mal general state-wide election. This decision was made to save money.

Kochmar said it’s not worth spending $110,000 to well over $100,000 for a special election versus just a few thousand for the state election which we are already on.”

Before the December council meeting, there was some con- fusion about when the election should legally take place.

According to Washington State RCW 35A.02.050, the implementation of the measure should be within six months of the passage.

Though there is a year be- tween the passage of Proposi- tion No. 1 and the election of the popular mayor, the election is still legal as long as progress on details of the mayoral posi- tion is made, said City Attorney Pat Richardson.

Legislators continued from page 1

Meet your local state legislators

and start on an associate of sci- ence degree in engineering. He plans to graduate in 2011. With- out the help of financial aid, Pennington said he would not be able to attend.

Olga Afichuk, Student Gov- ernment vice president, first attended Highline last year through Running Start. Plead- ing with the legislators, Afichuk reminded them of the personal aspect of budget cuts.

“Before making any harsh decisions please think of me, my mom, my little brother, and all the students here at High- line,” said Afichuk.

Highline student Lesley Coffee described how she came back to school after 18 years as a stay-at-home mom and multi- ple layoffs due to the economy. “I always had the desire to go back to school and do what I encourage my kids to do,” said Coffee.

Former Student Government President Daniel Nordstrom was raised in Forks. After many years of working at a sawmill, Nordstrom came to Highline.

“Next thing I know, I was student body president of a community college three times the size of my hometown,” said Nordstrom.

Nordstrom is now looking forward to his first mortgage payment, due to his success in the workforce because of his education at Highline.

Legislators who attended the breakfast had a positive re- sponse.

“I very much enjoyed hear- ing the students’ views. I think it’s important for legislators to listen. My son goes to Highline so I have a good idea of the situa- tion,” said State Rep. Priest.

State Rep. Priest plans to focus on education this legisla- tive session, specifically early education and higher education institutions, such as Highline.
El Niño may keep Northwest warm this winter

By DAN JURPIK
Staff Reporter

Winter 2010 will be less cold than Winter 2009, National Weather Service representatives say.

Last year’s weather included snow, ice, and temperatures below freezing that lasted for several weeks. But that will not be the case this year as weather conditions will be mild.

“The weather pattern that has set up this year is much milder than normal,” said Art Gable, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service’s, Seattle Weather Forecast Office. This season’s outlook, “is not as wet, not as cold.”

Gable went on to say that Western Washington’s predicted mild winter is caused by a recurring climate pattern known as El Niño.

In the Puget Sound Region, this means the temperatures stay above freezing, and often there’s an increase in rain with little chance of snow in lower elevations.

“El Niño is the abnormal warming of ocean waters in the South East Pacific, off the Western coast of South America,” said Johnny Burg, also a meteorologist with the weather service.

“The expression El Niño was first used by the local fishermen in South America, when they noticed a drop in fish catch taking place along with the unusually warm seawaters,” said Burg.

“This typically happened, every few years or so around Christmas time, so the fishermen named it after the Christ Child.”

Both meteorologists agreed that last year’s harsh winter was out of the ordinary for our region.

“Last year was a La Niña or Little Girl, the weather pattern which is the opposite of El Niño and it’s much cooler than normal,” said Burg. “But this year’s average winter temperatures will be in the 40s and 50s.”

Warmer than normal temperatures are typical for the Northwest during an El Niño, but have a harsher effect on other regions of the world.

This weather phenomenon creates deadly forest fires from prolonged droughts in Indonesia, Australia and parts of eastern Africa, as well as devastating floods and mudslides caused by severe rainstorms in Ecuador, Peru, and California.

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