Big crowds expected at Olympia rally

By CAITLYN STARKEY
Staff Reporter

Highline students will not be alone as they rally against higher education budget cuts and tuition increases on Feb. 15.

Several conservative and liberal political groups along with schools and commercial organizations have said they will be staging rallies at the capitol on Feb. 15.

The groups will be rallying for everything from smaller budget cuts and tuition increases to weaker government and lower taxes.

Highline students will be rallying against the expected budget cuts and tuition increase looming for the 2010-2011 school year.

Higher education is at high risk for budget cuts because this year the Washington state budget faces a $2.6 billion deficit. Many aspects of the budget are at risk of funding cuts, however because higher education does not receive federal matching funds and is not constitutionally protected, it is at higher risk of larger cuts.

Please see Rally, page 15

Students say they are blasé about safer sex

BY THUNDERWORD STAFF

Many Highline students say they are sexually active, and are worried about sexually transmitted diseases. Many say they know someone who has a sexually transmitted disease.

But many say they are not using protection.

A non scientific survey of Highline students found that 56 percent (58 out of 104) say they are sexually active and are concerned about the many types of sexually transmitted diseases.

Also in the survey, 37 percent of Highline students say they know someone who has or had a sexually transmitted disease.

But while some students say they take measures to further protect themselves and their partners, others say they simply just don’t worry about it.

“I currently am sexually active with one person but I am still concerned about an STD because we have an open relationship,” said Ashley Sandoval, a student at Highline.

“Even though I choose to be with only him, I don’t know if he is having sex with other girls.”

Please see Safe sex, page 15

Electric daydreams

Student laptop use in classrooms could be a powerful learning tool, but also a distraction

By DAVID LUGO
Staff Reporter

Popping up like spring flowers, students using laptops in class are becoming more common with each passing quarter.

Highline instructors and students share mixed opinions regarding the increased use of laptops in the classroom. Many students are interested in using more technology in the classroom, while many instructors remain skeptical of the efficiency of students using laptops during class.

In 2009, Highline expanded campus wireless, which allows internet access to wireless devices, such as smart phones, iPod Touches and laptops in almost every building on campus. This expansion allows for extended usage of laptops in class, and many students are taking advantage of the opportunity.

“There’s been a growing amount of small devices being used on campus. The complexion of the campus as far as technology has drastically changed,” said Highline Director of Administrative Technology Dennis Colgan.

“There are laptops and [people] using laptops all over campus,” Colgan said. “The most users at one time were 212.”

Reception from faculty to expanded use in the classroom has

Please see Laptops, page 14

A bloody Valentine’s Day history

Wrestling ready for regional championships

Discounts for students at local theaters

Weekend Weather

Please see Laptops, page 14

Please see Safe sex, page 15

Please see Laptops, page 14

Please see Safe sex, page 15

For full forecast, see page 16.
An adult male walked by a security officer on the south side of Building 6, while he screamed at the top of his lungs on Feb. 4 at 11:40 p.m. He was wore a stocking cap and he carried a bottle in a brown paper bag. The security officer noted in his report that the suspect screamed about gangs and said, “I don’t care if you call 911.”

He continued to yell and scream while he walked around campus. He appeared agitated and acted as if his screams were directed at a specific person.

When Des Moines Police officers arrived on campus, the man could not be found.

**Broken windows blamed on vandalism**

Vandalism is believed to be responsible for the most recent broken window at Highline. Maintenance reported one of the long rectangular windows was broken on the east side of Building 4. The damage was found on Feb. 5.

**Mysterious note misunderstanding**

A student reported she found a note on her Ford Explorer in the custody of the officer.

An Enumclaw Police Officer came in to execute a warrant on Feb. 4, at 11:40 p.m., Feb. 16, from 130-2:30 p.m.

For more information call 206-878-3710 ext. 4350.

**Marketing**

Promote your company or event on Highline’s Calendar! For more information call 206-878-3710 ext. 4350.

**Writing center**

The writing center is hosting many workshops to help students excel in their writing.

The next workshops are:

- **Summarizing and Paraphrasing** on Feb. 16, from 4 to 4:50 p.m., Feb. 17, 1:30 to 2:20 p.m. and Feb. 18, 9 to 9:50 a.m.
- **Quoting & Citing Your Sources** Feb. 23, 4 to 4:50 p.m., Feb. 24, 1:30 to 2:20 p.m. and Feb. 25, 9 to 9:50 a.m.
- **Self Assessment & Writing Portfolio Cover Letters**, on Feb. 2, 4 to 4:50 p.m., March 3, 1:30-2:20 p.m. and March 4, 9 to 9:50 a.m.
- **Other Tricky Punctuation Issues**, on March 9, 4 to 4:50 p.m., March 10, 1:30-2:20 p.m. and Mar 11, 9 to 9:50 a.m.

**School events**

**Enchanted Dance comes to Highline**

Highline students will have the chance to dance the night away at the Enchanted Winter Dance Feb. 27 in the Student Union.

Tickets are $10 and are on sale now. The dance will be 7-11 p.m.

The dance will have a Hollywood theme where everyone walks in on the red carpet with the paparazzi taking pictures.

A professional disc jockey will be playing music all night and food will be provided.

**Men of Vision returns for a second time**

Highline will be hosting the Men of Vision discussion group for the second time this quarter. All the men of Highline are invited to the event.

The group tries to provide leadership, mentorship, and helps relationships with the campus community grow.

The discussion will try to uplift others in order for them to reach their full potential and reach their goals and visions.

The event will be on Feb. 11 Building 6, room 164, from 1:30-2:30 p.m.

**Calendar**

- **Susan Landgraf** will host Writing on the Sound, a presentation where you can look first hand at Puget Sound sea life. Those who attend will write a short poem about them. The event will be on Saturday, Feb. 13, from 12 to 12:45 p.m. at the Highline MaST Center.
- **Movie Friday** will be showing Shaft, the original 1971 action/thriller in honor of Black History Month. The film will be shown this Friday, Feb. 12 in Building 7, at 12:30 p.m.
- **The Museum of Flight** is hosting the Northwest Scale Modelers Show on Feb. 13, and 14 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

This year’s show is titled “History in Miniature - From T-Rex to Star Trek.” The show will have everything from models of dinosaurs and cavemen, sailing ships, early aircraft, antique cars, modern tanks to futuristic space vehicles. The show is free with museum admission.

**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).
Students find shrubbery instead of path

By DAN JURPIK
Staff Reporter

A commonly used pathway by Building 99 has been blocked with shrubbery by the building’s owner to deal with liability and maintenance issues.

Building 99 is located on Pacific Highway South, east of the main campus, and houses offices for services such as Disability Access, Human Resources and the Outreach Center.

Approximately three weeks ago, the well-worn and often-used path offering students and faculty the most convenient way to walk to Building 99 was obstructed by an assortment of trees and shrubs planted across it.

A sidewalk runs along the south side of the Building 99, but it is not the most direct route between Building 99 and the main campus.

The shortcut is “not intended to be used as a pathway,” said Barry Holldorf, Highline’s facilities services manager. “People are still using it, despite the trees and bushes.”

If you put in the buildings, the way that people travel will indicate the most expedient way to move, Holldorf said, paraphrasing an old adage. This is why the network of trails throughout Highline’s campus is the way it is.

Building 99 is a “leased facility from our parking lot east to 99,” Holldorf said. The landowner has the right to make decisions concerning his property. The property owner made “purely a business decision to avoid a liability issue,” Holldorf said. The action of planting the vegetation was not done to spite anyone at Highline, he said.

As an answer to the question of responsibility and accessibility, the owner of Building 99 had proposed several options to Highline about the pathway.

The first was to build a sidewalk, along with an American Disabilities Act curb, which proved to be cost prohibitive. Such a curb is already in place on the sidewalk running to the south of Building 99.

A second option was to make a basic asphalt corridor through to the building, if Highline would assume liability and maintenance of the path.

Without waiting for Highline’s answer, the landowner went with a third option of blocking the path with bushes. “[Highline] always tries to work with the landlord,” Holldorf said, regarding issues concerning Building 99 and the property it is on. The issue now is, “How can this benefit the landowner, the college and its students and faculty?” Holldorf said. That question, and any decisions that will arise from it, will go to Highline’s executive board.

Search for vice president will be in-house

By NICHOLAS McC OY
Staff Reporter

The permanent vice president for Academic Affairs will be a current Highline employee.

A screening committee including representatives of the different departments at Highline made that recommendation to President Jack Bermingham recently.

“We unanimously recommended an internal search as the best option to the president,” said Alice Madsen, the chairwoman of the committee. Bermingham approved the recommendation.

The interim vice president for Academic Affairs is currently Jeff Wagnin, widely expected to be a candidate for the position, has not confirmed or denied his candidacy.

He has held the position since 2008. The job’s primary purpose is to oversee the college’s instructional program.

The position opened to application on Feb. 8; it will be open for primary consideration through Feb. 18.

The requirements for the position include a master’s degree; leadership experience at the executive level; and experience with faculty unions, government higher education initiatives, and working with diverse populations.

“The activities and events for the selection of the VPAA [vice president for Academic Affairs] will include a faculty forum, campus and community forum, and interviews with the committee, executive staff, instruction cabinet, faculty union leadership and with the college president,” Madsen said.

The interview process is expected to begin in early March, with an anticipated date of employment of March 28.

Munro helps students get work, access

By JON BAKER
Staff Reporter

Jean Munro, originally a volunteer, is now the coordinator and advisor of Women’s Programs/WorkFirst.

“Everyone at Highline volunteers in some way and that is exciting to see,” Munro said.

“I came here because it was mandated in my bachelor’s degree that I put in volunteer hours,” Munro said. “My full-time job was in the service industry and that is what paid for my education.

Munro uses her background as well as her human services degree to help students find work.

“The service industry is a transferrable skill and people learn things that can’t be taught in the classroom, like common sense and multi-tasking,” she said.

“Having a degree or certificate doesn’t guarantee you a job anymore, so we help students network and develop themselves so they can get a career.”

The goal of Women’s Programs/WorkFirst is to open access to education while helping students in their career path and help them in their short-term employment goals. Munro said students at Highline are amazing and work hard. “WorkFirst has 400 students and they work hard to help Highline and everywhere you go you will see students that are working to keep Highline running.”

Munro said she enjoys the diversity of the students on campus.

“It brings a tear to my eye to see people from different countries saturated all over. You will see a little bit of every part of this world no matter where you look,” she said.

“Highline has a huge mission to be student focused. Without the students we would have nothing.”
Shortfall closer to being solved

State legislators are beginning to look at ways to raise more revenue to help stop the $2.6 billion budget shortfall from getting larger.

In last week’s [Feb. 4] Thunderword, we reported on some of the different options for raising funds. Tax increases are specifically being examined for possible ways to raise money without cutting vulnerable areas more than they already have been cut.

Higher education is one of the more vulnerable because it is not constitutionally protected like K-12 education.

The reasons for sparing higher education have been given and recently many times already. However, what the Legislature is finally providing is a valid alternative to making education suffer yet again.

With the economy in recession, now is not the best time to increase taxes, but it’s not the best time to cut education either.

Representatives have said the talk of cutting higher education, specifically community colleges – like Highline – is premature.

Unfortunately, just because they realize the importance of community colleges and the access they provide to higher education, that doesn’t mean we will be spared.

Students arguing for less cuts and more help paying for school may seem self-serving, but they have a valid argument that needs to be taken seriously.

Community colleges and Highline’s worker retraining program are major providers of employees in the current workforce. Without a decent education, students will not be as good at their jobs or as valuable to their employers.

Stopping corporate tax exemptions and removing loopholes for businesses to avoid taxation are the best route because big businesses are not suffering as students and smaller businesses are.

That being said, the smaller businesses should remain somewhat protected, because small businesses and private citizens are the most susceptible to their bank accounts dwindling.

On a positive note, it seems that the legislators are finally starting to understand the need to look beyond cuts for solutions to our budget problem, which is a $2.6 billion or $2.7 billion shortfall, depending on who you talk to.

However, realistically, there will be some cutting to do. And as we have said before, they should be spread out so one agency or department does not shoulder the entire burden.

Valentine’s message missing

How do I love thee? Let me count the ways... It is that time of the year already where people who are in a relationship of sorts and like to flaunt it in front of everyone.

Valentine’s Day is the worst holiday on the face of the planet. I am not saying this because you might think that I am bitter, I am just stating straight facts.

Back in the late fifth century B.C. around the middle of February, a small Roman village used to have the eligible women put their names into an urn and the men would come and pick a name out of said urn.

That name represented who they were going to spend the next year with. A lot of the times it resulted in a marriage.

A few years later, in 498 A.D., Pope Gelasius declared Feb. 14 Valentine’s Day. He did this because of that small tradition in that village.

What a ridiculous thing to do.

I am all for love, I get that this is what this holiday is supposed to be about. But in the real world, it is not.

It’s another holiday that has gone down the tubes and has been so commercialized that every time I see pink during the month of January and February, I want to vomit. Which is bad, because pink is my favorite color.

Now you may be thinking that it’s just because I’m single and I just don’t get it. Lies. I hate this holiday even when I have a boyfriend.

I don’t need my guy to show me affection, buy me expensive things and cook me dinner just so that I know he loves me; you’re supposed to know that at all times. So why have a special day just for love?

Love is something that should happen every day and does not need that extra pressure to make sure that I or you or whoever know it.

All this holiday does is put unwanted stress on those you love as well as yourself.

Most gentlemen forget this holiday exists or dread the time it comes up, knowing that their significant other will be angry with them if they don’t get them what they want, thus causing them to get the cold shoulder and not get what they want.

St. Valentine chose to marry soldiers and their lovers in secret so that they could share their love every day, not once every 12 months.

Because of this he was jailed and wowed the jailer’s daughter while behind bars with letters that he signed “From your Valentine.”

That to me is romantic, not buying a dozen roses for the one you love because you feel obligated.

The holiday as a whole has become so commercialized, like most holidays in this country, and so has lost its romantic meaning.

Romance is sporadic, fun and exciting. Valentine’s Day is predictable, boring and expensive.

Can’t we please take it back to the days of making a card, not buying one and by showing our love for each other, not proclaiming it with something ridiculous that will never see the light of day again?

Let us please remember that we are in a recession and that the light at the end of the tunnel is still a ways away and go back to the simplicity of love.

Remember on this gross holiday that you are already in a loving relationship, I hope, and that the simpler things in life are the things that often get remembered the most.

But if you feel the need to flaunt your relationship in front of everyone, take a shot at Valentine’s approach, keep it secret.

Courtney is currently in jail for shooting Cupid back.
Trivia test by Fred Rodriguez

1. LANGUAGE: What country once was known by the Latin name of Caledonia?
2. GEOGRAPHY: Guadalcanal is part of which island group in the Pacific Ocean?
3. MOVIES: Which actors played the character Latka Gravas on Taxi?
4. SCIENCE: Who is credited with inventing the Hula Hoop?
5. TELEVISION: Who was domain of the Greek god Aeolus?
6. MUSIC: In what war was the song "White Christmas" performed?
7. HISTORY: In what war were tanks first used?
8. U.S. STATES: What is the only letter of the alphabet that does not appear in the name of any U.S. state?
9. MEASUREMENTS: How many years is a period of 20 years?
10. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the symbol for the metal nickel?

Last week’s crossword solution

Way to go

Across
1. Rio dance
6. Dick and Jane’s dog
10. Support
12. Medicinal plants
15. Shoe polish brand
16. Birthplace of seven U.S. presidents
17. Having lots of diamonds
19. Pakistani language
20. Forum wear
21. “Hey…takers?”
22. Odd look
23. Roll call calls
25. Infection fighter
27. Norse thunder god
32. Curly-haired breed
35. True heart
38. Mail svc. option
39. Dennis the Menace’s dog
41. Plastered
43. Facts and figures
44. Brief opening
46. Words to Bratus
47. Piña colada ingredient
48. Cornell’s home
50. Buddhist discipline
51. Trueheart
52. Make into law
54. Friday & others: Abbr.
56. Santa’s bag
58. Mining matter
60. Coal and peat
63. Col. Mustard’s game
66. Huk Finn’s boat
67. Christmas tree topper
70. Oozes
Down
1. “My gal” of song
2. Bushels
3. Teen disease
4. Person with a hat, maybe
5. Test, as ore
6. Hit the slopes
7. Hummus holder
8. Olympic sprinter
9. Clear the clutter
10. Chitlins and ham hooks, e.g.
11. Frayed
12. Assistant
13. Part of BYO
14. 1800 code
15. Squirrel away
16. ___ pending
17. Huck Finn’s boat
18. Christmas tree topper
19. Oozes
20. Oozes

Weekly Sudoku

by Linda Thistle

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 3x3 box contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ***

Moderate *** Challenging ** ** HOO BOY!

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Kent museum looks back in time

By STEPHANIE KIM  
Staff Reporter

Marching bands still play in the streets of Kent, chickens still sing at sunrise, farmers still harvest vegetables and the city remembers Japanese internment camps at the Kent Historical Museum. The museum holds a collection of furnishings, clothing, instruments and photographs that date as far back as the 1800s to preserve the history of Kent.

The Kent Historical Society began in 1992, when Kent native Rae Reitan suggested the city needed its own historical society. Soon after Reitan’s suggestion, the Kent Historical Society grew.

Members began to hold meetings and by 1993, the members were able to get a temporary home to hold their meetings and store historical collections.

As members desired a permanent home, their interest grew in the former home of Emil Bereiter, owner of the Covington Lumber Company and former mayor of Kent.

The city of Kent purchased the home in 1996 and in 1998, the museum opened there. Built in 1908, Bereiter’s home is still in excellent condition, holding many original furnishings from more than 60 years ago.

Among its exhibits, the museum commemorates the lives of Japanese Americans during World War II with a memorial garden entitled, Another Place, Another Time.

“It’s a memorial garden for the memories of the Japanese interns during World War II,” said Allison Jurgens, curator for the museum.

The location of the museum, the Bereiter home gives a special significance to the garden. Just before World War II began, Thelma Saito, a caucasian woman, resided in the Bereiter home with her Japanese husband, E.K. Saito.

Many Kent residents at the museum have come to the Bereiter home with their Japanese ancestors and have expressed their appreciation to see the home in its original state,
Jordan lulls students with song

Cody Warth/THUNDERWORD
Performer William Jordan, serenaded the audience in the Bistro Wednesday as part of the Blend series. The Blend is a biweekly on campus concert event, that happens on Wednesdays in the Bistro located in the Student Union, Building 8.

The next concert will take place on Wednesday, Feb. 24 at noon in the Bistro. The performer will be Eric Mercer, also known as Black Soul.

Seattle theaters offer up student ticket programs

By COURTNEY SANKEY
Staff Reporter

Theaters around the Seattle area are becoming more student-friendly with their ticket prices.

The 5th Avenue Theater, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Seattle Opera, Act Theater and the Seattle Rep all offer students, and in some cases teens, day of ticket sales, at a great discount.

Tickets to these venues can be anywhere from $25 to the hundreds of dollars for one seat. But at these student rush prices you can get the best seat available at one low price.

Pacific Northwest Ballet offers three different programs that fit the pockets and budgets of young people from 13 to 25.

They are part of the Seattle Center Teen Tix program which offers teenagers from 13-19 years old tickets to a performance at each theater’s website.

PNB estimates an average of 350 tickets being sold to the 25 and under group, said Austin. With PNB’s popular production of The Sleeping Beauty the amount of the student rush tickets and Teen Tix being sold has increased.

“Right now The Sleeping Beauty has been the most popular ballet with the under 25 group,” Austin said. “Selling 775 tickets before the second weekend of the run. If you include student rush and Teen Tix sales that number increases further.”

ACT Theater offers the same sort of discounts including the student rush and the Teen Tix program. Teen Tix offers $5 tickets to many of their shows, and the student rush program tickets. The student rush tickets go on sale a half an hour before their shows begin.

In addition to those two discounts they offer two pay what you will nights for every main stage show they put on.

But for the real art lover in your life ACT Theater offers up a one-of-a-kind program, the ACT Basic Monthly Membership. “[It’s] an all access pass to ACT,” said ACT theater communications director Jacqueline Rardin. “People 30 and under can pay $20 a month and see nearly everything on our stages. It is like Netflix for theater. No additional ticket purchase is necessary.”

In addition to their already great deals, ACT also offers a regular discount of $10 tickets for students and $15 tickets for young adults 25 or younger.

Burien Little Theater offers tickets at a student discount ranging from $13-$17 depending on the weekend that you would like to go. They also offer an additional $2 off your ticket when you vote for the trio.

The Tacoma Musical Playhouse offers a student rate as well, with a ticket price of $23. They also offer a student price season subscription with prices ranging from $90-$124.

Centerstage Theater in Federal Way has tickets at a student rate of $20.

You can find ticket information at each theater’s website.

The 5th Avenue Theater: www.5thavenue.org

ACT Theater: www.acttheatre.org

The Paramount: www.stgpresents.org

The Pacific Northwest Ballet: www.pnb.org

The Seattle Rep: www.sterep.org

Burien Little Theater: www.burienlittletheatre.org

Centerstage Theater: www.centerstagetheatre.com

Tacoma Musical Playhouse: www.tmp.org
Valentine’s Day history not so sweet

By STEPHANIE KIM  Staff Reporter

Romantic red roses, heart-shaped chocolates, big stuffed animals and intimate dinners are what most people today envision when Valentine’s Day comes around.

Although most people today celebrate Valentine’s Day by doing such things, the tradition didn’t start off so romantically. The origin of Valentine’s Day dates back to the fourth century B.C. with the Roman Empire.

Pagans were the first to adapt such a holiday during the times of the Roman Empire.

“It started as a fertility festival,” said Teri Balkenende, a professor at Highline who concentrates on European history.

Men in the Roman Empire started the tradition with the purpose of praising Lupercus, the god of shepherds. These men entered names of random teenage women into a box and would then pick a piece of paper with the name of a woman.

The name of the woman a man selected would be their companion for a year. By being the man’s companion, the woman would be obligated to entertain and pleasure the man. Pleasing the men meant having sex with them.

As Christianity spread in Europe, the church was determined to put an end to this tradition practiced by pagans and made the practice of paganism illegal. “They tried to Christianize them,” Balkenende said.

The church’s first mission was to find a way to replace the role of Lupercus with a more “Christian” figure. They found their perfect candidate when they thought of St. Valentine, a bishop who was stoned and clubbed and eventually beheaded over 200 years ago.

Claudius II was the emperor of Rome during the time of Valentine. He banned marriage for young men because he believed marriage only made men weak. We couldn’t risk having an empire of weak men as Rome was often involved in wars. Claudius II needed men to fight in battles, not to be husbands and care for their families.

Opposed to the views of the emperor, Valentine often married lovers secretly. When Claudius II found out about Valentine’s secret ceremonies, he tried to convince Valentine to praise the Roman gods. When Valentine refused to give up Christianity, he was sent to jail and eventually executed.

By the 14th century, the concept of Valentine’s Day had become widely popular. Men began to practice chivalry and chivalry came popular and more people began to practice it, Balkenende said.

“As far as what is it today, we have to go back to the 19th century,” she said. The 19th century was a crucial point because it was the time of the Industrial Revolution.

With the Industrial Revolution, more jobs were available and the economy grew. All of a sudden, more people had more money to spend on gifts, Balkenende said.

Many people today look down on the practice of paganism and are turned off by it. Little do they know, the holiday they love and take a part in every February originated from pagans but with some alterations.

“Me personally, I was never really into Valentine’s Day,” Balkenende said. The concept of Valentine’s Day causes extra stress, making sure you have a date on that day, she said.

“I felt that Valentine’s Day made single people more depressed for not having a date on Valentine’s Day. That’s how I felt before I was paired up,” she said.

Wedding show makes debut at Highline

By KANDI CARLSON  Staff Reporter

Highline will be holding its first wedding show Saturday, Feb. 13. The show will be held in the Student Union, Building 8 from 1 to 4 p.m.

Visitors can expect to browse 30-35 vendors and booths. These will be representatives from a variety of service providers.

Vendors range from local florists, dress shops, photographers, musicians and DJs, limousine services, hair and make-up artists, travel agencies and wedding cake and catering services.

One of the highlights will be the services of Chartwell’s, who exclusively caters for Highline, will be offering free samples of some of their wedding menu.

Chartwell’s Catering is responsible for catering events that occur at Highline for faculty, staff and student events.

“They provide excellent services and have a diverse menu,” Longwell said.

This is an opportunity for them to meet the public and for the public to see what they are capable of producing, she said.

Another highlight is the fashion show that will begin at 1 p.m. The show will include samples from various designers and for different members of the wedding party.

Bridal gowns, mother-of-the-bride dresses and tuxes will all be modeled - all of which are from local businesses who have a booth set up.

This event is designed to bring local businesses together with the people that need their services, Longwell said.

“We are promoting Highline and the facilities available for a variety of events,” said Donna Longwell, hospitality services manager. The wedding show was just a way to help get the word out that “There are several areas all over campus that are available for a variety of services,” Longwell said.

On the weekends Highline is available to hold parties put together by the Highline hospitality department, she said.

The Mt. Constance and Mt. Olympus rooms can be combined to hold up to 200 guests. The Mt. Townsend dining room, the main area students gather, holds up to 300 guests.

If interested in these services contact Donna Longwell at 206-878-3710, ext. 3777 or conference@highline.edu.
Valentine’s Day isn’t always the happy, heart-warming day people expect it to be. Students on campus have a number of different Valentine’s Day experiences, ranging from rough breakups to a day full of sweet surprises. All of them make for a memorable Valentine’s Day.

Ina Lynn, a Highline student, had been living with her boyfriend for three months. They met at a mutual friend’s party and hit it off right away but after awhile it became apparent that he wasn’t as perfect as she thought he was.

“I pretended like I was in a perfect relationship,” Lynn said. He didn’t care about her birthday or anniversaries, but she tried to ignore this and keep trying with him, she said. Naturally, she didn’t expect anything for Valentine’s Day from him.

On Valentine’s Day she decided to go out and do something with her friends because she knew her boyfriend wasn’t going to do anything.

“When I got back from my friend’s house, my house seemed kind of quiet and empty, but I was too tired to care about it,” Lynn said.

She was tired from her day and decided just to head to bed a little sooner than usual. When she got into bed she found the pillow to be hard and stuffed with something.

“I opened it up and saw all those candies and chocolates inside of the pillow. You would think that it’s a happy ending where it turns out to be that my boyfriend actually cares about that stuff but it wasn’t like that,” Lynn said. “Before I even took all the candies out of it, I found a note on his pillow next to mine saying ‘I don’t think I can do this. I’m sorry.’”

— Ina Lynn, Highline student

“Before I even took all the candies out of it, I found a note on his pillow next to mine saying ‘I don’t think I can do this. I’m sorry.’”

Then she finally realized why it seemed so quiet and empty: He had moved out. He had taken all his stuff and left while she was out with her friends, she said.

This isn’t the only not-so-heart-warming story you will find on campus. Richard Judd, another Highline student, also had an unfortunate experience. He had been dating a girl for a couple months and she broke up with him just a little short of Valentine’s Day.

“I eventually found out she was getting pretty intimate and close with one of my close friends,” Judd said.

On Valentine’s Day he found out they were official.

Another Highline student, John Burnett, also had a bad Valentine’s Day experience. After preparing, he was ready to ask a girl out on Valentine’s Day. Complete with flowers and candy, “She was in such a bad mood, she just totally shut me out,” said Burnett.

Now the two don’t even really talk, said Burnett.

Sometimes Valentine’s Day can also be a pleasant day to just spend some quality time with people. Phyllicia Bush, a Highline student, likes to spend the day together with a group of friends.

“I usually just hang out with my single friends on Valentine’s Day and we all do something together like see a movie,” Bush said.

Valentine’s Day can also be a sweet day, heart-warming day it’s thought to be.

Alina Smikh, another Highline student, had a more cheerful Valentine’s Day. Her family and friends decided to combine her Valentine’s Day with her birthday. It started out with her dad picking her up at school and bringing her long time friend from California to meet her.

When she got home, she was greeted by 13 of her other friends and found out that her brother had ordered a limo for her and her friends.

“It said ‘Happy Birthday and Valentine’s Day’ along the side of it,” Smikh said.

After being driven around with friends and having pictures taken with her friends, she was taken back home. Her boyfriend was there waiting for her. She was able to spend her evening with him before he was eventually kicked out by her family.

“It was full of surprises and everything,” said Smikh.

The combination of Valentine’s Day and her birthday made for a great day, said Smikh.

Students on campus have a number of different Valentine’s Day experiences, ranging from rough breakups to a day full of sweet surprises.
Lady T-Birds in the mix for NWAACCs

By BRIAN GROVE
Staff Reporter

Avoiding complacency is the name of the game this week for the Highline women’s basketball team after coming off a loss to the Clark Penguins, breaking a tie for third place in the West Division.

Highline, 6-4, is currently in fourth place in the West Division behind Clark, 8-3, Lower Columbia, 9-2 and Centralia, 11-0. Centralia is the first and only team thus far to clinch a playoff berth this season.

The NWAACC tournament, which takes place from March 4-7 in Kennewick, involves the top four teams from each division.

Highline Head Coach Amber Rowe said although the team is still in a position for a playoff spot, they are not necessarily comfortable with their standing.

“The only good thing is we control our own destiny,” Rowe said. “If we beat the teams we have already beaten we should be able to go to the postseason. We don’t have to rely on anyone doing us any favors to get to the tournament.”

As of Wednesday, Feb. 3, Highline was tied with Clark for third in the West.

However, Highline’s bye on Wednesday put them a half game behind Clark when the Lady T-Birds opened the season with a 69-51 victory.

“Highline finally fell this past Saturday at Clark, 69-51,” Rowe said. “It was a problem.

“Perhaps having the best game for Highline was sophomore center Dan Young, who finished with 9 points on 4 of 11 shooting from the field. He also had 13 rebounds, four of which were offensive.

Freshman point guard Darrell Williams led the scoring for Highline with 10 points, but only shot 4 for 13 from the field. He also had 5 turnovers.

Clark on the other hand wasn’t that much better. They finished the night shooting 36 percent from the field, 29 percent from three-point range and 65 percent from the line. However they only had 12 turnovers and 53 points off the bench.

Leading the way for Clark was Stephen Hopkins, a 5’11” freshman guard, who came off the bench and had 20 points on just 5 of 15 shooting from the floor. He also had 5 rebounds and 3 steals.

Dawson said the team must get through the hard times no matter the situation.

“We are going to continue to work on dealing with adversity and playing tough for 40 minutes regardless of the circumstances,” Dawson said.

Yesterday Highline played against Green River at home. Score and stats were unavailable at press time.

Next up for Highline will be the Lower Columbia Red Devils on Saturday, who Highline is currently behind by half a game.

The game is in Longview at 7 p.m.

In the previous meeting between the two teams on Jan. 16, the T-Birds pulled out an impressive 76-67 victory behind the strong play of Williams, 14 points on 5 of 6 shooting, and sophomore guard Justin Taylor, 13 points on 6 of 10 shooting.

Lower Columbia was led by Clint Burgese, a 6’3” sophomore guard, who had 23 points on 5 of 12 shooting from the field and 11 of 13 shooting from the line. On the season he is averaging 10 points a game on 44 percent shooting.

Leading the way for the Red Devils this season has been 6’7” freshman forward Marcus Bell. He is averaging 15.3 points a game on 56 percent shooting from the floor.

Also he is averaging 12.75 rebounds, 2.05 blocks and 1.1 steals per game. They are also limiting their opponents to just 63.3 points.

Another valuable contributor for the Red Devils is their 6’1” sophomore leader, Jeray Key. From the guard position, he is averaging 14.5 points per game on 45 percent shooting from the floor and 4.25 assists.

In total, Lower Columbia is averaging 73.35 points a game on 46 percent shooting. They also average 42.70 rebounds, 7.70 steals, 3.95 blocks and 17.90 turnovers per game.

Following the Red Devils, Highline will begin to prepare for another away game, this time against the Pierce Raiders on Feb. 17 at 8 p.m.

In the last game that they faced each other on Jan. 18, Highline sent Pierce home with a loss by a score of 63-60.

Sophomore guard Julian Fernandez led all scorers with 21 points on 5 of 6 shooting from the floor and 10 shooting from the line. He also had 4 assists and 6 steals.

Having the best game for Pierce was 6’0” freshman guard Alfred Davis, who finished with 12 points on 6 of 12 shooting, with 5 steals.

The leading scorer for the Raiders this season has been 6’6” freshman forward Brandon Thomas, who is putting up 11.89 points a game on 50 percent shooting and allow 69.35 points. They are also grabbing 44 rebounds and 10 steals a game. One negative is the team is averaging 18.45 turnovers a game.

After Pierce, there are only games against Tacoma, Feb. 20, Centralia, Feb. 24, and Grays Harbor, Feb. 27, before the regular season concludes.
Stage set for Region XVIII wrestling

Wrestlers from around the Western District will converge on Highline for a shot at the NJCAA National Championships

By JON BAKER
Staff Reporter

Highline wrestlers will compete this weekend for a chance to wrestle at the national tournament. Highline will be hosting the Region 18 Wrestling Championships on Saturday, Feb. 13. The regional championships will be used to decide which wrestlers from Region 18 will advance to the national tournament.

Last year North Idaho College ran away with the tournament scoring 129 points as a team. Clackamas scored 76.5 points, Southwestern Oregon 73, Highline 50 and Yakima Valley 28.5.

North Idaho has won nine regional championships in a row. Clackamas overtook North Idaho in the polls this week ranking fifth, with NIC sixth and Highline seventh.

Despite Clackamas’s move up the rankings, North Idaho is still considered the favorite.

“Right now it’s hard to say [if North Idaho can be beat],” said Clackamas Head Coach Josh Rhoden. “They have won like eight straight so they are certainly the team to beat at this point.”

Scott Norton, Highline’s head coach, echoes Rhoden.

“That’s tough to say right now. Our team is capable of knocking them off, but we have to have all of our wrestlers wrestle a solid tournament.”

North Idaho Head Coach Pat Whitcomb said there are three teams that really need to be looked at.

“First is Highline. They are as strong as they have ever been,” Whitcomb said. “Clackamas is ranked ahead of us right now in the nation and they definitely have the ability to win.”

With the top three teams in the region competing at a top level it could be a tight race for first this year.

“We have one of the toughest regions in the country with three out of the five teams ranked in the top 10 in the country,” said Rhoden. “It would take someone stepping up and just out wrestling the other guys. I wouldn’t say it’s unlikely, but the top contenders would be Highline and Clackamas in my opinion.”

Scott Norton sees several of his wrestlers as threats to win a championship and move on to nationals.

Justin Purves (125), Aaron Smith (133), Jason Gray (149) and Marshall Giovaninni (157) all could make a run.

Giovaninni is currently ranked No. 1 in the country right now. Gray was ranked No. 1 for most of the year but was moved down to second in the official NJCAA polls this week.

Rhoden said that several of his wrestlers could make an impact in this week’s tournament.

“Right now we have a couple of guys who should be seeded first at their respective weight class and we like a couple others to win some big matches for us as well,” said Rhoden. “I would say that Anthony Wegerheim (141) is wrestling very well as is Terrance Williams (157). Jake Morris (174) should be seeded first and has been wrestling very good.”

Highline has a few wrestlers that could be a surprise and help push them to the top of the region.

“Tyler Story (165), Darren Faber (197) and David Lopez (heavyweight) are all pretty darn good. They have had some inconsistencies, but they are definitely good wrestlers.” said Norton.

Rhoden said there could be one team on the outside ready to make a statement.

“I think that Southwest Oregon is a surprise team. Coach Whitlach does a good job down there and they have some kids that are doing their best wrestling now which is the right time to do it.”

Past season tournaments are very different in college wrestling than the dual meets throughout the year. In the NJCAA, dual meets have no bearing on a wrestler’s status or their ability to make it to the national tournament.

“The dual meets don’t really mean anything,” Norton explained. “They’re nice to win, but I don’t really worry about them. The regional tournament qualifies you for nationals. Your season could end or you could go on to wrestle at a higher level.”

Whitcomb said that the goal for his team is to get as many wrestlers to nationals as possible and then win the region.

“Our goal is to get all 10 wrestlers go to nationals and be there as a team.” Norton expects Highline to win the tournament. “First. That’s it. We’re not shooting for anything but first.”
Get tested, not infected

By SHANNON SEVEREID
Staff Reporter

Risk. It’s a game we play – especially when we are between the sheets.

The Center for Disease Control estimates that there are 19 million new sexually transmitted infections each year. Most of these infections occur in people 15 to 24 years old.

According to the King-County health website, www.kingcounty.gov/health/std, sexually transmitted infections are passed from person to person via unprotected vaginal, anal, or oral sex; sharing needles; or from an infected mother to an infant. People have a greater chance of contracting HIV if they have another sexually transmitted disease already, experts say.

If untreated, many sexually transmitted infections can have severe health consequences ranging from a mild, brief illness to serious complications such as infertility, tubal pregnancy, death or health problems in offspring, cancer, stroke and death, Public Health informs.

Although still high, sexually transmitted disease rates in the Seattle-King County area are stable, Public Health said.

“Sexually transmitted disease rates collected in Washington rank it as 33rd in the United States with 21,402 cases in 2008,” said Dr. Molly Brignall, a biology instructor at Highline.

This represents an incidence of 330.9 per 100,000 people, she said.

The data on sexually transmitted diseases is “reported by doctors and other health care practitioners to local government health agencies,” Brignall said.

“Never know what’s out there; see your health care practitioner if you suspect you may have a sexually transmitted infection,” she said.

“Thinking ‘it won’t happen to me’ is one of the biggest problems,” said Dr. Bob Baugher, a Highline psychology instructor.

Some sexually transmitted diseases are asymptomatic in many people, so they may not know they are infected until they have been tested or complications arise.

“Quite often a person may have chlamydia or gonorrhea and not even know it – it’s scary,” he said.

“Which is why it’s important to use a condom every time, beginning to end, or abstain.”

Both male and female condoms are available for purchase. If you have concern about condoms, watch Can Condoms Kill? available at local libraries, Baugher said.

“A condom is the same thing as wearing a seat belt,” he said.

Sexually transmitted infections are grouped into two general categories. Most sexually transmitted diseases that begin with an ‘H’ are incurable – herpes, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and human papillomavirus (HPV) are the big ones – because once you have it, you have it for the rest of your life,” Baugher said.

“These viruses are sometimes treatable, but usually not curable,” said Dr. Michele Manber, a psychology instructor.

“Bacterial infections tend to be curable, such as chlamydia, gonorrhea and syphilis, by treating with antibiotics,” she said.

Some sexually transmitted infections have vaccines to prevent catching a sexually transmitted disease pre-exposure.

“There are vaccines for Hepatitis B (HBV) and HPV; at least most of the strains are most associated with cervical cancer,” Manber said.

A vaccine for herpes is in production and trial stages, but is not yet available, she said.

Vaccinations may be available at your local health care provider and many local health care clinics.

Sexually transmitted infection testing is available at the following health care providers:

• Public Health STD Clinic located at 908 Jefferson St., Seattle.

The walk-in clinic is open for sexually transmitted disease evaluation and treatment, as well as HIV testing. Hours of operation are Monday, Wednesday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

• Kent Public Health located at 13210 SE 240th St., Suite A. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

• Kent Public Health located at 10821 8th Ave. SW, Seattle.

Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 206-296-3230 for more information.

• Kent Valley Health Center located at 10056 S.E. 240th St., Suite A. Hours of operation are Monday, Wednesday, Thursday from 9:30 a.m. until 6 p.m.; Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

• Kent Public Health located at 105 14th Ave., Suite 2C in Seattle. Hours of operation for walk-ins are Tuesday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. until noon and Thursday, noon until 1:30 p.m. To schedule an appointment dial 206-461-6969 to schedule an appointment. This clinic focuses on HIV and syphilis testing for gay and bisexual men. Testing is free.

• Center for MultiCultural Health has free and anonymous HIV testing focused on African-American males. The center is located at 105 14th Ave., Suite 2C in Seattle. Hours of operation are Monday, Wednesday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 206-655-2156 to schedule an appointment.

• Kent Public Health located at 13210 SE 240th St. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call Personal Health Services, 206-296-4500, for more information.

• Kent County Public Health located at 7131 E. Meeker St., Suite 200, Federal Way. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 206-296-3464 for more information.

• Federal Way Public Health Center located at 33431 13th Pl. S. Hours of operation are Monday through Tuesday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 253-838-4557 for more information.

• Gay City Health Project Wellness Center located at 511 E. Pike St., Seattle. Hours of operation are Tuesday through Friday from 3:30 until 8 p.m. and Saturday from 1 until 5 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome, or call 206-860-6969 to schedule an appointment. This clinic focuses on HIV and syphilis testing for gay and bisexual men. Testing is free.

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By AMBROSIO AGUSTIN  
Staff Reporter

Highline’s Business Tax Center is offering free tax help workshops to small business owners in King County. The workshops are open to self-employed people whose household income is less than $50,000.

The latest tax-preparation workshops began Wednesday night, and Outreach Specialist Jennifer McAdam said that there will be three more in Building 99, room 102 on March 10, 13 and 27.

The federally-funded program opened under the name StartZone in 2008. Since then, McAdam said they have focused on helping underserved communities understand how to effectively start and run their businesses.

As tax season approaches, self-employed business owners will have to prepare and file their forms. The Schedule C tax form is one of the most important. It is used to report a business income or loss during the year.

StartZone is the only site in King County that is offering their filing assistance free of charge to small business owners. This is the first year that StartZone has provided this service.

McAdam said that she expects 15 participants in the upcoming workshops, where volunteers will provide them with one-on-one assistance in understanding and preparing their Schedule C, as well as teaching them how to prepare for next year’s tax season.

She said that this kind of assistance and education helps in the long run.

“If filing your taxes can be a daunting and confusing experience,” McAdam said. “A small business owner could go to a paid service to have their taxes prepared for $500, but for a family that makes less than $50,000 a year, it’s really expensive.”

McAdam said that the number of people signing up for the workshop is slowly climbing, and that she is keeping her fingers crossed for higher numbers in March.

As with any other tax-preparation service, she expects to help some last-filers. Des Moines and the surrounding area play host to many small businesses.

McAdam said that StartZ-one has helped people who own their own child care centers, adult care homes and their own hair salons file their taxes.

She said that through the program, they’ve worked with people who, before immigrating to the United States, ran their own business.

“They’ve moved here and seen that it’s completely different,” McAdam said.

Legislators plan local job fair next week

The new screens are wider than they used to be, so you’ll want to consider the room and viewing distance. Your current television may not be wide enough to make full use of the new screen. Measure from the TV to where you usually sit, and take that information with you.

Check with your cable provider to see if you already get an HDTV signal or if you’ll need to upgrade your package. Thankfully, you can do away with your set-top converter box.

Your new HDTV will do the signal processing on its own. In this case, select a channel for help in deciding between plasma and LCD and LCD is BestBuy.com.

It understands that the new technology can be confusing and has developed a section of the Web site to help you not only understand, but to select a TV within your price and size requirements.

To find the information, go to the site, click the TV and Video button, click TV on the left side list, then select HDTV Basics to learn more, or Help Me Choose to narrow your choices.

David Uffington regrets that he cannot personally answer reader questions, but will incorporate them into his column whenever possible. Write to him in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send e-mail to columnreply@gmail.com.

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Highline offers tax help to the self-employed

Orwall’s bill passes House

The Washington Works Housing Act of 2010 was passed in the State House of Representatives yesterday afternoon with a 75-22 vote.

The bill, which was sponsored by State Rep. Tina Orwall, D-Des Moines, would make housing easier to afford for non-profit organizations and public agencies.

The bill would help spur job creation by employing future-lounged construction workers to build more affordable housing for employees near their places of work.

Orwall’s bill would dedicate $1 billion to Washington Works Housing, make new financing available to non-profit and public agencies and make additional bonding capacity available to housing.

The bill now moves to the State Senate.

Job placement agencies WorkSource, Port Jobs and other agencies, along with several area community and technical colleges, will participate in next week’s Community Jobs Forum.

The Feb. 20 event will take place from 10 a.m. to noon at Kent City Hall and will be hosted by State Reps. Dave Upthegrove, D-Des Moines and Tina Orwall, D-Des Moines, as well as State Sen. Karen Keiser D-Kent.

The hosts will speak briefly about job creation and improving our region’s economy. After that, attendees will be given time to speak one-on-one with the legislators and visit the booths of participating agencies and firms.

Confirmed guests include: Highline, Green River Community College, Renton Technical College, the Veterans Conservation Corps, and the United States Census Bureau.

There is no fee to attend this event.

The Community Jobs Forum is open to all interested applicants residing in South King County.

Kent City Hall is located at 220 Fourth Ave. S., Kent. The event will be held in the Kent City Council Chambers.

Which HDTV is right for you?

Do you dread having to buy your next TV, not because of the price but because of the new technology?

If you haven’t bought a new television in quite a few years, your best bet is to get up to speed on what’s out there.

The two big changes now are plasmas and video games.

LCD TVs have the widest range of sizes and are good for rooms with a lot of light.

When shopping for an LCD TV, you’ll see descriptions such as 32-inch class/720p or 40-inch class/1080p.

Plasma TVs are subject to glare from windows and look best in low-to-normal light.

They’re good for fast-action sports and video games.

Plasma TVs will have descriptions such as 50-inch class/1080p or 42-inch class/240p.

That “p” number is one to watch, because it denotes the resolution. Each “p” number is the number of lines on the screen.

If you play a lot of video games, the 1080p will likely work better for you.

Small test questions in games such as Mass Effect and detailed graphics in cinematic cutscenes will look their best in 1080p.

With this option, you will notice an improvement in image quality in both your gaming and movie-watching experience.

If you only watch television, the 720 should be sufficient, as many shows are only broadcast at 720p, depending on your cable provider.

Check your available area before buying a new television, especially if you’re not going to hang it on the wall.

The new screens are wider but not as tall.

Measure the height and width of your current television screen before you go shopping.

Take a tape measure with you.

Consider the size of your room and viewing distance.

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“A small business owner could go to a paid service for $500, but for a family... it’s really expensive.”

— Jennifer McAdam, StartZone outreach coordinator

$, Business

orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send e-mail to columnreply@gmail.com.

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Household income is less than $50,000.

King County.

Center is offering free tax help for $500, but for a household income of $50,000.

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WAVE Scholarships could be suspended

By CAILTYN STARKEY
Staff Reporter

WAVE Scholarship funding could be in jeopardy, say sources in and out of the Legislature.

While trying to balance the state budget, legislators are weighing a variety of cuts to state programs, including the two-year scholarship program for state residents.

The WAVE (Washington Award for Vocational Excellence) provides a full-ride two-year scholarship for Washington state residents, provided through the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board.

Governor Christine Gregoire’s proposed budget suspends funding for the WAVE program for one year, possibly longer.

“It’s possible that the program could be cut completely, one state official said.

“The Governor has proposed suspending the funding as part of her budget that starts July 1, 2011. Budgets must be approved by the Legislature and signed by the governor before they are enacted,” said Tim Sweeny, spokesman from the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board.

Legislators are facing a $2.6 billion hole in the state’s budget, and have until March 11 to write a supplemental to the biennial budget to fill that deficit. Although legislators are talking in terms of a combination of cuts and tax increases, few parts of the state budget are safe at the moment.

“Generally speaking, there are lots of highly-valued programs that are going to get cut this year due to the budget crisis that’s unprecedented in our lifetime. In effect, the Legislature and the governor must choose from a menu of highly undesirable options,” said Chris Mullick, senate democrat spokesman.

Each year 147 students receive the WAVE scholarship, three from each of the legislative districts across the state. A selection committee must choose two high school students and one community college or technical college student from a list of nominated applicants.

This means that at least one Highline student each year is eligible to receive a scholarship, especially considering that Highline is one of the largest community colleges in the state, not to mention the district.

The suspension of the program for one year would save about $1.18 million, yet it would also leave 548 students without scholarship funds, as State Sen. Derek Kilmer, D-Gig Harbor, told one newspaper. Kilmer said that the budget process at press time despite multiple attempts to contact him.

Altered quarterly saves college money
By JONNY MCGUIRE
Staff Reporter

The spring quarterly was recently mailed out to all students with some changes made to the content.

The faculty, building and student services information has been cut out of the 2010 Spring Quarterly.

Because of these changes, Highline saved $8,384.39 in printing costs and $1,020.54 in mailing costs compared to the 2009 Spring Quarterly.

Jason Prenevost, the communications and marketing manager, believes that these changes will not negatively impact students.

“It’s different and change is difficult for many people. However the most accurate information is available online and that’s where students go to register,” Prenevost said.

“Last quarter, we did an analysis of instructor’s names and found that 34 percent of the names in the quarterly changed between the printing of the quarterly and the beginning of class.”

Last year Highline commissioned a Quarterly Review Process that included 13 members from across campus (Instruction, Student Services, Administration and Institutional Advancement).

Over the course of a few months the committee surveyed students and dissected in detail how the quarterly schedule was built.

The committee developed recommendations that were passed along to the Executive Staff, Prenevost said.

So far, responses to the changes have been overwhelmingly positive, he said.

“Students, faculty and staff that previously relied on the printed schedule have had to adjust,” Prenevost said.

“Fortunately the change we made was to an outdated and costly process for which a much more accurate tool now exists online,” he said.

There are currently plans to create a printed registration tool that will include classes, faculty, and classrooms, starting summer 2010.

Highline’s quarterly is sent out to 136,000 people each quarter.

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been positive and indifferent, while others have been critical.

“For some classes it’s a good idea,” said sociology professor Darryl Brice, “like a straight note taking class, or a class without a computer in it.”

If there isn’t a computer and projector in the class, a student could use a laptop to research material being discussed. It could be a learning tool, Brice said.

“It doesn’t really bother me,” said communications professor Harjit Dosanjh. “My concern is when they have a group activity or down time, it’s hard to monitor if they [students] are really taking notes.”

Indifference is a common response by instructors to usage of laptops. However, other instructors feel that a laptop use detracts from in-class participation.

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Brain injuries can cause long term problems
By TAYLOR JOAQUIN
Staff Reporter

People struggle with lifelong problems after experiencing a traumatic brain injury, said a Highline professor.

Dr. Bob Baugher presented So He Was Knocked Out for a While—What’s the Big Deal? The Long Term Effects of a Traumatic Brain Injury during last Friday’s Science Seminar.

Science Seminar is a series of presentations put on by Highline professors and the science community that are open to the public.

The Brain Injury Association of America defines a traumatic brain injury as an external injury to the head that may produce a diminished or altered state of consciousness.

When a brain gets hit hard enough there will be swelling and neurons will break.

In some cases people will even go into a coma and subsequently experience some degree of amnesia.

But it doesn’t take just one big blow to the head to cause a traumatic brain injury. Baugher said many small knocks can accumulate and be just as detrimental.

Tackle after tackle, hit after hit, football players’ heads get hit. Football players’ heads get hit, traumatic brain injury. Baugher said an estimated 3.2 million people in America are living with the long-term severe disabilities— that’s more than 1 percent of the population, Baugher said. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 1.5 million more people will have a traumatic brain injury in 2010.

The next science seminar will be tomorrow on Feb. 12 where Ruth Frickle will be presenting “The Science of Love.”

Science Seminar meets Fridays at 2-3:50 p.m. in Build-

Dr. Bob Baugher talks about traumatic brain injuries at last week’s Science Seminar.

“Dementia is higher among different types of problems that can result from traumatic brain injury. This stands for motor, cognitive, regulatory, affect, perceptual and speech problems.

Some people may experience motor problems and have trouble with coordination and balance.

Cognitive problems deal with organization, decision-making, and learning problems.

Regulatory problems consist of difficulty with scanning and retrieval.

Affect problems can cause irritability, immature language and depression.

Perceptual problems consist of difficulty with scanning and sensitivity to incoming stimuli.

Speech problems are just that, problems with speech such as aphasia and word retrieval.

An estimated 3.2 million people in America are living with these long-term severe disabilities—that’s more than 1 percent of the population, Baugher said. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 1.5 million more people will have a traumatic brain injury in 2010.

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Houng Nguyen/ Thunderword
Some students say they do have multiple partners. “I have to admit: I am a man-whore when I’m single,” said an anonymous Highline student.

Monogamy leads some students to not practice safe sex.

“I don’t practice safe sex, but I think it’s a monogamous relationship,” said Eric, another student.

“I don’t use protection because I am in a committed monogamous relationship but I do take precautions to prevent myself from getting pregnant,” said Angela, another Highline student.

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“I think for some students it works well, students who know how to study. For other students it’s a big distraction,” said science professor Woody Moses. “They are not as actively engaged in class as I would like them to be.

“I would not encourage more use of laptops in the classroom,” Moses said.

Laptops are expensive, and because not every student can afford them they can create a hierarchy in a class, leaving other students feeling left out, Moses said.

Some students say that laptops are a positive educational tool that, if used correctly, could help students study and keep notes organized.

“I don’t think teachers have a problem with it. If you are fortunate enough to have one, it would be a good idea to use it,” said Andrew Winton, a Highline student.

“Students could use them to keep up with teachers and what they show online, such as Pow- erpoint and presentations,” said Dan Nam, Highline student.

However, even students voice concerns on distractions laptops can cause.

“Most teachers don’t say anything; they just let you use it. I do class stuff, and other school-related stuff if the class is boring,” said Bundu Koroma, a Highline student.

Meanwhile, some students acknowledge the ability of laptops to disrupt class time.

“I think that even I am tempted to get on Facebook and waste time,” said Highline student Ian McQuade.

“It allows too much freedom which could lower productiv- ity,” McQuade said. “I would be conservative when it comes to students using laptops in the classroom.”

Rally continued from page 1

Currently, the State Board of Community and Technical Colleges expects a 7 percent increase in tuition and $1.7 million in cuts for Highline.

Because President’s Day is a popular vacation day, Highline will not be the only organization rallying on that day. The R.S.V.P list includes the Wash- ington State Tea Party Move- ment and the Rebuilding Our Economic Future Coalition.

“The Washington State Tea Party Movement site represents a number of non-partisan, grass- roots organizations which have formed a confederation dedi- cated to upholding the Constitu- tion, limited government, fiscal responsibility, and free mar- kets,” according to their web- site.

The Rebuilding Our Eco- nomic Future Coalition also plans to rally on Feb. 15. The coalition has over 160 mem- ber, Fuse, one of the members, “is the state’s largest grassroots progressive organization.” said Collin Jergens, communication manager at Fuse.

“I think President’s Day is a good day for a rally because many people have the day off work and can travel to Olympia while the legislature is in ses- sion. Members of the Legis- lature will be able to hear directly from their constituents why a bal- anced approach to the budget is so important,” he said.

Out of the 160 members of the coalition, 110 will be repre- sented at the rally.

“We’re organizing this rally to tell our legislators that at a time when more people than ever are going to college and seeking job training, our com- munities can’t afford tens of millions of dollars in deeper cuts to higher education,” said Jergens.

Though the rally will not be 100 percent focused on higher education, general education is a main topic.

“This year, the proposed bud- get would slash another $43.5 million from community col- leges. This means as many as 12,300 students would lose state financial aid altogether,” he said.

Another coalition member is the Washington Student Asso- ciation.

“It is incredibly important to rally the legislature. Students, as a group, are traditionally dis- organized and underrepresented at the polls each November. Be- cause of this, they receive little attention in Olympia,” said Pe- ter Stern, director of legislative affairs for the Washington Student Association.

“Being able to come to Olympia and rally for education shows the legislature that we are able to organize and mobilize our students, and that we have a significant amount of students that are willing to commit time and energy to this cause,” he said.

“That sends the message that we may be able to organize stu- dents to vote, and forces the leg- islature to take a more careful look at student issues,” he said.

State Rep. Dave Upthegrove, D-Des Moines, supports the idea of Highline students voic- ing their opinion on legislative actions, though many other groups will be present.

“The rally on the 15th is against cuts to education and human services…and so your [Highline’s] message against cutting higher ed would fit right in,” Upthegrove said.

State Rep. Upthegrove point- ed out that a larger rally will have a larger impact.

“It’s more fun to be part of a big rally. It can feel very empty on the stairs of the capitol if you don’t have at least several hun- dred people,” he said.

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**Thursday**
- Few Showers
- High: 50°
- Low: 41°

**Friday**
- Mostly Cloudy
- High: 50°
- Low: 32°

**Saturday**
- Few Showers
- High: 39°
- Low: 37°

**Sunday**
- Cloudy
- High: 39°
- Low: 31°

**Monday**
- Showers
- High: 39°
- Low: 33°

**Tuesday**
- Showers
- High: 39°
- Low: 29°

**Wednesday**
- Showers
- High: 39°
- Low: 26°

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**Beanie Babies and books for kids in Cambodia**

By SAM REASH
Staff Reporter

A student club will be selling Beanie Babies and romance novels in the Student Union on Friday as a Valentine’s Day fundraiser.

The student club, Fundraising to Make a Difference, will be in front of the book store from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. to sell Beanie Babies and various romance novels for Valentine’s Day. The Beanie Babies will sell for $2 each, and the books will be 50 cents.

Fundraising to Make a Difference typically holds various fundraisers throughout the year, usually once a month, for different causes. The money they make selling Beanie Babies and romance novels will go to the Institute for Reconstruction and International Security through Education, or the RISE Institute. The RISE Institute is a non-profit organization with a mission to help countries suffering from severe poverty and conflict. Their primary goal is to offer high quality education in areas that it is not available, which can help prevent and overcome poverty and conflict. “The money goes to helping villages in need of school supplies in Northeastern Cambodia,” said Janna Barrick, the club’s treasurer.

Fundraising to Make a Difference donates to a large number of different organizations and institutions throughout the year. Another organization they donate to is Operation Smile, which is a medical service organization and charity that helps treat facial deformities around the world.

Fundraising to Make a Difference has gathered more than 60 new Beanie Babies from donations that they are hoping to sell along with the romance novels on Friday. Any items they don’t sell will be saved for their fundraiser next month. The club will be collecting baskets with various themes from faculty and staff to sell at their fundraiser next month.

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