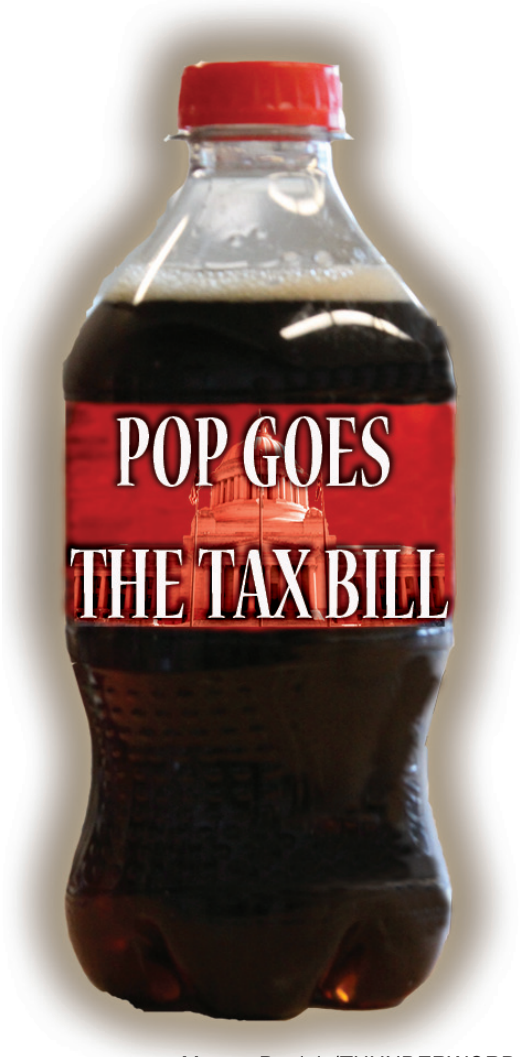
THE Highline Community College
Thunderword

Three state budget proposals all feature tax increases

By CAITLYN STARKEY
Staff Reporter



Marcus Daniels/THUNDERWORD

Three different spending plans have been proposed as ways to fill the state budget deficit, each taking a different approach and affecting Highline in different ways.

Governor Christine Gregoire, Senate Democrats and House Democrats each have their own proposed revenue and spending plans.

Each plan has four general parts: transfers including revenue from the Rainy Day Fund, federal matching funds, spending cuts and revenue increases.

The Rainy Day Fund is basically $1 billion in state savings, which is meant to be used for state emergencies or downturns in the economy.

The House plan features $465 million in transfers, $641 million in federal matching funds, $1.25 billion in cuts and $857 million in new revenue. The Senate plan has $498 million in transfers, $583 million in federal matching funds, $838 million in cuts and $918 million in new revenue.

Currently, the governor's plan would affect Highline the most, but not necessarily in cuts to higher education.

But before any of these plans can become law, an identical version must be passed in both the House and the Senate, before the governor can sign it.

Governor Christine Gregoire's budget would tax soda pop, bottled water, candy and gum. Thus the price of a 20-ounce pop would increase by about 7 to 10 cents, a 20-ounce bottled water by 20 cents and would add sales tax, 9.5 percent, to candy and gum.

The Student Union bookstore and café sells pop, candy and gum and students purchase the items constantly. Students don't seem too concerned about the increase, however.

"I don't think anyone would pay attention to 7 cents. I don't check my receipts," said Dylan Freely, a student at Highline.

Another student, Alex Wollaston, put it more simply.

"It doesn't bother me," he said.

When choosing strictly between taxes or no taxes, student Janette Freeman says no.

"That's ridiculous, they shouldn't tax that," she said.

But when faced with either taxes or budget cuts, she said she would rather take the taxes.

Local legislators are not sure if the tax would affect the sale of the possibly-taxed products.

"Since the tax is added at the checkout stand, I'm not sure if we will see a decline in the purchasing of these products," said State Rep. Tina Orwall, D-Des Moines.

On the positive side, in the governor's December budget, state need grants were completely eliminated, but with all three budgets, the funding has been restored.

Please see Tax Bill, page 15

S. 240th obstacle course leaves students cross

By JEANETTE DIMOCK
Staff Reporter

Sara Rosario/THUNDERWORD
Students frequently have to dodge traffic as they cross South 240th street going to and from campus.

Tiffany Hernandez says you have to be careful when you cross South 240th Street midhill.

"You are likely to get hit eventually when you cross that road," said Hernandez, a Highline student who lives in the neighborhood south of campus. Her brother was hit crossing South 240th Street in the past and ended up with a broken leg.

Other students feel that so long as you pay attention and look before you cross South 240th Street, you will not be hit by a car.

"Walker beware," said Darryl Lindsey, a Highline student, about to cross South 240th.

"People usually stop and let me cross," said Lindsey. He explained that he knows he is jay-walking and it surprises him how many drivers stop for him. Being from New York, he said he is used to much worse traffic.

Others say they aren't so kind.

"I just honk at anyone crossing the street," said Danielle Moore, a Highline student, referring to people who cross South 240th outside of a crosswalk. "I have even had a couple of students hit my car with their hand as I drive by them."

There are no marked crosswalks on South 240th between Pacific Highway South and 16th Avenue.

But there are places to cross. Legal crosswalks are located at intersection of any two roads, whether the intersection is controlled or not. The only exception is when a sign is posted saying it is illegal to cross at that location.

On the hill coming down from Pacific Highway South, every place where a side street connects to South 240th is an uncontrolled intersection and also has an unmarked crosswalk. It is legal to cross the street at these intersections.

For example, where 24th Avenue connects to South 240th Street is considered an uncontrolled intersection (no stoplight or sign). The crosswalk is not

Please see Crosswalk, page 15

INSIDE

February 25, 2010
Volume 49, No. 18

Smiles abound still for the Trotters/P8

Delicious diabetic desserts/P12

Science seminar gets spooky with bacteria/P14

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Weekend Weather

Rain on Friday, mostly cloudy on Saturday and Sunday.

For full forecast, see page 16.

Crime and Punishment

Student Union 911 incident

911 was called for an employee in the kitchen at the Student Union who had reported having chest pains on Feb. 18 at 10:55 a.m.

Emergency aid was dispatched from Fire District No. 26. The employee was transported to Highline Community Hospital for medical evaluation.

Suspicious man looks in cars

Security received a report of a man looking into vehicles on Feb. 18 at 2:45 p.m.

The individual was described as wearing a puffy, royal blue coat and jeans with a royal blue jersey tied around his right leg.

Security checked all parking lots, but was unable to locate the individual.

Student's in-dash stereo system stolen

A Highline student discovered their in-dash stereo had been stolen from their vehicle in the North Parking Lot on Feb. 23 at 10 a.m.

Security found there was no sign of forced entry. The stereo was the only item stolen from the vehicle.

Bike rack stolen from parking lot

A Highline student reported that his Yakima bike rack was stolen from his vehicle parked in the North Parking Lot on Feb. 18.

The theft occurred between 10 a.m. and 1:15 p.m.

Graffiti found in Highline restrooms

Graffiti was found in the second floor men's restroom at the library on Feb. 17.

Graffiti was also found in the second-floor men's restroom of Building 6 and also in the men's restroom in Building 27 on Feb. 18.

The graffiti was photographed and the pictures were forwarded to the Des Moines Police.

— Compiled by Jeanette Dimock

News Briefs

Andy Wappler visits Highline MaST Center

Local weatherman and renewable energy spokesman Andy Wappler will speak on the topic of Northwest Weather and Renewable Energy at Highline's Marine and Science Technology Center this Saturday, Feb. 27.

As part of the Science on the Sound Speaker Series, the lecture is scheduled for one hour beginning at noon and is open to everyone.

The MaST Center is open to the public every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and is located on Redondo Beach next to Salty's Restaurant.

Highline instructor wins major award

Highline business instructor Jeff Ward has been awarded a statewide honor for his leadership and achievements in electronic learning.

Ward helps teachers expand their use of technology in the classroom and currently works as Highline's faculty in residence for technology and distance learning.

The Leadership & Innovation in eLearning Award from the eLearning Council of Washington's community and technical college system which was given to Ward, is only awarded twice each year.

The award comes with $200 and a grant for an all-expenses paid trip to the participate in the in the spring Pacific Northwest Higher Education Assessment, Teaching & Learning conference in Vancouver, Wash. from April 28-30.

"With online learning we have erased geographical boundaries. I can have students in class from all over the world, and their different experiences and backgrounds enrich discussions and give topics a more global perspective," Ward said.

"Alternative delivery of classes such as online and hybrid courses are better able to meet the diverse needs of our students – working parents, returning students, full-time workers, etc." he said.

Brian Horrocks/THUNDERWORD

The Highline Marine and Science Technology Center looms over the beach in Redondo.

Calendar

•Movie Friday will be playing *The Devil Came on Horseback*. Free popcorn will be provided.

The film will be shown on Friday, Feb. 7, in Building 7, and will be presented by Tracy Brigham's Global Health Issues Course.

•For students looking for a career in a health care-related field, Highline will be hosting a health care job fair in the Student Union, on Wednesday, March 3 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Puget Sound Employers will be present and will be recruiting for jobs in many of the health care fields including: nursing, respiratory care, medical assisting, medical transcription, phlebotomy, polysomnographic technology, optician-licensed dispensing and chemical dependency.

The job fair will be held simultaneously with the Highline Health Informational Fair.

Last year there were more than 60 booths with 250 student participants.

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).

HOT JOBS

NEED A JOB?
WE GOT JOBS!
HEALTHCARE JOB FAIR

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5th
9AM–1:30
Mt. Skokomish Rm. Building 5
FREE!!

Employers will be looking to fill fulltime, part time, and on-call positions. LPN RN, MA, respiratory care, patient account, Polysomnography, Phlebotomy and more!

Bring your resume and be prepared to speak with recruiters about your professional and educational goals and accomplishments. For a list of who's registered and positions recruiting for go to

www.myinterfase.com/highline/student

For more information about co-ops, these jobs and more, log on to www.myinterfase.com/highline/student

Campus recycling gets a little clearer

By DAN JURPIK
Staff Reporter

Cody Warf /THUNDERWORD

Recycling bins now have clear liners, making it easier to identify them when disposing of refuse.

Highline wants its students and faculty to place trash in black lined bins and recycle in clear lined bins.

The school plans to add more recycle containers, increasing their accessibility and visibility.

No longer are there to be separate containers for paper and cardboard, but the comingling of all recyclables such as paper items, plastics, glass and metal.

"Black liners are for waste, and clear bags are for recycle," said Barry Holldorf, the facilities services manager at Highline. It is now, "clear to recycle."

For years, the only materials recycled at Highline were white paper and cardboard.

But, this system proved costly as the paper occasionally was handled more than a few times as it was stored until a certain amount was reached. Also, the quantity of trash, mixed with recyclables, overfilled the dumpsters throughout the campus and had to be hauled away sometimes up to three times a week.

With Highline's new comingled recycling program, the school has one main dumpster that is picked up by Allied Waste less than twice a week. A compactor has been ordered by the school and will bring the amount of times trash is hauled down to once a week.

The new system has been running for four months, and is a "natural progression," with the assistance of the waste company, Holldorf said.

Holldorf said more containers will be added throughout the college grounds to make recycling additionally convenient for everyone.

"Facilities is the point of the sword" with regard to recycling, said Holldorf. Highline is "looking to tie the students to the recycling program," with the help of the school's Environmental Club.

Highline's Environmental Club is pleased with the direction the recycling program is progressing.

"The only thing that I say is it needs to happen faster," said Chrissy Dawson, the club's president. "But I don't know if that's possible."

Dawson spoke of Highline's previous policy on recycling as needing improvement and more enforcement, "now it's getting to where it should be."

"The hard part is getting students to know what is and isn't recyclable," Dawson said. "One of our goals is to get more bins, one recycle bin for every trash bin there is."

Another of the club's goals is "pumping the visibility of the recycle bins, people just don't seem to notice them. "

The club is assisting with signs on what can and cannot be recycled, which will be posted near the containers.

The club intends to create visual cues which cross language barriers. Also, there are plans to hold a contest for the design of a recycle symbol, which will be posted at all recycle locations.

Load-shedding cuts the heat and the costs

By NICHOLAS McCOY and ISRAEL MAGANA
Staff Reporters

Campus cold spots may be the result of a program to cut energy consumption.

Highline has been participating in a Puget Sound Energy program known as load shedding.

The program works to reduce the amount of energy consumption by the school.

"If we reach a target reduction when they call for it, if we reduce our kilowatt usage by 250 kilowatts, that's a successful load shed," said Barry Holldorf, the facilities service manager for Highline.

The program Highline participates in is a pilot program arranged by Puget Sound Energy through a smart-grid technology company, EnerNOC.

"By participating in the program they provide us with a rebate check. Last year we received a check for $5,000 for participating because we were able to meet a reasonable target for the three times they requested us to load shed during the quarter," he said.

Highline has received a total of $7,628 for participating. The payments are received quarterly, with the amount depending on the amount shed during that quarter.

Puget Sound Energy introduced the program to help the power grid system cope with days of unusually high energy expenditure.

"We'll have an extremely cold day or a day with temperatures above 100 degrees, and we'll have high energy demand but only for a few days or even hours," said Andy Wappler, a meteorologist and the manager of corporate communications at Puget Sound Energy.

"By having this program, we're able to shave a little bit off of [energy consumption on] those days," he said.

Wappler

An advantage of the program is that it enables the power grid to deal with days of unusually high energy consumption without having to build extra power plants that wouldn't be needed the majority of the year.

It also saves the company from having to buy extra power on the market, both of which would pass more costs onto consumers. This is also good for the environment, Wappler said.

The program works somewhat automatically.

A computer system monitors power usage. On days when the demand for energy is really high, it sends out a signal to participating institutions to reduce consumption.

"When people think of the term smart grid, this is one of those things that is a smart-grid technology," Wappler said.

The primary source of the cuts at Highline is the heating system.

As a result, students, staff and faculty may notice colder temperatures across campus on load shedding days.

Building 24 in particular is affected by the cuts on the load-shedding days, as it is the location of the school's boiler rooms, said Barry Holldorf.

Faculty are encouraged to participate in reducing the consumption of electricity by resisting the urge to make use of space heaters, reducing the lighting levels used in classrooms, and making sure that all windows remain closed.

HIGHLINE HEROES

Rosendahl helps things run smooth

By SAM REASH
Staff Reporter

Patti Rosendahl doesn't have much to do with running the campus, but she has a lot to do with the fact that it runs.

Rosendahl works on campus as the executive assistant to the campus president, Jack Bermingham, in Building 1.

As the executive assistant Rosendahl has a lot of responsibilities, all of which help to keep things running smoothly within campus faculty. She works on daily operations, administrative matters with the campus president and other officials, and assisting in more long-term projects.

"The main focus of my responsibilities is to support the activities of the president," Rosendahl said.

Rosendahl has a strong background in education and wanted to pursue her career at Highline because of its good reputation.

"I was hoping to work in an institution with an eye toward global issues," Rosendahl said.

Rosendahl also works as a liaison to the Board of Trustees, the governing body of the college. As a liaison she helps with clear communication, helping the governing body to run efficiently. Members are appointed to the Board of Trustees through the office of the governor.

Rosendahl

Rosendahl said she very much enjoys working on campus and feels fortunate to be able to interact with the faculty.

"We have an energetic and enthusiastic faculty and they bring a great deal to the campus community," Rosendahl said.

Rosendahl also said she enjoys working with the students on campus when she gets the chance.

"it is always a pleasure to be able to interact with students," Rosendahl said.

Editorial comment

Furloughs part of larger problem

Highline staff members could be forced to take 16 days off every year without pay if Senate Bill 6503 passes the State Legislature, we reported last week, Feb. 18.

Everybody on campus would feel the strain if this happened, but it's impossible to say just how this will be seen on campus.

Nobody is sure if walking into Building 6 during the furlough would be like stepping into an office after a zombie attack, with phones ringing and computers on, but nobody around.

Or maybe there would be a lot of unhappy students seeking assistance and standing in line for hours while the overworked staff members left on campus would be running around trying to get things done as quickly as possible.

One thing is for sure – things would run much slower until staff members returned to work.

This bill is one of many being examined as a possibility to plug a $2.6 billion hole in the state budget, along with tax increases and implementing new taxes on candy, gum, bottled water and carbonated drinks, all of which are sold on campus.

Programs are also facing cuts, such as the ones higher education suffered last year.

There is already talk of increasing the cuts even more, but hopefully spreading them out across enough departments that everybody feels the pain equally.

Of course people are unhappy about extra taxes, and staff members are unhappy about taking time off without pay during the year.

However, there are only two ways to solve the budget problem: increase revenue or cut expenditures.

Unfortunately, it is much easier to make the case for not raising taxes than raising taxes. The governor's opponents have made their arguments and they are being heard.

The governor hasn't made as good of a case for why taxes need to be raised. It couldn't be that hard to tell people why we need taxes.

Everybody wants programs and services – but they don't want to pay. The money isn't going to fall out of the sky.

Unfortunately, people don't realize this and get outraged when they have to pay a little bit more to keep their services and programs the same throughout an economic recession.

It's not an easy time for anybody when it comes to money. But we have to make some sacrifices.

Staff

Don't touch me.

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News Editors	Kandi Carlson, William Schlepp, Shannon Severeid, Caitlyn Starkey
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Advertising Manager	Jonathan Baker
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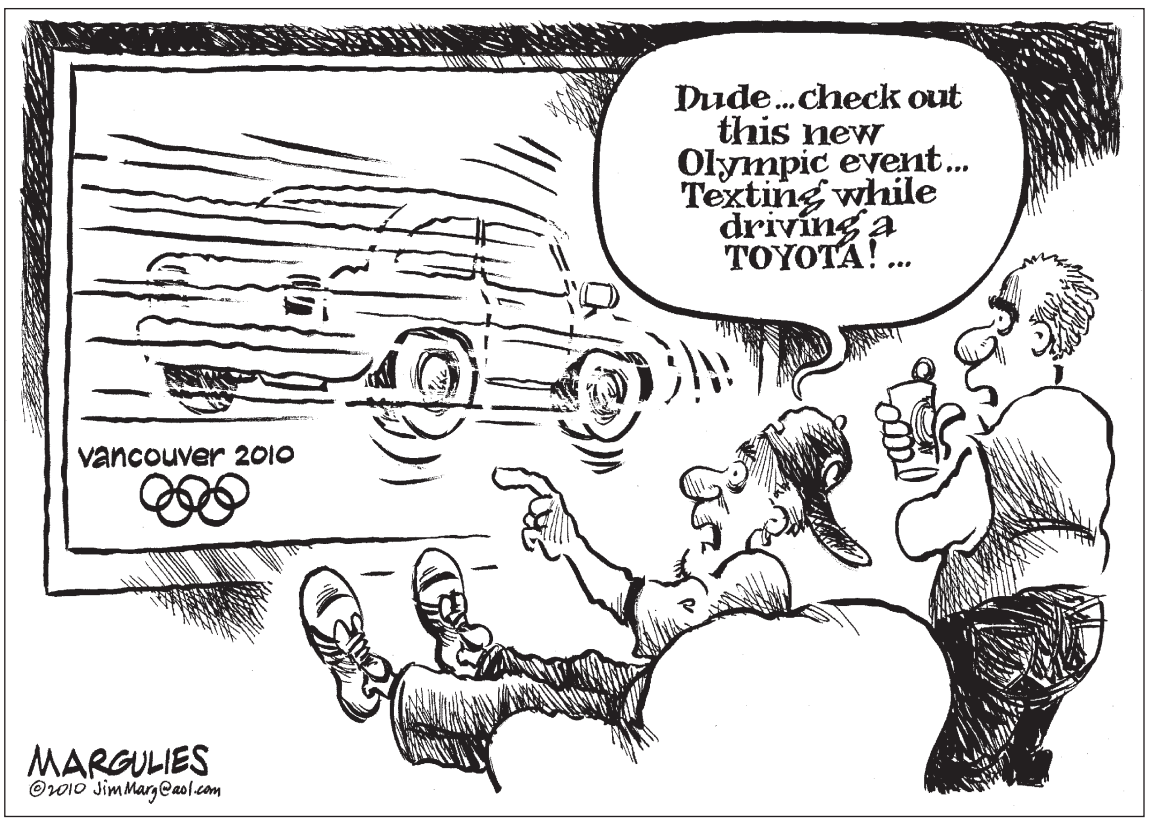
Business Manager	Tyler Keiser
Librarian	Eugenie Jun
Adviser	Dr. T.M. Sell
Newsline	206-878-3710, ext.3317
Fax	206-870-3771
Address	P.O. Box 98000, Des Moines, WA 98198, Building 10-106
Advertising	206-878-3710, ext. 3291
E-Mail	tword@highline.edu



Olympic flame not eternal

Commentary
Liviu Bird

The Seattle City Council voted to nip any possible Olympic bid for the city in the bud back in 1998.

Seattle officials talked about bidding to host the 2012 Summer Olympics, which have since been awarded to London. But for some people, "awarded" isn't the right word.

Mishaps in Vancouver before even the halfway point of the current Winter Olympics, along with high costs and the usual infrastructural issues facing London in their preparation to host an event that was still four years away back in 1998, make it seem like a smart decision.

The costs of staging the Olympics far outweigh the revenue in terms of cash. The Beijing Summer Olympics of 2008 cost anywhere from $15 billion to $40 billion, depending on the source. This doesn't include the money spent on construction.

The costs of staging the event itself are privately funded, but the burden of building new sports venues and structures such as the Olympic village falls largely to the taxpayers.

So far, the United Kingdom's government has approved a budget of 9.345 billion British pounds, the equivalent of about $14.5 billion. This includes security and policing, construction and additional operations to prepare for the games.

Top government officials have since then reprimanded the London 2012 Organizing Committee for severely underestimating the costs. So the eventual bill could be even higher.

And I used to wonder why it costs $1,500 for a decent seat at a hockey game in Vancouver this week.

Keep in mind that, not unlike Seattle, London has a fair amount of venues to use for events already. Despite that fact, they still have to spend large amounts of money on building venues to bring them up to Olympic standards.

The Belfast Telegraph noted that public jubilation has considerably declined now that they realize just how much they will have to pitch in to make these games a reality.

That's probably how most American taxpayers felt when they learned they would have to foot a $1.3 billion bill when Salt Lake City hosted the most recent Olympics on American soil, in 2002.

For these reasons, the Seattle City Council voted 8-1 in favor of disbanding the Seattle Olympic Bid Committee back in 1998, 14 years before the 2012 Olympics and early enough that the city couldn't dig themselves a hole they would have trouble climbing out of.

Many people have forgotten that Seattle was considering a bid for the Olympics, which is not a bad thing because they might have been outraged had the process gone on long enough for them to remember it today.

To the uninformed citizen, it will look like a missed opportunity. The numbers I've found show otherwise.

Still, the Seattle and King County Convention and Visitors' Bureau reported 1,100 local businesses being supportive of the idea to bid for the games.

The spirit of the games and the unrivaled athletic competition is the reason most people get starry-eyed at the idea of their city hosting the Olympics.

It really is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to even see the Olympics, let alone live in a city that is hosting them.

And for some places, like Salt Lake City, it was probably ultimately a good thing they hosted the games.

The improvements to the downtown area were much needed, and places like the Grand America and Little America Hotels that were used to house visiting officials during the games are still in use today.

The facilities in Park City are now used as a training site for skiers and snowboarders.

The same thing would not happen here.

The downtown area doesn't have much room for construction, and there are no venues here that would be solely used as training sites after everybody packed up and went home.

The venues that are already in place are in good shape and don't need any more improvements for their everyday use, but some of them aren't up to Olympic standards.

After the two weeks of the hypothetical Olympic games in Seattle, everybody will go home and we will be left with Olympic-sized venues that will never fill up to capacity again.

At the end, we will all be left wondering if the 14 years of anticipation and preparation were really worth it for two weeks of entertainment.

Don't get me wrong – I would love to see the Olympics at some point.

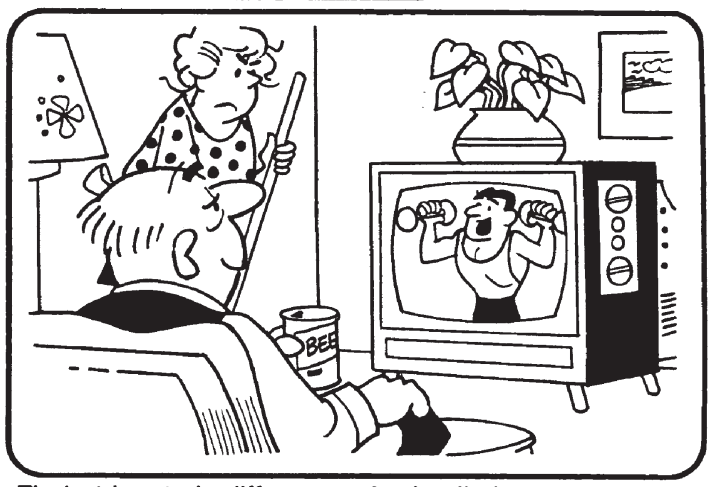
But citizens of this area should realize how unrealistic a burden hosting the games is on any city. So take advantage of the fact that the games are only three hours away this year.

Just hope they don't get any closer.

Liviu is a top contender for the gold medal for doubt.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



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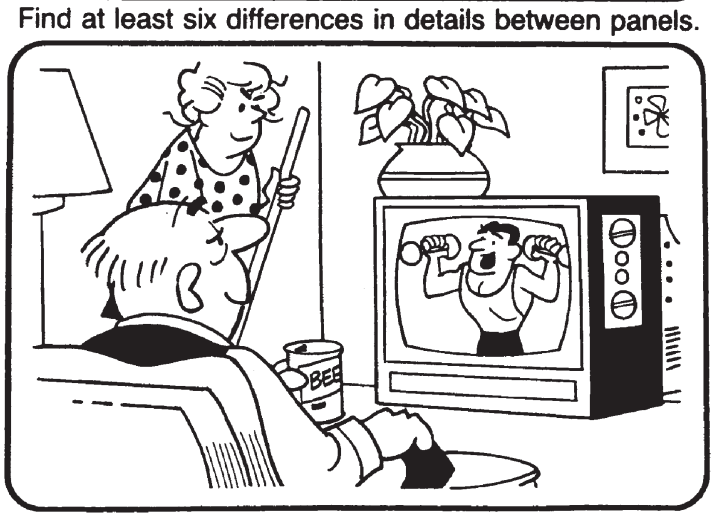

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Differences: 1. Lampshade is different. 2. Woman's expression has changed. 3. Plant is moved. 4. Picture is different. 5. Apron bow is missing. 6. TV has no legs.

Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. GEOGRAPHY: Which U.S. state is west of Ohio?

2. LITERATURE: Who wrote the novel *Where the Red Fern Grows*?

3. LANGUAGE: What does the Latin suffix grade mean?

4. SCIENCE: Who originated quantum theory?

5. MEDICINE: What does the notation "a.c." mean when it is written on drug prescriptions?

6. ACRONYMS: What does the acronym IMF stand for?

7. GAMES: What do you get when you pass "Go" in Monopoly?

8. TELEVISION: What is Kramer's first name in the *Seinfeld* comedy series?

9. ART: What is the painting technique called impasto?

10. PERSONALITIES: What age did comedian Jack Benny always claim to be?

Answers

1. Indiana
2. Wilson Rawls
3. Walking or moving
4. Max Karl Ernst Planck
5. "before meals" or ante clbum in Latin
6. International Monetary Fund
7. $200
8. Cosmo
9. A thick layer of paint
10. 39

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B Plus

Across

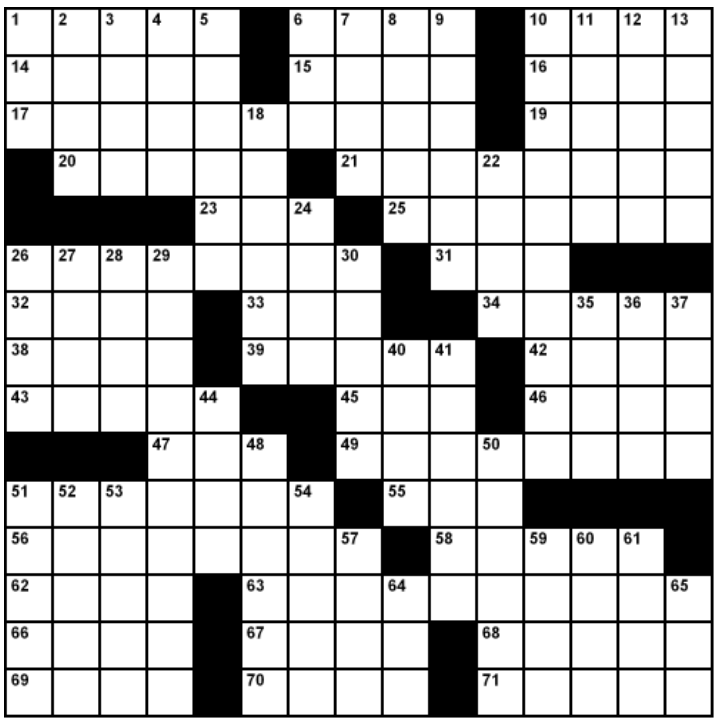
1. Jeweler's weight
6. Nose-in-the-air type
10. Alert
14. Previously, formerly
15. Bring on board
16. Rink shape
17. Hesitation in finding the answer, perhaps
19. Underground party
20. Muscat resident
21. Built more?
23. Ideal suffix
25. Signs up
26. Passed away
31. Rapper Mos _____
32. Rip-off
33. Corn unit
34. Subsided
38. Islamic sect
39. Dumps
42. Friend in war
43. Car payments?
45. Website help, briefly
46. Ploy
47. Fall behind
49. Board of _____
51. Put the horses away
55. Welcome wreath
56. _____ State (Maine)
58. Come together
62. Pond organism
63. Deflect a bull's charge, perhaps
66. Forest dweller
67. "Pay _____ mind"
68. Pass over
69. Messes up
70. Follows long and dead
71. Crowded

Down

1. Popular NYC vehicle
2. 60's hairdo
3. Wander
4. Soprano's song, maybe
5. Net game

Crossword 101

By Pete Canty (Pete@gfrpuzzles.com)



6. That girl
7. Guitarist Lofgren
8. Use a soapbox
9. Above partner
10. Homer's son's output, perhaps
11. Benefit
12. Tangle
13. Reds and Cards, e.g.
18. Drying rack items
22. Canadian tribe
24. Butcher's stock
26. [Hey you!]
27. Canyon effect
28. Pool table part
29. "Chicago is my only football team?"
30. Float with the current
35. Depressed
36. "If all _____ fails..."
37. Salon supplies
40. _____ of Sandwich
41. Mouse sound
44. Ice melter
48. Caged pet
50. Exhaled expressively
51. Diamond alternative
52. Mosaic artist
53. Rage
54. United competitor
57. Ages
59. Stage part
60. The Emerald Isle
61. Heads and tails
64. Hotel room addition
65. Observe

Quotable Quote

A judge is a law student who grades his own papers.

• • • *Henry Mencken*

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Last week's crossword solution

AXEL AWARDS

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

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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Arts Calendar

•Burien Little Theatre presents Arne Zaslove's 1950s rock 'n' roll version of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, a comedy of mistaken identities set in 1957 on prom night at Athens High.

The performance will continue at The Burien Little Theater, Feb. 26, 27, March 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20 at 8 p.m. Feb. 28, March 7, 14, 21 at 2 p.m.

Tickets are available online at burienlittletheatre.com, by calling 206-242-5180 or by email at tickets@burienlittletheatre.org.

Last week's **Weekly SUDOKU** Answer

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

•Highline Community College will be hosting an Enchanted Winter Dance.

The dance will have a Hollywood theme. There will also be a live professional DJ and food served.

The dance will take place in Building 8, Saturday, Feb. 27 from 7 to 11 p.m.

Tickets are available at the Student Programs office.

•Got arts news? Contact the arts editor, Courtney Sankey by calling 206-878-3710, ext. 3317 or by e-mail at csankey@highline.edu.

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

Cody Warf/THUNDERWORD

Chorus members rehearse with Creon, (Jared Stratton), far right, for their upcoming show Antigone. *The show is the second production that director and professor Debra Pralle has put on.*

Actors overcome sickness and last minute replacements

By COURTNEY SANKEY
Staff Reporter

The Drama Department has had faced some struggle in putting on a play about struggle.

Highline's Drama Department is presenting the Greek tragedy *Antigone,* which is about doing the right thing in difficult times.

Antigone was written by Sophocles, but the version Highline will be doing was adapted by French author Jean Anouilh in 1945.

Anouilh had updated the original to reflect his times -- World War II, when the Nazis occupied France.

The meaning and language have stayed the same for Highline's production, but the time period has been bumped up to about 1962; post-Cold War and pre-Vietnam.

Antigone is about a girl of the same name, who travels with her sister, Ismene, to the city of Thebes. The two have lost their brothers in a war, one fighting for each side.

The brother fighting against the king of Thebes, Creon, is considered a traitor and is unable to have a proper burial.

Antigone tries to persuade King Creon to let them give him an honorable burial. Ismene leaves her sister, because going against the king could lead to death. Antigone doesn't care and goes on without her.

Debra Pralle, director of *Antigone*, said she has always had an attraction to the story because it is rare that Greek tragic female lead doesn't have to use sexuality to achieve her task, doesn't kill anyone or doesn't go insane.

"Antigone's tragic flaw is her single-mindedness," Pralle said. "In the end, because of her choices, people close to her suffer."

Pralle wanted to be able to do a more modern adaptation that would speak to today's audience.

"People die every day for their beliefs and everyone for whom they have a relationship is directly affected," Pralle said. "That's the story we want to tell."

The themes in this play are seen in everyday life, people trying to do what is right while overcoming difficult circumstances.

This also reflects what has been going on in the Drama Department, people trying to put on a good show while sickness and lack of commitment have been looming overhead.

Since the beginning of rehearsals, five students backed out of the show, causing them to pause main character work and go back to put new actors in their place. Two other actors missed a substantial amount of rehearsals due to personal issues and sickness.

With the show less than one week away from opening, the cast is still trying to hammer out all the smaller details, such as doing a run through with everyone present.

Pralle has been impressed with how her cast has handled the situation and has worked through the setbacks.

"The cast is working hard, keeping their enthusiasm high and staying really focused," said Pralle. "I felt very encouraged on Friday [Feb. 19] when I watched the run through. Some really nice things are developing."

One of the things that is helping Pralle through the rehearsal process is breathing.

"[I'm taking] lots of deep breaths. And also I know that the core of the show is intact."

One part of the show that sticks out in Pralle's mind is a scene between Antigone, played by Sophia Villanueva, and Creon, Jared Stratton.

"They have a monster 10-page scene, just the two of them, going head to head in trying to make the other change their decisions," said Pralle. "So it's all about strategies and who is gaining power."

A major technical aspect of the show is the set. Pralle asked Rick Lorig, set designer and drama professor, to build her a huge set with only a bench in the middle.

"Rick has designed a spot-on set, but to give me what I wanted, he had to use every square inch of the theater," Pralle said. "Consequently, it's taking a lot of extra work to build and paint."

With all the setbacks, the show is coming together quite nicely, said Pralle. She hopes the audience will take away insight into the extremes that people will go to for their beliefs.

"[I want them to] realize that in life there are often no clear heroes and villains, but rather ordinary people with passions and shortcomings."

Antigone will preview on Wednesday, March 3 and run Thursday through Saturday, March 4, 5, 6, 11, 12 and 13. Show time is at 8 p.m. with tickets available at the door. Tickets cost $7 for students and $8 for general admission.

Cody Warf/THUNDERWORD

Chorus members look to Pralle, not pictured, for direction.

Going from screen back to the stage

Holding Court

Courtney Sankey

Last week, I talked very briefly on how taking musicals from the stage worked on some levels but didn't on others.

This week it is time for me to do the opposite and take a look at how movies being turned into stage shows can be done right or could be horribly wrong.

During the holiday season my family and I watch *White Christmas* about 10 times.

The energy that they have in that movie has yet to be recreated in another movie musical. The dance numbers are ones that give you chills and make you want to get up and try, even though nobody would want to see the attempt.

The voices of Rosemary Clooney, Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye and Vera-Ellen serenade you through their travels from Florida to Pinetree, Vermont.

The dancing transports you with their massive energy and creative stylings.

Two years ago the film that I love so much, was recreated and revamped for the stage.

I saw the show this year and to my great disappointment it was not at the same caliber that I was expecting.

The story changed slightly and the dancing that was so exciting and made you want to get up and dance, was a little boring and lifeless.

The actors themselves were amazing and had great voices, but when you compare them to the original movie cast, they were not up to par with the glamour and gusto of the original.

The energy that is the main focus of the movie does not translate over to live theater in the way that it should.

Live theater is supposed to pull you in and make you feel like you are there while entertaining and making you suspend your belief of reality. People don't normally burst out into song on a train or dance on a boat at a resort, but for theater, people will believe what they see because it's drawing them in.

All in all, the stage show is underwhelming for fans of the original picture, but for those who have never seen the show or maybe don't know it as well as others, the stage show would be perfectly fun and entertaining.

Courtney's currently working on her own stage adaptation.

UP PERISCOPE

Two former Highline students surface to start the best band you've never seen

By STEPHANIE KIM
Staff Reporter

Former Highline students Josh Frazier and Florin Mehedinti go against what most artists do in order to conquer the music industry today: tour extensively and then put out either an EP or a single.

But that's what their two-person band Go Periscope is all about; they do almost everything backward.

Though the group has been offered indie record deals, they have decided to use their business savvy and focus on making good music and saving up for touring.

"A lot of bands tour and then record," said Frazier. "We've done shows before the album came out, but not many."

Although the band hasn't played very many shows, their album is available for download.

Go Periscope's self-titled album was released for download Jan. 1 through iTunes.

Go Periscope's pop-rock and electronica sound is similar to a combination of Metro Station, Owl City, The All-American Rejects and 3OH!3, "if you mix it in a blender," said Frazier.

"We try to create a unique band," said Mehedinti. "We just have similar curves [as those bands]. That's why we're going to blow up."

Go Periscope has been played numerous times on Seattle's KNHC radio station (89.5).

In the summer of 2009, they were invited to go into KNHC's station for a studio performance and an interview.

"We got to be on the radio before I heard [our] song on the radio," said Mehedinti. "We were the artist in there that was promoting the station and vice versa."

When Frazier first heard Go Periscope on the radio, he was driving on I-5.

"I was driving and I thought I was going to crash," he said.

On Jan. 6, Go Periscope's song *Emily* was played on an episode of MTV's The Real World.

"We'll be on anything that gets viewership," said Mehedinti. "You're just embarrassing yourself until someone tells you to stop."

Last week, Go Periscope was a guest on DJ's Rossstar's Punk Rock Show, an online broadcast. Frazier emailed DJ Rossstar, simply asking him to listen to Go Periscope.

Rossstar then asked him to be a guest on the show.

"I was actually pretty nervous beforehand. He's interviewed bands I've looked up to," Frazier said.

DJ Rossstar gets more 50,000 viewers each show and has interviewed artists Frazier looks up to such as Anberlin, Katy Perry and 3OH!3.

"So many things happen so fast, you don't have time to focus on it. You don't have an actual tangible thing to look for," said Mehedinti on the band's success.

"You don't get to stop and embrace it," said Frazier.

Frazier and Mehedinti's musical influences come from music they listened to in high school.

"I was listening to bands everyone was listening to at the time like Blink-182, New Found Glory, Rufio and it spun off from there," said Frazier.

Frazier began playing guitar to see if he could play the songs of his favorite bands at the time.

He then began writing his own chords, riffs and lyrics.

"For me it was guitar, just acoustic guitar for a long time. I spent like three years writing really bad emo songs," said Frazier.

Mehedinti began experimenting with his keyboard before he learned to play piano.

"I really like the synthesis. The aspect of the keyboard sounding so many different ways," Mehedinti said.

"Keyboard allows you to have such a wide range of sound."

"I would just work with my laptop at first. It kept me really digital with stuff," Mehedinti said.

With his respect and love for classical music, Mehedinti is working backward to learn to play it.

Mehedinti knew music was his passion and what he wanted to do after seeing Relient K and DJ Tiësto.

"Younger people are into Relient K, but not Tiësto. I wanted to mix those two together," he said.

For Frazier, it was after seeing Hellogoodbye.

"It was such a different feeling than other shows I've been to," he said. "It was the first time I saw somebody I could identify with."

The duo attended Tyee High School and have been friends since. They recorded their album in the apartment they share together.

"It was really interesting because each song happened differently. Every song is really different," Frazier said.

"I trust his judgment and he trusts my judgment. We're in our best element when we can feed off of each other."

"It was different and we learned something different from each song," said Mehedinti. "We love every song because they take their own forms. You can totally just tell which stage we were in each song."

Go Periscope's album is only available through download, but Frazier and Mehedinti are planning on releasing a physical album with the money they make through the digital sales in spring.

Touring would be difficult for Frazier and Mehedinti because they are a two-person band, unlike most four or five-person bands.

It would be up to just Frazier and Mehedinti to raise enough money for the band to afford a van to get from venue to venue.

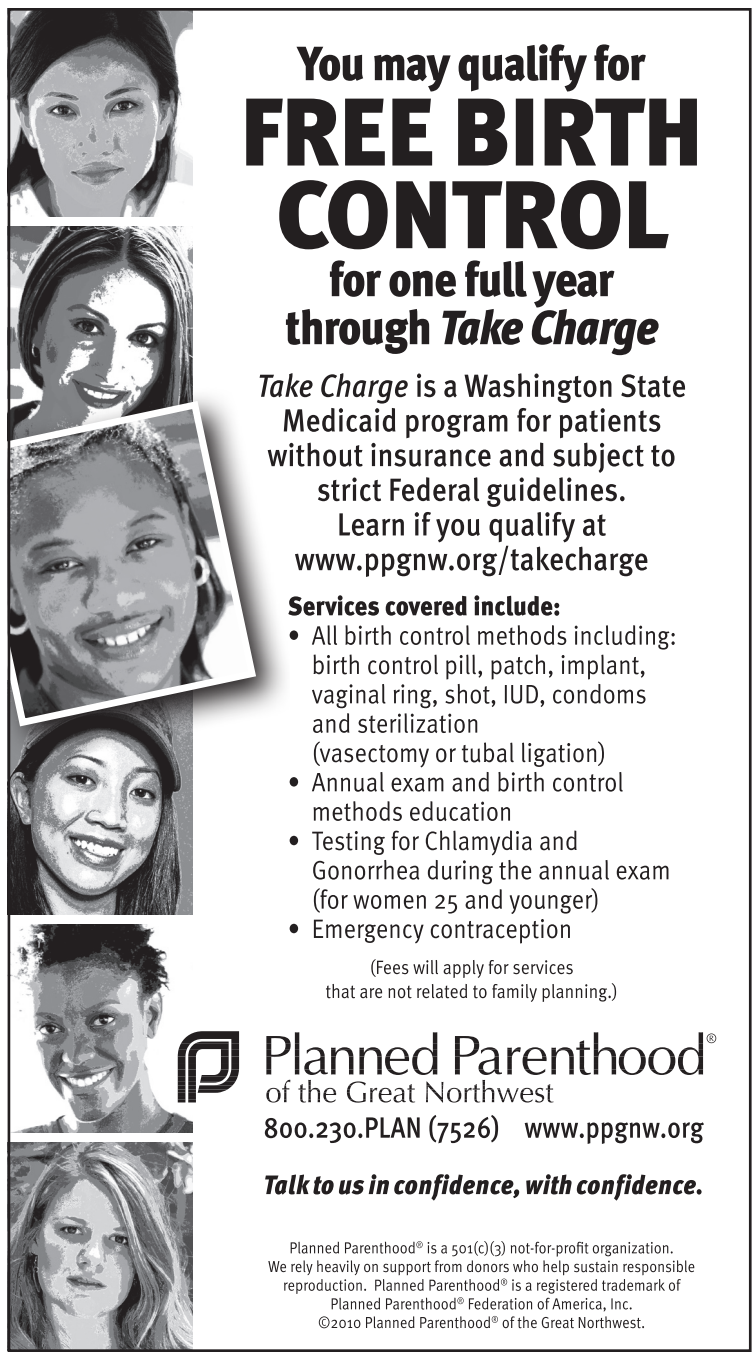
"As soon as we can tour, we will," said Frazier. "Right now, the album is out and we're trying to push it without having to tour," Mehedinti said.

Go Periscope will perform at KNHC's Listener Appreciation Party on Saturday, March 27, along with Kim Sozzi, Team Drive-at-Five and Vortex Stage. Other bands will be announced. Tickets are only $8.95.

For a free download of Go Periscope, visit: www.goperiscope.net/mixtape. The password for the free downloads is: kittenrobot.

Photo Courtesy of Go Periscope

Band members Josh Frazier, left, and Florin Mehedinti, right.



Trotters' mission continues, star player says

By CHRIS WELLS
Staff Reporter

Nathaniel "Big Easy" Lofton is living a dream.

Lofton, who is a showman on the legendary Harlem Globetrotters basketball team that was at the Kent Showare Center this past Friday, said that there is nothing he would rather be doing.

"Every day I'm just living a dream," Lofton said smiling. "I'm honored and blessed because this is probably the best job in the world. I'm going on my fifth season and I've been to 45 countries. That's amazing in itself. I had to pay only one travel expense.

"Everywhere we go, we are the home team, everyone loves us and everyone has a Globetrotters story from when they were younger from when they saw them with their mom, dad or grandparents. So to be a part of that and to be writing the next stories, for me, is unbelievable."

By way of Southeastern Louisiana University, Lofton, who is one of 13 children, came to the Globetrotters in 2005. His nickname of "Big Easy" came to him because he grew up in New Orleans, which is often referred to as the Big Easy. He is also the biggest player on the team at 6'9" and 250 pounds.

Beyond being a Globetrotter, Lofton also has gained fame for his time on *The Price is Right*, *The Bonnie Hunt Show* and season 15 of the *Amazing Race*.

Lofton said that he finds simple joys in playing for the Globetrotters.

"What I like best is the camaraderie and the family aspect of it," he said. "I love my teammates and going to work every day. I don't consider it a job, I just think; I'll get to make at least 10,000 people happy today; it's amazing."

While he never saw them in person growing up, Lofton said that he still was able to watch the Globetrotters on television.

"Yeah I actually did. I'm not that old, I am young, or I like to think so," Lofton said, laughing.

"I caught a little bit of it in the late '80s when the *Wide World of Sports* was coming up. I never watched a game live and the first one that I saw live was one that I was actually playing in."

Even though the Globetrotters haven't been as big of an appeal over the past few decades, their history is long and storied.

They were originally called the Chicago Globetrotters in 1926 and 1927. But in 1928, they changed their name to the New York Harlem Globetrotters for one year. The following year in 1929, they officially became known as the Harlem Globetrotters.

Although the team was never from Harlem, the Globetrotters' original owner, Abe Saperstein, chose Harlem as their home city because it was considered the hub of African-American culture at that time. They didn't play a game in Harlem until 1968.

Originally the Globetrotters were a serious and competitive team and even beat the legendary George Mikan-led Minneapolis Lakers in 1948 and 1949. However, when Chuck Cooper was the first African-American drafted into the National Basketball Association (NBA) in 1950, the Globetrotters began having an increasingly difficult time recruiting the top players and convincing them to forgo playing in the NBA.

Harlem Globetrotters
Nathaniel "Big Easy" Lofton dunks the ball in a Trotters game.

During the Civil Rights era, the Globetrotters were one of the few things that all races were able to enjoy together. Lofton said that he thinks the Globetrotters played a big part in the Civil Rights movement.

"People don't know that the first black player to sign an NBA contract from the Globetrotters was Nat Clifton," Lofton said. "They had a big effect. They couldn't stay in certain hotels or eat in certain places and they were probably were the reason that coming to sporting events became mixed with blacks and whites in attendance. So it had a huge effect."

Lofton said even NBA legends have an enormous respect for the Globetrotters from the past.

"I was actually at the all-star weekend this past week and listened to Alonzo Mourning tell Curly O'Neal that if it wasn't for him, he couldn't do what he is doing. So he is a pioneer. Coming from an NBA champion and one of the best big men in the game, it meant a lot to Curly," he said.

Nowadays, the Globetrotters aren't as competitive as they used to be and instead have become more like a sports play. They are now known for their skillful tricks, amazing athletic ability and making unusual and difficult shots that would normally be found in a game of horse.

Even though the Globetrotters aren't your usual basketball game, Lofton said they bring their own unique and entertaining style.

"It was different growing up because I was always used to seeing basketball as a blood, sweat and just pummeling physical sport," Lofton said. "But the Globetrotters brought something different and everybody smiled. You saw more families at the games than just men and their sons.

"At a Globetrotter game, you get the whole family and that is something unique, different and something that I can watch on television with my mom, because she didn't watch basketball with my dad and me. But when the Globetrotters were on, she would come sit in the living room with her popcorn and join us."

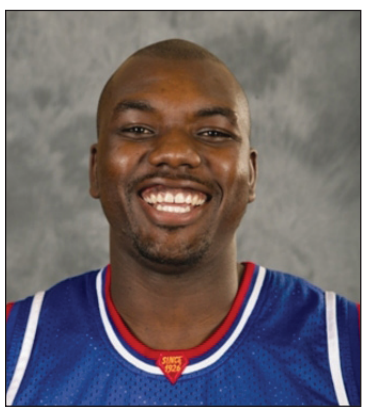
Although Lofton doesn't have ambitions of making it to the NBA, he said that there is still an occasional player on the team that does and succeeds.

"I think God does everything for a reason and this is what I was put here to do," he said. "I was put here to be a Globetrotter and this is my fifth season doing it and I don't want to be doing anything else.

"We have had players come to the Globetrotters and go on to the NBA. Wilt Chamberlain did it and just recently Jamario Moon did it, playing for the Cleveland Cavaliers now. It's happened, but for myself, I'm happy with what I'm doing."

For anyone that has never seen the Globetrotters play, Lofton said it'll be an experience that you won't soon forget.

"For someone that has never seen us, I would say that it doesn't matter if you're 8 or 80, bring everybody out," Lofton said. "It's going to be a great show and we are going to have fan interaction, high-flying dunks and we are some of the greatest basketball players in the world. We have little bit of everything for everyone."



> "I'm honored and blessed because this is probably the best job in the world."
>
> **-- "Big Easy" Lofton, Member of the Harlem Globetrotters**

Softball Diamond Bash auction up to bat tomorrow

By TORY GORANSON
Staff Reporter

The ninth annual Highline College Diamond Bash softball auction is set to take place this Friday, Feb. 26.

The event has not taken place in several years due to inactivity with the softball program. Last year the season was canceled due to the coaching change and lack of player involvement with the team.

Head Coach Gary Graf and wife Carol Graf are directing the auction, held in Building 8, the Student Union.

"We're trying to reconnect with the community and let them know about the softball program," Carol Graf said.

The auction is a way for the women's fastpitch team to raise money for numerous things.

"The money will help fund for new equipment," said Ami Gran, a member of the fastpitch squad.

Tickets are $30 at the door or available from Athletic Director John Dunn at 206-878-3710, ext. 3455.

"Some of the items available at the auction are yard work services from the players and a stay at the Marriot Hotel," Carol Graf said.

The ticket not only grants access to the auction; dinner and drinks will be served throughout the night as well.

"All of the softball players will be there serving the guests," Gran said.

Cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, and a silent auction will take place at 6:30 p.m. The dinner and live auction portion will follow at 7:30 p.m.

Lady T-Birds nearing Kennewick trip

By BRIAN GROVE
Staff Reporter

The Highline women's basketball team is one win away from clinching a playoff berth and making a run for the NWAACC championship.

Highline, 8-6, is currently in fourth place in the West Division behind Centralia, 14-1, Lower Columbia, 13-2 and Clark, 10-4.

With two games left in the regular season, all Highline has to do is keep its fourth place position to make the playoffs. The only team capable of catching Highline is South Puget Sound, 7-7. One win in either of Highline's next two games would secure it a trip to NWAACCs.

The NWAACC tournament, which takes place from March 6-9 in Kennewick, involves the top four teams from each division.

The Lady T-Birds went 1-1 last week, losing to the Pierce Raiders 63-57, but beating the Tacoma Titans 56-55.

Against Pierce on Wednesday, Feb. 17, Ariassa Wilson, Tera McCann-Soushek and Laruen Hill led the Lady T-Birds' offense with 18, 12 and 8 points, respectively.

Crystal Shields pierced Highline's defense, scoring over a third of the Raidier's points with 22.

"We had a good first half but could not get anything going in the second half. We got up as much as 17 points in the second half," said Highline Head Coach Amber Rowe.

Rowe said the loss was inexcusable.

"…we let down our guard instead of finishing them off. We are not good enough to turn it on and off. Once they caught back up we panicked and that is why we lost."

Highline's next game against Tacoma, Saturday, Feb. 20, went down to the wire.

Rowe said the loss against Pierce set the stage for the Tacoma game.

"Tacoma was a must-win game for us if we wanted to make it to post-season play," she said.

"Again, we had some mental lapses in the second half and did not play well, but we played well enough to pull it out."

The Lady T-Birds were up by four, 33-29 at the half, but the Titans came back in the second period to take the lead.

With just seconds left and Highline down by one, Highline sophomore forward Lauren Hill was fouled on a lay-up attempt and granted two free-throws. Hill made both, putting Highline up by one before time expired.

"A million different things were going through my head," Hill said.

"I knew I had to make them both or I would let my team and coaches down. I just focused and pictured the ball going in. I was nervous because I was missing my free throws all game but I just blocked everything out and got the job done. [It] felt so good," she said.

Hill said the win was huge for the team.

"We had to pull out the win, losing really wasn't an option. Our season would have basically be done. No NWAACC tournament," she said.

Rowe said she had confidence in Hill at the stripe

"I knew that she was going to make at least one," she said.

"She had missed earlier in the game and the law of averages told me that she would make at least one. Once she made the first, I was confident that she would make the second."

Hill was also quick to share the credit with her fellow Lady T-Birds.

"It wasn't all me though. Reese [Ariassa Wilson] gave me a great pass before I got fouled and Tera [McCann-Soushek] got a huge rebound down the court."

Both Hill and Rowe said the win was great for Highline's morale and got the team amped for its next game against league leading Centralia.

"This totally boosted out confidence and brought the team together. We all feel so great," Hill said.

"It was such a team effort tonight and everyone feels great about it. We need to get ready for Wednesday's game vs. CCC [Centralia]. It will be a tough game, we just need to come focused and ready to get the job done."

Highline played Centralia, Wednesday, Feb. 24, at 6 p.m. at home with results unavailable at press time. The team's next and final league game is at Grays Harbor on Feb. 27, at 5 p.m.

Brian Grove/THUNDERWORD

Highline's Bree Morkert-Burling goes up for a jumper over Tacoma's Fallon Staples on Saturday.

Scoreboard

Men's Basketball standings

East Division

	League
Spokane	10-3
Walla Walla	10-3
Big Bend	10-3
Yakima Valley	9-4
Treasure Valley	5-8
Columbia Basin	5-8
Wenatchee Valley	2-11
Blue Mountain	1-12

West Division

	League
Tacoma	12-2
Lower Columbia	12-3
Pierce	10-4
Green River	9-5
Highline	7-7
Clark	5-9
Centralia	5-10
S. Puget Sound	4-10
Grays Harbor	0-14

North Division

	League
Shoreline	12-2
Whatcom	10-4
Bellevue	9-5
Peninsula	9-6
Seattle	8-7
Edmonds	6-8
Skagit Valley	4-10
Everett	4-10
Olympic	2-12

South Division

	League
Chemeketa	10-2
Clackamas	9-3
Mt. Hood	8-4
Linn-Benton	7-5
SW Oregon	5-7
Lane	5-7
Umpqua	3-9
Portland	1-11

Women's Basketball standings

East Division

	League
Walla Walla	12-1
Yakima Valley	12-1
Spokane	8-5
Columbia Basin	7-6
Treasure Valley	7-6
Blue Mountain	3-10
Big Bend	3-10
Wenatchee Valley	0-13

West Division

	League
Centralia	14-1
Lower Columbia	13-2
Clark	10-4
Highline	8-6
S. Puget Sound	7-7
Tacoma	5-9
Pierce	5-9
Green River	2-12
Grays Harbor	0-14

North Division

	League
Skagit Valley	13-1
Bellevue	12-2
Everett	11-3
Edmonds	8-6
Seattle	8-7
Whatcom	7-7
Olympic	2-12
Peninsula	2-13
Shoreline	1-13

South Division

	League
Lane	10-2
Clackamas	10-2
Umpqua	10-2
Mt. Hood	8-4
SW Oregon	5-7
Chemeketa	4-8
Linn-Benton	1-11
Portland	0-12

Volleyball signs new crop of talent

By BRIAN GROVE
Staff Reporter

Brian Grove/THUNDERWORD

Ahtletic Director John Dunn and volleyball Coach Chris Littleman welcome the new recruits.

Volleyball may be in its off-season here at Highline, but that hasn't stopped Head Coach Chris Littleman from recruiting a new batch of incoming freshman to add to the team's roster.

On Friday, Feb. 12, Tricia Patton, Auburn Mountain View High School; Kylee Brodie, Puyallup High School; Alex Lavorato, Puyallup High School; Aurora Vasquez, Graham-Kapowsin High School; and Tara Patton, Auburn Mountain View High School, signed their letters of intent and committed to play for the Lady T-Birds next season.

Tricia Patton, an outside hitter and occasional setter, was an honorable mention for the 3A South Puget Sound League (SPSL). She averaged seven kills per game. Her season high was 16 against Enumclaw.

She said she decided to play for Highline because of the strong team chemistry with the rest of the players.

"When we first were invited to come to open gym, the girls were really nice and when Chris put us together into teams, we were really competitive," she said.

"It felt like we'd been playing together for a long time, not just met each other."

Brodie, a libero, was second-team All League for the 4A SPSL.

Brodie said her favorite aspect of volleyball is teamwork.

"You all have to work together to play," she said.

Lavorato, an outside hitter was also second-team All League for the 4A SPSL. With the Vikings, she averaged 14 kills per game. Her season high was 21 against Emerald Ridge.

Lavorato said Highline was a convenient choice and she liked the coaches.

"It's really close to home and the coach seems like a really good guy and is easy to get along with," she said.

Vasquez did not play for Graham-Kapowsin last season, as she had transferred from Bethel High School. Under Washington Interscholastic Athletic Association rules, players who transfer to another high school within the district must sit out of varsity sports for one season. In the '08-'09 season, Bethel finished 4-2, third place in the SPSL South Division behind Puyallup, 7-0, and Rogers, 6-1.

Vasquez has high aspirations in mind after Highline.

"I want to go pre-med after I get my prerequisites out of the way," she said.

Tara Patton, a middle blocker, played for Green River last season. She said she is transferring because Green River did not offer the correct prerequisites for the major she wanted to pursue.

While she was with Green River, she led the Gators in kills, with 141 in 12 matches.

Before Highline's preseason games begin, the team will travel down to Brazil and train for nearly eight hours a day for 10 days.

Tara Patton said she was excited for the trip.

"It's going to be fun, I've never been out of the United States before," she said.

Littleman said this season's recruiting class is one of the best he's seen in years, and has high expectations for his team next season.

"My expectations are to compete to win every point every of every match," he said.

"All of the freshman are very strong players and will make an immediate impact on NWAACC their first year."

Last season, the Lady T-Birds were 14-6, taking second in the West Division behind league rival Tacoma.

At the NWAACC tournament, the team was the best in the west and finished seventh overall. Highline has finished its season in the same position the past two years.

Because the window of player eligibility for junior colleges is so small, two years, Littleman said a new team needs to be recruited every year.

Littleman said his least favorite part of recruiting is that player who decided to sign with four-year programs usually spend their freshman and sophomore seasons warming the bench.

"Girls go play at a four-year and sit for two years before they see the court," he said.

Highline's league play will begin soon after the start of fall quarter.

Wrestler head to nationals

By JON BAKER
Staff Reporter

Highline wrestlers took off on Wednesday to attend the NJCAA National Wrestling tournament in Des Moines, Iowa.

Six wrestlers will represent Highline at the tournament.

Justin Purves (125), a returning all-American, is currently ranked 11th in the nation.

Aaron Smith (133), who placed fourth last year, will be in a very tough bracket this year. The 133-pound weight class is loaded this year with six returning all-Americans. Smith has been ranked top three for most of the year and os expected to compete for the championship.

Jason Gray (149) won the Region XVIII wrestling championships to advance to the national tournament. Top-ranked and returning national champion Ganbayar Sanjaa of Colby College comes into the tournament as the guy to beat at 149.

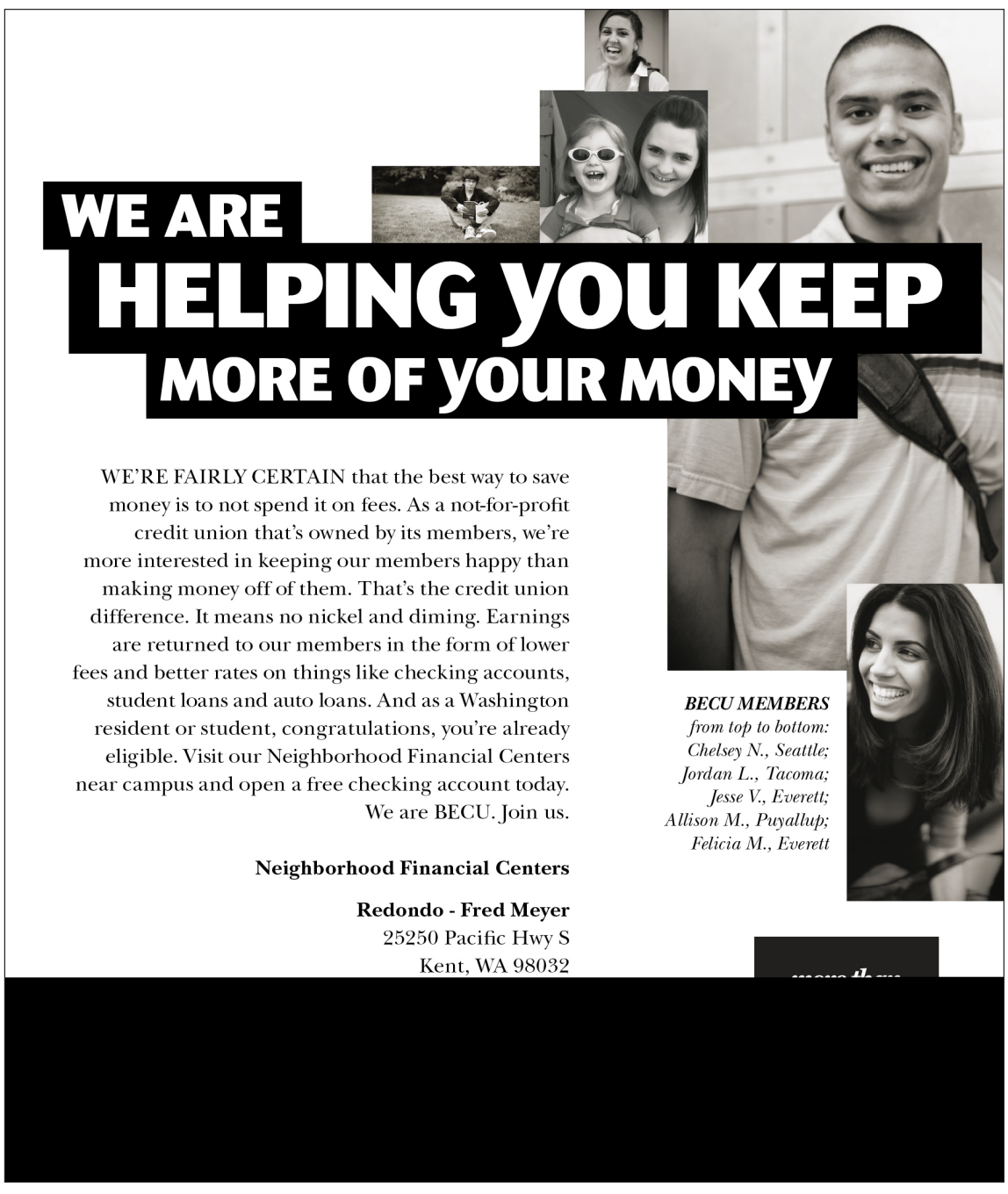
Gray, ranked second in the latest polls, is seeded on the opposite side of the bracket, setting up a potential showdown in the finals.

Marshall Giovannini (157), the national runner-up from two years ago, was defeated at the district tournament by Terrence Williams of Clackamas. Williams is currently ranked second in the nation and Giovanninni third. Giovanninni was ranked first most of the year.

Darren Faber (197) will be unranked headed into nationals. Faber placed second at the district tournament.

Heavyweight David Lopez will be entered into the tournament as a wild card. Coaches from at each regional tournament select five wrestlers to go to nationals. Lopez missed the first half of the year with injury and was selected after failing to qualify at regionals.

Official brackets, tournament updates and results will be available at http://www.iccac.org/wrestling_natl_tourney.php.



Highline men fall out of playoff chase

By CHRIS WELLS
Staff Reporter

Brian Grove/THUNDERWORD

Highline's Julian Fernandez goes up for a layup this past Saturday against Tacoma's Jordan Coby and Darious Walker.

For the first time in five years, the T-Birds men's basketball team will not be going to the NWAACC tournament after losses to Pierce, 76-52, and Tacoma, 56-54, this past week.

Highline's sophomore center Dan Young said things have changed recently with the team.

"I think halfway through the season we somehow lost trust in each other, which resulted in outcomes similar to the Pierce game," Young said.

On Feb. 17, Highline traveled to Pierce in a must-win game against the team that is now in third-place in the West.

Unfortunately for the T-Birds, it was the same story as the past couple of games before it: poor shooting early on. In the first half, Highline only shot 28 percent from the field and went into halftime down 36-19.

The second half was a little bit better for the T-Birds as they shot 39 percent from the floor, but on the other end, Pierce was shooting an impressive 55 percent. Highline was again outscored in the second half, 40-33.

Highline Head Coach Ché Dawson said the loss was a result of what happened on both ends of the court.

"We just didn't have the level of focus we needed to get the job done," Dawson said.

"Offensively we didn't execute and made very poor decisions. We were not cohesive. Defensively we did not commit to the things that will win games for us."

Leading the way for Highline was freshman Wade Moyer, who shot 4 of 7 from the field and finished with 11 points and 8 boards.

As a team, Highline finished shooting just 34 percent from the field and 24 percent from beyond the arc. They also had 40 total rebounds, but turned the ball over 23 times.

For Pierce, sophomore Marquis Matthews had a sound game with 17 points on 6 of 8 shooting from the floor. He also had 4 boards and 5 assists.

Despite the slow start to the game, Pierce finished shooting 46 percent from the field and 31 percent from deep. They also had a good rebounding night with 43. Twenty-three of their points came off of Highline turnovers.

Next up for Highline was archrival Tacoma on Feb. 20. The T-Birds again got off to a slow start, shooting just 30 percent in the first half. The score going into the locker rooms was 27-21.

Even with the loss, Moyer said there are still positives to take out of it.

"Any time you lose a game like that it is difficult, but we were able to compete against the No. 1 ranked team in the NWAACC and that says a lot about the team," Moyer said.

In the second-half, Highline came alive and shot 52 percent from the field and went on to outscore Tacoma 33-29, but they still managed to come up just short of what would have been a huge upset over one of the top teams in the NWAACC.

Moyer said Dawson had a message for the team at halftime.

"Coach Dawson just talked about having pride and battling through adversity," Moyer said. "We were finally able to do that and it showed in our place in the second half."

Sophomore center Kyle Perry made his presence known in the low block with 16 rebounds, 6 blocks and 2 steals. He also had 7 points despite 3 of 9 shooting from the floor.

Moyer again led Highline in scoring with 13 points on 5 of 14 shooting. He was only 3 of 11 from beyond the arc.

As a whole, the T-Birds shot 40 percent from the field and 24 percent from deep. They also had 35 rebounds and finished with 18 turnovers.

Tacoma was led by star sophomore Darious Walker's 16 points on 6 of 11 shooting and 12 boards. He also came away with 2 steals.

The leading point getter in the game was freshman Chris Holmes. He had 20 points on 9 of 16 shooting and 7 rebounds.

Tacoma, as a team, shot the ball 12 of 27 from the floor in the first-half and 12 of 27 from the floor in the second-half, giving them a shooting percentage of 44.44. They also had 36 rebounds and only 12 turnovers.

Although shooting appears to be a problem for Highline, Moyer said the biggest problem has been something that can't be seen on the box score.

"Our biggest problem has been our chemistry on offense," Moyer said. "We made some big strides against Tacoma, but lack of chemistry on offense hurt us."

On Wednesday of this week, Highline played their last home game of the season against Centralia. Score and stats were unavailable at press time.

Next up for Highline will be last-place Grays Harbor, who is just 0-12 in league play and 1-20 overall. It will be the last game of the season for both teams. The game is Saturday at 7 p.m. in Aberdeen.

In the last meeting between the two teams, Highline struggled in the first half before coming back in the second half to edge out the Chokers 58-47.

Highline was led by freshman point guard Darnell Williams, who had 16 points on 6 of 17 shooting.

Moyer also made a solid impact on the glass with 16 boards. However, he only had 4 points on 2 of 9 shooting.

Sophomore forward Larry Green led the way for the Chokers with 11 points, despite a horrendous 4 of 17 from the floor. He also had 13 boards.

Green has also made the biggest impact this season for the Chokers with an average of 13.44 points a game on 40 percent shooting from the floor, 6.06 rebounds and 1.38 steals.

Dawson said that although they are out of the playoffs, the season is not over.

"This is a good group of kids. We have just struggled to consistently commit to doing things the right way," Dawson said. "I expect us to finish this season with class, pride and togetherness.

"Anything less is indicative of why we aren't going to the tournament and the unacceptable performance of our team this year to this point."

Brian Grove/THUNDERWORD

Highline's Wade Moyer passes the ball across the court to Julian Fernandez in the Tacoma game.

Diabetic treats are good for everyone to eat

By KANDI CARLSON
Staff Reporter

Vanilla custard with plums and apple compote can be served warm or chilled.

This recipe for plum and apple compote with vanilla custard will have you thinking you just ate a month's worth of your dessert allotment in one sitting.

But not to worry, you didn't and you can even have a little extra.

The use of Splenda makes this a diabetic-friendly dessert.

This dessert is actually good for you. Plums and apples are an excellent source of vitamin C and taste great together.

I recommend that you gather all your ingredients before you begin. This is a more complicated recipe and staying organized is the key to a successful execution.

Prep time: 20 minutes
Cook time: 40 minutes
Servings: 12

You will need the following for the compote:

8 red or black plums
1/3 cup apple cider
¼ cup Splenda or sugar
¼ tsp. ground cinnamon
4 large apples (Fuji is best)

For the custard:

1 ½ cups 1% milk, divided
¼ cup Splenda or sugar
1 tbsp. cornstarch
Pinch of salt
2 large eggs, lightly beaten
1 tsp. vanilla extract

First, prepare the compote. Begin by pitting and chopping your plums. Combine chopped plums, cider, Splenda and cinnamon in a medium saucepan. Bring those ingredients to a simmer over medium heat. Stir occasionally.

Once the plums are softened and are falling apart, remove from heat. This should take about five minutes.

Next, peel and grate the apples. Discard the peels. Stir the grated apples into the plum mixture. Carefully spoon the mixture into a large bowl and allow to cool in the refrigerator. Do not cover.

While your compote is cooling down, you can get started on the custard.

Begin by heating 1 cup of milk in a saucepan over medium-high heat. Heat the milk just until it begins to steam; do not allow to boil. Remove from heat and set aside.

While that cools, place the Splenda, cornstarch and salt in medium bowl. Add eggs into the bowl and whisk ingredients together until smooth, then whisk in the remaining ½ cup of milk.

Keep whisking and add the heated milk to the egg mixture. Now, return the mixture to the saucepan.

Over low heat, cook the mixture while whisking it constantly. You are looking for the mixture to thicken; this will take about 3 minutes.

Once the mixture has thickened, remove from heat and whisk in the vanilla. Transfer your completed custard to a clean bowl and let cool slightly or refrigerate until chilled.

You can serve this warm or cool; spoon the custard into dessert dishes and top with the chilled compote.

Both the custard and compote can be made up to three days ahead of time. Do not assemble dish until you are ready to serve.

Tip of the week: Understand the meaning of the words in the dish you are preparing. This will help boost your confidence in the kitchen.

Definition of compote: A fruit that is cooked in a sugar.

These blueberries appear to be floating on a cloud.

Blueberries won't make you blue

Blueberries with yogurt is refreshing and makes for an easy dessert.

Prep time: 10 minutes

You will need:

4 - Ounces reduced-fat cream cheese
¾ cup low-fat vanilla yogurt
1 tsp. honey
2 tsp. freshly grated lemon zest
2 cups fresh blueberries

To begin, break up the cream cheese using a fork and place in medium bowl. Next, drain off any excess liquid from the yogurt and discard. Once the excess liquid is discarded you can add the yogurt into the bowl with the cream cheese. Now add in your honey.

Using an electric mixer beat the ingredients at high speed until the mixture is light and creamy.

Stir in the lemon zest. Remember that lemon zest is the shaving of the peel.

Now you can put it all together. Layer the lemon cream and blueberries in dessert dishes or wine glasses. Serve cold.

If you are not planning on serving right away you can cover and store in refrigerator for up to eight hours.

This dish is also a great start to a busy day.

Strawberries will delight your senses

The use of fresh fruits is a great way to add sweetness but keep the sugar content down.

Balsamic strawberries on a cloud of cream are a family favorite. It is a personal favorite because you can set it and forget about it.

Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 2 minutes
Set-up: 2 hours
Servings: 4

You will need the following ingredients:

1 c. part-skim ricotta cheese
2 tbsp. honey
½ tsp. vanilla
3 tbsp. balsamic vinegar
2 tbsp. sugar
1-16 oz. strawberries
2 tbsp. fresh basil leaves

Begin by placing the ricotta cheese, honey and vanilla extract in the small bowl of a food processer.

The use of a food processer is not required but is recommended. However, if you do not use one, you need to be sure the ingredients are well blended.

The mixture should appear to be smooth. This is important so that the flavors have the opportunity to mingle. Yes, mingle. Ricotta cheese derives most of its flavor from the ingredients you add to it.

Consider filling your cocktail glass with this sweetened ricotta and balsamic strawberries instead of liquor.

Transfer mixture into a small bowl and refrigerate for at least two hours. You do not need to cover the bowl.

While that is cooling you can start the balsamic syrup. In a small sauce pan combine the vinegar and sugar. Bring to a boil over medium-high heat. You must watch it the entire time because sugar burns quickly.

Once it boils, simmer for two minutes. Stir the mixture occasionally. After two minutes, set aside and cool completely.

While your sauce is cooling begin preparing your strawberries and basil. Cut the stems off the strawberries, cut in half and cut in half again.

The basil should be cut into ribbons- thin, small strands.

Place the strawberries and sliced basil into a large bowl. Add the balsamic syrup and mix well.

I recommended serving in cocktail glasses. This showcases the dessert nicely.

You need to divide the cream mixture in four dishes and top with the berry mixture.

Serve immediately.

Polysomnography accreditation no longer a dream

BY MASAB EL-HIMRI
Staff Reporter

Highline's polysomnography program could be waking up to a national accreditation soon.

Polysomnography is the study of sleep and is a key tool in diagnosing sleep disorders. With over 90 known types of sleeping disorders polysomnographers are in high demand in the medical field.

Three years ago, Highline's polysomnograhpy faculty began working on a self-study to submit to the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs. This study includes an 800-page report that has been submitted and accepted.

Nicki Bly

Highline's polysomnography faculty is waiting for a random site visit to be approved for accreditation.

"A site team will interview on campus for a full day. This team comes from another state and interviews current students, recent graduates, employees, advisors and faculty," said Nicki Bly, Highline's program coordinator for the Polysomnographic Technology Program.

A 60-page report must be submitted yearly as well as surveys from students, graduates and employers who hire Highline graduates.

A site inspection must be conducted every five to 10 years depending on the previous site visit.

"Becoming an accredited program is important for the faculty but even more important for the students," Bly said.

"Students have to take the Registered Polysomnographic Technologist exam, work and pay for pre-testing," Bly said.

With accredidation, Highline can streamline exams, she said.

Highline offers two types of degrees for this field. One degree is a certificate program consisting of 45 credits taken over three quarters.

"This program is for very motivated students, students who are already in the field and very knowledgeable, or those who only have one-year funding," Bly said.

"Most people go for the certificate program, but we need to conduct an analysis survey which determines how many students we are going to accept into the program," she said.

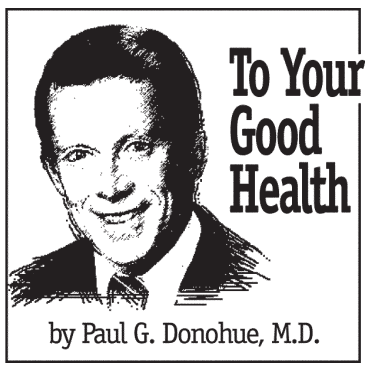
Highline also offers an associate of applied science degree, which is a seven-quarter program.

The first four quarters establish a working knowledge of respiratory care before focusing on polysomnograpy technology.

"Students who graduate this program usually become medical professionals in poly labs. They work with patients and physicians diagnosing over 90 different types of sleeping disorders," Bly said.

For more information about the polysomnography program visit http://flightline.highline.edu/polysom; email Nicki Bly at nbly@highline.edu; or come to the next information session held on March 3 at 1 p.m. in Building 26, room 214.

Rhinovirus: Caused by germs or the chills?



DEAR DR. DONOHUE: My friend and I have an ongoing discussion about how we catch colds. I believe the only way is by being exposed to a germ. My friend agrees, but also says you can become chilled, and that results in a cold. Please settle this once and for all. – L.G.

ANSWER: The only way to catch a cold is to meet up with a cold virus. But let's kick this around a little while it lies there quivering.

Rhinoviruses are responsible for many colds. This virus is passed from one person to another most often via the hands and fingers.

An infected person invariably will have the virus on his or her hands and fingers. If that person touches another person's hands or fingers, the virus is transferred.

All the second person has to do is touch his or her nose or eyes and the virus has found a new home. (The drainage channel for tears siphons viruses into the nose.) It's also possible to spread a cold through sneezing or coughing, but that's a secondary route.

Many colds are preceded by a body chill. That's part of the infection symptoms; this may be to what your friend refers.

Once a virus lands in a person's nose, the time till the development of cold symptoms is short – eight to 12 hours.

Runny nose, nasal stuffiness, scratchy throat, cough and sneezing are typical symptoms. They peak in 48 hours and are gone in about one week.

A person is most contagious during the first three days of symptoms, when nasal discharge is at high volume and when it contains the most viruses.

If by "chilling" your friend means being in a cold blast of air or getting your feet wet in frigid weather and shivering as a result, she has a slight point. That kind of chilling constricts the nose's blood vessels and decreases mucus production.

It might, therefore, permit cold viruses to mount a more effective attack and can contribute to the ease of catching a cold.

All the same, without the virus there is no cold.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: Several months ago, I fell. X-rays indicate that I have arthritis in my left hip. When I resumed my exercise program, I had pain on raising my left leg about 12 inches off the ground. Do I increase or decrease my exercise? Is there a painkiller or vitamin I should take? -- B.W.

ANSWER: Pain is a signal to stop doing whatever it is that causes it. Perhaps arthritis is the cause. A cause has to be found before continuing any exercise that brings it on. Don't blunt the pain with medicines until you find the cause. Vitamins will not help.

Dr. Donohue regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but he will incorporate them in his column whenever possible. Readers may write him or request an order form of health newsletters at P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853.

Fairs offering healthy fare for both you and your career

By ALIDA LINAVAT
Staff Reporter

Highline's Health Information Fair and Health Care Job Fair will both be held on Wednesday, March 3 in the Student Union, Building 8.

The information fair will take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and the job fair will be held from 9 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

The Health Information Fair will be on the first floor of the Student Union.

This fair is to help provide students with information regarding health-related problems and highlight the health care programs at Highine.

"Students from Highline's Allied Health programs will be presenting on various topics," said Diana Baker, coordinator of the Health Care Job Fair.

The Health Information Fair will be joined by Highline's Health Care Job Fair on the second floor of the Student Union.

Employers from the Puget Sound area are coming to recruit for jobs in health care related fields.

Prospective employers are looking for qualified individuals interested in a variety of health care fields including nursing, respiratory care, polysomnographic technology, phlebotomy, home health aides and other related occupations.

Employers participating in the job fair include Valley Medical Center, Virginia Mason Medical Center, Sea-Mar Community Health Centers, Good Samaritan Hospital and other local health care facilities.

These employers are looking for students interested in obtaining full-time, part-time or on-call jobs or administrative positions.

"My goal is that our Allied Health students will talk with recruiters to find out what they are looking for in their applicants and to be better prepared upon graduation," Baker said.

Baker

Some students may find their future employment at the job fair, she said.

"I can't stress how important it is to know what employers are looking for and to network," Baker said.

Both fairs are open to the public and free. Even if you aren't sure you want to be in the medical field, you can come speak with a representative to learn more.

"Dress appropriately, have your resume, take notes and be prepared to talk about your education and career goals," Baker said. "These employers are hiring."

Anyone needing to create a resume or have it reviewed can do so in Student Employment, Baker said. Student Employment is located in Building 6 on the second floor.

The recruiters will be able to provide advice for students looking to get into accounting or information technology.

Plants, People, and Society

New Biology Class for Spring 2010

Biology 123: Plants, People, and Society (item 6006)

This *online class* will explore how indigenous people from around the world use plants for food, religious rituals, building materials, recreation, and more.

This course fills the general education requirement for a non-lab science.

Contact Gerry Barclay at
gbarclay@highline.edu
for more information

Life on Earth can breathe easy thanks to bacteria

By SAM REASH
Staff Reporter

When people think bacteria, they tend to think bad things, and it couldn't be further from the truth, a microbiologist said at last week's Science Seminar.

Highline's Science Seminar is a weekly series of presentations done on campus.

Topics are anything science related, presented by experts in that field.

Joy Strohmaier, a microbiologist on campus, shared her fascination with the most ancient life forms on the planet to a packed audience last week.

Her presentation included her very own colonies of bacteria, and even food, made possible by bacteria.

"Bacteria are the most abundant life form on the planet," Strohmaier said.

Despite classifying more than 3,000 different types of bacteria, scientists still think we know of less than only one percent of the abundant microorganisms, Strohmaier said.

Bacteria exists in all types of environments that are fatal for humans and other organisms.

Hoang Nguyen/THUNDERWORD

Joy Strohmaier leads an exploration into the world of bacteria during Science Seminar last week.

Thermophiles thrive in the boiling hot springs, psychrophiles exist in colonies in Antarctica, and deinococcus can shrug off up to 500 times the amount of radiation normally lethal to humans.

"They can literally live in radioactive waste," Strohmaier said. "It's pretty amazing."

Perhaps the most impressive aspect of bacteria is their ability to make other life possible.

"It is bacteria that generated the oxygen-rich environment you breathe today," Strohmaier said.

This environment made it possible for other organisms to evolve into what they are today, Strohmaier said.

Now that bacteria have allowed other organisms to evolve, it has also played an important role in keeping them alive.

"Bacteria is at the root of the food chain," Strohmaier said.

Anything that eats gets something out of bacteria.

Flamingoes get their pink coloring from the bacteria in their diet, Strohmaier said.

Bacteria symbiotes are what allow termites to digest wood in their stomach.

In a similar fashion, we all have three pounds of bacteria in our guts that allow us to digest foods as well, Strohmaier said.

"When you're farting, blame the bacteria," Strohmaier said.

Bacteria live in very diverse ecosystems all over our planet.

Even if you can't always see them, the evidence for them is everywhere, said Strohmaier.

The next Science Seminar will be Friday, Feb. 26, at 2:20 p.m. in Building 3, room 102.

Representatives from the University of Washington will host a seminar about computer science, without using computers.

Magnuson seen as instrumental player in consumer protection

U.S. senator's legacy still visible decades after his death

By SAM REASH
Staff Reporter

Warren Magnuson, a United States senator from Washington, played a key role in creating the safe consumer market we have today, an instructor said last week.

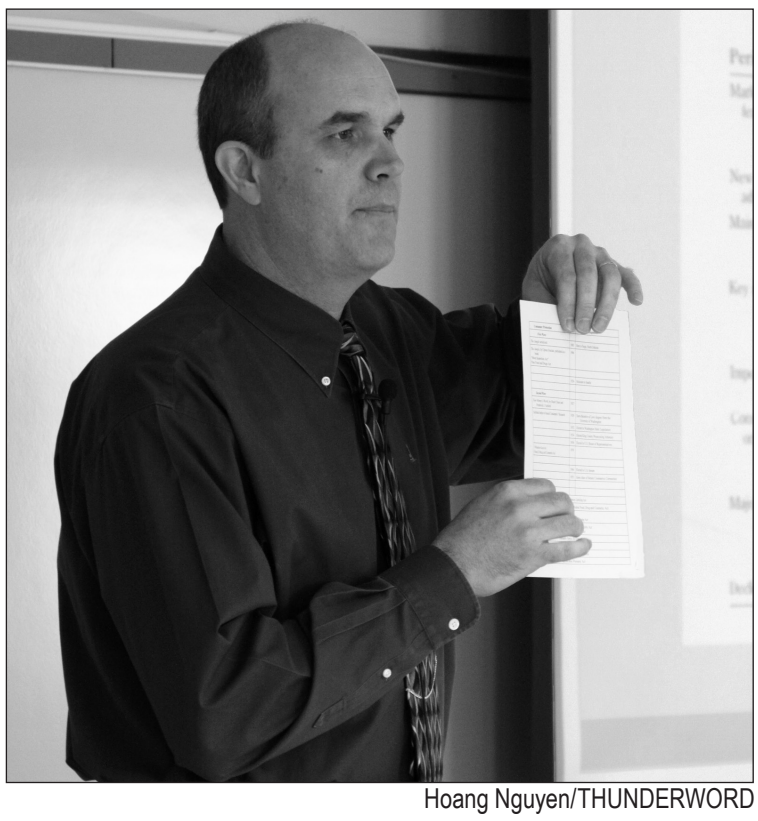
History instructor Dr. Tim McMannon talked about the lesser-known side of Magnuson's career in last week's History Seminar.

Magnuson was a senator known for bringing money back to Washington.

His role in the early consumer protection arena is not as well known, but was extremely important to how consumer protection has developed into what it is today, McMannon said.

Magnuson was born in 1905.

He earned his Bachelor of Law degree at the University of Washington and started his career as an attorney during the Great Depression.



Hoang Nguyen/THUNDERWORD

Dr. Tim McMannon explains Magnuson's entrance into politics and contributions to consumer safety.

"He knew he was interested in law and also knew he was interested in politics," McMannon said.

In 1944, he was elected to the U.S. Senate.

His time in the U.S. Senate is when he began moving toward consumer protection, beginning to participate as early as the 1950s, and fully-fledged by the 1960s, McMannon said.

There were three major waves in the consumer protection industry.

Magnuson was partially involved in the second wave and extremely influential in the third, McMannon said.

The Hazardous Substances Labeling Act was the first of the three waves of reforms.

The new act required a signal or caution statement be placed on products that could be harmful.

"This is something we can give Magnuson pretty much full credit for," McMannon said.

Magnuson also played a key role in auto safety, he said.

"Magnuson got drawn into automobile safety mostly because he was interested in tire safety," McMannon said.

"Magnuson was not one of the first people under auto safety, but he became one of the key figures."

As he gained more of a reputation as a consumer protector, he also started addressing more and more consumer protection issues.

He was also directly involved with the Cigarette Labeling and Advertizing Act, the Flammable Fabrics Act Amendments, the Fair Packaging and Labeling Act, the Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act and many more.

"He became one of the people that could get these laws in the book," McMannon said.

Magnuson died in 1989, but his work as a consumer protector is still very visible in everyday life.

The next History Seminar will be held on Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. in Building 3, room 102.

Teri Balkenende will be talking about Adolf Hitler, former German dictator.

A new bulk candy Vending Business!
20 new machines in 20 great locations.
Hurry! -Total cost $6,000!
Since 1994.
www.VendingForSale.BIZ

Tax bill

continued from page 1

year, 1,800 students at Highline received state need grants.

Also, the WAVE Scholarship funding that was in previous jeopardy has been completely restored in all three proposals.

In the Senate plan scholarship are not being given out this spring or summer, but money would be continued to those who have already been granted the award. The House proposes no cuts to the program.

Though the governor only proposed taxes on certain items, the Senate has proposed a general state sale tax increase of three tenths of a cent. This would make the sale tax 9.8 percent in Federal Way, Kent, and

Des Moines.

"Whether I am for or against the new taxes will depend on what is proposed. I do not support a general sales tax increase because I think it is especially hard on struggling families. I am open to considering removing the tax exemption on candy, gum, etc. I will consider these other sources as potential options for additional revenue," State Rep. Orwall said.

When more new revenue is added, less current spending has to be cut. The House plans on cutting $412 million more than the Senate. However the House only cuts $80.7 million from higher education, while the Senate plans on cutting $118 million.

The State Board of Community and Technical Colleges already plans a 7 percent increase in tuition. This funding is already factored into the higher education budget. These cuts would be in addition to the increases.

"The Senate budget preserves numerous core commitments that were cut in Gov. Chris Gregoire's all cuts-budget – especially in the areas of early learning, K-12 and higher education – makes several institution closures, closes half a billion dollars worth of tax loopholes, provides tax rebates for working families and tax credits for small businesses that create jobs," said State Sen. Lisa Brown, D-Spokane, in a written press release.

The House plans the opposite technique of the Senate – more cuts, less new revenue.

"The public wants to see cuts in state spending, and, by the end of the session, we'll have to cut around $5 billion," said State Sen. Rodney Tom, D-Bellevue, in a written press statement.

	Transfers	Cuts	New Revenue	Federal
House	$465 Million	$1.25 Billion	$851 Million	$641 Million
Senate	$498 Million	$838 Million	$918 Million	$583 Million
Governor	$585 Million	$1.23 Billion	$105 Million	$674 Million

Crosswalk

continued from page 1

marked, but it is still a legal crosswalk and cars must yield for pedestrians once they have entered the roadway.

It is legal to cross South 240th at the following unmarked intersections: 17th, 19th, 20th, 23rd, 25th, 26th, 28th Avenues, and 26th Place.

"The technical reason that there are no signed crosswalks on South 240th Street is that it is not illegal to cross the street at the unmarked intersections," said Brandon Carver, associate transportation engineer for the City of Des Moines.

"Cars must yield to pedestrians and pedestrians must yield to cars.

"Technically the vehicle is required to yield to the pedestrian provided they give the vehicle ample time to stop for them once they begin crossing the road," Carver said.

"True jaywalking is when you cross the street in between two marked intersections, where there is no side street," Carver said.

The City of Des Moines has not put a crosswalk mid-hill on South 240th Street for several reasons.

First, city officials say that a marked crosswalk is not safer than an unmarked crosswalk.

This policy is supported by a national study done by the Federal Highway Administration.

The study involved looking at five years of pedestrian crashes at 1,000 marked crosswalks and 1,000 unmarked crosswalks.

The results showed that on two-lane roads, having a marked crosswalk alone made no difference in the number of car-pedestrian accidents.

Another study done by the Traffic Safety Center at the University of California, Berkeley, in 2007 supports that:

•Pedestrians possibly exhibit greater caution in unmarked crosswalks because they either (1) they do not know they have the same legal right-of-way when crossing, or (2) experience has taught them that drivers are not likely to yield.

•Pedestrians possibly exhibit less caution when crossing in marked crosswalks for similar reasons: (1) they know they have the right-of-way or (2) experience has taught them that drivers are likely to yield.

"In the past three years (2007-2009) there have not been any reported vehicle-pedestrian accidents on South 240th Street," said Carver.

Putting in a marked crosswalk mid-hill would interrupt the flow of traffic and not increase pedestrian safety.

Marked crosswalks do have some advantages, however.

Marked crosswalks help direct pedestrian traffic to a desired crossing location, Carver said.

"It is difficult to funnel the students to one point on mid-hill without encouraging students to use the neighborhood south and west of the school for parking," he said.

Carver explained that the residents on the south side of South 240th Street, across from the South Parking Lot, are not thrilled about students using their neighborhood for overflow parking.

In the past some students have blocked driveways and littered.

When cars have parked on both sides of the narrower side streets, it is difficult for two cars going in opposite directions to pass each other.

The residents have asked for and received from the City of Des Moines signage that states "No parking local residents only."

The Des Moines Police patrol the area and will ticket cars that do not belong to residents.

Carver suggested Lowe's be considered as an alternative for overflow parking for Highline. Lowe's management said, however, that their policy remains, towing anyone who parks in their lot that is not a Lowe's customer.

Carver said the city is unlikely to change its crosswalk policy anytime soon.

"Putting in a new crosswalk is a serious issue," Carver said. "Installing a marked crosswalk should involve the proper engineering study.

"Several factors should be looked at such as visibility, volume of crossings, speed, turning movements, vehicle volumes, etc. ... to name a few," he said.

"From a policy and 'protecting the neighborhood' perspective, the city would not install marked crosswalks across South 240th Street nor support efforts which would lead to increased college parking in the adjacent neighborhoods," Carver said.

Nonetheless, students say they would prefer to see a change.

"I feel it's very sad that we have to wait for someone to die before they put in a sidewalk," said Jayme, a Highline student.

"That seems to be the way this city works, they don't fix a pothole until you break your car and they don't put in a crosswalk until someone gets hit," she said.

"It's scary," said student Alicia Lowery.

"It's not that bad in the morning, but after classes are out it gets pretty scary," she said

"I feel like I am playing [leap] frog every time I try to come to school. It's the driver's right of way but they seem very aggressive on this road," a Highline student said.

"I think the city should put a cross walk here because the safety of their pedestrians should supersede the concerns of people parking in residential areas."

Reporters Masab El-hlimri, Bryanna Malone, Tory Goranson and Alida Linavat contributed to this story.

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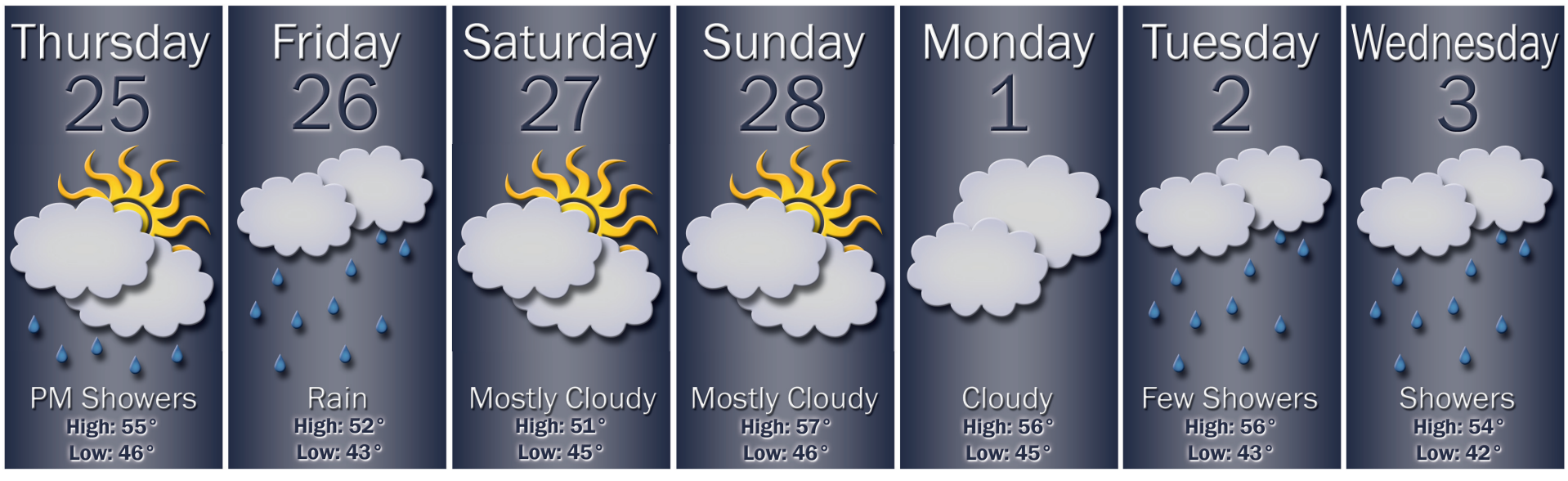

Annual dinner connects students, teachers

By BRYANNA MALONE
Staff Reporter

The third annual dinner for WiSE, Women in Science and Engineering, will be taking place at Highline on March 3 from 6 until 8 p.m.

The WiSE dinner is for women who are interested in engineering, physical and life sciences, math, and technology. Anybody who is interested in these fields is welcome to attend the dinner. The popular event brings together students and women who have achieved success in a variety of science-related fields.

Although the dinner is free, seating is limited and reservations are required.

Highline engineering professor Judy Mannard said the event is a great opportunity for students to connect with others in their intended fields of study.

"It is important for students to meet women in their desired fields," she said.

The main point of this dinner is to allow students to interact with other women in their specialized fields of work and find opportunities within those fields. There will also be a panel discussion during the dinner and live music.

The two-course dinner will feature either chicken lasagna or a vegetarian option, and chocolate cake.

The event will be held in Building 8, the Student Union, in the Mt. Constance and Mt. Olympus conference rooms.

Limited seats available for this dinner so if you are interested in attending make sure to register. You can register at http://ned.highline.edu/~pearl56/215/wise/.

For more information contact Judy Mannard by e-mail at jmannard@highline.edu or by phone 206-878-3710, ext. 6476.

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