Legislature nears budget deal

By CAITLYN STARKEY
Staff Reporter

The Legislature seems likely to adjourn in five days after hammering out the sticking point in the budget.

Majority Democrats from the House and Senate have spent the last 25 days of a special session arguing over how to close a $2.8 billion gap in the state’s budget.

The Senate had been pushing for an increase in the state sales tax, which House leaders opposed.

But late Wednesday, legislative leaders said they had agreed to drop the sales tax hike, turning instead to a tax on candy, gum, soda pop and beer.

Earlier in the regular session, they repealed Initiative 960, which allowed legislation concerning new revenue to be passed. Democrats insisted that it was necessary to balance the budget.

“The main sticking point has been the Senate proposal to raise the sales tax,” said State Sen. Karen Keiser, D-Kent, earlier this week.

See Legislature, page 13

Student president resigns

By LIVIU BIRD
Staff Reporter

Student Government President Chris Pennington stepped down from his position on March 23.

Speaker of the Caucuses Jacqui Trillo will serve as president for the rest of the school year.

She was confirmed as president on Monday, April 6, removing her initial “interim” label.

Student Programs is in charge of the Associated Students of Highline Community College program – or simply, Student Government.

They have their own bylaws and procedures like any other legislative branch, including the Washington State Legislature.

These bylaws determine succession in the event of a resignation, among other things.

Under normal circumstances, according to these bylaws, the vice president would take over following the president’s departure.

However, current Vice President Olga Afichuk declined the opportunity, being the next in the order of succession, said Jonathan Brown, associate dean for Student Programs.

Trillo has plenty of leadership experience, serving as president for the Environmental Club and as speaker of the caucuses in her past two years at Highline, Brown said.

The new speaker of the caucuses will be Barbara Talkington.

Pennington’s letter of resignation denoted his desire to “better balance work, life and family,” saying that he believed he was spreading himself too thin.

“I worked hard to be a good...”
Crime and Punishment

Biological lab lizard scared into frenzy

Someone frightened one of the biology lab lizards, located in Building 12. The lizard was named Guapo, and at about 2:20 p.m. on Wednesday, April 4. It was found frightened and bleeding.

“Something by the window it was originally placed next to had scared it into a frenzy, which caused its injury,” said biology student, Tiffany Majewski, who was there when the incident happened.

Shortly after the incident, it stopped bleeding and it was acting normally, said a student at the lab.

“The Biology Lab supervisor [Donn Walter] then requested that security go and check it periodically,” Majewski added.

Guapo was later moved to a room away from all the other animals in the lab to rest.

Car stolen from the south parking lot

A car was stolen from the campus south parking lot on March 31, at 2:15 p.m. The student called 911 immediately, and he didn’t notify campus security first.

A security officer on his routine patrol met with the student. The student didn’t give any descriptions of his car to the campus security officer.

Eight cars towed from Lowe’s parking lot

Eight cars belonging to Highline students were towed from the Lowe’s parking lot on Tuesday, April 6.

The store manager then called 911 and a tow company to report the student violators. The manager has made previous complaints about students parking in the lot.

“Some students make habit parking their vehicles either on an unauthorized area in the school, or on private properties outside of the school,” said a security officer who declined to be named.

Highline is building a fence along the east parking lot entrance to discourage people from parking along the entrances and make space for emergency vehicles, the officer added.

— Compiled by Othman Heibe

News Briefs

Community group looks for interns at Highline

A local community service organization is looking for student interns.

The Institute for Community Leadership will visit Highline on Tuesday, April 13, from 1:30-2:30 p.m. in the Student Union building, Mt. Skokomish room.

Among its programs, the institute works with local school districts on the West Coast to try to help students “directly reduce disparities in academic achievement and civic engagement across racial and socioeconomic lines,” according to the Kent-based organization.

The institute is a program “working to change young people, interns, school administrators, community members and family members in a problem-solving approach to reconcile disparities and injustices in schools and communities,” said Nyla Rosen, administrative assistant at the institute.

For more information, contact the institute at 253-872-3612, or e-mail info@icleader.org.

Basic health care products needed

Highline immigrant and refugee students are still in need of home health care products.

Health care products include shampoo, conditioner, soap, dish soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, feminine hygiene products, toilet paper, shaving cream, razors, baby powder, diapers and other hygiene products.

Students can drop off any of these products in Building 19, room 109 between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. Last quarter, students filled the collection barrel.

Award winning author to visit Highline

Author Peter Bacho will be visiting on Monday, April 12, at noon in the Student Union in the Mt. Skokomish room.

Bacho will be visiting to discuss his latest novel, Leaving Yester.

Some of Bacho’s past works include Dark Blue Suit and the American Book Award-winning Cebu.

There will be a book signing after the discussion.

Science scholarships offered at Highline

The Science Scholars Program (SSP) will be offering scholarships ranging from $1,500 to more than $5,000 a year.

Eligibility requirements include: seeking degree in science, technology, engineering or math; student must have a minimum grade point average of 2.5; and the student must be eligible for financial aid.

To download the application or for more information go to flightline.highline.edu/sspscholarship. The deadline to apply for a scholarship for Fall 2010 is Wednesday, April 14.

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Caterpillars invade a pine tree near the drainage pond on campus.

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Cody Warf/THUNDERWORD
Highline Student Government plans on implementing a classifieds website Fall Quarter 2010 in order to try and save students money on textbooks.

“It’s going to be a classifieds where students can advertise their books and other school supplies,” said Student Government Vice President Olga Afichuk.

The service will be called Highline Classifieds, said Afichuk.

“We hope to have it all done by next year [Fall Quarter 2010],” said Afichuk. “Afi’s idea came from her own Highline experience. She saw a need for a new way to find and purchase books in easier and more inexpensive ways. The classifieds could help students save money on textbooks.

“I was trying to find a way to buy my books because they were so expensive,” said Afichuk.

“I asked my mom and she suggested asking students at Highline that took the class before. But I didn’t know anybody and I couldn’t just go up to them and ask them if they had the book.

“I was thinking ‘Wouldn’t it be nice if Highline had their own version of Craigslist or something like that,’ where I can ask everybody if they have the book, or if somebody has the book they can post it on there and I could just search for it,” Afichuk said.

But Afichuk’s plan doesn’t just address the high price of textbooks.

She is trying to help students make their experience at Highline as easy as possible by including information that students would need but may not be able to find on their own. In this case, students could incorporate things such as carpooling to try to help the parking situation, apartment listings, general classifieds, a calendar of dates, even tutoring, Afichuk said.

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“Highline bookstore management supports the idea of student-to-student exchange but cautions students that it may not always work.

“I’m all for students finding cheaper alternatives as publishers continue to increase the price of textbooks,” said Laura Nole Highline bookstore manager. “But a class is cancelled [or] the student drops the class they can’t return the book to the person they bought it from.”

“The bookstore conducts buy-backs the first week and finals week of the quarter.

“Students receive 50 percent of the current list price on books being used again at Highline, even if they are selling back a used book,” Nole said. “This is the safest book exchange out there.

“If you have any suggestions, ideas, feedback or would like to get involved, you can e-mail Olga Afichuk.

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“I was thinking ‘Wouldn’t it be nice if Highline had their own version of Craigslist or something like that?’”

-Olga Afichuk
Editorial comment

Furlough law is a poor solution

A bill waiting for the governor’s signature forces state employees to take 10 unpaid vacation days.

The bill is a revision of a previous bill that required state employees to take even more furlough days.

It has already been approved by both the State House and Senate. The House voted in favor of the bill 50 to 38, and the Senate 30 to 11.

The bill excludes faculty from having to take the furlough days. Although Highline’s administrators say Highline has been managed carefully enough that it won’t have to participate in the furlough, other state employees will.

This bill is a bad idea, and a poor solution to the Washington state budget crisis.

To begin with, most places cannot function without their staff.

Highline’s staff includes those who keep the computer system running, the secretaries in each building that help write student recommendation letters, the library personnel and the cashiers.

Every aspect of Highline includes some vital staff employed by the state.

Without these staff on campus for even one day, the campus would not be able to function well.

That other state institutions will be facing this furlough is a big deal.

To make matters worse, the state does not pay these employees well to begin with. To cut 10 days from an employee’s salary is equivalent to cutting two weeks of pay. That is a lot of money for people who do not have a surplus of funds to begin with.

For someone who has rent or loan payments riding on every paycheck, cutting an entire paycheck out of someone’s life is a big deal.

That other state institutions will be facing this furlough is a big deal.

This bill will cause ill consequences statewide as well. With so many workers being further underpaid, some will have to look to other means to make up lost personal revenue. That creates fertile ground for an increase in corruption, and employees taking things home from the workplace.

Considering how hard state employees work, this bill is a poor way to repay them. The gap in the state budget needs to be filled somehow, but this is not the way.

The state’s staff deserve better than this.

Witch trials continue worldwide

Witch trials aren’t just a figment of the past.

In American schools, students are taught about the history of witch trials in the United States, and sometimes the United Kingdom, as an example of what happens when mob mentality takes over and superstition runs amuck.

In my own school experience, the teacher happily assured us that, as citizens of the modern world, we would likely never have to worry about literal witch hunts in our lifetimes.

While things such as the hunt for members of the Communist Party during the McCarthy era are cited as a modern example of such a mentality, all too often schools here treat witch hunts as something that has gone away, and is irrelevant in the modern world.

Unfortunately, that isn’t true. Every year, in other countries, people are executed for the practice of “witchcraft.”

According to an Amnesty International report released on March 19, a Lebanese citizen has been sentenced to death in Saudi Arabia for witchcraft.

Ali Hussain Sibat, a Lebanese television psychic, was visiting Saudi Arabia on the Islamic religious pilgrimage of Umrah.

He was arrested by the Saudi Arabian government for “sorcery” in May 2008. He was tried and convicted of witchcraft, and executed by a Saudi Arabian court.

Every aspect of Highline includes some vital staff employed by the state.

There are still countries where people can be attacked under suspicion of witchcraft.

Write to us

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

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

Letters should be no more than 200 words.

Commentaries should be 600 words or less and arrive no later than Monday for publication that Thursday.

Submit letters and comments to:

The Thunderword
P.O. Box 98000, Des Moines, WA 98198, Building 10-106

E-mail: tword@highline.edu

Opinion

Staff

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The Thunderword / April 8, 2010

Opinion

Commentary

Nicholas McCoy

Witch trials aren’t just a figment of the past.

In American schools, students are taught about the history of witch trials in the United States, and sometimes the United Kingdom, as an example of what happens when mob mentality takes over and superstition runs amuck.

In my own school experience, the teacher happily assured us that, as citizens of the modern world, we would likely never have to worry about literal witch hunts in our lifetimes.

While things such as the hunt for members of the Communist Party during the McCarthy era are cited as a modern example of such a mentality, all too often schools here treat witch hunts as something that has gone away, and is irrelevant in the modern world.

Unfortunately, that isn’t true. Every year, in other countries, people are executed for the practice of “witchcraft.”

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As reported by Reuters that month, although for unknown reasons it was not carried out. It is unknown whether the sentence will eventually be carried out.

Others have not been so lucky. The Saudi Arabian court uses a crime of “apostasy” to convict those it accuses of witchcraft. Apostasy is a term that describes the abandoning of a religious belief or cause.

In 2009, the Saudi Arabian government executed an Egyptian citizen under accusation of apostasy for possessing a Quran that had degraded.

In other countries, such as Gambia, witch hunts are ongoing. Up to 1,000 people had been arrested in Gambia by March 2009 as suspected witches.

They were imprisoned, and interrogated under the influence of a hallucinogenic liquid that causes kidney damage.

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They were imprisoned, and interrogated under the influence of a hallucinogenic liquid that causes kidney damage.

In Kenya, in May 2008, it was reported by Reuters that at least 11 people were burned to death by a mob after being accused of witchcraft.

A mob went house to house with a list of suspected witches, setting approximately 30 homes on fire.

The ongoing hunting of witches in some places has relevance to everyone. People must be aware of the policies and environment of places they are traveling to.

Beyond the fact that some people legitimately practice religious witchcraft here in the United States, travelers of other religions should be aware.

There are still countries where people can be attacked under suspicion of witchcraft.

Nick wants you to join his coven.

Write to us

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

Letters should be no more than 200 words.

Commentaries should be 600 words or less and arrive no later than Monday for publication that Thursday.

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

Provide contact information for confirmation purposes.
HOCUS-FOCUS

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

TV REPAIRS

by Henry Boltinoff

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Trivia test by Filo Rodriguez

1. LITERATURE: Who wrote the children's book Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing?
2. MOVIES: Who played the lead roles in The Silence of the Lambs?
3. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What kind of bird is the fast-moving road runner?
4. MOVIES: Who played the lead role in The Running Man?
5. MUSIC: Who wrote the children's book The Cat in the Hat?
6. MEDICAL: What is the modern-day equivalent of the word “grippe”?
7. GEOGRAPHY: The country of Wales was known as what in Roman times?
8. CHEMISTRY: What is the Periodic Table symbol for the element iron?
9. ANCIENT WORLD: What figure is depicted by the statue of a girl in the Colossus of Rhodes?
10. GAMES: Which two letters of the alphabet have the highest values in the game of Scrabble?

Quoteable Quote

Frankly, I’d like to see the government get out of war altogether and leave the whole field to private industry.

• Get arts news? Contact the arts editor, Stephanie Kim by calling 206-878-3710, ext. 3317 or by e-mail at tword@highline.edu.

Crossword 101

By Bill Deasy (Bill@gfrpuzzles.com)

Across
1. Kind of acid
6. Breaks down
10. Introductory letters
14. Like some treated lawns
15. Diva’s delivery
16. Actress Patricia
17. Japanese immigrant
18. Limp watch painter
20. Himalayan legend
21. May racing site
23. Canal site
24. Gas company
25. __-do-well
47. Tough tests
48. Show to the door
49. Mystical cards
51. Former Ms. Trump
52. Basic belief
53. Kind of warfare
56. Black, in poetry
57. Auto financing co.
58. Musical McEntire
59. Vietnam War locale

Down
1. Where Arlo ate
2. Accident
3. “No question”
4. -do-well
5. Lyrical
6. Miss Hawkins of Dogpatch
7. Beats the time of attack
8. Fed. money overseer
9. ___-Cat (winter vehicle)
10. Q and Z, 10 points
11. ___-Cat (winter vehicle)
12. The performance will take place on April 11th at 2 p.m.
13. Top 40 listings
14. Chop down
15. One of the Seven Wonders of the World?
16. A Jim Carrey movie
17. Where ____ begin
18. Where ____ begin
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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: **

Moderate ** Challenging *** HOH BOY! **

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Last week’s crossword solution

EDWIN DARES KAT CRANE IDIOT IRR HUG THE CURVE STE RUE ROOMED
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Last week’s Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Puzzles

The Thunderword / April 8, 2010

Arts Calendar

Burien Little Theatre presents Bleacher Bums, a hilarious look at baseball through the eyes of obsessed Cubs fans, set in 1999. The performance will take place at The Burien Little Theatre, April 16, 17, 23, 24, 30, May 1, 7, 8 at 8 p.m. April 18, 25, May 2, 9 at 2 p.m.

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

Federal Way Symphony presents Piano Is His Forte. Pianist Mark Salman will be performing Mozart’s 9th Piano Concerto in E-flat. The performance will take place on April 11th at 7 p.m. For tickets and more information visit www.federalway-symphony.org or call (253) 529-9857.

*Got arts news? Contact the arts editor, Stepanie Kim by calling 206-878-3710, ext. 3317 or by e-mail at tword@highline.edu.
Highline symphonies will showcase talent this weekend

By JIN YOON  Staff Reporter

Pianist Mark Salman will be playing Piano Concerto in E-flat Major by Mozart with the Federal Way Symphony on Sunday, April 11.

Mark Salman began playing piano at the age of 7 and has played for about 14 years. “My parents were very interested in classical music and played recordings constantly around the house,” Salman said.

Before attending the pre-college division of the Julliard School in New York, he studied and trained with a local teacher for six years. Salman found his experience at Julliard beneficial because “they were extremely serious about music. The classes in theory, ear training and history were extremely important to my musical development,” Salman said.

After completing his pre-college studies at Julliard, Salman went to the Institute of Technology in Boston, where he studied for two years, focusing in composition and chamber music.

He later got his degree from Julliard. “Since then, I have built a career as a performer, recording artist and teacher,” he said.

Salman was influenced by his professors at Julliard, Josef Raifei and Richard Fabre. Salman’s professor David Dubal has been influential in particular. Dubal helped shape Salman’s outlook on music.

Salman had the privilege of playing for and getting guidance from Vladimir Horowitz, an experience that has changed every aspect of his playing, he said.

Mark Salman and the Federal Way Symphony will hold the concert on Sunday, April 11 at 2 p.m. The concert will be held in St. Luke’s Church, 515 S. 312th St., Federal Way.

Tickets can be purchased at www.federalwaysymphony.com or 253-529-9857. Tickets are $25 for the general public, $20 for seniors and free for 18 and under.

Auburn Symphony Orchestra’s performance will feature Tchaikovsky’s Symphony No. 1 “Winter Dreams” and Prokoviev’s Alexander Nevsky Cantata.

This concert will also feature the Federal Way Chorale with contralto Kyray Humphrey. The shows will be directed by Laird Thornton.

This event will be held at the Auburn Performing Arts Center located 700 E. Main St., Auburn.

Blend will feature sounds of the world

By AUSTIN MOSIER  Staff Reporter

A new band with a world beat performs at the Bistro on Wednesday, April 14.

Ken Carlson, Harry Pierce and Laura DiCarlo make up Korkella, a new band in the Seattle scene.

“We play world music collectively with a Northwest flair,” said Carlson.

They will perform in the weekly musical series, The Blend, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Bistro, located in the Student Union on the second floor.

Carlson, a Northwest native from Astoria, Ore., is a teacher at the Seattle Drum School and Pierce, whose family is musical, received multiple awards and scholarships when he attended Cornish College of the Arts in Seattle.

He grew up on carrying his father’s clarinet around from gig to gig and just naturally picked it up,” Carlson said. “He will most likely be playing the sax or clarinet when we come to Highline.”

DiCarlo will sing during Wednesday’s performance. She grew up as the singer in her family’s bluegrass band and is currently studying flamenco.

This will be Korkella’s first performance at Highline. Carlson said the band is excited to promote their name and share their music with the students.

“Me, Harry and Laura can all play multiple instruments, but we all have our own expertise,” he said.

All three band members have been playing for a long time individually, but just recently decided to come together as a collective.

“Harry, Laura and I have all been friends for a long time,” Carlson said.

“Harry’s a really good person and creative person. He’s the heart of the band,” Carlson said.

“Laura is a very good vocalist and fantastic clarinet player,” Carlson said.

“We are a new band and we would love for everyone to come support us,” Carlson said.

Highline student displays award winning art

By ALYSON FUHRMAN  Staff Reporter

The nature-themed artwork of Alina Himichuk welcomes spring to Highline campus.

An exhibit featuring more than 20 original works of art by Himichuk, is currently on display in Highline’s art gallery and will be available for viewing through the month of April.

The Highline art gallery is located on the 4th floor of the library and is open to visitors Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m; and Sunday, 2 to 9 p.m.

The exhibit includes a selection of photography, an acrylic painting, a scratchboard illustration, an oil pastel piece, and a collection of detailed 4B graphite pencil drawings done by the 17-year-old Highline Running Start student.

Two of Himichuk’s 4B graphite pencil drawings received awards from the Puyalup Fair Junior/Senior art show in 2008. Her piece The Gift of Friendship, which features three babies, received a Best in Show blue ribbon. Majestic Pride, a full-body illustration of a bald eagle, received a Choice of the Day award.

“I am more experienced with pencil than I am with anything else,” Himichuk said. “I got my start in graphite pencil when I was 6 years old. I really enjoyed drawing, Himichuk did not envision herself as an artist from a young age.

“I wanted to be a veterinarian, then I wanted to be a nurse and stuff like that,” Himichuk said.

“But, as soon as I got into college and started picking my courses, I realized art was what I wanted to do.”

In an interior design class, which Himichuk especially enjoyed, she discovered that “it’s not just drawing, but also communicating with people.”

She is currently hoping to major in graphic design and possibly animation. But her overall goal is to major in at least three different types of art.

“I want to major in at least three different art careers, like interior design or photography, or at least fashion design because I can’t just stay in one art,” Himichuk said. “I want to do all of it.”

Himichuk’s favorite part about art is the way it makes her feel.

“You know when you come home from work and school and everything, and you’re tired...as soon as you begin to draw it’s like you’re in your own little place...it’s like a way for me to get everything out of my mind and like, just draw.”
Highline alumni come together and make music

By STEPHANIE KIM
Staff Reporter

Former Highline students Ben Johnston and Trevor Ras find inspiration for their band Boomerang Summer from their reflection of the world and their surroundings.

After breaking his neck in a surfing accident, Ras began to develop a very different outlook and perspective on life.

“Bands are not strangers to me,” Ras said. Originally from Burien, Ras has played music almost his entire life. After college, he began playing acoustic guitar in Portland and toured all the way down to Los Angeles.

His residence in California was cut short due to the surfing accident. It was after his accident he began to develop his new perspective.

After the accident, music played second fiddle in Ras’ life, Ras said. As his outlook in life changed, so did his perspective on music. Rather than playing shows extensively and pushing himself, Ras said he has let everything happen “naturally.”

Ras slowly began to play music again with another former Highline student and guitarist Ian McKamey. With two guitarists, Ras and McKamey needed to find themselves a bassist and a drummer.

McKamey asked childhood friend Ben Johnston to drum for their band. Johnston and Ras had played together extensively and pushed each other on music. Rather than forcing it, Johnston said.

His residence in California was cut short due to the surfing accident. It was after his accident he began to develop his new perspective.

As Johnston followed his dad to shows, he always found himself attracted to drums. As Johnston followed his dad to shows, he always found himself attracted to drums.

The band originally called themselves the Trevor Ras Trio, but the band felt it was important to reflect all members with their name, rather than just Ras.

When deciding on a new band name, they wanted to “think about all those days when you were a kid and summers just came,” Johnston said. They eventually settled on Boomerang Summer because that name felt right.

The trio wanted to let their music happen organically, rather than forcing it.

“We just want to play good tunes and have fun,” Ras said. “My philosophy is that if a band on stage is having fun, the audience will see it.”

Before Ras began performing, he grew up playing jazz, funk and fusion. He has incorporated those different genres into a more “pop-type” sound.

The band often plays covers at their shows.

“We’re not just a jam band,” Ras said. “We’ve polished those songs. We don’t want to be those guys that are like, ‘it’s a 16-bar solo and we’re done.’”

“I think one thing we’ve done is that we’ve taken those songs and turned them into the band’s songs. When we play live, we let it go where it will go,” Johnston said.

Johnston’s dad was a guitarist and gave Johnston a guitar as a gift when he was 8.

“My dad was a working musician when I was growing up,” Johnston said.

It was only after six weeks of playing guitar Johnston knew that it wasn’t the instrument for him. As Johnston followed his dad to shows, he always found himself attracted to drums.

“He knew I wasn’t going to fall into his footsteps,” he said.

Johnston, a former editor-in-chief of the Thunderword, received his associate of arts degree in journalism in 2004 and also helped start Highline’s Jazz Band Club.

Growing up, Johnston made sure school was his priority for his future. “I tried to keep music a hobby, go to school and work. It’s always been a hobby for me,” Johnston said.

While Johnston focused on school, Ras took a completely different route in approaching music. Ras played strictly alto saxophone for six years and played in school bands, but his mom eventually had him take piano lessons.

It was in college Ras took playing his acoustic guitar and writing lyrics seriously.

“My lyrics are always around my experiences, explicit or not. They reflect my view of the world, or what I’m seeing in others,” Ras said.

“I feel like right now, I’m really in the wheel house of my singing and song writing capabilities. I’m just singing my ass off and it’s really fun.”

When looking for musical inspiration, Ras looks up to artists such as Michael Jackson, Earth, Wind & Fire, James Taylor, Van Morrison, Dave Matthews Band, John Mayer, Radiohead and Pearl Jam. [With] Pearl Jam, they’ve maintained traveling all around the world. The way that group looks at the world and try to change the world is an inspiration to me,” said Ras.

Boomerang Summer’s EP Breathe can be heard at www.boomerangsummer.com and a physical copy can be purchased at one of their shows.

Breathe is dedicated to McKamey’s dad, who lost his battle to cancer in the summer of 2009; he willed his drum set to Johnston.

Boomerang Summer will have an all ages performance tomorrow evening, April 9 at Mick Kelly’s Irish Pub located 135 SW 152nd St, Burien at 8:30 p.m.
Lady T-Birds gain experience, needs more pitching

By BRIAN GROVE  
Staff Reporter

Despite having a roster built from scratch, the Lady T-Birds fastpitch team is finding a way to compete. But, having only one pitcher and inexperienced players is a hurdle the Lady T-Birds are still trying to overcome.

Highline started league play on Tuesday, April 6, in a double header against the Centralia Trailblazers, losing both games, 4-1 and 11-1.

Highline Head Coach Gary Graf attributed the Trailblazers’ offensive bombardment in the second game to the fact they’d already seen his pitcher, Faith Baldwin, in the game before.

“They got to see my pitcher seven innings before and that makes a big difference,” he said.

Even though Highline lost both games, Graf said the team is getting the invaluable experience it needs.

“You’ve got to learn by getting out there and getting your face dirty,” he said.

Before the team started league play, the Lady T-Birds played three preseason games. Highline went 2-2 with two losses against Shoreline, 15-1 and forfeit, and two wins against Edmonds, 13-5 and 12-3.

“I didn’t know what to expect to be honest,” Graf said of preseason play.

“We’ve seen both sides of the scale. Shoreline was strong, they had big bats. Edmonds was more our par of team,” he said.

This is Graf’s second season as head coach for Highline, but the team did not play last year due to a shortage of players.

Highline co-captains Sarah Ferrin and Evan Tullis said preseason play was a good eye opener for the team.

“It showed us our errors and what we need to work on more as a team,” Tullis said. Tullis plays center field.

“The outfield is where most of the new players are. It’s been me and Phil (Phil Taylor, Highline assistant coach) working with them a lot the past few weeks,” she said.

“We’ve worked a lot on our batting skills,” Ferrin said. Ferrin plays left field and second base.

Graf said that although the team has made a lot of improvements, they still have some basic fundamentals to work on.

“Our throwing isn’t as good as it should be, but our hitting has come a long way and their base running’s decent,” he said.

One thing the team hasn’t been able to do as much as they’ve wanted to play outside. With a wet March and early April, the Lady T-Birds have been subject to three rainouts and a lot of practices in the gym.

“The weather is kicking our ass,” Graf said.

Ferrin said the weather has hurt them because they haven’t been able to practice on the field.

“The ball plays different in the dirt,” she said.

Another issue this brings to the plate is Highline’s lack of pitching depth. With only one pitcher in freshman Faith Baldwin, a week filled with make-up games isn’t something Graf wants his pitcher to go through.

“It puts us in a bad spot because we could be looking at a lot of make-up games where we’d have to use our only pitcher like eight games in a row,” Graf said.

Highline catcher Chau Vo takes a cut in the first game of the double header against Centralia.

Highline’s next games are Friday, April 9, against Grants Harbor, at 2 and 4 p.m. at home, Saturday, April 10 against Pierce, at 2 and 4 p.m. away, and Tuesday, April 13 against Green River, at 3 and 5 p.m. at home before a week without games. They will resume play on April 20, against South Puget Sound at 2 and 4 p.m.

Graf said now that his team has experienced league play, “It’s time to learn how to play right.”

Softball duo means double trouble on the diamond

By ADRIAN SCOTT  
Staff Reporter

Highline has a Major addition to its softball team this season.

Former outfielders at Renton High School, Angelique and Dominique Major, now hold down the Lady T-Birds outfield.

“This is the first year with the softball team returning so it’s going good so far. We’re getting a lot accomplished,” Angelique Major said.

The alumni of Renton High School both lettered in softball and soccer.

Renton High School isn’t known for producing softball players. The team had gone years without winning a single game until both twins were seniors in 2009. T-Bird teammate freshman Sable Moton also played high school ball in Renton.

Angelique and Dominique Major received scholarships to play outfield. They are also being productive students, holding a grade-point average over 2.9.

“My goals are to pass all my classes, to take required classes to go on to a four-year college,” Angelique Major said. “I heard about the softball team through my high school coach.”

Transitioning to playing at Highline from Renton High School did present the twins some challenges.

“It was a little hard because we had to learn new techniques, and practice was a lot different from when we were in high school,” Dominique Major said.

Their family is 100 percent behind their decision to play softball, the ladies said.

“Our family feels that softball was a good choice to keep us out of trouble. My family is happy that we’re doing this.”

Baldwin was also in a minor car accident last Thursday and said she had some stiffness in her lower back. Graf said he is being very cautious with his only pitcher.

Regardless of the accident and taking it slow, Baldwin is constantly pressing.

“Faith is working on her pitching just about every day,” Tullis said.

Keeping the ball low in the strike zone and her changeup are two aspects of pitching Baldwin has been working especially hard on.

“Good fastpitch hitters know how to hit a riseball,” Taylor said. “And good riseball hitters just feast on those high pitches.”

Still, Tullis said he’d be nice to have more depth.

“If we had another pitcher or two, we’d be pretty set,” she said.

Green River sophomore pitcher Caitlynn Duggan was on Highline’s roster last season. However, after her last year’s team folded, Duggan transferred to play for the Gators.

Graf said although he thinks she is in their walkover, there are no hard feelings about the transfer.

“As a pitcher, you can’t afford to lose a season,” he said. “She’s a great kid and I would have loved to have her.”

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Graf said now that his team has experienced league play, “It’s time to learn how to play right.”

Together, we feel we can help each other out if we are doing something that needs to be fix or made better. We also can be brutally honest without hurting each other’s feelings,” Dominique Major said.

“With always having your sister around things tends to become more of a relaxing and safe place. To know you always have someone to help you when you need it,” said Angelique Major.

They say they enjoy playing softball here at Highline and plan on returning for the 2010-2011 season.

“I plan on returning next year to play and hopefully play after Highline,” Angelique Major said.
New snowfall gives spring skiers a final fresh run

By EMILY INNOUVONG
Staff Reporter

If you love to snowboard or ski, the best place to go to for the last couple weeks of the season could be Crystal Mountain.

“Thirty inches of new snow in the past three days,” Justus Huyck, recruiting coordinator of Crystal Mountain, said last week.

You can enjoy the great snow, until April 18, when Crysta1 Mountain closes for the year.

If you’re a skier or snowboarder and have a season pass from any other resort, you can receive a half price lift ticket. Instead of paying $60 every time, now you only have to pay $30. Every Tuesday you can get a 2 for 1 ticket voucher when you fill up your gas tank at a Shell gas station.

If you live too far from Crystal and are closer to Stevens Pass, “we just received over two feet in the last three to four days,” said Nate Escalona, the marketing manager of the resort. “The spring pass is $99,” till April 18, versus $549-$879 for a regular season pass.

Snoqualmie Pass received eight inches of new snow in the last two days. Half Price lift tickets are available if you have a season pass for any of the Washington resorts.

The hours of operation for all three resorts are daily 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Stevens Pass whom, is closed April 12-14, but reopens April 15-18.

April 18 the resorts are closed for the season.

NWAACC rules give Oregon unfair advantage

Highline is at a disadvantage in comparison to all Oregon schools in our conference.

The Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAACC) was formed in 1978 by combining two separate conferences in Washington and Oregon, and since its inception, Oregon schools have been able to offer full-tuition waivers, and quick scan to their student-athletes.

By comparison, Washington schools can only offer up to $633.75 per quarter, according to the NWAACC Rulebook.

However, these schools compete with one another for championships in the same conference, and in sometimes, in the same division. Having separate scholarship rules for schools that compete directly with one another makes no sense.

Having played soccer for Highline for the past two years, I can attest to the fact that Oregon schools have been able to attract more talented players out from outside. Californians go to Arizona and Oregon in vast numbers, and almost never to Washington.

The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), the governing body for most four-year school athletic programs, splits schools into divisions based on different eligibility requirements and scholarship opportunities. Divisions I and II offer athletic scholarships and Division III does not.

The National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCJAA), the governing body for many two-year school athletic programs, also splits their championships into two groups: one for schools that offer scholarships, and one for those that don’t.

Highline’s wrestling team only had one, NWAACC Most Valuable Player Gustavo Bernaldez of Culver City, Calif., but he scored 30 goals last season in only 11 games.

Treasure Valley had 19 out-of-state players, including Alan Bosio, NWAACC East Region MVP in 2008. Even lowly Southwestern Oregon had nine out-of-state players, including three from Washington.

With the ability to offer these out-of-state players full compensation for their athleticism comes the ability to attract more talented players from outside.

California is a particularly good breeding ground for NWAACC athletes.

The largest state on the West Coast population-wise cultivates many good athletes out of high school because of the sheer number of athletes and the good competition numbers bring.

Some go to four-year schools, but those who choose to go to a two-year school are out of luck when it comes to athletic scholarships because no school in their home state offers them.

Of the neighboring states, Washington, Oregon and Arizona have the largest number of two-year schools with athletic programs. Arizona and Oregon can both offer full tuition waivers, and a quick scan of NWAACC and Arizona Community College Athletic Association rosters show that at these different official bodies and the way they do things, for the NWAACC to hold two standards for athletic grants based on the location of the school.

The conference needs to hold everybody to the same standard and level the playing field for all schools.
Finding the meaning behind spring cleaning

By KANDI CARLSON
Staff Reporter

Spring brings with it a new vision of your home. As the sun shines through the windows, it brings light into those dark corners that have filled with dust and clutter. This added light from the sun makes spring the traditional time to go through your home and clean it, room by room.

All you need is understanding, planning and a few tips to get the job done.

You must first understand what it is you are trying to accomplish. This means knowing what “spring cleaning” is and how it differs from daily housework.

Housework chores are those things you do either daily or weekly. Vacuuming, laundry, dishes and dusting all fall under this category.

Spring cleaning involves those areas that you do not normally think about or have not cleaned in over three months. A few examples include under the bed or couch and the refrigerator.

This is also the time to clear out items that you no longer use and go through the clutter found in the bottom of your closets.

Save on your trash bill by doing away with items that can be reused. With this newfound understanding you can begin your spring cleaning.

Tips for getting started:

• Make a list. Go through your home room by room and write down anything specific that you want or need to do. This way you have an idea of how much needs to be done and where.

• Have garbage bags and boxes ready to use. You will find yourself picking up items that are cluttering the floor. For some, this is the start place for those unwanted items.

• Work one room at a time. If you find there are items that need to be placed in storage or in another room, put them in that space and walk away. Wait to organize until you get into that room.

• Work one room a day. This means it may take you a week to completely clean your entire home, but doing this will prevent you from becoming overwhelmed by the process.

• Begin in the room you spend most of your time in. Oddly enough this trend tends to be the place where clutter has piled up the most. High-traffic areas also accumulate the most dust and dirt.

Cleaning tips:

Carpets are one of the biggest catchers of all that is dirty. Even vacuuming on a daily basis does not help entirely. It is a good idea to have your carpets shampooed once a year. This is particularly true if you have pets.

You can do it yourself or pay someone else. If you want to do it yourself, keep in mind the shampooing units found in the grocery store will result in a longer drying time. You should wait for a sunny and warm day. If you are in an apartment, ask your landlord or property management company if they will allow you to take the cost out of your rent. Cleaning the carpets helps them too.

• Baking soda is helpful for getting rid of and minimizing carpet odors and stains. Sprinkle baking soda generously over your carpet. Wait for 30 minutes and then vacuum. Forget about those expensive candles and incense. Mix together one cup of baking soda and one cup of roughly chopped herbs and sprinkle over the carpet. Allow the mixture to stand for 15 to 20 minutes and then vacuum. This works great because each time you vacuum the herb smell will come through the filter of your vacuum, providing you do not change the bag or vacuum filter.

• The refrigerator is one of the most overlooked appliances in the home. More than likely this is because there is usually something in it. A good rule of thumb you can use for deciding whether or not you should throw something out is, if you didn’t know you had it – get rid of it.

You probably won’t use it in the future if you weren’t using it in the past.

HOMEMADE cleaning supplies:

• Powdered lemonade mix works wonders in the dishwash-
er. Simply fill the detergent cup with the mix and run the wash cycle.

• Compressed air works as a duster when used with a hand towel. In particular for blinds, hold the towel behind the blinds and blast them with the compressed air. This way the dust gets trapped by the towel and doesn’t end up settling someplace else.

• Limes are great multi-purpose cleaner in any home. Begin by rolling a whole lime back and forth on the counter to help release the juices. Then cut the lime in half and dip the flesh in some baking soda. The lime has now been transformed into a gentle scrubber for baking dishes, counter tops, refrigerator shelves and the microwave.

• Don’t throw away those orange peels. Cut them into 1-inch pieces and send them down the garbage disposal. Run the cold water and the disposal on. The fresh smell of oranges will fill the air and at the same time clean up that gunk that builds up around the blades.

I recommend using citrus fruits and natural cleaners most of the time. They are cheaper and you already have them in your house. Save yourself the money and effort of going shopping. If you do use chemicals such as bleach, make sure you do not mix them with anything besides water. This can be dangerous.

Final Steps: Now that you are finished, you can figure out what to do with the things you want to donate.

Family and friends are a good start place for those unwanted items. Let them know what it is you no longer want. There are also a variety of services that will accept your items. Think locally because this will help support your own community.

TIP of the week: Want less wrinkles? Shake out clothes before placing them in dryer. You can also help clothes dry faster by adding a towel to the dryer.
Census wants you to be counted

By RICHARD MEIER
Staff Reporter

Participation in this year’s Census helps bring in money for the state of Washington. The Census bus rolled onto the Highline campus this past Friday, April 2, for Highline’s Census Awareness Fair.

The Census bus team aimed to better inform the Highline community of the importance of the Census as well as bring awareness of its impact.

The Census is not only important to the surrounding community, Census official say, but is also required by law and has a huge impact.

“The state of the 2010 Census includes distribution of more than $400 billion and a possible seat in the U.S. House of Representatives for the state of Washington.”

“The state of Washington is on the cusp of gaining a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives so it’s important that we get as accurate a count as we can,” said Dmitry Kvansnyuk, former Highline student and partnership assistant with the U.S. Census Bureau. “Not only does it have a huge impact on the community but it also is required by Article 1, Section 2 of the United States Constitution.”

The local Census program’s aim is for the state of Washington to have the highest Census return rate in the country. A high return rate is vital in the amount of federal funding the state will receive.

“It’s like cutting a check for the community,” Kvansnyuk said. “For every person unaccounted for, the state loses more than $1,200 a year per person for 10 years.”

The south Seattle region of Washington has the most diverse populace in the state, and Highline is the most diverse college in the state. Highline’s varied community was a high priority for the Census bus to target.

“Highline is the most diverse college in the state and because there is so much diversity it is a very hard area to target,” said Getachew Admassu, partnership specialist with the U.S. Department of Commerce.

“We not only rely on information shared with students, but we hope that they in return spread the word to their friends and families about the importance of completing the Census.”

More information on the Census is available at Building 99 on the Highline main campus.

Highline will be host to Census personnel who will be answering questions and assisting those who need assistance with the Census questionnaire.

This takes place throughout the month of April on every Monday and Wednesday from 1-5 p.m. and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

“We can’t move forward until you mail it back,” Census official Kvansnyuk said.

Highline enrollment up by 14 percent

By TORY GORANSON
Staff Reporter

Highline’s enrollment continued to rise.

At the start of Spring Quarter, the college counted 6,921 students, up from 6,800 at the start of Winter Quarter and up 14 percent from Spring 2009.

As of April 6, the college already is at 91 percent of its full-time equivalent target of 5,300. The FTE count standardizes students by the total number of credits taken, and is used to determine how much money the college gets from the state.

Currently Highline has the equivalent of 5,047 full-time students. The number will grow over the course of the quarter from late-start classes and as numbers from other programs are added in.

If Highline exceeds the FTE number, it must figure out how to pay for those added students, as tuition only pays for about 30 percent of what it costs to educate one student.

“The budget doesn’t allow for us to make up for the increase,” Registration Program Assistant Eric Koch said. “Teachers are now adding waitlist students where they otherwise would not.”

Enrollment has increased in several categories.

Since Spring Quarter 2008, Winter Re-enrollment FTEs have increased from 169 to 447.

Also perhaps reflecting the soft economy, international student FTEs haven’t changed, rising only slightly to 333 from 325 two years ago.

Running Start FTE enrollment has risen from 699 to 743.

Students say they have noticed the change on campus brought about by higher enrollment.

“Since Fall Quarter I have noticed a big difference in class size,” Makenzien Quals said. “Before there were plenty of empty seats in each of my classes, and now my classes are full.”

“With the economy in flux I think that it’s probably best nowadays to get your Associates of Arts in a community college before moving on,” student Anna Moreno said.

Tickets for GlobalFest already sold out

By JEREMY LEE
Staff Reporter

Tickets for this year’s GlobalFest went fast. The popular event sold out in only two days.

GlobalFest is Highline’s annual celebration of global culture and diversity.

Mandy Pai, a coordinator of the GlobalFest said, “There were approximately 300 tickets that were made to be sold, but most of the tickets were sold out at the next day and it is a record of how fast the tickets were sold compared to the last five years of GlobalFest event.”

The tickets went on sale on March 30, but were all gone by March 31.

One of the coordinators of the GlobalFest, Amee Moon, said, “At this point, we don’t even have any more volunteer tickets. No one is more surprised about how fast the tickets sold out than we are.”

GlobalFest will be held on May 8. This event is put on by the students from International Student Programs and it will be in the Highline Student Union.

Hundreds of students typically are involved in the production. The event will have traditional dance performances, traditional foods, and a lot of other cultural related events that will let the participants enjoy and learn about other cultures.

Last year’s GlobalFest featured cultural booths from the many countries representing Highline’s diverse study body; dance, fashion and music presentations; dinner; and activities for children.

Previous GlobalFests have also sold out, though not quite this quickly.

“We wish that everyone could go, but we have the limit to how many people we are allowed to have in the Highline Student Union,” Moon said.

“GlobalFest has become so popular we hit the maximum capacity. Again, I’m so sorry.”

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News

Sickness can make you healthier

By AUSTIN MOSIER
Staff Reporter

Scratchy throats, runny noses, high temperature are a necessity to the human body. As Teri Whitson said, so that you don’t get even worse.

Whitson, who is a nutritionist at Highline, talked about “Why we need to get sick,” at last Friday’s Science Seminar.

“Effects of the common cold can make you feel miserable, but, as Whitson said, these annoying effects are necessary.”

“The symptoms show that your body’s immune system is working.”

“Things like fevers, inflammation or swelling, and lysozymes—containing tears and saliva are all examples of your body’s immune system going through its three lines of defense,” Whitson said.

The first line of defense is the body is lymphocytes or white cells, which travel in your bloodstream. When an invader enters the body it creates more fluid throughout the body and helps you dispose of the invaders through runny noses and going to the bathroom, said Whitson.

The second line of defense is inflamation and fever, Whitson explained. Inflammation is the swelling and redness you see when you are sick. This helps prevent spread of the invaders and also helps with their disposal. The fever you feel is actually intensifying the antimicrobial effects — killing microbes.

“The third line of defense in the body is developing antimmicrobial effects and creating a long-term resistance to them so that if the same invaders return, your body will be ready to win the defense.”

These three lines of defense create your body’s immune system and are what keeps you protected from common viruses and other illnesses,” she said.

Though these three lines of defense are effective, you can take precautions to make sure that your body’s immune system is bottom shape. Whitson explained things such as stress, poor diet, not getting enough rest, and lack of exercise can inhibit the immune system, meaning you stay sick longer.

She also said that medicines that contain decongestants, antihistamines, and fever reducers can make you feel better and get rid of discomfort, but actually help keep you sick longer.

“Decongestants dry mucus which slows the flow of mucus and since fluid is a key mover of killer white cells, this maintains your sickness. Antihistamines and fever reducers inhibit the second line of defense by suppressing inflammation and suppressing systemic resistance,” said Whitson.

Whitson advised people to maintain a good diet, not overwork themselves, exercise and make sure to get the recommended amount of sleep to help their immune system when not sick. But if a pesky virus or bug finds its way into your system she recommends extra vitamin C, extra zinc, more liquids, and to eat garlic. All of these things help your immune system work quickly and help you feel better faster.

Science Seminar is held in Building 3, room 102, from 2:20 to 3:10 p.m. every Friday. Next week’s presenter is nursing professor Teri Trillo.
Highline’s partner program receives new funding

By DANIEL HOWELL
Staff Reporter

A local job placement program that helped find employment for over 500 people last year has been saved by the state Legislature.

House Bill 2651 ensures that the local non-profit organization Port Jobs will continue to receive support from the Port of Seattle.

The program hit a roadblock after a state audit questioned the validity of the sponsorship from the Port of Seattle.

The issue revolved around the language of a previous state law that authorized port districts to contract with non-profit entities for purposes of economic development.

The state auditor brought into question whether workforce development qualified as “economic development.”

“We went in and said job training and job placement are appropriate expenses,” said State Rep. Dave Upthegrove, D-Des Moines, the primary sponsor of the bill.

Port Jobs, according to its website, www.portjobs.org, represents itself as a “not-for-profit action that develops practical programs and supports public policies that increase access to living wage jobs, fostering a more vibrant and equitable economy for residents of and businesses in Seattle and King County.”

Airport Jobs, one of the programs run by Port Jobs, is a fixture of the South King County community. Located at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, Airport Jobs is open to the public Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

According to statistics listed at www.airportjobs.org, the program received 19,000 individual visits and filled 534 jobs in the year 2009. This program “doesn’t create jobs, it gets people connected,” said State Rep. Marcia Welch, D-Des Moines, the coordinator for the Business Information Technology program.

Marcia Welch, coordinator and instructor for the Business Information Technology program, applauded the partnership. “This fills a need where workers, businesses, and the public ally does something.”

Sen. Keiser echoed the same idea concerning new revenue.

“This special session has been extremely frustrating. Many of us, including me, have agreed that we need to find at least $800 million in new revenue in order to balance our $2.8 billion dollar budget deficit.”

“The $800 million figure is a benchmark that we do not want to go below because that would force even deeper cuts.”

“We have already cut $3.6 billion last year and this is the same biennial budget,” she said.

State Reps. Tima Orwall, D-Des Moines, and instructor for the Business Information Technology program, applauded the partnership. “This fills a need where workers, businesses, and the public.”

Marcia Welch, coordinator and instructor for the Business Information Technology program, applauded the partnership. “This fills a need where workers, businesses, and the public.”

“This has been a growing relationship for the past five years,” said Nancy Warren, program manager for Hotel and Tourism Industry Management at Highline.

“From my standpoint, this is an incredibly successful partnership. As we continue to grow the Hospitality and Tourism program at Highline, the airport is a key player in this growth,” Warren said about the success of this program.

The bill stipulates that the reports must include the following: “The number of workers trained, recruited, and placed in jobs; the types of jobs and range of compensation; the number and types of businesses that are served; and any other tangible benefits realized by the port, the workers, businesses, and the public.”

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According to staffers at the State Legislature, Port Jobs would not survive without the support of the Port of Seattle.

Port Jobs currently have two contracts with the Port of Seattle; the first one provides $200,000 for operating expenses, policy and research. The second contract is in the amount of $165,000 to support the Airport Jobs program.

Legislative staff pointed out that the amount of funding provided by the Port of Seattle has remained at the same level since the inception of the program.

Regarding the overall impact that this program has on employment, Rep. Upthegrove said that it was modest, but worthwhile. “I feel like it actually does something.”

Important Changes to RN Program Admission 2011

LPN to RN Option

- Minimum grade per class is 2.7
- Minimum GPA for prerequisites is 3.2
- 2.5 min grade for College Level Math
- Classes may be repeated once only
- Prerequisites may not be older than 7 years
- All prerequisites must be complete by end of fall quarter, 2010
- LPN-RN TEAS™ test required
- Current LPN Washington License Required

Two Year Option

- Minimum grade per class is 3.0
- Minimum GPA for prerequisites is 3.5
- 2.5 Minimum Grade for College Level Math
- Classes may be repeated once only
- Prerequisites may not be older than 7 years
- All prerequisites must be complete by end of fall quarter, 2010
- TEAS testing is required
- Certified Nursing Assistant in Washington Required
News

The Thunderbird / April 8, 2010

NWAACC

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aging 54 percent of the titles, while Oregon is close behind at 46 percent.

NWAACC President Dick McClain, who was the head baseball coach at Linn-Benton in Oregon prior to taking over his current position in 1992, said the transition from OC-CAA (Oregon Community Col-
lege Athletic Association) and WACC (Washington Athletic Association of Community Col-
leges) into the NWAACC was one that made sense for Oregon.

There was in the NCAAC (National Junior College Athletic Association) and they had full-tuition, but they didn’t allow any room and board or anything like that, which the rest of the NJCAA schools in the Northwest at the time did,” McClain said. “Those schools were allowed full room and board plus the tuition.

“Of course, when the Oregon schools were competing with them, there was a lot of inequity with that. So when the league came together and merged, it came together with Oregon being allowed full-tuition and Washington came in with $150.”

Although Washington was only allowed $150 to start, while Oregon schools completely paid tuition at the time, McClain said that there have been efforts to raise it since, but some of the Washington people didn’t vote for it because they didn’t want to have to find the extra money.

Even with the difference in tuition costs, McClain said that there wasn’t much evidence of it affecting recruiting.

“We did several kinds of studies over the years and there were never any studies, from one state to the other because of the difference, but there were some,” McClain said.

At Rowan College at Camden, New Jersey, men may not be moving from state to state too much for the full-tuition waiver, there is a significant difference in the number of out-of-state players in Oregon compared to Washington.

Based on studies done from NWAACC, Oregon men’s and women’s basketball and football for the 2009-2010 school year, out of the 346 athletes in Oregon that participated in these sports, 40 percent of them are from states other than Oregon.

On the other side, out of the 825 athletes in Washington that participate in these same sports, only 25 percent were out of state.

In the NWAACC, out-of-state waivers are only allowed for athletes from Washington, Oregon, Montana, Alaska, British Columbia, California, Idaho, Nevada and Hawaii.

So the question becomes whether it is fair for Oregon and Washington schools to have different waiver policies. For many athletic directors around the NWAACC, it’s an easy answer.

“There is not another con-
ference, to my knowledge, that has two sets of scholarship criteria in the same league,” said Highline Athletic Director John Dunn. “Now, there are some exceptions, for instance, Har-
vard doesn’t give scholarships and they compete in [NCAA] Divi-
sion I, but they do have grants and assistants - they just don’t have scholarships.”

Dunn said the NJCAA has done a great job in their league structure for wrestling.

“A great ex-
ample is the NJ-
CWA, which we have in wrestl-
ing. They have two divisions, they have non-scholarships that they give against each other and scholarships that compete against each other and in the championships, and they have championships for the non-scholar-
ship and champions for the scholarships.”

For Shoreline’s Athletic Di-
rector Doug Palmer, the biggest impact of the waiver difference is seen in the West and North Regions of the NWAACC.

“I think the scholarship dif-
terence can be felt more on the women’s side of sports than the men. The Oregon schools tend to have bigger and stronger fe-
male athletes than the Wash-
ington schools on the whole, at least in the North and West Re-
gions,” Palmer said.

“The East Region in the NWAACC tends to be more like Oregon, due to the fact that most of the colleges there are better supported athletically, as they are the college for the commu-
nity, compared to here, where everyone is second fiddle to the University of Washington. I am positive the potential for more scholarship money does add more depth on the women’s side in Oregon.”

Palmers also said the fact that Oregon has fewer schools is a factor in the type of players they can attract.

“There are a lot of colleges in the Seattle area; we compete for the same athletes,” he said.

“Most of the Oregon colleges are in more rural areas, like the east side of Washington, and they tend to pick up all of the ath-
letes in their area. In fact, that has a lot to do with it as well.

“Also since Oregon is closer to California, they tend to pick up more athletes from these schools, Highline was the first Oregon school that participated in the NWAACC tournament.

“At least in the South Region, all schools are operating un-der the same scholarship rules. Having said that, I believe the Washington schools have made a good-faith effort to help close the disparity.

“Although all athletic direc-
tors in the NWAACC were given the chance to voice their opinion about the tuition waiver policy, only one Oregon athletic director agreed to go on record, Ed Aronson of Treasure Valley. He said the waivers should be the same. "I think they should be equal," Aronson said. "How-
ever, as an Oregon institution, I don’t want to drop our waivers to 65 percent."

Another athletic director from Oregon, who wished to remain anonymous, said not all the Oregon schools give out the same amount in waivers.

"I don’t feel that out-of-state participation and champi-
ionships won are directly related to the number of credits, or the percentage of those credits that a college covers for student-ath-
letes," an Oregon athletic direc-
tor said.

“Our college covers less tu-
ition waivers than any of the community colleges in Oregon, but we still find a way to be competitive and also win a few championships.”

Beyond the athletic direc-
tors, veteran coaches around the NWAACC also had their own opinion on the matter.

The women’s soccer coach at Olympic, Dick Lowry, said it would be an easy choice to choose where to go if he was a perspective student-athlete in high school.

“I sincerely wish ours were the same because we certainly would be able to get better ath-
letes with more money,” Lowry said. "If I were a student that was close to our borders and had the option of either going to an Oregon school with full-tuition paid or going to a Washington school that gave 65 percent, I would be more inclined to go to the Oregon school versus the Washington school simply because of economics.”

Jason Prenovost, Highline men’s soccer head coach, said a good example of the effect of the waivers can be seen with rise of the men’s soccer team at Clackamas, which won the title in their first year and came in sec-
ond the next year.

“Chemeketa has a new men’s soccer program and it will be a power in the NWAACC for years to come,” Prenovost said.

“It’s my opinion that they could not have come without the full-tuition waivers. The com-
munities surrounding Chem-
keleta are very similar to those around Highline.”

“Tuition waivers allow student-athletes to go to school who otherwise would be unable to afford it,”

On the player’s side, High-
line’s Kyle Perry, a men’s bas-
ketball player originally from California, said that if there was an opportunity for a full scholarship out of high school, he would have taken it.

“Since I was from Califor-
nia, I didn’t know much about the NWAACC,” Perry said. “So when I started looking for schools, Highline was the first to respond back to me. If I would have had the chance to go to a school that could have paid for it all, I would have gone there because finances were and still are an issue.”

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Pennington

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student body president, a good father and a good student,” Pennington said. “[It was] probably one of the hardest balancing acts I’ve had to face.”

Despite having a tough time keeping up with the sheer number of his responsibilities, former coworkers said he was still effective in his post as president.

“He was very passionate and had a lot of ideas,” Vice President Afichuk said.

“[Pennington] really enjoyed being president,” President Trillo said. “It was nice having him as part of the team, [but] life happens.”

Like many other students at Highline, Pennington is also a father, and takes his parenting role seriously.

“Being a good father is the one thing that I refuse to fail at,” he said.

Pennington reconsidered the mammoth task of juggling the raising of his child, being president and getting a good education when his test scores began to slip.

“I am taking difficult classes toward my engineering degree that take a lot of time to master,” Pennington said.

“I tried really hard to keep up with my classes but I was unable to study enough to retain the information.”

Despite being certain he had made the right choice, Pennington said he is still torn by the fact he had to resign.

“I enjoyed my position as president,” he said. “It is very stressful for me to not finish something that I have started.”

Associate Dean Brown said Pennington felt a deep connection to the students and the college he served.

“Chris [held] a lot of passion and energy for the students of Highline,” Brown said.

Despite losing their leader, business will go on as usual at the Student Programs office, Pennington said.

“I know that student government is in good hands with [new President] Jacqui Trillo and [Vice President] Ola Afichuk,” he said.

Afichuk agreed with Pennington, stressing that Student Government will not come crashing down because of this change.

“[Pennington] really enjoyed toward my engineering degree that take a lot of time to master,” Pennington said.

“We’re stronger than ever,” she said. “We know what we’re doing.”

Pennington will not be completely absent from leadership roles, however.

“Although he will be missed in this [presidential] role, he plans to stay involved in Student Programs at the college,” Brown said in a campus-wide email.

Pennington said he plans to continue “advocating for students through the Student Legislative Action Committee from now until the end of [the 2010-2011 school] year.”

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