

Students fight for their right to learn

By **VICTORIA DOM**
Staff Reporter

Students lined the Capitol steps in Olympia at a rally last Thursday to voice their opinions to the Legislature.

Highline was one of 16 community and technical colleges to participate in the event and alto-

gether there were over 400 students who took part in the rally.

"Students were amped about their education, a lot more than in the past," said Highline Student Government President Olga Afichuk, who attended the rally.

The rally addressed the significant issues community and

technical college students are currently facing, such as affordable tuition and higher financial aid.

Posters and signs were made to show the legislators the wants and needs of the colleges and their students.

A Pierce College student had a sign that read, "R.I.P. Pierce,

death by tuition," said Afichuk.

Highline students also had the opportunity to speak with several legislators including State Senator Karen Keiser, D-Kent, State Rep. Dave Upthegrove, D-Des Moines, and State

See Rally, page 15

Gregoire's education plans get mixed reviews

By **RASCHELLE CASEBIER**
Staff Reporter

Education and government officials have mixed responses to Governor Chris Gregoire's proposal to create a single education department for K-12 and colleges.

Gregoire announced her plan to create a new educational system in early January.

Under this new system, all education committees and boards would be aligned under one roof. The proposed Department of Education would have four major divisions, each headed by an assistant secretary: early childhood education; K-12 education; community and technical colleges; and university programs.

"The goal is to provide a seamless education for Washington's students and to spend more time focusing on the students," said Karina Shagrin, spokeswoman for the governor.

With high schools and colleges working closer together, seniors can earn more credits through new programs and kick off a trade earlier on. One of the significant current issues is there isn't a common program to recognize credits, she said.

Some in government are waiting to see what becomes of the governor's proposal before taking a side.

"It's hard to say yet what the benefits or potential drawbacks would be," said a spokeswoman for State Sen. Tracey Eide, D-Federal Way.

"The governor-appointed, nine-member board of the State

See Gregoire, page 15

Stay on top of protecting your car

Drivers beware: Car thefts up on campus

By **YURI NISHIZAKI**
Staff Reporter

The car theft rate on campus in 2010 was higher than previous years, according to the Campus Safety Activities Report.

But even though the rate is rising, you may be able to keep your car safe if you follow certain precautions, security officials say.

According to the Campus Safety Activities Report for fall 2010, 20 cars were stolen in 2010, which was 12 more than in 2009.

It is because "the economy is down, and more crime is being committed including car theft," safety supervisor of Campus Security at Highline Richard Noyer said.

A car Club, or a steering lock, is an effective tool to protect your car from car theft, and it "acts better than a car alarm ... because you cannot steer the steering wheel and you cannot take [the car] anymore," Noyer said.

Student Jimmy Samael, a steering lock user, said his car was once broken into.

"My vehicle was still there in the morning because the steering lock and the car alarm protected it," he said.

To protect your car from breaking in, you shouldn't leave your belongings in your car or put them in the trunk.

"It's the best way to protect [cars] from breaking in," Noyer said.

Student Rochelle Pene is one of the students who are putting it into practice and are cautious about car theft and prowling. She



she's keeping valuables in the trunk. Pene parks her car around other vehicles and as close to her classroom as possible. She also uses a laser cut key.

Despite the increase of car theft rate, some people are still not cautious about car theft. Student Mike Le said, "Nobody cares about my car because it's old."

Campus Security suggests a number of car-safety tips:

- Close all windows and sun roofs; lock doors and remove your key from the ignition when leaving it parked on campus. Visible steering wheel locks prevent the steering wheel from being turned.
- Never hide a second set of keys in your vehicle. Thieves know all the hiding places.
- Never leave your car running while unattended, even if you will only be gone for a minute.
- Don't leave valuable items in plain view. Items left out in the open attract thieves.
- Don't leave important documents such as bank statements, credit card bills/statements or other personal information in your vehicle. Thieves can use this information to steal your identity and have access to your bank and credit card accounts.

For more information, visit www.highline.edu/admin/safety/.

Noyer says he wants students to check the security website in order to get more information on personal security tips and to raise crime awareness.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the safety or security of your vehicle, you can call security, he said.

You can contact the security by calling at 206-878-3710, ext. 3218 or 3219 or by email from www.highline.edu/admin/safety/contact.htm.

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Softball team faces new season, new head coach



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Students balance school, music careers

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Partly rainy/partly cloudy, it's Washington

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Crime and Punishment

Washing in the public restroom

There was a woman reported to be washing herself in the second floor women's restroom in Building 29 on Jan. 25. She was yelling at students using adjacent sinks.

When a security officer arrived at the restroom they couldn't find the woman.

Items stolen from Honda Accord

A female Highline student's Honda Accord was broken into in the North Parking Lot on Jan. 25.

Two children's jackets were taken. There was no sign of forced entry. The loss was estimated at \$250.

Car prowlers seen near the Pavilion

A Highline employee saw two suspicious men looking inside of his vehicle parked east of the Pavilion on Jan. 27.

When the two men saw him, they ran quickly toward the South Parking Lot. No valuables were taken.

A security officer conducted a check of the lot and surrounding area, but couldn't find them.

Sick Highline student receives medical aid

Highline student became sick in Building 8 on Jan. 27.

When a security officer arrived on the scene, the student was squatting on the floor with vomit around him.

He was conscious and breathing normally. South King Fire & Rescue arrived and took the student's vitals, and the student was transported to Highline Medical Center.

Purse stolen in the Pavilion

A female student's purse was stolen from Building 28 on Jan. 27 while she was attending her volleyball class.

The purse was shortly recovered by the north wall of Building 27 with several articles missing.

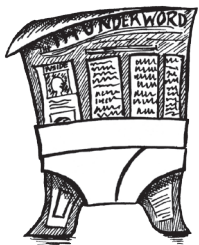
—Compiled by Yuri Nishizaki

Olympic Mountains



Cody Warf/THUNDERWORD

The Olympic Mountains bask in the sun on Tuesday, Feb. 1. The sunny weather allowed many campus goers to have a good look at the mountains along with many other wonderful views of nature.



News Briefs

Academic Achievement Awards have arrived

The Academic Achievement Award applications for Spring Quarter are now available for students to pick up.

This program is offering 15 full time tuition waivers to students with a 3.5 or better cumulative GPA.

Students can pick up them from Brit Exworthy in Building 25 on the 6th floor.

The odds of a student receiving the scholarship are 1 in 3 and the application is due by Thursday Feb. 10.

Hip Hop Global Movement

Eddie Martinez and Tony Innouvong will be speaking on how Hip Hop is connected to leadership and how it can be used for positive change.

The presentation will be on Feb. 4 from 2-4 p.m. in Building 8, Mt. Constance. Both presenters are former students of Highline and are co-founders of an organization called Freshest Roots.

The goal of Freshest Roots is to take the art of hip hop and the mission of social change and bring it to our local communities.

For more information on Freshest Roots visit www.freshestroots.com.

Sea stories at the MaST

Susan Landgraf, a poet and professor at Highline, will be presenting at the Marine Science and Technology center about your favorite sea creatures.

The presentation at the MaST center will be on Saturday Feb. 5, from noon to 12:45 p.m.

For more information and directions visit mast.highline.edu.

Marine Mammals of the Puget Sound

This week's science seminar will be presented by Kaddee Lawrence and she will discuss Marine Mammals of the Puget Sound.

Lawrence will discuss the different mammals in the Puget Sound as well as what to do when you see them on the beach.

The seminar will be on Friday from 2:20-3:10 p.m. in Building 3, room 102.

Multi-Services Center Youth Career Fair

The Multi-Services Center is hosting a Youth Career Fair that will have college and career representatives.

The Youth Career Fair is for ages 16-24. The fair will be on Saturday, Feb. 19 from 11 a.m.

– 4 p.m. in Building 8.

Participants are encouraged to dress business casual and bring multiple copies of your resume. There will also be workshops covering resume writing, budgeting and interview skills.

For any questions or concerns contact Jim Boland at jimb@multi-servicecenter.com.

Students of Color Conference in April

Washington State Multicultural Services Directors Council will sponsor the Students of Color Conference. The conference will be held on April 14-16 in Yakima.

Students can find the ap-

plication for this year's conference on the Multicultural Services website www.highline.edu/stuserv/multicultural/socc.html.

Students chosen to attend this year's conference will be required to pay a one-time \$30 reservation fee. The application is due by Feb. 11, at 5 p.m.

For more information or answers to questions there will be an informational meeting today in Building 7 at 12:30 p.m.

History Seminar

The History Seminar was cancelled this week but will be back in session next Wednesday Feb. 9 at 1:30 p.m. in Building 3, room 103.

Writing assignments hanging over your head? Come to the Highline Writing Center

We help create better writers
We help create better papers.
 Open Monday-Thursday 11:00-7:30 & Friday 8:00-1:00
 6-878-3710 ext. 4364
 In 26/3191 20

Bridging the gap

American students thinks Highline's diversity is an untapped opportunity

By **RAINY HUANG**
Staff Reporter

Alex Birch wants to bridge the gap between American and international students.

Birch is majoring in international business at Highline for almost two years, and he is the only American student who works in the International Leadership Student Council.

Birch said that he didn't know International Student Programs very well until he was taken on a trip to Leavenworth by another international student who is from Germany.

"I did not know anyone on that trip, not even Amee Moon. However, in less than 24 hours, I made at least 60 new friends," Birch said.

After the trip, Birch decided to join the International Student Leadership Council to experience the multicultural working backgrounds and learn to cope with language and cultural barriers.

"Working with international students is definitely a challenge. The language barrier gets in the way, and how we approach problems is much different. However, I find this an invaluable thing to learn, because very few people get to learn this in school," Birch said.

Birch also mentioned the "outsider" problem can be very frustrating and stressful since there are three students who speak Chinese in the International Leadership Student

Council as well.

He said sometimes his co-workers have excellent ideas, however, they just can't translate in English or they just say it in Chinese.

To cope with that, Birch took the Chinese class at Highline and he understands most of the oral Chinese now.

He also learns to ask or help his coworkers with translating and understanding.

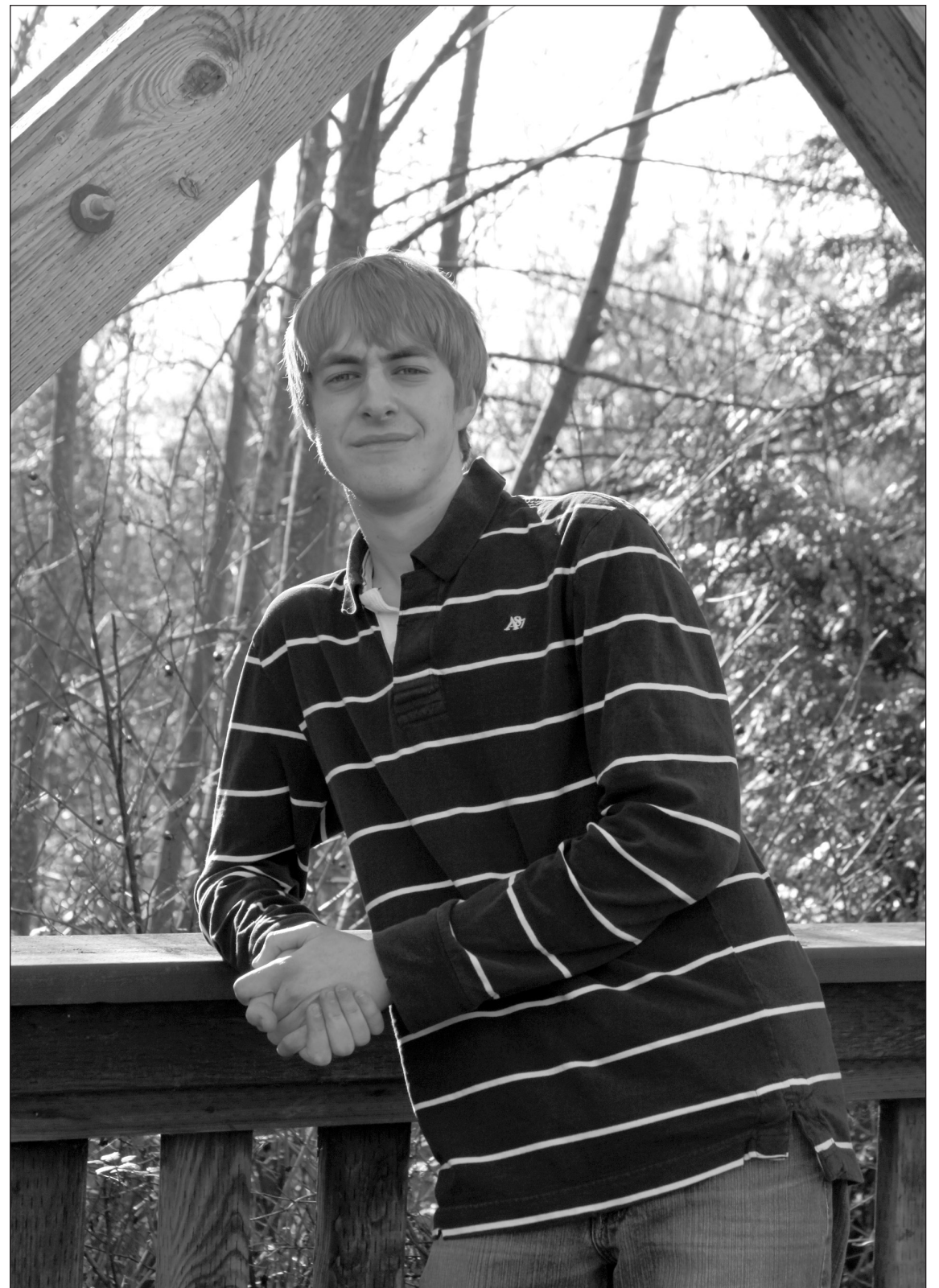
Birch has been working in the International Leadership Student Council for almost one year, and he also noticed the gap between internationals and Americans since there are not many Americans who know about International Student Programs and its activities.

"Yes there is [a gap], and both are at fault. International students are sometimes too shy to speak to Americans. In turn, Americans are sometimes too ignorant and closed-minded to talk to somebody outside their comfort zone. This communication gap is the breaking point between happy and widespread togetherness of these two groups," Birch said.

Birch also pointed out that many Americans neither know where France is located nor Taiwan.

Birch said that he enjoys associating with internationals is because his father works at Boeing and he always tells Birch about the world outside the U.S.

Birch hopes that American



Corey Sun/THUNDERWORD

Alex Birch is the only American on the International Leadership Student Council

students can pay more attention to school activities rather than just study or party outside of campus.

"Americans are not utilizing the awesome diversity that Highline has for everyone.

They will be surprised to see how much fun they could have if they hang out with different people from all over the world," Birch said.

He also hopes international students can be less scared to

make mistakes while talking to Americans.

"International students, please talk to Americans more. It's OK to make mistakes in English, because we are always willing to help," Birch said.

Pathway construction from Building 99 complete



Kyle Cotton/THUNDERWORD

Contractor employee finishing the pathway from building 99 to the East Parking Lot.

Building 99 is now more accessible when walking from Highline's main campus.

A new pathway has been built to connect the East Parking lot and Building 99. It was built "due to complaints from students, staff and faculty," said Barry Holldorf, director of facilities at Highline.

People were frustrated they had to walk around the entire building to reach the entrance, he said.

Building 99 is the Outreach Center, which has a number of uses including the school's Human Relations department, the continuing education program, and an area for hearing- or sight- impaired students.

The pathway was constructed by a local contracting company.

"The cost will be around \$3,900

just because of legal fees at the state level for permits and clearing," Holldorf said.

This amount was higher than Highline expected to pay as the legal fees "were not foreseen when planning the project," he said.

The pathway is not an American with Disabilities Act approved pathway due to the elevated slope of the hill. The south-end walkway will remain as the designated ADA-approved walkway.

When building at the college, it is always a goal to meet ADA requirements so that everyone can use the facilities, but there was just no way to make that work in this case, said Holldorf.

"It will take a week and a half to be completed as long as the weather is able to work in," Holldorf said.

Editorial comment**Education and prisons**

The average yearly cost to keep an inmate locked up inside of prison is roughly \$37,303 in the State of Washington.

In 2011, the total amount for an academic year is roughly \$18,220. This figure includes apartment and furniture deposit, food and leisure expenses on top of tuition and supplies. According to the National Institute of Corrections, the State of Washington is spending more than \$30,000 a head to house inmates, while the national average is only \$28,689. For the price of one incarcerated inmate two people could get a full ride through college.

We are in no way advocating trading in two students for one criminal as a means of balancing the state budget crisis with the criminal justice problem. We did not factor in the cost for the judicial procedure added on to the cost of incarceration because that is a monster with a whole other head.

Ari Kohn, director of the Post Prison Education Program, stated that the success rate to not reoffend is 67.5- 70 percent among those who actively pursue a higher education. The Post Prison Education Program is a non profit organization that offers scholarships to inmates being released from prison.

Kohn and his small staff has been working assiduously trying to give prisoners a second chance. His organization has a 98 percent success rate. Only 2 percent of the men and women that enter his program return to prison.

Meanwhile, 38 percent of the state's ex-cons reoffend and end up back in jail. Kohn thinks the number may actually be higher.

A person who is addicted to drugs and alcohol can return to prison for a dirty urinalysis and cost the tax payers approximately \$31,000 per annum. That's enough to pay for a full ride at the University of Washington.

According to another estimate, within the first three years 67.5 percent of the prisoners released from prison return. The re-arrest rate for drug and property offenders has increased significantly.

In the Washington courts, 28,076 adult felony sentences involved offenders that had at least one prior felony.

More than a billion dollars goes into the prison systems to keep these offenders locked up. Medical and special needs inmates require an even higher budget, sometimes more than double the state average.

Washington state uses 14.8 percent of the state budget to cover higher education. This amount is higher than what is used for prisons, but if you factor in the judicial procedure and the cost of the court's time and other legal and financial obligations of the state, that financial figure balloons.

More focus is needed on the full cost of prisons. One prisoner could free up more money for two other people to get a good quality education. He or she could pay their share of taxes that would fund the next government bill. With a high recidivism rate, the odds of success for an educated prisoner is high enough to warrant supporting alternative methods of sentences for lower level crimes.

We believe that education is the best bet for a bright tomorrow. We believe that it is a privilege that everyone should have access to.

Whatever your opinion of crime and punishment the fact remains that a lot of money is going to house the offenders and there is a good chance that if a better policy for funding education was in place we might have a lower crime rate. It's only speculation but it is logical speculation. There has to be a multitude of different ways to deal with the dilemma of the enormous cost of incarceration and the declining budget issues for a college education.

We need to scrape the scales off of both of the problems, of the educational budget and a revolving penal door, and revisit them with a more humane, intelligent perspective.

Write to the Thunderword at tword@highline.edu. The Thunderword regularly runs opinion pieces regarding a variety of subjects. Please include contact information for verification.



JOHN BOEHNER TEARS

Students rally for accountability

Accountability, accessibility and affordability was the theme.

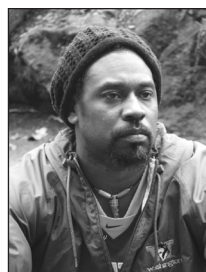
"What do we want?" "Classes!" "When do we want it?" "Now!" where the chants that came from the rallying crowd in the State's capital last Thursday.

Students and educators took to the floor of the state legislative building in Olympia to voice their need for the Legislators to stand up and do the right thing for college students who are already struggling with the high cost of tuition.

Education is the key to freedom and it is a right afforded to us by the society of our great nation. Knowledge is the core of the future growth and development of our country. A well educated society is the strongest infrastructure any country could have. These ingredients can deteriorate and spoil the future because the lack of attention not given to the importance of the long term affect on society.

Given the global status of the United States and the presence we have on the global economy, security over the free world, technological contributions to science and the biological advancements that we have made in the past and even now, we need to strengthen our voice to assure that this continues to be a real serious focus for the Legislators.

Could you imagine how the country would exist in the world years to come with people stagnated on the same level of edu-

**Commentary**

Michael McDonald Jr.

cation. What about the teachers? What if they are forced into teaching under strenuous conditions that compromises the completion of a good education? Technology progresses at warp speed and being the top leaders in the free world, the United States must maintain its strong stance on nurturing the motivated citizens to increase their value to the society of America by knowing what needs to be known to continue to move forward effectively.

The legislators have a duty and responsibility to get serious about balancing the books and funding public education.

We want not just the right to our education that's due us, but people have the right to a high quality education like we receive here at Highline.

From elementary to and through college the government should amend the public school policies to cover a person's education no matter what their unfortunate financial and domestic situation may be.

We all have trials and tribulations that may impede our pursuit for higher education. If the motivated and conscious

people are being restricted due to drastic budget cuts, the overall results could send the country spiraling out of control. The people who may have to put a hold on their schooling should be able to get back into school when situations smooth out enough for them to set sail their pursuit for the American dream.

International students are given the chance to chase the American dream through receiving an education by community and technical institutions.

A Bellevue College student spoke about how his education led to him being able to provide for his family. His daughter was also present. She is working on her degree at Bellevue as well. The education bug has hit this family and they were proud recipients of community college affordability.

The road is hard but these public officials have to travel it like troopers for our futures. The legislators want us to hold them accountable, so let's do it.

We all should pay attention to the affordability of a quality college education. If we don't we could inevitably end up paying the piper.

Every one needs accessibility to school. Without it, our country will fall back into the dark ages when compared to the other nations.

Michael McDonald Jr. is editorial page editor of the Thunderword.

The Staff “Kandi: Get well soon”

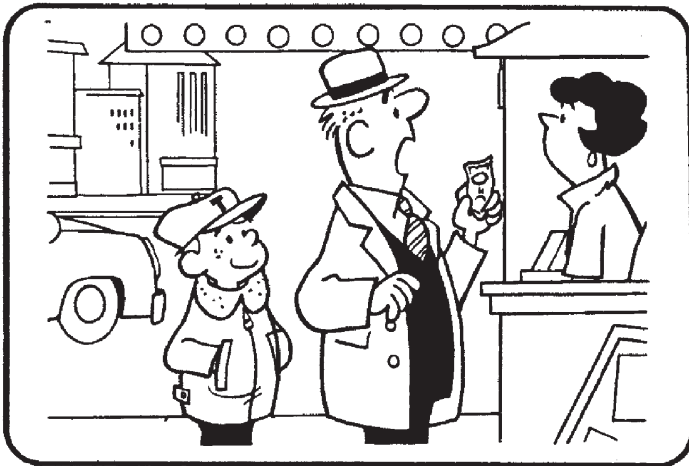
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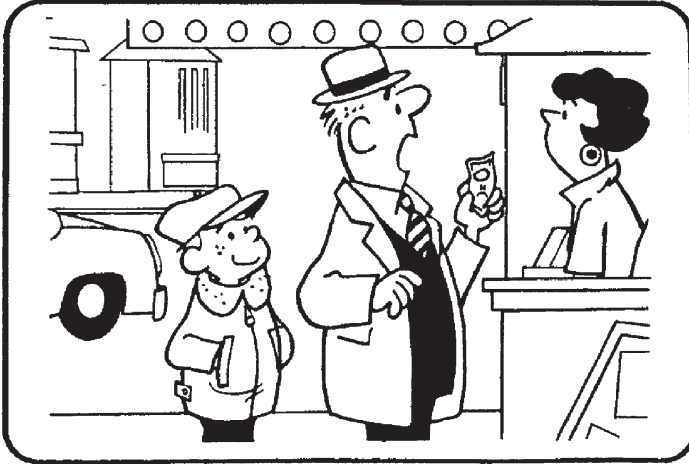
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Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Farring is different. 2. Hat logo is gone. 3. Tire is black. 4. Tie is different. 5. Coat buttons are missing. 6. Building is gone.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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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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2010 Headlines

Across

- 1. Some pears
- 6. Sacramento's ____ Arena
- 10. Amount to make do with
- 14. 24 heroine
- 15. Support, with "up"
- 16. Spicy stew
- 17. An Oct. 2010 headline
- 20. Bridge, in Florence
- 21. Worked the dough
- 22. WWII battle site
- 24. PC key
- 25. All done
- 26. "Daddy's drill is not ____"
- 28. Dict. category
- 29. Greek cheese
- 30. Blessing evokers
- 32. An April 2010 headline
- 37. No Exit author
- 38. Almost forever
- 40. Stage hog
- 43. Hide
- 44. How Alaska ranks as No. 1
- 46. Sarah's site
- 48. Appalachian range
- 49. Multiplex features
- 51. "I ____ fool!": Dickens
- 52. A February 2010 headline
- 56. Some hosp. workers
- 57. Elderly
- 58. "____ Mio"
- 59. Duel tool
- 60. Wood cutters
- 61. 1980's-90's ring champ

Down

- 1. Secretly e-mail (abbr.)
- 2. "Now I get it!"
- 3. Put on, as pajamas
- 4. One side in 1777?
- 5. Spotted visiting
- 6. Sleep disorder
- 7. Monopoly quartet: Abbr.
- 8. Stopper
- 9. Welcome indicator
- 10. Nearby

Crossword 101

By Bill Deasy (Bill@gfrpuzzles.com)

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| 59 | | | | | | 60 | | | | 61 | | | | |

- 11. Dodges
- 12. Like a wintery mix
- 13. Deflate, in a way
- 18. Welk's "... and ____"
- 19. "Later"
- 22. Amiss
- 23. Chicken ____
- 26. ____ squash
- 27. Quaker's "you"
- 30. Dead against
- 31. Prohibition outlet
- 33. Last place?
- 34. Hope is found there
- 35. I Don't Like Mondays singer
- 36. Old dagger
- 39. Pallindromic airline
- 40. Fuss
- 41. Abner's creator
- 42. Corps member
- 44. Apple offering
- 45. Like an ice cube
- 47. Have a hunch
- 48. Outbuildings

- 50. Heroic tale
- 53. VCR button
- 54. Mideast grp.
- 55. D.C. V.I.P.

Quotable Quote

Trivial things do matter... more people are killed each year by the bite of mosquitoes than are stepped upon by charging elephants.

—Source Unknown

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

WRITERS' CRAMPED

What does a lux measure?

8. LANGUAGE: What is the meaning of the Latin word "veto"?

9. MYTHOLOGY: Who is the Greek goddess of love?

10. U.S. STATES: What state's nickname is the Pelican State?

ANSWERS

- 1. Four
- 2. 500
- 3. St. Luke
- 4. Shakespeare

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| L | O | D | E | | R | O | S | A | | O | O | P | S |
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| A | T | O | M | | E | L | S | E | | | U | P | O |
| S | A | N | S | | S | L | E | D | | | R | E | E |

- 5. Neutrality
- 6. 1825
- 7. Light intensity
- 8. "I forbid"
- 9. Aphrodite
- 10. Louisiana

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- 1. MUSIC: How many strings does a ukulele have?
- 2. MATH: What is the equivalent of the Roman numeral D?
- 3. RELIGION: Who is

- the patron saint of physicians?
- 4. LITERATURE: Who wrote the play Timon of Athens?
- 5. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What does the Geneva cross symbolize?
- 6. HISTORY: When did the Erie Canal open?
- 7. MEASUREMENTS:



ORGANIC APHRODISIACS

- 1. Celery
- 2. Banana
- 3. Pomegranate
- 4. Peach
- 5. Gingko nut
- 6. Oats
- 7. Basil
- 8. Garlic
- 9. Ginger
- 10. Black pepper

Source: http://socyberty.com



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Arts news?
tword@highline.edu



Pattison's West

Speed skaters practice at Pattison's West in Federal Way.

Local rink puts skaters on the brink

By KRISTEN REMETO
Staff Reporter

Some of the fastest skaters in the world started skating on roller blades in Federal Way. Mike Pattison has been around roller-skating his whole life. His grandfather owned the first Pattison's rink in Redondo Beach. It burned down in 1951. The Pattison family didn't want to give up skating. On Dec. 5, 1979 Pattison's West opened its doors. Pattison's West is located at 34222 Pacific Highway S in Federal Way. Their full schedule plus extra activities is on their website, www.pattison-swest.com. Olympic short track speed skaters Apollo Ohno and JR Celski originally trained with Mike Pattison and Team Xtreme at Pattison's West. "After the Olympics we really didn't get that many new skaters. Actually some of our skaters switched to speed skat-

ing on ice, so we lost a few," Pattison said. Speeds skating on ice and on wood have similarities. They both skate around an oval marked with cones and generally use the same muscles. "Young kids tend to transfer to ice more smoothly because they have had a lot of training. It's easier to learn on wood than transfer to ice," Pattison said. "Skating on ice is a lot more dangerous than on wood because you can slip and cut your leg open." Pattison coaches Team Xtreme, which attracts skaters from around the state. "A couple of years ago this kid moved from Florida to join the team," Pattison said. "Also there was this family that would commute from Salem, Ore. for speed practice." The speed team practices three times a week for two hours. When they aren't practicing they are supposed to do full body workouts.

"When the skaters feel like they can't get any better where they're at, they join our team," Pattison said. "Half the team is home grown; the other half is from other teams." Most meets are around 5 and 6 in the morning, and there are quite a few out-of-state meets. Anyone on the team can go to the out-of-state meets, but only a few end up going because the skater has to pay for lodging and airfare which can add up after a while. Pattison's West also rents out its space for parties and events. "The most enjoyable thing about owning a rink would have to be, that it's bring your kid to work day every day," Pattison said. His three sons grew up at Pattison's West, and sons Mark and Darrin manage the rink. "I want to retire soon, and I might sell the rink but if I do it would be too hard to sell it as a rink. The rink is worth \$4 million, and the payments would be too high," Pattison said.

Wrestlers get ready for the big dance

By RICHARD MEIER
Staff Reporter

With their final tune-up out of the way, the Highline men's wrestling team is ready for regionals and nationals. The T-Birds finished off their regular season this past Saturday at the Boxer Open in Forest Grove, Ore. The men hoped to use this meet to shake off the rust and prepare themselves for the upcoming championships. Head Coach Scott Norton didn't want to risk any injuries with nationals right around the corner. "We wanted our guys to wrestle no more than two matches. We didn't want to risk injury," Norton said. "Too many times I've seen people get hurt in meaningless matches. And in a few weeks no one is going to remember the Boxer Open."

Highline's showing at the Boxer was highlighted by 157-pound Eric Jones, who defeated Corey Caywood (unattached) to earn Highline's only first-place trophy. Daren Faber had a strong tournament as well, placing second in the 197-pound weight class before forfeiting to Oregon State's Mak Jones in the finals. "Faber was just another guy who wanted to only wrestle a couple matches and we didn't want to risk him getting hurt so he forfeited the final match," Norton said. Highline also had strong showings from Tyler Wooding who finished third at 133, and from Tyler Story, 165, and Viktor Ognoskie, 285, who both

finished fourth. All-American Jason Gray made an early exit from the winners' bracket after falling in his second match to eventual champion Jimmy Eggemeyer of Southern Oregon. "Our only concern this season has been nationals, so with having our guys only wrestling two matches we just wanted to make sure we shook off the rust and roll into regionals," Norton said. The Thunderbird men don't compete again until the Region 18 Championships in Coos Bay, Ore. on Feb. 12. While Highline had a strong showing at the Boxer Open, their entire season has been focused on these final two matches of the season. Each match has been a gauge of where the team sits, as both individuals and as a whole. Norton and his wrestlers understand that in order to fulfill their expectations on the season, win a national championship, they must step their level of competing to another level over the next few weeks. "We're a team that's built for tournament play, a lot of teams have been talking about us and how we have a chance to go deep into the tournament," Norton said. "We've only really lost to the No. 1 and 3 teams in the nation," Norton said. "The loss to Southwest Oregon was because we were missing half our starting lineup and following Clackamas we hopped in the car and drove eight hours. We're healthy at the right time and we can definitely make a run."

The Scoreboard

MEN'S BASKETBALL

| NORTH | | W-L | PCT | W-L | WEST | | W-L | PCT | W-L |
|-------|------------------|-----|------|------|-------|----------------|-----|-------|------|
| | Peninsula | 7-1 | .875 | 12-5 | | Tacoma | 8-0 | 1.000 | 15-2 |
| | Skagit Valley | 7-1 | .875 | 9-8 | | Pierce | 6-2 | .750 | 13-5 |
| | Bellevue | 6-2 | .750 | 11-6 | | Highline | 5-3 | .625 | 12-5 |
| | Whatcom | 5-3 | .625 | 13-4 | | Centralia | 4-4 | .500 | 7-9 |
| | Shoreline | 4-4 | .500 | 11-7 | | Clark | 4-4 | .500 | 10-7 |
| | Seattle | 3-5 | .375 | 4-12 | | Green River | 4-4 | .500 | 9-7 |
| | Edmonds | 2-6 | .250 | 4-12 | | Lower Columbia | 4-4 | .500 | 11-6 |
| | Everett | 2-6 | .250 | 2-13 | | S. Puget Sound | 1-7 | .125 | 3-13 |
| | Olympic | 0-8 | .000 | 1-14 | | Grays Harbor | 0-8 | .000 | 0-14 |
| EAST | | W-L | PCT | W-L | SOUTH | | W-L | PCT | W-L |
| | Big Bend | 6-1 | .857 | 14-4 | | Chemeketa | 6-1 | .857 | 11-7 |
| | Spokane | 5-2 | .714 | 13-6 | | Clackamas | 5-2 | .714 | 13-5 |
| | Wenatchee Valley | 4-3 | .571 | 10-7 | | Lane | 5-2 | .714 | 10-8 |
| | Yakima Valley | 4-3 | .571 | 11-7 | | Linn-Benton | 5-2 | .714 | 8-9 |
| | Blue Mountain | 3-4 | .429 | 4-13 | | Mt. Hood | 3-4 | .429 | 10-8 |
| | Columbia Basin | 3-4 | .429 | 6-12 | | Portland | 2-5 | .286 | 7-10 |
| | Walla Walla | 3-4 | .429 | 10-8 | | Umpqua | 2-5 | .286 | 6-14 |
| | Treasure Valley | 0-7 | .000 | 4-12 | | SW Oregon | 0-7 | .000 | 5-14 |

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

| NORTH | | W-L | PCT | W-L | WEST | | W-L | PCT | W-L |
|-------|------------------|-----|-------|------|-------|----------------|-----|-------|------|
| | Bellevue | 7-1 | .875 | 14-4 | | Lower Columbia | 8-0 | 1.000 | 13-4 |
| | Skagit Valley | 7-1 | .875 | 14-4 | | Highline | 7-1 | .875 | 11-7 |
| | Everett | 6-2 | .750 | 10-7 | | Clark | 5-3 | .625 | 7-9 |
| | Whatcom | 6-2 | .750 | 10-8 | | Pierce | 5-3 | .625 | 7-9 |
| | Edmonds | 4-4 | .500 | 8-8 | | Tacoma | 4-4 | .500 | 6-10 |
| | Seattle | 3-5 | .375 | 4-12 | | Centralia | 3-5 | .375 | 3-12 |
| | Peninsula | 2-6 | .250 | 5-12 | | Grays Harbor | 2-6 | .250 | 3-12 |
| | Shoreline | 1-7 | .125 | 5-11 | | Green River | 2-6 | .250 | 4-10 |
| | Olympic | 0-8 | .000 | 3-13 | | S. Puget Sound | 0-8 | .000 | 0-15 |
| EAST | | W-L | PCT | W-L | SOUTH | | W-L | PCT | W-L |
| | Columbia Basin | 5-0 | 1.000 | 16-0 | | Clackamas | 6-1 | .857 | 16-2 |
| | Spokane | 5-0 | 1.000 | 15-2 | | Lane | 5-2 | .714 | 15-4 |
| | Walla Walla | 3-2 | .600 | 12-4 | | SW Oregon | 5-2 | .714 | 15-4 |
| | Big Bend | 2-3 | .400 | 9-8 | | Umpqua | 5-2 | .714 | 14-5 |
| | Blue Mountain | 2-3 | .400 | 10-7 | | Linn-Benton | 3-4 | .429 | 5-12 |
| | Yakima Valley | 2-3 | .400 | 11-6 | | Chemeketa | 2-5 | .286 | 9-9 |
| | Wenatchee Valley | 1-4 | .200 | 8-9 | | Mt. Hood | 2-5 | .286 | 6-13 |
| | Treasure Valley | 0-5 | .000 | 3-12 | | Portland | 0-7 | .000 | 4-14 |

Lady T-birds maintain momentum in 2-0 week

By **JOSHUA HART**
Staff Reporter

The Highline's women's basketball team moved to 7-1 in league play with two wins this past week.

The women are now 11-7 overall and in second place in the West Division of the NWAACC, sitting only behind Lower Columbia, who won twice this week to move to 8-0 in league play.

Highline faced sixth-place Centralia on Jan. 16, cruising to a 62-43 win.

Highline forward Kiemba Pearson got the start in place of Heather Hitch against Centralia. Head Coach Amber Rowe Mosley said that Pearson got the start because Hitch hasn't been performing and she wanted to get somebody else in there.

Highline seemed to lack intensity on the offensive end throughout the game despite the new starter.

Rowe Mosley wasn't pleased with how the team came out to play.

"I obviously don't know," she said regarding how she gets her team ready for a game against a weaker opponent.

Rowe Mosley said she tried to find someone who could perform by substituting frequently throughout the game, because nobody was performing well.

Despite the struggles on the offensive end, Highline's high-pressure man-to-man defense worked well against Centralia.

Highline forced 29 Centralia turnovers, leading to 35 points



Corey Sun/THUNDERWORD

Head Coach Amber Rowe Mosley works with the women's basketball team in practice this week.

off turnovers for Highline.

"Girls don't normally handle the trap well," Rowe Mosley said of her team's defense.

She said that over the years Highline has had a deep bench and has been able to rotate people in to continue the very demanding man-to-man defense.

"The press really helps us to run and we are a running team," Highline forward Jocelyn Jones said.

Highline was led by Jones with 19 points, who played despite an ankle injury that she suffered in the second half.

She said she didn't think about it, because she had a lot of adrenaline.

Highline's Kiemba Pearson also added nine points and nine rebounds.

Highline then went on the road to play Grays Harbor on Jan. 29. They got off to a fast start and won 76-49.

Highline outscored Grays Harbor 43-17 in the first half.

Rowe Mosley attributed the fast start to good rebounding and running the floor.

"The team brought much better intensity," Rowe Mosley

said.

She tried to get her team to realize that every game wins or loses a championship.

"It isn't about who we are playing, it is about us, and winning a league championship," she told her team.

Highline point guard Dani Carlman was held out of the game to try to get rest and heal some nagging injuries.

Bree Morkert-Burling got the start in Carlman's place. Kiemba Pearson also got her second straight start.

Morkert-Burling ended the

game with six points, four rebounds, and five assists.

Pearson also added nine points and 10 rebounds.

Starting forward Jocelyn Jones had another excellent game, scoring 18 points.

Highline moved to 12-7 overall and 8-1 in league play on Feb. 2 when South Puget Sound forfeited the game due to lack of players.

On Feb. 7, Highline takes on third-place Clark at home on a rare Monday night game. They then go on the road to play Green River on Feb. 9.

Hitch hopes to help Highline to a division title

By **JEFFREY KEMP**
Staff Reporter

Achieving her goal of playing ball for Highline, Heather Hitch now leads the women's basketball team as one of three captains.

Through hard work, determination, and love of basketball she hopes to lead the team to a NWAACC Western Division title.

"[Heather] is a behind-the-scenes lady. She leads by example and works really hard," said Amber Rowe Mosley, head coach of the women's basketball team.

Hitch started playing basketball in fourth grade on recreational teams and moving to school and select teams in junior high.

She comes from a family of athletes with her mom playing basketball and her dad playing baseball, both at Green River.



Heather Hitch

"[I] really enjoyed playing sports. I played volleyball, soccer, and fastpitch softball," said Hitch.

At Enumclaw High School she played all four years on the basketball team and made it to state her junior and senior years.

After high school, she made the decision to come to Highline because of the coaching staff and friendly teammates, she said.

The 5'11" forward leads by example.

Coach Mosley said she is a quiet leader, but is working on becoming more vocal. Hitch agreed that she likes to talk with people one-on-one instead of in front of big groups.

This past off-season she worked one-on-one with strength and conditioning Coach Taryn Plypick on her basketball skills as well as her speed and agility. It has paid off.

Hitch lets her playing speak for itself. She is shooting 44 percent from the field and averaging 9 points per game, third on the team. She's also fourth on the team with 5.13 rebounds per game.

Her determination to win the NWAACC Western Division,

as well as her passion for basketball, motivates Hitch and her team to become better athletes, she said.

This motivation has landed the team a 7-1 record in league this year, which is a big turnaround from their 4-6 preseason record.

"Preseason wasn't as good as it could have been, which was probably due to the slimming down of the team from 17 to 10 players," Hitch said.

Playing as a team and communicating will be the key to beating their biggest competition, Lower Columbia, and winning the division title, Hitch said.

Hitch finds more to life than basketball, however. She loves to hang out with friends and play games with some of the guys from the men's basketball team.

On weekends, she tries to escape from the city and travel

back to Enumclaw where she grew up and her family still lives.

In Des Moines she enjoys going down to the beach and spending time by the water, said Hitch.

Moving from Enumclaw to Des Moines, at the start of her freshman year at Highline, gave her the love for living close to the water and a new experience of big city life.

Off the court, she said she is studying hard and wants to transfer to a four-year university. She's thinking of pursuing a math degree and maybe teaching high school or college students.

Hitch said that for now she is focused on the present and knows that her team is good enough to go the NWAACC playoffs. She hopes to use her leadership and hard work ethic to lead the team to the first division title since 2007.

T-Bird fastpitch team steps to plate with new coach

By **JEFFREY KEMP**
Staff Reporter

Scott Dillinger was named new head coach of the women's softball team.

He replaced Gary Graf who coached for two seasons, but moved to South Carolina because of a new job opportunity.

"He [Graf] was torn, because he really liked it [here]," Athletic Director John Dunn said.

Graf, who worked for Boeing in addition to coaching at Highline, was offered a promotion in South Carolina with Boeing, said Dunn.

"I'm happy for him and his family. I always want what's best for the coaches and players," Dunn said.

Graf has been the softball coach for the past two years. It took about nine months to find Graf, Dunn said.

When Dunn started looking for a replacement, he found an answer within three to four weeks in the form of Scott Dillinger.

Two years ago when looking for the position Graf eventually filled, Dunn had to cancel the softball season because it took so long to find a new head coach.

Highline ran into good luck though by finding Dillinger within two weeks of the start of practice.

"[Dillinger] left [Green River] in the fall and was looking for an opportunity," Dunn said.

Dillinger has a lot of experience with coaching. Before his three years at Green River he coached for Eastside Catholic, Franklin, and Bellevue high schools, Dunn said.

"He knows a lot about softball, so I'm excited to see what's



Cody Warf/THUNDERWORD

Highline Katie Neubauer dives for a grounder during infield drills at the fastpitch team's first practice on Tuesday.

in store," said Faith Baldwin, who's a sophomore on the team.

Dillinger only had about two weeks to get settled before the softball season starts. He has a lot of experience in recruiting, but most the women on his team weren't recruited by him so hopefully he can adjust, Dunn said.

He doesn't really know any of the players and only remembers a few from last season, so it's hard for him to know what this season will bring, Dillinger said.

Dillinger inherits a team that went 4-26 last season, finishing fifth in the West Division of the NWAACC. This is a change

from his time at Green River, where the team went 17-13 in league play in 2010.

Dillinger has the support of his assistant coach from Green River, who also moved to Highline, Baldwin said.

Softball practice started Feb. 1 and Highline's first game is March 1 against Edmonds.

Thunderbird men bounce back with two wins

By **WILLIAM BROKAW**
Staff Reporter

The men's basketball team found its form with back-to-back wins against Centralia and Grays Harbor last week.

The two wins advanced the T-Birds into third place in the NWAACC West Division. up from seventh.

Highline improved their record to 5-3 in the season and 12-5 overall.

The T-birds played Centralia on Wednesday, Jan. 26.

The Thunderbirds focused on a couple of things going into the game against Centralia.

"We needed to get back on track with our defensive intensity and mature with regard to shot selection," said Highline Head Coach Che Dawson. "A major in improving our shot percentages and point production, collectively and individually, is recognizing higher quality shots."

The T-Birds showed their determination and got off to a good start.

The Thunderbirds shot 33 percent in the first half compared to Centralia's 22 percent.

Highline had a comfortable 32-20 lead at half.

The Trailblazers were determined to fight back in the second half, however, and closed the gap.

"We had a nice lead at half-time, then gave it up. Part of

not doing that is simply telling yourself it isn't going to happen. That comes from staying hungry on defense and smart on offense. We did both of those things for most of the game," said Dawson.

The Thunderbirds were able to pull out the victory, defeating Centralia 68-61.

Highline 6-foot-7 forward PJ Bolte had a double-double against the Trailblazers with 23 points and 14 rebounds. Bolte shot 9 of 22 from the field, five of five from the free throw line, had 14 rebounds, two assists and grabbed three steals in his 34 minutes of action.

The T-Birds' Elzie Dickens had 10 rebounds on the night.

Highline travelled to Aberdeen on Saturday, Jan. 29 to play Grays Harbor, defeating the Chokers 86-57.

Communication played a huge roll for the T-Birds in their game against the Chokers.

"We communicated on both ends of the court. That solves a lot of problems," said Dawson.

The T-Birds brought the fight to Aberdeen and choked the Chokers out in the first half, leading 41-26.

Highline shot 38 percent in the first half compared to Grays Harbor's 24 percent.

The Thunderbirds didn't let up, outscoring the Chokers in the second half 45-31.

The T-Birds shot 41 percent in the second half while Grays

Harbor shot 32 percent.

The Thunderbirds also out-rebounded the Chokers, 54-39.

PJ Bolte led the team in points and got another double-double with 17 points and 16 rebounds..

Bolte shot six of 14 from the field, five of six from the free throw line, had 16 rebounds, one assist and a steal in 27 minutes on the court.

Highline forward Robert Christopher had 15 points, eight rebounds, two assists and one steal in his 17 minutes on the court.

T-Bird guard Travis Miller had 14 points, 7 rebounds, one assist and one steal in a very balanced effort from the Thunderbirds.

"I was pretty happy with the effort and focus under what can be difficult circumstances," said Dawson.

The T-Bird men have eight games remaining in the season and with NWAACC championships just around the corner the Thunderbirds know the pressure is on.

"We have to be incredibly hungry. We have an eight course meal in front of us, but have to eat everything to get dessert," said Dawson.

Highline played South Puget Sound Wednesday, Feb. 2 with results unavailable at press time.

The Thunderbirds next play Clark Monday, Feb. 7 at 8 p.m.

here in the Thunderdome.

The T-Birds beat Clark earlier in the season.

"We beat Clark at their place. They will be motivated. We better figure out that nobody takes our home court from us without a hell of a fight," said Coach

Dawson.

After Clark, Highline will play at Green River on Wednesday, Feb. 9.

Green River currently sits in sixth place in the NWAACC West with a 4-4 season record and a 9-7 overall record.

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Greater success is closer than you think.

By KATIE ADAMS
Staff Reporter

THE ART OF BALANCE

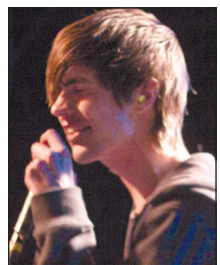
When Listen Closely first started playing music, juggling life with music wasn't on the agenda.

Listen Closely is a band out of Federal Way, whose music is a mixture of heavy metal and catchy choruses, which Mark Fowler, the band's lead vocalist and a Highline student, described as "melodic metal."

"When I was in high school, I was thinking, 'I don't want to go to college, I just want to do music,'" Fowler said.

"But, especially with the local music scene, everyone is trying to get big and most of the bands are not at a professional level yet," he added. "It's hard to just say, 'We're going to get big,' because it takes a lot to get signed."

"Even when you get to that point, it's not a career," said Dylan Adair, the band's rhythm guitarist and also a Highline student. "You'll have that as a lifestyle for a few years but



Fowler

we're never going to make enough money to support ourselves for the rest of our lives.

"We're all in school so whatever happens with this is cool but after the fact, we want to be able to get a job and live a pretty nor-



Katie Adams/THUNDERWORD

Highline students Mark Fowler, left, and Dylan Adair are two of the members of Listen Closely.

LISTEN CLOSELY: YOUNG METALHEADS FIND A WAY TO MIX COLLEGE, WORK, LIFE AND MUSIC

mal life," he added, "Because the likelihood of ever being able to support ourselves is small enough, let alone to do it for good."

In the band with Fowler and Adair are Kyle Green, who also

plays guitar; Kyle Reed who plays bass; and Giovanni Accetola on drums.

Listen Closely started in 2008, after the bands that Jordan Fletcher [the band's previous second vocalist], Accetola,

and Green were in broke up.

At that same time, Fowler's previous band, Ships Set Sail, had just broken up so he auditioned and landed the spot as their vocalist.

Adair joined a couple months

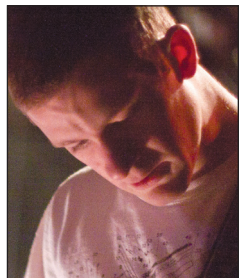
after Fowler, after being a temporary replacement while Green was sick.

None of the members have been officially trained, but they've been playing for a number of years, despite being young.

Between school, work, and significant others, scheduling can be hard.

"A lot of us are in school and all of us have jobs, so we try to meet once a week to practice," Adair said. "We'll do shows m a y b e once or twice a month."

"We want to do more. We all kind of



just run Adair

around and make it fit where ever we can. We never really stick to a real schedule, because none of us really have a consistent time where we are free."

If you're interested in starting a band of your own while in school, they advise you to think wisely.

"Find a little niche that makes you different," Fowler said. "There are a lot of bands out there that just sound like, 'I've heard this a thousand times. This isn't fun to watch.' You need a lot of dedication to juggle a job and school and the band, and have the heart to do all of it."

For more information on upcoming shows, check out www.myspace.com/listencloselymusic.

Drama student is fit for double roles

By BRYANNA ROBBINS
Staff Reporter

Zach Ginther-Hutt gets to live a double life again in Highline's winter drama production of *The Texarkana Waltz*.

Ginther-Hutt has been in five Highline productions and recently in *The Adding Machine* he played two characters, just like in *The Texarkana Waltz*.

"It really seemed like an interesting show," he said after reading *The Texarkana* script over winter break.

He auditioned for multiple roles in the play, but after auditioning for the sheriff, he really wanted to play him.

During the audition process, "Debra Pralle [the director,] has you just read for every part," he said.

"You'll never know what character you're going to get."

After he got his parts in the show, the cast got to have a read through with Louis Broome, the author of *The Texarkana Waltz*.

Ginther-Hutt said the read

through was intimidating, but still very exciting to have the author of the play in front of them.

Ginther-Hutt liked being able to ask questions about how he wrote things or where some of his concepts come from.

Ginther-Hutt's two characters in *The Texarkana Waltz* are Warden Bob and Sheriff Truitt.

Warden Bob is a minor role for Ginther-Hutt. His major role is the sheriff.

To prepare, he said he gets into the character's head.

"I think, 'what would he think about this store, or how would he pronounce that?'"

To study his lines, Ginther-Hutt said he reads at night before he goes to bed.

The pressure also helps him learn his lines quicker.

When the actors get close to getting off of their script, there's pressure, Ginther-Hutt said.

Even when the show is going great, Ginther-Hutt admits to getting stage fright.

"Oh yeah terrible," he said.



Zach Ginther-Hutt

"Knees shake and I sweat a lot."

Ginther-Hutt's favorite thing about theater is when he helps build the stage.

There's a deep sense of connection and a larger sense of pride, he said.

His least favorite thing is not being able to go outside. "I'm a really big fan of the outdoors," he said.

Ginther-Hutt is very passionate about acting, though.

"I'd say it's my passion," he said.

"In the past six years, the thing I spent most time on is in a theater."

See Ginther-Hutt in action on March 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, all starting at 8 p.m.

Highline instructor performs with Federal Way Symphony

By KATRINA BLAKE
Staff Reporter

Highline instructor Todd Zimberg will direct the Swing, Jazz and Blues Concert for the Federal Way Symphony on Feb. 6 at St. Luke's Church in Federal Way.

The concert includes classic music by Duke Ellington and Count Basie.

Featured musicians will include Seattle woodwind player Erik Likkell. He will perform compositions by Woody Herman, Joe Bishop, and Tom Delaney.

Also featured will be vocalist Maggie Laird, who will be singing Skylark and Almost Like Being in Love.

This is the ninth year for the Symphony to perform the swing band concert with soloists.

"It's really legit," Zimberg said. "I approached our conductor about it and he said that's a great idea."

As well as being involved in the Federal Way Symphony, Zimberg has directed music

groups in the Pacific Northwest.

He has a group called The Long Lost Trio and occasionally freelances in the club scenes.

Zimberg is an all-around percussionist who has been teaching at Highline since 2002. Currently he teaches World Music and History of Rock.

Zimberg said he always knew he wanted to be involved in music, but didn't see himself teaching as a career.

Zimberg has been with the Federal Way Symphony since 1990 and encourages everyone to go to the concert.

"Jazz is spontaneous, there is a lot of good energy," Zimberg said. "Go to the concert. It's going to be a cool concert."

The performance is Sunday, Feb 6, at 2 p.m. at St. Luke's Church in Federal Way, 515 S. 312th St.

Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$25 for seniors (65 and older), and students 18 and under are free. You can buy tickets at the door, call 253-529-9857, or order online at www.federalwaysymphony.org.

What's Happening?



The Odyssey is playing at Taproot Theater starting Feb. 4.

02.04

- The ACT and 5th Avenue Theater have paired together to bring *The Vanities: A New Musical* to Seattle. Tickets start at \$55 and are available at both theaters. The 5th Avenue Theater ticket office is located at 1308 5th Ave. in Seattle, or online at www.5thavenue.org. The ACT ticket office is 700 Union St. in Seattle, or online at acttheatre.org.
- Taproot Theater's newest production *The Odyssey* is having its opening night on Feb. 4. Tickets are available online at www.taproottheatre.org/buy-tickets/.

They can also be bought through Taproot Theatre's box office or by phone at 206-781-9707. Tickets range from \$20-35, depending on the performance.

- *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* is this Friday's movie. It starts at 12:30 p.m. and will be held in

02.06

Building 29, room 104.

- The Federal Way Symphony is performing on Feb. 6 at St. Luke's Church in Federal Way at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased by calling 253-529-9857. You can also buy online at www.federalwaysymphony.org.

02.12

phony.org.

- Rainier Symphony is performing Feb. 12 at 7:30 p.m. at Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center and Feb. 13 at 3 p.m. at Foster Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at www.rainiersymphony.org.

02.19

- Tingstad and Rumbel are playing at the Auburn Avenue Theater on Feb. 19 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$17 or \$15 for students and seniors. You can purchase tickets by calling Auburn Parks, Arts & Recreation at 253-931-3043, or online at www.brownpapertickets.com.

brownpapertickets.com.

- The Highline Jazz Festival is on Feb. 19 at 2 and 7 p.m. at Highline Performing Arts Center on South 152nd Street in Burien. Tickets are \$20 for each show or \$35 for an all-day pass. Children under 18 are free.

02.25

- *Expect The Impossible: Mark Nizer In 3-D*, who does an act that combines comedy, juggling, movement, and music, is performing at the Auburn Performing Arts Center on Feb. 25 at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$20 or \$18 for students and seniors. You can purchase tickets by calling Auburn Parks, Arts & Recreation at 253-931-3043, or online at www.brownpapertickets.com.

- The Renton Civic Theater begins performances for their newest production *The Mousetrap* on Feb. 25.

Tickets are \$22, or \$17 for students and seniors. They can be purchased at www.rentoncivictheater.org.

03.06

- The Federal Way Symphony is performing on March 6 at St. Luke's Church in Federal Way at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased by calling 253-529-9857 or buying online at www.federalwaysymphony.org.

03.12

- Handsome Little Devils "Squirm Burpee Circus", a Vaudeville comedy, high-skill circus act, is playing at Kent-Meridian Performing Arts Center on March 12 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$18 general, \$16 senior, and \$12 youth. They can be purchased at www.ticketturtle.com.
- Uncle Bonsai is playing at the Auburn Avenue Theater on March 12 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$17 or \$15 for students and seniors. You can purchase tickets by calling Auburn Parks, Arts & Recreation at 253-931-3043, or online at www.brownpapertickets.com.

03.18

- Alpin Hong is performing at the Kent-Meridian Performing Arts Center on March 18. The show begins at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$26 for the general public, \$24 for seniors, \$20 for youth. Tickets can be purchased online at www.ticketturtle.com.

Burien Little Theater cleans house

By BRYANNA ROBBINS
Staff Reporter

The Burien Little Theatre is presenting *The Clean House* just in time for Valentine's Day. "The characters find and redefine love," said Eric Dickman, the artistic director at Burien Little Theatre.

"Whether it is between sisters, parents, and daughters, or a couple, each relationship is reinvented."

The Clean House, written by Sarah Ruhl, is about a doctor (Lane) who hires a maid (Matilde) who doesn't even enjoy housework.

She's only in search for the funniest joke in the world, while the doctor's sister (Virginia) is cleaning his house.

Virginia and Matilde find some "foreign" underwear in the laundry exposing a love affair between someone and Lane.

More than 20 people auditioned for the production, with only five spots being cast.

"This is a comedy," Dickman says. "But it is also very dramatic and even tender at times."

Maggie Larrick is the stage director for *The Clean House*.

In the Burien Little Theatre's wardrobe department, Dodi Rose Zooropa is dressing up the cast. She's been with Burien Little Theatre for the last five shows.

Steve Cooper is designing sets, and volunteers under his direction will help build the sets.

If you'd like to volunteer for

Burien Little Theatre, some opportunities are available: publicity, office staff, ad sales, programs, costumes, sets, building, props, lighting, sound, ushering, box office, and hospitality.

You may check out www.burienlittletheatre.org/getinvolved.html.

Auditions being held by the theater for upcoming productions, including roles for shows in the Bill and Peggy Hunt Playwright Festival which will be posted soon.

The Clean House is perfect show for a date night, or "fine entertainment one," Dickman said.

The Clean House runs Feb. 11, 12, 18, 19, 25, 26, March 4 and 5 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 13, 20, 27, and March 6 at 2 p.m.

Thrift stores give advice on shopping on a budget

By PHATTRA VORASANE
Staff Reporter

If you're looking to save rather than splurge on clothes, head to your local thrift store.

From Federal Way to Tukwila, there are thrift stores such as Goodwill and Plato's Closet.

If you haven't heard of Plato's Closet, "Plato's Closet is a store that buys and sells clothes for teens and 20 year olds," said Plato's Closet employee Tiarra Fentress.

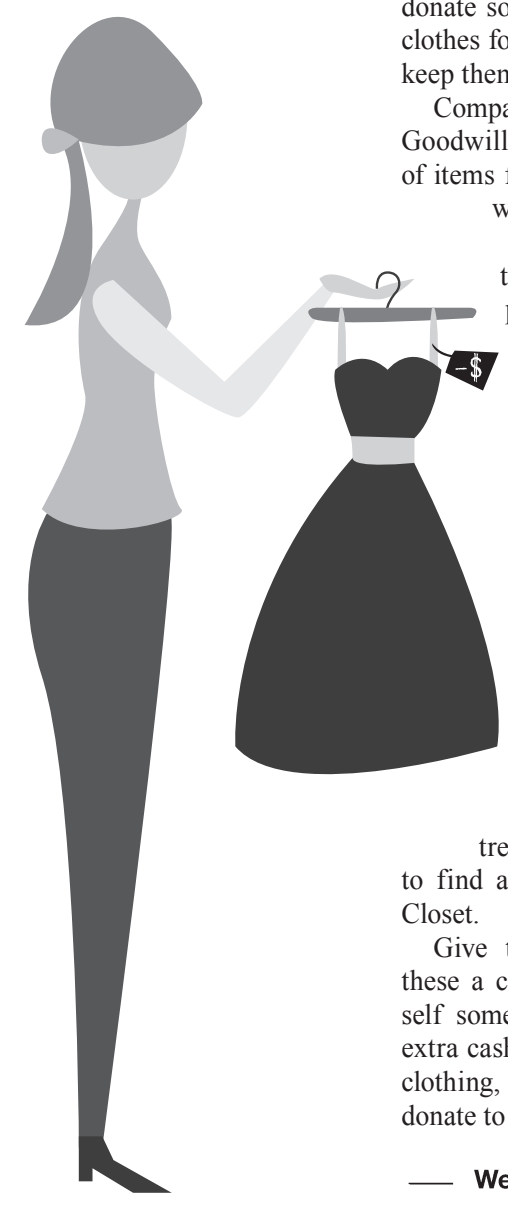
The clothes that you see in thrift stores are like new and even cheaper than what you would pay at stores in the mall.

"If you go to the mall, the prices are usually jacked up. If you come here, you'll probably see the same item for 30 percent cheaper at least," Fentress said.

Not only would you find clothes that are cheaper, but you have the option of selling your old clothes. "We give them cash on the spot for their clothes," said Fentress.

Whether you grew out of your old clothes or you want to update your style, thrift stores can help. "You can change your style up or just keep up with what's new," said Fentress.

If you're looking to revamp your style, Fentress said that "[Plato's Closet] only does certain trends about 18 months out of the mall."



or green, look to Goodwill to donate some of your unwanted clothes for those in need and to keep them out of landfills.

Compared to Plato's Closet, Goodwill has a wider variety of items from apparel to house ware.

They have kids, teens, and adult apparel and shoes from a variety of trends and styles.

Goodwill also has amazing monthly promotions.

From their senior and military discounts to their colored tags deals, you get items that are 50 percent off or starting from 99 cents.

You never know what treasures you are going to find at Goodwill or Plato's Closet.

Give thrift stores such as these a chance and save yourself some money, make some extra cash from your unwanted clothing, and be green and help donate to those in need.

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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| 8 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 9 | 3 |
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Five-day ecological adventure in Belize for class credit

By **DEMETRIUS GRIFFIN**
Staff Reporter

Highline ecology students have an opportunity to explore and study ecosystems in Belize this summer.

The 10 day trip, June 21-July 1, allows students to spend five days in a tropical rainforest while spending the other five days in a coral reef. This allows for the study of tropical forest ecology, forest medicine, Mayan culture, and coral reef ecology.

In his third year as the trip leader, Highline instructor Woody Moses said the most significant aspect that a student can take out of going to Belize is, "international travel. Seeing the different perspectives from other cultures and experiencing the different ecosystems."

Belize is the site for this trip due to the fact that the small English-speaking country provides both tropical forest and the largest coral reef in the southern hemisphere.



Moses

A few requirements are necessary if you are looking to partake in the event. Math 81 is a necessity, along with the ability to swim and the possession of a current passport. "Being registered in the class is recommended but is not a distinct requirement," Moses said.

The expenses for the trip come out to around \$3,000. However, airfare, tuition and lodging are all included. If you are not enrolled in the class and would still like to attend, the cost is \$3,000 minus the cost of tuition.

For more information contact Woody Moses at 206-878-3710, ext. 3649 or via email at wmoses@highline.edu.



Cody Warf/THUNDERWORD

National statistics show that driving while texting is very dangerous, experts say.

Hands on the wheel and off the cell phone

Statistics show, students agree: It's safer to drive without

By **TAYLOR LUNKA**
Staff Reporter

Four years after passing the bill, Highline students support the ban of texting and driving.

According to a 2009 study by the Virginia Technical Transportation Institute, texting while driving is about 20 times more dangerous than driving with both hands on the wheel.

To put this in perspective, it is the equivalent to driving 55 MPH on the length of a football field without looking at the road.

"It's extremely dangerous. People are not putting only themselves at risk, but other people on the road as risk," said Peter Dodds, assistant to State Senator Tracey Eide, D-Federal Way.

Sen. Eide sponsored the bill in 2007 that made driving with any handheld device a primary offense on state roadways, making Washington the first state to make texting illegal while behind the wheel.

Even though texting and driving is a primary offense in Washington, according to the National Safety Council, 28 percent of car accidents still involve texting and driving.

Texting and driving has become a bad habit that many drivers can't seem to stop.

"[People who text and drive] don't have their priorities straight. They're irresponsible," Highline student Karina Castillo said. "Nobody wants to drop their phone."

According to the Washington State Patrol, it is difficult to assess whether banning texting and driving has decreased or increased the number of accidents

in the state.

"It's a fair assessment to say the general public is more aware," Patrol Sargent J.J. Gundermann said.

Although more are aware of the dangers of texting and driving, cell phones behind the wheel have become the No. 1 issue for the younger generation of drivers.

"The younger generation grew up on technology, unlike people who are over 40," Dodds, assistant to Sen. Eide said.

Highline student Ashley Cote recognizes this as a problem.

"Kids are born and raised on cell phones. It's a habit," she said.

"Younger people believe they can do it all. Research shows that you can't," Dodds said.

While some drivers continue to text behind the wheel, others follow the law and don't put their lives in danger.

"When I do drive, I turn off my phone and put it in the front seat," student Maria Outierrez said.

"I'm not putting their or my

life in danger from texting. One text isn't enough to put your life in danger," she said.

To avoid being caught texting and driving, students at Highline have alternative methods.

"[As a passenger] I'd rather text for [the driver] than have them text," student Anna Comia said.

"[If getting a phone call while driving] I pull over," driver Karina Castillo said.

Taking precautionary measures like texting for the driver, or pulling over, helps everyone avoid possible accidents.

"Studies show that people who text and drive are 23 times more likely to be involved in a crash than people who aren't texting while driving," Dodds said.

Nonetheless, many people say that texting has become so important for people to feel connected, and drivers don't want to give it up.

"I think people are too wrapped up in conversation," student Paige Coleman said.

"[Cell phones] have become

a use of communication in our daily lives," student Kris Wilburn said.

But, Wilburn said, "Driving should come first, texting and calling second."

To show how distracting cell phones can be, a professor at a local university did an experiment with some of his students.

"There was a study done at Western Washington University to show the cognitive distraction [of texting]," Dodds said.

"A professor had a student dress up in a clown outfit and ride through Red Square on a unicycle. [The professor] went up to ask students who were texting [at the time the clown went by] and asked if they saw the clown and three-fourths said no. That's the distraction," Dodds said.

Highline student Joshua Starkey said he realizes how distracting a cell phone can be.

"[Drivers are] thinking about the person they're texting, driving, and the phone," Starkey said. "Texting requires you to use more areas of your brain at the same time."



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High-rise proposal meets with mixed reactions

By **CHRISTINA GRAMLING**
and **JULIA SORENSEN**
Staff Reporters

While many people in Federal Way agree on the economic benefits of a proposed new high-rise tower development they are also concerned with other issues surrounding the project, such as crime and more vacant retail spaces.

The site for construction, at 31600 20th Ave. S. in Federal Way, was purchased by the city nearly four years ago in hopes of creating a vibrant downtown center for the city. The site would include three 25+ story towers for retail and residential use, underground parking, and a 1-acre public park.

The issue of financing has held the project up from the beginning. The original developer, United Properties, turned over the project to Twin Development last year after failing to meet several deadlines to secure financing to purchase the land from the city.

Since the start of the project there have been seven extensions to give both developers time to come up with the \$3.8 million required by the city to start the purchase. The total purchase price to the developer is \$6.15 million.

With the new March 2011 deadline for Twin Development to secure financing quickly approaching, city officials are getting anxious. The city council voted to extend the deadline for the developer in September 2010, by a 4-3 margin.

All prior votes have been 6-1, with Councilman Jim Ferrell consistently voting against the extensions.

Ferrell has voted against the project from the beginning.

"I don't think it's the right direction for Federal Way," Ferrell said. He said he is concerned with more empty buildings and thinks the city should in some way help with the abundance of vacant retail space already there.



An artist's conception of Federal Way's proposed high-rise development, which city leaders hope will boost economic activity in the community.

"Government does well with infrastructure, parks, and roads. They can't dictate business outcome," Ferrell said. He said the city becoming land brokers was never the plan and said that it was a gamble to get involved from the start.

With all the extensions, Ferrell said the city should scratch the idea and focus on more immediate issues in the city.

Twin Development is the second developer chosen for the project and they are hoping to find a foreign investor interested in taking advantage of the EB-5 Foreign Investment Program.

This program grants foreign investors, with a minimum \$1 million contribution, a two-year permanent residency status. Twin Development has no such investor at this point.

The benefits of the project to the city could be great if it can be completed as planned, supporters say.

"Approximately 600 resi-

dences and 60 hotel units, and hundreds of on-site employees will increase a demand for goods and services which in turn will help sustain and grow local business," said Deputy Mayor Dini Duclos.

"The project is expected to create up to 3,000 jobs over several years ranging, from construction to administrative to hospitality and more," said Duclos.

"The benefits to the city are many including getting back what it initially paid for the site, plus \$4 or \$5 million at closing," said Duclos. The city originally purchased the former AMC Theatre property for \$4.1 million in 2006.

Although Duclos recognizes the benefits of the project, she voted against the last extension along with Councilmen Jim Ferrell and Mike Park.

Local business owners also recognize the benefits of the proposed towers, but have other concerns about the project.

Sunny Kim, a business owner in Centre Plaza located on the lot adjacent to the proposed site, said she is still unclear on what the city plans to do and that repeated extensions of the deadlines have been confusing. Along with the unclear start date she also said that crime has become a problem in the area.

"I'm also concerned with safety for the potential residents," Kim said. She said that along with commuters, the transit center has also attracted a less than desirable crowd of people to the area.

"I just don't think it would be a good place for such expensive condominiums. Who would want to buy here?" she said.

Kim said there have been several fights and shootings at the transit center located at 31621 23rd Ave. S., just east of the proposed construction site. Although there are regular police patrols through the transit center, there are still problems with homeless people sleeping and openly urinating and defecating in the surrounding areas and shopping centers.

People often come by Kim's office peering in windows, asking for change for the bus, and occasionally coming into the office to steal the candy of out her candy dish, she said.

Karisa Ridgeway from Lov-

er's, also located in Centre Plaza, said her corporate managers are quite pleased to hear about a large residential area moving in next door and feel that it will boost their sales. As a lifetime resident of Federal Way, Ridgeway is concerned with safety at the new public park, noting the same facts as Kim.

"I'm just not sure it's the best thing for Federal Way right now. I think the time and money could be spent on more important things," Ridgeway said, such as police and schools.

Ridgeway is also confused about the dates and deadlines and said she thought that they were going to break ground soon. However, that is not true and Twin Development is still struggling to acquire financing.

David Payne of Purified Water 2Go has been working in the shopping center just north of the proposed site at 2012 S 314th St. for more than five years and said that since Target and Toys R Us have been closed their business has been greatly affected.

He has seen several businesses come and go and also said that there have been empty pads for very long periods of time. He thinks that the towers may start a traffic pattern through parking lot and The Commons Mall, giving them better visibility to more potential customers.

State program offers businesses a fresh start

By **JONNY MCGUIRE**
Staff Reporter

Businesses all over Washington state are being given the chance to start anew in the form of a new amnesty program run by the Department of Revenue.

Mike Gowrylow, communications director for the Washington State Department of Revenue, the Department of Revenue's goals for this new amnesty program are to "generate revenue for the state, as well

as to give businesses in debt a new start, and hopefully a faster recovery."

Gowrylow said that any business that is registered or "should be registered" is eligible to apply for the program, except those who are bankrupt or being investigated for fraud.

Businesses interested in applying for the amnesty program should visit PayMyTax.org and submit an application by April 18.

The deadline for businesses

to pay their taxes is April 30. Those who do not pay will remain in collections and incur additional penalties.

The Department of Revenue estimates that about 10,000 of 50,000 delinquent businesses and additional unregistered businesses will apply.

The program will run from Feb. 1 through April 30 and is expected to generate roughly \$24.4 million in state revenue and \$3.9 million in local revenue.

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Highline alum gives students Ivy League advice

By **JOSHUA NELSON**
Staff Reporter

Imagine you are a student making the transition to a four-year school.

Are you going to be in the same state? Afraid of getting buried beneath a mountain of work? Worried about how to pay for it?

Highline alum Tierney Kuhn spoke on Jan. 26 at the Honors Colloquy about these questions.

She told those present about her methods of coping with the transition to Princeton University.

"First of all, if you go out of state, I recommend a webcam. You'd be surprised the difference you feel when you actually see the person from home you are talking to," said Kuhn.

Not only is it important for transfer students to maintain their ties to home, but they must also remain focused on their current accomplishments.

"To make sure you don't become overwhelmed with stress, set aside time each week to talk about what you've accomplished," said Kuhn.

Honors Program preps transfer students

If you are stressed out about competing for acceptance into a four-year college, the Honors Scholar Program can help.

"Every time that a student registers for a course with the name of Honors, it makes the student's transcript more competitive," said Dr. Barbara Clinton, the program's coordinator.

Students who register for the Honors program are expected to write a series of essays, personal statements, and resumes designed to build a competitive portfolio that will give them an edge when applying to four-year schools and scholarships, Dr. Clinton said.

"Our Honors program is focusing on opening doors for our students," said Dr. Clinton.



Dr. Barbara Clinton

Along with the opportunity to build a portfolio, the Honors program recruits speakers for weekly colloquies that are held in Building 7.

These colloquies are open to all students, but are required for those registered. They are held every Wednesday at 12:10 p.m.

The speakers address different issues that arise when preparing to leave Highline for four-year schools, such as homesickness or coping with an uncertain environment.

"Students from the HCC Honors Program go on to Princeton, Amherst, Tufts, as well as to the UW Honors Program," said Dr. Clinton.

Students interested in registering for the class or looking for more information about future colloquies can contact Dr. Clinton at 206-878-3710, ext. 3151 or can email her at bcClinton@highline.edu.

are a transfer student," she said.

Kuhn is currently a sophomore at Princeton, and although she obtained a full scholarship upon being accepted, paying for a four-year college can still be a daunting task.

Kuhn recommends applying for scholarships as soon as possible.

She also said that maintaining an up-to-date Free Application for Federal Student Aid [FAFSA] is a must.

"Even if the scholarship you applied for is only \$1,000, those start to add up and every little bit helps," said Kuhn.

Before she finished her presentation, Kuhn had some wisdom to share about how to get into your desired college.

"Recruiters are looking for passion. Find out what yours is and be the best at it, then you will definitely get noticed," said Kuhn.

Students who maintain a 3.5 GPA and have at least 12 credits are encouraged to join the Honors Program.

For more information, visit <http://flightline.highline.edu/honors/program.htm>.

Officials hope new software program will help reduce wasteful printing

By **ALISA GRAMANN**
Staff Reporter

The cost of printing is going up at Highline, due to a lot of waste.

Highline students have gotten used to printing whatever they want without facing any repercussions.

Soon, this will not be the case, as the Pharos Unisoft software will soon start keeping a tab and charging each student.

Students who frequently use Highline's library may be familiar with the Pharos Uniprint software — a program that manages how much is printed.

Students may also be familiar with release stations — the place to go to give a printer the OK to print.

The Pharos Uniprint software is currently being installed on computers all around campus, and the new features will soon be making an appearance.

Students will have to grow accustomed to the cost recovery feature, which will track print-jobs back to the student and keep a tab.

Director of Instructional Computing Tim Wrye said that every quarter, students will get an "allowance" for printing and photo copying in computer labs around campus.

This allowance will probably

be around \$10, and will apply to the computer labs as well as the library and new Student Business Center.

Students who pay the Instructional Computing fee will get an additional \$10 per quarter.

"Once you've spent that allowance, you'd have to put money into an account to be able to print more," Wrye said.

While it may not seem like much, the \$10 will buy about 100 pages of printing.

The price for each page depends on how you are printing.

The standard printed page will cost 10 cents, while color pages will cost 50 cents. Plain photo copies will cost only 5 cents.

Wrye said that this new feature is mostly to discourage waste.

The amount of paper thrown into recycle bins at Highline is massive, and the amount of money spent on paper and toner is creeping upwards.

In the 2008/2009 school year, \$65,000 was spent on paper and toner. In the 2009/2010 school year, the amount reached \$70,000.

Another feature to help with waste reduction is the installation of more release stations.

Release stations will hold the print job until the student tells it

that it is OK to print.

This will hopefully keep students from printing — and wasting — multiple copies of the same thing.

Some impatient students hit the print button multiple times.

A pop-up window will also come up on the computer screen, telling the student what they are printing, which should also hopefully keep them from getting too impatient.

"We are required to have a plan to reduce paper on campus," Wrye said.

The changes to the Pharos Unisoft software will not only hopefully cut the amount of waste, but by charging students for excessive printing, it could also save Highline some money, he said.

The new features are scheduled to go into effect sometime around the end of the quarter.

For students who need to do lots of printing, but don't have money to pay for it, libraries in the King County Library System also offer some free printing.

For KCLS library card holders, there is an allotted 75 pages a week — 10 of which can be color pages.

For temporary computer pass holders, the allotment is 35 pages a week, 10 of which can also be color pages.

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ON THE BUS
WHEN I COULDN'T KEEP IT EXCITING ANYMORE
I KNEW IT HAD TO END



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Highline promotes shopping in Des Moines

By **HUSSAIN RIZVI**
Staff Reporter

Des Moines businesses are sponsoring a promotion with the City of Des Moines at Highline to prompt Highline students to shop downtown.

The Marina Madness promotion invites students, faculty and staff to come and celebrate the grand re-opening of the Des Moines Marina and win prizes.

Marina Madness includes a drawing for a basket of prizes from Des Moines businesses.

The program's goals are to get students involved in Des Moines and to encourage students to see the new marina, said Marion Yoshino, community developer for the City of Des Moines.

Yoshino said \$8 million was spent during the 2010 rebuilding of the marina.

"I think that the students will enjoy coming to see it, and knowing what this area looks like," Yoshino said.

"You can see bald eagles, sea otters, and lots of cool wildlife."



Marion Yoshino



Alisa Gramann/THUNDERWORD

Marion Yoshino organized the Marina Madness promotion to encourage Highline students to shop at local Des Moines businesses.

"It is a good place to enjoy the water, soak up the sun if you have time between classes, bring some lunch and sit on the boardwalk or on the sandy beach at the north end," Yoshino said.

The promotion also offers Highline students special discounts at different businesses that are sponsoring Marina Madness.

Marina Madness is being held in conjunction with the Highline bookstore.

Bookstore Manager Laura Nole agreed to do the promotion for the students.

"We agreed to do the promotion at the bookstore because that's where all the student traf-

fic is. There is nothing in it for the bookstore," Nole said.

Nole said Highline agreed to host the promotion because this is a community college and the promotion is for community business.

Student Government is working on a discount policy currently, said Vince Dominguez, vice president of Student Government at Highline.

Students will be able to get a 10 percent discount at local businesses that agree to participate, Dominguez said.

Details are still being worked out with the City of Des Moines and the businesses, once passed, students will get discounts when they show their student

ID at the business, he said.

Des Moines businesses who are promoting Marina Madness are Anthony's Homeport, Salon Michelle, Des Moines Florist, Marine View Espresso, Kimberley's Jewelry, Powell Homes, State Farm Insurance -Vickie Bergquist, CorkyCellars, Des Moines Drug and Red Robin.

Marina Madness is going on from Feb. 1 - 14, it will have small free prizes that you can enter to win from a gift basket, said Yoshino, community developer for the City of Des Moines.

Marina Madness will have a lot of stuff, up to a \$400 value give-away, Yoshino said.

Prizes include a \$50 gift card, two dinner entrees at Anthony's Homeport, lunch for two at Red Robin, salon products from Salon Michelle, two weeks of free lattes from Marine View Espresso.

The drawing is scheduled at noon on Feb. 15 in the lounge area in front of the bookstore.

Yoshino has asked Jonathan Brown, the assistant for the Student Dean, to do the honors of drawing the winning entry.

Entry cards are only available at Highline's bookstore, located in Building 8.

Students will have to go around the different businesses at the marina and get their entry card punched in.

Once the entry card is completed, you next drop it off at the bookstore for the drawing.

Only one entry card is allowed per person, and that person must visit each participating business to enter.

No purchase is necessary.

Yoshino said the Marina Madness is a fun way to celebrate the renovation of the Des Moines Marina.

The marina is now finished and the last bits of construction fencing were removed last week.

"The businesses in Des Moines think that this promotion is a fun way to reach out to the students at Highline," Yoshino said.

Yoshino said that businesses in Des Moines have done promotions for Highline students in the past, but there has not been anything recently.

Yoshino hopes to organize more promotions like this in the future.

World War II shaped the Northwest, professor says

By **MALLORY MURRAY**
Staff Reporter

During World War II the Northwest faced several economic and social changes that made Washington the state it is today, a historian said here last week.

Dr. Brian Casserly spoke at the Jan. 26 History Seminar, a weekly series of presentations by Highline faculty.

Some of the serious changes the Northwest faced were economic.

"These included economic growth and industrialization. The economy in the Pacific Northwest expanded significantly during the cold years of the war," said Casserly.

Boeing was a major contributor to the economic changes.

"As Boeing received greater

and greater orders from the U.S. Army Air Force and from the British Air Force, the company needed more and more people to manufacture its aircraft," said Casserly.

The company was mostly producing B-17 bombers and produced nearly 7,000 of these during World War II.

Also, the B-29 bomber was produced in the Seattle area during the war; workers here were producing about 200 planes a month.

"All of this contributed to a major change in the Seattle area economy. Between 1940 and 1942, the Seattle area workforce that was engaged in manufacturing doubled," said Casserly.

"The region's economy was literally booming as a result of the war," he said.

One major social change the Northwest faced during the war



"The region's economy was literally booming as a result of the war."

— Brian Casserly, history professor

was population growth.

"We do know that Washington's population in 1940 was 1.7 million people and by 1950 it was up to 2.3 million and most of that growth would have occurred during World War II itself," said Casserly.

King County's population grew also, from approximately a half million people in 1940 and to about 700,000 by 1950.

All of that led to certain problems in these areas. Since they were expanding very rapidly there were all kinds of social problems that accompanied the population growth.

Some of these problems were housing shortages, school overcrowding and traffic congestion.

"There are stories of people in the Seattle area living in tent houses because they couldn't find any other shelter in early 1942 as a major shortage of houses was occurring," said Casserly.

School overcrowding was also a major problem due to the population growth.

"In Bremerton for example, the local high school had to run its classes on a shift basis with juniors and seniors going to

class in the morning and freshman and sophomores in the afternoon," said Casserly.








Those kinds of problems were fairly common throughout the Puget Sound area.

"And of course the more things change, the more they stay the same. Traffic congestion was also a significant problem in the Seattle area during the war," said Casserly.

Despite the fact that gas was rationed for a considerable time during the war, major traffic congestion still occurred.

Buses and street cars were overcrowded and it was still very hard for people to get around the city.

The next seminar will cover "Ironies in Women's History" presented by English Professor Rosemary Adang on Wednesday, Feb. 16 in Building 3, room 102, starting at 1:30 p.m.

| THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY |
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Christina Gramling/THUNDERWORD
Members of the Highline Taiko Drum team perform at the student rally in Olympia last Thursday.

Rally

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Rep. Tina Orwall, D-Des Moines.

Participants visited different legislators and spoke to them in their offices to give them notes and letters that were written by the students, Afichuk said. Having the chance to talk to them shows students that legislators are accessible, and show the legislators that students are serious about standing up for their education.

The rally acted as an occasion for students to be able to let their opinions be heard in the difficult economic times during the legislative session.

“When legislators are forced with difficult decisions they can look back to students that spoke with them and told them their powerful stories. They can think about us and make decisions for the best of community and technical colleges,” said Afichuk.

Legislators are facing a tough task this year -- a nearly \$5 billion budget shortfall and a clear message from voters in the 2010 elections to not raise taxes. In statewide ballot measures, voters rejected increases to the sales tax and reinstituted a two-thirds requirement for the Legislature to raise any taxes.

K-12 education is protected by the state Constitution, leaving higher education as

one of the few budget categories not off the table.

Nonetheless, the legislators were excited to hear the student voice, and they even gave hints on how to successfully voice opinions and be heard, she said. They also hoped that the rest of their colleagues would support and invest in the beliefs of the colleges.

Among the concerns of tuition and financial aid, students wanted to raise their voice to prove that students sincerely care about their education.

“We believe that education is not a privilege, it is a right. It is for the better of the whole country not just the individuals, and not for self-investment, but for the investment of the country,” said Afichuk.

When community and technical colleges across the state band together with a common goal, it can become a powerful thing, she said.

“It is one thing to have an on-campus event and ask legislators to come, but it shows so much more initiative to go to them. There is a power in numbers, especially when we all have the same message,” she said.

The event aimed to shed light on the often overlooked perspective of the community and technical colleges, and was a step in proving to the Legislature that the relevant issues affect not just a couple students, but all of them, Afichuk said.

As for the future, Afichuk said the rally will be organized as an annual event.

Gregoire

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Board for Community and Technical Colleges has not taken a position on the proposal at this time,” said Janelle Runyon, director of communications for the board.

“They, like other affected agencies, are waiting to see the details of the proposal before they weigh in on it. They have, though, made it clear that their main focus remains with what is best for students and their educational success,” said Janelle Runyon, director of communications for the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges.

“What we’ll be doing is taking a look at the bill once it is released to get an idea of all

the details of the proposed reorganization and what it means for students overall. Creating a more seamless experience for students through more coordination from preschool all the way through college is a terrific goal to have,” she said.

“It will then take some time to go through it to determine what the impacts are to students and our system,” Runyon said.

State Rep. Tina Orwall, D-Des Moines, is concerned about the amount of time it would take to complete Gregoire’s reform plan.

“Gregoire shared a vision, but what does it mean to accomplish this goal?” Orwall asked.

“Anytime when making such a big change, there is a lot of time spent in reconfiguring, this could distract from current issues,” she said.

She agrees with the governor

that the Running Start program could run more smoothly.

“Programs such as Running Start have the potential to operate more effectively,” said Orwall.

“There is tension between K-12 and community colleges in recognizing the program (Running Start and similar programs). Having it under one department would allow for closer coordination to work out potential problems,” Orwall said.

Others fear that the governor’s reform plan will hurt some parts of the system.

Community colleges could get lost amidst the overpowering system, said Orwall.

Gwen Spencer, director of educational planning and advising at Highline, agrees with Orwall.

“A concern of mine is for community colleges to continue

to have a voice,” said Spencer.

Others say the governor is missing changes now taking place.

Don Bennett, executive director of the Higher Education Board, says the board is already working on the things that the Governor proposed in her plan.

“The proposal has the potential to provide more focused support for the broad objectives the Higher Education Board has been working on for years. Key among these is raising the level of postsecondary educational attainment in Washington,” said Bennett.

“In many ways, this is precisely the work we have been engaged in for years here at the Higher Education Board – working at the seams between the systems,” Bennett said.

Others question whether the plan is even workable.

“I’ve been a legislator, and every governor I’ve known has wanted more power. They’ve tried to abolish offices. That is not in our Constitution. Ours is direct election by the citizens of this great state,” said Randy Dorn, Superintendent of Public Instruction.

“Gregoire’s proposal would require the state superintendent to report to a new Secretary of Education. I am an elected official: my boss is the people of this state, not the governor,” Dorn said.

In her proposal, Gregoire indicated she foresaw no constitutional hurdle to making this change, which would not eliminate the elected status of the position.

“The Governor and I agree on one thing: our future depends on the education of all of our students,” Dorn said.

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