

Workshop provides fresh, fast facts concerning AIDS

By **JOSH NELSON**
Staff Reporter

AIDS doesn't care about gender, religion, race or culture. It is a lifelong disease and more than 20 percent of people in the United States are HIV positive and don't know it.

World AIDS Day is this Saturday, a day designated for raising awareness and educating people about this disease, its causes, and how to identify behavioral risks that may lead to infection.

On Tuesday, the Inter-Cultural Center held a workshop concerned with the epidemic of HIV/AIDS in the United States. The workshop was organized by K.J. Dampier, an ICC student leader.

"I have a vast interest in public health, and this topic is deeply rooted in the subject," said Dampier. "I felt that this [workshop] was the best way of providing knowledge and raising awareness about the cause."

The workshop was led by

Dr. Bob Baugher, a Highline psychology instructor.

"HIV [and AIDS] have been around for a long time," said Dr. Baugher. "It is permanent and there is no known cure."

Dr. Baugher said that one of the reasons AIDS is so prevalent is partially due to behavioral risk.

To demonstrate this concept, Dr. Baugher had all the attendees pick a number between one and 25. He then had everyone who chose the number seven come to the front of the room.

"You have all participated in risk behavior by choosing a number. And now all you sevens have been isolated, which represents the current stigma surrounding HIV and AIDS," explained Dr. Baugher.

Those attendees who had been pulled to the front of the room said that they felt scared, unlucky, unsure and were left wondering "Why me?"

Following this exercise, Dr. Baugher handed out note cards which contained bits of

information and facts concerning the history of the disease and certain risk behaviors that increase the chance of infection.

There are low-risk behaviors that won't likely lead to infection, these include: kissing, sharing of sex toys, and inserting fingers into another's vagina and/or anus.

"These are all low-risk because there is very little chance infection," said Dr. Baugher. "In order to get a sufficient dose of HIV through just kissing, you would have to ingest a half gallon of saliva."

In order to be completely risk-free during these activities, one would need to wash or disinfect both their hands and shared sex toys.

There are also medium-risk behaviors, these have a higher chance of leading to an HIV infection.

"Rimming – or anilingus – oral sex without swallowing, and purposeful or accidental puncture of a [hypodermic]

see AIDS page 16



Josh Nelson/THUNDERWORD

Attendees at Tuesday's AIDS workshop exchange M&Ms, which Dr. Bob Baugher says is an example of risk behavior.



Sherry Holt/THUNDERWORD

Mourners gather and light candles in honor of Brenda Gomez.

Community mourns Highline alumnus

By **ANGELA STONE**
Staff Reporter

Highline alumnus, Brenda Gomez, died Nov. 19, nine days after the car crash that placed her in the hospital.

Gomez was driving four of her family members to a quinceanera (birthday celebration for girls turning 15) on Nov.

10, when she was allegedly hit by 19-year-old Yichun Xu traveling at high speeds in a Mercedes-Benz according to the Des Moines Police. Brenda Gomez, 25, Juan Gomez, 14, and Itsi Gomez, 14, were all taken to Harborview Medical Center.

see Gomez page 16

Join lawmakers for breakfast next week

BY **SHON TORRES**
Staff Reporter

Students, staff and faculty will have a chance to dine with local lawmakers and express their concerns about actions coming out of Olympia.

On Dec. 4, Highline will host its 15th annual breakfast for the local legislators in Building 8 on the third floor. The breakfast is free to the Highline community and

President Raphael Pierre of the Associated Students of Highline Community College will be the emcee.

Legislators from the 11th, 30th, 33rd, 34th and 47th legislative districts have been invited. They serve areas within the Highline service district.

"I want to personally invite all the students to the break-

see Breakfast page 16

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



P3

College encourages public transportation



P8

Highline instructor commissioned to build fonts



P10

Dance crew has new work space in Student Union

Breakfast

continued from page 1

fast,” said Pierre.

“This is an event that is planned by and for students. ASHCC is coordinating a small group of featured speakers on topics like tuition, financial aid access, balancing student and non-student life, and other areas that may connect with the work the state Legislature does. Students are invited to bring their issues when they attend. Student participants will have some time to meet in small groups with legislators,” said Jonathan L. Brown, associate dean in the Center for Leadership and Service.

The intent of the meeting is to inform legislators about issues of concern to their particular constituents who attend or work at Highline. Eight of the 14 legislators who have been invited have accepted the invitation, Brown said.

“The legislators will be there more to listen and comment than to present,” said Brown.

“This is a great opportunity to show leadership by using a student voice, which is so powerful. This event is intended to open a comfortable space for students to speak to the issues they may deal with,” said Nimotalai Azeez, ASHCC vice president.

The event will be in a round-table format to increase contact with the legislators, Pierre said.

“This is a great opportunity for students to become more civically involved and informed. Students should come to advocate about issues in our state that are important to them. Whether the student is concerned about keeping tuition low or making financial aid more available or any other issue in front of the state Legislature, this is a time to easily access their representatives,” said Brown.

“The topics are truly up to the students, the round-table discussion that we begin at 9 a.m. during the event is where students will have a chance to dialogue with the legislators on issues they feel are most important,” said Azeez.

“Your average person does not normally get the chance for this kind of access to the legislators,” Pierre said.

Highline’s student government members are involved in the planning and execution of the breakfast event.

“Raphael has been working with [the office of] Institutional Advancement on inviting legislators from the [legislative] districts Highline serves,” said Brown.

About 100-130 people are anticipated to attend the meeting, said Brown.

Gomez

continued from page 1

Brenda Gomez and her brother Juan Gomez both suffered traumatic brain injuries. Itsi Gomez sustained a head injury, multiple rib fractures and bruising to the lungs. Elizabeth Zapata, 14, has broken bones and Ignacio Zapata, 17, sustained soft tissue injuries from the crash.

Days after her 25th birthday, Brenda Gomez was taken off life support and died on Nov. 19. A candle-lit memorial was held in her honor in the evening on Nov. 21.

In freezing cold temperatures, a group of more than a 150 people gathered at the Des Moines Marina.

Families with small children clustered together shivering, and holding their hands to the candle flames while they watched a slide show of Gomez’s life on the billowing sheet that served as a projector screen.

At the conclusion of the slides, Gomez’s fiancée, Ricardo Perezchica, invited her family members and friends to come forward and share about Gomez.

Several of Gomez’s friends and family stood in the center of the circle to share brief stories or their feelings about Gomez. Each person commenting on her ready smile and how happy she made them feel, and how they were better because of her.

Gomez’s brother, Alberto, was one of the first family members to speak.

“I know this is something that no one expected, [but] I’m not scared for my sister. I know that my sister did go to heaven,” Alberto Gomez said. “All the positive memories she has left behind is a testament to the good life she lived.”

“This is hard, [but] we must be happy for those who have entered heaven,” he said. “I don’t know when it’s my time to go I thought, if anything, I would be the first to go.”

He went on to talk about the positive influence his sister had on him.

“Do something positive for my sister,” Albert Gomez said. “This is the time that we must be strong.”

Concluding his remarks he said, “[I know] she’s happy all of us came here.”

Applause filled the air as he rejoined the circle.

Gomez’s older brother, Jose, spoke of his sister as well.

“She was my best friend,” he began. A moment passed before he continued, “I still can’t believe that this happened.”

Jose Gomez said he still had texts from his sister that he never returned, and said he regretted that when he got

the call at work, that he would never be able to reply.

“That day I will never forget,” he said, “just to see my mother cry.”

“I want to thank you Brenda for everything,” he said.

The memorial wrapped up nearly two hours later.

After the memorial, Perezchica spoke about Gomez:

“She was joy. She was determined. She was the life of the party. She wanted to unite the whole family.”

Gomez was always looking to get her family together, Perezchica said.

Gomez earned her associate of arts degree from Highline last June.

“She was accepted into a lot of universities,” Perezchica said, but she was deciding between Pacific University and Western Washington University. Gomez wanted to be an elementary school teacher.

Some of the professors Gomez got to know while taking classes at Highline were Farhad Razmehr and Rus Higley.

“She had Math 111 with me last year,” Razmehr said. “She was very hard working and smart. Her smile was absolutely glamorous and could brighten any room. She wanted to graduate and help the community, as well as her parents. She truly had a lovely soul.”

Higley was also impressed by Gomez’s hard working attitude and joyous smile.

Higley said, “Brenda took a couple of my classes. I really enjoyed having her in my classes and she was intelligent and articulate.”

“She was highly motivated and really pushed herself hard with good grades, lots of classes, family life and work [got in her way]. Despite all that she was always smiling and laughing. She was one of those that make everyone around her smile. She always sat in the front of the class,” he said.

Gomez’s 14-year-old brother, Juan sustained traumatic brain injuries and was released from the hospital on Nov. 21.

He will have to go through six months to a year of therapy, and it is undetermined whether or not he will make a full recovery.

At the conclusion of the memorial, Perezchica said, “Brenda saved four lives Monday.”

Perezchica specifically mentioned that her heart went to a 24-year-old woman in Seattle and that her kidneys and her liver were also donated.

Her funeral was held on Nov. 23 at 11 a.m. at the Holy Spirit Parish in Kent.

Gomez is survived by her Zapata grandparents, her parents, and her three brothers, Jose, Alberto, and Juan.

AIDS

continued from page 1

needle without sharing it,” said Dr. Baugher.

The highest risks come from sharing of used hypodermic needles, “...and unprotected vagina-penis contact is the leading way of transmitting HIV and AIDS in the United States,” said Dr. Baugher.

At the conclusion of this barrage of facts, Dr. Baugher handed out M&Ms – not for eating but for exchanging.

He gathered the attendees together and told them to exchange candies three times. The exchanges were based on similar height, hair color, and lastly picking a person at random.

“Those of you with a yellow M&M are now infected with HIV,” said Dr. Baugher.

Those six attendees remained standing as the rest sat down, then Dr. Baugher asked everyone who began the exercise with a yellow M&M to stand, followed by anyone that had one during any point in the exercise.

“All of you have exchanged have been through another risk behavior, and you are all infected,” said Dr. Baugher to the other 16 attendees who stood.

Before ending this workshop, Dr. Baugher stressed that testing is a necessity for those people who are sexually active.

“It doesn’t matter if you’ve had multiple partners or are a serial monogamist, getting tested and knowing is



K.J. Dampier

important,” said Dr. Baugher. “Sometimes continual risk behaviors don’t result in contraction, and sometimes all it takes is one unsafe occurrence.”

Dr. Baugher also pointed out that it takes three to six months for HIV to show up on blood tests, and that sexually active people have a responsibility to get tested.

“When you think about it, you’re not just having sex with one person. You’re having sex with everyone they have ever had sex with,” said Dr. Baugher.

In addition to the workshop which took place on Tuesday, ICC is hosting Pat Migliore today in Building 8 in the Mt. Constance Room, at 10 and 11 a.m.

Migliore is a long-term survivor of HIV/AIDS and the founder of BABES Network in Seattle – a support group for HIV positive women. She has been speaking to Highline classes for more than 15 years.

Highline’s COOR 101 class will also be there handing out HIV/AIDS awareness literature, free ribbons and condoms while Migliore is speaking. Students, faculty and staff are all encouraged to attend.

heritage.edu

Turn your Highline degree into a teaching career.

Highline Community College and Heritage University at Highline have joined hands to help you seamlessly expand your AA or AS degree into a Bachelor of Education. For details, call Heritage at 206 592-4244 or e-mail seattle@heritage.edu.



Heritage University
at Highline

Greater success is closer than you think.



Crime and Punishment

Tire stolen from car

A tire was stolen from a car on Nov. 20 in the South Parking Lot.

Man solicits on Highline campus

An individual was asked to leave Highline's campus on Nov. 20. The man went around asking different students for money to put gas in his car. Soliciting is not allowed on Highline's campus.

iPhone reported stolen

An iPhone was reported stolen on Nov. 20. No further details are available.

Five car batteries died

Five cars required assistance on Nov. 26. They all had dead batteries. Four of the cars were in the South Parking Lot and one was in the East Parking Lot.

Minor collision in East Parking Lot

A minor accident occurred in the East Parking Lot on Nov. 26. One student backed into another student. The two students were ok.

Macbook, cell phone in Lost and Found

A credit card, earrings, cell phone, Macbook, and purse were found this week and are in the Lost and Found. Owners can collect their respective items on the first floor of Building 6 in the Campus Security Office.

Campus Security advises students

"As finals approach keep your [belongings] close to you. Be aware of [your] books during finals week because it's the same week that book buyback occurs so people often steal books to cash them in," said Campus Security Supervisor Richard Noyer.



Winter Quarter enrollment open now

Registration for Winter Quarter classes is under way until tomorrow, Nov. 30. Tuition is due on Thursday, Dec. 6. For those who register later than Dec. 6, tuition is due within seven days after registration.

Talk and eat lunch with Accounting Club

The Highline Accounting Club meets tomorrow from noon to 1:30 p.m.

Anyone who wants to learn more about accounting and meet accounting students is invited.

For those interested, go to the Mount Skokomish Room on the second floor of Building 8.

Lunch, cookies and beverages are provided for free.

For more information, contact Martin Mertens at martinmertens@juno.com or Debbi Perkins at DLPerkins@students.highline.edu.

Join ISP for a White Elephant Party

A White Elephant Party, hosted by the International Student Programs is on Friday, Nov. 30.

The party will be in Building 2 from 6:30-10:30 p.m.

Participants are required to bring a small, wrapped present (worth \$5 or less) and will proceed to play a gift exchange game.

The game is free and all Highline or Kaplan University students are invited.

To sign up, go to the fifth floor of the Library.

Science at the Sound

Woody Moses, biology instructor, will speak about "Coral Reef Monitoring: the Great Barrier Reef and the Philippines" at the next Science on the Sound presentation at the MaST Center on Saturday, Dec. 1 at noon until 12:45 p.m.

Admission is free.

The MaST Center is at 28203 Redondo Beach Dr. S. Des Moines, WA 98198.

Donate to the Des Moines Food Bank

The Des Moines Food Bank needs non-perishable food donations for the winter months.

Barrels have been placed on the first and second floors in

Building 6, on the first floor of Building 99, on the first floor of Building 25, and the first floor of the Student Union, Building 8.

The barrels will be at Highline until Tuesday, Dec. 13.

Visit Whistler, Canada

The International Student Programs is hosting a trip to Whistler, B.C., Canada, from Friday to Sunday, Dec. 14-16.

The trip costs \$259 and includes hotel stay and transportation.

For those interested in going, sign up on the fifth floor of the Library in the International Student Programs office.

Science Seminar tomorrow

"Got Caps?" is the topic of this Friday's Science Seminar and will be presented by Educational Programs Coordinator Nicole Bostic.

The presentation will be about microplastics and how they affect the Puget Sound and the rest of the world.

For those interested, go to Building 3, room 102 from 2:30-3:23 p.m.

Join the Latter-Day Saints for art and music

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Federal Way is hosting a nativity display and concert series from Friday to Sunday, Nov. 30-Dec. 2.

On Friday and Saturday, the event will be from 6-9 p.m. Sunday's event goes from 4-8:30 p.m. and will feature the First Presidency Christmas Devotional with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

The events will include nativity displays such as artwork of Christ, local musical ensembles, and family activities.

The event is free, but visitors are encouraged to donate non-perishable food for the Multi-Service Center Food Bank.

For those interested in attending, the address is 34815 Weyerhaeuser Way South, Federal Way, Wa.

Show off your writing skills in Writing Club

Writing Club meets today and every Thursday from 1:30-4 p.m.

For anyone interested, go to Building 8, the Student Union, in room 301.

Just Talk and destress with ICC before finals

"Community Building" is the topic of Highline's Inter-Cultural Center's Just Talk

program on Monday, Dec. 3.

Just Talk is discussion time for students from any cultural background to talk about sensitive, relatable matters and share their opinions. Monday's discussion will also include brain-destressing activities.

Light refreshments will be provided.

For those interested, go to the Student Union, Building 8, in room 204 from 1:30-2 p.m.

Highline's Bookstore Book Buyback is next week

The Bookstore is buying back class books from students starting next Monday.

Book buyback is Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 10-11, from 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 12-13, from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Friday, Dec. 14 from 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

For those interested in selling back their books, go to The Bookstore on the second floor of the Student Union, Building 8.

Speaker on campus today for World AIDS Day

In observance of World AIDS Day, a survivor of HIV/AIDS, Pat Migliore will speak today from 10-11 a.m.

Migliore is also the founder of BABES Network in Seattle, a support group for HIV+ women.

For those interested in attending, go to the Mt. Constance Room in the Student Union.

Go caroling and see Des Moines's tree lighting

The city of Des Moines's A Charlie Brown Christmas Tree Lighting and festivities will be on Friday, Dec. 7.

Caroling will begin at Scotch

and Vine, located at 22341 Marine View Drive South, at 5 p.m. and will proceed towards the Big Catch Plaza.

The tree lighting and other festivities will begin at 6 p.m. at the Big Catch Plaza, next to the 21815 Marine View Drive Quality Food Center.

Hot cocoa and cookies will be provided for free, courtesy of John L. Scott Des Moines. In addition, the Des Moines Elementary Band and the Hi-Liners Musical Theatre will be there.

Celebrate the holidays with Jingle. Jangle. Joy!!

Jingle. Jangle. Joy!! is a holiday concert featuring KidSounds, YouthSounds and TeenSounds and will be on Friday, Dec. 7. The concert will be at the Highline Performing Arts Center at 7 p.m.

Tickets for adults are \$15, \$10 for seniors, and for anyone 17 and under, it's free.

For more information and to buy tickets, go tnwassociated-arts.org/yc/jingle-jangle-joy.

Learn how to write with punctuation correctly

The Writing Center offers workshops to help students improve their writing skills.

The "Self-Assessment and Writing Portfolio Cover Letters" workshop will take place from 4-5 p.m. today in Building 26, room 319I.

Next week, the "Other Tricky Punctuation Issues" workshop will take place from 1:30-2:20 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 4, 10-10:50 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 5 and 4-5 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 6 in the same location. Students will learn how to properly use semicolons, hyphens, dashes, etc.



**EXPERIENCE
PUGET
SOUND
AND
EARN
SCIENCE
CREDIT!**

Each quarter Highline's MaST Center offers hands-on marine science laboratory classes. Earn your science credits with first-hand experiences.

WE OFFER:

BIOL 103 - Marine Birds & Mammals (offered occasionally)

BIOL 110 - Marine Biology*

OCEA 101 - Introduction to Oceanography*

ENVS 101 - Introduction to Environmental Science: Marine Focus (spring & summer)

The MaST Center is located 4 miles south of the Highline Campus in Redondo. Our aquarium has 11 tanks with more than 100 local species on display.

**Many hybrid courses offered every quarter.*



Highline encourages public transportation, carpool

By **JOSH NELSON**
Staff Reporter

Even with the recent drop in gas prices, drivers in Washington are still feeling a strain on their wallets at the pump.

Fortunately, for Highline students, faculty and staff, the college has programs in place to help alleviate some of that strain.

Next week, Highline will kick off its first ever Try Transit Week, in a effort to encourage the use of public transportation and carpool in lieu of driving to school solo.

Jennifer Amato, Highline's Commute Trip Reduction coordinator and executive assistant of administration, is responsible for organizing this new program.

"Our CTR program already reimburses some of the cost for ORCA cards," said Amato.

ORCA stands for One Regional Card for All and allows seamless transfer between the transportation systems in the Puget Sound area.

"Try Transit Week will go a step further," she said. Amato said that in partnering with Sound Transit, Link Light Rail, The Sounder, and King County Metro, Highline will be able



Amato

to offer passes that will allow free transit along these lines.

The college is also working with Rideshare

Online on this new program.

These free passes will not have a very long shelf life, and most of them will expire at the end of December.

To participate in this new program, the Highline community need only fill out a Try Transit Application online in order to participate in this experiment. And Amato pointed out that these passes will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

"I sent out the email on Monday, and when I came in on Tuesday I had a whole list of applications waiting for me," said Amato.

The free passes are only one portion of what Highline is offering during Try Transit Week.

On Thursday, Dec. 6 there will be a kickoff party for CTR perks.

People currently enrolled



in the CTR program, or those who receive Try Transit Week passes, will be eligible for gifts, up to and including a \$100 Visa gift card.

"We won't be handing them [\$100 cards] out left and right, but we will be giving out tokens of appreciation and encouragement to participants on a random basis," said Amato.

On top of these incentives, Amato pointed out that the money saved by using public transportation really makes a difference.

Broken down by zip-code, those that choose to use public

transportation for their commute save an average of \$400 per quarter, which includes purchasing an ORCA card.

In spite of these examples of savings and perks, there are those who feel public transportation is a waste of time, or are too nervous for that first bus ride.

"Getting that first ride out of the way was kind of tough," Amato admitted. "I thought it would be boring and dirty, but I found out I actually enjoyed it."

Riding the bus or train can take up to an hour to arrive at the desired destination, but

Amato said that if you use the time wisely it might actually be very productive.

"I used to work for Microsoft, but I lived in Puyallup. That meant a ride on The Sounder and then a bus ride after that," she said. "I hear, 'I don't want to ride the bus,' or 'The trip takes too long' but if you use your time creatively, it can be worthwhile."

Amato pointed out that during her commute to and from Microsoft, she was able to finish two years of her bachelor's degree, as well as utilizing online grocery and Christmas shopping.

Amato's experience with public transportation has been the driving force behind Try Transit Week, along with her involvement in Highline's CTR program.

"This [Try Transit Week] is a first for us. If it's successful we may revisit it in the future," she said.

To apply for Try Transit Week, visit bit.ly/trytransit-weekathcc.

Students, staff, and faculty not currently enrolled in Highline's CTR program can visit the Campus Safety website for the proper forms and more information.

Fall play set in new location, show must go on

By **ASHLEY LARSON**
Staff Reporter

Highline Drama Department will be performing *The Odyssey* in the Library.

Due to the remodeling of Building 4, the fall play will be performed on the sixth floor of the library (Building 26) on Dec. 5, 6, and 7 at 7 p.m. and Dec. 8 at 8 p.m.

The cost is \$8 general admission and \$7 for students.

The stage will be set in between the four columns and the audience will be seated around the stage.

The stage will be 18 x 18 feet and there will be enough room for an audience to sit and enjoy the show.

"There isn't much of a set for this show. The cast and I will be setting up curtains and [other materials] on the floor to add color; that is all," said director Rick Lorig.

"This show has very limited props and the set is very simple, there will only be eight stools in the set," said Lorig. "Most things will happen in the imagination of the audience."

Homer's, *The Odyssey* begins 10 years after the end of the Trojan War, which also

lasted for 10 years.

The Trojan War is subject of the *Iliad*. Odysseus has not returned home from the war, and Odysseus' son, Telemachus, is almost 20 years old and is sharing his father's house on the island of Ithaca with his

mother Penelope and a crowd of 108 energetic young men – the Suitors.

The Suitors aim to persuade Penelope to marry one of them, all the while enjoying the hospitality of Odysseus' household and taking all of his wealth.

"Most of the cast will be playing more than one part in the show because I picked my cast before I picked my show so I wasn't sure how many people I needed to cast," said Lorig.

The play was chosen first and then the library was chosen

for the setting.

"The library was a happy accident. We were holding auditions there and when discussing possible locations for performance, the wide open space on the sixth floor came to mind," said Lorig.

PLU is a Yellow Ribbon university

Eligible for post-9/11 GI Bill?

Tuition is fully covered at PLU

*Benefit transferable to dependents

Apply free at
plu.edu/transfer

Questions?

Contact Sean Lacy, Director of Transfer Admission
253-535-7138 sean.lacy@choose.plu.edu

PLU YOUR PRIVATE COLLEGE OPTION

Take the time to reflect this holiday season

It is officially the holiday season, Thanksgiving is past and Christmas is on its way along with carolers, reindeer, and, of course, the one and only, Santa Claus.

The holidays are a time of hearty cooking, rich desserts, ugly sweaters, and giving. It is a time when families can spend time together and enjoy each other's company playing board games, sharing dinner and laughter together, and opening gifts.

What is it that makes the holidays so homey? Is it the home-cooked meals, time with family and loved ones, traditions that we carry out, or a combination of all of these things?

Each and every family celebrates differently, with different dishes and recipes, and with their own individualized traditions. Here are a few of the favorite traditions of the members of the Thunderword editorial board:

One of our editors loves to decorate and sing during the holidays. She and her family put up their Christmas tree mere hours after finishing Thanksgiving dinner. Caroling, putting up lights, and decorating the tree are on the top of her Christmas list.

Holiday decorations help the spirit of the season catch fire and spread from house to house. Decorations can be as simple as a star on top of the Christmas tree, or as complex as a decked-out house and yard using up enough energy for the entire neighborhood.

Another of our editors does a white elephant gift exchange with her family every year. She enjoys opening the inexpensive gifts with her family and the random things that they end up with in the ensuing shuffle. It's funny how it works out that an under-aged person always gets the present that has to do with alcohol and everyone else fights over the Starbucks gift card, she said.

The favorite holiday tradition of another editor is opening one gift on Christmas Eve. This is a special event because all of the anticipation of opening gifts the next day is let go and it is much easier to enjoy the company of loved ones.

Whatever holiday tradition is your favorite, we feel that the most important piece of the holiday spirit is the company of people you care about and who care about you. Whether it be family or friends, it is important to spend time with those who truly have your best interest in mind and are truly interested in you.

Holidays are a time to re-center yourself around the ones who care for you. They are a time to look back on the year and decide what to keep and what to shed as you continue to grow as a person.

Nobody is perfect, but it doesn't hurt to try. Getting together with family and close friends can help us to realize the person who we want to be and work harder to achieve that perfect self.

As we join in the holiday season and celebrate our traditions, let us remember what is truly important: It's not about the presents that you get, or even the presents that you give, but rather about the time that you spend with those who care about you, and the experiences that you share.

Got something to say? Write to us

Do you have something you want to say to the student body? The Highline Thunderword is asking for students to voice their opinions on what matters to them. We're accepting submissions in the form of letters and columns.

Letters to the editor should be about 200 words, columns should be no more than 600 words. Send submissions to thunderword@highline.edu by Monday for print on Thursday.



Relieve anxiety before finals

Finals week is quickly approaching the Highline campus, leaving many stressed and even panicked as the week of tests nears.

Assignments continue to add up and there isn't enough time to study as the week of finals gets closer and closer. Stress builds and students begin to feel overwhelmed with their work load.

I've been at this point many times before and I can't help but think how much easier it would be if only I didn't have homework to worry about along with finals in each of my classes.

Many colleges observe a dead week before their finals and eliminate stress for their students by not having classes or assignments due.

At Washington State University, during dead week students still have classes, but no tests or assignments.

Central Washington University has a dead day the Monday before finals begin where there is no class across the entire campus.

A little bit farther from home, at Iowa State University dead week is a university-recognized event. There are no meetings of any campus organizations all week and the school dormitories have a mandatory 23/7 quiet hours policy so that students can focus and study.

Other universities have the tradition of a "primal scream"



Commentary
Micah Morrill

that takes place before finals that all of the students join in to relieve their stress before exams. Schools that participate in this tradition include Columbia University, Stanford, and Michigan State University.

At Yale and Grinnell College, students run through campus naked the week before finals to relieve stress during dead week.

I'm not saying that we need to run through Des Moines naked, even though I don't feel like it's a completely terrible idea, but I do feel like the school should have some type of stress relief that students could participate in before the week of finals.

The best solution would be similar to at Iowa State, no classes and no assignments, but even something as simple as an organized primal scream could help students feel better about the upcoming week of finals.

A difficulty that we encounter setting something like this

up at Highline is that fact that it is a non-residential campus, so students come and go as they need to for their classes and there is no particular best time when everyone could get together and yell in unison.

Regardless, something must be done. Even if not all students were present the tradition of a primal scream could still be instituted, or if the college isn't willing to give us an entire week off of school before finals for dead week then maybe they could give us the Thursday and Friday before the beginning of finals week to recuperate our minds for the approaching exams.

Having classes without assignments and tests the week before finals, as Washington State does, would also be an efficient way to give students a break. This would allow students to focus on studying instead of having to finish tedious assignments while they are stressed out about the tests to come.

If Highline adopted a dead week policy, student stress would be lowered dramatically. But sadly this quarter we have to deal with the stress on our own however we are able, so scream into a pillow, or organize your own naked run to reduce anxiety.

Whatever you do, get ready because finals week is almost here, and will arrive whether or not you are prepared.

The Staff“

E-Mail tword@highline.edu

I'll be right back, don't take my pills!

Editor-in-Chief Josh **Nelson**
Managing Editor Erika **Wigren**
News Editor Hien **Hong**
Arts Editors Shannon **Carter**, Joseph **Park**
Sports Editor Angela **Stone**
Opinion Editor Micah **Morrill**
Graphics Editors Krista **Rhea**, Luis **Battle**
Photo Editors Sherry **Holt**, Jasmine **Cawley**

Reporters Alannah Anderson, Racquel Arceo, Yordanos Beyene, Natalie Campbell, Kiya Dameron, Marques Dinapoli, Yuri Hoang, Ashley Larson, Tyler Persons, Alayna Pintar, Jacob Scott, Shon Torres, Rebecca Tripoli, Michelle Valdez, Brent VanWechel, Rajnish Walia

Photographers Virginia **Parenteau**
Business Managers Kaylee **Moran**, Erica **Moran**
Adviser Gene **Achziger**
PHO Dr. T.M. **Sell**

HOCUS - FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

FIND AT LEAST 6 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS.

Differences: 1. Bow is smaller. 2. Menu holder is missing. 3. Glass is missing. 4. Cap is different. 5. Light is missing. 6. Arm patch is missing.

© 2012 King Features Synd., Inc. All rights reserved.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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!

© 2012 King Features Synd., Inc.

Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. **TELEVISION:** What famous politician did Alex P. Keaton idolize on the show *Family Ties*?

2. **MUSIC:** Which 1970s song featured the line, “Jeremiah was a bullfrog”?

3. **LITERATURE:** What literary figure had a loyal companion named Sancho Panza?

4. **GEOGRAPHY:** What is the capital of Iowa?

5. **ANIMAL KINGDOM:** What are omnivores?

6. **LANGUAGE:** How many letters are in the Greek alphabet?

7. **ANATOMY:** How many pairs of ribs does a human body normally have?

8. **HISTORY:** In which year did the U.S. space shuttle first fly into orbit?

9. **FOOD:** What kind of food is mortadella?

10. **GAMES:** What is the movable device used in the

Crossword 101

By Pete Canty

The Lady Doth Protest

Across

1. Baby seals

5. “Did it ever _____ to you?”

10. Frayed

14. Mounted on

15. Effect partner

16. _____ vera

17. Roadway that was the site of a 2011 protest

19. Frees (of)

20. Like baseball’s Jackson

21. Like this answer?

23. “_____ so fast!”

24. Stack

25. Follows bar or area

27. Square that was the site of a 1989 protest

32. Notre Dame’s city

33. “The Lady _____”

34. Tenn. neighbor

35. Base’s opposite

36. Kind of fork

37. Space

38. Pi follower

39. Beat

40. Set straight

41. University that was the site of a 1970 protest

43. Ali, previously

44. Bankrolls

45. Anonymous John

46. Mexican bread

49. Emotionally damaging

54. Buffalo’s county

55. City that was the site of a 1963 protest

57. Ida. neighbor

58. Birth-related

59. New Rochelle, NY college

60. Singles

61. Smart-mouthed

62. Geezer

Down

1. Furry feet

2. Four Corners state

3. Explorer Marco

4. “Delightful!”

5. Santa’s reindeer, e.g.

6. Daytona entries

7. Pool tools

8. Wear and tear

9. Hired, as an attorney

10. President Harding

11. Miscellany

12. Curtain holders

13. Capone’s undoer

18. Tart fruits

22. Attired

24. March event?

25. Stockpile

26. Heavenly hunter

27. Pageant crowns

28. Estuary

29. Sharapova or Shriver

30. Poem of lament

31. Indian bread

32. Parallel follower

36. Some important meetings

37. Averse to, medically

39. Peter the Great, e.g.

40. Squirrel’s find

42. Twitter messages

45. Like some newspapers

46. Audition tape

47. Press

48. Supreme Court count

49. Former J.F.K. arrivals

50. Cartoonist Addams

51. “Was _____ loud?”

52. Taboo

53. Tiny picnic annoyance

56. Jumping org.?

Quotable Quote

It is the soldier who salutes the flag, serves beneath the flag, whose coffin is draped by the flag who gives that protester the freedom to abuse and burn that flag.

... Zell Miller

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

Even Exchange

by Donna Pettman

Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from MASTER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

1. Eavesdrop	_____ E _____	Boxer Sonny	_____ O _____
2. Lion’s group	P _____	Groom’s partner	B _____
3. Shoulder wrap	_____ O _____	Flair	_____ Y _____
4. Actress Smith	_____ G _____	Black-and-white bird	_____ P _____
5. Main bread ingredient	_____ U _____	Ceiling’s opposite	_____ O _____
6. Most peculiar	_____ D _____	First born	_____ L _____
7. Oscar or Emmy	_____ _____ D _____	Alert to	_____ _____ E _____
8. Small horses	_____ N _____	Garden blooms	_____ S _____
9. Box	_____ T _____	Long-necked bird	_____ N _____
10. Thin cookie	_____ F _____	Irrigate	_____ T _____

© 2012 King Features Synd., Inc.

game Ouija to spell out messages?

Answers:

1. Richard Nixon

2. *Joy to the World*, by Three Dog Night

3. Don Quixote

4. Des Moines

5. Animals that eat meat and vegetables

6. 24

7. 12

8. 1981

9. Italian sausage

10. A planchette

(c) 2012 King Features Synd., Inc.

Skis or board -- you won't get bored



Commentary Micah Morrill

To ski or to board -- that is the question.

I like skiing. It's exhilarating, it's freeing, you get to feel the wind whipping past your head.

I tried snowboarding once. I fell, a lot, and I can't risk that as long as I'm wrestling.

But boarding has its advantages. The equipment can be cheaper, and for some people, it's easier to learn.

My friend Kyle Fairbanks has done both, and now he prefers boarding.

Fairbanks has been skiing for "about 12 or 13 years. Since I was 5," he said. He is now 18.

"My family skis a lot. My dad has been skiing since he was a little kid. He took my brother, sister and I up and we would ski together as a family," Fairbanks said.

Although Fairbanks started off skiing, he eventually switched to snowboarding and has been doing that, "for about seven years," he said.

Fairbanks likes boarding better than skiing because, "backcountry is more fun, it's easier to hike in those [snowboarding] boots, and I can do a lot of cool tricks on it," said Fairbanks.

His favorite memory while snowboarding was, "up at Sun Peaks in Canada. My brother was going down a run with my dad and he hit a jump and went headfirst into pow," Fairbanks said.

Pow is a term used to refer to powder, or powdery snow by winter sports enthusiasts.

I have been a patron of Stevens Pass for the most of my skiing life and can't complain about the winter terrain that they offer skiers and boarders alike.

Whether you're more into skating or a skateboard the change of the season is no reason to hang up your adventurous side. Time for some pow!

Micah hopes that someday snowbunnies don't flee him.

T-Birds prepare for tournament

By **BRENT VANWECHEL**
Staff Reporter

It is still more than a month away, but Highline's women's basketball team is already getting fired up for the regular season.

The women are continuing to grow as a team as they play in tournaments and scrimmages. They've played in three jamboree games and two scrimmages to date with more in the near future.

With five games already down, they are beginning to understand what the season has in store.

"The preseason has been good. It's been a learning experience for the whole team," said freshman center Alexandra Jenkins. "[Our goal is to] show teams in our league that Highline's women's basketball is a well-known, strong team," she said.

The team missed the playoffs last year by a single game, which was the first season in four years that they hadn't made it into the postseason.

"Preseason is going well. We have lost a few of the last games, but they were very close. [We're] just getting our chemistry. We want to win the NWAACC [championship]," said freshman guard Victoria Elleby.

They are working their way toward that goal with a five more competitions within the month of December in preparation for the season opener in January.

This coming weekend, Nov. 30-Dec. 2, the women will play in the Bellevue College Tournament at Bellevue College.

The tournament is a bracket style, so the whole schedule is determined on who wins and who loses. Big Bend, Bellevue, Green River, Mt. Hood, NW Indian, Skagit Valley, Umpqua, and Highline are all entered. The Thunderbirds' first game is against Mt. Hood on Friday at 6 p.m.

After this tournament, the Thunderbirds travel to Whatcom to take on the Orcas on Saturday, Dec. 8. That game is



Sherry Holt/THUNDERWORD

Sophomore Brianna Fiso works on her shooting baskets during practice.

set to tip-off at 2 p.m.

The next week, the Thunderbirds host the Highline Crossover Tournament from Dec. 14-16. The teams include Blue Mountain, Chemeketa, Everett, Grays Harbor, Olympic, Portland, Walla Walla, and of course, Highline. Highline hosts Portland at 5 p.m. on that Friday, Dec. 14.

With a scrimmage against Olympic College in Bremerton and a tournament at

Chemeketa Community College in Salem, Ore. finishing up a busy December, the Thunderbirds will have had around 15 games to gear up and ready themselves for the regular season.

The regular season begins on Wednesday, Jan. 2 at Green River at 6 p.m. and the first home game is Saturday, Jan. 5 against Clark at 1 p.m. in the Pavilion.

Ex-Thunderbird finds success in cage

By **MICAH MORRILL**
Staff Reporter

Former Highline wrestler Anthony Hamilton has used the skills that he learned in college wrestling to transition into the world of mixed martial arts.

This Saturday, Dec. 1, he has a fight against Bill Wilder as part of CageSport XXII at the Emerald Queen Casino in Fife.

"I was there [at Highline] from '99 to 2001," said Hamilton. "I was an All-American in 2000 at Heavyweight," placing seventh at the national tournament.

After finishing his collegiate wrestling career he began training in mixed martial arts, also known as MMA.

"My first fight was in '09, but I've been training since 2007," Hamilton said. Since then he has had 13 fights.

"I went 4-0 as an amateur and am 7-2 as a pro so far," he said.

Hamilton said that his wrestling background has really helped in MMA.

"The way that wrestling is set up, starting on your feet and then you go to



Anthony Hamilton, former Highline wrestler, defeated Kyle Welch by unanimous decision during CageSport XII.

the ground, is the same as fighting," said Hamilton. "My wrestling experience has really put me in a position to win, even in the two fights that I lost."

"Wrestling is the greatest and toughest sport that there is; without it I probably wouldn't even be fighting," Hamilton said.

This Saturday Hamilton will be fighting for the now vacant CageSport Heavyweight title. He is coming off of a knock-

out victory over Mike Riddel on Nov. 3. The fight only lasted seven seconds before Hamilton landed the knockout.

Wilder, who is based out of California, is coming off of a unanimous decision victory in Oct. when he beat Josh McPherson.

"He [Wilder] doesn't really have any outstanding skills," said Hamilton, but "he's a tough guy."

"I think the most important thing is just being in shape so that I can last as many rounds as it takes to win the fight," he said.

The Hamilton-Wilder fight will be one of 10 fights featured in CageSport XXII, which will also include a bout between undefeated featherweight champion Julian Erosa (9-0) and Drew Brokenshire (7-3) for the CageSport featherweight title.

Doors will open at the Emerald Queen this Saturday at 6 p.m. and the first fight will begin at 7. Tickets can be purchased for \$35, \$55 or \$100 depending on the level of seating.

For more information or to purchase tickets visit halquistproductions.com.

Thunderbirds take down alumni

By **JACOB SCOTT**
Staff Reporter

Age proved to outmatch experience as the men's basketball team defeated Highline alumni 93-85 in a scrimmage on Nov. 24.

Brandon Brown, Kelly Edwards and Zach Bruce put on a strong display for the Alumni squad, which took on the current Thunderbird roster.

Even though the current team won by eight points, the game statistics would have one thinking otherwise.

The alumni had fewer points off turnovers but had more rebounds and more points off the bench.

While the 2012/13 roster dominated its opponent with second chance points and three pointers, the rest of the statistics show the game being close but giving the alumni a slight edge.

But stat sheets do not win games.

The first half started slowly and finished with the Alumni in the lead 37-35 but once the second half started, the Thunderbirds made their mark.

Starting the second half like they had something to prove, the Thunderbirds quickly found the rhythm to their play on offense and defense.

Successfully finding the baskets the Thunderbirds needed on the attack while effectively shutting down their opponents.

While only scoring 35 points in the first half, they nearly doubled that in the second with 58 points.

The Alumni also improved from their first half of play but were limited to scoring 48 points as the Thunderbirds enabled their lockdown defense.

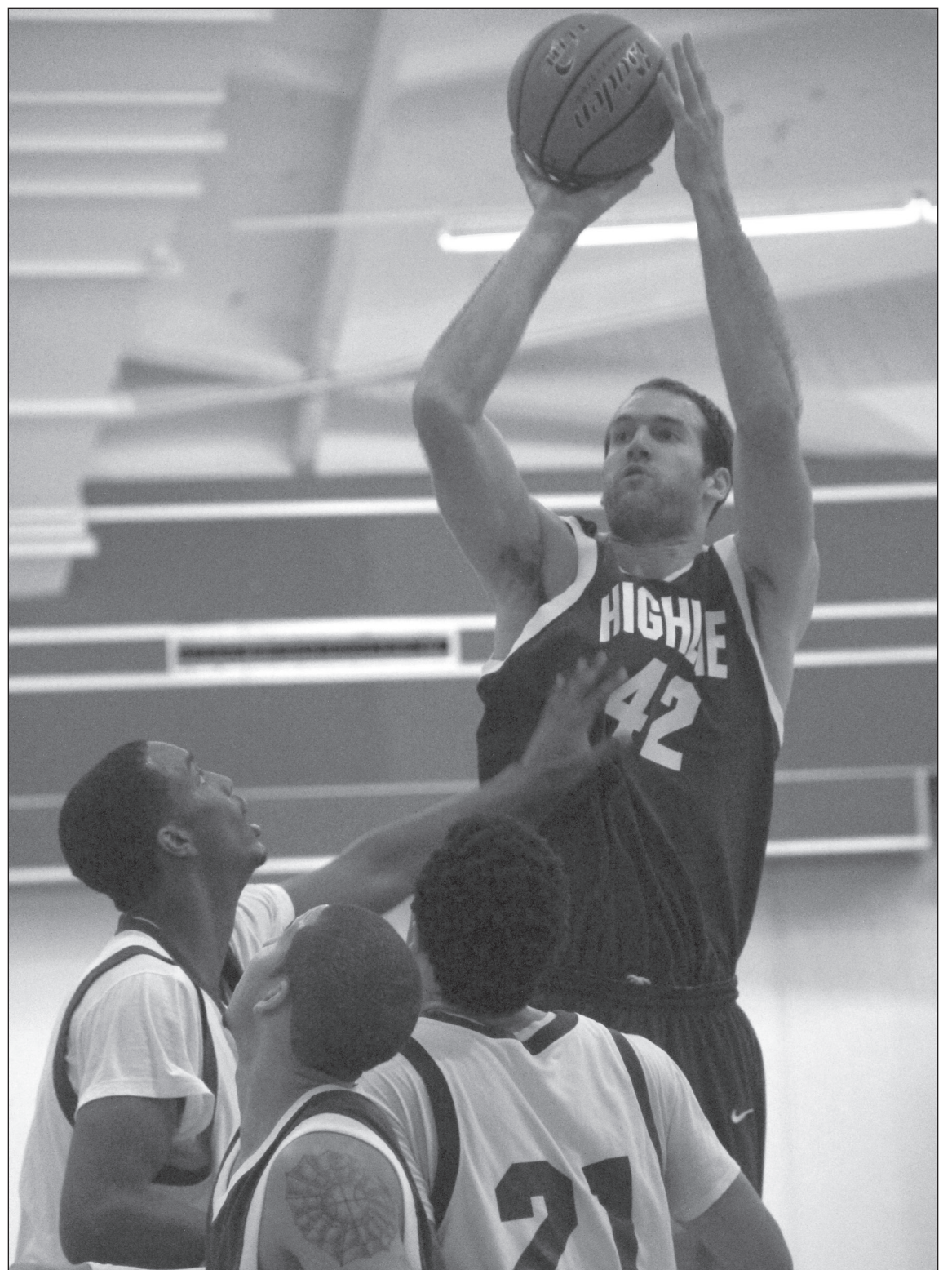
For the Alumni, Kelly Edwards scored a total of 22 points and finished with 5 rebounds while Brandon Brown scored a total of 20 points and had four steals and two assists.

Abdi Mohamed proved to be a huge factor in the Thunderbirds' performance as he played for a total of 31 minutes, knocked down all his shots from the foul line and finished the game with 25 points, 14 rebounds and three assists.

Ira Haywood also made an impact for the current squad with his 20 points and 6 rebounds.

Highline is midway through the Pre-Divisional games, as they travel to Whatcom on Nov. 30 to take on the Orcas.

Dec. 1 the T-Birds play the North West Indian College in the Pavilion at 3 p.m. They travel on Dec. 5 play Everett.



Sherry Holt/THUNDERWORD

An alumni basketball player attempts to make a basket on Highline's current basketball team on Saturday afternoon, in the Pavilion.

Wrestling Schedule

The Highline wrestling team takes on Pacific University on Dec. 2 in Forest Grove, Ore.

Then Highline will host the dual against Southwest Oregon Community College on Dec. 9 at 3 p.m.


Highline will host three more duals in January.

A dual against Pacific takes place on Jan. 5 at 7 p.m.

A dual against Clackamas takes place on Jan. 11 at 7 p.m.

A dual against North Idaho College takes place on Jan. 17 at 7 p.m.

The rest of the wrestling duals are scheduled to take place at the rivals' school.



RECYCLE YOUR BOOKS FOR CASH

December 10th-14th

Monday	8:30am - 6:00pm
Tuesday	8:30am - 6:00pm
Wednesday	8:30am - 4:00pm
Thursday	8:30am - 4:00pm
Friday	8:30am - 2:00pm

The official Highline Bookstore buyback - where your dollars stay on campus

Rental textbooks and electronics are due December 14th

photos by Jasmine Cawley/
THUNDERWORD



Highline Visual Communications instructor and alumna Laura Worthington, center, enjoys the opportunity to interact with students and continues to teach here despite her much more lucrative career as a professional type designer. Her latest font, used on this page, is named “Hummingbird.”



Lady of Letters

Despite successful career in type design, Laura Worthington continues to bring her sense of style to Highline

By **JOSEPH PARK**
Staff Reporter

Laura Worthington entered a conference room holding a Tory Burch clutch. She was wearing a blue blouse and a welcoming smile that inspired a sense of business casual. Design is important to this lady of letters.

Worthington teaches visual communications at Highline, but off campus she is a font designer.

She sat in one of the rotating chairs and nostalgically reminisced, “I went to college at Highline. I took a couple of extra classes sort of here and there at the Seattle Academy of Fine Arts in figure drawing and painting. Other than that, I’m a Highline alumnus.”

The Burberry fan revealed that she owns a Fendi Big Mama purse, a wardrobe item, she said, that is “a must have.”

Her Fendi purse is not the only object she adores. Worthington also

loves her job, which includes breaking down, building up, and rearranging the architecture of the English alphabet.

Actually, that was an understatement. Designing typefaces is not just a trade.

For Worthington, it is a unique craft.

“As a type designer, I feel like my job is to give a visual voice to words and allow people to express themselves more effectively,” Worthington said.

She is constructing her first custom font for a Fortune 500 company. She estimated such fonts can easily cost as much as \$40,000.

Worthington is one out of 70 or so people worldwide who make a living by designing typesets.

There are three ways font designers can make money. One method is to send one’s work to an online distributor, such as myfonts.com or fonts.com, and receive royalties.

The other two ways are to either sell custom typefaces or large licenses to companies.

“I’m on the retail sales side of type design,” Worthington said.

Her most recent published work, called Hummingbird, was released a few months ago. She said that she

is extremely proud of the finished product.

Worthington describes Hummingbird on myfonts.com as, “Reminiscent of old-fashioned cursive penmanship, the sort learned by endless repetition and found in treasured letters bundled together by silken ribbons or in worn leather-bound ledgers.”

“It was by far one of my most difficult ones, because I started getting into this idea that I wanted to make a natural, flowing, organic, font,” Worthington said.

Part of the difficulty of building Hummingbird was battling writer’s block (or more like letter’s block), she said.

“When I’m struggling to get through, I either skip to something different or take a break,” Worthington said. “After a couple of days I’ll say, ‘you have to figure this out. You can’t keep avoiding this problem. You have to make this work.’ Sometimes you have to be that bully.”

Worthington said that the average time to develop a font takes around 300 hours – a long and iterative process.

“A lot of times [inspiration] come from lettering practice. I just sit down with [a] pencil, [a] pen, or brush, or whatever, and just start drawing words,” she said.

“I might find a word inspiring, and I letter that. As I go through, I usually will find something and go ‘Oh I

love this style. I have to make a font out of this.”

When it comes to work, Worthington is tough – an attribute seemingly tucked away by her bubbly personality.

“Laura is a very unique individual in a lot of ways.

She is blessed with an incredible work ethic; she works very hard and takes a lot of pride in her work,” said Gary Nelson, Visual Communications Department coordinator at Highline.

Nelson has known Worthington since she was in high school. She became one of his students and she considers him as her mentor and lifelong friend.

Browse through Worthington’s portfolio on myfonts.com and lettering students can find a familiar name.

It is no coincidence when they discover a typeface named Nelson, because Worthington named one of her fonts to honor the soon-to-retire instructor.

“There’s no better way to honor the person who opened the door to type design for me then to design and name a typeface after him,” Worthington said.

“I wanted to design something that would reflect Gary’s personality – artistic, masculine, rugged, [and] interesting with a lot of distinctive details and personality.”

In response, Nelson said that he feels privileged by Worthington’s tribute.

“There are a lot of fonts and types out there, but like most things, less than 10 percent of them are really good, and that’s where she’s at. She’s among the best in the United States – probably the best in the world,” he said.

When teaching, one can see Worthington standing behind her desk as high priestess – her long brunette locks perfectly draping the shoulders like a nun’s cap.

Her eyes enthusiastically reflect the projector’s gleam as she lectures before the class.

“She is a rock star in the font design community,” said Valerie Thompson, a former student of Worthington and an owner of a graphics and web design firm

called Highline Design Alliance.

“Laura strives to give her students as much applicable industry information as possible in the time she has with them,” said Thompson.

“She wants her students to be prepared and informed as they move into the visual communications industry.”

Worthington does not hide her passion. One can tell that she is eternally devoted to the art of typography. She possessed this kind of zeal even as a toddler.

“You know it’s really funny, when I was a little girl, I always knew that I would be an artist,” Worthington said. “I remember being 5 years old, standing in the kitchen, and saying to my dad: ‘I’m going to be an artist.’”

As a joke her father asked if she planned on living as a starving artist, but he supported Worthington’s early career choice nonetheless.

“My dad was the one who told me, [I] should get a degree in graphic design,” she said. “I had never known that field even existed, and he was the one who brought that up.”

When she was 9 years old, Worthington said that she received her first calligraphy lessons from a “hippie” teacher who introduced a style of handwriting that was based off of 15th century italics.

“I don’t know what it was, I just loved it, just watching her draw the forms on the chalkboard this beautiful thing.”

Worthington’s brightly polished nails danced in midair as she imitated the strokes of her first calligraphy lesson.

“My mom was taking a calligraphy class at the same time – a night class at a community college. I swiped some of her calligraphy pens and paper. She’d be always looking for them.”

In pursuit of quenching her artistic thirst, Worthington worked fulltime as a graphic designer while sketching letters on the side.

In 2005, Worthington transitioned out of her fulltime

job to become a freelance graphic designer, which she did for about five years.

She then published her first font.

The outcome exceeded her expectations. As if time travelling back at that exact moment when she found out about the success of her debut font, Worthington’s eyes widened as she said, “The sales from fonts took over.”

Worthington sees herself as a financially conservative person.

“I’m also a risk taker. I take calculated, educated, risks,” she said. “I saw the sales continue to get better and better. I was making more, so literally after nine months of designing my first font, I became a fulltime font designer.”

She has not looked back at her graphic design career ever since.

What is next for Worthington? Worthington said that she wants to eventually design fonts for foreign languages.

“It’s going really well for me, [but] I’m not trying to focus on that too hard because I don’t know all of the possibilities, so I’m keeping my options open.”

It has been 15 years since she graduated from Highline. Even after earning her dream job, Worthington still graces the college site with her presence.

She enjoys seeing students learn and expand their outlooks on life.

“It is fun to watch them put the various pieces of their design education together and watch them grow and expand their knowledge base from what I’ve taught them,” she said.

“Overall, the community here feels welcoming and comfortable, easy to adjust to for new students, and I always feel at home when I’m on campus. Plus, being able to teach in the same classrooms I was once a student in is awesome.”

Hip Hop Club receives center stage

By **MICHELLE VALDEZ**
Staff Reporter

Highline's Hip Hop Club is graduating to the main stage.

Students from the club have been granted usage of the stage area in Building 8 on the first floor in the Student Union for dance sessions, according to Donna Longwell, Highline Hospitality Services manager.

The club's dance sessions had occurred in the hallway near the restrooms at the Student Union but that proved problematic.

"As the dancing became more and more popular, the space at the bottom of the stairs became a safety hazard," said Longwell. "And when we had groups in the Mt. Constance Room, the music was bothering them. It became imperative to find a spot that would fill everyone's needs and the stage seemed like a perfect solution. Now the dancers have their own place except when there are events in the Mt. Townsend Dining Room," she said.

Now the tables and chairs have been removed from the main stage for them to practice dancing. Not only members from the club dance on the stage, but also non-club members who do dance, those who want to learn how to dance or just watch are welcome to join them.

Hip Hop dancing is a unique form of dancing done by combining one's style with the freedom of movement through the influence of hip hop components. Much like gymnastics,

some of them employ athletics.

The Highline Hip Hop Club attracts new students every quarter who seek companionship with other dancers, said Donovan Smolich, club vice president.

"It's a place where we can just unite everyone and each other," said Smolich.

The group started when he practiced dancing alone and there were students who wanted to learn. The group had grown when he established a dance session.

Students start new friendships through the dance sessions including with those who do not dance, said Smolich.

"It became a club where everyone just wants to dance or want to hang out," said Smolich, "So the dance sessions are also a way to feel and be accepted."

"The club represents more than just hip hop," said Adrian Lim, club member. "Looking at it from another perspective, it's a family of people. The reason why I like this club is because the people in it are an interesting bunch. They know how to have fun through dancing and it's a great place to seek enjoyment, self-expression and to just hang out. Everyone is friendly and supportive of what the others do. If I were to recommend a club to any person, it would have to be this club," he said.

Because of the club, improvement in dancing is enhanced. There are new moves taught and learned every day that inspire others to contrib-



Virginia Parenteau/ THUNDERWORD

Ryan Jackson, Asha Salim and Donovan Smolich dancing in Building 8.

ute their own dance choreographies, said Danilo Caoagdan, club member.

"I love the Hip Hop Club," said Erika Malubuy. "It's because we can further build the hip hop community in Washington since Washington is not yet well known worldwide for dancing. It also makes all of us happy to get to know more people that have the same hobbies."

"I like the club because everybody is so accepting, everybody's community-based, we all get along and love to dance," said another member, Michael Fields.

The club is a good place for interaction between people as well as uniting dancers. It is a good community group, which makes it like a family, said member Tom Duong.

Spectators who recognize the group acknowledge their dance moves.

The group treats students

who watch and dance like a part of the group right away, said James Seryonga, a spectator.

Dancers who are a part of the group are impressive. There will be dances that involve spinning on their heads and it's become entertaining to watch, said another spectator, Shugri Kariye.

"I'd like to see them perform a show for all of us," said Kariye.

The Highline Hip Hop Club will be hosting an open mic event on Dec. 6. There will be performances from those who not only express oneself in dancing, but in music, singing, rapping, poetry, and or spoken word. The open mic event will be in Building 17, room 204 from 1:15 to 3:30 p.m. and there also will be games, food and beverages for anyone who comes to support.

"Even if you like to rap, and or even if you enjoy hip hop, this club is basically that – not

only to encourage dancing," said Smolich, "So in a positive way, it's also a group where people can express themselves."

Every year the Highline Hip Hop Club has been hosting a dance competition event in the Student Union. This upcoming January or February, the event will have break dance battles as well as featuring well-known dancers to show off their moves.

"It's nice to have the dance competitions because everybody in the state can come together to express ourselves and have fun," said Smolich. "That's what hip hop is all about – and what the club is also all about."

Outside of school, club members discuss plans to go on field trips to dancing events in the state, centers that are for dancing, centers that are for gymnastics and Sky High – a center designed to bounce on trampolines with 360 degrees of trampoline walls.

K-Pop will be dancing in the new year

By **MICHELLE VALDEZ**
Staff Reporter

Highline's K-Pop dancing will be performing at Highline's Lunar New Year festivities next quarter.

The K-Pop Dance Group will perform a choreographed dance for the Vietnamese Student Association (VSA) from the K-Pop song, "Stop Girl" by U-Kiss. The performance is going to be the at the VSA's Tet and Xuan festivals around the Lunar New Year in the beginning of February 2013.

Last year, the club danced for the Latino Student Association, Asian – Pacific Islander Association and VSA. This is its second year performing for its audiences.

The K-Pop Dance Group's goal is to spread Korean culture through Korean pop dancing and music.



Corey Sun/THUNDERWORD

Highline's K-Pop Club, left, members Sarah Kim (left), Jonathan Bd, Miyuki Sawada, Matt Toentino, Maiko Murakami and Elizabeth Ong performed at the Xuan Festival last winter.

"Some people come here because they are interested in K-Pop," said Sarah Kim, K-Pop Dance Group president and choreographer, "and I have had a few members who thought it was more of the singing. But it is just K-Pop in general. So

if they're not into the whole dance aspect of K-Pop, we also do listen to it, discuss it, and sing about it."

This year, the club has seen a growth in members compared to last year and Kim considers that an accomplishment in itself.

"We all feel like family," said Kim. "We all can connect and we all have so much fun. We don't just learn the dances and say goodbye; but we also hang out, have movie nights and have potlucks. We all just feel like a family rather than a club."

The dance the K-Pop Dance Group is performing is simple and adaptable for the students who have not learned K-Pop dances and students who have learned and been with the group for the past year, said Kim.

In their practices, they come and wait for everyone to arrive before they start practicing the choreography. When people have trouble, Kim is always available to offer individual help. When there are moves that are too difficult for the members to learn, Kim will change it up, consulting the

other members as to what they feel most comfortable doing.

"Even though we're trying to have serious practices, we're still having fun with it," said Ryan Poquiz. "And that's what I like about the practices. We got time to have fun and also practice enough so we'll be ready for what's going to happen."

The practices are on Mondays and Fridays from 2 to 4 p.m. in at the Student Union (Building 8) and or in Building 10, room 101. Monday practices are for those who want to perform and those who want to just learn the dance, and Fridays practices are for those who just want to perform.

"It's a lot of fun and a great experience so far," said Poquiz. "You get close with everyone since we all have common interests."

Local zoo and aquarium warms citizens' hearts using dazzling Christmas lights

By KIYA DAMERON
Staff Reporter

Even after the sun has gone down for the holiday season, Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium in Tacoma continues to shine brightly.

Every holiday season for the past 25 years, the zoo has hosted its annual Zoolights, which usually starts after Thanksgiving and runs through the first two days of January.

This year the event runs from Nov. 23 to Jan. 1, but will be on closed Christmas Eve.

Zoolights will be open from 5 to 9 p.m. and the price of admission is \$8.50 at the front gate.

Tickets purchased online or at a Fred Meyers store cost \$7.25. Children age 2 and younger are admitted free.

There will be "more than a half-million lights," according to pdza.org.

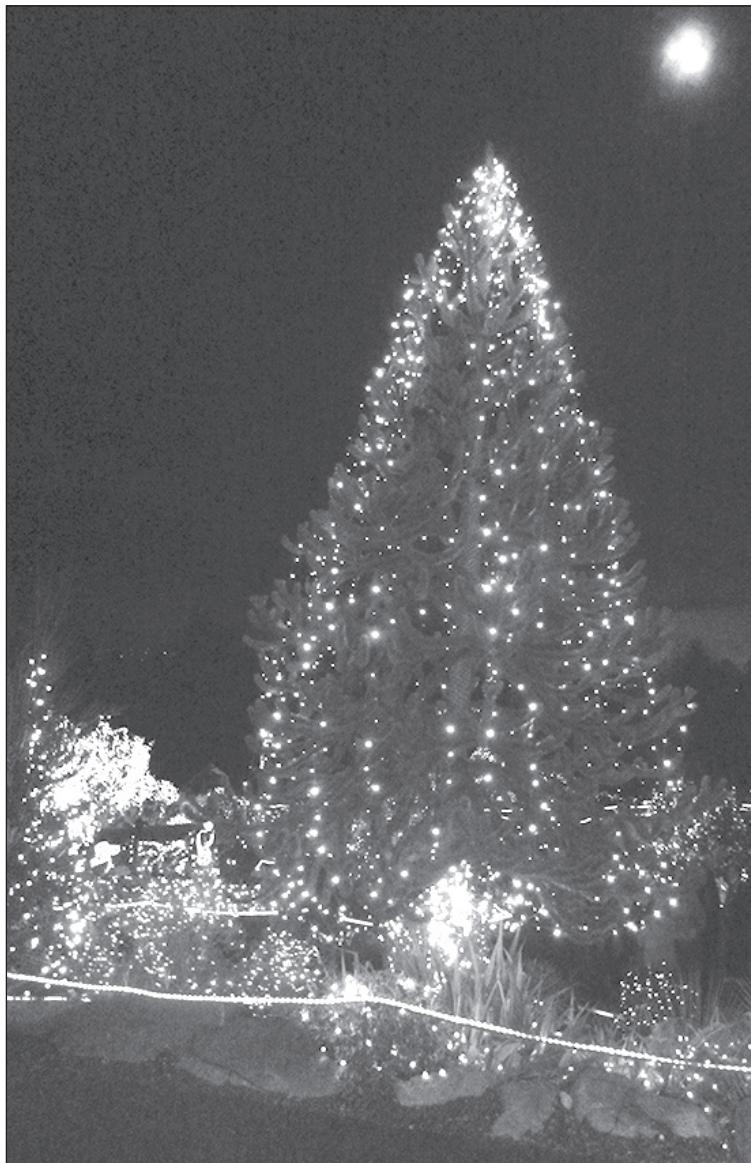
Dan, a first time visitor to the Zoolights who refused to give his last name, came from Spokane and said the lights were awesome.

His family said that they came a long time ago and that "it [has] changed completely – more lights and everything."

Dan said that he would "definitely" return.

He said that his favorite attraction was the purple and green tree, "It's just amazing how many lights there are on it."

The purple and green tree also known as the Flame Tree uses 30,000 lights on it alone



Kiya Dameron/THUNDERWORD

Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium in Tacoma showcases various decorations from Christmas trees, pandas, coyotes and more.

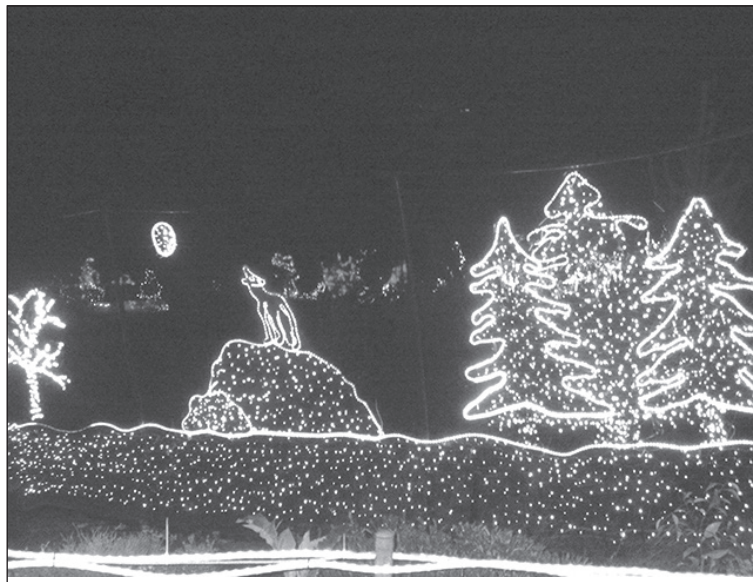
said Amanda, a gift shop worker at the zoo who declined to give her last name.

She said, "People are happy being here, even though it's freezing outside."

"The nights seem to be busier just in the four hours then they are during the sum-

mer on a Saturday during the day," she said.

Other depictions in lights at Zoolights this year include: camels, tiger cubs, a panda eating leaves, fish above the aquarium, trees, whales, a lighted Mount Rainer, a rainbow, and a Christmas tree.



Argosy Christmas Ship delivers Santa Claus and games to MaST Center and Redondo Beach

By ALAYNA PINTAR
Staff Reporter

By land or by sea, holiday revelers will descend upon Redondo and the Marine Science and Technology Center (MaST Center) on Dec. 5 for the annual visitation of the Argosy Christmas Ship.

The MaST Center will be open to the public from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. in anticipation of the Christmas Ship arrival at 8:55 p.m. Admission to the MaST Center is free.

Salty's, the restaurant along side the MaST Center, will be offering light refreshments and warm drinks.

The MaST Center is at 28203 Redondo Beach Dr. S.

The Christmas Ship will dock at the Des Moines Marina and board passengers at 6:30 p.m. Passengers will have the opportunity to take pictures with Santa.

"The ship will depart at 7 p.m. and cruise to Browns Point where the choir will perform a concert, singing for the passengers and to the onshore audience," said Maureen Black, a representative for Argosy Cruises.

"We'll then cruise to Redondo and give another concert to those gathered onshore."

The ships will anchor off shore and broadcast a scheduled concert featuring the Rainier Youth Choir-Consonare singing a collection of holiday

music.

The Redondo program runs from 8:55 to 9:15 p.m.

Following the Christmas Ship will be the Argosy Parade Boat accompanied by local boaters who chose to decorate their boats and participate in the parade.

Passengers can either choose to dine with their family on the main Christmas Ship or the Parade Boat.

"Pre-ordered boxed meals are available for purchase online, costing between \$10 and \$15, including main dishes such as clam chowder, Brazilian grilled steak, and a Farmer's Market salad," said Black.

Boxed meals also include a drink ticket for a free coffee,

tea, or soda, along with a fresh fruit cup and cookie.

From a meet and greet with Santa Claus to adult games, passengers have an array of activities that they can choose to participate.

"Activities include contests like the Ho-ho-ho contest where passengers compete to see who can sound the most like Santa Claus," said Black.

The festival will not only bring communities together, but it will also rekindle family ties.

The Des Moines Parks and Recreations will be hosting a bonfire along Redondo Beach north of Salty's for people to hang out and enjoy the parade.

"We usually expect [large]

crowds of people to show up at the bonfire," said Cassie Swan, a Des Moines Recreation specialist.

Parking and seating spots for the bonfires are limited, so prospective attendees should show up early.

Those interested in cruising on the Argosy Christmas Ship can book tickets online on the Argosy Cruise website argosycruises.com, under the Theme Cruises/Christmas Ship Schedule tab.

Dec. 5 is Value Night, so tickets cost \$25 for adults and \$12 for youth compared to \$35 and \$19.

For more information, visit argosycruises.com or call (206) 622-8687.



• **Highline Chorale Concert.** The concert is on Thursday Nov. 29 in Building 7. It will feature songs from Wicked the Musical and there will be two performances. One at noon, and the other at 7 p.m. Admission is free.

• **Cinderella.** Holiday production by Centerstage Theatre, done in the 'English Holiday Pantomime' style. Various dates and times through Dec. 23. Admission cost is \$28 for seniors, \$28 for military, and \$10 ages 25 and younger. The theater will perform on Friday, Nov. 30, at 7 p.m. Look at Knutzen Family Theater website to see full schedule.

• **Movie Fridays.** Meets almost every Friday for a low-key non-credit class through Extended Learning. The International Student Programs tries to select films that are both entertaining and good for discussion afterwards. This Friday, Nov. 30, ISP will present *The Nightmare Before Christmas* at 12:30 p.m.

• **Music Matters in Federal Way.** The conductor series *A Christmas Party with the Symphony* starts Dec. 2. A mix of holiday classics, festive orchestra works, and great singers. Includes a video of the Nutcracker accompanied by the Federal Way Symphony. More events and ticket prices can be found at federalwaysymphony.org.

• **Saint Lucia Pageant.** Candlelit pageant which re-enacts the story of St. Lucia, complete with live Nordic music and refreshments. Children are invited to take part in the procession; practice for this event is at 1 p.m. Event officially begins on Sunday, Dec. 2, 2 p.m. Admission is free.

• **The Nutcracker by Evergreen City Ballet.** The whole family can enjoy this magical production of The Nutcracker. Their period production includes the beautifully costumed party scene, the traditional Madame Bon Bon, Mice that dance in front of audience members and the gorgeous Snow Scene and the Waltz of the Flowers. The performance schedule for this production is 1:30 and 7:30 p.m. Dec. 8, 1:30 and 5:30 p.m. Dec. 9. \$12 to \$31. Visit evergreencityballet.org for more information.

• **I'll Be Home for Christmas.** Annual family-friendly Christmas concert from ChoralSounds Northwest. 7:30 p.m. Dec. 8, 2 p.m. Dec. 9. \$15 to \$25, free ages 17 and younger with paying adult. Location is at Highline Performing Arts Center.

• **Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Christmas Carol.** After being presumed dead for three years, a hardened Sherlock Holmes resurfaces, turning his back on the people who need him most. Three unexpected callers arrive on Christmas Eve uncovering clues from the detective's past, present, and future. Show runs from Nov. 23-Dec. 29; previews run on Nov. 16 and 17.

• **The Gingerbread Boy.** Set in a magical world of candy, cookies and ice cream. Too much spice is added to the batter and the Gingerbread Boy stops the production of holiday goodies. Visit centerstagetheatre.com for more information.

Local singer honors war veterans with newly released music video

By TYLER PERSONS
Staff Reporter

With more than 60,000 views on YouTube, singer and songwriter David Reynolds has touched the hearts of families across America with his music video, "In Full Uniform."

"This video is a tribute to anyone who has ever served for their country. Our goal was to make a modern music video in tribute to Veterans of the Armed Forces," said Reynolds.

The video has been widely commented on by veterans via YouTube, and shared on Facebook hundreds of times.

Highline is currently in the process of establishing a Veterans Club for next fall.

"Videos like this will definitely be discussed and appreciated during meetings of the Veterans Club," said potential member, and Highline student, Evan Pitzner.

Highline has a large number of students who have served or are serving the United States military.

"I really liked it. The song has a quiet intensity about it. It has a dignity and feeling to it that kind of gives off what it's like serving in the military,"



Singer David Reynolds performs on stage playing the guitar; he is a singer and songwriter.

said former Marine, retired coast guardsman, and Highline student and veteran Shon Torres.

"You put your heart in to it. You don't have to be loud about

it. It's just done."

As a young man with roots on the coast of Washington state, Reynolds moved to Alaska in search of adventure and inspiration.

He was a commercial fisherman and carpenter by day and songwriter by night.

"I began performing at the Ketchikan bars and coffee shops, where I eventually achieved a hearty following, and wrote enough songs for a record," said Reynolds.

Reynolds recorded his first project *Partial to Blue* and it was an instant success.

He has performed locally, regionally, and is now touring the United States.

"My writing comes from my life experience. I have lived for long periods of time with absolute joy in my heart, and I have also endured tragedies. People can relate to that. In the end, I believe that we can use our minds and energy to do great things," said Reynolds.

Reynolds' fan base and support group have been growing exponentially.

He released *Evergreen* in 2012, and is now working on a full-length album.

"If you like classic rock, folk music, the blues, or you just like the sound of a guy singing with an acoustic guitar, then you probably should give my music a listen. You won't be sorry," said Reynolds.

'Elf' brings Christmas joy through song, dance and tight pantaloons

By ASHLEY LARSON
Staff Reporter

Buddy the elf is coming to 5th Avenue Theater.

Elf the Musical is going to be playing at the 5th Avenue Theater for the Christmas season from Nov. 30 to Dec. 31.

Tickets are from \$15 to \$55 depending on the seat and there are matinee and evening show times.

Just like the hit blockbuster film, Buddy leaves his life in the North Pole to go to the big city in search of his real father.

He is shocked to find out that there is a lack of Christmas spirit all around him.

Buddy discovers that his father has married a woman with a son who does not believe in the existence of Santa Claus.

Buddy then decides it is his moral duty to reinstall Christmas spirit back into his reality stricken family

Audiences will find out as this Christmas favorite opens

in the Emerald City.

Matt Owen (Buddy), Kendra Kassebaum (Jovie), and Séan G. Griffin (Santa) all star in this up and coming family musical.

The artistic director and executive director of 5th Avenue Theatre is David Armstrong.

This show will take audiences on a journey as Buddy tries to figure out how to live life in

the city and bring Christmas joy to everyone.

Spoiler alert: Buddy will also unexpectedly find true love as he tries to restore holiday cheer.

Puzzle Answers:

THE LADY DOTH PROTEST

P	U	P	S		O	C	C	U	R		W	O	R	N
A	T	O	P		C	A	U	S	E		A	L	O	E
W	A	L	L	S	T	R	E	E	T		R	I	D	S
S	H	O	E	L	E	S	S		A	C	R	O	S	S
		N	O	T				P	I	L	E			
	C	O	D	E		T	I	A	N	A	N	M	E	N
P	A	R	I	S		I	N	R	E	D		A	L	A
A	C	I	D		S	A	L	A	D		A	R	E	A
R	H	O		T	I	R	E	D		A	L	I	G	N
K	E	N	T	S	T	A	T	E		C	L	A	Y	
			W	A	D	S				D	O	E		
D	I	N	E	R	O		S	C	A	R	R	I	N	G
E	R	I	E		W	A	S	H	I	N	G	T	O	N
M	O	N	T		N	A	T	A	L		I	O	N	A
O	N	E	S		S	A	S	S	Y		C	O	O	T

Even Exchange answers

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Listen, Liston | 6. Oddest, Oldest |
| 2. Pride, Bride | 7. Award, Aware |
| 3. Stole, Style | 8. Ponies, Posies |
| 4. Maggie, Magpie | 9. Crate, Crane |
| 5. Flour, Floor | 10. Wafer, Water |

Weekly SUDOKU Answer

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

Tutoring Center gives students tips for finals

By **NATALIE CAMPBELL**
Staff Reporter

With finals nearing, the Tutoring Center at Highline is offering help to students who are having a difficult time studying for finals or just need a better understanding of certain subjects.

Felicia Salcedo, lead tutor who focuses on biology and chemistry, has listed some tips to help students prepare and study for finals.

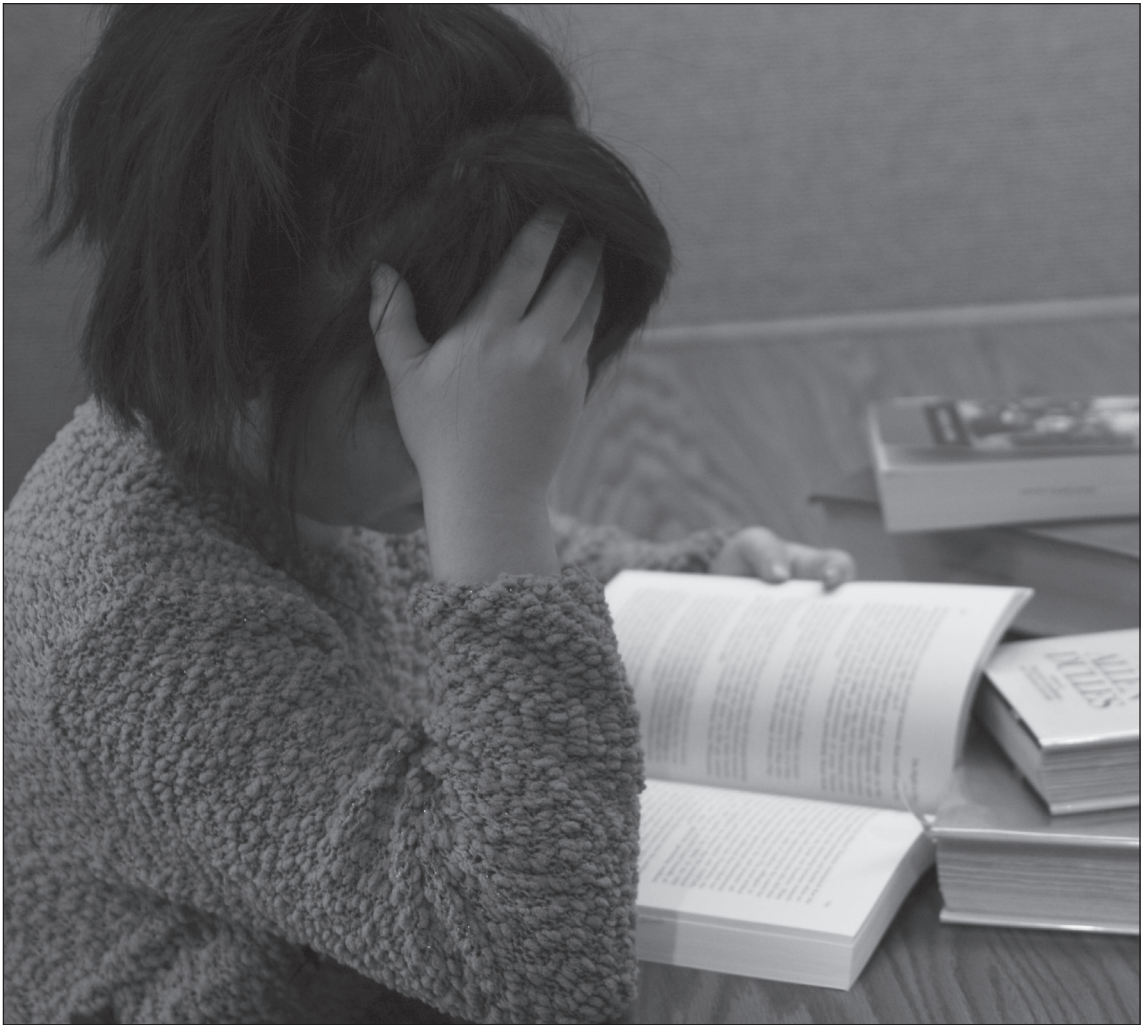
“Students should definitely study early, make a schedule of the time and days they are going to study and what they are going to study so it’s balanced, take breaks, and study in groups,” she said.

A reminder from the tutors is to also get enough sleep the days prior to final because exhaustion will cause students to be unfocused and drained.

Salcedo, who has tutored for a year, said that she has seen many last-minute studiers.

She also said that she sometimes sees students who begin studying early.

Tutors in the Tutoring Center suggest students make a schedule and find out what problems they are facing with their subjects and have them addressed immediately and



Virginia Parenteau/THUNDERWORD

Students tend to cram last minute for finals, but Felicia Salcedo of the Tutoring Center said it is better for students to make a schedule of the time and days they are going to study. This will reduce stress and help students prepare.

to ask many questions in the classroom.

“We tutor courses from sciences to business, we cover a lot here,” said Salcedo.

So students should feel welcome to ask for help at the center.

Since the Tutoring Center

is connected to the Math Resource Center, students are welcome to ask any questions they have in any mathematical courses.

“We get a lot of people coming in to study for the COM-PASS test as well. Especially for the math section on the test, and we help them with the questions they have,” said Salcedo.

With students stressing for the fall quarter finals, the Tutoring Center has many options for students to come in and use either computers to work on, additional reference materials and worksheets.

They can also seek advice from tutors in the subjects they are having the most difficulty in.

“We have computers to help with tutoring and we have many tutors for a variety of subjects. They are here to give additional help when needed,” said Salcedo.

Students are welcome to apply to help at the Tutoring Center.

“There are applications online and then you would need a teacher recommendation to be a tutor,” said Salcedo.

The Tutoring Center is open for any questions from students.

Longtime instructor prepares to say goodbye

By **RACQUEL ARCEO**
Staff Reporter

Gary Nelson came to Highline on a one-year grant and he’ll be leaving next spring... 30 years later.

Nelson, program coordinator for the Visual Communications Department, has officially announced his retirement for the end of Spring Quarter 2013.

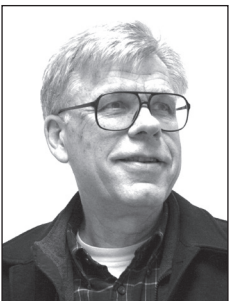
“I officially announced it last year,” said Nelson, “it’s been over a year in the making.”

“I didn’t start out thinking I’d be at Highline for 30 years,” he said of a career that began with establishing the Visual Communications Department.

“Working at Highline has been a fascinating experience but I wouldn’t have stayed at Highline if it weren’t really really interesting in a lot of ways.”

For Nelson the people are the best thing about the college.

Highline is a very diverse, school, but it wasn’t always like that. “Most of the diversity happened when Jack Bermingham became president,” said Nelson, that’s the vision he had



Nelson

for the college.

“Things have changed, for the better, more interesting.”

Nelson has a full schedule, his teaching assignment includes teaching classes that serve the interior design department, visual communications department and the fine arts department.

Nelson said it’s a very inclusive teaching schedule that requires a lot of interaction with other departments and coordinators.

In most job environments people are surrounded by people that are alike but “working here you have to be able to learn to grow,” Nelson said.

“If you just stick in one department, in one place, then you continue to surround yourself with the same folks, but you learn more if you’re involved with people that are different from you,” he said.

Nelson said that there was

no other job he could imagine where he could have gotten the opportunity to meet and learn from so many interesting people.

Nelson has been working since 1971, after graduating. Trained to be a commercial artist, he started out working for advertising agencies and design firms.

“When I was a little kid I thought the coolest thing would be to be an artist, so that was my whole goal in life, to be an artist. When you get there you realize that there are still some things about it that are magical and fascinating and fun, but, if you’re going to earn a living doing it, it’s a lot of hard work. Teaching’s the same thing,” he said.

Nelson said he’s just like a lot of people at the college, he works hard to do the best he can for the students.

“Every time I get a call from a student telling me that they got a new job or improved their career, that’s cool, or when they get accepted into an important prestigious university or art school.”

For Nelson, big moments at Highline happen every spring at commencement.

“I’d like to say that yeah, you know, I’ve done wonderful things to help people change their lives and I did good to society, but I’m not doing anything different or anything more or less than any other teacher.”

“Teaching for me means I have the opportunity to connect with life by engaging in an on-going process of learning.”

For Nelson, learning doesn’t have anything to do with being in school, it’s the ability in general to get information from other people.

“I believe that when you stop learning is when you start dying,” Nelson said.

When Nelson leaves, one of the current instructors, Diana Boyd will be taking over as the visual communications program manager.

“There will be no changes, everything should be seamless for the department and the students,” said Nelson. “If I do my job well it will be a smooth transition.”

Nelson said that he is looking forward to the next chapter

in his life, he has invested a lot of his time at Highline so he has not decided what he will do next.

Although, he did suggest having extensive travel plans.

“I am an outdoors man, I plan on doing a lot more outdoor activities,” Nelson said.

“Most people that work at the college know that I’m a painter of water colors, and I intend to do a lot more of that as well.”

Nelson said he is in the process of reflecting on his experience at highline.

“That’s, I think, important to do when you’re going through life changes, again, you take a look back on what you’ve accomplished or not and learn from it,” he said

He said he values the relationships he has with the people he has worked for and with over the years and has many friends who are former students.

“I think a lot of those people are going to remain a part of my life. Just because I’m retiring now doesn’t mean I’m never going to see them or talk to them ever again,” said Nelson.

W.I.S.E. Club advocates women in science, math world

By **KIYA DAMERON**
Staff Reporter

For young women who may have found access to the science, engineering and/or math fields, there may be help through the Women in Science and Engineering Club.

“The club was created to encourage women to strive toward success in the science and engineering fields,” said Emily Tran, club president. “We target women because they are a minority in these fields,” she said.

According to the United States Education Department, women comprise only 23 percent of the nation’s engineering ranks and only 33 percent in the physical sciences ranks.

“In the past women were looked down upon when it came to science, math and engineering fields. But the goal for WISE is to encourage and help women become successful in these fields and to show that women can do things that were once looked down upon by others,” Tran said.

The club offers support to the women and helps them develop a plan for success by finding scholarships and



Angela Stone/THUNDERWORD

Top left to right, Ashley Wagner, Sakara Perry, and Club President Emily Tran at a weekly meeting with other members in WISE.

encouraging them along the way.

“In a way, you could say that WISE is a nationwide club,” said Tran, because a lot of schools around the nation have the club.

On Nov. 16, club members took a “field trip” to the Uni-

versity of Washington to work with the Women in Science and Engineering Club there to discuss ways to help spread the word more and to take a tour of the campus.

The club will also be spreading the word to some of the science classes at

Federal Way Schools’ Totem Middle School in the upcoming weeks. They will be doing demonstrations to, “get the students interested in the science and engineering fields,” said Tran.

The club meets every Friday from 9-10 a.m. in Building 18

in the conference room on the second floor to discuss goals, help members secure scholarships and volunteer to help spread the word about the club.

Students interested in joining the club but can’t come to the meetings can email Tran at emilytran03@gmail.com.

New holiday aims to support children in need

By **YURI HOANG**
Staff Reporter

Washington state residents are asked to wear red socks on Dec. 3 to support children as Christmas is just around the corner.

Last Monday, Gov. Chris Gregoire declared Dec. 3 to be Red Stocking Day to give recognition to the importance of bringing the community together to show love and support to children in need during the holiday season.

The impetus for this special occasion comes from Children’s Home Society of Washington’s annual campaign. The image of the red stocking has been symbolising the home society’s fund-raising since 1908. The home society aims to spread love and support to children and families with disadvantages by seeking donations of new toys or clothing during the month of December and year-round.

“As the economy continues to struggle, children and families are challenged in every conceivable way,” said Sharon Osborne, the home society’s CEO and president. “This special day reminds all of us that



we can give and really make a difference in the lives of needy children.”

Established in 1896, the society is Washington’s oldest and largest non-profit organisation helping hundreds of families and children.

Every year, when the holiday season starts in early November, the home society reaches out to generous supporters in South King County and North Seattle areas. This year, with the declaration of Red Stocking Day, the home society’s officials say the hope that they’ll be able to help even more children than the past years.

To donate to the Red Stocking campaign, go to www.redstocking.org or stop by the home society’s location in the Early Learning Center in Building 0 from Monday to Friday at 6:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

And don’t forget to wear red socks on Dec. 3.

African Student Union is certified

By **YURI HOANG**
Staff Reporter

Highline’s African Student Union was certified on Nov. 20 at the student government meeting as an official club and its core members are already planning activities for Winter Quarter.

Lloyd Thomas, African Student Union founder, was motivated last spring to create a community for African students at Highline.

“[Thomas], was motivated to start the club because he saw the need to ignite community amongst African students at Highline,” said Kelly Zeleke, the African Student Union’s president. “As for me, I became the president of ASU because I wanted to bring all the Africans [as well as] other students together to be involved in the community and beyond and also I wanted to incorporate other Highline students to promote cultural diversity.”

Working with Kelly are the two other core members, Mihirty Gebru, vice president and Vivian Kurauju, public relations. They’ve been working together to raise the awareness of the African student community on campus. With approximately 20 members

so far, members say they are making their voice heard and seeks to contribute to Highline’s diverse community.

“Our aim for ASU is to bring unity and agreement amongst various students from Africa at [Highline]; to incorporate other students to promote cultural diversity; to inform and assist other Africans coming to Washington state to attend Highline and mostly to develop projects and programs to get involved in the community and beyond,” Kelly said.

Although it’s been almost a year since the club was established, the African Student Union didn’t have a chance to be officially recognised until the student government meeting last week. But they are moving forward quite rapidly.

“ASU was established on May 2012, which was almost the end of last Spring Quarter so we didn’t get the chance to put in a lot of work that quarter. Then, during summer, the club wasn’t active because half of our members graduated that year and almost none of our members were going to summer school so there was no one to take charge of the club and move forward. As for this quarter, [Mihirty Gebru and I] had to go through

some training and we had to wait for the student government meeting to be certified. But not being certified didn’t really stop us from holding meetings. [We still] have been getting together and talking about what we should do as a club,” said Kelly.

Right now, they’re doing a coat drive to collect warm clothes and coats for children in the area. Also, they’re forming a committee with the Black Student Union to get prepared for a big event next quarter – The Knowledge Week.

“[For Winter Quarter], I will be at the Involvement Fair and my plan is to get more students involved in the club. [Also], I [would] probably hold election on office positions to replace the current ASU team because a lot of us are graduating this year and we want to train other students to take over and [be] in charge of the club. And I believe the Involvement Fair will help our team accomplish our goal for the club,” said Kelly regarding future plans for the club activities.

The African Student Union meets on Thursdays every two weeks, from 1:15-2:15 p.m. in Building 19, room 203. Any student can attend.

A sweet tooth treat for the holiday

Christmas Fruit Drops

The perfect holiday sweets for an old-fashioned swap with friends.

2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 cup (2 sticks) butter or margarine, softened
3/4 cup granulated sugar
1/2 cup (packed) dark brown sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
3 large eggs
2 cups toasted rice cereal
1 cup walnuts, toasted and coarsely chopped
1/2 cup red candied cherries, coarsely chopped
1/2 cup green candied cherries, coarsely chopped
1 1/2 cups white chocolate chips

1. Preheat oven to 350 F. Grease large cookie sheet.
2. On waxed paper, combine flour, baking soda and salt. In large bowl, with mixer at medium speed, beat butter and sugars until creamy, occasionally scraping bowl with rubber spatula. Beat in vanilla, then eggs, one at a time. At low speed, gradually add flour mixture; beat just until blended, occasionally scraping bowl. With spoon, stir in cereal, walnuts, cherries and 1 cup chocolate chips.
3. Drop dough by rounded teaspoons, 1 inch apart, onto cookie sheet. Bake cookies 10-11 minutes or until golden. Transfer cookies to wire rack to cool. Repeat with remaining dough.

4. Place remaining 1/2 cup chocolate chips in small microwave-safe bowl; heat in microwave on medium (50 percent power) about 2 minutes or until chocolate melts, stirring once. Stir until smooth. Place cookies on waxed paper; drizzle with melted chocolate. When chocolate is set, store cookies, with waxed paper between layers, in tightly covered container at room temperature up to 1 week, or in freezer up to 3 months. Makes 6 dozen cookies.
Each serving: About 100 calories, 6g total fat (2g saturated), 17mg cholesterol, 80mg sodium, 12g total carbs, 1g protein.

(c) 2011 Hearst Communications, Inc.



Photo By Hearst Communications Inc.

These Christmas fruit drop cookies are determined to make your whole house smell delicious. Whipping these up will be a delight.

Kwanzaa slow cook chicken

Slow-Cooker Chicken Tagine

This Moroccan stew features tender chicken and butternut squash whose flavors have melded with garlic, onion and rich spices in the gentle heat of the slow cooker.

1 medium (1 1/2-pound) butternut squash, peeled and cut into 2-inch chunks
2 medium tomatoes, coarsely chopped
1 medium onion, chopped
2 cloves garlic, crushed with press
1 can (15- to 19-ounce) garbanzo beans, rinsed and drained
1 cup chicken broth
1/3 cup raisins
2 teaspoons ground coriander
2 teaspoons ground cumin
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper
3 pounds bone-in skinless chicken thighs
1 box (10-ounce) plain couscous
1. In 6-quart slow cooker, combine squash, tomatoes, onion, garlic, beans, broth and raisins. In cup, combine coriander, cumin, cinnamon, salt and ground black pepper. Rub spice mixture all over chicken thighs; place chicken on top of vegetable mixture. Cover slow cooker with lid and cook as manufacturer directs, on low 8 hours or on high 4 hours.
2. About 10 minutes before serving, prepare couscous as



Photo By Hearst Communications Inc.

Kwanzaa chicken will become a family favorite, no matter what holiday you celebrate.

label directs.

3. To serve, fluff couscous with fork. Stir olives into chicken mixture. Serve

chicken mixture over couscous. Serves six.

(c) 2012 Hearst Communications, Inc.

Old-fashioned hot chocolate

3 ounces unsweetened baking chocolate

1 1/2 cups of water
Dash of salt
4 1/2 cups of milk

1. Heat chocolate and water in 1 1/2 quart saucepan over medium heat, stirring constantly, until chocolate is melted and mixture is smooth

2. Stir in sugar and salt. Heat to boiling, and then reduce heat to low. Simmer, uncovered 4 minutes stirring constantly. Stir in milk.

Heat just until hot (do not boil, because skin will form on top).

3. Beat with hand beater



King Features Synd, Inc.

Hot chocolate made with chips rather than powder.

until foamy, or stir until smooth. Serve.

(c) 2012 King Features Synd., Inc.

Transfer to PLU Spring 2013!



There is still time to be admitted, receive financial aid, and register for classes to start Spring Semester (beginning Feb. 6).

WHY TRANSFER TO PLU?

- PLU accepts the Direct Transfer Degree from Highline.
- Transfer Academic Scholarships begin at a 2.9 GPA and range from \$10,000-\$14,000 per year. There are no financial aid deadlines.
- 36 majors, and average class size is 20. You'll have the opportunities of a large university and the personal attention of a small school.

Now is the time to start your free online PLU application.

plu.edu/transfer

QUESTIONS? Sean Lacy,
Director of Transfer Admission
253-535-7138
sean.lacy@choose.plu.edu

PLU Your private college option.