Senator aims to save leave

By HIEN HONG
Staff Reporter

A bill that provides paid leave for families with newborns faces challenges in the Senate.

Republicans in the Senate want to get rid of the bill completely, but Sen. Karen Keiser, D-Kent, wants to expand it.

The Family Medical Leave Insurance law was passed in 2007, in order to provide up to $250 per week for employees with newborns for up to five weeks. The bill is supposed to take effect in 2015.

Sen. Keiser is working on SB 5292 to expand the law, which would take effect in 2016.

Compared to the Family Medical Leave Insurance law, SB 5292 is “much broader,” said Sen. Keiser.

The bill doesn’t only account for parents with newborns, but also for an individual’s own injuries and family issues.

Sen. Keiser’s bill, SB 5292, would extend the pay up to 12 weeks and be funded through payroll taxes. “[It] will cost a dollar a week,” Sen. Keiser said.

The bill will pay workers “up to a maximum of $1,000 [per week],” said Sen. Keiser.

Meanwhile, the Senate proposed SB 5159 to repeal the Family Medical Leave Insurance law from 2007.

Last week on Monday, SB 5159 was passed into the Rules Committee after

see Medical, page A12

What you don’t know can scare you

Fear of the dark speaks of childhood vulnerability

By GABRIELLE PAULSON
Staff Reporter

If you fear the dark, you are not alone. Perhaps though, it is the idea that you are not alone that is most terrifying.

“There’s a logic to being afraid of the dark for everybody to some degree,” Highline professor Ruth Frickle, chairwoman of the Social Sciences Division said. “It’s a survival mechanism.”

Frickle pointed out that humans can never see in the dark, nor do they have sharp teeth or claws that would help them out in any sort of scuffle with a predator.

“Thinking in evolutionary terms, we’re pretty vulnerable,” she said.

This vulnerability is especially true during childhood, when fear of the dark is also more prevalent.

“You’re small, and you’re helpless,” Frickle said. “Survival is totally in another person’s hands.”

In addition to that, children have extremely active imaginations, said Highline psychology professor Garth Neufeld.

“Children kind of spend their whole day in their imaginary world,” he said.

“One to 3 years old,” Neufeld said. “Children have difficulty separating reality from imagination; their imaginations are so active at this time,” Neufeld said.

A part of their imagination involves a concept called animism; this means that children personify, or “give life attributes to everything,” he said.

Some examples could be the moon, a tree, or a cat, Neufeld said.

Then “at night [children] are left alone with these imaginations;” he said, “and they’re very real.”

Frickle mentioned one of her own fears in the dark as a child.

“I can remember a giant frog in my room. That frog was gigantic, and it was real,” she said.

“I was about 4.”

Student Kaelin Setter also recalled her specific imaginations.

“When I was little, I was

see Fear, page A11

New program to help immigrant children

By NICK MASON
Staff Reporter

A new program gives children of illegal immigrants a chance to work and get an education while under deferred action on immigration status.

The Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program benefits the children of illegal immigrants.

Bruce Lamb is the Deferred Action coordinator at Highline.

He also is a paralegal professor at Highline and an attorney.

Lamb also volunteers for the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project.

“We have millions of people living in our country who are undocumented,” said Lamb.

Many of them are children who grew up here.

The largest groups of people come from Latin America and Korea, he said.

The benefits of the Deferred Action program are deferred action on immigration status for two years, and getting a Social Security number in order to work here.

The program was launched in June 2012.

To be eligible for the program you must be born on or after June 16, 1981, have come to the United States before reaching your 16th birth-

see Action, page A12

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

INDEX
Campus Life A2-3 Opinion A4 Puzzles A5 Arts A6-7 Sports A8-9 News A10-12
**Crime and Punishment**

**Medics assist a student**

A student came to the Highline Security office in Building 6 on Feb. 6 reporting she had chest pain. The security office called South King Fire and Rescue. The medics arrived and made sure she was okay. She didn’t want any treatment and said she would go to her own doctor.

**Security unlocks cars**

Two people needed assistance from Highline Campus Security to get their cars unlocked, one in the South parking lot on Feb. 6 and one in the East parking lot on Feb. 8.

**Petty theft strikes**

There was a jacket and an iPhone stolen in Building 21. Both items were not recovered. If you have any information please visit Highline Campus Security in Building 6.

**Car gets keyed in East Lot**

An unknown individual keyed a car in the East parking lot on Feb. 8. There is no more information involving this case. If you have any information, report to the Highline Campus Security office in Building 6.

**Student reports minor car vandalism**

An unknown person vandalized a student’s hood with a scratch on Feb. 7. The car was in the South parking lot. If you have any information about this incident please contact Highline Campus Security in Building 6.

**Debit card gets returned to owner**

A debit card was found on Campus by Building 8 on Feb. 7. Campus Security mailed the debit card to the owner.

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**Affectionate discussion of the science of love**

Ruth Frickle, a psychology professor and Social Sciences division chairwoman is speaking on the psychology and the science of love at Science Seminar Feb. 15. Science Seminar meets on Fridays in Building 3, room 102 from 2:20-3:23 p.m.

**Come learn about Social Changes**

Eric Davis, a professor of sociology and ethnic studies from Bellevue and Tacoma Community Colleges, is speaking on social change on Feb. 19. Davis will focus on the change within African American community and intercultural awareness. The event will take place in Mt. Constance on the first floor of the Student Union, from 11-11:50 a.m.

The Black Student Union Club will discuss contemporary African American leaders on Feb. 21 from 11-1 p.m. The presentation will be in the Inter-Cultural Center on the second floor of the Student Union, room 204. Icons such as Bill Cosby, and Barack and Michelle Obama will be discussed. Refreshments will be provided.

**Apply to attend Students of Color Conference**

The Students of Color Conference application due date has been extended till today at 5 p.m. The 23rd annual Students of Color Conference will be held in Yakima on April 11-13. The theme this year is Awakening Your Inner Scholar: Legacy, Resilience, Action. This conference is open to students across Washington.

Students accepted to attend the conference will have all costs paid for. For more information and an application go to multicultural.services.highline.edu/SOCC.php.

**Support hungry local children**

Students and community members are putting on a presentation about the weekend backpacks program in Building 7 on Feb. 21 at 10 a.m. Weekend backpacks is a program that provides elementary school children with nutritious food during the weekends, by filling backpacks with food from the food bank. A bake sale on Feb. 26 will be held in the Student Union from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The money from the bake sale will go to the Des Moines Food Bank weekend backpacks program.

**Editor to read Japanese Poetry**

Dennis Maloney, editor and publisher of White Pine Press in Buffalo, N.C. is reading some of his poetry in Building 2 on Feb. 27. Maloney’s poetry readings begin at 11 a.m. Maloney writes Japanese poems and will be reading their translations.

**Local CPA speaks at Accounting Club**

Everyone is welcome to attend Accounting Club to hear from a local certified public accountant Feb. 22. The accountant, John Vogel, will share his 30-plus years of experience as an accountant. The meeting is in Building 14, room 103 from noon-1:30 p.m. and there will be a limited amount of refreshment provided. Attendees are encouraged to RSVP but it is not required.

For more information contact Martin Mertens at mertens@juno.com or Debbi Perkins at Debi.Perkins@students.highline.edu.

**Pavilion and lockers to be renovated**

Renovations on Building 27 and 28 begins March 21. Consequently, the buildings will be unavailable for events. The lockers will have to be removed during the renovation. Thus faculty or staff with lockers must remove their items before the end of Winter Quarter on March 18.

Temporary changing areas and showers will be available during the renovation project, but there will be no lockers.

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**Corrections**

In an article in last week’s Thunderword should have said that contractors plan to pull out the old asbestos and put in new non-asbestos insulation.

In an article in last week’s Thunderword should have said U.S. Marshals were on campus Feb. 4 in a coordinated effort with Campus Security to arrest a student who had a warrant out for his arrest. The student was under house arrest in Oregon for promoting prostitution.

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**WHAT’S NEW AT THE MAST CENTER?**

Highline’s MaST Center, located in Redondo, has lots going on if you are interested in your local environment.

**WATER WEEKEND** - Every Saturday from 10am to 2pm. Open FREE OF CHARGE to the public to view more than 100 local species in our aquarium.

**SCIENCE ON THE SOUND SPEAKER SERIES** - Saturdays throughout the month. Local scientists and environmental educators discuss the health of Puget Sound.

**LIVE DIVER** - 2nd Saturday of every month. Shows at 11 and noon.

**WORK STUDY OR INTERN OPPORTUNITY** - Work with the animals of Puget Sound while earning work study $$ or Intern credit! Contact mast@highline.edu

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**Volunteer Stewards** - Most of the work at the MaST Center is done by our team of volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering you can come and visit the Center, or e-mail us at mast@highline.edu
Africa struggles against colonial past

By DANIEL JOYCE
Staff Reporter

African nations are still struggling to overcome problems in governance that can be traced back to periods of colonialism when foreign control impaired crucial development.

President of the African Chamber of Commerce of the Pacific Northwest Peter Gishuru and former Seattle running back Tony Benjamin teamed up with Highline’s own Ernest Hasha on Feb. 6 to discuss the relationship between power and resources across the continent of Africa.

Hasha himself is a South African native taking advantage of the Community Colleges Initiative program. The CCI program enables individuals from select countries outside the U.S. to study for one year at community colleges in the U.S.

As president of the Highline United Nations Affairs Club, Hasha partnered with the Inter-Cultural Center to create a series of discussions about social justice called World Voices for Liberation. The discussions are being held every Wednesday from 1-2 p.m. in Building 8, room 204.

Gishuru came to Seattle from Kenya in 1963 seeking education opportunities during the same movement that brought President Barack Obama’s father to Hawaii.

Gishuru graduated from Seattle University with a degree in science, owned an African import store at Pike Place Market for 14 years and owned his own real estate company for 7 years. Gishuru has been president of the African Chamber of Commerce since 1999.

“The goal of the ACC is to facilitate growth and partnerships between Africa and Pacific Northwest,” said Gishuru.

Benjamin is the president of Certified Transports, a trucking service company based in Seattle, and has worked closely with Gishuru in the past.

Hasha addressed several reasons why Africa’s current issues can be traced to the past. “Many of the problems in governance are rooted in the history of Africa,” said Hasha. “This dialogue is a place where we can talk and learn from each other.”

Hasha also addressed the affect the Cold War had on Africa. For decades, the United States engaged in conflict and competition with the Soviets. Many Africans fail to realize the problems this caused for places outside the U.S.

“Support one side, fight the other. This was the only choice,” said Gishuru.

Gishuru says these kinds of conflicts make it so the African people never fight for themselves, and never learn how. “Land is a huge resource for Africa. When farmed it can provide both food and trade opportunities. Many African nations have vast land resources, but are governed poorly.”

“Some African nations are [the] richest in resources, but poorest in politics,” said Gishuru.

The unproductive governance leads to conflict, another huge problem for many African nations.

One Highline student in attendance talked about seeing people being continuously injured by falling rocks caused by a large corporation.

She asked her audience to imagine what strategies they might use to end the threat. “Some students said they would stay and help the wound- ed; others said they would approach the corporation and ask it to stop.”

Lee said the best path would be for the villagers to coordinate both tactics. “Capitalizing on the combined skills of individual community members would enable the community’s leadership to guide the villagers to a solution.”

“Everything they do, to seek to be best in whatever they do, and to never wait too long to take action.”

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One Highline student in attendance talked about seeing people

Community organization is key to change

By LATONYA BRISBANE
Staff Reporter

Communities need to determine a unified voice, and with proper leadership, an organized community can achieve social change.

That was the message Mejo Lee, program director of the Social Justice Fund Northwest, told more than 70 students gathered last week for the first First Fridays’ workshop of Winter Quarter sponsored by the Center for Multi-Cultural Affairs and the Center for Leadership and Service.

According to Lee’s prepared material, social change movements flow from careful organizing, massive public education, sustained agitation and

Angela Stone/THUNDERWORD

Student Ernest Hasha said that many of Africa’s current issues relate to their history.
Spend the money to fulfill Sound Transit’s plans

Sound Transit needs to extend its light rail line to Federal Way and people need to be willing to pay for it. Originally, plans were to extend the Central Link Light Rail from SeaTac to Federal Way when voters approved the Sound Transit 2 package in 2008. The Sound Transit 2 package aimed to extend several Sound Transit light rails further to the north, east, and south.

Currently, the Central Link Light Rail makes 11 stops between downtown Seattle and Seattle-Tacoma Airport and is expected to extend its route to South 200th Street in Kent by 2016. However, due to the economy, the plans to extend the route to Federal Way have been delayed. Right now, extending the light rail to Federal Way is not affordable since the Great Recession put a $3.9 billion hit on Sound Transit’s financial plan.

Despite this, the light rail is increasingly popular for commuters. The number of boardings on the Central Link Light Rail increased by 11.4 percent from 2011 to 2012. It’s important that Sound Transit plans to do what the people voted for in the Sound Transit 2 package, especially since the number of riders is increasing.

At some point, the extension of the light rail will have to reach Federal Way and also stop by Highline. With the light rail extended to Federal Way, more students will be able to attend Highline and later they’ll also be able to go to the University of Washington.

Furthermore, the population of the King County area doesn’t seem to be decreasing anytime soon. According to the Puget Sound Regional Council, the sum population of the King, Pierce, Snohomish, and Kitsap counties, is estimated to be approximately 4.5 million in 2030 and five million in 2050. These are estimates of the population that Sound Transit considered accounting for in the long run, according to the Sound Transit 2 package expansion plan.

So having an extended light rail will provide broader transportation alternatives for the increasing population.

New roads aren’t going to be built because there isn’t enough space for another freeway, but even with more roads, it’ll still take longer to drive than to take the light rail. Additionally, using the light rail will save time, money, and gas for people.

More people using the light rail instead of driving will also make less of an impact on the environment. However, for all this happen, money needs to be spent. In 2011, the city of Federal Way considered legal action against Sound Transit for stopping the plans for the Federal Way extension. However, Sound Transit needs money if it’s going to extend the light rail according to the Sound Transit 2 package.

And that means people need to be willing to pay for it, even though it’s expensive. The extended light rail will be better for everyone in the area, but if people want the service, they need to pitch in to get it.

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.

A young boy was biking around his apartment complex one day when he suddenly fell and hurt himself.

The apartment manager saw that the boy was hurt and offered to take him to see his mother. After saying no several times to the manager, the boy finally led the manager to his apartment.

Once they were there, the boy went inside and told the manager his mother was sleeping.

But when the manager stepped inside, he discovered that the boy’s mother wasn’t home. It turns out it had been days since the boy’s mother had been home.

The shocked manager then asked the boy what he’s been eating for the past few days.

The boy grabbed his backpack and showed it to the manager.

The backpack was from the Weekend Backpack Program, which gives backpacks filled with food to students over the weekend.

In the South King County area, 60-70 percent of K-12 students are on free or reduced lunch.

Many of these students don’t have food at home. This means lunch is their only meal of the day and they do not eat over the weekend.

As of 2011, 13.9 percent of people in Washington state are in poverty.

Furthermore, the rate of food insecurity is 14.7 percent and one out of seven families have difficulty affording food.

Without enough food, kids are hungry and struggling to concentrate in school, which hinders their learning.

According to an article by Gerald Coles called Hunger, Academic Success, and the Hard Bigotry of Indifference, hungry or starving students tend to struggle in school.

A study found that hunger lowers test scores on word identification, comprehension, and math tests.

In order to concentrate in school and learn, K-12 students need to have enough food to eat. It is especially crucial that students are able to achieve the most in education, in order to gain skills, work, and improve their standards of living.

Poverty is an issue that’s hard to fix, however, everybody can try to make a difference.

To help provide food for undernourished students, our state and local government class plans to contribute to the Des Moines Food Bank Weekend Backpack Program.

And here’s where you can also help us make a difference for these young students in your community.

The class is inviting the whole campus to an event to educate people about poverty and how it has affected students and families in the South King County area on Feb. 21 from 10-10:50 a.m. in Building 7.

Speakers from the Des Moines Food Bank and the Des Moines Rotary will be at the event.

The class will also have a bake sale to raise money for the Des Moines Food Bank on Feb. 26 from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. on the second floor of Building 8.

Students are encouraged to buy something to raise money and can even donate goods for the bake sale. The goods must be homemade and individually packaged.

To donate, email Abigail Cate at ajcate@students.highline.edu.

Commentary

Jackson Cahan

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Words With Word

Across
1. Opera by Puccini
6. Bit of tea
10. Apple of one’s eye
13. Bother
14. On ___ (as challenged)
16. Chou En ___
17. Font
19. Adder relative
20. Fountain favorite
21. Warehouse use
23. Hook hand?
25. Agra dress
26. A lot of junk mail
29. Kleenex layers
32. Exam for MBA hopefuls
34. Day care charges
36. 1944 turning point
37. Dog ___
38. “I can’t deny that”
40. One of LBJ’s beagles
41. Columbian ship
42. Quinn of *Legends of the Fall*
44. Brie’s cousin
46. Alligator logo name
47. “Bye, bambino!”
48. Memento
49. Hosp. sites
51. Greases
53. Calamities
55. Like most light bulbs
58. “___-ching!”
63. Paste
65. State on the Atl.
67. Snow, in Bordeaux
69. Hikers’ needs
70. Alters

Down
1. COLUMBO, Spade, & others
2. “Hawaii Five-O” locale
3. Astonish
4. Asks for I.D.
5. How some kids spend the summer
7. BlackBerries, e.g.
8. Brewer’s kiln
9. Some folk groups
10. Copy
11. “With the greatest of ___”
12. 15%, often
13. Bring to a boil?
14. Cobbler’s supply
15. Copy
16. “___ boy!”
17. Column style
18. Cut
19. Change “captain” to “cap’n,” e.g.
20. Many Little League coaches
21. Designer name
22. A. A. for children
23. Citi Field precursor
24. Build-it-yourself chain
25. Bones in the pelvis
26. Drunken revelry
27. ‘Science Guy’ Bill’s family
28. “___ turn (traffic sign)”
29. Honey bunch
30. Rodeo cutups
31. Calamities
32. Law degs.
33. A chorus line?
34. A. A. for children
35. Shore breeze
36. Copy
37. Idea
38. Saving option
39. Save option
40. Law degs.
41. Like most light bulbs
42. A. A. for children
43. “___-ching!”
44. Brie’s cousin
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46. “Bye, bambino!”
47. “I can’t deny that”
48. One of LBJ’s beagles
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51. Like most light bulbs
52. Honey bunch
53. Citi Field precursor
54. Build-it-yourself chain
55. One type of tide
56. Bones in the pelvis
57. Build-it-yourself chain
58. “___-ching!”
59. Paste
60. State on the Atl.
61. Snow, in Bordeaux
62. “___-ching!”
63. Paste
64. Law degs.
65. State on the Atl.
66. “___-ching!”
67. Snow, in Bordeaux
68. “___-ching!”
69. Hikers’ needs
70. Alters

Quotable Quote
The last time somebody said, ‘I find I can write much better with a word processor.’, I replied, ‘They used to say the same thing about drugs.’

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UFOs not only exist for one Highline alumus, they've existed virtually in his backyard.

Now Scott Schaefer wants the world to know about it.

Schaefer is the owner of South King Media and producer of several blogs in the area, including The B-Town Blog and its sibling the Waterland Blog. He's recently revealed something really weird that purportedly happened just across the water.

Schaefer is heading a group of fellow entrepreneurs and friends to produce a short film titled The Maury Island Incident that will be based on a true story of local seaman Harold Dahl who claimed to have sighted UFOs just across Poverty Bay on June 21, 1947, considered as one of the first modern-day flying saucer encounters.

Dahl's sightings predated by two days the more famous sightings of nine saucer-shaped objects flying near Mount Rainier and 16 days prior to the infamous Roswell, NM crash that sparked the national UFO craze.

Schaefer is bent on telling the more local story. “I like unusual stories,” said Schaefer. He explained that his fascination, and at one point obsession, with UFOs began in Hollywood during the early ‘90s. As a field director for the television show Sightings that focused primarily on people’s claims of seeing UFOs and other unnatural activity, he was introduced to the UFO realm.

Schaefer said he went into the business as a skeptic, but he ended up a believer.

It was during one particular story about cattle mutilations in Alabama that changed his perspective. The cattle had been mysteriously mutilated in a location that didn’t offer much evidence as to who the culprits were due to the lack of footprints on the scene.

Schaefer met with a scientist who had studied tissue samples from the cows and concluded that the cuts came from a source of extremely high heat — so high that it could come from nothing else but a laser. However, the laboratory they were studying in did not house any type of lasers at the time.

Schaefer was given the opportunity to examine both the studies and the evidence himself. From that moment, he was hooked.

“[I] went down the rabbit hole of UFO-ology,” said Schaefer. It was deep in that rabbit hole where Dahl’s story landed in his lap. By that time Schaefer was so transfixed that he had went to the extreme of camping outside Nevada’s infamous Area 51, a hotbed of UFO sightings and conspiracy theories. His research and obsession lead to complications involving harassment.

Schaefer is bent on telling the more local story.

By IPEK SADAY
Staff Reporter

Highline alumus Scott Schaefer is making a film about a mysterious UFO sighting incident off Maury Island in 1947.

Schaefer said he went into the UFO chasing business as a skeptic, but he ended up a believer.

UFOs in our backyard

Alumnus investigating whether the national obsession with flying saucers may have begun just off Des Moines

The Thunderword / February 14, 2013

Sherry Holt/THUNDERWORD

Highline alumus Scott Schaefer is making a film about a mysterious UFO sighting incident off Maury Island in 1947.

The Thunderword / February 14, 2013

Sherry Holt/THUNDERWORD

Highline alumus Scott Schaefer is making a film about a mysterious UFO sighting incident off Maury Island in 1947.
The Latitudes of Love

Highline students plan to conquer romance and plunder hearts
The real thing takes more than just infatuation

By ERICA MORAN
Staff Reporter

Venus thought she was in love with her boyfriend. "I thought about him all day," Venus said, a Highline student who prefers not to use her real name. Venus rushed through daily life to see him. "I just planned on getting my work done so I could see him," she said.

Ultimately, it didn't work out. "It was purely physical and blind attraction, I wish I had ended it sooner," Venus said. "We were together for over a year, but he broke up with me when we realized it wasn't real," she said.

Falling in love can be intimidating at first, but with the right components you can build a lifelong relationship. People can mistake being infatuated with being in love. Infatuation has all the same feelings love does, but lacks real, long-term commitment, said Dr. Bob Baugher, a psychology instructor at Highline. Later, Venus found herself "in love" with another guy who she was only friends with. "I was in love with the way he looked and his smarts, I was fascinated with him," Venus said. "We talked constantly by Facebook chat, but when we hung out it was awkward," she said.

Passion is defined as a strong feeling, intense emotion and desire for a person, and can decrease over time. Intimacy is described as being emotionally close and connected to someone. To be intimate with someone means that you learn everything about each other, even the bad, and they still like you, said Dr. Baugher. Commitment is what holds a relationship together for the long haul.

When you’re infatuated with someone, you would be surprised how quickly one piece of information can change your whole perspective on them, because of the lack of commitment and intimacy, said Dr. Baugher. To have a successful long-term adult relationship, both partners need to have all the balanced ingredients of intimacy, passion and commitment.

You know you’re in love when you start caring about someone else’s well being as much as your own, Frickle said. People need to have relationship maturity to make relationship ships work, and can’t do so until they have fully formed their own adult identity, she said. "Compromise always happens, but you should never compromise your identity," Frickle said.

Venus thinks her current involvement with a new guy is different. "We are dating and exclusive, but we want to take it slow. I can’t risk being infatuated again to find out it’s not love. Since we developed a friendship for a year and started to trust each other first we have intimacy and closeness. I don’t have to hide anything from him," said Venus. "I think young people should realize that there’s more to relationships than passion. If you want something lasting, you need to get to know them and establish a good friendship," she said.

Pirate Crew

Editor © Erica Moran
Design editor © Krista Rhea
Graphics © Luis Batlle
Jasmine Cawley
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Racquel Arceo, Emily Arnold, Steven Arvan, Karla Barajas, Joey Castonguay, Marenna Guevara, Maggie Hale, Hien Hong, Kris Donohue, Kaylee Moran, Shelby Smout, Angela Sucher.
Creativity is nicer than being stood up

By ANGELA SUCHER
Staff Reporter

Amber Hartwig said that she doesn’t go out on Valentine’s Day anymore, after a traumatic Valentine’s date two years ago.

“I got invited out by a guy, everything was going good until he ended up drinking so much that he threw up all over me in his car,” she said.

That was the last Valentine’s Day Hartwig said she went out on.

“My best Valentine’s days have been spent single because no guy seems to get it right,” she said. “Here’s a little advice: we don’t want a card on V-day, we want romance. Read a book or something.”

Many other Highline students said that they also prefer to spend the holiday alone after Valentine’s day mishaps.

“My Valentine didn’t show up,” Jocelyn Smith said. “He had to plan it out. My Valentine didn’t show up, she said. “Here’s a little advice: we don’t want a card on V-day, we want romance. Read a book or something.”

But not all Highline students have had traumatic experiences on Feb. 14. Many said that Valentine’s days where thoughtfulness and creativity were involved were their best.

Maria Tejeda recalls her last Valentine’s Day with her current boyfriend as her very best yet.

“He took me to the beach last year and there was this big box full of balloons that popped out when I opened it,” she said. “There was a necklace inside. It meant so much because he put a lot of thought and effort into it and it wasn’t just chocolates or flowers.”

In fact most Highline students said their best Valentine’s moments were ones where thoughtfulness and creativity took place in the planning.

“I like guys to be creative. Don’t just buy me a teddy bear and expect me to swoon,” said Highline student Kierren Mathews. “My boyfriend and I went to different high schools so one year he stole my locker and stuffed it full of presents.”

Mathews said the gesture meant more than the actual gifts inside the locker because he had to plan it out.

“Don’t wait until the last minute, really think about it,” said Mathews. Women aren’t the only ones who enjoy Valentine’s surprises.

“My girlfriend decorated the whole apartment one year. I came home from work and there were candles going and rose petals everywhere,” said Mychal McNamee. “Even for a guy it was really cute to walk into and I was really impressed by how much thought she put into it. Guys always have the pressure on us on Valentine’s Day, it was nice to have the script flipped and walk into something like that.”

But some girls would rather celebrate like Taylor Rengstorff, who said she’s never had a Valentine and would rather hang out at home.

“I think it’s more of a friend holiday than a boyfriend holiday. I usually just hang out at home, maybe watch a couple chick-flicks with my girlfriends. Those have been my best Valentine’s [days],” she said.

The formula for love has multiple ingredients

By STEVEN ARVAN
Staff Reporter

Love may be just a stew of chemicals. Dictionary.com defines love as “a profoundly tender, passionate affection for another person.” But science tells us that the powerful emotion that buckles knees, makes palms sweaty and paralyzes tongues is the result of complex chemical reactions.

That may not be as romantic as people might hope, but it does explain most of the craziness that goes on inside of us. The constant stream of chemicals released into one’s system throughout their lifespan sometimes comes together in combinations that produce love.

Dopamine is often described as the “pleasure chemical” in that it causes a euphoric or blissful feeling. Norepinephrine speeds up the heart rate and makes one feel excited. Both are in play when one looks across a room and makes eye contact with someone they are attracted to.

The heart speeds up, skin flushes and one experiences a surge of giddiness. Next comes the release of testosterone in both men and women. Testosterone is widely thought of as a male hormone, though it is sometimes that enables one to get over any jitters about walking up and talking to the object of one’s desire. After first contact is made and a relationship grows to a point where people begin to touch each other, whether it be a simple hand on the arm to intimate moments, yet another chemical, oxytocin, is released. Oxytocin or the “cuddle chemical” is responsible for the desire to hold somebody and be close with him or her. It may contribute to a bonding with one’s mate and later between mother and child.

When the brain adjusts to the higher quantities of the aforementioned chemicals, the “honeymoon” stage ends. The body begins pumping endorphins, which are responsible for easing anxiety and feelings of well-being and belonging.
Food for your heart

Scrumptious Valentine’s Day recipes to make for that special someone

By KAYLEE MORAN
Staff Reporter

Cooking your loved one a homemade meal on Valentine’s Day will warm their heart and fill your bellies with love.

Going out to eat on Valentine’s Day can be hectic and expensive. Staying home to cook your honey a romantic meal can save you money and is a great way to show your appreciation.

Make this evening special by decorating with candles, flowers and use your nice plates and silverware for the table setting.

This complete meal includes a Caesar salad, homemade spaghetti, garlic bread, and chocolate fondue for dessert.

Start cooking the spaghetti sauce first so everything will be done at the same time.

Meat is optional and you can add extra vegetables such as bell peppers and mushrooms if desired. You can use a jar of spaghetti sauce as your base or make this simple homemade sauce.

**Spaghetti Sauce**

**Ingredients:**
- 1/2 pound lean ground beef or sausage (optional)
- 1/2 onion, chopped
- 1 can stewed tomatoes or jar of spaghetti sauce
- 1/2 pound lean ground beef
- 1 small can tomato paste
- 1/3 cup finely grated carrots
- 1/3 cup packed crushed tomatoes
- 1/2 cup water
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 cup molasses
- 1/4 cup ketchup
- 1/4 cup cider vinegar
- 1/4 cup white vinegar
- 1/4 cup apple juice
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon dried basil
- 1/4 teaspoon dried oregano

**Directions:**
1. Cook ground beef and onion over medium heat until done. Drain off grease.
2. Combine beef and onion, 1/2 teaspoon thyme, and salt and pepper in a large pot or pan. Simmer 1 hour on low heat.
3. Then gently toss the salad greens with the Caesar dressing and sprinkle on the shredded cheese and top with croutons.
4. While spaghetti sauce is simmering, start making the Caesar Salad.

**Caesar Salad**

**Ingredients:**
- 2/3 cup of croutons
- 1/2 head of romaine lettuce
- 1/4 cup of grated parmesan cheese
- 1 tablespoon of grated parmesan cheese
- 1 teaspoon Italian seasoning
- 1 teaspoon dried parsley
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/2 cup butter
- 1 (8 ounce) package shredded mozzarella or parmesan cheese
- 1 tablespoon olive oil

**Directions:**
1. Rinse romaine and chop into bite size pieces
2. Place in fridge until the spaghetti is almost done so it will be warm and toasty when ready to serve with the spaghetti
3. Then gently toss the salad greens with the Caesar dressing and sprinkle on the shredded cheese
4. While spaghetti sauce is simmering, sterling the Caesar Salad

**Garlic Bread**

**Ingredients:**
- 1 (1 pound) loaf Italian or French bread, cut into 1/2 inch slices
- 2/3 cup heavy whipping cream
- 1/2 cup Parmesan cheese
- 1/2 cup mozzarella or parmesan cheese
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon Italian seasoning
- 1 tablespoon parsley
- 1 teaspoon dried basil

**Directions:**
1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.
2. Heat butter in a small microwave safe bowl for 30 seconds or until melted. Mix with garlic powder, parsley and Italian seasoning.
3. Place Italian bread on a medium baking sheet. Using a basting brush, brush generously with the butter mixture.
4. Bake in the preheated oven approximately 10 minutes, until lightly toasted. Remove from heat. Sprinkle with cheese.

**Chocolate Fondue**

**Ingredients:**
- 1 (8 ounce) package semisweet or milk chocolate chips
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 1/4 cup semi-sweet or milk chocolate chips
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

**Directions:**
1. Combine chocolate and cream in a medium heat resistant bowl that will fit on top of a small pot.
2. Bring a small pot of water to a simmer over medium-low heat then reduce heat to low.
3. Set the bowl of chocolate over the pot of barely simmering water, making sure the water does not touch the bowl.
4. Stir frequently until all the chocolate is melted.
5. Remove from heat and stir in vanilla. Transfer to a small serving bowl. Serve immediately with dipping items.

French bread, cut into 1/2 inch slices
1 (8 ounce) package shredded mozzarella or parmesan cheese

**Stove Top Directions:**
1. Create a double boiler by combining chocolate and cream in a medium size heat resistant bowl that will fit on top of a small pot.
2. Heat butter in a small microwave safe bowl for 30 seconds or until melted. Mix with garlic powder, parsley and Italian seasoning.
3. Place Italian bread on a medium baking sheet. Using a basting brush, brush generously with the butter mixture.
4. Bake in the preheated oven approximately 10 minutes, until lightly toasted. Remove from heat. Sprinkle with cheese.

Lastly, for the dessert a chocolate fondue for two is a perfect way to end the night.

**Chocolate Fondue**

**Ingredients:**
- 1/2 cup semi-sweet or milk chocolate chips
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

**Directions:**
1. Combine chocolate and cream in a medium microwave safe bowl.
2. Heat in microwave for two minutes, stir.
3. Heat in 30 second intervals and stir until melted.

Stir frequently until all the chocolate is melted.
5. Remove from heat and stir in vanilla. Transfer to a small serving bowl. Serve immediately with dipping items.

**Microwave Directions:**
1. Combine chocolate and cream in a medium microwave safe bowl.
2. Heat in microwave for two minutes, stir.
3. Heat in 30 second intervals and stir until melted.
4. Remove from microwave and stir in vanilla. Transfer to a small serving bowl.
5. Serve immediately with fruit, pound cake, cheesecake and cookies for dipping.
Alone on Valentine’s Day?

Students have cheaper things to do than to wait for cupid

By KARLA BARAJAS
Staff Reporter

It’s Valentine’s Day. Love may be in the air… or not. And it’s not particularly flowing from student wallets. Americans are expected to spend an average of $126.03 per person on clothing, jewelry and other gifts this Valentine’s Day, according to a survey by the National Retail Federation. That average is up 8.5 percent from last year and the highest amount in the 10 years of the survey. Overall, Valentine’s Day celebrations are expected to spend $176.6 billion.

But don’t count on a lot of Highline students forking over any significant dough to cupid. Many of them are just not interested in pursuing a Valentine or, if they are, they have a dream of what their plans for tonight might look like. They just wouldn’t spend a lot of money on it.

Sierra Morris said she does not really think about the true meaning of relationships or Valentine’s Day. “I rather be at work making money, rather than spending it on a boyfriend or a Valentine,” Morris said.

She has never asked a guy to be her Valentine, but would not mind asking a guy if he’s good enough for her. To be good enough for her, he has to have money and ambition. Morris’ best Valentine’s Day was back when she was in elementary school. She feels like no one was left out back in those days, everyone got cards and candy to make each other feel special. “Why can’t we do that again?” Morris asked.

Adrian Yohannes does not have a boyfriend or a Valentine at the moment because she just can’t make up her mind, she said.

On Valentine’s Day, Yohannes will be going to the movies with her best friend instead. “I always have fun with my best friend, so it’s guaranteed to be a fun day,” she said. Yohannes has never asked a guy to be her Valentine and doesn’t plan to. She said she doesn’t want to sound old school but she feels like a guy should always make the first move.

Alex Castro is single and said he plans on staying that way for a while. “I’m not really looking for a relationship at this time. I’m focused on my goals,” Castro said. He said that if the special person happens to come around, then he would take a chance.

Tonight, Castro will be working serving his fellow customers. Yes, it is quite lame, he said.

Morris said she does not really care at the moment for Valentine’s Day. She feels special.

“I’m not really looking for a girlfriend, but if one happens to come around, then I would take a chance,” Castro said. He said he wouldn’t mind if a girl asked him to be her Valentine, but she must be a close friend. It can’t be a complete stranger, he said, that would be weird.

He said his best Valentine’s Day was when he set up his best friends to go on a romantic date together. “I felt like a good friend,” Castro said.

Kevin E. Olortegui is also single, and says he is OK with it. “I’m mainly focused on school and my job, so I don’t think I’ll have time to start a relationship, at least for now,” Olortegui said.

He doesn’t mind if a girl asks him to be his Valentine. He would actually appreciate it because it would make his life so much easier, he said. “I felt like a good friend,” Castro said.

Olortegui said to him Valentine’s Day was when he had a picnic in his car with his date. “I made homemade sandwiches, and gave her flowers. It wasn’t fancy, but it was something,” Duong said.

He doesn’t find it weird if a girl asks him to be her Valentine because it is a one-day thing, it’s not like she’s asking him to be her boyfriend, he said.

A creative way Duong has asked someone to be his Valentine was when he made a Build-a-Bear with a tape recording asking her to be his Valentine. He said his best Valentine’s Day was when he had a picnic in his car with his date.

“I made homemade sandwiches and gave her flowers. It wasn’t fancy, but it was something,” Duong said. It just didn’t cost $126.03.

By KARLA BARAJAS
Staff Reporter

Tonight’s not just a couples’ night

If you consider Ben & Jerry your best friends and were planning to stay at home tonight, you might need a change of venue.

You can go bowling, see a non-romantic movie, go snowboarding or skiing, or any number of other events.

Dinner is still an option although it may be wise to avoid the mushy gushy and expensive restaurants.

In Seattle an improv show called Comedy of Love is showing at the Market Theater tonight at 8. It is for all ages and may well be the way to laugh one’s way through an otherwise uncomfortable day.

“I made homemade sandwiches, and gave her flowers. It wasn’t fancy, but it was something,” Duong said.

He said his best Valentine’s Day was when he had a picnic in his car with his date.

“I made homemade sandwiches, and gave her flowers. It wasn’t fancy, but it was something,” Duong said. It just didn’t cost $126.03.

By KARLA BARAJAS
Staff Reporter

Become a teacher by doing the job now.

At Heritage University you can earn a Bachelor of Education or a Master in Teaching degree while working alongside experienced district elementary teachers in the Heritage 105 program or through our traditional course-based programs. Learn more at an information meeting at Highline Community College, Building 9, Room 109 on March 6 at 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.
No crying, no groping, no pathetic moping

The art of dating means playing it cool, but not too cool

By THUNDERWORD STAFF

It’s usually common courtesy not to cry in a woman’s lap on the first date.

Highline student Kat Reese had this happen on a first date when the gentleman laid down his head on her legs to sob over an ex-girlfriend.

Highline students have an encyclopedia of dating experiences, from the horrible to the wonderful. Reese’s experiences have featured a number of odd dates.

“Do not write your date a love song,” she said. Her serenade was given came on a second date, much to her horror.

While other students may not have such traumatizing date stories, many have ideas of what they think is appropriate on first dates and overall dating behavior.

Students agreed that cheating is a taboo not to be broken in any relationship.

Aside from being faithful, one anonymous student said not to be obnoxious, or full of yourself, two traits that are turn-offs.

Veronica Choi said to reduce awkward moments, you just have to, “keep a good conversation and be interesting,” but it’s not always that easy.

KJ Dumper said you can’t reveal too much information. Telling too much too quickly can be bad.

“Definitely don’t say I love you or ask someone to marry you [on a first date],” said Lisa Henry.

Another way to avoid drama and be a good date is not to degrade or ignore your date, said Marisa Lukehart and Rachel Stahlman. While “bad” girls and boys may be cool in movies, most people don’t want to date jerks in real time.

Lukehart and Stahlman also said to show the significant other that you care before getting involved in the physical. For first dates, “There should be minimal physical contact,” Laura Wilson said.

Sanina Vgarak also said not to be too “touchy-toouchy,” but she and Midheta Djuderija agreed that holding hands and kissing are perfectly fine if the couple is comfortable.

“Holding hands and a first kiss is OK, but anything after that is off limits,” said student Han Tu.

Courtney Cherry described her perfect first date as a day starting with a morning hike and ending with a kiss on the beach.

“Forcing yourself on your date is inappropriate,” said Alycia Williams.

“I don’t really think there are many limits. It depends on how well you know the person,” said Hilary Terret. “If it’s [someone] you just met you shouldn’t go too far.”

Comfort was a big issue for Vgarak and Djuderija. From physical contact to date destinations, their idea of a good date was one that minimized awkward moments and nervousness.

The two said it’s best to have a nice dinner at places such as Olive Garden or Red Robin. Another place Vgarak suggested was Alki Beach in West Seattle.

If they know each other pretty well and are comfortable, Djuderija and Vgarak said physical activities like laser tag and paintball could be fun dates.

Movies, though, don’t give the couple a chance to get to know each other, said the two.

Peter Lee disagreed, saying that he would take a girl to a movie, avoid personal questions and eventually exchange phone numbers.

While there are conflicting views on where to go for dates, most students could agree on dates to avoid.

“Don’t go to McDonald’s,” Vgarak said.

“It’s not just the drive-through that people warned against. Linda Ba said one place not to bring your date was Hooters. Perhaps if one strongly desired wings on a date, they could locate Buffalo Wild Wings.

Despite different takes on a good date, almost all respondents agreed with the tradition of having the male pay. To say “normally guys pay for the first date,” and advised that guys don’t spend a lot of money.

Another student said that although both parties’ incomes should be considered, guys should usually pay.

Wilson, Djuderija and Reese said the man pays; Vgarak and Ba suggested that women at least offer to pay. Djuderija said paying for the girl is a matter of respect.

Others weren’t so sure.

“Be prepared to go dutch,” said Sophie Nguyen.

With the bill recipient set in stone, Reese and Wilson said gifts can be a nice gesture for a lady friend.

“Flowers are cute,” Wilson said.

“Flowers are nice, but anything more expensive? No,” said Reese.

Despite so many varying opinions, not everyone had ideas of what is appropriate and taboo on dates.

“What wouldn’t I do?” Jake McLowden asked.

“I don’t really have limits for a first date, it can go anywhere,” said Adrian Lim.

Another student, who identified himself only as Sam, said he has one rule: “Before going out, make sure she’s single.”

Reporters Emily Arnold, Raquel Arceo and Shelby Swout contributed to this story.

Experience helps when it comes to romance

By KARLA BARAJAS
Staff Reporter

Young love might not be the best love.

Cristina Rosas was 13 when she went on her first date, but believes people should be at least 15 or 16 when they first start dating.

“If you date any earlier than that, you usually end up regretting it anyway,” she said.

Now at the age of 19, she said she realizes that she regretted dating so young because you think you fall in love, when it was just a phase.

What she considered awkward when dating was realizing that she didn’t actually like the person she was with, and there were a lot of “awkward silences.”

The most awkward thing a date had done to her was to put his arm around her and clearly he had not worn deodorant.

“It smelled horrible,” she said.

Her most awkward moment while on a date was after she was dropped off, and it was a snowy day. While walking up the hill to her house she slipped and fell. Yes, he saw the whole thing.

D’ lite Xiong now, 18, was 15 when she went on her first date, but now she says she believes people should be 17 when they first start seriously dating.

“If someone falls in love at a young age, it will ruin their innocence,” she said.

Xiong said kids start catching feelings too fast, and mistake true love with just an immature fling.

Thus, in her opinion, they do things that you should only do once you are already married.

One of the things Xiong considers awkward when dating is the payment situation. This is hard for girls because guys generally offer to pay. But what if they don’t? Her most embarrassing moment was also slipping and falling at the end of her date.

Daniel Nguyen, now 20, see Experience, page 87
The right moves require perfect timing

By MARENNA GUEVARA  Staff Reporter

When to make the first move is the question a relationship could depend on.

Guys generally would wait it out before making the first move and then decide if they want to pursue the woman.

“It depends on the girl, I would wait to get to know her then go with my gut feeling,” said Ryan Erickson.

“If me and the person are really clicking, I’d ask after a couple weeks,” Cyrus Stewart said.

“I think you should wait until you are at least friends and know a little about each other,” Aleyah Danielson said.

Liz Englund disagrees. She said that someone should make the move “almost instantaneously...because the fastest way to get to know someone is one-on-one.” Englund said she also thinks that making a move right away will help to avoid getting stuck in the friend zone.

“There’s a fine line between being friends and being friend-zoned.

If someone is in the friend zone there may be a very slim chance of him or her ever going out with the person who put them there. Madheta Duderija said that make the move “almost instantaneously...because the fastest way to get to know someone is one-on-one.” Englund said she also thinks that making a move right away will help to avoid getting stuck in the friend zone.

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I f you’re a lion you may roar for a ram. But if you’re a fish you might flop for a crab.

“Astrological compatibility is so important in determining the success of a relationship that it may be a good idea to check our compatibility with our partners before taking the next step,” said Monica Monasterio, a local astrologer who runs ligh-totafastrology.com.

There are four pillars of compatibility that determines the success of a relationship, said Monasterio.

“You would actually have to take the ascendant, moon, sun, and Venus [signs] into account,” she said. The sun sign is what horoscopes consider to be our outer personality and communications, and magazines refer to and is determined by the month and day you were born.

“If the two signs are compatible, that means they feel a deeper spiritual soul connection with each other. It just feels right to them,” Monasterio said. It’s because “the sun represents our soul and deeper, spiritual selves,” said Monasterio.

However, “you can’t just say that two signs are always compatible, it doesn’t work like that,” Monasterio said.

In addition, the ascendant sign, moon sign, and Venus sign should be considered.

“The ascendant represents our outer personality and contribution in the public world,” said Monasterio.

If your ascendant sign is compatible with another person’s, you “will feel comfortable being seen together in public,” Monasterio said.

“Without this pillar, there will be a lot of distress coming from the outside world and this would cause a lot of friction inside the relationship,” she said.

Furthermore, the moon sign is the pillar that “represents our emotions and habitual way of thinking,” Monasterio said.

“The moon [sign] is very important because it determines if we can connect mentally and emotionally with our partners.”

“If the two moons are not compatible, there may be a lot of emotional imbalances and bickering because the partners don’t see eye-to-eye on most subjects,” said Monasterio.

On the other hand, “if they are compatible, For instance, this would mean they have such good communication that they could spend hours and hours on the phone without getting bored,” she said.

Finally, the Venus sign is the pillar that stands as “the significator of relationships, love, desire, romance, and marriage,” said Monasterio.

When it comes to compatibility, signs are also divided into four different elements: air, fire, water, and earth.

Air signs are Gemini, Libra, and Aquarius. Fire signs are Ar-ies, Leo, and Sagittarius. Water signs are Cancer, Scorpio, and Pisces. Earth signs are Taurus, Virgo, and Capricorn.

In addition, air signs and fire signs and earth signs and water signs are also compatible with each other, which means Libra and Leo or Taurus and Cancer may be compatible.

Most students don’t consider their astrological sign or advice when pursuing relationships, but some said they would if they knew more about it.

“Horoscopes are fake in my opinion,” said Justin McMullen, a Highline student.

“I hardly ever read horoscopes but on the few occasions they are read to me, they do not fit my personality,” said McMullen.

McMullen said he wouldn’t take astrological advice for a relationship, even if it is a warning because “horoscopes are on par with luck, superstition, and fairy tales.”

Most students who were interviewed said similar things about astrology and their horoscope.

Horoscopes are just for fun, kind of like reading a fortune cookie. Relationships should be based on what they feel is right, not what the stars say, said Javny Crownerover.

“Astrology does not influence my decisions because a person’s sign doesn’t define who they are and who they like to be around,” said James Collier.

Other students are more open to the idea of using astrology as a tool to succeed in a relationship.

“If someone told me a specific sign is good for a relationship, I guess it wouldn’t hurt to try,” said Collin Nisco.

“I haven’t done much into looking at other signs and compatibility but all I can say is most of my horoscopes are spot on,” said Rachel Colman.

“I think that some people tend to get along better because they have certain characteristics that may correlate with their respective horoscopes,” said Syd-ney Miyahara.

“So I would take that into account and [look more] at the characteristics that define the sign and look for those instead of the specific sign,” Miyahara said.

“If I got involved with someone of [a sign that isn’t compatible with mine] I wouldn’t change my mind or stop seeing them but I might tread more carefully,” Abby Gregory said.

One student in particular definitely uses astrology as a guide in her love life.


“As an Aries I don’t want to engage with another wild card—it wouldn’t work well—I wouldn’t date someone who was not an Aquarius, Sagittarius, or Gemini. I need someone who will let me take the reins,” Baker said.
A passion for the play

By MEGAN PORTER
Staff Reporter

Steven Davis wandered into a class and came out an actor

For his first paid gig, Davis was Henry Teide and Sheriff Carson in Gentlemen Desperado for the Auburn Theatre last summer. Transforming and performing different characters allows the performer to fall in love with the role said Davis. "With Mr. Wickett I had to learn how to use an electro-larynx after my character lost his voice due to smoking his whole life, which was fun to actually see and use the artificial voice maker," Davis said. "If I could play any role I would like to play Buff in the play Death of a Salesman, which is pretty well-known," Davis said. "Or if I ever get heavy into musicals I would love to be Aladdin in Aladdin: The Musical." Even though Davis mostly enjoys the performance aspect of theater, he always sets time aside to get in, the thing you get to see Davis said.

He has sent in his application to Cornish College of the Arts, a prestigious arts school in Seattle. The school requires candidates to audition and Davis believes with a little rehearsal and hard work, he will be accepted and continue his education there. He does also plan on applying to the University of Washington, Seattle, as well as other colleges. "I love to act, and I love to watch others acting," Davis said. "Whether it be in class or on a stage somewhere I paid to get in, the thing you get to see and feel on stage there is nothing that ever comes close to it."

Puzzle answers

**Weekly SUDOKU**

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**WORDS WITH WORD**

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**Lend Me A Tenor.** Audiences have been singing themselves silly at Lend Me A Tenor since it received nine Tony nominations for its 1998 Broadway premiere – where it received mostly positive reviews. Lend Me A Tenor is a madcap comedy that takes place in 1944. Tito Merelli, the fiery-tempered and world-famous Italian supernova, arrives in Cleveland, Ohio, to make his debut with the local opera and promptly goes missing. As Saunders, the show’s presenter, comments, “If ever in his absence, placate his hot-blooded wife, and distract his most passionate and adoring fans, chaos on a truly operatic level ensues.”

**Lena Horne:** Lena Horne was born in the Brooklyn borough of New York City on February 3, 1917. She was discovered in the 1930s as a vocalist for the renowned Louis Armstrong band. During her career, she was known for her strong, forceful voice and her ability to command the stage. She used her magnificent voice to change America’s perceptions of our African-American and female citizens. Spanning the breadth of a 50-year career, her songbook speaks to humankind’s potential to live in a loving all-inclusive society. Songs in this uplifting tribute concert include Stormy Weather, Bewitched, and Close Your Eyes and Believe In Yourself. Performed by gifted vocalists who are not impersonators, each Seattle-based performer is uniquely suited to realize the songs performed and made famous by these iconic stars.

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**Lena Horne Songbook.** Lena Horne was more than just a p-p-p-p-girl of WWII. She used her magnificent voice to change America’s perceptions of our African-American and female citizens. Spanning the breadth of a 50-year career, her songbook speaks to humankind’s potential to live in a loving all-inclusive society. Songs in this uplifting tribute concert include Stormy Weather, Bewitched, and Close Your Eyes and Believe In Yourself. Performed by gifted vocalists who are not impersonators, each Seattle-based performer is uniquely suited to realize the songs performed and made famous by these iconic stars.

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Winless week pushes Highline out of playoff contention

By ZACH STEMM  Staff Reporter

The heartbreak continues for the T-Birds in a season full of close games and overtime losses.

Highline lost to Lower Columbia, 66-63, and fell to Pierce, 64-62. The T-Birds then were defeated by Tacoma, 90-51.

The T-Bird men’s basketball team fell to 4-9 in division play with those three losses and ended their hopes of playing in the NWAACC tournament.

The T-Birds last made the playoffs in the 2000-2001 season when they lost both of their games.

In the previous six seasons, Highline has gotten into the NWAACC tourney four times.

Highline needed at least fourth place to make the playoffs this season.

The T-Birds are five games behind Lower Columbia for fourth, but there are only two games left to play.

Highline is averaging 62.9 points per game as a team, while their opponents are averaging 67.8 points.

There were a few questionable calls by the officials in the first two games, but the T-Birds do not blame the officials.

“I do my best to not use the officials as a scapegoat for our performance,” Head Coach Ché Dawson said. “Officials don’t win and lose games, teams do.”

In the Lower Columbia loss, the T-Birds possibly could have won if they could have knocked down a few more 3-pointers.

Lower Columbia made twice the amount of shots from the 3-point arc, outscoring Highline 18-9 from deep.

“There were a lot of things within our control that would have helped us win the Lower Columbia game,” Dawson said.

The T-Birds had the last possession of the game.

They drove the ball down the court and attempted a 3-pointer. The shot missed, but they got the rebound. That led to another 3-point shot from Roddy Hanson to send the game into overtime; however, it did not go in.

Highline was one of the many host gyms sponsoring the “Play for Kay” Breast Cancer Awareness Program last Saturday.

The Kay Yow Cancer Fund was developed by Kay Yow in 2007.

Yow was a former North Carolina State women’s head basketball coach. She was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1987, and died after her third battle against breast cancer in 2009.

So far, the Kay Yow Cancer Fund has raised $7 million, and $2.5 million has been granted for scientific and other programs focused on women’s cancers.

In the loss against Pierce, hot scoring runs from long distance kept putting Pierce ahead.

Pierce moved to 11-1 with the victory and is sitting pretty atop the West Division of the NWAACC.

Pierce has clinched a playoff berth, but they have not secured the West Division championship yet.

Both teams did not shoot well.

Highline shot 35 percent from the field while Pierce made only 39 percent.

Pierce ended the game with three technical fouls. Guard Gary Jacobs was ejected with two technical fouls, and forward Derek Porter had the other one.

Jacobs’ first technical was from him clapping obscenely after a free-throw line violation by Highline. Jacobs kept doing it afterwards, and that led to him getting ejected from the game.

The T-Birds had the last possession of the game, down by 3 points. Ira Haywood was fouled inside the 3-point arc. He made his first free-throw attempt but missed his second to bring Highline within two.

“Dang, not again,” is what goes through Haywood’s head whenever the T-Birds are put in this position, he said.

Haywood is averaging 9.3 points per game.

A clock timing error gave the T-Birds another chance to either send the game into overtime or leave with the upset victory. However, the T-Birds had very little time left and were unable to get a shot off.

The T-Birds were without Pepe Hernandez, Hanson, and Jaron Heck in the loss. Hernandez was not there because of a decision by Dawson. Hanson and Heck were in a “semi-serious” car accident on Friday night, Dawson said.

Heck returned on Monday night in the loss to Tacoma; however, Hanson and Hernandez did not play.

Hernandez could possibly return on Wednesday. He is averaging roughly 6.4 points per game.

Heck is averaging 7.4 points per game.

In the loss to Tacoma, Tacoma drastically outshot Highline. The T-Birds shot 25 percent from the field and only made 13 baskets compared to Tacoma’s 52 percent and 36 baskets.

The T-Birds finish off their season with a home game on Saturday, Feb. 16 at 3 p.m. against Centralia, and a road game on Wednesday, Feb. 20 at 8 p.m. against South Puget Sound.

Highline took on Grays Harbor on the road last night. The results were unavailable at press time.
Lady ‘Birds on the rim of making playoffs

By KIMBERLY IBARRA
Staff Reporter

Despite going 2-1 last week, Highline women’s basketball team remains a step away from the playoffs.

The team has a league record of 7-6 as they remain in fifth place in the West Division.

In order to qualify for the playoffs, Highline would need to go undefeated and Tacoma would need to lose their next two games.

The T-Birds are a game and a half behind Tacoma for fourth place.

“After losing to Tacoma, we have to beat Centralia to make it to the playoffs or we’re done. They’re ranked No. 1 right now,” Fields said.

The T-Birds only have two games left in the season. They play Centralia and South Puget Sound. Highline’s opponents have a combined record of 13-12.

Tacoma has three games left in the season. They will face Clark, Lower Columbia, and Green River. The Titan’s opponents have a combined record of 20-17.

In its most recent games, Highline won against Lower Columbia on Feb. 6, 59-35. They also won against Pierce on Feb. 9, 68-66. The T-Birds then lost to Tacoma on Feb.11, 64-55.

The Thunderbirds played strong throughout the game against Lower Columbia.

“Our game against Lower Columbia was our best game. Everyone followed the game plan. Our sweeps, penetration, passes, and defense were almost perfect for the whole 40 minutes,” forward Christina Fields said.

Highline led at half time, 30-10.

Guard Keana Magalei led Highline with 21 points. Grace Beardemphl and Christina Fields both added seven points.

The T-Birds outbounded the Red Devils. Highline had 46 rebounds whereas Lower Columbia only had 27.

The Thunderbirds shot 44.6 percent at the free throw line. The Red Devils shot 72.6 percent at the free throw line.

“We have to work extra hard at this time,” Assistant Coach Karen Nadeau said.

Highline’s Lucas Huyber pins down trip to Iowa

By ISAIAH WELLER
Staff Reporter

Highline came in last place at the regional tournament this past weekend.

Nonetheless, four T-Birds are moving on to nationals in Iowa on Feb. 22.

Favored North Idaho College won the tournament with 136.5 points followed by Clackamas with 113.5, Northwest with 98.0, Southwest Oregon with 95.5, Western Columbia with 88.5, and Highline with 82.

Highline’s Lucas Huyber won first place at 184 pounds. Also going to Iowa are Cole Scwhartz at 174, Wayne Swartz at 197, and Ben Tynan at heavyweight.

Only the top four in each weight class move onto nationals unless there is a wildcard.

Highline had wrestlers in every weight class with Brandon Leach fifth at 125; Jake Portes, sixth at 133; Max Welsh, fifth at 141; Kruba Mansaray, sixth at 149; Shawn Weisenburg, fifth at 157; Kario Wallin, fifth at 165; Schwartz, fourth at 174; Huyber, first at 184; Swartz, fifth at 197; and Tynan, fourth at heavyweight.

“That doesn’t matter whether you took first or fourth, you have to forget that and move on because the point is you’re in nationals and that’s where your mindset has to be,” said Huyber, ranked No. 4 in the nation.

Schwartz is ranked sixth nationally.

Swartz got in with a wild card. Swartz lost to No. 1 ranked wrestler, VJ Giulio from North Idaho College, early in the tournament.

“T-Birds were being conservative on keeping the 3-point and jump shots low, players and coaches said. They went 1-2 at the 3-point arc.

The Titans were the opposites of the Thunderbirds. Tacoma had 24 points off of their 3-point shots.

An issue for Highline was fouling throughout the game.

“We foul way too much. We need to not foul and leave people open for easy buckets,” Assistant Coach Karen Nadeau said.

The T-Birds had 23 fouls and one technical foul. The Lady Titans only had 15 fouls.

The Thunderbirds played on Wednesday Feb. 13 against the Grays Harbor Chokers. Results were unavailable at press time.

The ladies will take on the Centralia Lady Blazers on Saturday, Feb. 16. They are currently No. 1 in the West Division with a league record of 12-1.

“We have to work extra hard to get a win against them. We have to continue to focus with what we have been doing the last two games,” Fields said.

Highline led Highline with 15 points. Brianna Fiso added 12 points and Brianna Votaw added 10. Nicole Smith contributed six points, six rebounds, four steals, six assists and two turnovers.

“Our Pierce game wasn’t so great but we came out with a win,” Fields said.

Magalei led Highline with 15 points. Brianna Fiso added 12 points and Brianna Votaw added 10. Nicole Smith contributed six points, six rebounds, four steals, six assists and two turnovers.

For them to qualify for the playoffs, Highline would need to beat Centralia to move onto nationals and that’s where your mindset has to be,” said Huyber, ranked No. 4 in the nation.

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The AMATYC + Highline = Sure Success

By ANGELA STONE  Staff Reporter

Warm up your calculators and sharpen your pencils because Highline is prepping to take the annual national math test, the AMATYC.

AMATYC stands for American Association of Two-Year Colleges, and the facility unique is the rich history it has. Highline has been participating in the AMATYC for more than 20 years.

Highline hopes to continue last year’s success on March 7. The AMATYC test will be given on March 7 in Building 7 from 2:30-4:30 p.m. Reviews will be in the Math Resource Center, Building 26, room 319 Feb. 26 at 2:30 p.m. led by part-time math instructor Tim Greene and Feb. 28 at 5 p.m. led by Hyunwoo (Harry) Kim, Fall Quarter’s top scoring student.

“Each time we give the test, we send in the top 10 to 15 student scores to the AMATYC Student Math League,” Math Resource Director Terry Meerdink said.

Our top five scores are added to give us our team score. Our two team scores are added together for our overall score,” she said.

The 197 two-year colleges that participate are ranked and you can look up, on the AMATYC web site, who made the top 10 nationally and top five in each region for the past 11 years,” Meerdink said.

Last year Highline took first place in the Northwest region for the first time, and 13th nationally, she said.

“Based on last fall’s team score, we are currently ranked first in the Northwest region for four quarters consecutively. So we are really hopeful for a great showing this year. Our fall team is Hyunwoo Kim, Tae Fung Cheung, Drew Camp, Thinzar Aung, and Shuhyon Chung,” Meerdink said.

The AMATYC is given bimannually and the scores from the two different tests are added together to make Highline’s overall score for the year, Meerdink said.

“There is a scholarship that is usually given to the top student nationwide. Our top student last year, Hyunwoo (Harry) Kim, was first in the Northwest region and 12th nationally. He earned a perfect score of 40 last fall, so we have high hopes for this year,” she said.

“I got a free copy of Maple [a mathematical graphing program], a puzzle book, a plaque, and $50, as well as recognition at our annual math conference and at the national AMATYC conference last November,” Meerdink said.

The AMATYC is given bimannually and the scores from the two different tests are added together to make Highline’s overall score for the year, Meerdink said.

“Some of the questions require knowledge of pre-calculus (our Math 110 and 142), but none ever require any higher level,” Meerdink said.

All the questions are word problems that Meerdink said can be solved with basic arithmetic or beginning algebra concepts.

All students are invited to take the test, and any student who is interested in the test should try.

The students who do the best on the test are usually students who have taken it before,” Meerdink said.

If you plan to be here next year, you should take the test in March this year so you have a better chance of making the team next year also. Also, the past 38 tests are available along with answer keys at amatyc.org/SML/old-competition-questions.htm,” she said.

“Most instructors have not taken the test,” Meerdink said. “They do this for fun and do not count to with our team score.”

“Dusty Wilson has also taken the test often. He usually places third and has never done better than Tim. His average score is about 23.5 points,” Meerdink said.

“Diana Lee took the test twice when she was a student at Green River Community College, earning 22 and 28 points. Then later, when she had a job working in their math lab she took it twice, earning a 35 and a perfect 40,” she said.

“Even when she [Lee] earned a perfect score, she didn’t know how to solve all of the problems but she knew enough to be able to eliminate the wrong answers,” Meerdink said. “This strategy is often better than the [so called] correct-solution strategy,” Meerdink said.

“My solutions aren’t usually the best to use for strategy either, because I show all my steps and actually find the correct solution rather than just choosing the ‘wrong ones,’” Meerdink said.

“However, if you are really dying to know why the answer is question 17 is B, seeing my work might help you to be able to satisfy your mind and move on,” Meerdink said.

The AMATYC is a one-hour, 20-question multiple-choice test.

Students can earn up to two points for each correct answer and can lose half a point for an incorrect answer, Meerdink said.

Meerdink said that one of the biggest things about the AMATYC is that the “problems unlike anything they’ve seen in the class room,” Greene said.

“Leaving a question blank gives you zero points. So it is better not to guess unless you can narrow down your choices to two or three. You get one point for every 10 and 40 each time you take the test, Meerdink said.

“One unfortunate thing about the test is that it is scored is that the top score will come from someone who put down completely random guesses,” Greene said.

Example from the AMATYC test:
If $\log_y x = \log_2 x = 2.9$ and $xy = 128$, find $x + y$.
A. 32  B. 36  C. 40  D. 48  E. 64
Resource director transfers to Tacoma

By MEGAN PORTER
Staff Reporter

Human Resources Director Beth Brooks will be leaving Highline and will be transferring to Tacoma Community College to be closer to home.

Brooks has been at Highline for two years and will be in her office for the last time Feb. 22. She will be transferring to Tacoma Community College March 4 as their new human resources director.

Larry Yek says they will begin the recruitment and selection process soon and hopes to have Brooks’ replacement by the end of May.

“I’m very fortunate here and that we have built a good staff where we continue to grow,” said Brooks. It was a difficult decision for Brooks.

“There are different attributes to each, both of them are good institutions. Both have good administration. I think the faculty at both are excellent,” said Brooks.

“It was just a decision that provided me with possibly some more career growth and it was a little closer to me. I live in Tacoma so it’s a little closer to everything I kinda do,” she said.

Last week Brooks was at a Human Resources Management Commission, where all 34 community colleges and technical school’s human resources directors meet quarterly.

“They are good friends, yeah they’ve become good friends. They’re all incredibly bright, very dedicated, I’ve learned a lot from them,” Brooks said.

Brooks said she has loved her time at Highline and would like to eventually come back.

“I’m sure I’ll see people and I’ll be back, I hope to be back. Like I’ve said, I’ll miss friends and colleagues that I’ve made here,” Brooks said. “I’ll miss them.”

Federal Way votes in new council members

By LOGAN MILLER
Staff Reporter

After Federal Way City Council members Linda Kochmar and Roger Freeman were elected to the state House of Representatives, Kelly Maloney and Diana Noble-Gulliford were chosen to fill their places on the council.

Recently, the Federal Way city council held a special meeting to choose the two new members.

A total of 20 people applied for the two newly-vacant positions. During this meeting, the applicants were given five minutes to make their cases, then another five minutes to answer questions from the council members.

The city council then met for an executive session, nominated candidates, and cast their votes in public.

The first round ended with Kelly Maloney being selected.

Maloney is the director of marketing for Orion Industries, an aerospace product manufacturing company located in Federal Way.

This second round of voting ended with Diana Noble-Gulliford, president of the Historical Society of Federal Way, tied with small business owner Tom Medhurst, with three votes going to each candidate.

The Deputy Mayor of Federal Way, Jim Ferrell, suggested that the council continue the discussion publicly. The members of the council eventually agreed to another executive session.

The tie was broken when Maloney switched her vote. The council selected Noble-Gulliford as its second new member.

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Medical continued from page A1

"it was voted out of the Senate Commerce and Labor Committee on a party-line vote, four Republicans voted in support of repealing FMLI, and the three Democrats on the committee voted against the bill," Sen. Keiser said.

"I cannot predict the future for SB 5292 at this point," said Sen. Keiser.

The Family Medical Leave Insurance law is "a really important issue," said Marilyn Watkins, policy director of the Economic Opportunity Institute.

The law is an "important way to really help everyone fulfill responsibilities," said Watkins.

Watkins attended a press conference last week on Tuesday for SB 5292 and the House companion bill, HB 1457 and a supporter of Sen. Keiser’s bill.

It can help parents bond with their newborn “by having those early weeks and months,” said Watkins.

In addition, it’s "important that people have the time off for aging relatives," Watkins said. For “care and emotional support.”

The law is a “prime responsibility for the state and federal government,” said Watkins.

Watkins said she is hopeful the family medical leave insurance laws will “keep moving through the [legislative] process.”

At the press conference, there was “a really strong turnout out of people,” Watkins said. “We had business owners, parents, [and senior citizens],” she said.

“Family Medical Leave Insurance is good for moms, dads, and babies and the economy and taxpayers too,” said Sarah Francis.

Francis is a campaign director of MomsRising, an organization who also supports the bill.

MomsRising is an organization that brings forth issues relating to women, mothers, and families to elected officials.

“Studies show that paid family leave after the birth of a child combats poverty, gives children a healthy start, lowers infant mortality by more than 20 percent and helps lower the wage gap between women and men,” said Francis.

“At the same time it can benefit businesses’ bottom line. This saves everyone—from parents to taxpayers to businesses—money in the long run," Francis said.

“We are optimistic that legislators will do the right thing for Washington families,” said Francis.

Action continued from page A1

“We helped about 100 people with their applications,” said Lamb. There were 200 people altogether at this workshop.

Once accepted into the program, an immigrant is unlikely to be deported while in this program.

“Currently, without any legal status, they could be arrested and deported at any time," said Lamb. "They have no legal protection from deportation.”

“People who get this status, it seems unlikely that they would take it away," said Lamb. Currently there is no way for non-citizens to get citizenship in the United States.

“The hope is that during those two years Congress will pass immigration reform,” Lamb said. "There are too many people to find and deport everybody.”

“The main people who are deported are those who have committed crimes," Lamb said.

“Basically the government knows they are here but won’t deport you unless you have committed crimes.”

People interested in applying can find the applications online at www.uscis.gov/uscis. The i821d form is all they need to fill out. More information can also be found at nwrip.org, or by contacting Bruce Lamb at blamb@highline.edu, or Zaida Rivera at nwirp@nwirp.org.

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