



Rebecca Starkey/THUNDERWORD

Despite the threat of being towed, students park at Lowe's every morning, most commonly from 9 a.m. to noon. The hardware giant's manager says he's going to start impounding vehicles beginning May 1.

Lowe's to impound student vehicles starting on May 1

By LaTonya Brisbane
Staff Reporter

Students parking in the Lowe's parking lot may have their vehicles impounded beginning May 1 if a dispute between Highline and the hardware store is not resolved.

The dispute is an outgrowth of the perennial parking prob-

lems at the college. Students unable to find parking on campus have been using the Lowe's lot despite periodic warnings.

"As of May 1 cars will be towed," Lowe's Manager Chad Ballard said.

"We receive four-to-five complaints a day from customers" about the lack of parking in the lot, he said.

"I don't know if it's overpriced parking or lack of parking for the students, but we see students with [Highline] parking permits in our lots," Ballard said.

Highline Vice President of Institutional Advancement Lisa Skari said there has been con-

see Lowe's page 15

Policy proposal could crack down on student overloading in credits

By Erika Wigren
Staff Reporter

Students may soon be limited to the number of credits they can take a quarter.

The Faculty Senate is working to develop a policy for students looking to register for more than 18 credits a quarter.

The policy proposal is not yet official but the goal is to keep students from overloading themselves with too much work a quarter, said Buzz Wheeler, chair of the Faculty Senate.

Currently, any student can gain entry into more than 18 credits per quarter with the signature of a professor or an adviser.

"Taking over 18 credits is considered overloading and the system requires a signature," Wheeler said. "However, a mix of some courses and the workload they involve, could be as crucial as the number of credits

see Overload, page 16

Highline campus in shock over loss of two students

Shoot-out in Federal Way claims five lives

By Erika Wigren
Staff Reporter



Clark

Two Highline students are dead following a domestic dispute in Federal Way that left five people dead Sunday night.

One of the students has been identified as the murderer and the other student his live-in girlfriend, said the Federal Way Police Department.

The King County Medical Examiner officially identified four of the dead as 27-year-old Dennis Clark III, a Highline student, his girlfriend, 24-year-old Justine Baez also a Highline student, and two bystanders 23-year-old Caesar Valdovinos and 62-year-old Roland Scobee.

A third bystander, believed to be a 47-year-old resident of Federal Way, has not yet been identified by the Medical Examiner.

According to the Federal Way Police Department, on Sunday night several 911 calls had reported gunshots at the Pinewood Village Apartments in Federal Way.

Officers arrived around 9:35 p.m. and encountered a man, later identified as Clark, who reached for a handgun and was then shot and killed by officers on the scene.

Police reports stated that after shooting Baez in the head, Clark shot Valdovinos and another bystander who attempted to confront him outside of his apartment building.

Clark then used a shotgun to break into Scobee's

apartment, where he shot and killed him, after Scobee had attempted to call 911.

The Federal Way Po-

lice Department said that they believe Clark was attempting to kill any witnesses.

News of the killings shocked faculty members and students.

Spanish professor Arlene Garcia said she had Baez in her Spanish 123 class.

"Justine [Baez] was in my class and two of my students also had her in other classes," said Garcia. "My students said that she was always smiling, really sweet, very engaged, inquisitive, and we were all shocked by the news."

Garcia said that Baez was hardworking and was currently working on an honors project with her.

"She was always talking to people, very friendly, and looking forward to finishing her degree. She was totally committed and enjoyed school and working with her classmates who thought very highly of her," Garcia said.

Garcia said Baez' classmates plan on sending flowers to her family.

"She was highly regarded by her classmates, and very well liked. Its a terrible loss," Garcia said.

Math professor Allen Walton said that he had the suspect, Clark, in his math class this quarter.

Walton said that Clark was a hardworking student who faced normal challenges in school.

"He was like a lot of our stu-

see Shooting, page 16

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Students enjoy a Night in Rio at annual Pink Prom



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Lady T-Birds go 2-2 at crossover tournament



Page 8
Student business creates hand-crafted art



Fire in the Union

The fire department showed up on April 19, due to someone accidentally catching something on fire in the microwave in Building 8.

Student notices flat tire at school

A student reported that their tire was punctured on April 18, after leaving school but the student wasn't sure if this happened at Highline or somewhere else.

Grounds crew equipment taken

Multiple lawn tools were taken from Highline grounds crew's trailer, including a lawn trimmer and a leaf blower by Building 0 on April 20.

Student car vandalized

A student's car was vandalized on April 23. The student returned to their car and found profanity written on their door.

-COMPILED BY MARK FITZGERALD

Policies should change for environment

By Nathan Brewster
Staff Reporter

The government has to do a better job to preserve the environment and one of the best ways to do it is to fix loopholes in the National Environmental Policy Act, a visiting lecturer told a History Seminar audience last week.

Ivan White, a retired environmental consultant with degrees in environmental studies and engineering, explained how the act was implemented with its shortfalls.

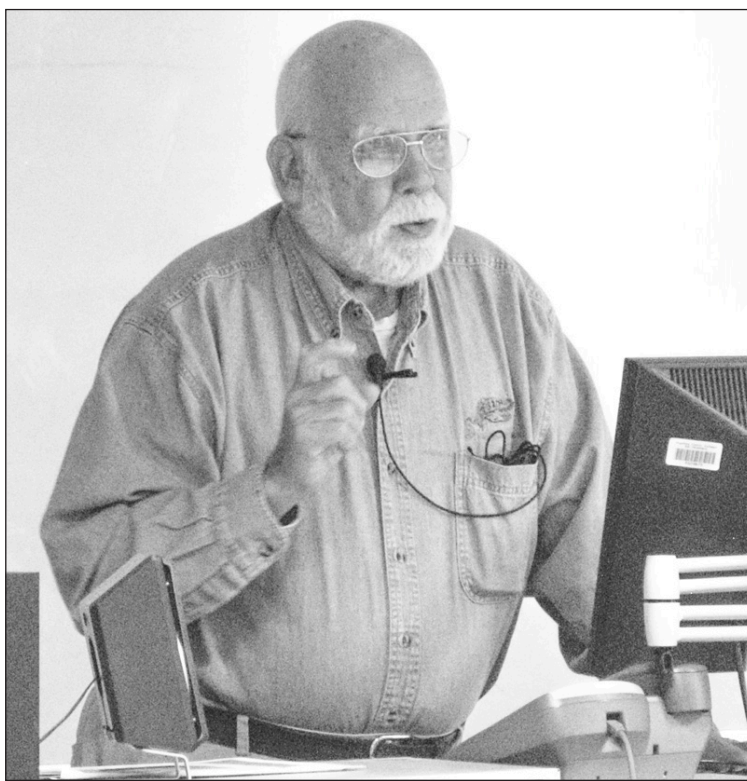
NEPA was established 40 years ago and was initially "aimed at big governments," he said.

NEPA was originally proposed by Sen. Henry Jackson, D-Wash., who, White said, was very conservative but wanted "each person to have a fundamental and inalterable right to a healthful environment."

"In the 60s, it became clear there were major problems. The Council on Environmental Quality implemented the act with agencies having to comply with the act," White said.

NEPA, however, has affected the environment in a couple generally unexpected ways that White said he was able to predict.

"Forced corporations [had] to do dust studies and [yet] a reporter found that dust was covering up rock art [in Utah]," White said. "[NEPA] has al-



Rebecca Starkey/THUNDERWORD

Ivan White discusses how the National Environmental Policy Act could be modified for successful environmental protection.



lowed the government to drill 2,000 oil wells without a legitimate permit since 2004."

In spite of clear violations, the government has not changed its policies since the act was originally passed. White

said he believes that none of the agencies acted because it would have been "suicide."

White told the audience of about two people from agencies that did try to change the act but they were put on leave and never heard from again. This, he said, showed the power of certain individuals who "considered NEPA to be important, but often looked over the negatives."

"Agencies fought to not have NEPA," White said. But it still was passed because of peer

pressure.

"The act was supported by some of the worst sellouts because they wanted to have their jobs secure," White said.

Despite the record, White said he still believes the act can be tweaked to make it successful.

Nine Mile Canyon, often billed as the world's longest art gallery because of its vast Native American rock art, is threatened since the discovery of large deposits of natural gas.

"[Under NEPA we] are coming up with a mitigation plan for Nine Mile Canyon," White said.

That plan recognizes that the issues are not simply economic but could entail religious factors as well. He said one of the criteria for evaluating Nine Mile Canyon is a religious/native component that was utilized and NEPA never identified any Native American tribes as potentially being impacted.

White said "that there is a possibility that [affected tribes] are there and that we have been taking their land from them without even knowing it."

White said that he remains committed to preserving the environment.

"I wanted to do something with people... to have a significant impact," he said.

White said the environment can be handled in a more delicate way and that NEPA can be fixed.



Unity and Diversity activities continue

The 16th annual Unity through Diversity Week, *Interrogating Knowledge: Other Ways of Knowing*, continues events today and tomorrow.

Today, Thursday, April 25:

11 a.m.-12:03 p.m.: Mira Shimabukuro from the English Department will hold a panel discussion on "The Politics of Language" in Building 8, the Student Union's Mount Constance room.

2-4:30 p.m.: A discussion on "Student Speak Out: Do You Think it is Bad to See Race?" invites students to come talk about their identities in the Mount Constance room of the Student Union, Building 8.

Friday, April 26:

10-10:50 a.m.: Dr. Kanta Kochhar will share ideas from her book *Hearing Difference across Theatres: Experimental, Disability and Deaf Performance*, which explores the different things people hear – sounds, silence, and perhaps an in-between.

The event will be held in

Building 7.

1:30-3:30 p.m.: Movie Fridays – A viewing of the movie *Searching for Sugar Man*, which shows the story of a folksinger and his music that went on to serve as an inspiration for the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa after his death.

The showing is available for anyone in Building 2.

Congressman comes to Highline

U.S. Rep. Adam Smith, D-Ninth District is coming to Highline for a town hall meeting on Thursday, May 2 from 7-8:30 p.m. in Building 2.

Rep. Smith is coming to meet constituents and discuss issues Congress is dealing with.

Call 425-793-5180 or 888-764-8409 to reserve a spot.

Poetry Month to end soon

Highline's first celebration of National Poetry Month is coming to a close with these events:

Thursday, April 25:

Terry Dockter will be talking about ASL Storytelling at 11 a.m. in Building 7.

Saturday, April 27:

Susan Landgraf and Susan Rich will conduct a workshop about The Art of Collaboration: Writing Poems from Photographs at noon in the MaST Center.

Monday, April 29:

Roberto Ascalon, a spoken-word artist will be on campus at 11 a.m. in the Student Union Mount Olympus room.

Student officials meet Monday

There will be a student government ASHCC Information Session on Monday, April 29 from 2-3p.m. on the third floor of the Student Union in room 302.

At the meeting Nimo Azeez, student government president, Jemimah Kamau, student government vice president, and Annie Boyenneh, student government speaker of the caucuses, will be going through the election packet and answering any questions.

The meeting is open for all students interested in student government.

Scholarship applications due

Applications for the HCC Foundation Scholarship for the 2013-2014 school year are due to

the Foundation office, Building 99 room 248, on April 30 by 4 p.m.

Contact Foundation Executive Director Rod Stephenson, at rstephenson@highline.edu or call 206-592-3696 for an application and more information.

Correction

In an article from last week, the orientation questions that will be asked should have been listed as: what is your gender identity? and what is your sexual orientation? Also, these questions will be asked to collect data on the registration forms.



**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.



Campus tree is no longer in danger

By Gabrielle Paulson
Staff Reporter

The weeping beech tree in front of Building 19 has been granted a reprieve unless related storm drain problems continue.

There are no plans to remove the tree as of now, said Barry Holldorf, Facilities director.

Last quarter, when an unofficial email leaked that the beech was scheduled for removal, many faculty and staff rejected the idea and replied to the message, expressing their desire for the tree to stay.

Plans were then adjusted so that the installation of the new ramp for the building would not involve cutting down the tree.

This new plan involved using two cranes instead of one and thus was more expensive, but effective, said Holldorf.

"The guys doing the crane work were amazing," he said. "I think they damaged one small twig."

The ramp was installed during the break between Winter and Spring quarters.

The tree stays, but that has not eliminated any possibility of removal.

"If we have continual storm drain problems it is likely I will have to take that tree out or move it," said Holldorf.



Rebecca Starkey/THUNDERWORD

The tree remains next to Building 19, which is currently fenced off in front because of the new ramp.

When Facilities had originally contacted Knotty Tree Service last quarter for a consultation concerning the tree, they were informed that some of the

beech's roots could be affecting the storm drainpipe below the tree.

An investigation using a digital camera on a cable by Rescue

Rooter Plumbing Company, which repairs sewer and storm drain repair at Highline, confirmed that "some minor root intrusion has entered into the

storm pipe," Holldorf said.

Specifically, the tree's roots have wrapped around and crushed the pipe in two places, nine feet under the ground.

This has caused problems with drainage field areas in front of Building 19, he said.

Water has been pooling up and running into the building, because excess water from crushed pipes has limited ability to drain away.

"It's a real wet spot," said Holldorf. "We have to sandbag [the building] every spring."

However, the problem is not yet so troublesome that it warrants taking out the tree, he said. For now, the plan is to install small 8-inch drain boxes next to the walkway in front of Building 19.

These, being the same grade as the pavement, will catch the water running off the walkway and divert it into drains, keeping it away from the building, said Holldorf.

"I'm always trying to improve the student experience [on Highline campus]," he said.

Holldorf said that he tries to view things through the lens of a student.

"We try to reserve every tree that we have," he said.

Students discuss campus issues with SLAC

By Cristina Acuna
Staff Reporter

Tuition increases for International students, opportunities for students with disabilities, campus safety and other pressing issues in the Highline community were discussed at the Legislative Luncheon last week.

What do Highline students stand for? was the main concern of student leaders last Thursday, when they met in the Mount Constance room in the Student Union.

The luncheon commenced with speeches from the executive members of Student Legislative Action Committee and other interested individuals including Ernest Hasha, Deleon Lewis, Passion Johnson, Oliver Silen, Jon Morada and Nimo Azeez.

"Today is a great way to voice all opinions about tuition increases and other problems at Highline," said student government President Azeez. "We will take whatever issues we discuss today and bring them to a state wide platform in May."

Ernest Hasha and Jon Morada acquainted the audience with the proceedings of how student government can get involved in making state laws.

"Our laws start off as a bill, formed by a committee working towards an equal purpose," Deputy Chair of SLAC, Deleon Lewis said. "Here we will create a list of issues and pass it to the [student government] who will take it to the Voice [Academy and discuss it with other activists]."

Oliver Silen and Passion Johnson opened up the discussion by stating the values and principles of "Open Space" and "The Law of Two Feet."

"Open Space is based on two values," Silen said. "Passion and responsibility."

"Here are our principles," Johnson said. "We have to have the right people, which are the Highline students in this room. Whatever happens is the only thing that happens. When it is time, it is time. And when it is over, it is over."

In last year's luncheon, the topics discussed consisted on the expansion of government funding to post-secondary education rather than just from Kindergarten to 12th grade, the legislative ban of differential tuition and the redirecting of tax funds from profit to non-profit institutions.

Members of the audience were encouraged to approach the podium and pose an issue.

"Tuition increase for international students is an issue we need to resolve," Saka Raheem said.

Raheem explained how being an international student involves more than the cost of tuition so raising it would be inconvenient and unfair.

"We're going down a slippery slope of tuition increase," he said. "How much will it be for us in ten years?"

Going by the name of Cristian, a Highline student with disabilities proposed to open a discussion about a subject he said is often overlooked.

"Students with disabilities should have an opportunity as well as able people to come to college, and they are at a disadvantage, but the state won't pay," Cristian said. "Can there be a statewide tuition help for disabled students? Can we open the door for low and mid-IQ to come to college?"

Cristian elaborated that low-income disability students are not educated about specialized funding for disabled students.

In concern of his safety and that of fellow students, Tiras Riltho voiced the third topic of discussion.

"Campus safety is a huge issue," Riltho said. "Is there something we can do here at

Highline? We could consider internships for criminal justice students to help out with campus security."

In the subject of jobs and internships, another student proposed a similar internship system to be implemented for undocumented and international students ineligible for work in the United States.

"They could work in exchange for tuition," the student said.

Parking, a reoccurring issue at Highline, was brought up for discussion as well.

"Sometimes they give you a ticket even if you have a pass. What am I paying for?" asked a student.

The individual who proposed each issue was given a number and named "Discussion Opener." Members of the audience were urged to join the discussion they were most interested in participating in with the freedom to move to another table if they became uninterested.

Although each discussion group organized themselves a different way, they all followed a similar pattern. First the issue was clarified, individual views were stated, resolutions were proposed, and pros and cons were discussed.

Judith Kabanga, Mui Ntahmed, Saka Raheem and

Long Chi were members of the group discussion tuition increases for international students. Throughout their discussion, the students posed several questions.

"There shouldn't be such a huge gap in tuition," the students said. Other questions that were asked during the luncheon were: Where does the extra surplus go? What are they doing with it? How does it benefit us?

Within Group 4, discussing campus safety, Abdilahmar Mohamed, Tiras Riltho and Selene Poulsen broke down the problem with security at Highline.

"There is a lack of organization and knowledge among staff and students in emergency situations," they said. "We need more trials and training."

They also commented on how the recent Boston bombs and shootings engender fear in the community.

"We have no cameras, no security," Riltho said. "How prepared are we? We can't stop crime but we can prevent casualties."

The discussion session ended with the students feeling as though their main concerns were listened to and considered, as well as having gained knowledge regarding other important issues that need to be taken care of at Highline.

Social networking bill should pass despite House amendments

The Legislature needs to protect citizens and their social networking activities from unwarranted prying by employers.

Washington Senate Bill 5211 is concerned with whether employers may ask for access to an employee's personal social networking accounts and profiles.

The bill was co-sponsored by Sen. Tracy Eide, D-Federal Way, and Sen. Karen Keiser, D-Des Moines.

This bill states that it would be unlawful for any kind of employer in Washington state to directly or indirectly require any passwords or account information from employees and applicants so that they may access that person's account on social networking websites.

On March 13, the bill passed out of the Senate with a 49-0 vote and went on to the House.

On April 17, the bill passed the House with a 97-0 vote after an amendment was added.

The amendment provided employers with the ability to require an employee to share information from their social networking accounts under certain conditions and provided some further exemptions to the original bill.

On April 23, the Senate came back and refused to agree with the amendments proposed by the House.

The Senate then asked the House to withdrawn from the amendments made.

This bill is important because employers should not be able to access their employee's personal accounts and information.

The amendments made would give employers a possible excuse to just go looking for information in hopes of finding something.

It would be one thing for an employee or applicant to give employers permission to access and view their social networking pages upon request, but not as a make or break condition for a job.

However, giving employers access to the actual accounts is going too far.

With passwords to an employee's account employers would be given the ability to change personal information.

Despite social networking sites being online, it does not change the fact that people have passwords for a reason.

For many people, this bill helps to protect their right to privacy.

It is understandable to most that companies would want to know if an employee is talking bad about their company online or if an applicant has talked bad about their previous jobs.

This is because companies don't want their employees or future employees to be spreading bad things about them, which could turn customers away.

However, these companies are asking too much by wanting passwords.

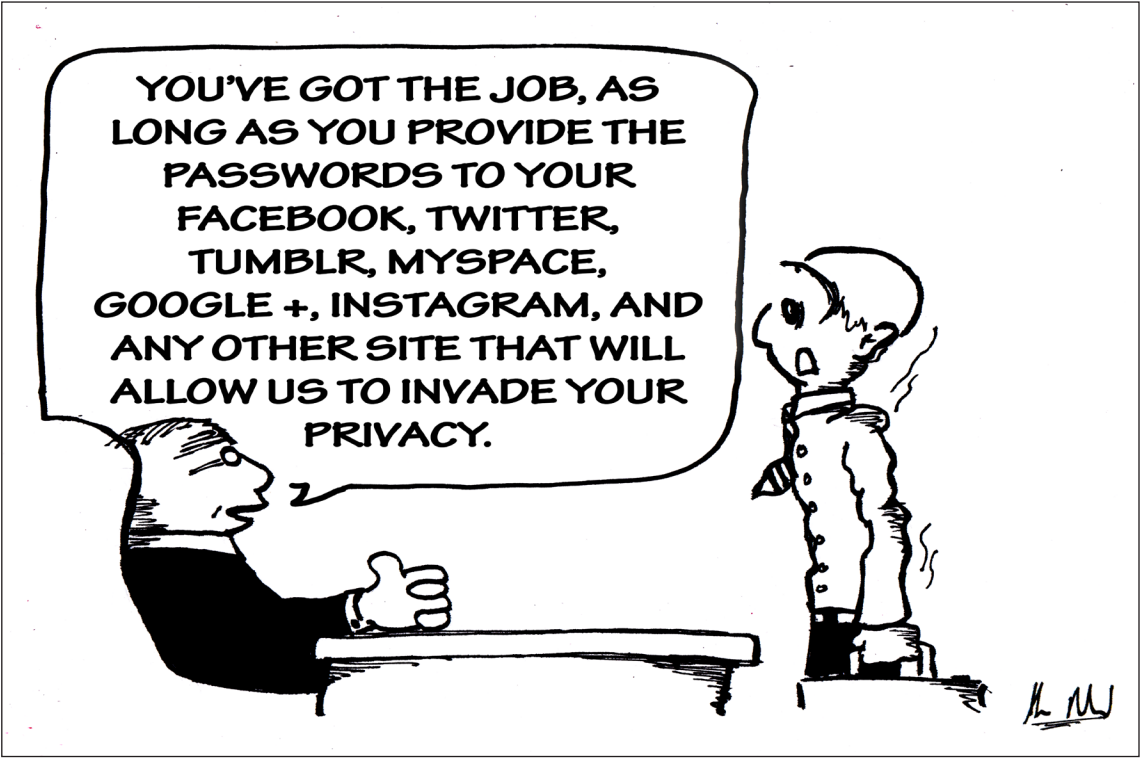
Access to view their employee's pages should be enough. There is no valid reason why an employer should need someone's passwords or any reason why someone should have to give their employer their password.

People will talk whether it's online or not. If an employee or applicant is going to talk bad about a company it's pretty much guaranteed it will not just be online.

And for the most part the people who would see the comments on their pages are the same people they would tell in person, in a phone call, or in a text message.

This bill needs to be implemented without the amendments from the House in order to protect the rights of employees and applicants.

The access that employers want to have is too much and is crossing the line into someone's personal privacy, whether it's on a social networking site or not.



John Rutherford/THUNDERWORD

Mass shootings should make us question who we are

We are supposed to be:
America the greatest nation in which to live.

We are supposed to be:
The land of the free and the home of the brave.

We are supposed to be:
The United States of America, the one nation that is truly united.

But it doesn't feel that way anymore.

It feels as though our country is spinning out of control.

Mass shootings that turn into massacres are happening more and more often.

Virginia Tech. Newtown. Aurora.

These tragic events are claiming the lives of hundreds of people and things just keep getting worse.

In a five-year span our nation has had the two deadliest shootings in its history.

This is a major problem.

April 16, 2007 marks the day that claimed the lives of 32 individuals and injured at least 17 more, when a man went on a killing spree at Virginia Tech. and later killed himself.

This massacre stands as the deadliest shooting in the history of America.

Dec. 15, 2012 was the day that 20 elementary school children and 7 adults, including



Commentary

Kiya Dameron

the mother of the shooter, were ripped from this world in Newtown, Conn.

It was the second deadliest school shooting America has ever had.

In both of these cases and in so many others, the assailant usually ends up committing suicide afterwards.

If these people were trying to make a point, they didn't.

All these actions did was make them wrong.

Even if they had a legitimate point they were trying to make, the minute they decided to take the lives of others their message was lost.

Many people can't fathom what these people have done, but what's more disturbing is that others don't care.

They look at events such as

the Boston Marathon bombing and say: "Who cares? Only three people died."

Only three?
Are they that cavalier?

If that was what some people thought about a bombing then what did they say back in 2011 when the 6-year old Kindergartener brought a gun to school and it accidentally fell out of his pocket and went off.

Did they say, "Who cares" then as well?

It is people like this that are the reason why a 6-year-old can get their hands on a fully loaded gun and take it to school.

This is why more and more people are going on these killing sprees.

These people believe that nobody cares, and maybe they're right.

Australia, Germany and Britain all have tightened their gun laws after mass shootings.

Here in America, the Senate recently declined to even consider dealing with gun control when a minority effectively filibustered the proposed legislation.

Many nations look to America for leadership.

What, then, does it say when we won't act on such an obvious issue of public safety?

-Kiya Dameron is the opinion editor of *The Thunderword*.

the Staff "

Oh no... my Pou is dying.

"

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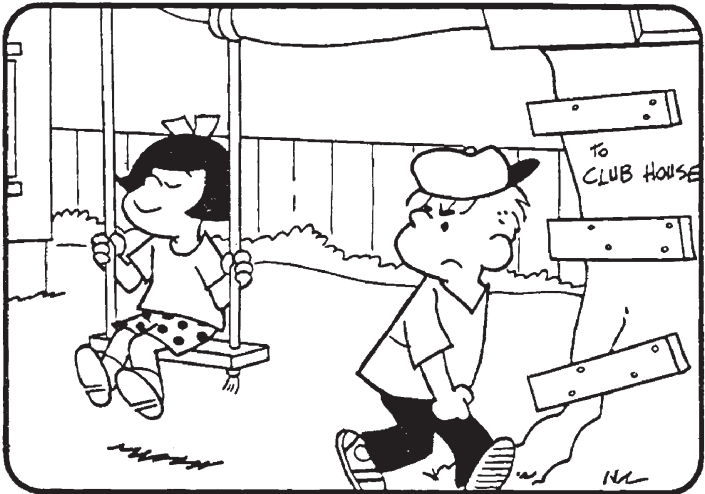
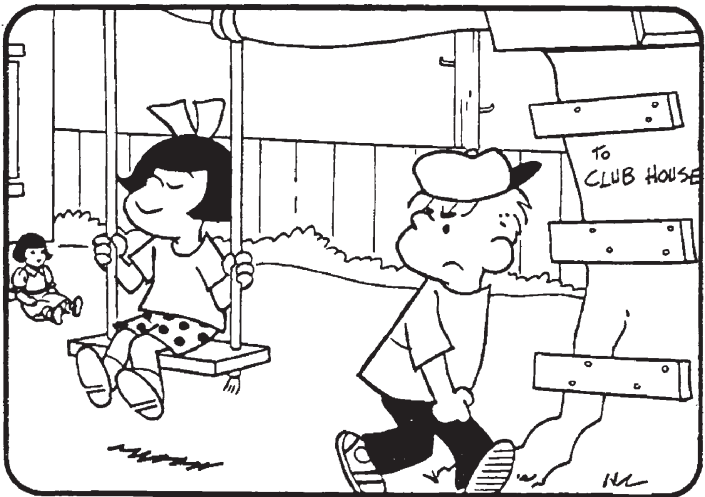
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HOCUS - FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels. How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below.

DIFFERENCES: 1. Doll is missing. 2. Bow is smaller. 3. Swing seat is smaller. 4. Pole is missing. 5. Neckline is different. 6. Tree stump is moved.

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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1. HISTORY: In what century did the Industrial Revolution begin?
2. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What kind of bird is a harrier?
3. MYTHOLOGY: In Greek mythology, what gift was given to Cassandra by the god Apollo?
4. ENTERTAINERS: Who is actress Shirley

MacLaine's equally famous younger brother?

5. TELEVISION: What is the name (and nickname) of the dad on the 1990s sitcom *Home Improvement*?
6. NATURAL WORLD: What color is the mineral malachite?
7. INVENTIONS: When was the modern zipper invented?
8. U.S. STATES: What state is home to Moosehead Lake?
9. GEOGRAPHY: Where

Crossword 101

By Ed Canty (Ed@gfrpuzzles.com)

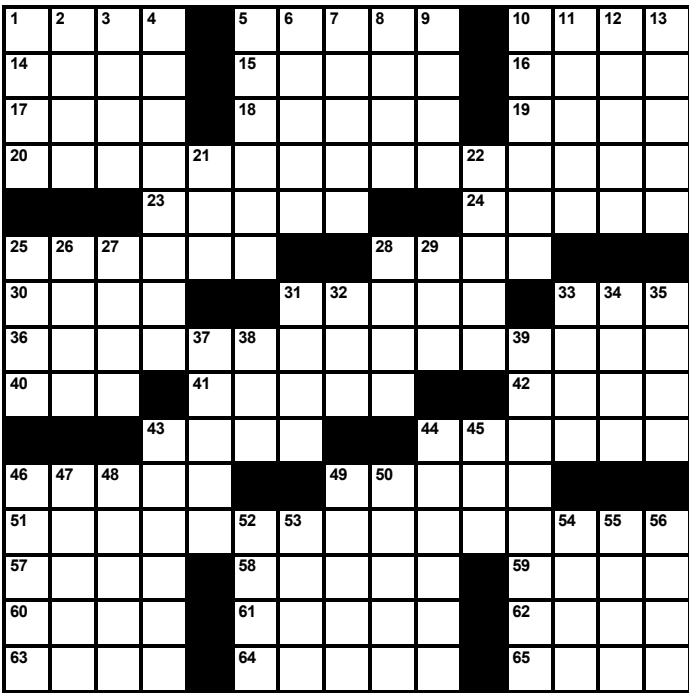
A Ford in Your Future

Across

1. "Pipe down!"
5. Cancel
10. -- the line (obeyed)
14. Boat in "Jaws"
15. "___ fault is it?"
16. Device for rotating one's tires?
17. Bothers
18. Like Cheerios
19. Beginning to care?
20. The 19th President
23. Command
24. "Heads up!" e.g.
25. Has a cow
28. Bay
30. Face saver?
31. Ex-viewer of Medusa?
33. Friendly beginner?
36. Shakespeare's hangout ?
40. Big load of bricks
41. Descartes and others
42. Cast leader?
43. Roger of "Cheers"
44. Newspaper section
46. 1960's radical Hoffman
49. Bewitching town?
51. Classic '50s car
57. Chick chaser?
58. Circumvent
59. Blue Bonnet, e.g.
60. Brand, in a way
61. Deserve
62. Big money-maker?
63. Tut's cousins?
64. Composer Camille Saint-___
65. Diminish

Down

1. Coating of frost
2. A language of Pakistan
3. "Great ___!"
4. Discuss
5. Duel tools
6. Rub the wrong way?
7. Chopper blade
8. Computer addict?
9. Bow to pressure?
10. "Chili today, hot ___"
11. Certain daisy
12. Bush, senior?
13. Thomas Jefferson, religiously
21. "... ___ he drove out of sight"
22. Any port in a storm
25. Actors
26. A chorus line
27. Financial aid
28. Atlantic swimmers
29. "... sail ___ Ship of State"
31. Dad's lads
32. A crowd in Torino?
33. Green beginner?
34. Stallion, once
35. 11 components?
37. Canned meat rival of Spam
38. "___ fi fo fum"
39. 1940s Los Alamos development
43. Commuters
44. Almost hails
45. The "p" in m.p.g.
46. Pull ___ one
47. ___ well
48. Go to pieces?
49. Animal catcher
50. Bring to the mix
52. Does some tailoring
53. Bit of eye makeup?
54. Hip bones
55. Bed check?
56. Spoil, with "on"



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. Space ship | ___ O ___ | Tennis paddle | ___ A ___ |
| 2. Shady recess | ___ B ___ | Knight's outfit | ___ M ___ |
| 3. Eye tremor | T ___ | Change places | S ___ |
| 4. Blaze | ___ L ___ | Picture border | ___ R ___ |
| 5. Wed | ___ R ___ | Host Povich | ___ U ___ |
| 6. Goblet or tumbler | ___ L ___ | Lawn | ___ R ___ |
| 7. Actress Elizabeth ___ | ___ Y ___ | Clothes maker | ___ I ___ |
| 8. Thirst quencher | W ___ | At some other time | L ___ |
| 9. Coat of arms | ___ S ___ | Slithered | ___ P ___ |
| 10. Utter | ___ K ___ | Javelin | ___ R ___ |

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would one find the Queen Elizabeth Islands?

10. HIGHER EDUCATION: What is Georgia Tech's official mascot of the student body?

Answers

1. 18th century
2. A hawk
3. Prophecy
4. Actor Warren Beatty

5. Tim "The Tool Man" Taylor

6. Green
7. 1913
8. Maine

9. Northern Canada

10. The Ramblin' Wreck, a 1930 Ford Model A Sport Coupe

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Photographs courtesy of Linnaea Franks

T-Birds move on after tournament

By Zach Stemm
Staff Reporter

After losing four of their last six games, the Highline softball team has seemed to cool down after a hot start.

The T-Birds started off the season at 12-2 prior to the last six games. They are now 14-6 and went from first place in the West Region of the NWAACC to third with a conference record of 2-2.

Grays Harbor is currently in first with a 5-1 conference record and 10-13 overall. Centralia is right behind them with the same conference record as Grays Harbor and 7-11 overall.

“It appears a few teams have gotten stronger, so it’s going to be quite a battle for the region championship and qualifying out of our region for the NWAACC tournament,” Head Coach Scott Dillinger said.

In the four losses, Highline was outscored 28-1.

They lost two home games against Grays Harbor, 5-1 and 6-0, on Wednesday, April 17, and then lost against Lower Columbia, 9-0, and Douglas, 8-0, in the Yakima Crossover Tournament.

In the 5-1 loss to Grays Harbor, the Chokers had 15 hits and one error compared to Highline’s six hits and three errors.

Jill Johnson, who pitched the whole game, struck out 11 Thunderbirds and only allowed one walk.

In seven innings of work, Kayla Andrus walked one Grays Harbor batter and struck out 10. Andrus is 6-3 this season with a 3.76 ERA, 39 strikeouts, and 12 walks.

The 6-0 loss to Grays Harbor was a cleaner game with no errors on either side, but the T-Birds struggled to get the offense going.

They had five hits while the Chokers had nine hits, but Highline could not execute with runners on base.

Johnson pitched in this game as well. This time she walked four batters and struck out 11 in seven innings of work.

Karyssa Marbet walked six batters and struck out two in six innings.

Sam Christensen pitched the last inning, giving up no hits,



Rebecca Starkey/THUNDERWORD
Kayla Andrus pitching against Grays Harbor. The T-Birds lost 5-1.

walks, runs, or strikeouts.

Following the two Grays Harbor defeats, the Thunderbirds next played in the Yakima Crossover Tournament on April 20 and 21.

“It was a good chance to see how we might do in the NWAACC tournament at the end of the season,” Highline center fielder Dani Babcock said. “It also was good to play in sun and good weather.”

Babcock has a .370 batting average this season with 20 hits, four doubles, and ten RBIs.

Highline started off the tournament by defeating Shoreline 7-3.

The Dolphins got on the scoreboard by scoring three runs in the first inning off of

Thunderbird pitcher Andrus; however, those were the only runs that Shoreline was able to generate.

“We are getting very consistent pitching, but our defense has let them down at times,” Dillinger said.

In seven innings, Andrus struck out eight Dolphins and allowed ten hits and three walks.

Highline tied the score at three a piece in the fifth inning and then scored four runs in the sixth to jump in front.

“We have proven we are capable of putting together big innings at times against good and lesser competition,” Dillinger said.

Andrus got into a jam in the top of the seventh. Three

straight singles by Shoreline loaded the bases with nobody out. After a fly out to first base, fielder’s choice, and strikeout, the Thunderbirds won the game coming out of the inning unharmed.

Highline next defeated Columbia Basin 10-2 to go undefeated on Saturday.

On Sunday, the Thunderbirds fell to Douglas 8-0.

Royals pitcher Carling Hare held Highline to only one hit in the shutout. She also had a no-hitter going until third baseman Brooke Evans singled in the top of the fourth.

“We played some very good teams and got to see better pitching than in our league,” Babcock said.

The T-Birds were again held off of the scoreboard in their next game against Lower Columbia. The Red Devils defeated Highline 9-0.

Highline managed to only get two hits off the Lower Columbia pitchers.

“We had a very strong draw, as we played all that would’ve qualified for the tourney at the moment,” Dillinger said. “A No. 4 and three No. 2’s, and

came away with a 2-2 record.”

The loss to the Red Devils ended the tournament for the T-Birds.

“My takeaway from the crossover is that I wanted to see how we would match up against some of the better teams in the NWAACC, and I now know where we are, and that is that we are capable of playing with and beating anyone when we are on our game,” Dillinger said. “We are also capable of things getting away from us quickly against a strong team if we give people extra outs.”

Highline now moves on to region play.

They were scheduled to play two home games against Olympic College yesterday, but they were cancelled.

The Thunderbirds next play two road games against Centralia tomorrow at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. They then come back home for two games against Pierce at 12 p.m. and 2 p.m.

“Starting Friday, we will play 16 games in 14 days,” Dillinger said. “If we continue to get good pitching and hit more consistently, we should be in the mix at the end.”

Puzzle Answers

A Ford in Your Future

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

Even Exchange

answers

1. Rocket, Racket

2. Arbor, Armor

3. Twitch, Switch

4. Flame, Frame

5. Marry, Maury
6. Glass, Grass

7. Taylor, Tailor

8. Water, Later

9. Crest, Crept

10. Speak, Spear

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Snakezilla is taking a bite of Des Moines this weekend

The Cove2Clover road races uncoil this weekend throughout the cities of Des Moines, Normandy Park, SeaTac and Burien.

Events begin Friday night with Snake (pub) Crawls in both Des Moines and Burien. Participants can pre-register online for \$10.

On Saturday night, the Des Moines Parks and Recreation Department is hosting the Snake Pit Carbo Dinner com-

plete with a reptile exhibition.

Italian mothers from the community will prepare the carbohydrate-heavy dinner runners prefer prior to a big race.

The dinner will take place at Des Moines Field House, 1000 South 220th St. in Des Moines from 6-9 p.m. Registration is available online. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and younger. Dinner registra-

tion includes free admittance to the reptile show.

The Snakezilla half marathon begins on April 28 at the Des Moines Field House. Runners will travel through four cities: Burien, SeaTac, Normandy Park and Des Moines. All races start at noon. To register or learn more about the Cove2Clover Races, go online at www.covetoclover.com.

Student turns her passion into a business

By Lester Bugaychuk
Staff Reporter

Highline student Roxy Acuna started her own business by doing what she loves – making handcrafted jewelry.

“I have to do more than one thing at once,” said Acuna.

She answers phone calls, types on the computer and makes jewelry all at the same time.

It all started when a co-worker asked Acuna about a bracelet she made for herself and asked if she could buy it from her.

“I made three bracelets and the next day they were all gone,” said Acuna.

Her friends loved her hand-made bracelets, and soon enough they started requesting rings and necklaces.

Before she knew it Acuna was running out of supplies to make her jewelry and instead of going to lunch with co-workers she was going to craft stores like Joann Fabrics and Michaels to get the materials she needed.

“I knew I was overworking myself,” said Acuna.

She was staying up late, get-



Rebecca Starkey/THUNDERWORD

Roxy Acuna came up with the name of her jewelry business when a friend sent her a text message.

ting only 10 hours of sleep on a weekly basis.

“I quit my job because I wanted to do Bella Creations,” said Acuna.

Her friends and family tried

to convince her not to quit because her job paid well and provided great insurance benefits.

Her response was, “I love doing it!”

Acuna got some free adver-

tising when her jewelry was featured at the Seattle Metropolitan Fashion Week. Seattle fashion designer Paul Marie even asked her for 50 necklaces for one of his clothing lines.

After Acuna left her other job, she started laying the foundation for her company.

“I stayed up for 48 hours watching Youtube videos on how to make a website,” said Acuna.

Ever the multi-tasker, she received her AA from Highline last year, and came back to take some business classes that would help her succeed. She made her own business cards, but had a hard time coming up with a name.

She said that she had spent a week making and throwing out business names when she received a text message from her cousin that said, “Hey Bella, how are those creations?”

The text was the inspiration she needed, and she was finally able to settle with the name BellaCreations. She eventually purchased domain bellacreations.org for her website.

“It never crossed my mind that I wouldn’t be successful,” said Acuna.

Acuna’s business is up and running, and those interested in purchasing some of her jewelry should visit her website at bellacreations.org.

Easy phone access distracts students, profs say

By Bailey Williams
Staff Reporter

The majority of Highline students text in class.

Out of 30 Highline students, only six people said they did not text in class. Some gave reasons like, “It’s not allowed,” or “I’m just so interested in the lecture.”

Those who said they did text in class said they did so because their classes were boring or their social lives were more important.

“I tend to text more in my high school classes because when I’m in my college classes we seem to constantly [be] doing something and I don’t have the time to pull out my phone,” said running start student Holly Moore.

Many professors at Highline ban the use of cell phones in class because it takes away from the learning environment.

“Most instructors I know have policies about not texting in class on their syllabi,” said Dr. Gloria Koepping, a Highline counseling psychologist.

“We don’t have a school wide policy,” said Dena Dillon, executive assistant of student services. “Teachers have jurisdiction in their classrooms and they decided their own policy.”

People use their phones excessively because of technological convenience, said Dr. Daryl Brice, sociology professor.



Luis Batlle/THUNDERWORD

“People used to wash dishes by hand before the dish washer was invented just like people used to wait until they were home to check their messages, but now it’s on their hip,” said Dr. Brice.

“I get really bored in class and I’m like whatever,” said student Hope McClure. “I don’t do it to be rude, but sometimes I get distracted.”

It is a commonly held assumption that people who use their phones in class have worse grades than those who do not, but that’s just what it is; an assumption, Dr. Brice said. There is an app for just about every-

thing and a student may just be translating something from a lecture.

They might also be updating a Facebook status about how boring their class is. Each of these minor distractions may take the same amount of time so there’s no telling whose grades will be worse.

Still, both of these students are lumped together and thought of as less dedicated to their work, said Dr. Koepping.

People are so engrossed in technology that they have lost the power of the written word, Dr. Koepping said.

“I think that students some-

times forget the power of the written word, as in hand writing thank you notes, or the power of the spoken word by engaging others in conversation,” said Dr. Koepping.

Face-to-face interaction has been broken with the birth of technology, she said.

“I don’t believe in phones because they ruin your communication skills,” said student

Bruce Smith.

“I often wish that students would remember the power of giving individual attention to others without the use of technology,” said Dr. Koepping. “However, having said that, technology is incredible when I want to communicate with a friend or colleague across the country. So I guess the answer is, it depends on your purpose.”

A+

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Climate change is real and humans are the reason why, a visiting professor says

By Taylor Rengstorff
Staff Reporter

Airborne contaminants polluting Washington skies are evidence that climate change is real and having a serious impact, a visiting lecturer from the University of Washington-Seattle told a Science Seminar audience here last week.

Science Seminar is a weekly set of presentations put on by Highline faculty or community members dealing with topics in their area of expertise every Friday in Building 3, room 102 from 2:20-3:23 p.m.

Dr. Dan Jaffe, a science and technology professor and an atmospheric scientist-professor, presented a slide show focusing on air contaminants and how it will affect people in Washington.

Jaffe has taken samples around the state at both high and low level elevations to determine how bad the levels are.

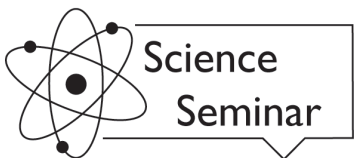
“Earth’s climate is now clearly out of balance and is warming,” Jaffe said.

Natural greenhouse gases are what makes the earth habitable, but looking at recent data there has been an increase in the gases.

And scientists understand the reason behind this.



Dr. Dan Jaffe discusses climate changes and how humans are the reason for the increase in gases in the atmosphere. He said people need to take action soon to avert further damage to the environment.



Humans.
Humans are cutting down trees. Humans are creating excessive amounts of carbon dioxide.
Humans are the main reason that the temperature has gone

up more than 1 degree Celsius in the past 100 years.
“ There is new and stronger evidence that most of the warming observed over the last 50 years is attributed to human activities,” Jaffe said.
Climate change is inevitable, he said, and there are consequences that humans need to begin dealing with.
There is a need to start adapting to warmer climates, and people need to take action now.
People can start doing more with less, Jaffe said.
They can reduce the greenhouse gases that are produced on a daily basis.
They can switch to using renewable sources more.
More trees can be planted and, most of all, they can lower the use of carbon fuels, and start shifting to natural gas.

On a statewide level, Washington is already taking action with the passage of the renewable energy proposition, I-937.

The I-937 proposition mandates that large utilities must generate 15 percent of their electricity from new renewable sources and all utilities must undertake cost-effective energy conservation measures.

Washington utilities have also erected windmills that have increased the renewable energy around the state, with scientists predicting that the state will reach the 15 percent threshold by 2020.

But Jaffe said the public must educate itself now, utilizing reliable information sources.

“Failure to act now will leave our children with a major problem,” Jaffe said.

Dr. Kaddee Lawrence from the MsST Center’s Marine Mammal Stranded Team will host the next Science Seminar tomorrow at 2:20 p.m. in Building 3, room 102.

Dr. Lawrence will be discussing the whale that washed up on the shore at Seahurst Beach in Burien. Also, she will talk about why smiling is still worth it, even in the midst of a marine tragedy.

Des Moines ‘birthplace’ awarded, but still needs work

By Nathan Brewster
Staff Reporter

Des Moines’ perseverance in trying to restore its beleaguered Beach Park facilities received recognition Tuesday when King County Executive Dow Constantine presented the city with the John D. Spellman Award from the King County Landmarks Commission.

Restoration of the Beach Park Events Center Auditorium required dredging and restoring a silt-laden creek that flooded regularly and threatened the building that was once the tabernacle for the Swedish Covenant Church that maintained a Bible camp on the site.

“Many millions of dollars went into this project,” Des Moines Parks and Recreation Director Patrice Thorell said.

“Many millions of dollars went into creek modification and then we started work on development of the auditorium.”

And some of the obstacles weren’t limited to nature.
“Our first contractor went out of business and then we had to get another one which took more time and effort,” Thorell said.

There was a dispute with that contractor over the concrete floor and that took time to resolve.

However, the city continued its restoration efforts undaunted because it was working with a piece of history.

Beach Park has been referred to as the birthplace of Des Moines.

It’s where a sawmill was located, then a self-supporting orphanage, then the Bible camp before the city acquired the property in 1978.

The restoration efforts involve restoring the park buildings to reflect the Bible camp’s heyday.

Thorell said the John D. Spellman Award represents “validation” for the effort and that the community loves the result.

However, Thorell said there is even more restoration work needed, especially to the Bible camp’s dining hall.

“[The Dining Hall] is one of the oldest buildings and one of the most iconic,” she said.

Built in 1934, the dining hall has been a big part of where past citizens of Des Moines held events.



The City of Des Moines received the John D. Spellman Award from the King County Landmarks Commission on Tuesday in recognition of it’s ongoing efforts to perserve the buildings at Beach Park. Plans to renovate the historic Dining Hall are awaiting a grant from the Legislature.

“The dining hall will pull all the pieces [of the park] together so that it can be used by this community,” Thorell said.
Both the House and Senate versions of the state budget under consideration by the Legislature contain allocations of \$750,000 to help complete the Dining Hall restoration.
She said she remains hopeful

but the building must remain public,” Thorell said.
“We need \$750,000 of grant work,” Thorell said.
“If we don’t get the funds we will have to keep applying every year for the grant until we get it and only then can we start reconstruction on one of the most iconic buildings in the Des Moines area,” Thorell said.

“We are open to partnerships

Wastemobile to help dispose of hazardous chemical waste

By Dariana Young
Staff Reporter

Students, faculty, and staff can help the environment by properly removing toxic and chemical waste.

The Household Hazardous Wastemobile is having a waste drop off on April 26 through the 28 at the Des Moines Marina from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Throwing away these items properly helps improve the environment. The impact of throwing away items such as the fluorescent light bulbs are huge said Julie Mitchell the program director of Household Hazardous Wastemobile.

"If they throw away a fluorescent light bulb, just that one bulb can contain mercury," said Mitchell.

Being careless with light bulbs can risk the chance of it breaking, and if that occurs the mercury can get into the air and water, Mitchell said.

"When mercury gets into the water, fish are able to get it and it causes them to contain the chemical," Mitchell said.

Tuna contains mercury; sometimes it contains more than others and if humans digest the tuna, it can cause internal damage.

"Folks don't realize that throwing away one little light bulb can cause so much damage. Proper disposal prevents household hazardous waste from entering the environment and damaging the soil, ground water and streams; or causing harm to animals and people," Mitchell said.



Light bulbs contain mercury which is a hazardous chemical.

The Household Hazardous Wastemobile was created in 1989. In its 23 years of operation, the program has collected nearly 15 thousand tons of household hazardous waste from close to four hundred thousand customers.

Items that the Household Hazardous Wastemobile accepts include: antifreeze, batteries (lead acid, alkaline, button rechargeable), cleaners, fluorescent lights, gasoline, mercury products, motor oil, oil based paint, pesticides, propane tanks, and paint thinner or other solvents.

Items that the Wastemobile will not accept include: asbestos, appliances, computers empty containers, explosives, latex paint, medicines, sharps, solid waste, tires, and TVs.

For businesses a release form must be signed beforehand.

The waste drop off is free of charge to residents of King County.

Lowe's

continued from page 1

versation between the college and Lowe's about the parking situation, and "I thought we were trying to work with them."

She said Highline Vice President of Administrative Services Larry Yok has been talking to Lowe's on behalf of the college, but he was at a conference early this week.

"We've had a relationship in the past with other Lowe's managers and we've looked for other ways to address the parking situation," Skari said.

She said Lowe's has threatened such action in the past and not followed through.

Apparently a recent incident in which a Highline student reportedly threatened a Lowe's employee monitoring the lot prompted the escalation of the dispute over parking.

The Lowe's assistant manager said approximately 100-150 student cars a day are parking in the section of the lot closest to the college and that an employee had been assigned to monitor the lot and notify student drivers that they were parking illegally.

"Our employee was threatened by a student," said the Lowe's assistant manager, who declined to give his name. "It's a shame people who attend college would suggest violence. [At this point simply notifying students is] 'not worth it.'"

"We respect Highline, they should respect us," he said.

"There needs to be some changes," Ballard said.

He said the Lowe's lot is for paying customers only.

"Students are not allowed to park here. We are required to have an X amount of spaces to meet our parking capacity for our customers," he

For those the Lowe's tows

Those students whose vehicles are towed will face considerable expenses.

Vehicles towed from the Lowe's parking lot will be taken to the Airport Towing lot in Burien. Impound rates are \$250 per hour, plus \$50 per day storage. There is also an after-business-hours release fee of \$125. The impound lot is at 817 SW 149th St. and the phone number is 206-243-6252.

Students who resort to parking in restricted areas on the streets of either Des Moines or Kent also face considerable expenses. The border between the two cities is irregular and varies from block to block. The charges also vary.

Parking in residential areas of Des Moines surrounding the college is restricted to residents and their guests only. Violators face a \$20 parking citation and the possibility of having their vehicles impounded. Impound services for the city of Des Moines are handled by Dick's Highline Towing and its fees vary considerably and a company spokesman declined to give further information. Dick's is at 2012 SW 146th St. in Burien. The phone number is 206-242-9901.

In Kent, parking illegally on the street brings a \$50 fine according to city code. Vehicles towed in Kent are taken to one of six different companies. Companies serving the Midway area include Airport Towing (206-243-6252), One-Stop Pete's (206-878-8400), Special Interest Towing (253-854-7240), Skyway Towing - two locations - (253-852-1500), and PROTOWS (253-245-5454). Towing companies in Kent are called on a rotating basis and the impound lots for these companies are scattered in Burien, Des Moines, Renton, Kent and Auburn.

said. "We pay the taxes, and we hold the insurances. We've tried contacting Highline; they didn't want to assist with [designating] separate space for students."

"We have to be more consistent with monitoring the lot," Ballard said.

Director of Campus Security Richard Noyer said both he and former Executive Administrator for Human Resources Beth Brookes met with Ballard on Feb. 11. Brooks is no longer with the college.

"We walked the lot to discuss ideas and concerns," Noyer said.

It was suggested that Lowe's section off the spaces in the back row facing Pacific Highway South to rent out to students with special permits, he said.

"Ballard said he had to get a hold of his higher ups, then he would contact us," Noyer said. "We haven't heard from him."

One student parking in the Lowe's lot Tuesday blamed his behavior on economic factors.

"If there was more parking and if it was less expensive then I would park on campus," the student who would only identify himself as Patrick said.

Law Week celebrates equality

By Angela Sucher
Staff Reporter

SeaTac Municipal Court will be hosting its annual Law Week celebration beginning Monday, April 29 and ending Friday May 3; it will be a free event that aims to inform the public on the importance of equal and civil rights.

The celebration will host a theme of "Equality for all," focusing on the struggle for civil and human rights throughout American history.

The celebration will consist of various events focusing primarily on the campaign to end injustice and discrimination in America, and to obtain equality for all citizens.

Each event will provide information on the equal and civil rights issues through free documentary screenings, a mock student trial and various prominent keynote speakers.

The keynote speakers featured during the events include Assistant US Attorney Ms. Ye-Ting Woo, The Honorable Justice Sheryl Gordon McCloud of the Washington State Supreme Court and Senator Jeanne Kohl-Welles of the 36th Legislative district. Other speakers will be Ms. Kathleen Morris, Program Manager WARN, Officer Andy Connor of the SeaTac Police Department and two speakers from the Refugees Women's Alliance.

Speakers will present both Tuesday and Wednesday from 1:45 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. in the council chambers of the courthouse.

Documentary screenings will include, *Long Walk to Freedom*, *14 Women*, *American Outrage* and *Of Civil Wrongs and Rights*, and will be shown in the council chamber beginning at noon throughout that week.

The SeaTac Municipal Courthouse is located at 4800 S. 188th street in SeaTac.

Arriving early is recommended, as seating will be limited.

More information can be found on the court's website at ci.seatac.wa.us.

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Proposed policy limiting student credits per quarter is fair, students say

By Thunderword Staff

Many students agree with Highline’s proposed policy that will require a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher to register for more than 18 credits, but some also feel that the choice should be up to the individual student. “I think if you have a high GPA, you’re an overachiever,” said student John Tuazon, pointing out that such a student would be able to handle extra credits.

“If you’re determined and you have proven that you can handle 18-plus credits, then why not?” asked Najma Mire. The current policy allows students to sign up for more than 18 credits with a signature from any adviser. This has led to many students, perhaps having been denied approval from one adviser, to seek signatures from other advisers until they manage to get one. With the new policies, students may only be approved for



John Rutherford/THUNDERWORD

more than 18 credits by their adviser of record and must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher and at least 15 credits of college-level courses under their belt. Students may not

take more than 23 credits unless they submit a written request to either Alice Madsen or Rolita Ezeonu, the deans of instruction, and are approved. Several students approve of this change. “It makes more sense,” said student Jian Pena. “I like the idea,” said Katie MacAllister. “School is for education; you want to do well.” The consequences of not being able to succeed in these classes is one of the main reasons students support this policy proposal. “They end up failing,” said Roxanna Castro. Tuazon said that students could end up taking a spot in a class that they won’t do well in or would fail. Some, however, don’t believe there should be any restrictions beside the 23-credit cap. “They should just let the student do what they want,” James Hellums said. “They should allow the student to make the decision for themselves.”

“Each student knows what they are capable of doing, so they should decide,” said Ubah Aden. Students said they believe this because there are reasons behind their decisions to overload. “Some [students] feel like they can take on the work load and want to finish faster,” Nimarta Sidhu said. “Classes fill up quickly, if you lose the chance [to take specific classes], you need to catch up,” said Jasleen Kaur. Student KJ Dampier plans to overload at least one quarter, taking 20 credits in order to graduate on time. “It depends on the curriculum of the classes they’re trying to take,” said Dampier. “If they’re trying to take classes like biochemistry, physics, and calculus, that’s just nuts. I wouldn’t recommend that to anybody.” Staff Reporters Yoseph Diallo, Ryan Johnston, Daniel Joyce, Gabrielle Paulson and Jawaahir Omar contributed to this story.

Overload

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being taken.” A student’s overall GPA and the workload of the specific classes are not taken into account in the current system. The policy proposal states that students intending to enroll in more than 18 credits must meet the following conditions:

- Have completed at least 15 credits of college level coursework (100 level or above).
- Have a 3.0 or above GPA.
- Must also have the approval of the student’s advisor on the overload form.

The proposal is not finalized and still up for discussion, Wheeler said. A final decision will not be made until mid-May. “We created this proposal because there is currently no cohesive policy,” Wheeler said. “So a student could go to two or three faculty members, professors and get different responses, which is not fair to students and does not help them achieve success.” Wheeler said that the current system for students signing up

for more than 18 credits doesn’t have any consistency and is problematic. “Some faculty felt uncomfortable not allowing students to overload, so the guidelines will apply consistency on campus and develop a framework, discussion and make sure that all of the faculty is on board and the specifics,” said Wheeler. Sue Frantz, a psychology professor, said that she agrees with the proposal. “They (Faculty Senate) looked at four quarters worth of data to see how students were performing in classes with more than 18 credits,” she said. “The more credits students took, the worse they did or more likely they were to drop a class,” said Frantz. “One student even took 40 credits in one quarter and I don’t understand how that was even possible.” According to the data collected over the four quarters, Frantz said that students with an average GPA of 3.25 had no problem with more than 18 credits. Students with a GPA below 2.0 who took more than 18 credits, were much more likely to drop a class and did worse in their courses overall. Frantz said that she feels the

proposal is a good idea because students dropping classes not only effects them, but Financial Aid as well. “One of the problems is that for every seat a student takes in a class, especially in the fall when classes are more likely to fill, that’s a seat that can’t be taken by another student,” Frantz said. “So many students are on Financial Aid and when they get Financial Aid for those courses and then end up withdrawing or failing, they have to retake those classes. That dips into more and more of the Financial Aid and that does eventually run out.” Wheeler said that the proposal is not intended to limit students but rather to help them be successful and encourage more discussion with their advisers on courses and their workload. “It is important that this is not seen as a punitive type of measure but that students know it is being discussed to ensure student success, to create a more realistic and consistent system, and to encourage students to meet with their faculty advisers,” Wheeler said. The policy proposal is mainly to help students achieve suc-

cess, Wheeler said. “We are trying to encourage a community where the faculty advisers can help students with balancing courses and helping them make reasonable decisions with their workload,” Wheeler said. “We want to ensure that students are on track for success and that they have the ability to do the amount of work required without overloading,”

he said. If the policy is put in place, students who wish to seek exemption can submit a written request explaining any circumstances that they believe should be taken in to consideration. The request will be taken to the Dean of Instruction, either Alice Madsen or Rolita Ezeonu, whose decisions will be final. The proposed policy is subject to change.

Shooting

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dents, older than many of them, in his late 20s, and had challenges, much like many other students with showing up to

class and other difficulties,” Walton said. “He was a normal person. He came in to see me for help and was happy about that and I had no reason to believe things would have ended up like that for him and I certainly did not see him to do something like

that,” he said. Faculty counselors are available for consultation, referrals and support for students, faculty and staff who need it. Call ext. 3353 or stop by Building 6 on the second floor to make an appointment with a counselor.

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