

WHITE KNIGHTS

Despite serving the most diverse part of the state, local police forces are overwhelmingly white

By **Cristina Acuna**
and **Sam McCullough**
Staff Reporters

Local police departments lack the diversity of the cities they protect and serve.

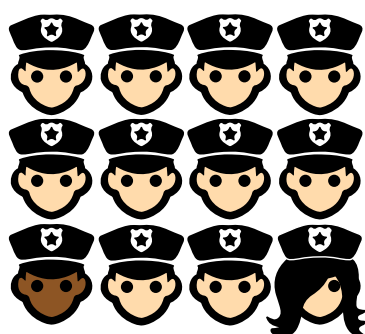
The issue of police diversity hit the headlines earlier this year when a young African-American man was shot by a white police officer in Ferguson, Mo.

While Ferguson is a majority black city, its police force is overwhelmingly white. With a police department of 53 officers, there are only two officers of color in Ferguson.

The incident cast light on the division between people of color and the police, especially African-Americans.

FBI arrest records from 2012 show that the cities of Federal Way, Des Moines and Tukwila arrest African-American people at a greater rate than they do white people — at a higher rate than in Ferguson.

In Federal Way, police arrest



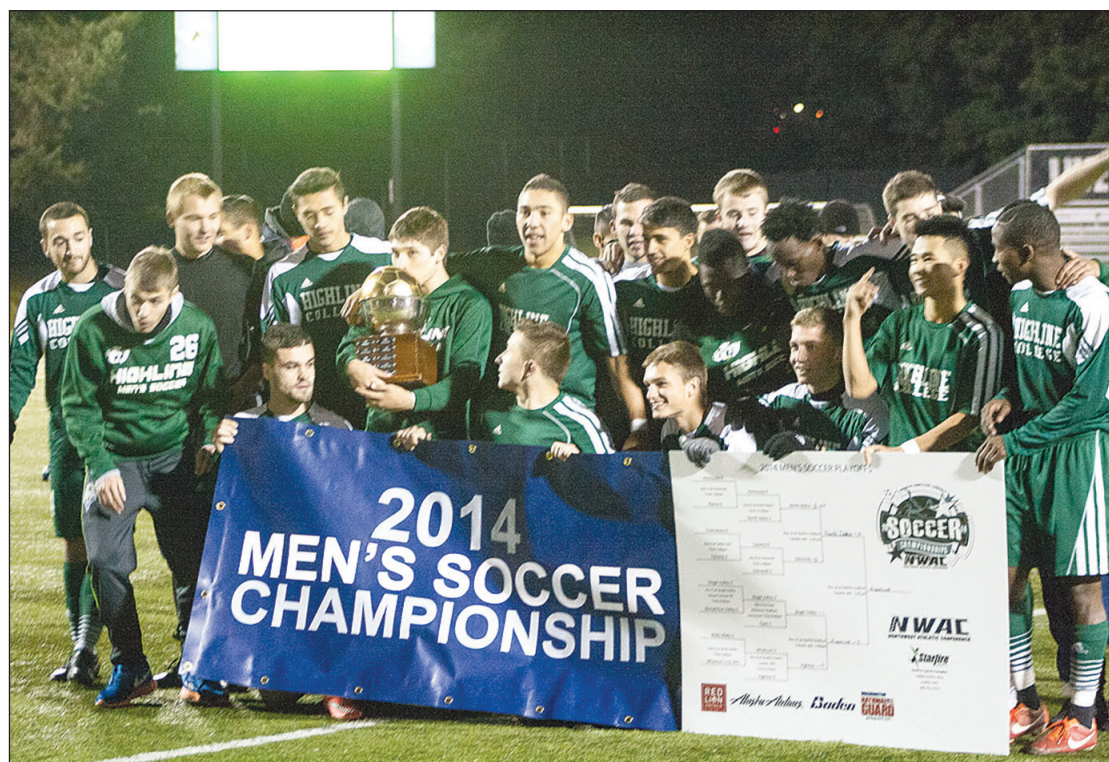
COPS AND COLORS

four times as many black people as they do white people. In Tukwila, police arrest 4.5 times as many black people as white people. And in Des Moines, African-Americans are five times more likely to be arrested than whites.

In Ferguson, where residents have been protesting since last summer, police only arrest African-Americans 2.8 times more often than they arrest whites.

Like other local cities, Federal Way, Tukwila, SeaTac and

see Police, page 15



Jack Harton Photo

On Nov. 16, Highline Thunderbirds defeated the North Idaho College Cardinals, taking the NWAC men's soccer title, their first championship since 2004.

T-Birds score NWAC title

Highline thumps Skagit; then spans North Idaho to earn soccer crown

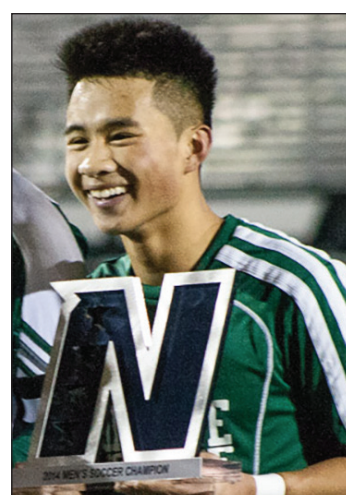
By **Nathan Brewster**
Staff Reporter

The Highline men's soccer team finished the season on a triumphant note as it dominated and captured its first NWAC title since 2004 by beating North Idaho 3-0 at Kent's Starfire Complex on Nov. 16.

As the game began, the Thunderbirds came out with a desire to score and had some early chances that they couldn't quite capitalize on.

However, it did not take that much longer for Highline to break through as Isidro Prado-Huerta put in a great ball off a corner kick and Brandon Madsen headed it home to give the Thunderbirds an early 1-0 advantage at the 14-minute mark.

Steve Mohn, head coach of the Thunderbirds, was pleased with the quick start from his



NWAC MVP Vinny Nguyen

team and their commitment to try to find a goal early.

"One of our best attributes is attacking," Mohn said.

North Idaho tried to press and get some good looks at goal. Highline was disciplined and took advantage of a wonderful opportunity that was capped off by a Vinny Nguyen goal at the 36-minute mark.

Heading into halftime, Mohn understood that the game was still in the balance and noted to his players the importance of being disciplined and committed to the cause.

"When you get too low or too

high, you get in trouble," Mohn said.

"You have to find that balance where you are confident but not overconfident," he said.

As the second half began, North Idaho continued to press the Highline defense seeking some sort of spark.

However, it never came as Highline was able to finally clinch the title with a goal by Jacob Jones in the 71st minute that ultimately proved to be the decisive score.

Assistant Coach Emerson De Oliveira said the team really worked well with each other.

"Even during the setbacks we had early on in the season, once we were firing on all cylinders we knew we would be incredibly tough to beat," De Oliveira said.

Highline was able to use its momentum from last Saturday's semifinal win against Skagit Valley to play its best game against North Idaho in the finals the following Sunday.

With Highline up 1-0 most of the game thanks to Vinny Nguyen's splendid goal right be-

see Champs, page 16

Crime is on the fall since last fall

By **Asi Sualoa**
Staff Reporter

Crime at Highline is night and day compared to what it was last year.

At this time last year, phones were being stolen, people were being harassed and assaulted, and restrooms were being vandalized; but so far this year, these types of incidents have been kept at bay.

The students have made all the difference, said Public Safety Director Jim Baylor.

By reporting suspicious people and activities, many possible crimes have been stopped, he said.

Continuing to report will help keep crime low, he said.

Granted, crime is still happening on campus. There have been a large number of reports of car prowlers in the lots these last few weeks, but a couple cars still got broken into.

The students have been alert and that is the campus' biggest

see Crime, page 16

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Black and Brown Summit urges males of color to thrive



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Tony Award-winning play brings LBJ to life



Page 9
Volleyball: NWAC starts today for our Lady T-Birds



Car crash occurs near Highline

Two vehicles collided on South 240 Street on Nov. 17.

No one in the crash was injured and the Des Moines Police Department was called to the scene. It is not known if either individual was a student of Highline.

Graffiti sighted last week

Reports of graffiti were seen throughout campus last week.

The first was spotted near Building 99, next to its entrance on Nov. 16.

Another report occurred on the same day in the North Lot on one of the garbage cans.

The last case was reported on the third floor of the women's restroom of Building 8 on Nov. 17.

Fight breaks out at summit

Two juveniles started fighting at the Annual Black and Brown Male Summit on Nov. 15. The event was being held in Building 8.

After the altercation ended the parents were called and informed Highline that the school they were attending would handle the incident.

Mystery metal container found

A metal container containing a small amount of methanol was found on Nov. 13. The container was found in some bushes to the northeast of Building 29.

The proper authorities were informed and the contents were dumped properly.

Lots of items in lost and found

A number of items were reported lost within the last few days.

A gold ring with two turquoise stones was lost between Building 6 and 8 on Nov. 17.

A white backpack along with a quicksilver binder were lost around Building 5 or 29.

A black LG phone and charger were found on Nov. 12.

To pick up or drop off an item go to Public Safety in Building 6.

— Compiled by Asi Sualoa

Snow closures are a late-night process

By Oliver Perry
Staff Reporter

When there's a possibility for snow Vice President for Administrative Services Larry Yok doesn't get much sleep.

And neither does the campus' Public Safety supervisor.

If the snow does come, Yok has to be awake for a call at 3 a.m. from Richard Noyer, Highline's Public Safety supervisor, who calls to inform him of the situation on campus.

"Officers are on campus 24 hours, seven days a week," said Noyer.

As soon as the snow starts falling, an officer will contact Noyer. If the snow seems like it is sticking, the officer will call again.

If the snow is not letting up Noyer can check 11 cameras live from his phone to see what kind of snowfall the campus is getting, he said.

Usually around 3 a.m. Noyer will call Yok to inform him of what he sees and what his officers on campus report.

From there Yok contacts the president of Highline, Dr. Jack



File photo/THUNDERWORD

Snow on campus might happen this winter, like it did in 2010.

Birmingham, to make a final decision as to whether school should be canceled.

"The decision is usually made by 4 a.m.," Yok said.

If they decide to close campus, Noyer then reports the closure on SchoolReport.org, which then alerts the local television and radio stations, who will then broadcast it.

It is a lot different from K-12 schools. Highline doesn't focus on the conditions in the different areas that students come from.

The decision is made based on whether or not the campus itself and the immediate area around it is suitable for students to be in, Yok said.

Highline serves many different communities, each with their

own weather systems, so Yok bases his decision solely off of the report he gets from the campus.

If the electricity is working, the water is running, the toilets are flushing, and students can safely walk to and from class, chances are school will be open, Yok said.

"We want to make sure they're safe when they get here," said Noyer.

Snow can come anytime, as early as Thanksgiving or as late as April. One just never knows what's going to happen. That means closures can happen at any time.

So the campus officials always have to be ready to take action and possibly close the school. They go through the same process for wind-caused power outages or severe icy conditions, Noyer said.

To get the latest closure information, students can sign up for text alerts at: hcc textualerts.highline.edu as well as alerts from SchoolReport.org at: flashalert.net/login and choose to get alerts from Highline College.



News Briefs

Honor society hosting food drive

Phi Theta Kappa is holding its annual Thanksgiving food drive, through Nov. 21. People can leave donations of non-perishable food items in the collection bins, which are situated in Buildings 8, 6, 25, 29 and 30.

The food drive is to specifically help Highline families who need a little help to make a Thanksgiving feast this holiday season.

Applications for retreat due soon

The Winter Leadership retreat applications are due on Friday, Nov. 21 by 5 p.m.

Students need to turn the applications into Center for Leadership and Service, which is in Building 8, on the top floor.

The Winter Leadership Re-

treat will be on Bainbridge Island Dec. 18-19.

The Center for Leadership and Services will select 50 students who show leadership to participate.

Retreats usually include group discussions, reflective self-journaling, health and wellness activities, and storytelling.

If interested, get an application at <http://cls.highline.edu/retreat.php>.

Discussion about men this week

Men at Highline are joining together to discuss their point of view in society.

Highline's Intercultural Center is hosting a community Men of Vision forum today titled "What Does It Mean to be a Man?"

"Men of Vision is about masculinity and what it means in our society," said Sydney Saari, intercultural leadership staff member.

This will be Saari's first event and he is hoping that more people attend the events as they happen each quarter.

Men of Vision will be held

in the Inter-Cultural Center on Nov. 20 from 11 a.m. to noon in Building 8, room 204.

Seminar to discuss fountain of youth

A Science Seminar will be hosted this Friday, Nov. 21. The seminar will be hosting in Building 3, room 102, and start at 1:30 p.m.

The seminar is titled "Working Toward the Fountain of Youth."

It will explore how a person can grow old gracefully and how they can live a long life. Tim Vagen, a personal fitness professor, will be hosting the seminar.

Car emissions test delayed a week

An Environmental Science class will be conducting a class exercise to calculate the carbon

emissions of vehicles at Highline.

Originally planned for Nov. 18, the experiment is being postponed until Nov. 25.

The class still asks students to help them by leaving a sticky note in the window of their car telling the make, model and year and to not be alarmed if students are near their car with clipboards.

New class available Winter Quarter

The Reading Apprenticeship team is offering a 2-credit course, starting in Winter Quarter. The course is called READ 120.

The class is designed to deepen students' comprehension and build academic reading skills.

It is a late-start course, which will begin on Jan. 30, and will meet every Friday from 12:15 to 1:05 p.m.



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Men of color discuss their potential at summit

By Eric Angal
Staff Reporter

Young men of color were encouraged to recognize their potential and come closer to their roots and culture at Highline’s Annual Black and Brown Male Summit on Saturday.

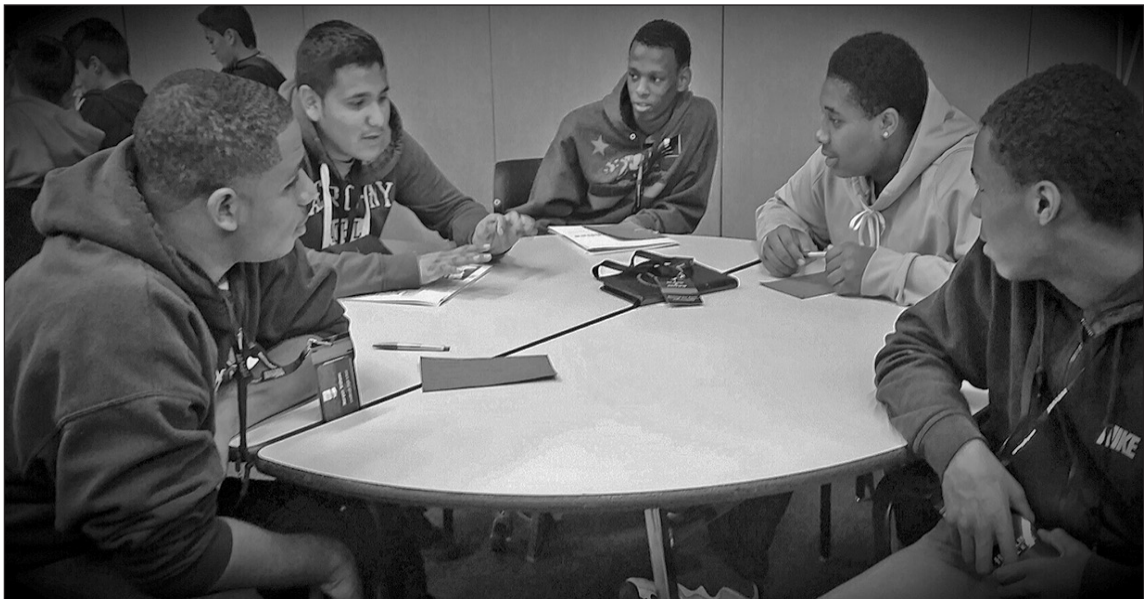
“According to studies, 76 percent of African Americans don’t graduate high school,” Highline sociology professor Dr. Darryl Brice said.

“That’s a big number, and people don’t understand how big it is sometimes. I’ll give you an example: Imagine if your date had 76 percent of her teeth missing,” he joked to a packed room of about 500 people.

Dr. Brice then talked about the issue of psychological violence, saying that it was a major contributor in the large dropout rate of young men of color.

“Anytime you have a condition when people are being oppressed, the dominant group has to find a way to justify that oppression,” Dr. Brice said, addressing a display of anti-black quotes made by prominent people in modern politics.

“An MIT study even shows



Community Engagement Photo

A group of young men come together at the Black and Brown male summit to reconnect to their roots.

us that the whites who have a drug arrest on their criminal record are still at an advantage in the job market compared to blacks who don’t have a drug arrest,” Dr. Brice said.

At a workshop presented by Dr. Andrew Cho of Tacoma Community College, he told students that history is often altered to give people a false impression of what actually happened.

“Have any of you heard the

saying ‘I cannot tell a lie?’” Dr. Cho asked his audience. A few people raised their hands.

“George Washington said that,” Dr. Cho said. “Our first president said that. But what many people don’t know is that he also said this: ‘The immediate objects are the total destruction and devastation of their settlements, and the capture of as many prisoners of every age and sex as possible.’ He was talking about American Indi-

ans,” Dr. Cho said.

“Your history books might talk about some of the things George Washington said, but it’ll omit a lot of other things he said too,” said Dr. Cho.

“On the same day Lincoln made Thanksgiving a legal holiday, he ordered troops to massacre Sioux Indians in Minnesota,” Dr. Cho said.

“It’s frustrating, isn’t it?” he said to a student who moaned in disbelief. “We have to ask our-

selves: are we really getting the truth of what happened?”

Dr. Cho questioned students as to whether important figures in American culture are really worth celebrating.

“Things are getting better with successive generations, but progress is coming slow,” Dr. Cho said at the end of the discussion.

“It’s really eye-opening,” said student Zebedee Hill. “So far this has been really interesting. It’s my first time going to one of these things— all the speakers are engaging, and it’s really geared towards a younger audience. I’m really enjoying everything so far.”

The Annual Black and Brown Male Summit is hosted to help young men of color to connect back to their roots and discover their potential.

“This is a manifestation of what we aim to do: support our community and help youth achieve their dreams,” said Highline President Dr. Jack Bermingham.

“People said we couldn’t pull this off five years ago, and now look at us,” Highline professor Dr. Darryl Brice said.

Video games may be the next Shakespeare

By Brian Lowrey
Staff Reporter

How Mario’s battles with Donkey Kong rank up there with George Orwell’s *Animal Farm* might be the topic of an English class here at Highline.

English 265, “Video Games as Narrative Literature,” teaches students how to evaluate and appreciate a relatively new form of media as literature.

It is open to gamers and non-gamers alike, said Angi Caster, a professor of writing.

In recent years, many colleges, Highline included, have been offering classes devoted to studying video games.

These classes don’t simply extend to developing the computer skills necessary to make video games, but also teach students how to evaluate and view video games in the same manner one would English literature or classic film.

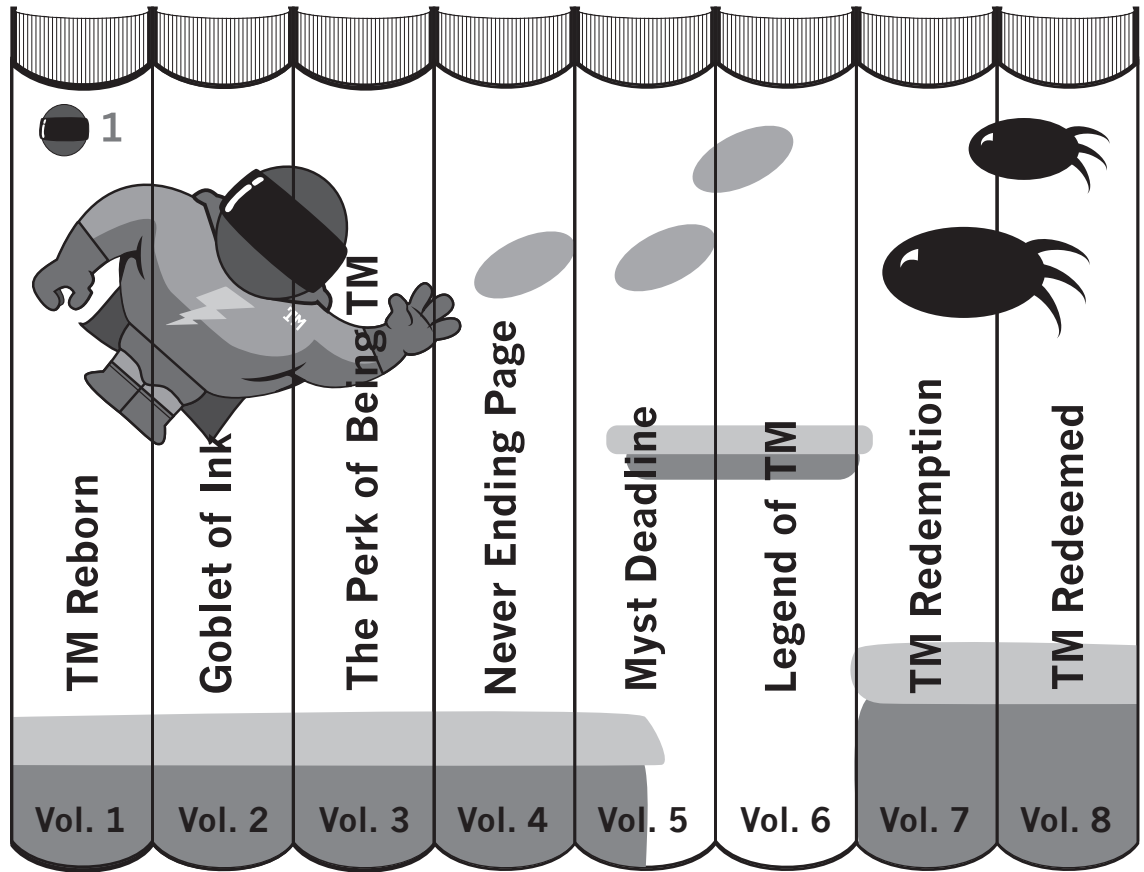
“[I would recommend this class to] all students,” Caster said.

The instruction and atmosphere are laid back, giving students a learning environment that allows them to freely express their opinions with both the teacher and each other, she said.

“They are the smartest, most wide-read students I teach, because of the games,” Caster said. “Their vocabularies were huge.”

And students seem to appreciate the class.

“They adore it,” Caster said. “They got there early, talking



about the things we were going to talk about that day. Twice, they came an hour early to play before the class began.”

“Professor Caster is certainly an interesting teacher. Her methods are not very orthodox, and she is very radical in her teaching views, which many people would normally find unattractive in a teacher,” said Tyler Raflowski, a student in the class. “Honestly, I think she is one of the best teachers I have ever had, as she sees no reason to sugarcoat the truth when it

doesn’t need to be.”

“The class has put a lot of things into perspective that I had not considered until I had taken [it],” said Raflowski. “If you just play video games for fun and don’t make any more of it, I would not take this class. If you think that video games are the next big medium for stories and literature, this will be one of the best classes you take in college.”

“It isn’t just video games, it could be other media,” said Diego Paige. “That’s why I like

it. I do movies instead of video games.”

“Of course, anyone that takes this course will figure out by the end of it that [a] video game is more than a game,” said Paige. “It symbolizes more: it may have cautionary tales, or it may symbolize a dystopian world or uncanny valley.”

But the class offers more than just an opportunity to discuss videogames, Caster said.

“There are jobs in this kind of media,” she said.

When doing the research

she needed to justify teaching “Video Games as Narrative Literature,” she found out that several other colleges not only had classes related to video games, but also offered degrees in video game studies.

Highline not having such a class was a mistake, Caster said.

“We’re not paying attention,” she said. “That which is not investigated, is dangerous.”

“Theatre and Film were under English; why not video games?” Caster asked.

Caster said she initially subscribed to the belief that video games could not be classified as a form of literature, and agreed with the common belief that video games made people more violent. However, after some thought, she challenged herself.

“How can I believe that if I haven’t played [a video game]?” Caster asked herself.

She then played a variety of different games, from *Dragon Age* to *Grand Theft Auto* and found that she enjoyed not only the cathartic nature of the gameplay but also found herself impressed by the genuinely clever writing.

Not only has Caster taught students about videogames, but she also said she feels the class has made her a better teacher.

“[I’ve made my English class] more student-centered because of the video game class,” she said.

“I love the course,” Caster said. “I’ll be sad if, when I retire, the course doesn’t continue.”

Administrator retires after 19 years

By Jennifer Zayshlly
Staff Reporter

Dr. John Huber was outta here; done with Highline. That was the plan.

And then the college changed its name and began offering four-year degrees. His boss had another job for him.

He became the director of Bachelor Applied Science Programs.

A year and a half ago he told his boss he would retire this December.

“My boss told me that we’re starting a whole bunch of new bachelor degree programs and we need help getting them launched,” Dr. Huber said.

So during the last year and half, he’s been helping to get the Bachelor of Applied Sciences program up and running.

After 19 years of working at Highline, Dr. John Huber will finally retire at the end of Fall Quarter to travel the countryand enjoy adventures with his wife.

“We want to just travel and spend the winters in Arizona and the summers in Ocean Shores,” Dr. Huber said.

He has been at Highline since 1995, and spent the first half of his career teaching.

“I was running a chiropractic tech program,” Dr. Huber said. He’s a chiropractor by trade and practiced that for 20 years

before joining the college. After his teaching years, he joined the Workforce Educational Service Program.

According to its website, Workforce helps students with many of their needs such as basic food employment and training, opportunity grants, and training funds for dislocated workers.

Some of the people Workforce help includes people who are recieving unemployment from the state and people who are vulnerable to getting laid off.

“I eventually became the director of Workforce,” Dr. Huber said. “and that’s where we do a lot of funding and opportunity grants.”

“Reorganizing the Workforce office was very difficult,” Dr. Huber said.

All the grants have different criteria and some of the students are eligible for multiple grants.

“Coordinating with everyone on campus and to meet each students need is a very challenging, but rewarding duty to have,” Dr. Huber said.

Aside from the obstacles Dr. Huber faced here at Highline, he had many accomplishments.

“When I was teaching, we developed skill standards for the chiropractic tech program,” Dr. Huber said.

He wrote a grant and did a big skill standards project, that



Andie Munkh-Erdene/THUNDERWORD
Dr. John Huber is retiring after 19 years at Highline.

helped him develop it.

“Another accomplishment I had because of me teaching here,” said Dr. Huber.

“I was able to become the Medicare chairman for my chiropractic association.”

The people at Highline are all very cooperative and helpful, he said. But, that’s just one thing he will miss.

“Also, I’ll miss working with students. It’s always so nice to work with folks who are trying to move forward in their life and achieve something,” Dr. Huber said.

Even though Dr. Huber is retiring, he said he’s going to try to be available as much as he can to support and guide his replacement.

Winter retreat to train leaders

By Maren Parker
Staff Reporter

Self-reflection and rejuvenation are key goals of Highline’s annual Winter Leadership Retreat and the deadline for applying is tomorrow.

For the last 10 years, Highline has been offering a winter retreat for currently enrolled students to learn more about themselves and other students.

“One of the main reasons [for the retreat] is it gives students an opportunity to step away from the campus and reflect on themselves,” said Iesha Valencia, assistant director of the Center fpr Leadership and Service.

The retreat helps students “feel special and have time to re-energize,” she said.

The retreat will consist of a series of workshops as well as some possible speakers but it’s mostly about giving back to the students, said Leadership Development Coordinator Noory Kim.

Doris Martinez, the leadership coordinator of the Inter-Cultural Center, said “Our theme this year is Knowing Your Inner Season: Paths of Renewal.”

The theme is based off a book by Parker Palmer titled *Let Your Life Speak*.

“Winter doesn’t get a lot of love because it’s dark and gloomy,” said Martinez, “The retreat is about how we need those gloomy times to appreciate the good.”

Highline is offering two retreats this year, the winter as well as the spring retreat, which will be held sometime in April.

The winter retreat is being held at a cabin on Bainbridge Island. The retreat is overnight from Dec. 18-19 and the first day is a full day, she said.

To attend, students must turn in applications by tomorrow, Nov. 21 at 5 p.m.

Applications can be found at <http://cls.highline.edu/retreat.php>.

Turn in applications at the Center for Leader and Service office on the third floor of the Student Union.

Applicants are required to attend a mandatory pre-departure orientation meeting. The meetings will be either Dec. 2 at 12:15-1:15 p.m. or Dec. 5 at 4-5 p.m.

New degree options to help students

By Katelyn Beach
Staff Reporter

Highline is now offering bachelor of applied science degrees in Cyber Security and Forensics; Respiratory Care; and Global Trade and Logistics.

Dr. John Huber, the director of the Bachelor of Applied Science Programs, said that a four-year degree in Youth Development is also planned, but it is not approved as yet.

Highline is offering these degrees “To help associate of applied science graduates get a bachelor of applied science degree faster than a bachelor of arts degree or bachelor of science degree,” said Dr. Huber.

“Also, the degress are to serve place bound students in our service district and to meet the needs of local employers who need bachelor of applied science graduates with specific core skills.” said Dr. Huber.

Highline has on-campus classes, online classes, and hybrid to be able to create flexible schedules. Hybrid classes are a mix of in-person lectures and



Tony Johnson/HIGHLINE
Students can get hands-on experience in new degree programs.

online activities.

One of the Cyber Security and Forensics instructors is Dr. Amelia Phillips. According to the Highline website “[She] who is a nationally recognized expert in the field of computer forensics and the author of one of the standard textbooks in the field.”

Chun Yu, another instructor in the Cyber Security and Forensics has a Ph.D. “Yu has more than 10 years of teaching experience and brings the perspective of an ESL student to the program,” according to

Highline’s website.

“In addition to master’s degree in Information Security, [Chun Yu] is a Cisco Certified Academy Instructor, Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer and Cisco Certified Networking Associate.”

As part of the Cyber Security and Forensics program, the students are able to have student internships and job shadowing with Cisco, Microsoft, Boeing and other companies.

In the Bachelor of Applied Science in Respiratory Care program, “faculty members

work closely with Medical Centers in the Seattle/Tacoma area,” according to the Highline’s website.

Highline is the first to offer a four-year degree in respiratory therapy in Washington state.

The programs cover the topics of research evaluation, ethical studies, education principles, advanced writings, project management, advanced adult/ pediatric/ community care, and innovative leadership principles and practices.

Science in Global Trade and Logistics program “works with companies and organizations that need qualified workers to help them thrive internationally,” according to Highline’s website.

“Countless industries take advantage of this location.”

Highline has relationships with trade, government and educational institutions in China, Japan, Namibia, South Africa and Turkey.

Highline is hoping to have more connections in the future. More information can be found at the Highline website, www.highline.edu.

Congrats NWCA champs

Congratulations to Highline’s men’s soccer team for winning the NWAC title this year.

The team did a fantastic job this season.

It managed to win a championship while emphasizing academics over athletics.

The coaches deserve points for keeping the team focused in school and on the field.

School can be challenging for students who only attend classes, let alone those who are committed to a team and practices.

So additional congratulations are in order.

There is a stereotype that athletes are poor students, but they proved that stereotype false here at Highline.

The Athletics Department takes education very seriously, as it should.

Last year the cross-country team had the highest GPA out of all those on the NWAC All-American Academic Team.

And Highline has 10 students this year who made the NWAC All-American Academic Team for Fall sports.

That is a great achievement!

Highline does a great job at promoting the notion of student-athlete.

Being an athlete is great, but being a student and being successful is greater.

Keep up the good work!

Take care of your body

Students need to take better care of themselves.

We don’t eat right, we don’t sleep enough and we stress ourselves out and complain when we get sick.

Not to mention the recent ice-cold weather that no one seems to be dressing properly for.

It is not the time to be wearing knee-highs with skirts or beach shorts with sandals.

It is too cold outside for that.

If you get sick constantly the same time each year, it should be a clue that you’re doing something wrong.

It doesn’t take much to stay healthy — all you have to do is make an effort and you will see improvement.

Getting eight to 10 hours of sleep every day and eating breakfast in the mornings is a small and easy way to start taking better care of yourself.

You can also wear warm clothing such as coats, hats, scarves and socks.

Drink plenty of water.

Eat food throughout the day and exercise.

These are all sure ways to help keep your body at its best.

You can’t complain about being sick if you’re the reason why you keep getting sick.

If you don’t eat, sleep or exercise, you’re asking to get sick.

When your body is healthy and taken care of, everything else will fall into place.

So let’s take better care of our bodies.

Have something to say?

Have something you want to say to the student body?

The Highline Thunderword is asking for students to voice their opinions on what matters to them. We’re accepting submissions in the form of letters and columns.

Letters to the editor should be no more than 200 words; columns should be no more than 600 words.

Send submissions to thunderword@highline.edu by Monday for print on Thursday.

Write to us!



Giving can feel as good as getting

It’s too often in life we forget how fortunate we are and how unfortunate others can be.

I often wonder why people have to struggle to feed their children in our great country.

I don’t know if I will ever be able to answer that question, but I do know there are ways that I can make a difference.

Being willing to give to others in a time of need is a good way to show your appreciation for what you have been given the opportunity to achieve in life, whether it be your house, car, kids, or any other possession.

Focusing on yourself and your family is a must. You always want to make sure they are well taken care of.

Some of us have the means to make sure this happens, but some of us don’t.

These are the people who need our help.

What is alarming to me is that a lot of the people who need assistance are actually working-class people who still do not have enough money to feed their children a good meal every night.

The unemployment rate in Washington is 5.7 percent, which is not bad when you com-



Commentary
James Ford Jr.

pare it to some other states.

There are children in our area who do not have enough to eat on a regular basis. Washington is the 22nd hungriest state in the nation.

Another sad fact in our state is that 1 of 5 kids in our state lives in a household that has trouble putting food on the table.

This is not only a problem in our communities; it is a problem in the United States.

The Department of Agriculture estimates that there are 15.8 million children under the

age of 18 in the United States who live in a household where they are not able to have a nutritious meal on a regular basis.

We may not be able to help everybody in the country, but we can help locally.

On Dec. 1 there will be a fundraiser for hungry children in our community from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at Highline’s Student Union Building.

The Change for Change fundraiser helps the Des Moines Food Bank raise money for its Weekend Backpack Program.

The Weekend Backpack Program provides food to kids who would otherwise go hungry.

The students of the State and Local Government class will be running this year’s event.

The students are taking their time to host a bake sale. Cookies and other treats are available at the sale, or you can choose to simply make a donation.

As the name Change for Change implies, no donation is too small to make an impact.

It does not matter how much you give for the bake goods. What matters is you gave to a greater purpose.

James Ford Jr. is a Thunderword reporter.

the Staff

Don’t get sick, it’s bad for your health.

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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The Jungle Book?

1. MEASUREMENTS: What does a quadricentennial represent?
2. MEDICINE: Which vitamin is essential in blood clotting?
3. U.S. STATES: Which U.S. state has a license plate that proclaims, "Land of Lincoln"?
4. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which one of the seven dwarfs in the 1937 film *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* did not have a beard?
5. HISTORY: What were known as "liberty steaks" during World War II in America?
6. ANIMAL KINGDOM: How many limbs does a squid have?
7. LITERATURE: What is the name of the boy raised by wolves in Rudyard Kipling's

8. GAMES: What is known as skeet?
9. MOVIES: How many roles did Peter Sellers play in the movie *Dr. Strangelove*?
10. FOOD AND DRINK: Which young French wine is released annually on the third Thursday in November?

Answers

1. A celebration marking 400 years
2. Vitamin K
3. Illinois
4. Dopey
5. Hamburgers
6. 10
7. Mowgli
8. Trapshooting
9. Three
10. Beaujolais nouveau

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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

DIFFICULTY: ★★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

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1 2 3 4 5 6 6 7 9

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Sea bird
- 5 Trail behind
- 8 Not hit
- 12 Neighbor-hood
- 13 Melody
- 14 Concept
- 15 Iris' cousin
- 17 Forsaken
- 18 — and don'ts
- 19 Sentimental song
- 21 Colorado ski mecca
- 24 Competent
- 25 Equipment
- 26 1970s music genre
- 30 Rowing need
- 31 Boasts
- 32 Fish eggs
- 33 Arctic sights
- 35 Recording
- 36 Detail
- 37 Sea anemone, e.g.
- 38 "Jeopardy!" emcee
- 41 Witnessed
- 42 Medal earner
- 43 Gorbachev's policy
- 48 Bar
- 49 LummoX
- 50 Press
- 51 Radius neighbor

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
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42					43	44				45	46	47
48					49				50			
51					52				53			

- 52 Coloring agent
- 53 Right on the map?
- 10 Antitoxins
- 11 Beach stuff
- 16 Charged bit
- 20 Donations to the needy
- 21 Enthusiastic, plus
- 22 Close up tightly
- 23 Prefix with legal or normal
- 24 Startle
- 26 Zeus, for one
- 27 Exam format
- 28 Imitate
- 29 Retain
- 31 Chomp
- 34 Treasure site
- "
- with seven cities
- 35 Permanent resident
- 37 — de deux
- 38 From one end to the other
- 39 Actual
- 40 Green land
- 41 Secure
- 44 Put (down)
- 45 Man-mouse link
- 46 "Help!"
- 47 Stick with a kick

Puzzle answers on Page 14

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- **ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) There could be an unexpected change in plans for your upcoming holiday travels. But keep in mind that a little flexibility goes a long way in resolving any disappointments.
- **TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) A new relationship might not be responding quite as quickly as you'd hoped. Could you be expecting too much too soon? Try to ease up and let things happen at their own pace.
- **GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) As we approach the frenetic pace of pre-holiday planning, take time out now to reconnect with the wonderful people who share your life, especially the one who also shares your dreams.
- **CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) A misunderstanding should be resolved before you get caught up in the flurry of holiday preparations. Set your pride aside and deal with it, regardless of who might have hurt whom first.
- **LEO** (July 23 to August 22) Being told that a colleague might have been trying to undercut your effectiveness might or might not be true.



Get all the facts before you even think about acting on this so-called information.

- **VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) It's a good idea to start your holiday preparation plans early in order to avoid a time crunch if an unresolved workplace situation causes a problem. That old friend might have some welcome news.
- **LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) A family member's actions continue to surprise you, but this time with positive results. Could be your wise counsel finally got through. It's like having an early holiday gift, isn't it?
- **SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Your reluctance to act in a current situation could be traced to your inner self advising you to take more time to study its complexities before you attempt to deal with it. Good luck.
- **SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) Soothing hurt feelings before they can ignite an angry outburst is

the wise thing to do. And, of course, when it comes to doing the "wisdom thing," you do it so well.

- **CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) Budget your time so that you can handle both your workplace duties and your personal holiday planning -- including travel arrangements -- without burning out on either end.
- **AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) You might find that you still need to firm up one or two of those still-outstanding decisions so that you finally can move forward as you had planned. Weigh the facts, then act.
- **PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) You usually don't carry grudges, but you might feel this is one time when you're justified in doing so. But aren't you spending too much energy holding onto it? Let it go and move on.
- **BORN THIS WEEK:** You have a way of using your quiet strength to persuade people to follow their better instincts and do the right thing.

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The turkey isn't done!

...and other Thanksgiving Day disasters

After 35 years of cooking, I've had my share of Thanksgiving Day disasters! Here are some secrets to saving your sanity and your Thanksgiving dinner:

HOW TO DEFROST A TURKEY

You'll need at least 24 to 48 hours (about five hours per pound) to thaw a frozen turkey in the refrigerator. If you need to do a quick thaw, place the wrapped, frozen turkey in your kitchen sink or a large container like an ice chest. Cover the turkey with cold water. Drain and refill the water every half-hour because as the bird thaws out, the water will get warmer. Using this method, the turkey will thaw at the rate of about a half-hour for each pound.

PREPARING THE BIRD

Remove the giblet package (neck, livers, heart and gizzards) from inside the cavity of the bird AND check the neck cavity. Some manufacturers place the giblet package in the neck cavity and others place it inside the cavity closest to the legs. Most turkeys come with the legs already trussed (crossed and secured with a metal or plastic bracket). If you're not going to stuff your bird, there's no need to truss the legs. Trussing an unstuffed bird hinders the hot oven air from circulating inside and around the legs. This means that the dark meat will take longer to cook and the breast meat will cook faster and probably dry out before the legs



It takes at least 24 hours to defrost a turkey.

ever get completely done.

THE TURKEY ISN'T DONE

Don't rely on the "pop-up" timer in the turkey, as it usually means that the breast is overcooked and the dark meat isn't done. If the dark meat isn't done, remove the wings and breast meat from the rest of the turkey, in one piece, if possible. Cover the breast and wing portion with foil and set it aside. Put the drumsticks and thigh portion of the turkey back into the oven to continue cooking until done. You can re-assemble the whole turkey and garnish it, or just cut it into serving portions and arrange it on a platter.

STUFFING SAVERS

If the stuffing/dressing is too wet, spread it out in a thin layer on a sheet pan so that it will dry quickly. Place it back into the oven for 5 to 7 minutes. If it's too dry, add more pan drippings or chicken broth to the mixture. If you don't have anymore drippings or broth,

you can combine a chicken bouillon cube (if you have one), along with a teaspoon of poultry seasoning, three tablespoons of butter and 1 cup of water. Cook the mixture in the microwave for 3 to 5 minutes or until it comes to a boil. Stir to combine and then add it, a little at a time, to the dressing until it's moist.

SOUPY MASHED POTATOES

You can add unseasoned dry breadcrumbs to soupy mashed potatoes to absorb any excess liquid.

GRAVY RESCUE TIPS

If the gravy is lumpy, pour it through a strainer into a new pan and bring it to a simmer, stirring gently. If it's too thin, mix a tablespoon of melted butter with a tablespoon of flour. Bring the gravy up to a boil and whisk in the butter mixture to thicken your gravy. If the gravy is too thick, add a little more chicken broth, pan drippings or a little water and

butter to thin it out.

BURNT OFFERINGS

If the turkey begins to burn while it's roasting, flip the bird over immediately and continue to cook it. After the turkey is done, you can remove and discard any blackened skin and about half an inch of the meat below any burnt area. Slice the remaining breast meat, arrange it on a platter and ladle gravy over it.

If your vegetables or gravy burn on the bottom, carefully remove the layer that isn't burned into another pot or serving dish. DON'T SCRAPE THE BOTTOM OF THE PAN.

If the dinner rolls are burned on the bottom, just cut off as much as you can, butter them, and fold them in half to cover the missing ends. Whipped cream is the perfect "make-up" for desserts that aren't quite up to par. You can cut the top layer off a burnt pie and cover it with whipped cream.

Comfort foods

Made fast and healthy

by Healthy Exchanges

Wake up to a Rise & Shine breakfast

When the grandkids stay overnight, we like to serve them dishes like this. It doesn't take very long to prepare, but they'll think you've made a big fuss over them.

- 6 eggs, beaten or equivalent in egg substitute
- 1/2 teaspoon lemon pepper
- 2/3 cup nonfat dry milk powder
- 2/3 cup water
- 2 teaspoons prepared yellow mustard
- 1 tablespoon dried parsley flakes
- 3/4 cup shredded reduced-fat Cheddar cheese
- 1 cup diced extra-lean ham
- 1 (7.5-ounce) can refrigerated buttermilk biscuits

1. Preheat oven to 375 F. Spray an 8-by-8-inch baking dish with butter-flavored cooking spray.
2. In large skillet sprayed with cooking spray, combine eggs and lemon pepper. Cook over medium heat until eggs are set, stirring often. Set aside.
3. In a medium saucepan, combine dry milk powder and water. Stir in mustard and parsley flakes. Add Cheddar cheese. Mix well to combine. Cook over medium heat until cheese is melted, stirring constantly. Remove from heat. Fold in ham and cooked eggs.

4. Spread mixture into prepared baking dish. Separate biscuits and cut each into 4 pieces. Evenly sprinkle biscuit pieces over top of egg mixture. Lightly spray biscuit tops with cooking spray. Bake 15-20 minutes or until biscuits are golden brown.

5. Place baking dish on a wire rack and let set for 5 minutes. Makes 6 servings.
- Each serving equals: 262 calories, 10g fat, 20g protein, 23g carb., 839mg sodium, 2g fiber; Diabetic Exchanges: 2 Meat, 1.5 Starch.
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Creamed turkey turns leftovers into treasure

This old-time favorite, sometimes called turkey hash, deserves a place in the comfort food Hall of Fame. You can stir in leftover cooked vegetables along with the turkey -- carrots, peas and potatoes are all good. Spoon over noodles, mashed potatoes or rice.

- 2 tablespoons butter or margarine
- 1 small onion, finely chopped
- 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 2 cups milk
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon ground black pepper
- Pinch ground nutmeg
- 8 ounces cooked turkey or chicken, cut into 1/2-inch pieces (2 cups)
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley

Good Housekeeping

1. In 3-quart saucepan, melt butter over medium heat. Add onion and cook, stirring, until tender, about 5 minutes. Stir in flour and cook, stirring constantly, 1 minute. With wire whisk, gradually whisk in milk, salt, pepper and nutmeg. Heat to boiling over medium-high heat, whisking. Reduce heat and simmer, whisking occasionally, 5 minutes.
2. Stir turkey into sauce and heat through. Stir in parsley and serve. Makes 4 main-dish servings.
- Each serving: about 277

calories, 13g total fat (7g saturated), 26g protein, 13g carbohydrate, 87mg cholesterol, 462mg sodium.

'Leftover' Mashed-Potato Pancakes

- Here's great way to use leftover potatoes. In fact, make extra so you can enjoy this easy dish a second time.
- 1 1/2 cups mashed potatoes
 - 2 tablespoons plain dried bread crumbs
 - 1 tablespoon freshly grated Parmesan cheese
 - 1 tablespoon butter or margarine
 - 1. With hands, shape potatoes into eight 2-inch patties. On waxed paper, combine bread

- crumbs and Parmesan. Coat patties with bread-crum mixture, patting crumbs to cover.
2. Heat nonstick 10-inch skillet over medium heat; melt butter. Add patties and cook until golden and heated through, 2 to 3 minutes per side. Makes 4 accompaniment servings.
 - Each serving: About 129 calories, 7g total fat (3 g saturated), 3g protein, 16g carbohydrate, 11mg cholesterol, 319mg sodium.
- For thousands of triple-tested recipes, visit our website at www.goodhousekeeping.com/recipefinder/.
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•Get ready for the holidays early when the Des Moines Auxiliary of Seattle Children's Hospital holds its annual Holiday Bazaar this weekend. There will be door prizes, raffles, Santa Pictures, homemade baked items and homemade crafts for sale. Home-cooked foods will also be available for sale in the kitchen for snacks and lunch. The event is free to attend, and takes place on Nov. 21 and Nov. 22, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Des Moines United Methodist Church. The Des Moines United Methodist Church is located at 22225 9th Street South.

•Indulge your inner thespian this month when the Lakewood Playhouse is presenting *Little Women* by Lousia May Alcott. The play will be performed on Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Performances will run until Nov. 30, with a special "pay what you can actor's benefit" showing at 8 p.m. today, Nov. 20. Tickets are available online at lakewoodplayhouse.org or at the box office and cost \$25 general admission, \$22 with a military ID, \$21 for seniors and \$19 for students and educators. The Lakewood Playhouse is located at 5729 Lakewood Towne Center Blvd SW in Lakewood.

•The Northwest Carvers Associations will be holding their 34th annual "Artistry in Wood" show and sale at the Pioneer Park Pavilion this weekend. Dualing as a competition and expo, local carvers will compete at six skill levels for ribbon and cash awards while carving experts present hourly demonstrations on various carving topics and answer questions. There will be raffles, seminars, and an evening banquet and auction as well as a sales area with carving supplies and woodcarvings for sale. Admission to the event is \$7 for adults and free for children 12 and under, and a ticket is good for both days of the event, Nov. 22 and 23. The event will run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. The Pioneer Park Pavilion is located at 330 S. Meridian in Puyallup.

•Get a head start on the holidays or just sit back and enjoy the atmosphere at the Nordic Heritage Museum's 37th Annual Yulefest event this weekend. Taking place at the Nordic Heritage Museum on Nov. 22 and 23, Yulefest attempts to bring the Nordic culture alive for the holiday season. There will be Nordic-inspired wares from more than 40 merchants, authentic Nordic cuisine in the Nordic Café, and Scandinavian musicians performing on stages throughout the Museum. The younger audience also enjoy free holiday-inspired crafts, activities, and visits with Santa. The event runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and is \$5 to attend. Kids 12 and under are admitted for free. The Nordic Heritage Museum is located at 3014 NW 67th St. in Seattle.

Seattle Repertory Theatre goes 'All The Way' with new play

By Kayla Dickson
Staff Reporter

The Seattle Repertory Theatre perfectly walked the line between artistic imagination and political reality with their new production of *All The Way* by Seattle playwright Robert Schenkkan.

All The Way is a Tony award-winning play that focuses on the trials and triumph that President Lyndon B. Johnson faced after Kennedy's assassination.

"Considering that this year is the 50th anniversary of Johnson's War on Poverty, this play could not have come at a better time," said Dr. Trevor Griffey, co-founder of the Seattle Civil Rights and Labor History Project, at a forum before the performance on Nov. 15.

"What many people fail to realize is although he was focused on poverty, most of the movement regarding civil rights was done by Johnson, not Kennedy," he said.

Schenkkan successfully captures in his writing not only the tangible things Johnson accomplished in office, but the relationships and influence Johnson held that made him such a successful president.

"Lyndon B. Johnson had a lot of favors owed to him," said Reverend Dr. Bernard Lafayette at the forum. "Although he



Jack Willis as President Lyndon B. Johnson and Kenajuan Bentley as Dr. Martin Luther King in Seattle Repertory Theater's *All The Way*.

was a southern Texan and the complete opposite of Kennedy, he was still chosen for office because he was widely influential."

Aside from addressing the relationships that helped with the success of the Johnson administration, the actor that played Johnson in this production, Jack Willis, and director Bill Rauch collaborated to beautifully capture the less-than-glorious personal side of Johnson.

"Johnson had some trouble during this time due to the rising popularity of television," Dr. Trevor Griffey said. "He wasn't as stylish or eloquent as Kennedy, so that definitely affected him."

Although this political play

is written based on the historical events that took place after Kennedy's assassination, it still managed to lead the audience to relate the ideas to modern-day issues.

"I believe good theater gives you an outside look at society today," said Marya Kaminski at the forum on Nov. 15, the associate artistic director at the Seattle Repertory Theatre.

"Comparing to our problems and humanitarian life today, it brings up how important Johnson's movement was and what he did with the problems he faced," she said.

Although the play is billed as a drama, there are plenty of comedic moments strewn

throughout the piece. Much of the humor is aimed for adults however, and due to some choice language and subject matter, the play is not recommended for those under 13.

The lighting and set design of the production were to be expected of A-level theater.

Scenic designer Christopher Acebo crafted the set to be fluid and practical while helping to convey the story. Meanwhile, lighting designer David Weiner set the mood throughout the play without being distracting.

All The Way is the first in the two-part drama series running until Jan. 4. Schenkkan's sequel to the play, *The Great Society*, focuses on Johnson's re-election and his struggle with the war on poverty and Vietnam. The Seattle Repertory Theater will be holding the world premier of *The Great Society* on Dec. 5 and will be alternating performance dates with *All The Way* until both shows close on Jan. 4.

The Seattle Repertory Theatre is located in Seattle Center at 155 Mercer St.

Tickets range from \$17 to \$150 and are available by calling the box office at 206-443-2224 or online at seattlerep.org. Students with a valid student ID card may purchase tickets for \$18 regardless of the seat location.

Local gallery holds annual art event

By Kayla Dickson
Staff Reporter

Take something home for the holidays from the White River Valley Museum this month during their eighth annual "Small Works, Big Presents" event.

"We do this event yearly," said Patricia Cosgrove, the museum director. "It's an event where every piece in the exhibit is on sale for a month before the holidays. They're typically small collectables, so they tend to make good gifts."

The event began yesterday, Nov. 19, and will be held at the museum for the remainder of the month as a holiday exhibit.

The exhibit will feature a variety of different types of art, including photography, paintings, sculptures, ceramics, jewelry, tapestries, wood pieces, and mosaics. Most of the pieces within the exhibit range from \$50 to \$250 to keep the artwork affordable for attendees.

"One reason our prices are so competitive is due to the fact that we don't take a lot of money from our artists," Cosgrove said. "Here, only 25 percent of the proceeds go to the mu-

seum. In traditional museums, the percentage is much higher. Some even take around 50 to 60 percent."

Aside from the fact that these pieces are generally more affordable, consumers can take peace of mind knowing that all of the art comes from local artists. The museum only accepted submissions from artists from Washington, Oregon, and Idaho.

"We seem to find that South King County doesn't have many gallery spaces, so we decided to make this space a gallery to give residents a better opportunity to see and be inspired by art," Cosgrove said. "This event also gives the local artists a chance to put their work on display somewhere."

This year has a large selection of different art on display, as well.

"I'm so thrilled to see the variety of art we'll have for display during this exhibit," Patricia Cosgrove said.

"I tend to think of it as 'brain candy.' It's really great to see the exhibit looking so diverse," she said.

Small Works, Big Presents will be at the White River Val-



Local artist Barbi Lock Lee created this piece titled "Flower Pot" for the "Small Works, Big Presents" event.

ley Museum from Nov. 19 to Dec. 14. The museum operates Wednesday through Sunday from Noon to 4:00 p.m., and every First Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m.

Admission to the museum is

\$5 for adults, and \$2 for children and seniors. Every first Thursday and third Sunday, admission is free.

The White River Valley Museum is located at 918 H Street SE in Auburn.

Volleyball seeks fast playoff start

By Madison Thayne
Staff Reporter

The Northwest Athletic Conference championships begin today with Highline playing Chemeketa.

Highline’s Head Coach Chris Littleman said that consistency will be the key to the Lady T-Bird’s success.

“We need to play more consistent than the other team,” said Coach Littleman. Highline’s last game before the playoffs was Nov. 14 against Clark.

The Thunderbirds struggled in the beginning to gain the win but ended up victorious with scores of 21-25, 25-23, 25-18, and 27-25.

Highline was led by Danielle Tabor’s 16 kills, Alexa Toth’s 37 sets, and both Haley Lusher and Leone Tanielu had 17 digs each.

On Nov. 12 Highline faced off with Green River, who finished fourth in the West Division.

The Thunderbirds defeated the Gators 26-24, 24-26, 25-23, and 25-19, with Danielle Tabor leading with 17 kills.

Alexa Toth had 36 sets, and Leone Tanielu had 17 digs.

Highline placed second in the West Division standings; their record is now 11-3 in league and 31-15 for the season.

Highline’s first match at the NWAC championships will be today at 4:30 p.m. , against Chemeketa, a team the Lady T-Birds have beaten and lost to this season.

If Highline defeats Chemeketa they will move up and either face off against Skagit Valley who placed fourth in the West Division standings or Blue Mountain who placed first in the East Division standings.

Skagit Valley head Coach Zachary Calles thinks his team’s success will be achieved through a mix of consistency and focus.

“It’s all about competing. Like any game, we must limit our errors and take advantage of scoring opportunities,” said Coach Calles.

The championships will be held at Greater Tacoma Convention and Trade Center, 1500 Broadway, Tacoma.

Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$7 for students.



Andie Munkh-Erdene/THUNDERWORD

The Lady T-Birds played against Green River on Nov. 12. They will face Chemeketa at the NWAC volleyball championship tournament today at 4:30 p.m. in Tacoma Convention and Trade Center.

Lady Thunderbirds prepare to take flight

By James Keum
Staff Reporter

The Highline women’s basketball will begin their season Nov. 21 in Oregon for the Mt. Hood Classic tournament.

The team will look to build off eight returning sophomores from last season, which made the NWAACC tournament but went 0-2 and ended their season in disappointing fashion.

“The fact that we have several older players will benefit us tremendously,” Coach Amber Mosley said.

“We have to use our experience and learn from last years mistakes,” 5’10” sophomore guard Jada Piper said.

Piper was Highline’s leading scorer last season at 13.76 points per game but sustained a broken left pinky late in the season that affected her play in the tournament.

“I’m 100 percent healthy and ready for the season,” Piper said.

Piper will be an intricate part for the team to reach their goals this season.

Also an intricate part for the team to succeed will be the leadership shown from the sophomores to the freshmen.

“Our sophomores have been doing a great job helping frosh and new people get caught up



Andie Munkh-Erdene/THUNDERWORD

Coach Amber Mosley (left) calls out a play to freshmen Erica Walker and Gabby Evan.

and learn our culture,” Mosley said.

Brittany Barrington and Calli Remitz were chosen to be the team captains based upon voting from their teammates.

Mosley will enjoy a roster equipped with depth and talent at each position.

“We have more depth in terms of bodies and talent. There is not one position that is weak,” said Mosley.

Highline has a total of 18

players on the roster, which is most in the North-west Athletic Conference.

“We have a ton of talent on paper at each position,” Mosley said.

“Our practices have been tough because there’s so much talent fighting for minutes. It’s good because we push each other everyday to get better,” Piper said.

Although Highline has depth and talent, Mosley be-

lieves not being complacent will be a determining factor to success.

“Our weakness will be ourselves. Buying into the program and doing what I want them to do and not killing the team from the inside,” Mosley said.

The Lady T-Birds will have to settle any off court drama to reach their full potential.

“Any time you have a team of females, the relationships

and interactions are a critical component,” Mosley said.

“Not everybody has to get along but we have to do our best to handle business on the court,” 5’5” sophomore point guard Kayla Ivy said.

“We don’t need them to all be buddy buddy off the court, but we need to have a level of respect on the court and our dislike for our opponent is greater than any dislike of someone on our team,” Mosley said.

Once the Lady T-Birds handle their off-court distractions, Mosley said she has a very dangerous team.

“When opponents see our roster they will be worried,” Mosley said.

Mosley plans to play at a very fast pace both offensively and defensively, utilizing the depth that the team has.

“Offensively I want us to run the court and score in the fast break. However we need to be smart enough to run a play when needed,” Mosley said.

“We want to push the ball because we have skilled players in the open court,” Piper said.

“Our potential is endless, but we still have to play the game. Hard work beats talent when talent doesn’t work or decides to no be all in,” Mosley said.



Seattle Thunderbirds photo

ShoWare officials predict their 2 millionth visitor will pass through the doors at a Seattle Thunderbirds game sometime this weekend.

Kent arena plans prizes for 2 millionth visitor

By Lisa Armitage
Staff Reporter

You could win two free tickets to every event at Kent's ShoWare Center for a whole year if you've got the right number.

That would be No. 2 million, as in the 2 millionth guest to walk through the doors.

This is the second time the ShoWare is hosting such a celebration. The 1 millionth-ticket celebration happened in November 2011.

The arena has been open since January 2009.

Depending upon exact attendance numbers over the next few events, the venue's operators expect the 2 millionth guest will be welcomed sometime between the next two Seattle Thunderbirds hockey games. The winner will be announced between Friday and Saturday.

"Our entire staff takes great pride in the reputation ShoWare Center that has established in the region as the premier sports and entertainment venue. We look forward to the future and our next two millionth guest," said Tim Higgins, ShoWare Center's general manager.

Other events at the ShoWare Center include concerts, sporting events, and Highline's commencement ceremony.

One lucky guest who walks through the doors will receive a \$100 Savor gift certificate to be used on concessions for future events; a private behind the scenes tour of the ShoWare Center; an upgrade to a free suite for an upcoming event; a seven-night resort stay at a dream destination of the winner's choice courtesy of Travel



ShoWare hosts a variety of arts and sports events.

Seattle; and more.

The 2 millionth guest will be welcomed at one of the Seattle Thunderbirds games and will also be recognized on the big screen and partake in the ceremonial "puck drop."

"This is something to give back, to show appreciation for the ShoWare Center that has been opened for six years," said

Ryan Hart, director of sales and marketing.

Thunderbirds play Spokane on Friday, Nov. 21 at 7:35 p.m. and the Thunderbirds play Everett on Saturday, Nov. 22 at 7:05 p.m. Prices for Thunderbird hockey games range from \$16 to \$60.

ShoWare Center is at 625 W. James St. in Kent.

Soccer cup reaches out to community

By Rachael Gathoni
Staff Reporter

An indoor soccer tournament featuring six international teams will fill the Highline Pavilion this Saturday, Nov. 22.

The Highline College International Cup is designed by the school's Sports Diplomacy and Outreach program to show solidarity with underserved local immigrant communities and to promote the college's soccer team.

The communities often consist of refugees, internally displaced persons, people with disabilities and women -- people who are generally underserved by the college. And the International Cup organizers said that they hope some of the participants may eventually attend Highline and become players for the Thunderbird soccer team.

The tournament will feature four teams from Burma, one

from Somalia and another from Mexico.

"Although it's the first indoor game inviting the outside community, we want it to grow and reach any students -- especially Running Start," said Fawzi Belal, director of Sports Diplomacy and Outreach. "We will make it bigger and better as we go."

The tournament is focusing on young people between the ages of 18 and 24 who might become students and participate in organized competitions beyond the pick-up games they currently engage in.

"I hope that we'll empower the youth to promote peace and to do something new with their lives by joining our college," Belal said.

The tournament kicks off at 5 p.m. in Building 28 and will involve teams consisting of six players per side.

Admission is free and open to the public.



Scoreboard

VOLLEYBALL		
Team	League W-L-T	Season W-L-T
West Division		
Z-Tacoma	31-1	35-4
X-Highline	11-3	31-15
X-Clark	10-4	18-17
X-Green River	9-5	21-20
Pierce	5-9	14-18
Lower Columbia	4-10	10-27
Crays Harbor	3-11	12-27
Centralia	1-13	4-26
South Division		
Z-Clackamas	10-0	35-4
X-Linn-Benton	7-3	26-12
X-Chemeketa	7-3	23-14
X-SW Oregon	3-7	13-29

VOLLEYBALL		
Team	League W-L-T	Season W-L-T
Mt. Hood	3-7	13-29
Umpqua	0-10	8-34

North Division		
Z-Olympic	12-0	27-6
X-Bellevue	10-2	18-10
X-Everett	7-5	22-14
X-Skagit Valley	5-7	13-26
Shoreline	5-7	7-20
Whatcom	2-10	9-25
Edmonds	1-11	2-27
East Division		
Z-Blue Mountain	13-1	45-4
X-Spokane	12-2	31-11
X-Walla Walla	10-4	25-12
X-Wenatchee Valley	7-7	20-13
Big Bend	6-8	18-18
Yakima Valley	4-10	7-21
Columbia Basin	3-11	12-22
Treasure Valley	1-13	12-25

Honors Seminar (Honors 100)

Are you interested in transfer and scholarships? This class will help you explore colleges, write personal statements, scholarship essays, and more.

When: Tuesdays from 5:00-6:45pm OR Wednesdays from 1:20-3:15pm

Credits: 2 credit class, Humanities Area I

Prerequisite: minimum 3.2 GPA

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WINTER 2015

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Ground-down Des Moines skate park needs money

By Alex Howard
Staff Reporter

The Des Moines Skate Park is scheduled for repair and update, but the city lacks the necessary funding.

Known as one of the oldest skate parks in Washington, it was built in 1996 by Purkiss Rose, an architectural firm that designed skate parks during the early '90s into the early 2000s.

The skate park is at 11th Avenue South and South 219th Street, adjacent to the Des Moines Police Station.

Purkiss Rose received ridicule from skateboarders in the past for not making the parks challenging enough.

It responded by saying that it was due to lack of proper funding, and general lack of knowledge concerning building skate parks.

Over time, the park in Des Moines has begun to erode and much of the ground has

become rough and difficult to skate. Some of the ledges in the park have become too crusty to grind as well.

The park still attracts patrons such as Zack and Cashis, who declined to give their last names, but said they come to the park every day after school.

"The ground on one side of the park is really rough, so we skate over here mostly," said Zack.

"We like skating here, but it would be awesome if they could build a better park," said Cassius.

Johnny Chengos, another local at the park, expressed his frustrations with the park.

"I hate having to skate here every day. It sucks, I get bored of the park as soon as I get here, but I have to skate somewhere," said Chengos.

Chengos still makes use of the park's features, and managed to pull off a few tricky maneuvers.

Although the park has prob-

lems, it still offers a nearby place for people to skate, and has been open for nearly 20 years.

The city has plans for an update of the park, but the plans are hindered by a lack of funds, said Des Moines Parks and Recreation Director Patrice Thorell.

She also said that repairs to the park are going to be made, but gave no indication as to when.

An increasing number of new skate parks have opened in the greater Seattle area in the last few years.

Skate parks such as Jefferson Seattle Center Skate Park, Roxhill, Judkins, and Delridge are just a few that Grindline has built in the last four years.

Grindline is a company that is skater-owned and operated, and works with local communities as well as the city when building parks.

Their parks are very popular and more are continuing to be built across the country.



Alex Howard/THUNDERWORD
A local skater gets some air at the Des Moines Skate Park. Skaters say it needs repairs in several places.

Renton skate and surf shop defies gravity and endures

By Rodney Serrano
Staff Reporter

Renton's Rainier Avenue is home to the Northwest's oldest surf and skate shop.

It deals mainly in skateboarding, but also maintains surf, snow and ski equipment.

David Kramer and Mike Lynch run it. Kramer founded Gravity Sports in 1976.

This shop has been in the same location for almost 40 years and shows no sign of leaving.

"We sacrifice a lot to stay open. Shops that do it for the money are the ones that come and go," said Lynch.

Skateboarding is not really known for helping the community, but Lynch says it does keep many kids out of trouble.

"It helps the community after helping the individual," said Lynch.

Gravity Sports also presents an opportunity for small local companies to get some exposure by having their products sold at the shop.

"We get excited about local companies. We're always down to help someone out," Lynch said.

"We pay cheap rent, but have no plumbing and get heat from a woodstove, but our reward is non-monetary. It's about skating and seeing people getting stoked

about skating," Lynch said.

Gravity Sports is also home to an impressive collection of skateboards that highlight the history of skateboarding with boards from '60s until the present.

"When you collect a lot of crap, eventually your crap becomes cool," Lynch said.

The Gravity Sports skateboard museum has boards that range from "Classic and iconic to rare and obscure. Everyone has a (Tony) Hawk or (Steve) Caballero or whatever iconic pro, but not many people have



Gravity Sports is the state's oldest skate shop.

some of skateboarding's forgotten designs," Lynch said.

Anyone from customers to professionals can contribute to

the museum.

Gravity Sports is at 126 Rainier Ave. S.

The store is open Tuesday-Friday at 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. and Saturdays at 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Honors Colloquy (Honors 101)

is returning Winter Quarter with a theme of...

Growth Mindset: Developing an outlook for success

Highline alumni, faculty, and staff will share their stories of overcoming obstacles and reaching their academic and career goals. Come participate and be inspired!

- When: Wednesdays from 12:10-1:13pm
- Credits: 1 credit, pass/fail speaker's series. Counts towards Humanities Area I.
- NO prerequisites

Help Wanted

The Thunderword has two openings for Winter Quarter:

- Sports Editor**

The ideal candidate will have journalism experience but above all an interest in sports. The sports editor leads coverage of Highline basketball and wrestling teams; arranges assignments and photos; designs and edits pages. The sports editor participates in budget meetings on Monday and Thursday afternoons and works on producing the sports section on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons.
- Advertising sales representative**

This position sells advertising space in the Thunderword to local and regional clients. These are on-campus, paid positions open to students currently enrolled at Highline for at least six credits with a minimum 2.5 GPA. Both positions require your own transportation and time during the day to do the jobs. If interested, send a resume and cover letter to thunderword@highline.edu

Gallery show brings nature close

By Andie Munkh-Erdene
Staff Reporter

Highline's Library is currently exhibiting the close-up nature photographs of artist Trina Cooper. She is a photographer, painter, sculptor, animator and an educator.

She graduated with a bachelor of Fine Arts from the Kansas City Art Institute. Her master's of Fine Arts is from the University of California-Berkeley and now she teaches visual communication at American Intercontinental University.

Cooper's photos are often close-ups of nature and the interaction of humans with nature.

"I like the idea of suspended belief," she said. "The close-ups are often of nature we don't normally see."

Cooper said that her photos are almost like an abstract painting or an orchestra that has no subject but people can understand it with feeling.

She often portrays mythological characters in her works, including in the photographs.

"There is no particular mythology," she said. "The three girls on a rock and the waves are rushing against the rocks surrounding them is a mythological sense."

She said that mythology is in every culture.

"Carl Jung had said that the myths from one part of the world were the same myths as in another part of the world," Cooper said.

Cooper said that the photographs are a collection over the years and the final photo was taken just last summer.

Cooper has taught art for more than 20 years, she is currently teaching at an online art class at American Intercontinental University.



Trina Cooper's photograph, *Muses*, is one of her works being displayed at the Library Gallery.

"The benefit about an online class is that the materials the students need are there. Even if the teacher forgot to tell what reading material they need, it is available for the students, so they are not behind," she said.

On the other hand, "I can't physically show my students how to apply paint on to the canvas in a certain way when they need help," Cooper said.

Cooper has traveled and taught art classes abroad in Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, France, England and Canada.

"When I was in Malaysia, the girls wore those beautiful bright floral dresses," she said. "The water was lush green and blue color."

She said that she wants to travel to India, Italy, Ireland and Southeast Asia, but is not sure when she will travel.

"I have had good experiences traveling," she said. "When I am polite and respectful to the local people then they treat me with kindness. That is just common sense."

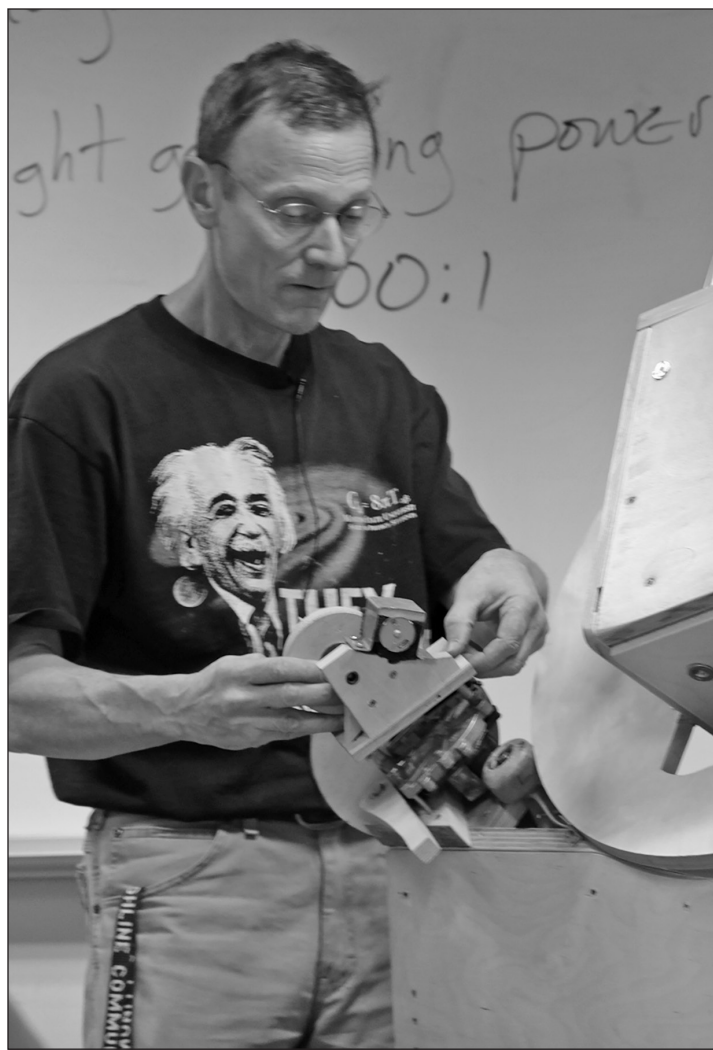
Cooper said she won't be exhibiting any more shows for a while because of her heavy teaching schedule.

But she is still working on multiple projects besides her teaching.

"I am always working on projects," Cooper said. "The trouble is getting focus on a specific project."

Cooper said that she believes in libraries and junior colleges and "I am proud to put my work [at Highline]."

The photo gallery is open to the public and is currently exhibiting at the Library in Building 25 on fourth floor until Nov. 30.



Andie Munkh-Erdene/THUNDERWORD

Dr. Gregory Reinemer demonstrates a homemade telescope.

DIY telescopes await your eyes

By Brian Lowrey
Staff Reporter

Telescopes are complicated devices with a long history, but the very first telescopes were built by hand out of what material was available.

And you, too, can build one yourself.

"Any one of you could take up a project like this," Highline physics professor Dr. Gregory Reinemer said to last week's Science Seminar audience.

He's been doing it since high school when the subject first fascinated him. But building a telescope is a feat that requires time and effort.

One of the first and most important steps in telescope building is acquiring and grinding a suitable mirror.

Telescope mirrors are made of heavy, thick pieces of glass compared to normal mirrors. The bigger the telescope, the bigger the mirror, and the bigger the mirror, the more expensive they are.

In order to shape the mirror, the glass needs to be ground against another object, usually another piece of glass. The grinding process needs to be done in a constant circular pattern in order to give the mirror the necessary curve, Dr. Reinemer said.

"What does this thing do?" Dr. Reinemer asked. "It takes light and focuses it. [It's] a light bucket."

However, looking at powerful sources of light focused through a telescope can dam-

age one's eyesight, sometimes permanently.

"That's how Galileo went blind," Dr. Reinemer said. "Huge amounts of light are able to go into your eye through the telescope."

"[Sir Isaac] Newton's idea was to put in a diagonal mirror," he said.

As telescope technology advanced, diagonal mirrors were added that further focused images reflected by the telescope and made them safer to use.

Once the mirrors are finished, telescope frames can be built out of a variety of objects.

Dr. Reinemer's first telescope was built in high school and made out of plumbing pipes and other scavenged material, he said.


In order for a telescope to be effective, it has to turn on both axes to follow the stars.

"There are a lot of designs out there for telescopes. Try to keep it to what you have," Prof. Reinemer said.


Once completed, looking through a hand-built telescope can be quite the experience, he said.

"When you look through that thing and see a nebula, a galaxy, something invisible, it makes your day" Dr. Reinemer said. "Get out and look at the stars."


This week Highline Physical Education Professor Tim Vagen will speak on "Working Toward the Fountain of Youth." It will be in Building 3, room 102 at 1:30 p.m.



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25
YEARS

Umoja program aims to help more students succeed

By Jennifer Zayshlyy
Staff Reporter

A new program to promote academic success among African American students will launch Winter Quarter. Umoja is a Kiswahili word, meaning unity. The Highline College Umoja- Black Scholars Program is projected to bring students together to further the personal growth and self-actualization of African American and other students.

“Anybody can join the program, but the students we are looking for are students who are African American, black identified or individuals who feel a closeness with the black experience or black community,” said Elizabeth Word, professor of Communication Studies.

Umoja programs were started by California Community College faculty, and about 10 percent of the participants are non-African American students. Highline is the first school in Washington state to start this program.

Officials here concluded that there is a particular need to help African American students. They searched nationwide for programs that could help these students complete their courses and progress through degree requirements at the same rate as other students on campus.

“Highline saw improvement in most groups of students with color, but still weren’t seeing as much improvement for African American students,” Word said.

One of the things that this program focuses on is the education of the whole student.

“When a student comes to campus, there’s so much more that goes along with being a student then sitting in a classroom and listening to lectures,” Word said.

Many programs are only about what happens in class, Word said. The Umoja program is designed look at who people are as a person and educate their minds, bodies and spirits. It looks at the background, ethnic heritage and culture that a student brings with them onto a college campus and how that plays out with being a student.

“I’m excited to start it out and to see how it goes,” Word said. “It’s very successful in the



Elizabeth Word

California schools.”

Word has visited a couple student-run seminars in California and she said that because it’s a different way of learning, the Umoja program is particularly beneficial because all the students will take classes together and support each other.

“All faculty in this program are committed to the hands-on learning, life-learning experiences and they’ve shown a commitment of working with students of color,” Word said.

The Umoja program will be running as a pilot program this Winter and Spring quarters. But next year it will run all three quarters.

Go Figure! answers

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10		16		36	

King Crossword Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

G	U	L	L		L	A	G		M	I	S	S
A	R	E	A		A	I	R		I	D	E	A
G	L	A	D	I	O	L	A		L	O	R	N
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U	L	N	A		D	Y	E		E	A	S	T

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Decorate the Giving Tree to help local needy families

By Inna Tsygankova-Ly
and Sam McCullough
Staff Reporters

Fifty families, including some whose members are Highline students, should have happier holidays if a Giving Tree project here is successful.

Phi Theta Kappa and the Women’s Program have joined forces to sponsor the Giving Tree project and begun collecting food this week to provide Thanksgiving meals for needy families. Donations of non-perishable food items are being accepted through tomorrow, Friday, Nov. 21.

Come next week, the focus shifts to making Christmas merry.

“If we can’t help everyone with the food drive, then we try to help with Christmas presents,” said Natorius Ezell, Women’s Program event coordinator.

The Giving Tree is a program that helps families in need during the holiday season.

“We try to take the pressure off of Christmas,” said Ezell.



Natorius Ezell

Most families are selected through the Department of Social Health Services. However, this year a few Highline students are seeking help as well, Ezell said.

Donors are anonymously matched with a family and given a list of what the children like, said Natorius. There is no price range for presents and donors are asked to help if they can.

This year there will be no Christmas tree to advertise the Giving Tree, however other festive decorations will be put up, Ezell said.

Dec. 12 is the deadline to

bring in gifts. Women’s Programs is in Building 6, on the first floor.

Another way to help out families in need this year is to adopt someone through King County’s Giving Tree charity that serves the whole area.

The King County version operates similar to the Highline Giving Tree project but involves many more families and donors.

Jessica, a student who declined to give her last name, has been involved in the Giving Tree charity for years.

“I think Christmas is a fun time of year, but a lot of people [don’t appreciate] it. Not every family gets to enjoy Christmas due to money problems,” she said.

“By adopting a family and raising money for presents, it makes me feel like I am Santa Claus, giving a little kid the chance to have a Christmas morning.”

To get involved with King County’s Giving Tree charity, look at the adopt-a-family listings at www.volunteer.truist.com/uwkc/volunteer.

YOUR CAREER

CAREER STUDIES 110

Career Planning and Self-Evaluation

Work

Life

~Embrace the Talents Within

~Let’s talk “SWAG” (your personal styles)

~Explore beyond the Limits of your Imagination

~Looking into the Career Marketplace

~Navigating Pathways

~Education Options

~What to do With Expectations

~Earn 2 Credits

~Learn from the Best

WHEN

*Section 1: Tuesdays 1:30-3:10PM

*Section 2: Tuesdays 5:35-7:25PM

*Section 3: Friday Jan. 29, 2015 (4-8pm)

Saturday Jan. 30th, 2015 (8am-5pm)

Saturday Feb. 7, 2015 (8am-5pm)

Winter Quarter 2015

Questions? Stop by the Counseling Center or call 206-592-3353 or email: counseling@highline.edu

Winter Quarter 2015

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GOSSIP TO US!
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highline.edu**

Police

continued from page 1

Moines also employ few officers of color and female cops.

Officials expressed mixed feelings on whether this is a problem or not. But some are trying to do something about it.

"Diversity is very important because the police needs to create trust with the community," said Federal Way Police Chief Andy Hwang. "I have been working for a while to make this police department more diverse."

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the city of Federal Way had a population of approximately 92,734 people in 2013. This was made up of 57.5 percent white people; 9.7 percent African Americans; 16.2 percent Hispanics, and 24.4 percent other, which includes mixed races, Asians, Native Americans and Pacific Islanders.

But these numbers are not reflected in the Federal Way police force.

"The Federal Way Police Department had 119 white employees and 30 non-white employees at the end of 2013," said Deputy Chief of Police Kyle Sumpter.

"This year I haven't sat down to count up the numbers, but it's very close to year-end 2013," Deputy Sumpter said.

According to Deputy Sumpter's data, at the end of 2013, Federal Way employed 121 sworn officers, out of which 80.2 percent were white; 3.3 percent were African American; 4.1 percent were Hispanic, and 12.4 percent fell under the other category [mixed races, Asian, Native American and Pacific Islander].

Only 11 officers were women, and 10 of the women were white.

Tukwila Police shows similar disparities.

Though Tukwila's population is made up of more than 50 percent non-white people, the police force that serves them is mostly white.

Eighty seven percent of the force is white; 3.7 percent is African American; 5.6 percent is Hispanic, and 3.7 percent identify as other, said human resources representative for the city of Tukwila Brenda LaFleur.

She said that the Tukwila Police Department is made of 54 officers. Forty-seven of the 54 officers are white; three of them are black; two are Hispanic and two are Asian.

The Census reports that out of an estimated 19,765 people living in Tukwila in 2013, 43.9 percent were white; 17.8 percent were African American; 17.5 percent were Hispanic, and 28.9 percent identified as other.

Tukwila's recruiting efforts do not specifically target officers of color and women. But LaFleur said programs like Police Explorers and the Citizen's Police Academy help bridge the community and their law enforcement officials.

The city of SeaTac has a simi-



AP Photo/Jeff Roberson

People stand near a cloud of tear gas in Ferguson, Mo. during protests for shooting of Michael Brown by a white police officer.

lar approach to recruiting.

"[We have] a very diverse Police Explorer Post (offshoot of the Boys Scouts of America) which helps young people from 15-21 learn about the police profession," said SeaTac Police Chief Lisa K. Mulligan. "Many go on to become Police Officers."

Out of 40 officers employed by the city of SeaTac, nine are officers of color and eight are women, one of whom is an officer of color.

This makes the SeaTac police force 80 percent male, 77.5 percent white and 22.5 percent other races. The division of this number by racial categories was unavailable.

"The SeaTac Police Department is a contract of the King County Sheriff's Office," Chief Mulligan said. "Therefore the recruiting efforts we employ benefit the entire Sheriff's Office as well as the SeaTac Police."

Census data reveals that with approximately 27,875 residents in 2013, SeaTac is 49.5 percent white, 16.8 percent African American, 14.5 percent Asian, 20.3 percent Hispanic, and 22 percent other.

Like Tukwila, SeaTac is a city with less than 50 percent white residents served by a largely white police force.

"It's an internal conflict," said SeaTac Mayor and current Washington State Rep. Mia Gerguson. "When you have estab-

lished the right liaisons, all departments will start to look like our community."

But some don't find an issue with this racial disparity in law enforcement.

"I think having good police officers is more important," said Des Moines mayor Dave Kaplan. "I want the best police officers regardless of their racial background. I don't think it [diversity] is a necessity but I think it would be a gain."

Mayor Kaplan said that Des Moines Police Department does better than most when it comes to diversity.

But Des Moines Police Department is not very racially diverse.

"We currently have a total of 31 commissioned law enforcement officers," said Sergeant Doug Jenkins of the Des Moines Police Department. "An initial look at the police department itself would show that we have one Latino, two African American, one Asian, and the balance would identify white."

Sergeant Jenkins said the city of Des Moines is working on updating these numbers. However, based on this data, Des Moines Police Department appears to be 87.1 percent white; 6.5 percent African American, 3.2 percent Latino and 3.2 percent Asian.

Census data reports that the population of Des Moines

in 2010, a city of approximately 30,687 people, was 58 percent white, 9.1 percent African American, 15.2 percent Latino, 10.7 percent Asian and 8.9 percent other [Native American, Pacific Islander or mixed race].

"I always like to ask people, what they feel diversity is," said Des Moines Police Department Chief George Delgado. "Too many people demand accountability when it comes to establishing standards for racial/ethnic equality, yet they don't offer to become part of the solution."

Chief Delgado said that more than diversity, communication is essential to establishing trust between police and community.

"Knowing who you serve, listening to their concerns, sharing your challenges, creating transparency by listening to a community's concerns and struggles, and then addressing the issues collaboratively," he said. "When these steps are taken, trust starts to happen. When trust is built, respect is established."

Chief Delgado explained that an issue with finding officers of color is the experience an ethnic group has had with the police.

"Our role as a police agency is to understand that the experiences of people greatly affect their willingness to apply for a position," he said. "How the frontlines [officers] impact their communities has a direct correlation to the success of their efforts to recruit."

Anytime there is a lack of connection to a community's culture, there is a problem but Des Moines Police Department is making strides toward making a good impact in the community, Chief Delgado said.

"The department has expanded its efforts to outreach to diverse communities to raise interest in policing. We stand in support of this year's Black Brown Male Summit at Highline," he said. "We're also engaging communities and social

service agencies to build strong relationships that are effective and long-term."

Professor of Criminal Justice at Highline and former police officer Stephen Lettic has a different theory as to why there is a lack of diversity in police forces.

"I think it [diversity] is important because it is one of the first steps in establishing trust [between the community and the law]. But you often find that people of color don't apply," he said.

Lettic said that the law enforcement profession is not one ethnic people are encouraged to pursue. Some students of color are excited to pursue law enforcement at first but then drop out of the program in pursuit of something else.

"Everybody wants to be the banker, the doctor, the lawyer," he said. "Not enough women apply either. In my career of 24 years, I can think of four female officers I've worked with."

The Highline community also has different opinions on the matter.

"I don't think officers of color are going to fix things," said Highline student Quaylan Nelson. "I think police officers aren't trained enough to deal with situations involving people of color. But it is more about character and experience."

Students Daniel Smith, Ashley Smithson and Peter Pecelj disagree.

"It is definitely important to have diversity," Pecelj said. "Representation matters."

Smith said that all races should have an equal opportunity to pursue honorable professions with great benefits, and it is a shame mostly white people have that opportunity with law enforcement.

Diversity goes a long way in defeating stereotypes, profiling and easing tension in the community, said Smithson.

"If Ferguson had been more diverse, it would've been less of a race issue," she said.

Ready for a new direction?

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November 19 and December 3

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