

Legislature stalled on K-12 funding

By Adam Horner
Staff Reporter

Legislators say any progress on K-12 education funding may have to wait until the 2017-2019 state budget is written.

The Legislature was ordered to fund K-12 education by the Washington state Supreme Court. Barring any tax increases, which Republican legislators routinely block, funding for some programs may need to be diverted into K-12 education. In

the past, higher education has been cut in favor of funding other programs.

The Legislature reconvened for a 60-day session on Jan. 11.

"We're probably not going to have a lot on education," said State Rep. Tina Orwall, D-Des Moines.

Rep. Orwall said she thinks legislators will get some work done, but that fully addressing the funding problem will have to wait until January 2017, when the Legislature will convene for

a longer 105-day session to write the 2017-2019 budget.

Rep. Orwall said legislators planned for 2017 to be the year they resolve the issue, and that this session will give Democrat and Republican lawmakers the time to come to agreement on funding sources. The Republicans hold a majority in the Senate while Democrats hold onto a slim majority in the House.

"Agreement is key," Rep. Orwall said.

Last year, lawmakers strug-



gled to pass the 2015-2017 state budget, and met from early Jan-

uary to early July in the longest session in Washington state history. The largest challenge facing lawmakers was the prospect of fully funding K-12 education.

In 2012, the Washington state Supreme Court ordered the Legislature to amply fund K-12 education. The ruling, known as the McCleary decision, found that the Legislature was failing to fund K-12 education

See Budget, page 11

Kiosks now offer daily parking permits in East and South lots

By Alejandro Villalon
Staff Reporter

Parking kiosks are being installed this quarter to provide an option for people who need a temporary parking permit.

The kiosks, which will sell day passes for \$1 apiece, are currently in the East and South lots, and will be added to the North lot sometime this quarter.

"[For] students who are here once or twice a week it is really economically inconvenient for them to purchase a full length parking pass," said Francesca Fender, executive assistant/analyst for the vice president for administration.

The temporary permits will be easier to acquire for visitors to campus as well.

The kiosks take only dollar bills and credit cards. Change cannot be accepted or dispensed.

Annual or quarterly parking permits can be purchased online and in Building 6 at the cashier and in Building 8 at the Bookstore as well as at the new kiosks.

Highline college students can purchase carpool passes for \$10, part time passes for \$29, full time passes for \$46, and motorcycle passes for \$30 quarterly.

Staff rates vary as well with part time costing \$29, full time costing \$46 and reserved parking costing \$100.

Public safety is still smoothing out the kinks of the new kiosks, "because it's brand new, it's Winter Quarter and we never had this happen before, so we're all taking it slow," said Fender.

Weekends are the exception for day passes,



Jessica Strand/THUNDERWORD

A student uses the parking kiosk in the East lot.

since people won't be ticketed at all then.

This new development saves Public Safety time and reduces student complaints.

"It makes everyone's life easier," said Public Safety Sgt. George Curtis. "We don't enjoy penalizing people."

MLK Week continues

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Week is with the theme of Justice: Beyond a Dream.

The events are all free and open to the Highline community.

A list of events:

Thursday, Jan. 21

- Between Civil Rights and Black Power, James Baldwin's prophetic vision "To End the Racial Nightmare, and Achieve Our Country," a lecture by Dr. Michael Hale, 9 to 10:30 a.m.

- The Big Move: A Panel of Gentrification in King County, hosted by Barbara Talkington, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Building 7.

Friday, Jan. 22

- University of Washington Black Student Union Founding Members Luncheon from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Mt. Constance room in the Student Union.

- First Friday Leadership Institute: Is the Washington State Bud-



get Racist?, hosted by Carly Brook from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Mt. Constance room in the Student Union.

Tuesday, Jan. 26

- "White Fragility," a lecture hosted by Dr. Robin DiAngelo from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in the Mt. Constance room in the Student Union.

ALSO:

Embrace disabilities for empowerment, speaker says.
See story, page 3.

Sound Transit opens stations; seeks expansion

By Michael Muench
Staff Reporter

Even as Sound Transit plans to open stations north and south of Seattle, they are planning to ask voters this fall for funding for future projects.

Sound Transit is a regional transit agency, which plans, builds and operates express buses, the Sounder commuter train

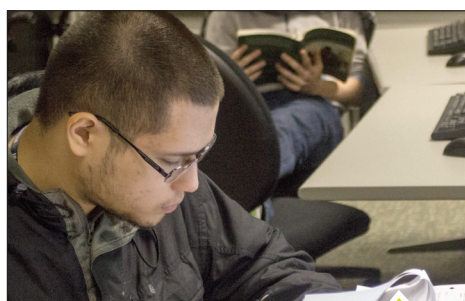
and Link Light Rail. The agency operates in King, Pierce and Snohomish counties. The agency is governed by an 18-member board of local government officials and all of the agency's work is voter approved.

This measure will propose a series of possible future projects that will be funded by new

See Transit, page 12

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Achieve program helps intellectually disabled students



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Johnny Cash comes to life in musical in Federal Way



Page 7

Thunderbirds off to fast start in league play

Student expelled over replica pellet pistol

By Jim Sullivan
Staff Reporter

Winter Quarter is starting off with a bang for Public Safety. The first week’s incidents involved a gun, a car speeding down the main campus sidewalk, and a report of a naked man in one of the restrooms.

A Kaplan student was expelled after appearing to be handling a replica 9mm pistol when Public Safety was dispatched to the first floor of Building 25 at 10:17 a.m. on Jan. 8.

The pellet gun was confiscated by Kaplan officials and then turned over to Public Safety to be destroyed.

After being expelled by Kaplan the student then stated that he “hated America” and that he “loved guns” before leaving the premises.

Des Moines Police were then notified of the incident.

Sedan speeds through East Lot

The next day, Public Safety noticed a silver sedan traveling at a high rate of speed down the Thunderwalk past Buildings 6 and 7 at 10:17 p.m. on Jan. 9.

Officers caught up to the Chevy vehicle and attempted to stop it as it was leaving the horseshoe bus loop off of South 240th Street without stopping for the emergency lights.

Officers were able to get the license plate number and contacted Des Moines Police for further investigation.

Yelling, naked student in Union

A day later, a student reported a naked male in a verbal outburst in Building 8 at 11:50 a.m. on Jan. 11.

Upon arrival Public Safety stated that he was “partially disrobed” and Access Services identified the man and contacted his mother.

The mother arrived to escort the student out of Building 8 without further incident.

Students’ fight goes two rounds

In another strange incident, bad blood between two female international students drew the attention of Public Safety officers on two separate occasions on Jan. 12.

The first fight took place on the second floor Bistro in Building 8. Both sides were



separated before the arrival of Public Safety at 12:01 p.m. and an interview was conducted with both students.

About 45 minutes later officers responded to a second fight involving the same female students on the first floor of Building 8 in the cafeteria at 12:45 p.m.

South King Fire and Rescue and Des Moines Police were both contacted for assistance.

At 2:50 p.m. a student witness to the second fight reported that in the altercation one of the females stepped on his MacBook laptop, causing damage.

The students’ disciplinary actions are still in process as the laptop damage has yet to be determined.

Juveniles joy ride in Highline cart

A Highline-owned utility car was reported stolen near Building 26 at approximately 12:04 a.m. on Jan. 5.

The utility car was found near the tennis courts and three juveniles were identified and confessed to stealing the vehicle.

No charges were filled against the minors, but they were banned from the campus for a year.

Injury sends student to hospital

A student contacted Public Safety about an injury in Building 8 at 3 p.m. on Jan. 1.

South King Fire and Rescue was soon contacted and they advised the student to go to the hospital for further treatment.

The injury is still unknown.

Intoxicated man laying by bus loop

A man was found lying on the ground face down at the horseshoe bus loop off of South 240th Street when Public Safety got a report on Dec. 27 at 9:20 p.m.

Upon arrival Public Safety noticed a strong odor of alcohol on the man and he stated that he couldn’t move and possibly had a stroke.

South King Fire and Rescue was contacted and the man was transported to St. Francis Hospital.

They determined the man was intoxicated and hypothermic.



Jessica Strand/THUNDERWORD

Construction crews dig a retention pond next to Building 24A.

Maintenance shed takes shape

By Bryce Sizemore
Staff Reporter

A construction project that will consolidate Highline’s maintenance and grounds staff is on time and on budget.

Building 24A located directly east of the North Parking Lot. The construction project began in July 2015, with the bisection of the old Building 24A.

The project will seamlessly connect the remaining original half of Building 24A with a new two-story expansion, said Karen Herndon, project manager

for the Facilities and Operations Department.

The expansion will allow all of maintenance and grounds to move into 24A, rather than being split between Building 24 and Building 24A, Herndon said.

This project will also create a storm-water detention pond near Building 24A. This normally dry pond will capture storm water runoff from campus, and work to prevent flooding by collecting excess water, Herndon said.

The pond has increased the

difficulty and cost of the project.

Planning and surveying for the project cost as much as the building itself cost, Herndon said.

Even with extensive testing, poor soil quality has hampered construction crews, requiring fill soil to be brought in from outside sources, Herndon said.

The Building 24A Maintenance & Grounds Building Renovation Project is projected to cost \$2.5 million, with completion anticipated in May 2016, Herndon said.



News Briefs

Talk on Hanford heats up

A state regulator will discuss the Hanford site on Jan. 27 from 2 to 3 p.m. in Building 2.

MESA will be hosting a representative from the Washington Department of Ecology to discuss the mostly decommissioned Hanford nuclear production facility.

Speaker aims to motivate

CWU Des Moines is hosting a speaker who will talk about his travels across the U.S. working 50 jobs in 50 states.

Daniel Seddiqui will speak about his journey on Feb. 3 from 2 to 3 p.m. in Building 7.

Admission to this event is free, but space is limited.

DHS looks for cyber students

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is seeking

college students in cybersecurity related fields.

The 2016 Secretary’s Honors Program Cyber Student Volunteer Initiative will allow over 50 of the selected students to complete volunteer assignments in support of the DHS cybe mis-

sion at department field offices around the country.

The initiative will give student volunteers valuable hands-on experience in cybersecurity work at the DHS.

More at atwww.dhs.gov/secretarys-honors-program.

Discover Bastyr



Saturday, January 23
8:45 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Spend the day learning about careers in natural health!

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- Natural health demonstrations and presentations
- Meet faculty, students and staff
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Students Achieve success at Highline

By Olivia Sullivan
Staff Reporter

Madison Williams is just like any other 20-year-old student on campus.

She goes to her classes, enjoys going to campus events presentations, and dreams of one day having a career where she can help people. Her outgoing friendliness and ever-present smile make her stand out in a room full of people.

She's also enrolled in the Achieve program.

Achieve is a post-secondary program designed to mix academics with internship opportunities to help students with intellectual disabilities follow their desired career path.

Williams likes being a part of the Highline program.

"It helped me know more about myself and self-advocacy," she said.

She is in her first year of the two-year certificate program. She travels from Seattle to Highline for Achieve.

"I want to work in my neighborhood, helping people in some way," Williams said. "That'll be my first job. I want to help people because people help me."

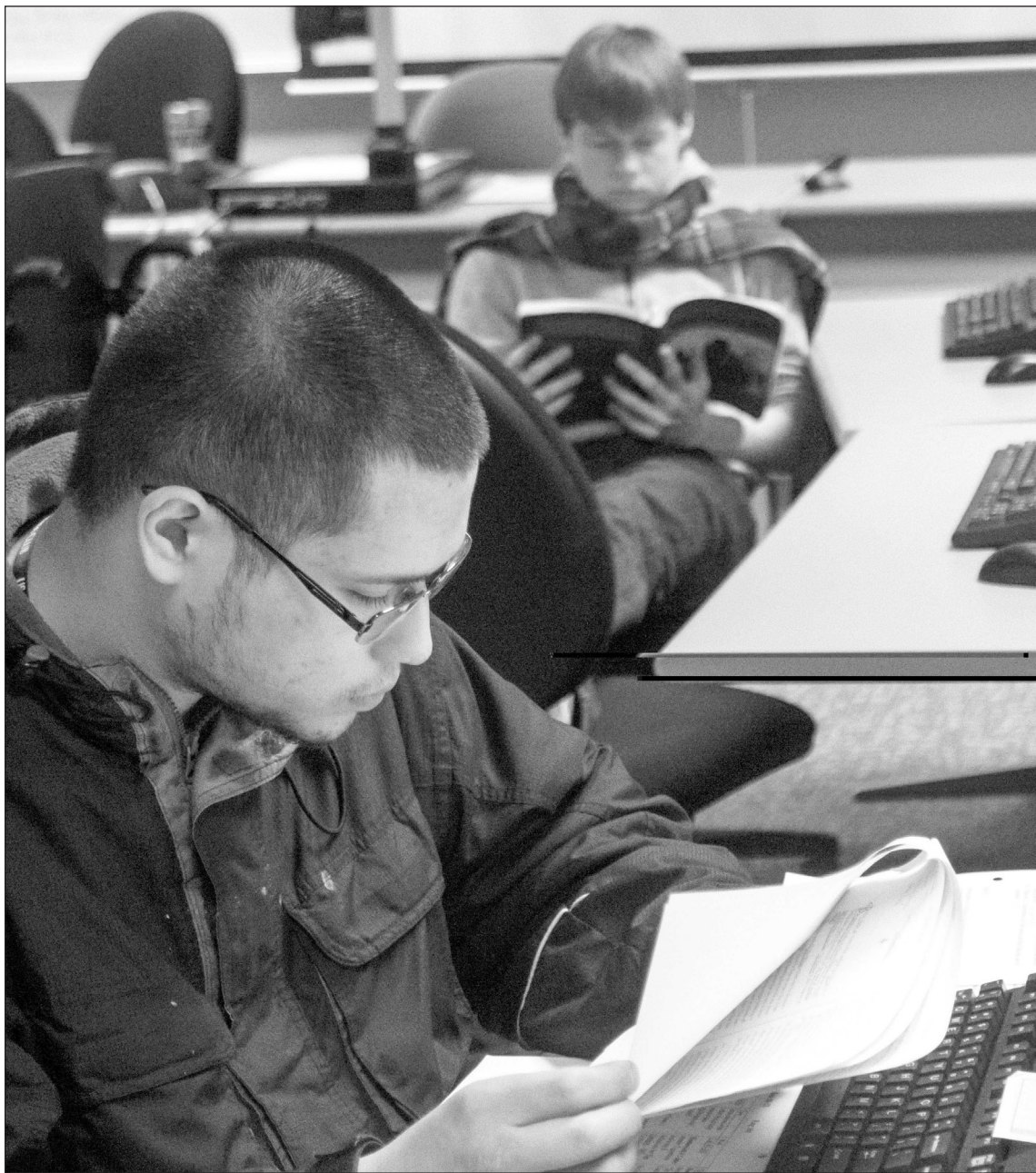
Williams is one of 31 students in the program, which aims to help the students navigate their way through college.

"Disability is not often seen as a part of diversity," said Jenni Sandler, the Achieve program director. "We're trying to change that."

Students must apply to get into the program, despite there being no learning qualifications. Many students are referred by local school districts or by parent support networks, but the Achieve program also does its own outreach and recruiting as well.

"There are no barriers of academic prerequisites," said Rick Shultz, an Achieve instructor and adviser. "We meet people where they are at. ... We support the goals of eventual employment."

Once in the program, students meet weekly with an adviser in order to create an individualized plan that best helps



Jessica Strand/THUNDERWORD

Highline Achieve students study in class earlier this week. The program helps students gain skills and confidence in themselves.

the students succeed and reach their career goals.

Achieve students are working to earn either a one-year or a two-year certificate.

One-year certificates are geared more for students who want to gain skills for a specific job and be on the fast track toward employment.

The two-year comprehensive transition certifications are for students who want to explore the career options on a broader scale.

"The goals of this program are to reflect on what they're learning, who to work with, and what the next steps in life are," said Hilleri West, an Achieve instructor and accommodation specialist.

Students are encouraged to

take classes they are interested in and to join campus activities or clubs to get a college experience.

Students agree that the instructors in Achieve are always willing to lend a hand, whether it is to write a lengthy English paper or to get assignments in on time.

Achieve classes work on interview skills, technology and computer practice, and a class on how to balance work and life skills. These classes are open to all students at Highline, regardless if they are Achieve students or not.

Nationally, there are 200 similar programs offered, but very few in Washington state. This is an obstacle for students who do not have access to a

program like this in their local area. Williams travels from Seattle each day to get to Highline.

To pursue an education, students have traveled from across the state and a few have even moved from different states specifically to join this program.

"We have some students that travel far to get here and that often includes multiple modes of transportation," West said. "Props to them."

The Achieve program at Highline is the first of its kind in the state of Washington, followed by Spokane Community College emerging with a similar program in recent years.

Highline has set an example by being a leader of the education pack for providing these

types of opportunities, program educators said.

Along with schooling, the program has paid internships available. A multitude of internships are offered, some that may be with agriculture, print shops, conference services, or the Union Crew.

Program Director Jenni Sandler said people with disabilities have often been marginalized when it comes to the workforce and Achieve puts emphasis on helping students secure their very first job.

In 2010, the Highline College Achieve program was awarded a grant of \$217,762 from the Transition Programs for Students with Intellectual Disabilities (TPSID). This grant was used to develop the Achieve program to help students with intellectual disabilities with the transition from high school to the workforce.

Highline's Achieve program was granted another sum of \$1.79 million just last year in 2015. Highline is one of only 25 colleges to be awarded for a second time.

Sandler said the Achieve program is using this grant to expand the employment options "by first focusing on seven high-demand career pathways and by incorporating paid internship experiences into the program."

"Second, [to] increase the number of students of color and economically disadvantaged students. Third, expand outreach and professional development to youth with intellectual disabilities, K-12 professionals, and parents," she said.

Over the last six years, Achieve has helped more than 140 students. Ninety-five percent of those students graduated, many with a few certificates. Seventy-eight percent have been placed into the job field, and 33 percent of the students continued on to pursue higher education.

"With the right support anyone can succeed," said Sandler. "It's support, but also the student's own motivation. It's about how hard they're willing to work."

Speaker urges empowerment for the disabled

By Allison Sawyer
Staff Reporter

People with disabilities of any kind should embrace them and not allow others' perceptions and oppressions to suffocate them, a speaker said here this week.

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'what are you doing for others?'" said poet,

performer, and educator Kay Ulanday Barrett.

Barrett spoke as part of Martin Luther King Week, Highline's annual exploration of race and diversity.

"How do you enhance others?" he said during a performance of his poem, *You are SO Brave*.

"We need to lift each other up," he replied.

"We are powerful not despite our differences but because of them," Barrett said.

"We are all in need. Do not fool yourself [into thinking] that you are that independent."

He went on to explain that disabled people are often seen as flawed beings whose only hope of normalcy rests in becoming more like "normal" people, or being "cured."

"You can be like you were. Better. Normal. Does it hurt still? Can I touch your cane? He doesn't even look disabled. Does it hurt? Wait, aren't you supposed to be a girl? You'll be normal soon, right? What do you mean, no thank you? You don't want my help?" Barrett said.

He offered these quotations as examples for how disabled

people are too often alienated as not being "normal" and even not human.

"This is the assumption of disability, that we do not create a culture together. Who gets to decide who is successful and normal and desirable?" Barrett asked.

Barrett says, "Everybody's brave but everyone is scared at the same time."

Voters need to keep educated

As we draw nearer and nearer to the 2016 primary elections, it has never been more important to keep yourself informed.

The primary elections are where the people vote on who they believe to be the best candidate to represent their political party in the general elections.

Although many people don't realize the importance of the primary elections, it is one of the most important parts of the election process.

The primary election limits and finalizes the contenders in the presidential race, and if not chosen correctly it could have terrible consequences for the general election, and even the state of the country for the next four years.

That's why it is imperative that you educate yourself on the presidential candidates now, so you can make a positive decision during the primaries.

Currently the main Democratic nominees are Hillary Clinton, Martin O'Malley, and Bernie Sanders.

The main Republican nominees are Jeb Bush, Ben Carson, Chris Christie, Donald Trump, Ted Cruz, Carly Fiorina, Jim Gilmore, Mike Huckabee, John Kasich, Rand Paul, Marco Rubio and Rick Santorum.

The number of Republican candidates on the ballot this year makes educating yourself for this election even more important. The more candidates on the ballot, the more fame and renown can push good, honest contenders out of our minds.

It is important to know their morals and values, as well as the actions being taken by these people, before you decide to vote them into office.

Remember, these are the people that we choose to let guide and represent this country, it's up to us to ensure that they are truly who is best.

This year, Washington's precinct caucuses will meet on March 26 to discuss and debate the candidates. They are held throughout Washington State, and anyone is welcome to attend.

These caucuses are a way for voters to openly discuss their views and ideas surrounding the candidates, and also to place their vote on the candidate of their preference.

Following the caucuses, Washington's presidential primary elections run May 6-24, so there is still time to pay attention to upcoming debates and brush up on your knowledge of the candidates.

Have something to say?

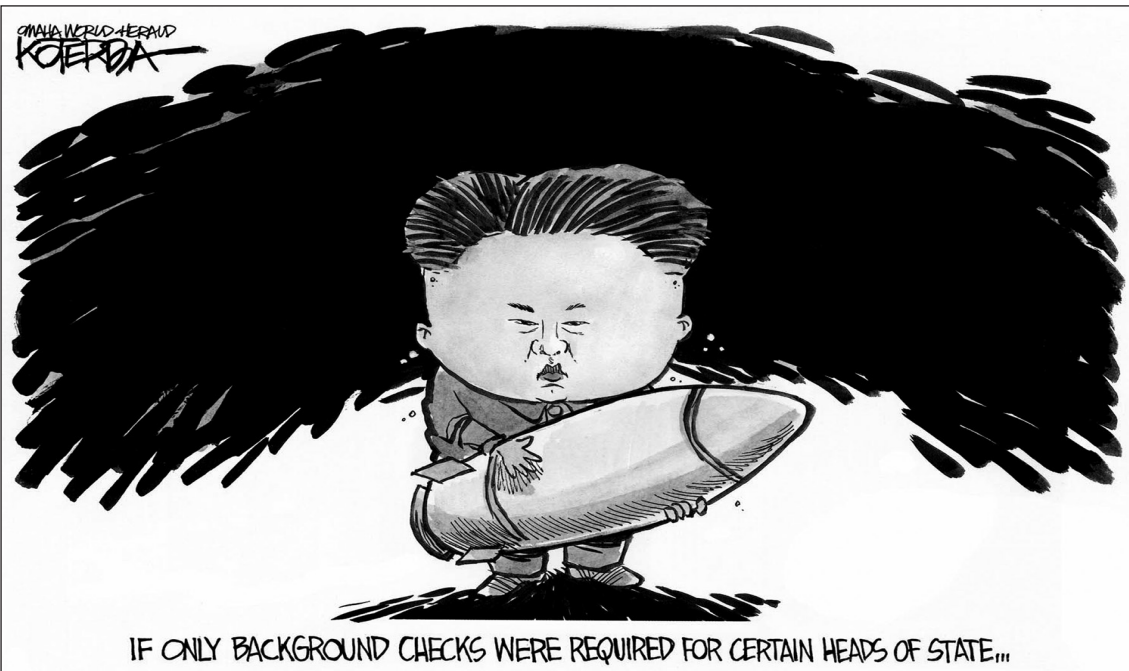
Have something you want to say to the student body?

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!



IF ONLY BACKGROUND CHECKS WERE REQUIRED FOR CERTAIN HEADS OF STATE...

Kick your bad habits anytime

Up until a year ago, every year of my life had been a nail biter... literally.

While all of my friends were trying out nail art looks, or coordinating their polishes with their outfits, I couldn't keep myself from nibbling the flavorless slivers of keratin protruding from my fingertips.

Despite making it my New Year's Resolution for multiple years in a row, I just wasn't able to kick the bad habit of biting my nails.

New Year's resolutions have a bad reputation of being difficult and unattainable. Most people will set a goal for themselves, follow through with it for a short period of time, and then quit.

Although it may be hard to commit yourself to your goals, New Year's resolutions don't have to be so complicated.

First and foremost, your goals don't need a fancy title or timeline attached to them.

One reason why people fail their resolutions is because they put so much emphasis on the fact that it's their New Year's resolution.

About a week into the New Year, I gave in and bit my nails.

At first I was really disappointed in myself. I figured that I'd just have to wait until next year to start the resolution over.

Then, I realized that my thinking was ridiculous, and kept pushing toward my goal.

The truth is, taking the time to work toward something you are interested in is beautiful and shouldn't be reserved for

Guest Commentary



Kayla Dickson

only January. Stick with the term "goal" and it will appear more attainable and put less pressure on you.

The next thing to keep in mind is that you are only human. Although it's easy to dream up all of the things we can do to achieve our goals, sometimes it's a lot more difficult than we anticipate.

A great way to ensure that your goals aren't too far of a stretch is to start small. By starting small, I don't mean to give up on your big dreams and aspirations. I mean you should make your goals specific, and take them step-by-step to ensure that you aren't overwhelmed.

For example, the two most common New Year's resolutions are to travel more and lose weight.

Although these goals are great, they have no real end to

them.

What exactly defines more? What defines travelling? How much weight? It leaves too many questions unanswered.

In order to make these goals more realistic, you should specify what exactly you are expecting. If you want to travel, make it your goal to take a weekend trip to Phoenix to visit family, or losing a specific number of pounds instead of just "weight."

Although most people are pretty good at creating goals for themselves, they are not so good at staying motivated and following through with them.

One thing I do to help me achieve my goals is to hold myself accountable. For example, the first thing I did for my nail biting was post a "before" picture on social media. This way, I would have friends helping me achieve my goals.

Then, I posted the "before" picture as the background on my phone, so I would have to continually keep looking at the picture of my hands that I didn't like.

These methods, combined with actually keeping my fingernails painted, actually helped me kick the bad habit of biting my nails.

The last bit of advice though, is to not beat yourself up. There will probably be a time when you will mess up your goal. But you just have to remember that it is a process.

You may fail, but that doesn't make you a failure.

Kayla Dickson is the opinions editor for the Thunderword.

the Staff

“It's hard to be clever when you're doing something so lame.” E-Mail: tword@highline.edu

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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: ★★★

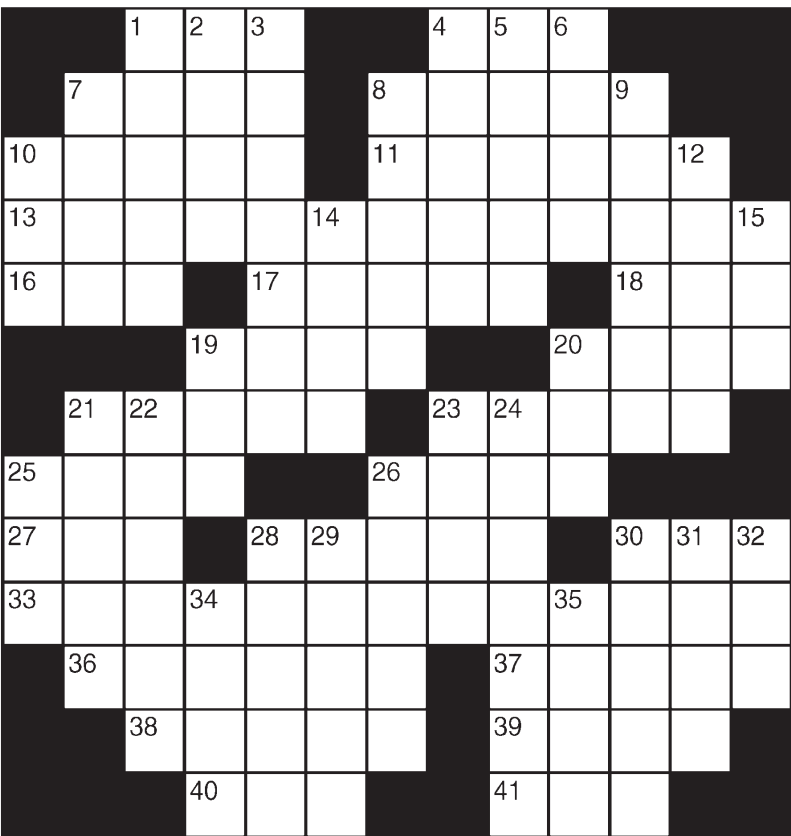
★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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King Crossword

ACROSS

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gai pan pan
4 Snitch
7 Prop for
Sherlock
8 Intrinsically
10 Insertion
mark
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eering tool
13 New
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18 Raw rock
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20 Desert-like
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DOWN

- 1 Sent a
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14 Swine
15 Scarlet
19 "7 Faces
of Dr. —"
20 Request
21 Copy, for
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22 Goes in
23 Green shot

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25 U.K. fliers
26 Sat for a
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28 Ice cream
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29 Actress
Sevigny
30 Non-clergy
31 Sea eagle
32 "—
Impossible"
34 NPR's
Totenberg
35 Sweater
material

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1. **GEOGRAPHY:** Where is the country of Belize located?
2. **HISTORY:** In what country did the 1960 Sharpeville massacre occur?
3. **LITERATURE:** In what state did poet Emily Dickinson live her entire life?
4. **MOVIES:** What was the name of the spaceship in *Alien*?
5. **GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:** A strong, cool wind called the mistral is associated with which country?
6. **MYTHOLOGY:** What kind of creature is a griffin?
7. **TELEVISION:** Which character on *The Addams Family* spoke the catchphrase "you rang"?
8. **THEATER:** Which play's title character was nicknamed "The Demon Barber of Fleet

Street"?

9. **MUSIC:** Who wrote the song *Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds*?

10. **ANCIENT WORLD:** What figure is depicted by the Colossus of Rhodes?

Answers

1. Central America
2. South Africa
3. Massachussetts
4. Nostromo
5. France
6. A lion's body with an eagle's head, wings and claws
7. Lurch
8. *Sweeney Todd*
9. John Lennon and Paul McCartney
10. The Greek sun god Helios

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Puzzle answers on Page 10

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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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Aspects call for care in preparing material for submission. Although you might find it bothersome to go over what you've done, the fact is, rechecking could be worth your time and effort.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) The week is favorable for Bovines who welcome change. New career opportunities wait to be checked out. You also might want to get started on that home make-over you've been considering.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You might have to be extra careful to protect that surprise you have planned, thanks to a certain snoopy someone who wants to know more about your plans than you're willing to share.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Family ties are strong this week, although an old and still-unresolved problem might create some unpleasant moments. If so, look to straighten the situation out once and for all.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Although the Lion might see it as an act of loyalty and courage to hold on to an in-



creasingly shaky position, it might be wiser to make changes now to prevent a possible meltdown later.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Your gift for adding new people to your circle of friends works overtime this week, thanks largely to contacts you made during the holidays. A surprise awaits you at the week's end.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Don't hide your talents. It's a good time to show what you can do to impress people who can do a lot for you. A dispute with a family member might still need some smoothing over.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Be open with your colleagues about your plan to bring a workplace matter out into the open. You'll want their support, and they'll want to know how you'll pull it off.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Try-

ing to patch up an unraveling relationship is often easier said than done. But it helps to discuss and work out any problems that arise along the way.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) While your creative aspect remains high this week, you might want to call on your practical side to help work out the why and wherefore of an upcoming decision.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Dealing with someone's disappointment can be difficult for Aquarians, who always try to avoid giving pain. But a full explanation and a show of sympathy can work wonders.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Getting a job-related matter past some major obstacles should be easier this week. A personal situation might take a surprising but not necessarily unwelcome turn by the week's end.

BORN THIS WEEK: You can be both a dreamer and a doer. You consider helping others to be an important part of your life.

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Think Before You Ink

You should take your time choosing a tattoo, local experts say

By Sam McCullough
Staff Reporter

Thanks to a rash decision, Angela has a permanent reminder of a relationship she wants to forget.

“I was 18, so I was young and stupid. I thought my boyfriend and I would be together for life,” said Angela, who didn’t want to give her last name.

Angela, a second-year Highline student, is now 24.

It should take longer to choose a tattoo than it does to get one, local experts said.

Unfortunately, nobody gave Angela that advice.

“I went and got his name on my ankle to show how much I loved him. Now, I have to ex-

plain to every new guy why I have another guy’s name on my leg. It sucks,” she said.

Angela said that her family was worried when she went to the tattoo shop.

“I didn’t tell them what I was getting. I knew they would be mad,” Angela said.

She said that when she came home with her fresh ink, her parents almost kicked her out.

“It was a giant fight.” Angela said.

Angela said that people should never get the name of their partner as a tattoo.

“I regret it. I’ve regretted it since we broke up,” Angela said.

Tattoos are an art form that some people love and some people loathe.

According to statistics compiled by Statistic Brain Research Institute, 14 percent of people in the US have at least one tattoo and \$1.65 million is annually spent on tattoos.

Local artists agree that getting a tattoo shouldn’t be a fast deci-



Dave Frankenshultz

A client shows off their fresh ink that was done by Frankenshultz.

sion because you’ll have it forever.

“A lot of people find an image on Google and send it around to shops to find the cheapest pricing. Price doesn’t matter, but the quality matters,” said Jason

Dicks, the owner of 3rd Rock Gifts and Tattoos in Lakewood.

Dicks said that a tattoo needs to be original.

“A tattoo should be a work of art,” Dicks said.

Other artists agree.

“Actually, a huge trend is Pinterest. Everyone comes in wanting something from Pinterest,” Dave Frankenshultz, a tattoo artist from Art Labs Tattoo Studio in Federal Way.

Pinterest is a website where users can find ideas for food, crafts and other home projects.

“Trends in tattooing are bad. They need to be original,” he said.

He said that, if you’re worried about the pain, that it’s no worse than a sunburn.

“It’s more like a minor abrasion, so the aftercare isn’t that big. Just use some lotion to keep it moist,” he said.

3rd Rock Gifts and Tattoos is at 5505 Steliacoom Blvd. SW, Lakewood. Art Labs Studio is at 30919 Pacific Hwy S., Suite E and F, Federal Way.

Musical wants patrons to walk the line

By John Nguyen
Staff Reporter

Johnny Cash has broken Centerstage’s presale ticket record.

Centerstage, a theater company based out of the Federal Way area, is presenting *Ring Of Fire*, a musical based on the late country western legend Johnny Cash.

Most Americans know of Johnny Cash but this musical not only takes you into the story of his life but also his emotional journey, taking us on the darker paths that he walked.

“The musical pulls no punches,” said Alan Bryce Centerstage artistic director.

Bryce who has been in the theater business since 1971 said “Johnny Cash is a defining figure in American culture, up there with Mark Twain.”

Bryce, who took control of Centerstage seven years ago, has changed the way the theater company is run. He focuses on “putting on shows that leave you with a message, something of substance.”

Bryce said Johnny Cash is an example of being an American

“The man lived a tough life, and tells us and gives us a meaning on how to be Ameri-



Centerstage Theatre photo

can. Johnny delivers a powerful statement about being an American,” he said.

Centerstage has left no details to chance, casting actors who not only sing but also play instruments.

Novice director Amy Johnson who is directing her first

production in theater is a well-known choreographer in the Seattle area, said “What’s most difficult about directing as opposed to choreographing is that in choreographing dances you can be creative, in this you have to work from a book. It’s harder to be creative.”

The musical will include some of Johnny Cash’s hit songs such as *I Walk The Line*, *A Boy Named Sue*, *Folsom Prison Blues*, and *A Tittle Tune*.

Also being incorporated into the musical will be Johnny Cash’s wife June Carter Cash ,who walked the same path as her husband.

The musical opens on Saturday, Jan. 23 and will end Sunday, Feb. 14 at Federal Way’s Knutzen Family Theatre at 3200 S.W. Dash Point Road.

Tickets start at \$35 for adults and \$30 for seniors and military personnel. Those 25 and younger will be able to purchase tickets for \$15.

“Johnny was a very powerful figure. When he was alive he wasn’t very important, but I think when he died people realized how important he truly was to American culture,” Bryce said. “If you did not like Johnny Cash before the musical you will like him afterward.”

Men's basketball tops West Division

By Charles Prater
Staff Reporter

The men's basketball team has started 2016 on a good note, having won their first three league games.

Highline, 3-0 (12-6 overall), up until the beginning of the year, had been playing in non-division games, totaling a record of 9-6.

The T-Birds' first game was on Jan. 9, against Centralia, 1-3 (1-13 overall). The Thunderbirds were in control most of the game by grabbing twice as many offensive rebounds and taking advantage of the Trailblazers turnovers.

Although Centralia shot a higher percentage from the field, the T-Birds held on to win 73-64.

Leading scorer for Highline was guard Coby Myles with 19 points, followed by forward Jamie Orme with 18 points, 10 rebounds and five steals.

After the Trailblazers, the T-Birds hit the road to play South Puget Sound, 2-1 (13-4 overall) on Jan. 13.

At the time of the match-up the Clippers were the best team in the West Division, but Highline clearly didn't get that message as South Puget Sound was outmatched from their starting five to their bench, with the T-Birds winning, 81-58.

Highline outrebounded the Clippers 47-32 and won the battle of the benches, scoring 36 points total off the bench as opposed to the Clippers' 16.

Highline's Nick Edens contributed huge off the bench, scoring 18 points and grabbing 10 rebounds. Jalen McGruder came off the bench to net 11 points.

Leading scorer for the T-Birds was Orme with 26 points, 11 of them coming from the free throw line. Orme also nabbed 11 rebounds to go along with his two blocks.

"We have demonstrated a collective purpose in each of the three games," said Highline Head Coach Che Dawson.

"That's what will carry the day for us more than anything; showing up for practices and games focused on getting something done rather than just showing up."

The T-Birds' most recent game was another road game on Jan. 16 against Grays Harbor, 0-3 (2-11 overall).

The Chokers kept it interesting being only down by six at the end of the first half, but the Thunderbirds were on fire from the three-point line, hitting 53 percent from beyond the arc.

That, plus Grays Harbor's 19 turnovers and the T-Birds scoring off those turnovers, led to Highline winning 91-77.

Starters Myles and McGruder had huge games, with Myles scoring 28 points and going four out of six from beyond the arc.

McGruder had his best game



Jack Harton Photo

T-Birds' Val Wilson attempts a mid-range floater over a defender.

of the season with 22 points and 10 rebounds, six of those being offensive rebounds.

A large part of the T-Birds success so far in the west was all the games they had a chance to play in over the winter break.

Going into break, Highline had rattled off a four-game winning streak, after losing their home opener.

During the holidays, the Thunderbirds stumbled a little bit, posting a record of 5-5 over the 10-game span.

The winter break started with Highline playing in the Bellevue Tournament on Dec. 11 and pushing their winning streak to five with 69-58 win over Olympic.

Both teams shot under 35 percent from the field, but the Rangers struggled shooting in the second half, only hitting 25 percent of their shots.

Orme led the way with 28 points, followed by teammate Jared Murphy with 14 points.

The T-Birds lost their next game, 76-72, against Walla Walla, with the Thunderbirds still struggling to shoot the ball.

Highline fixed that in their last match up of the tournament, beating Chemeketa 75-70.

The T-Birds shot 46 percent from the field and outrebounded the Storm, 44-29.

Orme registered another double-double, scoring 26 points and grabbing 13 rebounds. Nick Edens came off the bench and scored 18 points for the team.

After the tournament, Highline got a five-day break before playing in the Whatcom Cross-over Tournament, Dec. 18-20.

Their first match was against East Division opponent Big Bend, 3-0 (13-6 overall).

The T-Birds struggled to stop the Vikings from draining threes all game, and lost 95-59.

Both the leading scorers for the Vikings, Keshawn Liggins and Ryker Pierce, combined for

team has to play well regardless of circumstances," Coach Dawson said.

Orme missed the next four games.

Highline's last match of the tournament ended with a 72-58 loss against Wenatchee Valley, 1-2 (4-12 overall).

The game was pretty even between the two teams, with the difference being the Knights getting 18 points from the three-point line and the T-Birds only getting six.

Nick Edens was the leading scorer for the T-Birds with 16 points and six rebounds, along with teammate Ty Peacock, who netted 10 points off the bench.

The T-Birds got another eight-day rest before playing in their last tournament of the break.

This time the T-Birds traveled to North Idaho to participate in their three-day tourney.

The Thunderbirds fared well in their first two matches, beating the North Idaho All-Stars, 94-82, and winning a close one against San Jose, 60-54.

"What has really helped us is the cohesiveness and positive approach this group brings to the table every day," said Dawson.

In their final match-up, the T-Birds were outmatched by the North Idaho Cardinals 84-61.

Highline struggled to shoot the ball and hold on to it, giving up the rock 24 times.

Highline's Jared Murphy and Jalen McGruder stepped up huge

for the team over the three games.

Murphy averaged 17 points and made 10 threes total in the three games, while McGruder averaged 15 points, five rebounds, and three assists.

With tournament season over, the T-Birds were back to their regular schedule with another away game against Bellevue on Jan. 4.

Highline had a good grip on the game but the Bulldogs managed to climb back in the game in the second half to tie it up at the end of regulation and go into overtime.

Unfortunately, the advantage went to Bellevue in overtime, thanks to some untimely fouls by the T-Birds, and the Bulldogs won 69-62.

After missing the last four games, Jamie Orme came back with a vengeance and played a great game.

Orme played 44 minutes in the game and scored 27 points and grabbed 18 rebounds along with four steals.

Coby Myles came off the bench for the T-Birds to net 13 points and also get four steals.

Highline played Lower Columbia, 3-0 (11-6 overall), Wednesday, with results unavailable at press time.

The T-Birds travel to Green River on Saturday, Jan. 23 to take on the Gators at 5 p.m., and then travel to Pierce on Wednesday, Jan. 27 to face the Raiders at 8 p.m.

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start something big

Lady T-Birds struggle over winter break

By Samuel Biehn
Staff Reporter

The holiday break did not come with much holiday cheer for the Lady T-Birds basketball team.

Over a 10-game stretch, Highline won just two games, dropping their current season record to 4-13.

"We had good defense, we worked hard in practice, we were just slow in getting started," said Highline guard Chantal Hill.

Highline began with a match-up on Dec. 9 against the Olympic Rangers, losing 64-50.

Olympia shot 45 percent from the field, compared to 38 percent for Highline.

Highline next lost to Chemeketa, 78-65, on Dec. 17.

Highline forward Chardonae Miller and guard Alyson Rippingham were two bright spots for the team. Together the pair combined for 26 points and 13 rebounds.

Poor shooting percentages seemed to be the Achilles' heel for the Thunderbirds over the winter break, with Highline consistently hitting less than 50 percent per game.

"We play well defensively, we're getting the open shots. The girls need to be more confident and use proper technique. It's the pace, the game's a little bit faster, so we need to speed up practice," Assistant Coach Damien Crump said.

Asked if the shooting percentage improved and if it could help the team stay in games, guard Chantal Hill had one simple answer: "Definitely."

The Highline ladies out rebounded Chemeketa 41 to 34, leading to their 8 second chance points. However, this wasn't enough to overcome Highline's 33 turnovers and the team being outscored 25-9 in the third quarter.

"We need to eliminate some of those turnovers," Assistant Coach Crump said.

Although the Lady T-Birds had a great overall winter break on the boards, Assistant Coach Crump says there is still room for improvement.

"The rebounding was a team goal. We still feel like we could do a lot better," Crump said.

Coming off of two losses Highline turned in a great performance on Dec. 18, downing the Whatcom Orcas 89-46.

"We played together as a team, they did (the players) everything we asked them to do, Whatcom lost some players and we definitely took advantage. We played a perfect game," said Assistant Coach Crump.

"If we play like that we'll be in more games."

The T-Birds improved their shooting percentage to 49 percent. The Highline ladies turned in a multitude of solid performances, with guard Chantal Hill and forwards Jasmine Hangsen and Taylor Coffey all scoring in double figures.

Not only did Highline take over on the scoreboard, but they also commanded the game on the boards with 50 total rebounds. The Thunderbirds made sure to get everyone involved in the action, as the bench scored 38 points to help the team cruise to victory.

Next, the Lady T-Birds found themselves in a nail biter against the Everett Trojans on Dec. 19, losing a 62-61 heartbreaker.

Highline continued their strong rebounding, collecting 54 rebounds on the night. However, in a tight game, the team gave up more than 21 turnovers



Jack Harton photo

Highline's Jasmine Hansgen battles Centralia's Susan Kenney for the ball in a recent game.

and 33 points off of three-pointers.

Miller had 15 rebounds as she and Chantal Hill led the way for Highline, combining for 30 points in the game. Great shooting came in handy for the Thunderbirds, as their field goal percentage drastically improved to 53 percent on the night.

Highline followed this close loss with a bounce back win over Chemeketa on Dec. 28, avenging their previous loss on Dec. 17, 52-48.

Highline also capitalized off of 16 Chemeketa turnovers for 14 points.

Highline showed their potential in some matchups such as the win over Chemeketa. "We could play with the teams we're losing to," said Assistant Coach Crump.

Unfortunately, Highline went on to lose their next five games.

The losing streak began against the Wenatchee Valley Knights on Dec. 29, in which Highline still mightily struggled to put the ball in the basket, shooting 32 percent from the field.

Highline put in a valiant effort against the Columbia Basin Hawks the following night on Dec. 30, eventually losing 69-67. The Lady T-Birds had 47 overall rebounds, and started the game with a strong second quarter, outscoring the Basin Hawks 19-7.

But 20 Highline turnovers resulted in a big swing, with Columbia capitalizing with 20 points.

The problem with Highline's performance over the break isn't a lack of hustle or talent. "We just need to be consistent," said Assistant Coach Crump.

If the Lady T-Birds wish to be consistent in their games, they will need to fix some consistent issues. These include turnovers and poor shooting percentage that continued to show in their match against the Centralia Lady Blazers on Jan. 9.

The game included 17 turnovers for the T-Birds, and 30 points allowed from the three-point line. Highline could never quite catch up.

The rebounds came easy once again with 52 on the night. Highline pushed a big quarter in the second, with the team producing 15 points and the defense locking down Centralia to only 4 points.

However, Highline only scored 11 points in the second half as Centralia came back to win, 51-45.

The Thunderbirds got solid performances from Jasmyne Holmes and Chardonae Miller, who combined for 24 points, 17 rebounds, 3 blocks, 6 steals and 4 assists.

Strong individual performances, tough defensive efforts, and great re-

bounding are what make the losses not add up. But Assistant Coach Crump says that there's a light at the end of the tunnel.

"They're moving forward, there's been a lot of improvement," Crump said.

This improvement didn't lead to a win in the second to last game of the 10 game stretch over the break, but the 61-67 loss to South Puget Sound may have signaled a new starting point for the lady T-Birds.

Highline slightly improved their shooting percentage to 40 percent, and continued their solid rebounding with 36 rebounds. Highline played well on defense, with 38 overall defensive stops.

But although Highline could stop South Puget Sound, the Clippers still managed to put up 30 points off of three pointers. Other than that production, Highline couldn't hold onto the ball.

Thirty South Puget Sound points came off of 22 Highline turnovers.

Miller also continued her very solid performance, with 24 points, 9 rebounds, 4 blocks, 2 steals and 1 assist.

In the final of the 10 games, Highline lost another close game, suffering a nine-point loss against Grays Harbor on Jan. 16, losing 59-48.

The Chokers capitalized off of Highline's mistakes, with 21 points off of 21 Thunderbird turnovers.

Grays Harbor also got 21 points from three-point range, compared to only six for Highline.

Highline continued to control the glass, with 53 rebounds for the game, versus 42 for Grays Harbor.

The Thunderbirds also gave extra opportunities to Grays Harbor, with Highline sending the Chokers to the line 21 times which contributed to 15 Grays Harbor points.

Alyson Rippingham led Highline with 11 points, 10 rebounds, 2 steals, and 1 assist.

Highline will not count on the production of one player to carry them for the rest of the season. The Lady T-Birds will continue to focus on team and positive vibes to help them escape their five game losing streak.

"We came in as a team during the winter break and left it all out on the floor," said guard Chantal Hill.

The consistent lack of wins would seem to down a team, but Assistant Coach Crump said the negative experiences will give the team something to build off of.

"We're having some ups and downs, injuries. I think the players learned a lot, that the college level is different from high school," said Crump.

"If you don't bring your A game, you'll lose."

The Thunderbirds will try to bring their A game in their next few games to jump-start the rest of the season. The team will look to come together and lift each other up, instead of pulling each other down, Crump said.

"They're moving forward, there's been a lot of improvement. The girls need to stay positive, they need to know that we believe in them. The only thing we can do is go up, keep encouraging, sometimes it just takes time," Crump said. "We have the right pieces."

Highline played Lower Columbia on Wednesday, Jan. 20 with results unavailable at presstime.

Highline will try to bounce back strong in their next two games starting Jan. 23 at Green River, tipoff at 3 p.m., and will follow with a game at Pierce, which tips off at 6 p.m.

3835
4514

Scoreboard

MEN'S BASKETBALL		
Team	League W-L	Season W-L
West Division		
Highline	3-0	12-6
Lower Columbia	3-0	11-6
S. Puget Sound	2-1	13-4
Tacoma	2-1	9-7
Green River	1-2	6-9
Centralia	1-2	1-13
Pierce	0-3	5-12
Grays Harbor	0-3	2-11
South Division		
Clark	5-0	14-3
Clackamas	4-1	12-6
Lane	3-2	15-3
Chemeketa	3-2	12-6
Umpqua	3-2	10-7
SW Oregon	2-4	8-11
Linn-Benton	2-4	6-11
Mt.Hood	1-4	4-12
Portland	1-5	8-7
North Division		
Edmonds	2-1	13-3
Everett	2-1	11-7
Skagit Valley	2-1	9-7
Peninsula	2-1	2-1
Shoreline	2-1	7-7
Olympic	2-1	4-10
Whatcom	0-3	13-6
Bellevue	0-3	9-9
East Division		
Spokane	3-0	17-2
Big Bend	3-0	13-6
Columbia Basin	2-1	8-8
Yakima Valley	2-1	8-9
Walla Walla	1-2	7-11
Wenatchee Valley	1-2	4-12
Blue Mountain	0-3	9-9
Treasure Valley	0-3	2-12

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL		
Team	League W-L	Season W-L
West Division		
Centralia	3-0	12-6
Grays Harbor	3-0	9-6
Lower Columbia	3-0	11-8
S. Puget Sound	2-1	11-6
Green River	1-2	6-10
Highline	0-3	4-13
Tacoma	0-3	2-11
Pierce	0-3	2-13
South Division		
Lane	5-0	18-0
Umpqua	4-1	16-3
Clark	4-1	12-5
Clackamas	3-2	12-6
Chemeketa	3-2	7-11
Linn-Benton	2-4	8-10
Portland	2-4	3-13
SW Oregon	1-5	9-10
Mt.Hood	0-5	2-13
North Division		
Pennisula	3-0	12-4
Skagit Valley	3-0	13-6
Bellevue	2-1	12-4
Everett	2-1	9-8
Shoreline	1-2	3-9
Whatcom	1-2	1-13
Olympic	0-3	5-10
Edmonds	0-3	1-14
East Division		
Wenatchee Valley	3-0	5-0
Walla Walla	2-1	13-3
Treasure Valley	2-1	11-6
Columbia Basin	2-1	10-8
Spokane	1-2	12-6
Blue Mountain	1-2	7-10
Big Bend	1-2	7-12
Yakima Valley	0-3	3-14



Jessica Strand/THUNDERWORD

Cole Morrison controls his rival in Highline’s Jan. 9 home meet against Warner Pacific.

Injuries take down wrestlers

By Roopkanwal Nagra
Staff Reporter

Injuries are starting to take toll on Highline’s wrestling team

Andres Tereza, ranked No. 4 at 125 pounds, suffered a fractured elbow and is out for three weeks. Regionals is approaching in four and a half weeks, meaning he could return to play for Highline.

At practice, Antonio Nieves-Dees also popped his knee out, a critical injury for Highline’s top 149 pounder.

Head Coach Scott Norton said it’s important to keep the team healthy as they approach postseason.

Highline dominated Warner

Pacific, 46-6, to come out of the holiday break strong. Three pins and three forfeits helped with the big win.

While at the Reno Tourney of Champs on Dec. 20, Josh Wessels impressed all. After a tough loss of 6-5, he decided to go “super-sayian” in the consolation rounds. He got his first win 3-0 and continued with another 12-4 win. He said it was a “competitive” tournament with many Division 1 teams. Wessels was Highline’s top performer and lost in the consolation rounds.

On Sunday at the Boxer Open in Forest Grove, Ore. redshirt freshman Jesse Torres surprised at 125 and won 11-1

in the semi finals. He carried his momentum and placed first after he pinned his opponent in the finals.

Also at the Boxer Open, Andrew Ramirez placed first with a score of 9-3 against Aaron Drake of Clackamas in the 133 weight class.

At 184, Taylor Johnson was the third champ from Highline. In his semi-final matchup against Julio Fuentes of Clackamas he won 11-6. Taylor won 19-2 with a technical fall in the finals over Ryder Shinkle of Boise State.

As the season goes, “the team hyped up practice and the atmosphere” on their journey to nationals, said freshman Benja-

min Carrillo.

“Guys are peaking and getting better... Starting to come together as a team,” said Assistant Coach Pacifico Garcia.

He also said the team is showing strength in scoring bonus points through pins and major decisions which helped with important wins.

A big rivalry match against Northern Idaho College is coming up this Thursday night at 7 in the Pavilion. The team got their second ever win against NIC in Idaho earlier this season and hope to repeat that for the home crowd.

Following the dual, the team is traveling to Oregon for the Clackamas Open on Jan. 24.

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Boardwalk repairs to begin in March; summer completion is anticipated

By John Van de Ven
Staff Reporter

With funding received and its design complete, restoration of the Redondo Boardwalk should begin in March.

The boardwalk was destroyed in November of 2014 during a violent storm; many of the wooden planks were ripped up, rendering the boardwalk unusable.

The bidding process will begin on Feb. 1, said Des Moines city engineer Andrew Merges.

After construction companies turn in their bids, the Des Moines City Council will vote on and approve a company for the project.

The project is estimated to take about 110 days to complete, finishing up sometime around the start of the 2016 summer season, said Merges.

“Two-way traffic will be intermittent” Merges said. “Expect long delays in the [construction] zone.”

A flagger will be on hand to allow traffic to pass via one lane, Merges said. In order to reduce congestion and traffic in the area, the city of Des Moines is encouraging drivers to find an alternate route.



Jessica Strand/THUNDERWORD

Destroyed in a violent storm in November 2014, the .7-mile-long Redondo Boardwalk will be repaired this spring and should be open to the public sometime this summer. The city of Des Moines is soliciting bids for the estimated \$4.7 million project and expects the reconstruction to begin in March.

The Boardwalk Project has completed all of its funding goals, obtaining \$497,445 from the city of Des Moines, \$360,000 from the Transportation Improvement Board, \$1,455,000 from a Washington

State Capital Appropriation, and \$2,388,265 in Federal funding for a total of about \$4.7 million to complete the project.

Although the boardwalk is being rebuilt, there are no plans to reinforce the bulkhead.

“There is no identified need to reinforce the bulkhead at this time” Merges said, “This is just a boardwalk project, not a seawall project.”

Although it will continue to be called the Redondo Board-

walk, the name is a bit of a misnomer. Gone will be the four-inch thick wooden planks. The new design will instead include a concrete walkway with a wood grain stamp. The concrete will be stained a wood-like color.

Stainless steel cable railings will be installed along the walkway, and low-level lighting will illuminate the deck surface.

A raised pedestrian crossing at the South 287th Street and Beach Drive intersection will also be installed for added safety.

Waterside pilings will be reinforced with pipes filled with concrete to help mitigate future storm and log damage.

The city plans to use a low volatility organic compound water-based stain to retouch parts of the boardwalk where the stain has worn off. There should be no penetration of the stain to the areas below the boardwalk, as it will be solid concrete with no slots for it to run through, Merges said.

More information about the project can be found on the city of Des Moines website.

The city plans to have updates that coincide with each milestone as the project nears completion.

Free two-year college tuition bill introduced

OLYMPIA (AP) — Tuition at community and technical colleges in Washington would be free for state residents without a bachelor’s degree under a proposal announced Tuesday by a group of Democratic lawmakers.

Some qualifying students could also get a stipend for books and other expenses based on family income, lawmakers said at a news conference. The plan would apply to part-time students, too.

A way to pay for the free tuition hasn’t been offered yet. It’s estimated by nonpartisan staff at the Legislature to cost between \$94 million and \$105 million in 2017, if implemented, and the price tag would increase if more students enroll in the state’s community and technical colleges.

But there aren’t infinite tax exemptions to close, especially if lawmakers want to eliminate tax loopholes to increase money for other legislative priorities such as basic education and the state’s mental health system, said Senate Majority Leader Mark Schoesler, a Republican from Ritzville.

Puzzle Answers from Page 5

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

W	O	K		R	A	T						
P	I	P	E	P	E	R	S	E				
C	A	R	E	T	I	C	E	A	X	E		
F	R	E	N	C	H	Q	U	A	R	T	E	R
C	A	D		H	O	U	R	S		O	R	E
		L	U	G	E			A	R	I	D	
	R	E	A	P	S		P	I	S	T	E	
R	E	N	O			P	U	N	K			
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Go Figure!

answers

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PRIVATE SECURITY ACADEMY

The Private Security Academy (PSA) is designed for individuals either currently employed or seeking employment in the private security field, loss prevention, assets protection and other police functions. Students who successfully complete the Private Security Academy will earn 8 college credits, applicable toward the Associate of Applied Science degree in Criminal Justice at Highline College. Students will also receive First Aid/CPR certification.

ACADEMY DATES AND TIMES FOR WINTER

QUARTER 2016

First day of class Tuesday, January 26 at 6 p.m.
(No class January 27–February 10)
End date March 24.

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE COST?

- 100 hours state of the art instruction taught by industry professionals
- Course supplies and materials
- CPR/First Aid Certification
- FULL Gear Package

ACADEMY COSTS

\$1,150.00 per person*
(funding may be available—please see Workforce Education Service (WES) information)

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- Must be at least 18 years old at the time of acceptance to the Academy
- Must complete and pass a Washington State Patrol (WSP) Background check
- Must commit to meeting the course attendance requirements

CAREER PATHWAYS

Upon completion of the Private Security Academy, students will be able to find potential career paths through a variety of private security companies that service:

- Retail Loss Prevention
- The Entertainment Industry
- County, City and State Fairs
- Maritime Infrastructure
- Casinos and Card Houses

- Trademark and Piracy Investigations
- Uniformed Static Posting
- Surveillance
- Loss Prevention Apprehension
- Internal Theft Investigations

CONTACT INFORMATION

To register for this course or to find out more information, please call Continuing Education at (206) 870-3785 or visit our website at ce.highline.edu.

Budget

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at constitutionally mandated levels. For the past four years, the lawmakers have grappled over the mandate.

After increasing funding for K-12 education by \$1.3 billion in last year's 2015-2017 state budget, the state Supreme Court found that the Legislature had not yet fulfilled their mandate, and held the Legislature in contempt. The Legislature is being fined \$100,000 each day until they fulfill the mandate.

State Rep. Mia Gregerson, D-Des Moines, agrees with Rep. Orwall on funding education.

"This is a year we have to come up with a plan," Rep. Gregerson said. "We don't have a real plan [yet]."

Rep. Gregerson said much needs to change regarding not just K-12 education, but also higher education as well.

"K-12 needs to be holistic with higher education," Rep.



State Rep. Tina Orwall

Gregerson said.

Rep. Gregerson said there is a continuum, a direct line, between K-12 education and higher education, and that they need to be treated as such. K-12 and higher education are funded separately, and thus sometimes end up competing for the same funds.

"That language needs to be in the plan [to amply fund K-12 education]," Rep. Gregerson said.

Last year, the Legislature included a college tuition cut in the budget. Washington's community and technical college students are enjoying a 5 per-

cent tuition reduction.

The reduction brings in-state tuition down from \$1,333 per quarter to \$1,129 per quarter. Those numbers are based off of full-time enrollment of 12 credits per quarter. The reduction does not come without expense.

However, some of the funding for the tuition reduction came at the cost of the State Need Grant.

The State Need Grant provides financial aid for college students who have a lower than average annual income. It is a first-come, first-serve program with finite resources.

While more than 74,000 students received the grant in the 2013-2014 academic year, more than 32,000 students who were eligible were unable to receive aid due to lack of funds.

"That's not acceptable," Rep. Orwall said.

Tuition revenue accounts for about half of Highline's operating budget. A 5 percent tuition reduction means that community and technical colleges get less in tuition revenue than they



State Rep. Mia Gregerson

did last year.

The Legislature has promised to backfill the amount, which means state funds have to be allocated to accommodate the loss of tuition revenue.

Highline officials said they are looking to the Legislature to backfill the amount they have been promised.

"We did a little bit of the backfill," said Rep. Orwall.

Rep. Gregerson is critical of last year's plan to backfill.

"The Senate really got out ahead. The safety net [funding] has massive holes in it," Rep.

Gregerson said.

Lawmakers intend to use this session to tackle issues other than education funding.

"Our state sends more kids to court than any other state for missing school," Rep. Orwall said. She is sponsoring HB 2449 to try to reduce truancy.

Rep. Orwall is also working on reforming the procedures concerning rape kits.

Rep. Orwall said thousands of rape kits go untested in the state, and that the statute of limitations expires before they can be tested, potentially letting hundreds of rapists go unidentified and uncharged.

Rep. Orwall is also working on a bill aiding suicide prevention on college campuses.

Rep. Gregerson is working to eliminate the supermajority requirement for passing school bonds. Her plan is for a simple majority, 50 percent plus one, to be enough to approve a bond.

"Seventy percent [of bond measures] are losing," Rep. Gregerson said.

Legislature considers raising minimum smoking age

By Walker Orenstein
Associated Press

OLYMPIA – Legislation that would raise Washington's smoking age to 21 has more support than keeping the legal age to buy tobacco at 18, according to a new poll released Wednesday.

The survey of 500 voters by independent pollster Stuart Elway says 65 percent of voters back hiking the smoking age to 21, while 35 percent oppose a potential raise. The survey of 500 registered voters was taken Dec. 28-30 and had a sampling error margin of plus or minus 4.5 percentage points.

The Elway poll was announced at a news conference by state Attorney General Bob Ferguson, who called on lawmakers to pass legislation he requested to raise the state's legal age to buy tobacco from 18 to 21.

"Let's be blunt, cigarettes are too easy to get if you're a minor," Ferguson said. He said his legislation would make it harder for teenagers to get cigarettes because it would not be as easy for people who are 18 to 20 to sell them to underage people.

Hawaii recently became the first state to raise its smoking age to 21, although the trend hasn't caught on yet in other states.

In Olympia, an effort last year to raise the smoking age didn't get a hearing in the Senate. This year, the Senate version of the bill sponsored by Sen. Mark Miloscia, R-Federal Way, hasn't been scheduled for a hearing in the Senate's Commerce and Labor Committee,

but committee chair Sen. Michael Baumgartner, R-Spokane, previously said he would consider hearing the bill.

Last year, the bill didn't leave Baumgartner's committee.

In New Jersey on Tuesday, Gov. Chris Christie didn't act on a bill that would have hiked the state's smoking age to 21, keeping it at 19. Some cities, including New York and Boston, have raised their smoking age to 21.

Still, Ferguson says Washington must follow Hawaii's lead to save lives and reduce how much money the state spends to treat

smoking-related illness.

The House version of the bill, House Bill 2313, had its first hearing Wednesday. Both bills have bipartisan sponsorship.

Advocates for raising the smoking age trumpeted health studies at the news conference to boost their case.

A 2015 study from the National Institute of Medicine says lifting the smoking age to 21 would reduce the smoking rate by about 12 percent and would lower smoking-related deaths by 10 percent over time.

About 90 percent of adults that become daily smokers say

they started smoking before 19, the study says.

Some lawmakers opposed to the bill have voiced concerns that government shouldn't limit freedoms of people old enough to vote or serve in the military.

Representatives of retail and convenience stores testified Wednesday against raising the smoking age.

The bill would hurt smaller convenience stores because young people would buy tobacco on American Indian reservations or in states that border Washington, said Joanie Deutsch, director of govern-

ment affairs for the Washington Retail Association.

"We believe retailers should be allowed to fairly compete in the sale of tobacco products," she said.

The bills under consideration in Washington would also ban people under 21 from buying vaporizing devices and electronic cigarettes.

The state Office of Financial Management estimated that raising the smoking age to 21 would cost the state \$22 million in the 2017-19 budget cycle because of the anticipated loss of tobacco tax revenue.

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Jessica Strand/THUNDERWORD
Sound Transit's LINK Light Rail is expanding this year with the opening of stations as far north as the University of Washington and as far south as Angle Lake at South 200th Street.

Transit

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and existing taxes, federal funds, fares and other sources.

Project costs range from \$20 million to \$5.3 billion. The final cost of the ballot depends on which projects are chosen.

Taxpayers in King, Pierce and Snohomish counties may end up paying an additional \$17 a month depending on which projects end up on the ballot.

Possible additions to Sound Transit services include rail lines and bus routes from Lynwood to Everett, Federal Way to Tacoma, Downtown Seattle to West Seattle, Downtown Seattle to Ballard, Overlake to Redmond and Totem Lake to Issaquah.

"A great deal of information about the candidate projects is available on soundtransit3.org," Reason said.

Link Light Rail continues to progress south as planned, and Sound Transit have announced that the newest stops along the rail, located in Capitol Hill and the University District in Seattle, will open in early 2016.

The newest and southernmost station located on South 200th Street in Angle Lake, will open in September.

"We'll have a specific date closer to opening," said Kimberly Reason, public information officer for Sound Transit.

The stop will provide convenient transportation as far north as Westlake.

"[Sound Transit expects] 5,000 riders coming and going on an average weekday by 2018," Reason said.

Stations will open in the Capitol Hill neighborhood and University District in Seattle sometime in early 2016.

Sound Transit doesn't plan to stop there. They plan to open a new station just east of Highline by 2023 and move even further south to Federal Way and to Tacoma after that.

In order to fund the extension of the Light Rail, Sound Transit is developing the Sound Transit 3 ballot measure.

Several stakeholder meetings were held on Highline's campus over the last few months in order to determine whether the aptly named Highline Station will be built Pacific Highway South and South 236th Lane next to campus, or at 30th Avenue South and South 236th Lane, both parallel to Highline.

Ridership, potential economic development, safety and distance that riders will walk are all considerations that were discussed in the previous stakeholder meetings.

Sound Transit has not announced a final location for the Highline Station. A decision will be made some time in 2017 or 2018 regarding the 2023 Highline Station.

Transfer Center hosting workshops, Transfer Fair

The Highline Transfer Center is hosting a series of transfer related events this quarter.

There will be a personal statement workshop on Feb. 4 from noon until 1 p.m. This workshop will learn how to write a strong, and organized

personal statement.

The Winter College Transfer Fair will be held on Feb. 10 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Building 8. The Transfer Fair will allow students to meet with advisers from more than 30 four-year colleges and universities.

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