

# the THUNDERWORD

Highline College | February 11, 2016 | Volume 53, Issue 15



Des Moines Police Photo

Despite being largely white, the Des Moines Police Department is taking steps to stay in touch with an increasingly diverse city.

## Lining up for change

### Des Moines Police trying to reach out to citizens

**By Mia McNeal**  
Staff Reporter

The Des Moines Police say they are taking steps to build trust within the community.

Currently, the chief of police is of Hispanic decent and there are also two African-American commissioned police officers, along with some non-commissioned Asian staff, said Sgt. Doug Jenkins.

Every officer has been required to go through diversity training so that they are aware of all the different cultural issues in society.

The chief, George Delgado, also makes it a priority to spend time in the community, Sgt. Jenkins said.

The chief has an advisory group that helps direct his focus on where the community is going, Sgt. Jenkins said.

The committee consists of people of Hispanic, Asian, African-American, and Hawaiian decent.

Recognizing constant media exposure of police brutality and police killings, the chief's main point of emphasis is, "...professionalism above all else," Sgt. Jenkins said.

To help show how much the department cares; they offer an event called "Coffee with a Cop."

The people get to sit down and talk with the officers at a local coffee shop. The next "Coffee with a Cop" event will be on Feb. 16 from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. in the Student Union.

Another event organized by the department is "Tip a Cop."

Officers step in as waiters to serve the people of the community at local restaurants.

These small events happen

See Police, page 12

## Unified sports brings people together

**By Jacqueline Robinson**  
Staff Reporter

A Highline basketball team lost its own tournament recently, but you would never know by the smiles on their faces.

Highline hosted the King County Special Olympics regional basketball tournament on Sunday, Jan. 31. Highline's Unified team, which has players both with and without disabilities, participated. Highline ended up placing second but is still celebrating for reasons much bigger than a game.

The tournament took place inside the Pavilion, where a crowd of about 400 people cheered on not just their own teams, but what seemed like every team.

Debbie Berry, mother of two Unified basketball players, said this is not like other sports. It is not only about winning or losing, it's about supporting something bigger.

"The spirit of this sport is not competitive. We all cheer for everyone," she said.

The point Berry was making was evident in the excited crowd.

Every shot was celebrated in a roar. Even missed shots were followed by an encouraging shout.

The crowd appeared to be celebrating more than just the score.

They celebrated the skill, spirit and courage of the Special Olympic athletes. They celebrated unity between the handicapped and non-handicapped athletes on the court.

Participating teams traveled from near and far.

"We have teams here from all over King County," said Jennifer Sandler, the director of Access Services and the Achieve program at Highline.

"There are teams from Federal Way, Auburn, Seattle, Ballard, West Seattle and more," she said.

The different teams included a host of community teams and high school teams. Highline and University of Washington were the only college-based teams in attendance.

Special Olympics partnered with Highline's Access Services to organize the tournament. A number of Highline faculty, staff and students volunteered their time and efforts to make the event a success.

Sandler said it was the combined efforts of student athletes on men's soccer team, men's basketball team and

See Inclusion, page 12

## Students place experiences over gifts

**By Kayla Dickson**  
Staff Reporter

As one of the biggest spending holidays of the year, Valentine's Day often leaves women feeling pampered and refreshed, and guys crying over the empty shell of their wallets.

This year at Highline, however, students are taking a more laid-back approach to the ro-

• For more Valentine's Day stories and photos, see page 6

mantic holiday.

"On Valentine's Day, I want to buy her flowers," said Andriy Eorsuk, a student at Highline. He said he then plans to "netflix and chill" with his valentine.

Some students aren't doing anything at all for the holiday.

"I have to work that day," said Amanda Hollands, who works in assisted living.

Meanwhile, Rico Most has plans for himself on Feb. 14.

"I'm just going to spend most of the day taking myself out, treating myself and pampering myself," Most said.

Most isn't the only single

See V-Day, page 12



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New program director hopes to enhance Highline's diversity



**Page 8**

Former Highline student finds success in local music scene



**Page 10**

Men's basketball fashions midseason winning streak



# Crime on campus decreased this week

**By Jim Sullivan**  
Staff Reporter



Winter Quarter is settling down for Public Safety officers this week, as there are fewer incidents than previous weeks.

This week's incidents involve a couple intoxicated men, a prank call and a hit and run collision.

## Student passes out from asthma attack

A female student passed out in Building 6 at 9:19 a.m. on Feb. 2. The student was having an asthma attack, which led to a panic attack and she eventually passed out.

From the understanding of Public Safety officers this is a re-occurring experience for this student.

South King Fire and Rescue was called for assistance and determined the student did not need any further medical attention and cleared her to go home.

A family member arrived to take the student home.

## Des Moines Police check on man

A homeless man appeared intoxicated in Building 8 Center for Leadership and Service at 3:15 p.m. on Feb. 4 when staff called Public Safety.

The night before he had made disturbing comments towards some women and appeared to be high before being escorted off campus.

The man returned to the same building the following day and was acting calm and quiet but was not compliant and rambled on about things.

Des Moines Police were contacted to conduct a wellness check to see if the man is capable of taking care of himself when he admitted to being homeless.

Des Moines Police and Public Safety officers referred the man to a couple crisis agencies to receive help.

## Drunk man needs to charge phone

Two days later, an intoxicated male was found sleeping on the floor in the men's restroom of Building 23 at 5:50 p.m. on Feb. 6.

Officers said the man was staggering and smelled heavily of alcohol. Officers asked the man if he needed any help and he replied that he was OK and just needed to charge his electronic battery pack.

The man was notified that the restrooms are being locked and that he could use an outlet outside of Building 8.

The man grabbed all of his personal belongings and thanked officers as he left the restroom.

He walked in an unknown direction without further incident while officers were locking the doors.

## Prank call on Building 8 elevator

An individual pushed the 911 emergency button in a Building 8 elevator and stated that he needed assistance at 3:23 p.m. on Feb. 3.

The man stopped responding to the 911 dispatcher as Public Safety officers arrived. The officers found that the dispatcher was still on the line and there were no people in the elevator.

Officers were advised to search the area and found no need for medical or police assistance and determined that the call was more than likely a prank.

## Highline visitor's car struck

A Highline visitor reported that her car received damage from an unknown vehicle in the East Parking Lot at 5:25 p.m. on Feb. 4.

The black Audi had scratches and a dent on the rear driver side door.

Officers provided the women with a Washington state vehicle collision report to fill out and mail in.

## Hit-and-run occurs in the East Lot

A witness saw a hit-and-run in the East Parking Lot involving two vehicles at 11:24 a.m. on Jan. 25.

The student reported the incident to Public Safety officers who then contacted the Des Moines Police officer who was already in the emergency parking spot in the East Parking Lot.

# Professors discuss '16 election

**By Bryce Sizemore**  
Staff Reporter

Find out how the presidential election works, and the significance of two extra-special candidates at Trump Cards and Electric Sanders: Explaining the 2016 Election.

Three Highline political science professors will discuss the presidential election today at 10 a.m. in Building 7.

"We decided to do this because we thought people deserve to know how this whole system works," Dr. T.M. Sell said.

Dr. Emmanuel Chiabi will discuss how the process of nominating and electing a president works.

Dr. Benjamin Gonzalez said that he will address the issue of race in this election cycle, both

in relation to Trump, and on statements made on the Republican side by candidates such as U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, and Dr. Ben Carson.

Islamophobic and anti-immigrant statements by candidates often cause such views to become legitimized, Dr. Gonzalez said.

"There has been an uptick of hits to the Stormfront website," and groups such as the Klu Klux Klan have experienced a rise in membership, Dr. Gonzalez said.

This rhetoric, even if it is just a cynical attempt to get voters, can, and has led to acts of violence, said Dr. Gonzalez.

Dr. Gonzalez said that the current success of using racism and fear means "We are not as post-racial as we thought we were."

Dr. T.M. Sell said that he

will speak to the rise of populist candidates like Donald Trump and U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vermont, and the implications of their popularity.

Being a populist means that a candidate claims to represent the common person, rather than the interests of the rich and powerful, Dr. Sell said.

He attributed this rise in populism to various people in the U.S. that feel that the current system of government isn't working for them.

Some people support Sanders because they feel they are being held back by the rich and powerful, while others support Trump because they feel that they are being held back by both the government and immigrants, Dr. Sell said.

This panel is free and open to the public.



## Weigh-in regarding methanol plant

The impacts of the proposed building of a methanol plant in Tacoma will be discussed at this Friday's Science Seminar.

Methanol is a major ingredient in making plastic, and this proposed facility would be the largest methanol plant in the world.

This seminar will contrast the environmental impacts and economic benefits the plant would be responsible for.

The talk will allow attendees to learn about the process of making methanol, and how to make their voices heard during the public comment period.

Attend this event on Feb. 12 at 1:30 p.m. in Building 3, room 102.

## Celebrate your achievement here

Student achievement and persistence will be rewarded at the Highline Achievement Social & Celebration.

Students who hit the 15, 30, and 45 credit milestones will receive invitations to this event.

Eligible students will receive a commemorative award based on their number of credits, and food will be provided.

The social will occur on Feb. 16 at noon – 1 p.m. in Building 8 in the Mt. Constance and Olympus Rooms.

## Hear written works presented

Students, staff, and faculty will have an opportunity to



Jessica Strand/THUNDERWORD

A crane transports materials for the renovation of Building 24A.

share their writings, or listen to others at an Open Mic at the Highline Writing Center.

This event is held the first Thursday of every month, in Building 26, room 319i at 1:30-2:30 p.m.

## Important dates

- The final STEPP payment is due on Feb 16.
- Registration for Spring

Quarter 2016 begins on Feb. 16.

- The last day to add a class with an instructor's signature is Mar. 4.

- The final day to withdraw from a class with a W on your transcript is Mar. 4.

- The final day of instruction in Winter Quarter is Mar. 21.

- Winter Quarter 2016 comes to an end on Mar. 25.

- Winter Quarter 2016 grades will become available on Mar. 30.

## UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON SCHOOL OF LAW ADVISORS ARE HERE!

Are you interested in learning more about law school?

Attend this session and find out how you can begin preparing today for the law school application process and the many career opportunities available to future lawyers!

No need to pre-register to attend!

Thursday, February 18th

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Highline Transfer Center, Building 6, 1st floor, Room 164



# Director aims to enhance diversity

**By Olivia Sullivan**  
Staff Reporter

Highline helped Doris Martinez flourish in her authentic self and she is back to help others understand the power of their story.

Now the director of Student Diversity and Inclusion/Multicultural Affairs, Martinez recently was promoted into her position within Multicultural Affairs at Highline. She said the program specifically created a new title for her position.

She graduated from Highline in 2007 with her associate's degree in speech. Martinez then went on to finish her bachelor's degree at Seattle University in Strategic Communications and Student Development Administration.

After her schooling, Martinez moved to Philadelphia to work and had no intentions of coming back to the college until Highline recruited her back.

On a typical day Martinez can be found in her office, surrounded by colorful artwork, talking to students, and listening to tropical Latin fusion music.

"Highline has always been home for me," said Martinez. "I feel like I'm paying it forward. I owe a lot to Highline."

According to the mission statement, the Multicultural Affairs program on campus focuses on providing opportunities for students of Highline and the community for equity and inclusion. Some of Martinez's goals for the program are for students to engage in intention-



Jessica Strand/THUNDERWORD

*Doris Martinez is now the director Student Diversity and Inclusion/Multicultural Affairs.*

al conversations about difficult subjects and to give students an opportunity to find themselves.

"I want to add on to the legacy of what Multicultural Affairs has established," Martinez said. "It has such a history of providing thought-provoking programs."

Behind her charismatic smile and warm manner, Martinez has had first-hand experience as she struggled to figure out her own identity within the racial community.

"Being a black woman of Latino descent was excruciatingly painful," she said.

She is a Honduran-American of Garifuna heritage and an African descendant. Growing up with such a mixed heritage was a challenge because people could not understand or accept who she was, Martinez said.

"This was a major reason for going into this work. It helped me understand the intersections of my identity," she said.

During her time at Highline, the diversity programs on campus helped Martinez understand who she is as a woman of color.

In 2006, a close friend of Martinez's recruited her to help start the Latino Association. Martinez said she initially rejected the offer, much like she rejected her own identity at the time. Martinez said her friend made clear she was the epitome of association; she was a perfect example of the fact that Latinos come in all shades and sizes.

"Through becoming involved, the Latino Association gave me the opportunity to look at my true self and not deny any parts of me," Martinez said.

These skills, Martinez said, are not learned from a textbook. The multicultural programs at Highline are directed toward all students, staff, faculty and community members.

"There is no cookie cutter definition for what diverse is," she said.

Martinez said she believes that people of society evolve every day. Constantly learning how to be inclusive and socially aware are lifelong skills needed to educate and empower each other, she said.

Through student clubs and

diversity conferences and summits, Multicultural Affairs at Highline aims to provide leadership opportunities for all by creating a learning and work environment that is equitable and inclusive. More than 60 clubs with a variety of interests are available on campus for students to join.

Highline also offers the Inter-Cultural Center for students on the second floor of the Student Union Building. Martinez encourages students to utilize the center because it is for the students and the doors are always open.

Earlier in the month, the Multicultural Affairs program put on the 21st annual Martin Luther King Week at Highline. More than 400 students attended the workshops and presentations, Martinez said. The event at Highline is the longest standing MLK celebration for community colleges in all of Washington state.

Multicultural Affairs has several events on the calendar. The Queer I Am Summit will be held at South Puget Sound Community College in Lacey on March 25-26. Highline will be taking 20 students to the summit and applications for this event are due by Feb. 19.

On April 21-23 is the Students of Color Conference, to which Highline will be taking 40 students. Applications are due by Feb. 27.

For both events, Highline will be covering each student's expenses for the trip. For further information, contact Highline Multicultural Affairs at [mca@highline.edu](mailto:mca@highline.edu).

## Summit seeks to encourage Latin@ youth

**By Stephen Baklund**  
Staff Reporter

Highline will reach out to the community with the second annual Latin@ Summit on Feb. 23 - 24 in the Student Union.

The summit is free for all, and includes lunch, a raffle and 13 guest speakers.

The event is primarily for Latino students in local area high schools.

"It is important to expose high school students to a college setting and for them to see Latino professionals in schools," Cesar Rangel, coordinator at the Latino Center for Higher Education said.

Last year students from Tacoma, Pierce and Olympic colleges all attended the event. The summit organizers are expect-

ing more than 400 visitors between the two days, Rangel said.

Toni Castro, vice president for Student Services at Highline, will give the opening presentation on Feb. 23, setting off the summit and its other speakers.

The summit is designed to give support for Latino students both entering college, and the students already on campus at Highline, Rangel said.

The Latin@ summit is open to all students, even those who don't identify as Latino.

"The summit is great for all students to come learn and analyze a different culture, and work with others," Rangel said. "Overall it's really about Highline College, who we are, and what we're about. We want to spread the word."

## Whip your grades into shape and ace your midterms by attending Phi Theta Kappa's boot camp

**By Mary Gasper**  
Staff Reporter

The Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society will host an academic boot camp for Highline students next week.

"PTK is an international honors society for two-year colleges. It offers scholarships opportunities, leadership training, service opportunities, and recognition to high-performing students at the junior college level," said Dr. Teri Balkenende, PTK adviser.

The boot camp is intended to give students tips and strategies that will help guide them through college.

There will be booths on specific subjects such as math, science and English, provid-

ing information on how to do well in these courses and create successful work habits.

The boot camp is from Feb. 17-18 at 10 a.m. to noon in Building 2, room 101.

"The event is designed as a series of mini-lectures delivered by our own PTK students on topics related to school success," Dr. Balkenende said, who teaches history at Highline.

"The intention of this event was to draw attention to all the reasons the students really should commit to completing their community college degree," Dr. Balkenende said.

Students will have a chance to win a \$50 gift card to the Highline Bookstore. Prizes will be awarded to two winners at the end of the boot camp.

PTK members have their membership designated on their diplomas and transcripts so that prospective universities know that the student was an honor student, Dr. Balkenende said.

"A PTK membership is open to anyone with a 3.5 GPA or better, the fee is \$65 and the money is paid directly to PTK international to fund their programs. None of it stays on campus," Dr. Balkenende said.

"Eligible students will receive an invitation at the beginning of the quarter with a special passcode that has been assigned just to them," Dr. Balkenende said.

Meetings are held every Friday from 11 a.m. to noon in Building 14, room 101.



# Congrats on top 150

Highline is a great school to attend, and it is finally being recognized.

The Aspen Institute College Excellence Program named Highline one of the top 150 community colleges in the nation.

As great as this award is for the school, it's important to give thanks to everyone that made it possible.

The faculty at Highline ensure that we are getting the best education available, and help us to achieve and succeed.

Meanwhile, the staff help keep the campus running smoothly and efficiently.

The administration also helps to guide the college and give it a clear direction.

Highline received this award due to student outcomes in three areas: student performance, student improvement, and student equity.

Not only is this award great for Highline's reputation, but it also puts the school in the running for the 2017 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence and \$1 million in prize funds.

The Aspen Prize recognizes institutions for exceptional student outcomes in student learning, certificate and degree completion, employment and earnings, and access and success for minority and low-income students.

Highline has also won numerous other awards for excellence, including the Higher Education Excellence in Diversity Award and Community College Week top 100 associate degree producers.

The truth is, Highline staff, faculty, and even the students work hard all year long to produce these outcomes, and without everyone's hard work and perseverance, Highline wouldn't be anything like the school it is today.

Way to go, Thunderbirds.

Keep up the good work, and let's continue to show the world how great Highline College really is.

# Don't go too far in raising minimum smoking age

Everybody already knows that smoking is bad for you, so why take big steps to prevent people from doing it?

House Bill 2313 proposes that Washington State raise the designated legal age for smoking tobacco from 18 to 21 in an effort to discourage youth access to nicotine.

The bill has a nice idea. According to the National Center for Biotechnology Information, the later someone tries nicotine in their life, the less likely they are to try it at all.

However, the bill also raises issues of liberty. If this bill passes, lots of young adults who live alone and choose to smoke regularly will be very angry when they can no longer feed their habit.

This bill also places restrictions on alternative forms of tobacco smoking including hookahs and e-cigarettes.

This is not fair because many people use these substitutions as a means of quitting, with nicotine-free shisha and e-liquid.

Although this bill may prevent youth from buying cigarettes, it also probably won't prevent them from trying them. Most youth don't try their first cigarette from buying their own pack, they try them by getting one from a friend or parent.

A better idea would be to change the designated smoking age to 19.

That way, it prevents kids in high school from purchasing and distributing cigarettes on high school campuses.

It also allows adults who don't live with their parents to make their own choices about their body.

Smoking cigarettes is a nasty and unhealthy habit, but that isn't a secret.

Of course we should protect our youth, but the adults in this country can accept the consequences of their actions.



"THE GREAT THING ABOUT DEMOCRACY IS IT GIVES YOU A CHOICE."

# Support public schools

While many proponents of charter schools say that they will improve the quality of education for students, this has not been the case.

According to a California study, charter schools, for the most part, perform equally, or slightly worse or better than public schools.

Charter public schools had no discernable impact on student outcomes, with an equal amount attending college compared to students attending conventional public schools according to another study.

By all accounts, charters provide no benefits to the students that attend them. Why do legislators continue to support charter schools when they have no measurable positive impacts on the state of education in Washington?

While charter schools provide an education no greater than conventional public schools, they drain money and resources from conventional public schools.

Since funding for public schools is based on students enrolled, competition for students will reduce the budgets of Washington's already cash-strapped public

## Guest Commentary



Bryce Sizemore

schools.

This means there will be less programs available to students, more fees, or a combination of both.

A study shows that between April 2014 and April 2015, \$200 million was lost in confirmed fraud, waste and abuse in charter schools in the United States.

In addition to siphoning money away from conventional public schools, it is likely that some money will be wasted due to charter schools mishandling public money.

My mother is a public school teacher, and she puts a huge amount of her personal time into making sure

her students get the best possible education.

She has told me that since she started teaching in the 1980s, this is by far the hardest time to be a teacher.

Entry-level pay for teachers is abysmal, and many of her newer peers are looking at getting out of teaching.

Teachers, and teachers unions are not the problem with our education system.

My mother, at the top of her pay scale, struggles to pay for her medical bills, pay off a house, and support me as I attend college.

She and the majority of her colleagues have master's degrees and are board certified.

All of her colleagues are dedicated to their craft, and they put in long, mostly uncompensated hours for the benefit of their students.

The last thing Washington needs is for charter schools to lower the bar for teachers compensation and qualifications.

Please tell your legislators to support substantive reform for education in Washington, not charter schools.

*Bryce Sizemore is the news editor for the Thunderword.*

# the Staff “ Don't say anything. No accents or anything. ” E-Mail: tword@highline.edu

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# Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

7					5			9
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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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- 1. MEASUREMENTS:** How many seconds are in a day?
- 2. MOVIES:** What comedy of 1980 carried the tagline, "They'll never get caught. They're on a mission from God"?
- 3. TELEVISION:** What are the names of Marge's twin sisters on *The Simpsons*?
- 4. LANGUAGE:** What is a cynophile?
- 5. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:** What are the small indentations on a golf ball called?
- 6. MEDICAL:** What is the more common term for "somniloquy"?
- 7. GAMES:** In chess, what are rooks also known as?
- 8. U.S. STATES:** What is the capital of New York state?

- 9. ANIMAL KINGDOM:** What adjective describes animals with hooves?
- 10. GEOGRAPHY:** What was the prior English name of the nation of Sri Lanka?

- Answers**
- 86,400
  - The Blues Brothers*
  - Selma and Patty
  - Dog lover
  - Dimples
  - Talking in your sleep
  - Castles
  - Albany
  - Ungulate
  - Ceylon

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Puzzle answers  
on Page 11

# 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 4 5 6 7 8 9 9

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# King Crossword

## ACROSS

- 1 Impresses greatly  
5 Reverb-erate  
9 — out a living  
12 Type of pit  
13 Got bigger  
14 Guacamole, often  
15 Roughly  
16 Exceptional  
17 Born  
18 Crystal gazer  
19 Swelled head  
20 Wash  
21 Wearer of a onesie  
23 UN workers' agcy.  
25 Necklace fasteners  
28 Have a huddle  
32 Hispaniola part  
33 Concur  
34 Cook-wear?  
36 Handle the expense  
37 Gun the engine  
38 Exploit  
39 Metropolis  
42 Early bird?  
44 Chantilly, e.g.

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11
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54				55					56			

- 48 Commotion  
49 Lotion additive  
50 Story teller  
51 Cattle call?  
52 Luminary  
53 Tote board stats  
54 Wapiti  
55 Favorites  
56 Toward the sunset
- 4 O. Henry specialty  
5 Herons' kin  
6 Rugged rock  
7 Brave  
8 Have bills  
9 Author Ferber  
10 Chicken —  
11 Duel tool  
20 "Hiawatha" writer  
22 Put your two cents in  
24 Ducks work  
25 Half a dance?  
26 Once around
- 27 Melody  
29 To and —  
30 Always, in verse  
31 Crimson  
35 Slender  
36 Boring tools  
39 Arrived  
40 "American —"  
41 Snatched  
43 Capricorn  
45 Staffer  
46 Two-timers  
47 Formerly, formerly  
49 Cleo's slayer

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**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) A gracious Lamb can learn more about a problem-filled situation than one who is openly suspicious of what could be happening. A friend might offer some well-directed advice.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) Getting adjusted to an unexpected change might be difficult for the Bovine who prefers things to go according to plan. But help could come from a most welcome source.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) This could be a good time to get a head start on those career-related plans. The sooner you check out the pluses and minuses, the sooner you can act on your information.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) A personal situation you thought would no longer present a problem suddenly could produce some surprises. Try to sort things out with the help of trusted colleagues.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) An upcoming move holds both anticipation and anxiety for Leos and Leonas who



have some big decisions to make. Advice is plentiful, but it's up to you to decide which way you want to go.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) Someone from a previous project could provide valuable guidance on how to handle a current problem, especially where it might involve a legal matter.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) A business situation presents some unexpected complications. But rather than try to handle them all at once, it would be best to deal with them one at a time.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) You just might get what you want, despite the odds against it. In any event, be sure to thank all those people involved who believed in you and went to bat for you.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) Before you even hint at an accu-

sation, remember that you'll have to prove what you say. So be sure you have what you need to back up your comments.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) A romantic situation takes an unexpected turn that favors some Sea Goats, but causes others to reassess how they've been handling the relationship.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) A surprise turn of events could unsettle the Water Bearer. But it also might help open up an entirely different way of working out an important matter.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) A smoothly running operation could bump up against an obstacle. This is where your ability to assess situations and make adjustments can restore things to normal.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** Your kindness is legendary, and so is your strong sense of responsibility.

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# IN SEARCH OF THAT SPECIAL SOMEONE

By Thunderword Staff

Highline students' hopes are high for Mister or Missus Right this Valentine's Day.

Physical beauty is a valuable trait among potential mates.

"I like women who are athletic and in-shape. They have to know how to dance," said Devyn O'Malley.

He has to be "taller than me and masculine," said Kaitlen Taoipu.

Some people had more vague notions about what their ideal partner should look like.

She has to be "really, really hot," said Sterling, who declined to give his last name.

"I like a girl with a nice body," said Emi Atanoa.

Some students have oddly specific tastes.

"I like red hair, beanies, scarves, nose piercings, they have to really like Pokémon... oh and green eyes too," Rico Most said.

I would like "the build and skin color of Beyonce, personality and skin color of Scarlet Johanson and she's a redhead," said Luke, who also declined to give his last name.

Some men broke into more vulgar territory.

"I want a girl that can't find jeans that fit," said Riley, who declined to give his last name. "She needs a fat ass."

Not everyone needs a beautiful partner, however.

"Body figure is half the importance," Andriy Eorsuk said. Charisma and personality goes a long way with the ladies. A man should be "funny and outgoing," said Rosa Samoa.

"I like men who are nice to me and treat my family with respect. They also have to be close with their family. Family is the most important thing to me," said Danielle Aguerta.

Some students said that they need support more than anything else in a lover.

"That's your rock, that's your foundation. I want to see motivation for the future," said Daniel Payne.

"I have a boyfriend, so he's kind of like my dream guy. He's tall and comes to see me at work every day," said Amanda Hollands.

Morality and respect are of the upmost importance to Kaitlen Taoipu, who takes a more old-fashioned stance on love.

"He has to respect my moral values of sex after marriage," Taoipu said.

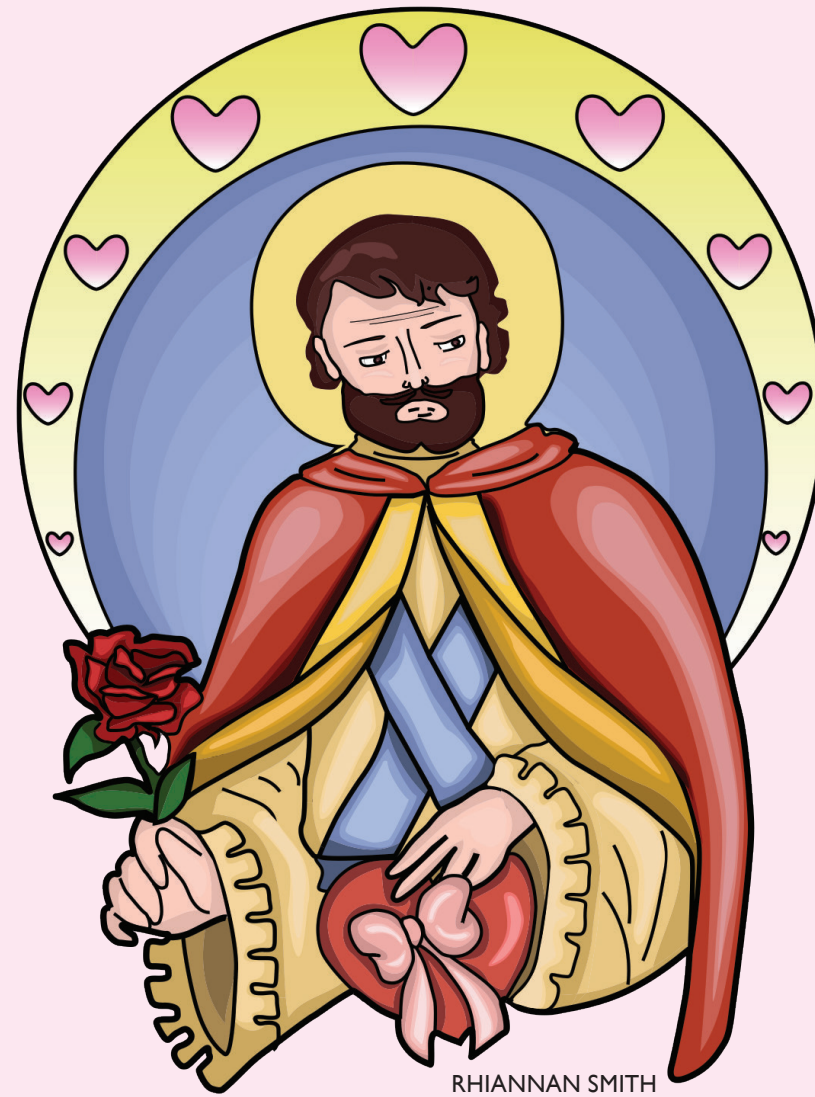
Some students are wary about women taking advantage of their partner.

She can't "take advantage of the fact that she's a woman," Emi Atanoa said.

But it's important to some male students that a woman not be meek or passive.

A woman should be "strong and independent," said Samoa.

Reporters Kayla Dickson, Sam McCullough and Michael Muench contributed to this story.



RHIANNAN SMITH

## Valentine's Day wasn't always hearts and flowers

By Sam McCullough  
Staff Reporter

February is a month filled with pastel colors, hearts and giant bouquets of roses, due to Valentine's Day on Feb. 14.

But Valentine's Day wasn't always a Hallmark holiday. The holiday, also known as St. Valentine's Day or the Feast of St. Valentine, began as a day for public worship of the Christian saint named Valentinus.

There are many stories about the saint, but almost all of them have to do with love. The most popular story is about the saint being persecuted for conducting weddings for soldiers and preaching about God, which was illegal under the Roman Empire. During his imprisonment, Valentinus fell in love with the jailer's daughter. Before his execution, he gave her a letter signed "my valentine."

St. Valentine's Day was celebrated as a grand feast in the Anglican Communion. Depending on the congregation, the feast was celebrated on July 6 or July 30.

"Valentine's Day wasn't celebrated in a way like it is nowadays until around 18th century England," said Dr. Amelia Corvovous, a librarian working for King County Library Services.

Dr. Corvovous said that during this time era, love and relationships flourished.

"People wanted love, not just a marriage. So, people started celebrating Valentine's Day by giving their lovers flowers, sweets and greeting cards," she said.

### HISTORY

Valentine's Day started to become so popular that in 1797, a British publisher issued The Young Man's Valentine Writer. The book contained poetic verses that lovers could use in greeting cards.

In the early 19th century, Valentine's cards were so popular that it became an industry.

"By 1835, thousands of Valentine's Day cards were being sent. It's quite amazing, actually, considering how expensive postage was," Dr. Corvovous said.

The traditions of giving your lover flowers, sweets and cards continued into the 20th century. And then, in the 1980s, the diamond industry started to promote the holiday as an occasion for giving jewelry.

Currently, the holiday basically follows the same traditions of the last couple centuries.

"The important thing to know about Valentine's Day is that it's just a day for lovers to show their love to one another," Dr. Corvovous said.

## Your couch may be the cheap seats for romantic movie date

By Sam McCullough  
Staff Reporter

Cuddling up on a couch with your significant other and watching a movie is a great way to have a date on the cheap. But many couples may not know what to watch.

Really, how many times can you watch *Titanic*?

For Valentine's Day, there is a romantic movie for every mood.

Adapted from a Nicholas Sparks novel, *The Notebook* is about Allie Hamilton and Noah Calhoun, two teenagers from different worlds. Their love story spans over years.

This movie is the stereotypical movie everyone watches when they want to watch a love story, and then cry inconsolably at the end.

Trust me, you will cry. If you don't, I'm not sure you're human.

If you want to watch a love movie without crying, *Lost in Translation* is a good choice.

Starring a young Scarlett Johansson and Bill Murray, the film follows two people in Japan, just wanting to find a connection. Directed by Sofia Coppola, the daughter of famous director Francis Ford Coppola, the film is leaves the viewer in good spirits.

Another good movie is *50 First Dates*, one of many romantic comedies starring Drew Barrymore and Adam Sandler.

The movie is about Henry, who falls for a girl with short-term memory loss, so she basically relives the same day over and over again.

If you want a movie that's straight up comedy, *The Princess Bride* is your best bet.

The cult classic film is about a story that a Grandpa is telling his sick grandson. The story follows Buttercup and Westly. They fall in love, so Westly leaves to go seek his fortune so that they can marry.

He learns that he should have never left because all sorts of drama and chaos happens after he leaves.



NEW LINE CINEMA

Allie and Noah are the central characters of the tearjerker *The Notebook*.

### CINEMA

This movie is filled with totally quotable jokes. Just be careful saying "as you wish" around your date after watching this film.

If you want to watch a romantic film without a successful romance, then you should rent *500 Days of Summer*.

The plot is simple – boy meets girl, boy loves girl and girl doesn't love boy.

The film is cute and quirky, just like Joseph Gordon-Levitt, who stars.

Another Gordon-Levitt film that is perfect to watch on Valentine's Day is *10 Things I Hate About You*.

The film, which is based in Seattle, follows two sisters, Kat and Bianca. Kat is the scary outcast, while Bianca is the girl everyone wants to date.

Their dad had a rule that Bianca can only date when Kat does. So, a group of boys try to find the perfect match for Kat, so that they can then date Bianca.

Full of awesome music and a ragtag cast of actors, including Julia Stiles and Heath Ledger, the film brings

back good memories of being a wacky teenager in love.

Also, the film was shot at Tacoma's Stadium High School.

If you don't want to watch a romantic comedy for Valentine's Day, here are some alternative movies for you.

If you're a horror fan, the 1981 cult classic *My Bloody Valentine* is perfect for you. The film explores an urban legend about a deranged killer who murders people who celebrate Valentine's Day. Unfortunately for a group of young adults, the legend turns out to be true and people start dying.

*My Bloody Valentine* is directed by genre icon George Mihalka, and written by Stephen Miller.

*My Bloody Valentine* was remade in 2009, but don't waste your time with that version. Besides being gory, the remake doesn't have the dread that the original conveys.

If you're a fan of criminals in love, *Natural-Born Killers* is more up your alley.

Starring Woody Harrelson and Juliette Lewis, the film follows Mickey and Mallory Knox, two murderers going on a killing spree across the country.

The film also explores the public fascination with criminals and violence.

If you want to watch an action movie with a story that rivals Romeo and Juliet, then *The Crow* is a perfect match for you.

The film is famous for not only being a great film, but also because Brandon Lee gave his life for the movie. During a scene involving a shooting, the film crew used real bullets, thinking that taking the gunpowder out would work.

It didn't. He died from his injuries.

The film is about a rock star who comes back to life to seek revenge on those who killed him and his fiancée.

*The Crow* is based on a graphic novel.

These are just suggestions. There are many movies, old and new, that you can enjoy with your lover. And if all else fails, I think *Titanic* is on Netflix.

## Valentine's lovers can enjoy special treats

By Jessica Strand  
Staff Reporter

Sweet! Make chocolate for your honey for Valentine's Day.

A free chocolate-making class is available this Saturday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Woodmont branch of the King County Library.

The class is for ages 10 and older and will be in the large meeting room at the library.

"It's being put on by Laurie Pfalzer, from Pastry Craft," said Library Operations Supervisor Jackie George.

Pfalzer is the owner of Pastry Craft, and does public classes around the Seattle area, as well as private classes.

Pfalzer will teach how to make dark chocolate, peppermint bark, white chocolate popcorn, and chocolate drizzled caramel corn, said George.

"Make sure to register because space is limited," she said.

To register visit: <http://evanced.kcls.org/evanced/lib/eventsignup.asp?ID=361950>.

The Woodmont Library is at 26809 Pacific Highway S in Des Moines.

### HOLIDAY EVENTS

Enjoy haikus and bonsai at Federal Way museum

Write haikus and enjoy nature this Valentine's Day at the Pacific Bonsai Museum.

The museum will celebrate Valentine's Day with a haiku-writing station, and a Valentine's Day challenge for the love birds.

"If someone gets engaged at the museum, we'll give them a discount for a future events rental," said Museum Manager Liz Sullivan.

Admission is free, and the museum's hours of operation are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The museum's location is: 2515 S. 336th St. in Federal Way.

Chocolate buffet tempts you to learn about Redondo

For chocolate lovers and history buffs, the Historical Society of Federal Way is hosting a chocolate buffet and teaching *The History of Redondo* by Rick Johnson this Saturday from 2-4 p.m.

The price is \$25 per person, and seating can be reserved by calling 253-945-7842 or emailing [contactus@federalwayhistory.org](mailto:contactus@federalwayhistory.org)

The event will be at the Hampton Inn, 31720 Gateway Blvd. S. in Federal Way.

Salty's will tranform for lovers... of seafood

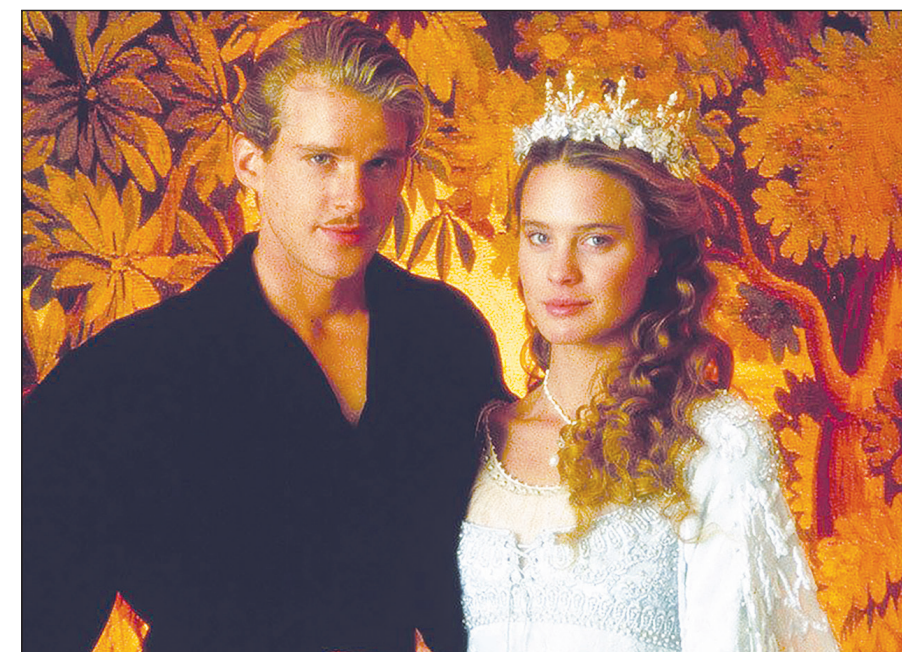
Salty's is serving Valentine's Day brunch on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"For the Valentine's Day [Sunday] brunch it will be a lot bigger... the entire restaurant will be transformed. We're going to have red lighting and balloons everywhere. We get really festive," said Salty's Manager Jasmine Thirathouth.

Salty's will also serve a special Valentine's Day dinner on Sunday from 4:30-8:30 p.m.

"For Sunday dinner we have a special menu... The special menu is things the chef came up with that are his twist on Valentine's Day," Thirathouth said.

Salty's is at 28201 Redondo Beach Drive S. in Des Moines.



ACT III COMMUNICATIONS

Westley and Buttercup are the central characters of *The Princess Bride*.



Have a fantastic date at a play

**By Olivia Sullivan**  
Staff Reporter

Get caught up in the tangled love story, *The Fantasticks*, by Act 1 Theatre this Valentine's Day weekend.

Act 1 Theatre is a performance company in Sumner. Artistic Director Petra Karr and her husband, Christopher, started Act 1 in 2008 and have been a full time non-profit for the past six years. The company focuses on live performance shows, such as musicals, bi-lingual, children's, classic dramas, and comedy productions.

"We want to provide an inclusive, safe environment for youth and adults to stretch their talent and learn new skills while creating a community of people who love creating theatre and performing for the community," Karr said.

*The Fantasticks*, a musical by Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt, is about two families who pretend to feud in hopes of getting their children together. Once the son and daughter fall in love, the couple discovers the secret behind their arranged relationship.

The story is originally calls for the father's perspective, but Karr decided to switch this up and cast the mothers instead, which slightly changes the dynamic of the show.

The Sumner-based company decided to collaborate with Wesley Homes in Des Moines for a special Valentine's weekend event on Feb. 12 -14.

Wesley Homes is a retirement organization that provides services to older adults, located in Des Moines.

*The Fantasticks* will run throughout the weekend at Wesley Homes, located at 815 S. 216th St. in Des Moines.

On Friday, Feb. 12 the show is at 7 p.m. The following night, Act 1 will hold their Valentine's eve special at 7 p.m. Each ticket for Saturday, Feb. 13 will include a decadent chocolate treat, a long-stemmed rose, and a gift for everyone in the audience. The final show will be held on Sunday, Feb. 14 at 2 p.m.

Tickets for the show are \$10 for the Friday and Sunday shows and \$15 for the Saturday night special. Tickets are available online at [act1theatreproductions.com](http://act1theatreproductions.com).

## Local band channels Bowie

**By Z'anyie Day**  
Staff Reporter

A local band in Seattle released its EP digital album on Feb. 1, featuring the single *Box of Tears*.

The glam rock band Jiu Jitsu includes nineteen-year-old singer and songwriter Nik Moeller, a former Highline student, and his band members Gianni Aiello who plays guitar and bass, Grant Maltsberger who also sings, and Zeke Bender who plays drums.

However the group is looking for a new guitar and bass player to replace Aiello, as he is going on tour with his other band, Naked Giants.

This local band has a unique performing style. They started to perform live last year in November. The group performs theatrically while dressed up in different costumes. One of their most recent performances was on New Year's Eve at the Werewolf Vacation, which is a hotspot for all local bands.

About a year ago, Moeller's



Jiu Jitsu

*Jiu Jitsu performs on New Year's Eve at Werewolf Vacation.*

old band had issues within the group, so they decided to split up. That was when he started writing music in his free time on his laptop, which lead to him forming Jiu Jitsu.

He has always been interest-

ed in music and was in a band all throughout high school.

A word of advice from Moeller for people interested in the music business is just to be nice.

"Make what you want to make but most of all be authen-

tic," he said.

For booking and inquiries, contact their Facebook page at Jiu Jitsu or email Moeller directly at [nikm@gmail.com](mailto:nikm@gmail.com). Their music is available at [Jiu-Jitsu.bandcamp.com](http://Jiu-Jitsu.bandcamp.com).

## Brothers butt heads in Icelandic film 'Rams'

**By Sam McCullough**  
Staff Reporter

In a place where sheep outnumber people, communication becomes the only way to survive in Grimur Hakonarson's *Rams*.

Hakonarson also wrote the screenplay.

*Rams* focuses on two brothers, Gummi and Kiddi, who due to an argument haven't spoken to each other in 40 years.

Their family owns prize-winning sheep that are considered some of the country's finest. After a lethal disease infects Kiddi's sheep, the government decides to kill all of the sheep to contain the outbreak. Killing the sheep would kill the family's business, so the brothers band together to save their livelihood.

The film is in Icelandic, with English subtitles.

Siguror Sigirjonsson gives a subtle, but powerful, performance as Gummi.

Sigirjonsson's performance gives the audience the feeling that Gummi is the hero of the film. Although Gummi is not as loud as his brother, the audience gets the feeling that Gummi is in charge, no matter what.

Theodor Juliusson gives



Aeroplan Films

*Rams is a film about two brothers trying to save their family's sheep.*

an equally compelling performance as Kiddi. While Gummi gives the audience a feeling of calmness, Kiddi gives the audience a feeling of chaos. In Kiddi's mind, anything can be solved with a riffle. The two brothers side-by-side complement each other with their opposite personalities.

The film portrays the message that banding together as a team is better than facing your problems on your own. Kiddi's anger-filled outbursts and Gummi's quiet logic come

together to create the solution they need for their problems.

By the end of the film, the viewer is left with the feeling that working together can conquer all.

*Rams* showcases beautiful landscapes of Iceland, which creates an eerie feeling of being in another world. Watching the film makes the viewer feel like she's travelling, while she never leaves her couch.

*Rams* premieres at Landmark Theatres on Feb. 19. You can buy tickets online at [landmarktheatres.com](http://landmarktheatres.com).

Piano club to take you through the eras

Time travel through different musical eras at a piano concert this Friday on campus.

Ivory Keys, Highline's Piano Colloquy Club, has a concert on Feb. 12 at 6:30 p.m.

The concert is in Building 7.

Ivory Keys is an audition-based club, where a certain skill level is expected.

The club offers members serious discussions and advanced practices. The club meets weekly in Building 7 on Fridays at 10 a.m.

For more information on the club, email Jacqueline Kemp, the club's president, at [jacquelinek70@students.highline.edu](mailto:jacquelinek70@students.highline.edu).

The concert will include music from all different eras.

A reception follow will the performance.



# Lady T-Birds drop two in a row

By Samuel Biehn  
Staff Reporter

The Lady T-Birds basketball team watched momentum get away from them after following their three-game winning streak with back-to-back losses.

The Thunderbirds lost 57-39 to Grays Harbor at the Pavilion on Feb. 4, and then fell to Centralia 70-54 on Feb. 6.

The Lady T-Birds started to get back on track coming into the Grays Harbor game. Now with five games remaining in the season, hope of a surprise appearance in the tournament seems to be dwindling away.

For as long as anyone remembers, Highline had not lost to Grays Harbor before this season. Now, the team has lost to the Chokers twice in one season.

Once again, Highline wasn't able to close a game. The T-Birds were blown out in the fourth quarter by Grays Harbor, 24-8.

The struggling Lady T-Birds also shot 33 percent from the field on the night.

The Thunderbirds only had one player who scored in double figures on the night, guard Chantal Hill. Hill finished with 11 points, one rebound, one steal and two assists.

On top of the scoring issues, Highline gave away the ball too often. For the game, the Lady T-Birds had 19 turnovers.

Similar to Highline, Grays Harbor didn't shoot well. The Chokers finished 39 percent from the field. In contrast, the Chokers did have three players who scored in double figures.

Grays Harbor's scoring was



Jack Harton Photo

Highline sophomore guard Jasmyne Holmes spots up for a three-point shot in the game against Grays Harbor.

led by guard Kennedy Wharton, who finished with 16 points, six rebounds, two steals and two assists.

On top of the loss, Highline forward Chardonae Miller is still out with a bruised bone in her knee.

"We didn't have enough energy to win," Miller said.

Following the disappointing loss, the team tried to regroup and maintain their focus as they pressed on to their next game against Centralia.

Unfortunately, this wasn't able to come to fruition for the Lady T-Birds as they dropped their second straight game.

The Lady Blazers took control of the game from the early get go, jumping out to a 43-28

lead at halftime.

The Thunderbirds had many self-inflicted wounds in the game, as they finished with 28 turnovers for the night.

The energy wasn't there for Highline where they usually have their strengths. The Thunderbirds were outrebounded in the game 33-31.

Another big issue came with defense, as the Thunderbirds allowed four scorers in double figures.

Surprisingly, the Lady Blazers scoring came in bunches despite the team only shooting 39 percent from the field.

Centralia guard Susan Kenney led the way for the Blazers, with 25 points, three rebounds, five steals, and four assists for

the game.

Highline also gave up substantial points at the free throw line. Thei 24 personal fouls on the night set up 24 Centralia points.

Even after the loss, Miller still found positives for the Thunderbirds.

"We played with a lot more intensity tonight against Centralia," Miller said Highline may have just run out of energy.

Guard Jasmyne Holmes in particular played 34 minutes for the game, while four other players played for over 20 minutes.

Highline now finds itself at 7-16 on the season. Additionally the Thunderbirds are two spots behind Tacoma and Grays Har-

bor for tournament contention in the NWAC West at 3-6.

Even so, the Lady T-Birds will try to keep their heads held high in the last five games.

"[We have to] continue working hard in practice and play our hardest the whole time throughout the whole game," Miller said. "We need to push each other so we can reach our full potential as a whole."

Highline played South Puget Sound on Feb. 10 with results unavailable at press time.

Highline will try to get back in the win column with a 6 p.m. tipoff at Lower Columbia on Feb. 17. The Lady T-Birds follow this game with a noon tipoff at Green River on Feb. 20.

# Highline set to host Regional Tournament

By Roopkanwal Nagra  
Staff Reporter

The Thunderbird wrestling team will host the NJCAA Wrestling West District Championships tournament this Saturday, Feb. 13 in the Pavilion.

The Regional tournament will determine which wrestlers move on to the Nationals tournament.

Highline wrestlers Elias Mason, 197 pounds, and Josh Smith, 157 pounds, are among the top 10 ranked wrestlers who

are competing this weekend.

Mason has won several matches leading up to the tournament and placed second at the Clackamas Open. Smith is also going into the tournament with a big 15-5 win last weekend against SWOCC.

The wrestlers have been getting ready for the tournament by taking care of injuries and preparing their bodies with plans to perform at their peak, athletes said.

"Nothing has changed, it's the same regimen," said High-

line Assistant Coach Brad Luvaas. "We wrestle, run, eat right, and sleep well."

The five teams taking part along with the T-Birds are Northwest, Western Wyoming, North Idaho, Southwestern Oregon and Clackamas.

Some of the best wrestlers in the nation will be participating in this weekend's tournament. Nationally, Dajor Reece, 165 pounds, of North Idaho and Brandon Johnson, 285 pounds, of Clackamas are both ranked first in their individual weight

classes.

The Clackamas Cougars have three nationally ranked wrestlers, which is the most of all the teams at regionals. North Idaho College, Western Wyoming Community College and Highline all have two wrestlers ranked nationally.

"We have a very tough regional tournament," said Clackamas Head Wrestling Coach Josh Rhoden.

Coach Rhoden said the wrestlers are getting extra treatment for their injuries and are men-

tally preparing themselves for this weekend's battle to nationals.

The Regional tournament starts at 10 a.m. on Feb. 13 and will go on for the rest of the day on Saturday. The top 20 wrestlers from each weight class, as well as two wild card wrestlers will move on to Nationals. Coaches vote for which wrestlers will be the wild cards.

The NJCAA Nationals will be held in Council Bluffs, Iowa on Feb. 26-27.



3835  
3745  
214

Scoreboard

MEN'S BASKETBALL		
Team	League W-L	Season W-L
West Division		
Lower Columbia	8-0	16-6
Highline	7-2	16-8
S. Puget Sound	6-2	17-5
Tacoma	5-3	12-9
Pierce	3-5	8-14
Green River	2-6	7-13
Centralia	2-6	2-17
Grays Harbor	0-9	2-17
South Division		
Clark	10-1	19-4
Clackamas	8-3	16-8
Lane	6-4	18-5
Umpqua	6-5	13-10
Portland	5-6	12-8
SW Oregon	5-6	11-13
Chemeketa	4-6	13-10
Linn-Benton	3-8	7-15
Mt. Hood	1-9	4-17
North Division		
Edmonds	6-2	17-4
Peninsula	6-2	13-9
Whatcom	4-4	17-7
Everett	4-4	13-10
Skagit Valley	4-4	11-10
Olympic	4-4	6-13
Bellevue	2-6	11-12
Shoreline	2-6	7-12
East Division		
Big Bend	8-0	18-6
Spokane	7-1	21-3
Yakima Valley	5-3	11-11
Columbia Basin	4-4	10-11
Walla Walla	4-4	10-13
Wenatchee Valley	2-6	5-16
Blue Mountain	1-7	10-13
Treasure Valley	1-7	3-16
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL		
Team	League W-L	Season W-L
West Division		
Lower Columbia	8-0	16-8
Centralia	7-1	16-7
S. Puget Sound	5-3	14-8
Grays Harbor	5-4	11-10
Tacoma	3-5	5-13
Highline	3-6	7-16
Green River	1-7	6-15
Pierce	1-7	3-17
South Division		
Lane	10-0	23-0
Umpqua	8-3	20-5
Clackamas	7-4	16-8
Clark	7-4	15-8
Chemeketa	6-4	10-13
Linn-Benton	3-8	9-14
Portland	3-8	4-17
Mt. Hood	2-8	7-14
SW Oregon	2-9	10-14
North Division		
Bellevue	7-1	17-4
Peninsula	7-1	16-5
Skagit Valley	7-1	17-7
Everett	4-4	11-11
Olympic	2-6	7-13
Shoreline	2-6	4-13
Whatcom	2-6	2-17
Edmonds	1-7	2-18
East Division		
Wenatchee Valley	7-1	19-4
Spokane	6-2	17-6
Treasure Valley	5-3	14-8
Columbia Basin	5-3	16-5
Walla Walla	4-4	13-10
Blue Mountain	3-5	9-13
Big Bend	2-6	8-16
Yakima Valley	0-8	3-19

# T-Birds snag wins over division rivals

By Charles Prater  
Staff Reporter

The men's basketball team has returned to normal, with solid wins over their last two opponents.

Highline, 7-2 (16-8 overall), is riding a three-game winning streak, thanks to wins over Grays Harbor and Centralia.

Last Wednesday's game against Grays Harbor, 0-9 (2-17 overall), saw little to no resistance from the Chokers as the T-Birds grabbed ahold of the lead and never let go, winning 79-58.

From the get-go, the T-Birds were in control of the game, holding the Chokers to 29 percent from the field in the first half, and shooting 41 percent for themselves.

The only negative for Highline going into halftime was the 20 percent from three-point range, which contributed to just a 10-point lead over Grays Harbor.

Coming out of halftime, it seemed as if the T-Birds had shaken off the woes from beyond the arc, as they were hot.

In addition to playing good defense, the Thunderbirds went seven out of 13 from the three-point line to extend the lead and outscore the Chokers 44-33 in the second half.

Highline's Jamie Orme was the leading scorer for the team with 15 points and 16 rebounds, followed closely by teammate Coby Myles with 14.

Sophomore guard Jalen McGruder had a solid game with 10 points, five rebounds and three steals.

Malik Redmond was the only player to score in double figures for Grays Harbor, with a game-high 24 points.

The next game saw a little bit of adversity for the T-Birds as they struggled in the beginning of the game to contain Centralia, 2-6 (2-17 overall), and make shots.

"We were terrible offensively in the first half and flat defensively," said Highline Head Coach Che Dawson. "We lacked energy and focus."

The Thunderbirds struggled, not just to make threes, but make mid-range shots in the first half, going 28 percent from the field.

The Trailblazers weren't a whole lot better, with 39 percent, but made enough buckets to go up by eight by the end of the half.

Highline was also out-rebounded by Centralia in the first half 30-13, which led to some second-chance points for the Trailblazers.

With a chance to regroup and gather their thoughts, the T-Birds came out of halftime on a mission.

Down by eight and with 20 minutes left in the game, High-



Jack Harton Photo  
Highline's Sundiata Edwards goes up for a contested layup against two Grays Harbor defenders.

line got to work.

It took a while for the T-Birds to chip the lead away, as the Trailblazers extended the lead to 11 with just 18 minutes left in the game.

"The guys stayed positive through the adversity and things started to go our way a bit more," said Coach Dawson.

The Thunderbirds changed their mindset from shooting threes to attacking the basket.

Attacking the basket allowed the T-Birds to get some easy layups and draw fouls against Centralia.

Highline went to the free-throw line 22 times in the second half, has opposed to just four times in the first half.

With the Trailblazers trying to stop the T-Birds from getting in the paint, it allowed Highline to kick the ball out and knock-down some deep balls, going four out of nine.

With seven minutes left in the game, Highline took the lead off of Ormes' three-point shot.

After the Orme three, the Thunderbirds never looked back as they led the rest of the way to win, 72-62.

Orme led the way for the T-Birds with 23 points, along with Myles' 13 points and Nick Edens 10 points off the bench.

The next game for Highline was Wednesday at home against South Puget Sound at 8 p.m.

Unfortunately, the results for that game were unavailable at press time, but was sure set up to be a good one.

The Clippers, 6-2 (17-5 overall), rank third behind the T-Birds in the West Division and would jump to second with a win over Highline.

The last time these teams faced, the T-Birds took it to the Clippers, destroying them on the road, 81-58.

"We were pretty good defen-

sively in that game," said Coach Dawson. "We have to be very disciplined on that end of the court and continue to make that our identity."

Highline will need to as South Puget Sound comes in with fourth-ranked NWAC scorer Dez Stoudamire with 23 points a game.

After South Puget Sound, the Thunderbirds will go on the road for a showdown against Lower Columbia, 8-0 (16-6 overall).

The Devils are currently riding the league's longest win streak of the season with ten in a row and beat Highline last time in the Pavillion, 75-60.

Lower Columbia is in first place in the west and, unfortunately, even with a loss, will still maintain that spot until a second loss for the team.

The game against the Red Devils is next Wednesday, Feb. 17 on the road at 8 p.m.



King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 24 mins.

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

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Go Figure!

answers

4	÷	1	+	7	11
+		×		+	
6	+	5	+	9	20
×		+		÷	
2	×	9	-	8	10
20		14		2	

# Fine particles aren't so fine

By Z'anyie Day  
Staff Reporter

Fine particulate matter poses the biggest threat to clean air in the Puget Sound region, a panel of specialists told last week's Science Seminar.

Air specialists and meteorologists Sara Conley and Phil Swartzendruber came to Highline to discuss the past, present and future of air quality from a local perspective.

Three levels of government oversee air quality. The first level is national, which is overseen by the Environmental Protection Agency. The second level is state level, which the Washington Department of Ecology handles. The third level is the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency, which operates at the county level.

The main topic discussed was pollutant concerns. The top three concerns include the depletion of the ozone layer due



Jessica Strand/THUNDERWORD

Sara Conley and Phil Swartzendruber talk about air quality in local areas.

to carbon dioxide, fine particles expelled by wood stoves, and air toxins.

However, the biggest threats for local residents are fine particles. Fine particles are so tiny that they can penetrate deep into tissues and lungs, and can even enter the bloodstream.

This can cause an increase in the percentage of asthma and respiratory attacks on the body.

These particles can be made by local industries that produce smoke.

Burning particle levels increase significantly during winter, due to many people using

wood stoves to stay warm.

"It is now illegal to use some burn stoves, and a failure to comply with standards can result in up to a \$1,000 fine," said Conley.

Tacoma was over the limit on fine particle standards, but was finally able to comply with standards as of April 15, 2015. Sources of fine particle air pollution include 53 percent wood smoke, 20 percent exhaust vehicle, 10 percent industrial factories, 4 percent ships, 5 percent diesel vans, and 8 percent others.

Some strategies to help reduce these effects are to remove uncertified wood stoves, improve efficacy of burn bans and to continue to promote compliance with clean air through incentives.

Residents can contact Puget Sound Clean Air Company with any questions or concerns by calling Conley at 206-689-4035.

# Hotel to bring business and jobs to Des Moines

By Stephen Baklund  
Staff Reporter

Due to open today, the new Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Des Moines stands out on the side of Pacific Highway South, and still has more than 15 job openings to fill.

Only a mile away from campus, the new eight-story hotel operated by Sheraton looms above the east side of Pacific Highway.

After walking through glass doors, the first view of the hotel with its grand two-story entrance, and high ceilings will let you know that designers of this hotel thought of everything, down to the last detail.

The hotel boasts more 6,000 square feet of conference and event space, also offering special services for both corporate and private events; including audio-visual equipment, wedding / event planner, both indoor and outdoor event space, and on-site catering.

A parking garage is attached to the rear of the hotel, allowing plenty of parking for guests.

The hotel has 225 rooms available for reservation, a rooftop pool, and even its own restaurant, the Olympus Grille.

Job applications are available at [hospitalityonline.com](http://hospitalityonline.com) for 15 hourly wage jobs including bartender, housekeeper, bell staff, line cook and more. There are also two management positions that have yet to be filled, according to the website.

Former Des Moines Mayor Bob Scheckler said that "In 2009 I took a trip to China to establish sister city relations and develop an exchange student program for Highline."

It is there where he met with investors from the Artemis Hotel Group (now owners of the hotel) and the idea for the hotel was born.

"Mr. Yang, chairman of the board of the Artemis Hotel Group, planned on building the hotel in Tacoma," said Scheckler.

He then worked with Yang and the Artemis group, persuading them to build the hotel in Des Moines.

Finally opening five years after breaking ground in 2011, the hotel faced major delays due to project investors participating in the U.S. EB-5 program.

According to U.S. Citizen-

ship and immigration services, "Congress created the EB-5 Program in 1990 to stimulate the U.S. economy through job creation and capital investment by foreign investors."

The program allows for entrepreneurs (and their spouses and unmarried children younger than 21) to apply for a green card (permanent residence) if they create jobs and invest in the U.S. economy.

Specific rules of the program state that for individuals to qualify for the EB-5 they must invest at least \$1 million on a new commercial enterprise in the United

States (or \$500,000 in rural areas). Along with investment, there must be a preservation or creation of at least 10 new jobs.

The project, originally delayed pending approval for the EB-5, finally got underway in 2013, and after three years of construction, the hotel had its official ribbon-cutting ceremony last Saturday, in preparation for its grand opening today.

"The hotel is magnificent. It went beyond my expectations," said Scheckler, who was heavily involved in all aspects of the planning for the hotel.

"Four Points is the name for

successful hotels in Asia and China," Scheckler said.

The hope is that people visiting the area from Asia will recognize the name of the hotel and choose the hotel Scheckler said.

The hotel will be capable of hosting business and large events with its versatile conference spaces, but its amenities also serve perfect for anyone looking to spend the night, even offering a free airport shuttle.

The hotel will be open for reservations beginning today.

More information are available on the hotels website: [fourpointsseattleairportsouth.com](http://fourpointsseattleairportsouth.com).

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Jessica Strand/THUNDERWORD

Unified Sports allows students of all abilities to enjoy activity.

## Inclusion

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women’s basketball team. Also volunteering were various members of Highline coaching staff, Sports Outreach, Achieve and Access Service staff members. The volunteers refereed the games, kept score and assisted in many other ways.

“I have been doing Unified Sports for three years. I love playing basketball because it is a team sport,” said Austin Landon, an athlete on Highline’s Unified basketball team.

Landon graduated from the Achieve program last year and has returned to Highline as an athlete and an employee.

Landon said that Unified Sports are not just for people with disabilities.

“There are a lot of people who can’t play sports whether it is because of a disability or not,” he said.

“If you feel that you are not good enough, the team will help you. As long as you try your hardest, you will have a good experience.”

Highline lost its first game but that did not eliminate them from the competition. Landon was excited for another chance to play.

“As long as we get that W at the end of the day, I’m good,” he said.

Another Highline Unified athlete, Chloe Knowles, said that Unified Sports was a good way to get to know people.

“This is my freshmen year at Highline,” said Knowles.

“Unified Sports is a good way to get involved. It’s really fun because you get to meet new people and play a sport that you like,” she said.

Highline’s Unified team is coached by Anna Cook. She is a freshmen Women’s Basketball team member, who is out injured for the year. She has been coaching the Unified team since early December.

Cook said Unified Sports brings opportunity for all.

“It creates more opportunities for everyone. It puts the focus on one community,” she said.

“It’s fun for everyone to come together. For example not every player on our team is a part of the Achieve program. One player is from our men’s basketball team and other players play other sports,” said Cook.

Cook said this sport is about having fun together.

“As a coach, I make sure everyone is involved. I sub players in and out and make sure every-

one is having fun,” she said.

Coaching this team has opened Cook to the idea of being a coach in the future.

“I really appreciate this opportunity. It has been a growing experience. Now coaching may be something I further explore in the future,” she said.

Among the crowd of cheering fans sat Debbie Berry, a Ballard mother of two. Her daughter Micayla plays for the Ballard Unified team. Despite Micayla’s disability and lack of use of one of her arms, she has played basketball for three years.

“She was terrified to be on the basketball team in the beginning. But I wanted her to play so she could get active and get some exercise,” she said.

Berry said that with her daughter’s disability it was hard to find an activity for Micayla to join.

“When I heard about Unified Sports I fell in love with the idea,” said Berry.

Berry’s son Joe, sophomore at Ballard High, also plays on the unified team. Unlike his sister he does not have a disability. Through playing this sport, Berry said her son had grown closer to his sister.

In junior high Berry said her son went through a really tough phase. He was at an age where he was trying to fit in and he really did not want to do many things with his disabled sister.

“That all changed in when he joined the Unified team. This has given him understating,” said Berry.

Bringing understanding and inclusion is what Unified Sports is all about, Sanders said.

“Unified Sports provides opportunities for people with and without disabilities to play together, which promotes social inclusion at all levels,” she said. “Also, as was evident at the tournament, it’s just so much fun.”

Highline has three Unified Sports teams, but may add more.

“So far we have soccer, flag football, and basketball but we are exploring adding table tennis,” said Sandler. “We are also open to suggestions.”

Highline came in second to Federal Way. But athlete Austin Landon did not let that discourage him.

“It’s a team effort. Win or lose, as long as you play together you win together. Go Thunderbirds,” said Landon.

Anyone interested in joining Unified Sports can contact Student Leader Kim Zielke at kzielke@highline.edu

## Police

continued from page 1

once or twice a month and continue this year.

Also, the Des Moines Police had its first ever “Shop with a Cop” event in December.

The department used the event to purchase Christmas presents for children from low-income families.

To find out more information go to facebook.com/Des-MoinesPoliceFoundation.

The purpose of these events are for the community to get to know the officers, see their faces, ask questions, and build relationships.

“It takes that ‘us and them’ mentality away, breaks down

that barrier and gives the community a chance to just feel comfortable,” Sgt. Jenkins said.

Sgt. Jenkins also gave a couple tips to avoid negative interactions with the police.

“I think the No. 1 thing is to do what the officer tells you,” he said.

He also said it is within your rights to ask the officer if you are free to leave or if you are being detained.

Only if you are reasonably suspicious, for example jaywalking, or if you match the description of a suspect, then you are not free to leave, he said.

“If you ask if you are free to leave, that would be helpful,” Sgt. Jenkins said.

“A little bit of respect on both sides goes a long way and cooperation,” he said.

Sgt. Jenkins said he highly recommends that if anyone has been stopped or treated unjustly to immediately contact the city’s police department and make a formal complaint against the offending officer.

The non-emergency phone number for the Des Moines Police Department is 206-878-3301.

“There is a general lack of trust towards the police,” he said.

“It’s unfortunate, but we need to rebuild those relationships and the only way we are able to do that is by doing our jobs the right way every time.”

## V-Day

continued from page 1

person who plans on enjoying Valentine’s Day. Numerous other students also report that they are going to enjoy being single on Valentine’s Day.

“Since I’m single, I’m living the single life. I’m going to dinner with my parents,” Kaitlen Taoipu said.

Meanwhile, a student who wanted to remain anonymous said that he plans on going to Vegas for Valentine’s Day.

Still, there are a few students

planning on going all out for Valentine’s Day.

One student, who chose to remain anonymous to keep the surprise, says he is surprising his significant other with a trip to Seattle and a romantic ride on the ferris wheel.

“For me, it’s movies and a three-foot-tall unicorn and sushi,” said Francisco Blackbear.

One student is even going to take the opportunity to kill two birds with one stone.

“My girlfriend’s birthday is 5 days after, so I just compact them and get two presents,” he said.

In the end, there is no right or wrong way to spend Valentine’s Day, because ultimately, it’s all about the feeling.

“I want to share the moments with each other,” said Daniel Payne. “I want to remind her why we’re in love.”

Got news or gripes?

Send tips to  
tword@highline.edu

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