

College comes under new Command

Steve McClure
Staff Writer

Dr. Ed Command was named the next president of Highline Community College at a special meeting of the HCC board of trustees May 24. The board voted unanimously on Command's selection with board member Marilu Brock phoning her vote in from Salt Lake City, Utah.

The board had been searching for a replacement for Dr. Shirley Gordon since she announced her retirement at the Jan. 11 board meeting.

Command received hugs from his ecstatic wife, Marge, and Gordon before he addressed the applause of the crowd gathered at the meeting. "I am extremely pleased and very proud to be given the opportunity to serve as the next president of Highline Community College," Command said.

Board member Gerald Robinson said the five-month selection process involving 114 applicants had been "exhaustive and exhausting." He added that the process was "kind of like panning for gold... In the long run I think we've got the biggest nugget of them all."

Command said that he doesn't see the need for any major changes at HCC, noting that the current president, Shirley Gordon, has done an "excellent job." He said, "I gained an even greater appreciation for the importance of education in our society" from Gordon. "I learned to respect scholarship and its importance, to value people and

their contributions and the importance of teamwork."

Command plans to get a consensus from the different constituencies on campus before outlining his goals for the college, but he said he would continue to put an emphasis on the student learning process and "as much emphasis as we can on student success."

"I will seek opportunities to foster the cooperation of everyone," Command said. "Together we can build on our strong programs and services and continue Highline as the premier community college in the state."

He added that it is important to understand "what kind of statement our students make when they go out into the community." He noted the success of HCC graduate Norm Rice, who currently is serving as mayor of Seattle.

Highline College Education Association (HCEA) President Nancy Lennstrom said the teachers' union will hold Command to his promises. "He has offered collaboration and cooperation, and that's what we'll expect from him."

Command began his career in education as an assistant principal at Senior High in 1961. He has served as the vice president and business manager for HCC since 1977. Prior to this he served as an administrative assistant to the president, as registrar and as director of admissions. Command received his doctorate in higher education from the University of Washington in 1973.

He will assume his duties as president on July 1.



Photo by David Wellington

Newly selected president Ed Command answers questions following the announcement of his appointment as HCC's next chief administrator.

Students receive kudos for pursuing excellence

Meghan Wink
Staff Writer

Awards, applause and laughter were abundant at the Highline College 1989/90 Student Award Program, held May 23, in Building 7. President Shirley Gordon began the program with a short speech and a quote from Vince Lombardi, "The quality of a person's life is in direct proportion to the commitment to excellence."

Two students, Marion Terkuile and Donald Nguyen, were given special recognition

for excellence as co-winners for the Highest Scholastic Achievement Award. Each earned a 3.99 grade point average in their respective degrees. Nguyen also received the Engineering/Physics and Mathematics Department awards.

The Washington Award for Vocational Excellence went to both Alicia Hanson and Susan Fulmer. Glenn Gorman and Nancy Bergstrom were awarded for outstanding contributions to HCC for their extensive work with the HCC

Talking Computer Program.

Recipients of more than one award included: Nancy Giesler, for outstanding contributions in Phi Theta Kappa and the Public Information Office; Vanessa Michel, for contributions to the Arcturus and scholastic achievement in Writing; Steve McClure, for scholastic achievement in Journalism and for outstanding contributions to the Thunderword; and David Wellington, for outstanding contributions in the Public Information Office and the Thunderword.

Teacher honored by Pi Sigma

Rich Erickson
Staff Writer

Pi Sigma, Highline Community College's chapter of the national honor society, Phi Theta Kappa, selected Writing Instructor Larry Blades as the recipient of the first Pi Sigma Outstanding Teaching Award.

The teachers were judged by commitment, innovation, demonstration of effective teaching, positive attitude, interpersonal relationships between staff and students, provision of student activities beyond the scope of classroom teaching and sharing of teaching ideas and materials.

Blades has been at HCC for six years and teaches Writing

101, 105 and American and British Literature. Blades says that he decided to teach because "I really like studying literature and teaching seemed to be a good way to keep on doing that and get paid for it." Blades also says, "When I teach a course, I learn more about writing and literature than I didn't know before."

Blades says he was very surprised to learn he had won the award. "I have always gone on record as being against awards like this, and I've always said that if I won an award like this I would give it back. And I didn't. I was very happy to receive it, and it was a real honor. So I didn't give it back. So I feel like a hypocrite."

Gordon plans on relaxing after retiring

Steve McClure
Staff Writer

When Dr. Shirley Gordon retires as president of Highline Community College June 30, her office will be cleared of the awards she has won and her desk minus the knick knacks she has collected over her 14-years tenure as chief administrator. What she leaves behind cannot be mounted on oak: a commitment to HCC since its inception in 1961 and the memory of someone who believed in community colleges and fostered education.

Gordon announced her decision to retire at the Jan. 11 HCC Board of Trustees meeting.

Gordon plans on "catching up on lots of projects that I have let go for far too long." While others make plans for world travel after they retire, Gordon's plans are simple: spend some time at home, work in her garden and begin reading some of the hundreds of books she has collected.

Education is not something she will simply walk away from though. Gordon still believes "education is the answer to most problems." She plans to



Photo by David (Beef) Wellington

After leading HCC for the last 14 years, retiring president Shirley Gordon is looking forward to catching up on some projects.

stay involved in education through her work on accreditation committees and her support of Phi Theta Kappa, of which she currently is chairperson of its national board of directors.

Gordon also said she would not mind returning to teaching, coming full circle from her days as a math and science instructor

in the public school system 44 years ago. She commented that she would be interested in teaching at a "small, rural community college, maybe up in Alaska."

Gordon has seen quite a few changes at Highline through her years as an instructor, director of curriculum, dean of instruction, vice president

and finally president. While the age of students has become more mixed, Gordon also has seen a change in the instruction of students.

"It's not that we've de-emphasized teaching, but we've emphasized learning...no learning, no teaching," Gordon said.

When the college first started operation there was a tendency to fail students who were having difficulties, she said. Now, instead of looking at student failure "we look at student success," she added. This coincides with a philosophy Gordon adopted as a teacher: instead of marking the answers a student got wrong, she marked the answers the students got right.

"If you (student) can write, read and have some quantitative skills, you can learn anything," Gordon stated.

During her career as an educator, Gordon has earned the respect of her peers. In 1981 she was chosen as the only community college representative for President Reagan's National Commis-

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Teachers take vacations

Michelle Watson
Staff Writer

Highline Community College is offering a number of trips to various countries this summer. Faculty and students of HCC will be going on travel study tours. The trips are being offered through the foreign language departments and organizations such as the International Awareness Association.

Donna Wilson, foreign language instructor, is organizing one such trip. Wilson is fluent in Spanish and has taught for 17 years. "I have a strong belief that the best way to understand the culture is to participate in the culture," Wilson said. "Traveling to the country is part of my teaching philosophy."

Gisela Schimmelbusch, German instructor and coordinator for the International Awareness Association, is also

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HCC grad Norm Rice refuses to let dream die



Photo by Virg Stoiger/PIO

In an interview with Deena Anderson, HCC grad Norm Rice said "...For my money community colleges have a bigger impact than all the Ivy League schools together.

Deena Anderson
Staff Writer

Seattle City Mayor Norm Rice, 46, a handsome man with courage and determination, told the Washington Trustees Association of Community Colleges this month, "I refused to let a dream die." With his powerful, well-modulated voice and dancing hands, Rice said, "I love it; this is the best job I could possibly have. It keeps me busy. I'm running, running, running, but I love it. I love the people. I like the diversity. It's all the things I've ever wanted, and I'm glad to be here."

He could not be where he is, however, without education

and a commitment, not only to his dream, but to education in general. A dropout early in his educational career, he never gave up.

"I said it before and I'll say it again; for my money community colleges have a bigger impact than all the Ivy League schools together," he told the audience at the Wenatchee Convention Center earlier this month.

Rice, a Highline Community College alumni, feels President Bush's proposed budget cuts in education are the "travesty of the Bush administration. I don't think it's a kinder, gentler nation if we see the cuts in the budget. Edu-

cation is the equal opportunity employer, and if we are taking the dollars from there, (education) we are truly cutting off avenues for successful employment and competition in this country," he said.

Rice's home environment in Denver, Colo., where he was born and lived for the first 26 years of his life, was "pretty good, but I just didn't listen," he laughed. Rice's parents divorced when he was 13, but his family was one that stressed values, success and goal achievement.

"I feel strong about my grandfather and grandmother, who had a major impact on my life. I can still hear them talking to me," he said.

Rice's values include hard work, honesty, and openness, as well as trying to listen and hear. He demonstrates these values through his job as mayor, and recently he earned an honorary doctorate from the University of Puget Sound for being an outstanding commencement speaker.

But he wasn't always that lucky academically. Rice flunked out of the University of Colorado in 1961. He laughingly said, "I flunked out of college on the 11-year plan. My grades were good in high school, but I went from a 4. in high school to a .9 in college."

After flunking, Rice took on several jobs: a meter reader,

"jumping fences from dogs," an assistant engineer, "a cross-eyed professional job in IBM," and acting in Denver.

On April 4, 1968, when Dr. Martin Luther King was assassinated, Rice was scheduled to perform in "A Raisin in The Sun." In spite of the cast's devastation over the death of King, the actors decided to go on with the play, dedicating it to King. Near the end of the second act of the play the mother says to the son, "It seems to me that God has given the black man nothing but dreams, nothing but dreams."

"I refused to let a dream die," said Rice. Four months later, at 26, he decided it was time to get his "act together and make a dream come true."

He packed all his belongings into his Volkswagen and came to Washington, where he enrolled as a student at HCC. His cousin lived here at the time and had invited him to come to Washington to look into the community college system. Rice looked into several colleges in the area prior to enrolling at HCC. "I found the academic structure and setting to be a place where I could flourish and do my best," he said. Rice was determined to "work hard, and my instructors made me work hard."

He took classes in journalism, drama and political science. He was a student re-

porter for the ThunderWord newspaper.

Although Rice did not graduate from HCC, he did get the focus and direction he needed to further his education, he said.

After one year at HCC, Rice went to the University of Washington and earned a bachelors in communications and a masters in public administration in 1974.

"If it weren't for HCC I would not be standing in front of you today as the mayor of the most difficult city. Dreams do come true."

Rice jumped in the race for mayor in 1986. He was a city councilman, but he was concerned about the busing issue going on at the time.

The issues which have high priority with the Rice administration are education, equal opportunity and multi-cultural diversity. These issues increased Rice's popularity as mayor today.

Not only is Rice dedicated to his wife Constance and son Mian, he is dedicated to the people of Seattle.

Rice is the first black mayor in Seattle, and is not surprised to be where he is today. "I am very pleased to be where I am today. I think I knew I had the opportunity. I've never put barriers on myself. I broke my glass ceiling," he laughed.

Living on the STREETS

Jeanne Shockley
Staff Writer

Welcome to Seattle's darker side. Kids wait around on the sidewalks by local porno shops looking with empty eyes as the cars pass by. A young girl 10, maybe 11-years old, walks with her pimp. Tight clothes sell young flesh.

Ryan, a 15-year-old prostitute, couldn't handle his home life so he lives and works on the streets in downtown Seattle. He said, "This is my way of makin it man, people want to use me, they are going to have to pay. I'm makin it man, I'm makin it."

Ryan's mother is a drug addict and his step-father was verbally and physically abusive. He felt he had nowhere to

go but the streets.

Street kids are usually long-term runaways or homeless youth who have become adept at fending for themselves on the Seattle streets, according to staff people at local shelters. Many of these kids are "throw-aways," young people who have been forced out of their homes by their families. Others have run because they were physically and/or sexually abused or victims of extreme neglect.

Seattle Youth and Community Services, now called Youth Care, believes there are 2,000-4,000 youth per year living on Seattle streets. It has been increasing by 200-300 kids a year. Youth workers at Youth Care believe that a high percentage of these kids are on the

street because there has been a total breakdown in the family, which could mean marital, substance abuse or mental health problems.

Some of these youth are socially and emotionally troubled. They have experienced a series of personal failures with schools, the law, finding a job, substance abuse and other adolescent situations. They see leaving as their way out.

Most of the kids become street culture veterans very soon after hitting the streets. They get involved in activities which are categorized as street subcultures. These include drug and alcohol abuse, prostitution, hustling and street-related violence.

Marty Boz of the Department of Social and Health

Services Division of Child and Family Services said, "One of the primary programs we offer is the reconciliation services, which is to work with the youth and their parents on the youth returning home. Unfortunately, it is not that easy. In our department we see 350 families a month."

Tom, 16-year-old street kid said, "I've been living on these downtown streets for four years. It's my home. At least people here are for real. It may be bad, but these are my brothers and most of them I can trust." Tom has been stabbed, beaten, and left for dead yet, because of the abuse he suffered at home, he would rather be on the streets.

Most kids on the streets have had untrustworthy people in their lives, so they have a hard time learning to trust, especially people in authority.

Street kids learn from the streets that no one offers something for nothing. A staff member at Orion Center says that the people who work with street kids have to be totally non-judgmental. We're in their world, they're not in ours. Let's face it, most of us

wouldn't know what to do if we found ourselves in that world.

Youth Care has a branch called the Orion Multi-Service Center. They offer the street kids many alternatives to street life. They offer a learning center for preparing for re-entry into a public school system. Shelter, meals and clothing are provided for the youth in need. Health care is essential. Because of their life style, many have sexually transmitted diseases. Two downtown satellite clinics, specifically designed for street youth, offer comprehensive medical care. They also offer counseling services.

Because of the increasing number of kids on the streets, there is not enough beds in the shelters. Many are turned away. More programs are being funded because of this need. Some of the programs are offered through the Y.M.C.A., Mount Baker/Central Youth Services Bureau, and Catholic Community Services. For more information or if you would like to volunteer your time, call Youth Care at 622-3187.

Future breeds little hope for the homeless

Angelia Brondstetter
Staff Writer

The future is looking bleak for a significant segment of our society who are unable to find food or shelter, says the survey from a coalition of 36 shelters around the Seattle and Portland areas.

In October 1989, some 10,746 requests were made for 1,326 beds in the shelters, the survey shows. A total of 2,992 people were served, while more than 7,000 were turned away, including some who made more than one request for a place to stay.

Increasing numbers of these penniless and homeless Americans are finding themselves mired in recession at the bottom rung of the poverty ladder.

Around the Seattle area, men and women can be seen huddled with their belongings on street corners, in alleyways, and in abandoned buildings.

According to Emmitt Glanz of the Union Gospel Mission, the reasons there are homeless people today are: lack of low-income housing, progressive breakdown of the family unit, economic changes, and a lack of government assistance programs.

The homeless are a complex breed. Studies suggest that most are substance abusers, military veterans, or are suffering from severe mental illnesses. Also commonly shared among the homeless is the "domino effect": an illness, a lost job, a car breaking down, which leads to another misfortune and finally financial disaster.

aster.

There are 18 missions, privately-owned shelters and county-operated shelters in the downtown Seattle area, all of which provide for the homeless with limited funds.

For Fred, a homeless man who appeared to be over 70, being on the streets is the "best way for me to get rid of 24 hours each day."

"Living on the streets can be a heaven within a hell," says Charlie, a 58-year-old homeless man. Charlie's view of "heaven" is being able to do what you want and go where you want to go without anyone telling you how to live. His view of "hell" is not enough public restrooms or a warm place to sleep at night. Charlie, an ex-Harvard lawyer, lost his business five months ago and

since then has not been able to get his feet back on the ground.

The fastest growing segment of street people, however, is made up of women and children.

"These are single parent girls with babies of their own," says Glanz.

"We provide opportunities for the homeless or near homeless by helping them establish a work history and providing self-motivation classes so that they can maintain steady employment," says A.A. Gronberg, executive director of the Millionair Club Charity.

For some that isn't enough. For others, the emotional drain of homelessness has taken such a toll that, according to Fre-limo Amili, a 39-year-old homeless man and father of four homeless children, "There

is nothing to inspire the people of the streets."

Amili says he does not care for the mentality of the shelters. He claims, "The shelters are always begging for more money, yet they consistently turn more and more people away daily."

"We have no choice but to turn people away without identification of some sort," Glanz says. "We are required by the state, and so are other shelters, to make sure they have ID. That way, if they are injured or happen to die while in our care, we'll know who they are."

Glanz says it's discouraging to realize that even though the homeless and their needs have been identified, the future looks gray to muster the political will and the resources to act upon this information.

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JUNE 1, 1990

Child sexual abuse, as defined by Washington's Committee for Children, is "the exploitation of a child for the sexual gratification of an adult or any significantly older person. It is called incest if it occurs between family members." The Committee for Children is a non-profit organization that provides educational materials, training, community education, and original research for the prevention of child abuse and youth violence.

Child sexual abuse is not always rape nor it is always done by adults. The abuse can include fondling, verbal stimulation and pornography. Most offenders are male and range from juveniles to elderly persons. The offenders are usually heterosexual and have access to adult sexual relationships.

An article by Emilie Coulter and Karen Bachelder says that offenders "identify needy children, befriend them, target their vulnerability, gradually desensitize them to sexual behaviors, and intimidate them." The article also says that the offender exploits the victim and keeps them quiet by use of threats, bribes, friendship, or special attention. The victim usually knows the offender, and often it is a family member.

School personnel are usually the first to recognize sexual abuse because they have the most contact with the child outside of the home. The law states that school personnel who have "reasonable cause to believe" that a child is abused must report that suspicion to Child Protective Service (CPS) or the police.

Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP), a program that provides a preschool program for limited income families and tries to empower families to take care of themselves, sees abuse and reports it. Marcia Gamer, ECEAP coordinator and program supervisor says that when a child is suspected of being abused, "We turn in the families. We call CPS and make a referral; we don't actually work with the investigation."

The investigation is done by CPS. Barbara Stone, supervisor for the Specialty Unit for Child Sexual Abuse in Seattle, says that after receiving a call, "We try to interview the child at school because it is a private and difficult thing to talk about. School is a neutral setting and the child is able to spontaneously talk about the situation." The Specialty Unit is the only unit of its kind in the state of Washington.

The interview, which, by law, is permitted without parent's knowledge, is "simple and the least intrusive," Stone says. CPS first states what its job is and asks the child what things he/she enjoys. As the child becomes more comfortable, the CPS caseworker asks the child about general safety rules at home, such as not talking to strangers or looking both ways before crossing the street.

After this general questioning, the case-

Suffer the Children

Stories by
Katie Melve
Staff Writer

Cries from the afflicted

"He was four years old when he did it. It was a week before my daughter's third birthday. She was his third victim."

The boy's mother married a man that was not the boy's father, but she believed the boy should know his real father. The real father was bisexual and forced the boy to watch sexual acts with both sexes. The boy was frustrated and acted out the sexual behavior on my daughter. It was impossible for him to perform sex, but he used sticks and rocks to sexually abuse my daughter.

I could not get a summons order for the boy or his parents. Nobody would do anything to protect my daughter. We had to protect her by keeping her in the house.

The boy and his family finally moved, but other neighbors said that my daughter haunted herself at the boy.

My daughter received treatment, but still has some behavioral problems. She doesn't remember the incident.

"It started when I was eight years old, one year after my mom and step-dad were married. I was emotionally, physically, and sexually abused by my step-dad. The sexual abuse stopped when I was 14.

When I was 13, I told my

mom. She accused me of seducing my father. I still have no respect for her even though she apologized to me a few years ago and we are able to talk now.

At 16, my step-dad and I got into an argument. He threw me on the floor and punched me in the face a couple of times. For the first time, I fought back.

I was 14 when I was 17 and had my first sexual experience. When I left my family, I was in a hot, I became a virgin, still married. He tried to apologize to me, but I told him I was not going to see him again.

Some people say forgive and forget, but not because you forgive, abuse is something that never is forgotten.

I am 23 now. I have been to see a psychiatrist on my own. I still have feelings of hate, but I've learned to let go and get on with my life.

"When your five-year-old daughter tries to tell you that the babysitter's husband is abusing her sexually, you're shocked and stunned. Your first reaction is anger at the abuser and you want to hurt him for taking away your child's innocence and for making the child feel guilty for his behavior.

Uppermost in my mind for the next several months was to

family rules, practicing "what if" situations and assertiveness skills. Letting the child know that they are likeable, are not at fault, and providing feelings of security and support also aid in helping the child avoid other situations of abuse.

Once the child is back in the school curriculum, "We pick up the pieces," Gamer says. ECEAP helps keep the child in school and the family productive; CPS only investigates and helps keep the child safe.

"CPS is great to work with, but they're overwhelmed by the number of calls they receive," Gamer says.

"Our biggest problem is that there is a lack of resources for CPS and there are long waiting lists," says Stone, supervisor for the Specialty Unit for Child Sexual Abuse. Another problem is that, "Even though the legal system has improved,

especially over the last seven years, the law still is more protective of the offender or accused than of the child," Stone says.

According to the Washington Committee for Children, "Offenders often blame the victim for provoking the sexual assault." The public supports this attitude by saying things like "she led him on" or "she wasn't wearing much."

However, the offender is at fault for violating the rights of another person even though the victim feels the abuse was their fault, says the Committee for Children. This self-blame can carry on later into life.

Dr. Gloria Rose Koepping, a counselor at Highline Community College, works with adult women survivors of sexual abuse. "Some of the biggest problem areas are in relationships, trusting, emotional intimacy as well as physical intimacy; and sometimes they are overly cautious in approaching people or new experiences," Koepping says.

The women may also have low self-esteem which can lead to eating disorders and alcohol and drug addiction. "It's a

way to cope with bad feelings, but it just leads to other problems," says Koepping. "These are ways for people to numb pain and not feel anything."

The feelings of low self-esteem are common in sexually abused children. The Committee for Children says, "Positive messages about just 'being' are helpful for building a sense of identity." Positive messages and support from others for adult victims of sexual abuse are just as important.

"I want to urge people to start and continue their recovery," Koepping says. "Do something to start recovery, learn how abuse has impacted your life, and learn how to get better."

At HCC, counseling is available for students. In the HCC Bookstore, there is book entitled "The Courage to Heal" which provides writing exercises and steps to recovery. There are also self-help groups such as Incest Anonymous and Survivor Support Groups. Call the HCC counseling center at 878-3710, extension 353.

worker asks about good touch and bad touch. The child is asked if he/she has been touched in a bad way. If the child says that he/she has been touched in a bad way, "We thank them and tell them they are not responsible and that they did the right thing telling us the situation," says Stone. "We then contact the non-offending parent, if possible, or a close relative, tell them the situation, ask them to remove the offending parent or parents and elicit support for the child."

If this is not possible, CPS will petition a judge to make a ruling to remove the children from the home immediately. All children in a family will be removed because sex offenders often have several victims, including their spouses.

Treatment for the child and non-offending parent is the next step. Treatment not only tries to resolve feelings of distrust, anger, and grieving but also teaches prevention.

The Committee for Children offers several guidelines for prevention. These include touching safety rules, establishing and supporting a set of

Gender identity: a painful confirmation

Steve McClure
Staff Writer

As strong hands reach across the table for her coffee cup, Marsha Botzer, 43, would be considered a handsome woman by many; only her eyes betray the pain and struggles in her past. Marsha Botzer is a transsexual. She had grown up knowing that her male body did not match her female self-image, and in 1981 she surgically confirmed the identity she had lived with all her life.

From an early age, Botzer battled feelings of confusion, pain, and loneliness because her body and mind did not match. She tried desperately to fit into the mold which society had set down for its male members by covering herself in an "armor of masculinity" and playing football, working construction and other stereotypically "macho" jobs. Yet, Botzer admits "I had no concept what it was to be male."

In the 1960's she became both politically and socially active, keeping herself so busy that "I had no room for myself." While struggling for the ideals of human liberation, she still found herself hiding her individual identity until she was

in her 30's. She then realized it was self-identity which was important, not anatomy.

"You can deny yourself for only so long," Botzer said. "You sit there at night and say 'this is a lie.'"

Botzer made a complete transition, both socially and physically, from male to female in 1981. Her family did not react well to the new identity of their child. "It was all done before I told them...they (family) thought I was doing union work in the Midwest."

For a week and a half they yelled, screamed and cried, Botzer said. But when they finally cut through the surface issues, they accepted that she was still their child, and they became closer. "I got to know my family real well," Botzer added.

Out of her struggles came the formation of Ingersoll, a service organization which helps people deal with questions about their gender and their identity. Some 450-500 people come to Ingersoll's open meetings, while approximately 150 stay on for some kind of treatment, according to Botzer. Therapists at Ingersoll work with anyone who has questions regarding gender

identity.

Through therapy, Botzer hopes people will find their identity with less pressure and pain than she endured. She believes that Ingersoll provides people with "a place, an arena to explore who you are." She added that people need to learn how to live with who they are inside. "It's a great crime against yourself to restrict who you are."

Today, if people decide they want to surgically change sexes, they must live for at least one year as the desired sex. Botzer feels this transition year is important because it gives the person a chance to learn how to deal with people without constant concern about gender. Therapists also bring in family members so they can be involved in the therapy as well.

Botzer added that out of 150 people, only four or five will surgically complete the transition. The number of people changing from male to female is approximately the same as those changing from female to male.

While Botzer has given up her duties as executive director of Ingersoll, "It's still my baby." She still is a member of

the board but has turned more to her private practice as a psychotherapist. "I've been on the front lines of this war for 15 years; now I can go to a one-on-one line," Botzer said.

She and other members of Ingersoll give lectures around the country, including a quarterly appearance in the Human Sexuality classes at Highline Community College. Botzer also has appeared on many of the afternoon TV talk shows. She claims that these appearances allow her to reach people who may have identity problems. While she has had good experiences with television she pointed out that some of them "want two-headed alien transsexuals with weird politics," she laughed.

The idea of transsexuality is different from homosexuality, because transsexualism has nothing to do with sexual orientation, Botzer said. Transsexuality has to do with "Who am I?" By definition a transsexual is one who has surgically and socially changed to the opposite gender. Transsexuality is not new; in ancient India members of a certain group used to perform self-castration so they could be accepted as women.

John Money, in his book "Losemaps" which discusses gender transposition, says the cause of these feeling still is not known. He does point out, however, that "being called sissy boy or tomboy is more likely to lead to homosexuality than transsexuality."

As children, people with a gender identity problem will wonder: "Why does my body not match my concept of who I am?" Botzer said they will begin to feel the same confusion, pain and loneliness she and thousands of others, for thousands of years, have had to deal with.

These children "think they're gay or lesbian, but that's not the issue," Botzer said. In an attempt to get rid of these feelings of confusion, many will attempt to fit into the accepted stereotypes for their sex. Botzer, however, feels this is "just another box to hide yourself in."

Botzer continued by saying it's only after "you get it out that the healing starts." She added that many will spend a lifetime "being alone and not fitting in," before they realize it's not "who you go to bed with, but who you go to bed --"

College sex education packing a full house

Jeanie Shaw
Staff Writer

Procrastinate about registering for Human Sexuality classes and you'll have to wait until next quarter. Human Sexuality classes at Highline Community College fill by the third or fourth day of registration.

The course includes everything from the history of sexuality to current issues. Sexually transmitted diseases, birth control, homosexuality, childbirth and ways to be more understanding of your mate are all topics discussed in this class.

"These topics are of interest to students because they want to find out more about themselves and know that they are normal," said Caryl Utigard, one of four instructors for this class. "The time is right. People were making a lot of decisions that were based on myths," Utigard said. This class dispels those myths and provides students with up-to-date information on sexual issues. She said, "Sooner or later people experience some of the things that are talked about in the class."

"Most people are getting their sexual information from

peers so you get the ignorant teaching the ignorant," said Utigard. Much of this information is simply just not true, she added. One of the myths she mentioned is that you can't get pregnant if you withdraw before you ejaculate, but this is not absolutely true. Another fallacy is that abortions are unsafe; however, an early abortion is seven times safer for the mother than going to term. Utigard added that many people think that women are unable to get pregnant for six months after they stop taking the pill, but that isn't true either.

Four sections are taught: three during the day and one in the evening. In fall, there will be still another section taught in the late afternoon. Along with the choice of class hours, students have a choice of instructor. The day classes are taught by Caryl Utigard who is a sociologist, or Michael Campbell, an anthropologist. The evening section is taught by Monte Burke and Roberta Hanson, who are counselors and therapists. "So you can choose the instruction that suits your style," said Utigard.

Originally a class on Mar-

riage and Family was taught at HCC but it changed to Marriage and Alternatives. Then the University of Washington began teaching Human Sexuality and a demand came to teach it at HCC.

The course is taught from a multidisciplinary approach. Students are exposed to several speakers from a variety of professions to give the student another point of view. Some of the speakers that come to the class include Kathleen Kennelly, who is an incest counselor at Harborview and members of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG). Judge Utigard talks about the legal aspects of sexuality. Tony Filvestrin, of Seattle/King Co. Public Health Department, speaks on contraception, and Marsha Botzer of the Ingersoll Gender Centers speaks on transsexualism. Filmstrips, movies and slides round out the information.

This is not a required course but it does satisfy five social science credits. Sherill Toledo, senior lead registration clerk, said a waiting list is not kept for this course, which is "very popular and fills every quarter."

Travel: teachers and students make travel plans for summer

Cont. from page 2

traveling to Mexico. Schimmelbusch says it's a way for students to see the changes in government, lifestyles, and the environment. "It's a way to experience more than our provincial suburb," she said. "The trip is an opportunity to learn about certain environmental problems and what can be done about them."

Schimmelbusch is also traveling to her native home of East Germany this August and plans to observe the reunification process. "Everyone needs to be aware of how to make life liveable for everyone on the globe."

Susan Stallord, student at HCC, also is making the trip to Mexico which is set for June 22 to July 21. Stallord has studied Spanish for four years and views the trip as a learning experience. "I love to travel and I'm curious about other cultures," said Stallord.

Katherine Gribble, instruc-

tor at HCC, will visit Czechoslovakia this June to witness the free government elections. She plans to deal with university students and their feelings towards the elections. Gribble says she's excited and plans to return with important educational information.

Two HCC instructors will be part of the three-week trip to Thailand sponsored by the Northwest International Education Association. Roger Landrud teaches international studies and U.S. foreign policy. "I'm very interested in developing nations Thailand is a very traditional society in many ways, yet there are many aspects of urbanization." Susan Landgraf, journalism and creative writing instructor, will also travel to Thailand this summer. The trip will include Bangkok, traditional villages, temples and religious ceremonies.

Enjoy a little corner of Japan at the Arboretum

David Wellington
Photo Editor

Understandably, the grass always seems greener and the gardens more cheery on the other side of the fence.

Unless you live in Japan. For thousands of years the Japanese have been mastering the fine arts of gardening. Whether patiently clipping ancient dwarfed trees (Bon-sai), or gracefully arranging flowers in the perfect forms of Ikebana, they have captivated the imagination and fascination of the Western world.

Nowhere is the sensuous delicacy of their talent more manifest than in the Japanese Garden.

The principals of the Japanese Garden date back several hundred years. The first gardens were carefully selected rocks strategically placed to represent various mountain ranges. Trees and shrubs were added until the concept of a separate garden emerged. Often covered patios, or gazebos, were built in the center of the garden for meditation. Eventually the gardens became more and more elaborate, encompassing more space and requiring more laborers and hours for upkeep.



Bridges and walkways criss-cross through the garden, making the varied scenes easily accessible.

Today, Japanese Gardens both in Japan, as well as in the United States, have become semi-public places for nature lovers to go and soak up the sights, get away from the city pressures and enjoy a few quiet, reflective moments.

The Seattle Parks Department's Japanese Garden located on the grounds of the University of Washington Arboretum is such a place.

In 1957, the Arboretum Foundation set aside three and one-half acres for the construction of the garden. They hired Juki Iida, an experienced designer who had

planned and built over 1,000 other Japanese gardens worldwide. Working from a 34-page blueprint, he began to piece together more than 500 personally selected granite boulders from the Cascade Mountains and thousands of plants into a beautiful collage representing similar scenes in Japan.

Today the garden is accessible to all ages for a small fee. Ideally individuals should experience the garden in the spring, when most of the flowers are in full bloom.



Thousands of trees and shrubs were hand selected to enhance the beauty of the Japanese Garden.



The Japanese Garden is a popular place for individuals to go to escape city life.



The three and one-half acre lot affords several unique vantage points to enjoy the serenity.



Garden scenes such as this one were created by Juki Iida to represent similar scenes in Japan.

Have an afternoon adventure with animals at Point Defiance



A Point Defiance sea otter kicks back and enjoys his crabmeat lunch.

**Steve Thorp
Staff Writer**

Point Defiance Park, located in North Tacoma at the end of Pearl Street, offers many different things to do for many different kinds of people.

A great place to take the kids is the Point Defiance Aquarium and Zoo. Since 1982, the entire Point Defiance Zoo has been remodeled to accommodate the

animals in a more natural environment. New exhibits like a sea otter tank make it possible to watch them at play without disturbing them. Two more elephants increase the zoo's number to four. The aquarium features all types of Pacific Ocean sea-life (excluding whales), with tours daily during summer months. For those of you who'd like to try your hand at angling for the big King



The public training of zoo animals, like these Baluga whales, attracts and captivates interested spectators.

Salmon, boats can be launched or rented at the marina. If that's too rich for your blood it's an easy hike down to the clay banks at low tide, where the folks in the boats will be fishing anyway. A good cast will put you right out there with them.

Owens Beach offers a relaxing afternoon basking in the sun, watching the sailboats or barbecuing. The road from the beach leads to Five

Mile Drive, where the parks department closes the road to cars so people can pedal push their way through one of the more scenic parks in the state.

For those of you who like flowers, Point Defiance has an outstanding rhododendron garden, although it's a pretty heathy hike through the trails to see them.

The Rose Garden has a huge sundial in the center, with five trails leading to dif-

ferent points of interest. When in season the trellis covering the trails are so thick with blossoms that a person can walk to the sundial and back in complete shade. The Japanese Garden, complete with a Japanese meeting hall, is often used by seniors and garden clubs for their different functions.

The park officials try to be as accommodating as possible. With reservations, it's possible to rent the Rose Garden or one of the three different halls available for weddings or other social gatherings.

A Point Defiance polar bear demonstrates his swimming abilities to zoo observers.

Photos by David Wellington



JUNE 1, 1990

THUNDER WORD

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I don't mean to bitch but...

Kevin Tallmadge

Managing Editor

I don't mean to bitch but...

Summer is finally here. Now there is a real reason to call in sick to work besides the that sociology in the morning.

The summer months are also considered the wedding season. The time for two people who commitment of marriage. It's the time to spend several thousands of dollars for one afternoon of relatives you never liked.

I don't want to give the impression that I am getting married this summer. Rather, I was one of the lucky ones to be chosen to be in a friend's wedding. The ThunderWord news editor Paige Kerrigan will be marrying our design person Marty Pierce tomorrow. They are both good friends, and I am honored to be in their wedding — except for a couple of minor problems.

One, the rehearsal is tonight. I can't think of a better way to spend Friday night, than in some hall in the boonies in Maple Valley with a bunch of people I don't know.

Secondly there's the matter of the tux. When Marty asked me to be in his wedding, I gladly accepted. Then I found out how much it would cost me. \$90 the lady at store tells me. So I paid my \$10 deposit then excused myself and went to the bathroom to check my pants.

Sure it's a lot of money for a college student (at least this one) for one day of discomfort, but I guess it's worth. It could be me getting married.

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The big debate of the big decision



Marty Pierce

As this school year comes to a close, we at the Thunderword close the book on a sordid era of our history. This is the final time that Dave Wellington and I will face off against each other on this page.

Dave will be moving on to greener pastures in Pullman at Washington State University (thank God Mr. Prim and Proper will be on the other side of the state). I, on the other hand, have other plans which inspired the topic for our final debate: marriage vs. bachelorhood.

Since moving out of my father's house five years ago, I have been a textbook example of the young American bachelor. Late nights, dirty socks, unpaid bills, overflowing garbage cans, and basic all-around disorganization have been a way of life — almost a religion.

Why would anybody want to mess up a good thing like that and go do something stupid like get married? Who wants some PMS-crazed woman watching over you every second, questioning everything you do, taking your paycheck from you before it hits your wallet, and bitching at you on a daily basis.

A wise old man once said to me: "50 percent of marriages end in divorce, the other 50 percent end in death." Not the best odds I've ever heard.

If a bachelor wants to waste his whole check on a Friday night, so what!? Besides the landlord, who's going to know the difference. If a bachelor wants to get home at 3 o'clock in the morning, he'll do it (and sleep until 4 o'clock the next afternoon if he wants). Let's see a married man try and do anything like that.

Marriage would probably be perfect for Dave. A wife might just be the perfect transition for him after he gets out of the Boy Scouts.

But me? Marriage? Why would I defy all logic and go against the odds to waltz down the aisle? There is that one factor that defies all logic, one that has made both men and women do illogical things since the beginning of time... love.

For that reason tomorrow at noon I will be tying the knot with the T-Word's News Editor Paige Kerrigan.

So, Dave, I guess you win this one. I hate to admit it, but you might just be right about this marriage thing after all. It's almost refreshing to see you right about something for the first time in your life.

Good luck with livestock in Pullman, Dave; it's been fun making you look bad.

David Wellington

Dear Mr. and perspective Mrs. Pierce,

As a wise man once told me, "Love is often hard to define but easy to know when it ain't." Or maybe I saw that on a bumper sticker. Anyway, I hope you have found it.

As you start your new life with your new bride, I hope you don't look back too often to reminisce about times past. Rooms that never did get clean. Penicillin cultures growing on stale pizza. Clothes that never did get ironed right. Your newsroom "friends" that came over late at night and just wouldn't leave.

As you gracefully traverse the aisle toward your future, I hope you look forward to the bountiful joys of matrimony. Forever nuptially tying yourself to the woman of your dreams, the joy of your life, the apple of your eye, no doubt you will be anticipating the pleasures of spending the rest of your life with the woman you love. As she cautiously peers at you, her blessed gloom, I mean groom, I hope she in turn recognizes the privileges that will come from netting her man — a perpetual plumber, painter, carpenter, roofer, dish washer, car washer, mechanic, gardener and general handy man.

Marty, your bachelorhood is over! What are you thinking? Now you actually have to clean up your room, empty the garbage, throw out the stale pizza. Your life will be neat, organized and up-to-date. You'll have to start answering to others for your actions. No more late night carousing with the boys. No more paychecks spent on bad bets at the track. What's this love stuff you're trying to con us into believing. Marty, you're a sap. A sucker. A glutton for punishment.

I heard another wise man once say that marriage was like a three-ring circus. First you have your engagement ring. Then comes the marriage ring. Last but not least, you encounter the suffering.

Tomorrow at noon you'll be a new man. At least Paige hopes so. I hate to admit it, Marty, but you may have been right about this marriage thing...at one time. Whether we like to admit it or not, we all wish you and your bride the best of all things in your future. It's been fun sparring with you in this column. Admittedly it's hard to have a battle of wits with an unarmed man, but you put up a magnificent facade regardless. You faked it pretty well.

P.S. IN YOUR FACE!

Procrastination: everybody's doing it

Tim Davison

Staff Writer

There isn't a person alive who hasn't said, "I'll do that first thing tomorrow." Often we have the good intentions of doing this the next day but, inevitably, something else comes up.

During this time of the year, with the days getting nicer schoolwork can seem tedious and, just a bit of a drag. Besides, with all the procrastination you have done up until now, there's a stack of papers higher than Mount Everest collecting dust on your desk. Your mother doesn't know whether to burn them or make them a member of the family. But why not put off that big term paper that was assigned at the beginning of the quarter? After

all, it's 70 degrees outside, let's go cruising! So, off we go to enjoy the weather, spend time with friends, and have a GOOD TIME. A good time where, for a while we can forget about that evil institution SCHOOL.

Just remember a few things first. There is only a week of school left. Shouldn't that term paper be started right away so you will be able to save some of your credibility? Your instructor already thinks so poorly of you that she wouldn't give you a ride to the doctor, but you might salvage something so she'd give you a ride to your own funeral. Also, you are paying for this. Whoever heard of throwing away good money for a bad grade? I

can think of better ways to waste money, like giving it to Jim and Tammy Bakker. The summer break will be upon us soon, and after a few months some of you will be complaining that you want to come back.

So get started on those papers because there's only a day to go! Just think, won't you feel better when it's all over? Come on, what are you waiting for? Stop procrastinating.

On the other hand, it is really nice outside, I'd love to go downtown today, and besides, I can always start tomorrow...

How do we fight back?

Nancy Hartsock
Staff Writer

When is it going to stop? Where will it end? We continue to destroy each other emotionally and physically; and what for?

Shoes — that's what. We are now hurting each other for the possession of tennis shoes. Young people are killing and abusing each other for the newest and most expensive sports shoes.

The Seattle Times stated that a 17-year-old girl from Milwaukee was roughed up on the street by three other girls and then pushed into an apartment for her athletic shoes. Then four boys between the ages of 14 and 17 repeatedly raped her.

What is it going to take to put our priorities into perspective? Whose fault is it that some of the youth of today put so much emphasis on clothes and style? Some people have misplaced ideals. The hero or heroin has become the "fashion plate," not the person who volunteers his or her time to help the elderly or fight for a worthy cause.

How do we fight back? It's difficult to battle against the advertiser who makes promises that if you buy his product you'll be gorgeous, wonderful and accepted by all.

Maybe the nudists have a good idea. The only thing you could steal from them is a hot water bottle on a cold night.

Letter to the editor: I'm a human being

I am responding to Mary Torcaso's letter (*), published May 4, "I'm a Heterosexual." I am not going to say whether I am a hetero or homosexual, because I do not want to get labeled for who I am. I am going to let everyone know that I am a HUMAN BEING.

In Ms. Torcaso's letter she stated, "privacy is one of the easiest ways to avoid being labeled," then she flaunts her sexuality. She also states, "Homosexuals seem almost impatient to establish that they or their friends are gay." I'd like to ask, where did you get your facts? I don't know of any gay or lesbian that announces, "I'm a homosexual." In fact, a lot of them hide by denying their true orientation. If by chance you are talking about gay rights demonstrations and parades, they are only asking for equal rights, not special rights.

The last issue I would like to address is the human sexuality class. I am enrolled in that course this quarter and feel that I have learned more about my

own sexuality and that of others (both hetero and homosexuals). When the Homosexual speakers were brought into the classroom I was able to ask questions about homosexuality and get the answers. If a question directed to a homosexual was asked of a heterosexual, what kind of response do you think it would receive? That goes for any of the other speakers brought into the classroom, such as those on child abuse and sexually transmitted diseases etc...

I have friends that are hetero/homosexuals, and I don't label them for what they are, I label them for human beings, just like myself. As I read the (editorial) you addressed to everyone I felt that you still had a problem with your sexuality, so I suggest you keep going to your Wednesday night support group. Next time you write a letter like that one I suggest you think it over. You have hurt a lot of readers, both hetero and homosexual, with your discriminatory feelings.

Kitty
(*refers to Torcaso's editorial)

Children's perspective on divorce a sad reality

Christina Shires
Feature Editor

Seventy out of the 120 children at a West Seattle daycare are victims of broken homes. Seven out of every 12 will never know what it's like to have a family that stays together.

Moving from childhood into "teenagehood" and eventually into adulthood, it's easy to lose perspective of what it is like to see things through a child's eyes. What little eyes see and hear and what their little ears hear is incredible. This became clear to me after listening to a dozen second and third graders deliberating over their views on marriage and divorce.

"Becky" has parents currently undergoing "divorce treatment." "Mom says my dad broke her heart 'cause he wouldn't do anything with her. She wanted to go dancing, but he didn't want to. So she left and found a new dancing partner."

Becky, who lives with her father, says, "I miss my mom, and my dad says I need her to teach me the stuff he can't. But she says, 'Becky's fine', but I agree with dad. He said he tried to change, but she still won't come back. He needs me more than my mom does because my mom already found another man."

Andrew is a couple years younger than Becky and his parents have been divorced for two years. When he gets old enough to "like girls" Andrew says, "I'm going to make sure she likes baseball as much as me. That way we'll always have something fun to do."

Sound silly? Maybe, but maybe not. According to most of these kids, their parents simply didn't like each other and didn't go together well.

Their advice? "They need to make up their minds," Becky says. As it is, seven out of every 12 kids at this West Seattle daycare will never know how to have a family that stays together.

Letter to the editor: I beg to differ

You drew an unfortunate analogue in your recent editorial (Thunder:Word May 4) with which I cannot help but take issue. The notion that the heterosexual expression of sexual preference is equivalent in any way with the homosexual expression of sexual preference is not merely simplistic, but historically ignorant. I don't presume to attempt a re-education in as few words as I intend to invest here, but I would like to offer a few points for future consideration.

For the homosexual in this society, prior to the events twenty years ago, known as "Stonewall," which triggered the gay liberation movement, the admission of his or her sexuality (much less the open expression of it) was unthinkable. Such an admission assured one of unemployment, ostracism and a total vulnerability to hostilities of the most violent kind. Beyond this, the past held no clear and confident models for such admissions. Homosexuality was a dirty, taboo subject, not permitted even implicitly in any of the mass media. For the Hayes office of Hollywood — the moral watchdogs for movies for more than forty years — even the word homosexual was unacceptable in film.

Homosexuals — deprived of any public voice, deprived of any real community, deprived of any acceptable, happy example to follow — had no reasonable choice but to lie; no choice but to dissemble; no choice but to live in constant fear of exposure; no choice but to live strangled lives, the parts of their souls empowered to love having been extinguished or forcibly made silent and furtive. Stonewall (I'll let you look up the reference) changed all that. From that time, no longer has this expression been a guilty confession. It is a proud, political act. This expression isn't about the bedroom, not about fornication. It's about fuller awareness, about a heightened social consciousness.

If you are truly as egalitarian as you seem to want us to believe, if you truly believe as I do that a person's sexuality is utterly irrelevant, then I applaud you,

and point to you as a sign of progress made, a sign that more people understand than once did, that homosexuality is and always has been as commonplace of each and every society this planet has seen. But, don't believe for a minute that there aren't people that are eager to suppress and violate the rights and persons of homosexuals. This suppression is vicious. It is often anonymous, often violent. It can come from anywhere, seemingly anyone.

These are the people actually being addressed when human sexuality classes invite homosexuals as guest speakers. These are the people actually being addressed when a gay friend confronts you with his truth. Clear, politically motivated expressions of sexuality will only be silly and unnecessary when everyone agrees to their irrelevancy.

Until that day comes, the suppression of this expression — an expression that is hard to come by, that exposes deeply personal, private matters to public scrutiny, that still can cost a human everything that gives life meaning — is equivalent to the suppression of the individuals themselves. Those who would persecute homosexuals want nothing better than for them to be quiet, to be docile. It fits neatly into their agenda. I am afraid that, intentionally or not, your editorial has struck a blow (admittedly a small blow) for every closed-minded, intolerant homophobe on this campus, has slowed to that extent the progress of which I have been writing, has struck a blow against the gay friend you pointedly mentioned in your article.

As I've said, my intention here has not been to educate, but to give a slightly fuller view of an immensely complicated issue that, frankly, is too often simplified, to the detriment of all people concerned. If homosexuals are impatient, their impatience reflects a frustration with the slow rate of progress toward equality, with a clearly-perceived and still-saddening shortfall of tolerance and kindness.

Daniel C. McGlothlen

Get a will to live by

Jeanie Shaw
Staff Writer

Have you ever thought about how you might die or when you will die? It's hard to think that someday, maybe a long way off — or maybe soon — you could be dying.

Today medical technology has many heroic measures for helping keep people alive. But what happens if your death is inevitable and medical technology is only prolonging your death.

A "Living Will" is your final say in the manner in which your last days are treated. It is a document that tells your caregivers in the hospital what you want, or don't want, done. You have the right to refuse medical treatment or to have treatment withdrawn if there is no hope for survival.

Duncan Wilson, an attorney in Auburn, said that Living Wills are legal

in this state and they do have the power over hospital decisions. He added, though, that "Sometimes you do have to change doctors to find one that will agree with your decision."

The Society for the Right to Die in New York and the Hemlock Society in California are two advocacy groups that support a Living Will. They suggest that you be specific when you write about what treatments you want or don't want. They also suggest that you select a proxy to speak for you if you are in a coma.

Although this is not on your priority list, don't put it off too long. Once you're in a coma and at death's door, you can't plan ahead. Accidents happen on the freeway everyday. The Living Will allows you to die with dignity. If you don't want to be kept alive on respirators and feeding tubes, then see a lawyer to write your own Living Will.

Summer's sizzling sequels and more

Bill Urvich
Staff Writer

A summer movie season without sequels is like a day without sunshine, but this is Seattle. So a usual summer lineup encompasses lackluster sequels, a few unexpected moneymakers, and some downright flops at the box office. Last year's summer movie season brought us Batman, Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade. This summer promises even bigger and better things.

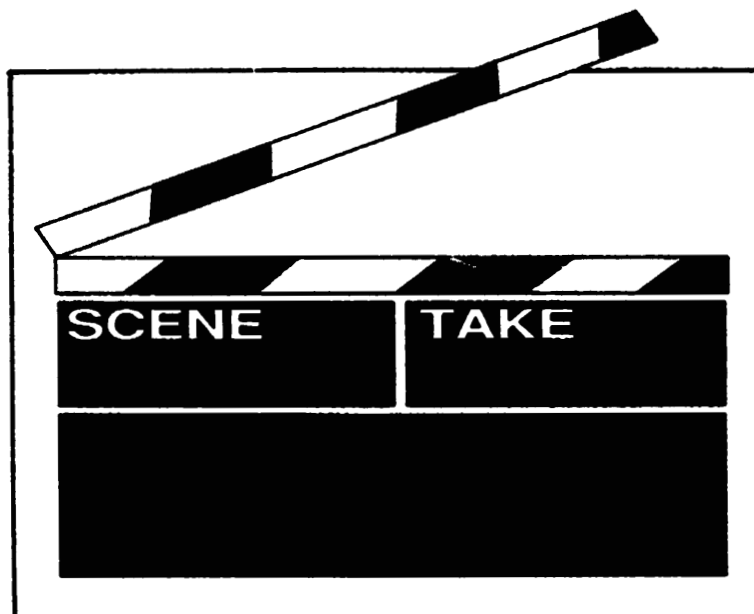
Here's a good prediction of some of the tops and flops of the 1990 summer movie season.

One of the top grossers of the summer is going to be Paul Verhoeven's *Total Recall*, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger as a construction worker who dreams that he lived a former life on the planet Mars. The trailers on T.V. already knock you to the back wall; expect this one to be huge. *Total Recall* opens around the nation today.

Racing up to theatres on June 27th is Tom Cruise in *Days of Thunder*. Cruise plays Cole Trickle, an unknown race car driver who dreams of winning the Daytona 500. Cruise is obviously a big box office attraction; and with the slick direction of Tony Scott, this movie has the workings of a number-one moneymaker. *Total Recall* will be very tough competition.

Dick Tracy starring Warren Beatty and Madonna opens June 15, and probably is the most hyped film of the summer. From the preview trailers the whole atmosphere of the movie looks very comic book, very cheap and cheesy. Even with cameo appearances by Dustin Hoffman and James Caan, this could be a major disappointment for Disney. Personally, I believe it will flop very hard.

Eddie Murphy has kept himself relatively quiet since his dismal directorial debut with *Harlem Nights*, and now Murphy is back co-starring with Nick Nolte in *Another 48 HRS.* Murphy needs a hit right now, and the early trailers show plenty of action. The question is can Walter Hill (director of the original *48 HRS.*) bring in something we haven't seen since the recent barrage of buddy-buddy cop films. If Hill is successful in doing this, *Another 48 HRS.* should clear \$15 million on its opening stint and be an excellent sequel.



Opening June 22nd is the most eagerly awaited sequel this year in *Die Hard 2*. Again, Bruce Willis is New York cop John McClane who is waiting for his wife's plane to land at Washington D.C.'s Dulles Airport as those naughty terrorists arrive and take control. The success of this sequel relies on director Renny Harlin and his ability to outdo the original. The previews look fair to mediocre, but even if this film can't outdo the original, this still will be a top money maker of the summer. This should break \$20 million on its opening run.

Two films which have opened in the Seattle area, *Bird on a Wire* and *Back to the Future Part III*, are supposedly assured blockbusters. *Bird on a Wire* stars Mel Gibson as a federal witness and Goldie Hawn as his long lost love interest. The two get thrown together by chance and chased by evil doers hunting Gibson. For an action film, *Bird on a Wire* has some very long and tedious moments, and when the action does come it's done with such a ho-hum attitude that it's not exhilarating. *Bird on a Wire* grossed \$15.3 million in its opening weekend, but both of these actors can do much better.

Back to the Future Part III is the third and hopefully the final installment in the time traveling trilogy. Again, Michael J. Fox is back as Marty McFly who goes back to the Wild West to save Doc (Christopher Lloyd) from the bad guys that started the genes for that big, bad bully, Biff.

Late June or early July will bring *Robocop 2*, with Peter Weller as our favorite robotic protector of the peace. The early trailers provide us with a look that resembles the first film with a heavy emphasis on high-tech action. Like the first film, *Robocop* is battling in the

war against drugs with a new synthetic on the market called Nuke. Robo also must face a new and improved *Robocop*. Orion Pictures has booked this film into the United Artists Cinema 70 downtown, a theatre that is not equipped with 70 millimeter or Dolby Stereo. Orion also had to hire director Irvin Kershner (famous for *The Empire Strikes Back*) at the last minute for direction. The people at Orion seem a little tentative about this release. The

opening will be around \$15 million, but if it's anything like the first it should be a hit.

Warner Brothers Pictures, which scored heavy last summer with *Batman*, and *Lethal Weapon II*, are hoping to score big bucks with *Presumed Innocent*. Harrison Ford stars as a prosecuting attorney who is charged with murdering his mistress. Ford has no brown fedora hat or bullwhip to keep him company these days, so he needs a box office hit to keep the post *Indiana Jones* days alive. Ford is a good box office attraction, and with him at the helm of this film, it should do fairly well.

Fresh from his debut on *Saturday Night Live*, Andrew Dice Clay is bringing his shockingly blunt sense of humor to the big screen this summer. In *The Adventures of Ford Fairlane*, Clay is cast as a rock n' roll detective hired to sniff into the armpit of the music underworld. This film can either help the Diceman or hinder him, either bring more people to his already large following or make him a big target for the PMRC.

Gremlins 2 is a sequel that has a good deal of anticipation surrounding it. The furry little creatures are in Manhattan this time around, and, well, you can guess what happens. Director Joe Dante, who directed the first time around, is in charge once again. The question is whether Dante can rekindle the magic that made the first an unexpected hit. If the furry little creatures can be made appealing once again this should make some money, if not it will lose money since it cost three times as much to make as the original.

Since we're on the topic of sequels, we might as well close out with a sequel. At the end of July or early August, Twentieth Century Fox will be releasing *Young Guns II*. The movie pursues Billy the Kid and his posse as they get prosecuted by the government and hunted down by Pat Garrett. Again Emilio Estevez stars as Billy the Kid, with remaining originals Kiefer Sutherland and Lou Diamond Phillips. The first film grossed \$43 million, and Fox is hoping this sequel can generate a little bit more.

Announcing new music reviews



Jim Reitz
Staff Writer

Dickless-I'm a Man /Saddle Tramp "45"

Sub Pop Records

Although their name may be Dickless, their new "I'm a Man" single on Sub Pop Records leaves one thing perfectly clear about the four women who comprise the band. Dickless has balls!

The rough vocals, complements of Kelly Canary, are scratchy enough to leave even Lemmy Kilmister in awe.

Unfortunately, their style of music is far from original. Producer Jack Endino, who seems to appear on nearly every Sub Pop release, has his influence deeply embedded into the new Dickless release. This influence comes through in the loud, fairly predictable, simple style of super-distorted blues known as grunge-rock.

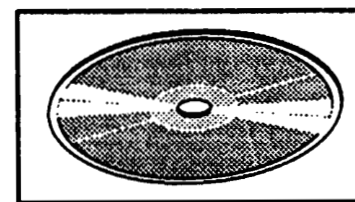
The A-side of the single "I'm a Man" is an old tune musically fashioned after Chi-

cago blues man Muddy Waters. The song was made popular by Chicago blues artist Bo Diddley (the man with the square guitar seen in the Nike commercials with Bo Jackson).

"I'm a Man" is the weaker song of the two. Dickless seems to have lost much of the energy the tune previously possessed.

The flip-side, "Saddle Tramp," is the livelier song of the two. It is a powerful song which drives with more energy than the A-side and has a good, solid flow to it.

But all things considered, the best thing about the new Dickless single is that it is on colored vinyl. (This means someday it could be worth some money for all you greedy record collectors out there.)



Death Angel-Act III

Geffen Records

"Act III" by Death Angel is a pretty good speed-metal record. It contains what would be expected by this type of band. But, more importantly, it contains a few surprises. The best song, "Discontinued," focuses on a great rhythm with an odd feel to it. The guitar on "Act

III" is perfect for the type of music Death Angel is geared toward. The drumming on this album is very good and at times exceptional.

Death Angel dares to take a somewhat different approach to ballad sections in their songs than many of the other speed-metal bands who appear to be brawling for the title of "Heaviest/Hardest Band in the Galaxy." Instead of having just one slow song or a couple slow parts on an album, Death Angel dares to place quite a few slower sections in their album and let their singer sing (not scream) over them.

The two bad points about "Act III" are not big ones. The first is the featured song "Seemingly Endless Time." The song is not as good as the others on the album, being more commercial and predictable than the others. The other bad point is that singer Mark Osegueda sounds frighteningly similar to Anthrax's Joe Belladonna. This point, coupled with the fact that the music of Death Angel and Anthrax are very much alike, could lead to the false conclusion that Death Angel are Anthrax rip-offs. But these two points are small and can be easily overlooked.

"Act III" is a good piece of work. Unfortunately, however, for all you record collectors, the vinyl is just plain black.

Sneakers worth killing for

Owning a pair of these shoes could cost you more than money

Tim Davison
Staff Writer

Gold chains used to be the big status symbol for members of street gangs, and still are to some extent. But these days, footwear is becoming the article of clothing "to die for." Not expensive Italian loafers but high-tech basketball shoes—shoes like the Reebok Pump and Nike's Air Jordans, top of the line in style, dependability and price. The Reebok Pump, when you can find it in stock, sells for \$170. The Air Jordans, which had no choice but to become popular due to the sponsorship of Chicago Bulls Point Guard Michael Jordan, sell for a mere \$126. These shoes are popular, and owning a pair could prove lethal.

The price of these sneakers makes them attractive to the young as status symbols, and also to inner city members of gangs who feel they are a symbol of prestige and power. These sneakers are worn by

people the gang members idolize, which makes them one reason worth owning. But unfortunately, too many of these gang members have no money and must resort to robbery or worse—murder. It's like something out of a Brian DePalma movie, which might be called the "Invasion of the Sneaker Snatchers." People are actually losing their lives over a pair of shoes.

The problem isn't just murder, however. It's the silence. It is becoming a na-

The real tragedy here is that people don't have to die for their shoes.

tional issue, having recently been featured in Sports Illustrated and also on the television show Inside Edition. Yet, people aren't willing to talk. I called the Tacoma Police Department to see how many killings in the Hilltop area they believe have been sneaker related. They never returned my calls. I contacted a Foot Locker store, a chain that specializes in sporting shoes, to ask about these sneakers which often lead

to violence for the owners. The store directed me to its corporate office, which never returned my calls.

These organizations are not blind to the facts of what is happening, and they shouldn't try to avoid the subject any longer. The makers of these shoes should take a stand and do something to alleviate this problem.

The real tragedy here is that people don't need to die for their shoes. People don't need these shoes, unless they are really serious about professional sports. In a few years (or months, depending on how the fashion winds blow) the new status symbol will be nose rings or something else. The real problem is that manufacturers have finally pushed groups over the edge from peaceful user-product coexistence to deadly envy. Maybe changing the advertising styles would help. I don't think a good commercial destined to sell sneakers would start out, "Buy our sneakers and you're sure to get killed the next time you walk into the city."

So, if you're really intent on getting a pair of these sneakers, go right ahead. But remember, you have been warned.

Mountain bike program to open

Education and safety stressed at new center

Paula McWilliams
Staff Writer

The first mountain bike program of its kind in Washington will open June 30 and operate weekends through Sept. 30. John Sutherland, manager of Ski Acres Mountain Bike and Hiking Center, submitted a proposal for the program during the spring of 1989. After further research and revising, the proposal was again submitted and will be put into action this month. Sutherland, whose experience in the recreation industry originates in the Colorado area, says there is no real good place to go riding in Washington, although "our area is real conducive to it."

The Ski Acres Mountain Bike and Hiking Center, located east of the Ski Acres ski area, will offer bikers, as well as hikers, photographers and outdoor lovers, a place for adventure. Riders and their gear will be transported to the top by the Silver Fir triple chairlift which ascends 1,040 vertical feet. Hooks mounted to the backs of the chairs on the lift will carry your own or rented mountain bike. Be prepared for the chairlift to move slower than what you are used to. At 150 feet per minute, Sutherland says that people have a different mentality towards riding a ski lift in the summer and are not in a hurry to get to the top.

Whether you're already an expert, or just learning to master the fat-wheeled, alloy contraption, there will be a route down to challenge your ability. Sutherland says there are three major sections to choose from: Rockdale Lake, Mount Catherine and Olallie Meadows. There will be signs pointing out about 10 different routes or you can create your own way down. These routes,

of varied terrain, are divided into estimated categories of 20 percent beginner, 40 percent intermediate and 40 percent expert.

For those of you not so quick to plummet down the side of a mountain without instruction, a free introductory tour is being offered. Modeled after a fitness track course, there will be eight information stations to include: equipment, balance, steering, braking, ascents, descents, obstacles and environmental sensitivity.

With the preceding concern over environmental issues, the environmental sensitivity station is designed to alert riders how to make responsible choices, when faced with a given situation, to cause the least environmental damage. Sutherland says such a choice might be whether to ride over an obstacle or ride around and create a new trail. "Hopefully, we can play a major role in educating the biking public in responsible riding," says Sutherland.

In case of accidents or injury, a safety patrol group equipped with an emergency vehicle and radios will be accessible.

The Ski Acres Mountain Bike and Hiking Center's amenities also include mountain bike rentals, mountain bike instruction, a timed slalom course, sports shop and bike repair service and Deli Bar. Horseback riding will be offered on a reservation basis by Happy Trails Horse / Hay Rides. For information or reservations call 434-6646 Saturdays and Sundays or 232-8182 on weekdays.

This summer pack a picnic. Soak up sun. Photograph wildlife. Catch a fish. Ride a horse. Hike a trail. Bike a mountain. Bike a mountain?

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Highline pool update

Next fall quarter, Highline Community College will open its pool to the student body for physical education classes.

Classes to be offered are P.E. 132, 134, and 137. P.E. 132 and 134 are geared for non-experienced swimmers, while 137 is for the advanced. Winter quarter will open even more swimming related classes.

For HCC staff, and students who can not afford to be tied down with another class, use of the pool is free of charge, but towels are not provided. HCC identification will be required for admittance. The pool will be available for use between 9am and 2pm.

For additional information call Eileen Broomell, Faculty Building C, ext. 449.

WHAT'S UP?

Monday, June 4, HCC will hold their Monday Night Jazz Concert. Admission is free and the concert is located at the Marriot Hotel, Gambits Lounge. The concert will feature the HCC Jazz Ensemble by Ed Fish and Little Bill and the Blue Notes.

HCC's finals week schedule goes as follows.

Tuesday- June 5
8:00-9:50 a.m.- All 8:00 a.m. MWF and daily classes.

10:00-11:50 a.m.- All 11:00 a.m.

MWF and daily classes.

12:30-2:20 p.m.- All 1:00 p.m.

MWF and daily classes.

2:30-4:20 p.m.- all 3:00 p.m. MWF and daily classes.

WEDNESDAY- June 6

10-11:50 a.m.- All 10 a.m. MWF and daily classes.

12:30-2:20 p.m.- All 12 p.m. MWF and daily classes.

2:30-4:20 p.m.- All 2 p.m. MWF and daily classes.

THURSDAY- June 7

8-9:50 a.m.- All 9 a.m. MWF and daily classes.

10-11:50 a.m.- All 10 a.m. T-Th classes.

12:30-2:20 p.m.- No exams scheduled.

2:30-4:20 p.m.- All 3 p.m. T-Th classes.

FRIDAY- June 8.

8-9:50 a.m.- All 8 and 9 a.m. T-Th classes.

12:30-2:20 p.m.- All 11a.m. and 12 p.m. T-Th classes.

2:30-4:40 p.m.- Reserved for unscheduled and conflicts.

For all those lucky enough to finish their studies at HCC, the graduation ceremony is just around the corner. June 7, 1990 at 8 p.m. in Building 7, HCC graduates will receive their degrees and move on to either a four year college or on to their careers. Congratulations to all.

T-Word news editor Paige Kerrigan and graphic designer Marty Pierce will be correcting copy together for a long time as they join in marriage tomorrow afternoon. Good luck in your future battles.

Student Award Recipients**Washington Award for Vocational Excellence**

Alicia Hanson

Susan Palmer

Highest Scholastic Achievement

Marion Terkelle

Donald Nguyen

Contributions to Highline College

Glenn Goman

Nancy Berstrom

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Administration of Justice:

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Randy L. Spert

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Sam Kitchell

Brian J. Piland

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Brian E. Knapp

Lori J. Sachs

Gary D. Benton

Computer Information

Systems: Jacki L. McCoy

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L'Amoureux

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Claude McInnes

Jeremy S. Ng

Education: Lynn Harmon

Betty Divina

Engineering:

Donald T. Nguyen

Dayton Griffin

Steve Baumgart

Fashion Marketing:

Shelly Hummel

Treena George

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Paul Gaffney

Starla Nelson

Alice Cantwell

Inah Sinn

History/Geography:

Judith R. Thompson

Journalism:

Steve McClure

Library Technician:

Zona G. Flood

Judith A. Vasilieff

Legal Assistant:

Randee Barr

Russel MacKenzie

Mathematics:

Donald Nguyen

Neil Bernotski

Music/Art/Drama:

Karen Eccles

Vicki Krohn

Literature/Humanities:

M. Alan Brozovich

Emmet Boyle

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Corry G. Shines

Transportation:

Dorothy Goodwill

Masumi Matsuda

Writing/Reading:

Vanessa Michel

Shaaron Samuels

Jason Hatch

Gordon: educator and communicator

Cont. from page 2

sion on Excellence in Education. She also was one of the authors of the commission's report "A Nation At Risk."

In 1985 she was chosen as the Communicator of the Year by the National Council for Community Relations, and she has been listed in Who's Who in America since 1981.

Gordon has served on the

board of directors of the American Association of Junior Colleges, the President's Academy, and the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges.

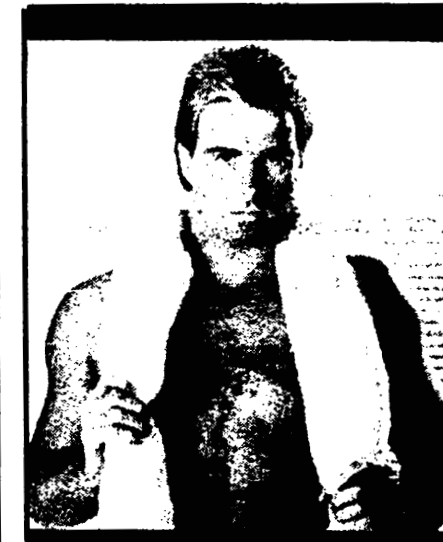
Of her successor, Gordon hopes he cares for people and doesn't "look at this (HCC) as a school, but as people."

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ADVISOR

SUSAN LANDGRAF

I don't mean to bitch but...

Kevin Tallmadge

Managing Editor

I don't mean to bitch but...

Summer is finally here. Now there is a real reason to call in sick to work besides the that sociology in the morning.

The summer months are also considered the wedding season. The time for two people who commitment of marriage. It's the time to spend several thousands of dollars for one afternoon of relatives you never liked.

I don't want to give the impression that I am getting married this summer. Rather, I was one of the lucky ones to be chosen to be in a friend's wedding. The ThunderWord news editor Paige Kerrigan will be marrying our design person Marty Pierce tomorrow. They are both good friends, and I am honored to be in their wedding — except for a couple of minor problems.

One, the rehearsal is tonight. I can't think of a better way to spend Friday night, than in some hall in the boonies in Maple Valley with a bunch of people I don't know.

Secondly there's the matter of the tux. When Marty asked me to be in his wedding, I gladly accepted. Then I found out how much it would cost me. \$90 the lady at store tells me. So I paid my \$10 deposit then excused myself and went to the bathroom to check my pants.

Sure it's a lot of money for a college student (at least this one) for one day of discomfort, but I guess it's worth. It could be me getting married.

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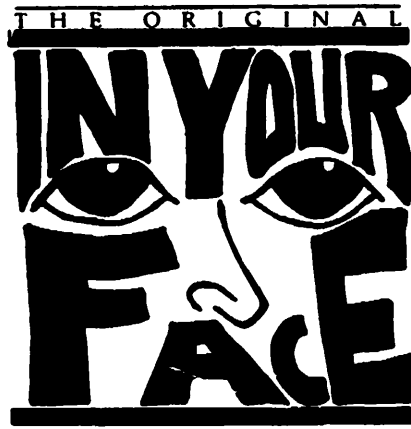
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Daniel Schultz

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Bill Urlevich

The big debate of the big decision



Marty Pierce

As this school year comes to a close, we at the Thunderword close the book on a sordid era of our history. This is the final time that Dave Wellington and I will face off against each other on this page.

Dave will be moving on to greener pastures in Pullman at Washington State University (thank God Mr. Prim and Proper will be on the other side of the state). I, on the other hand, have other plans which inspired the topic for our final debate: marriage vs. bachelorhood.

Since moving out of my father's house five years ago, I have been a textbook example of the young American bachelor. Late nights, dirty socks, unpaid bills, overflowing garbage cans, and basic all-around disorganization have been a way of life — almost a religion.

Why would anybody want to mess up a good thing like that and go do something stupid like get married? Who wants some PMS- crazed woman watching over you every second, questioning everything you do, taking your paycheck from you before it hits your wallet, and bitching at you on a daily basis.

A wise old man once said to me: "50 percent of marriages end in divorce, the other 50 percent end in death." Not the best odds I've ever heard.

If a bachelor wants to waste his whole check on a Friday night, so what!? Besides the landlord, who's going to know the difference. If a bachelor wants to get home at 3 o'clock in the morning, he'll do it (and sleep until 4 o'clock the next afternoon if he wants). Let's see a married man try and do anything like that.

Marriage would probably be perfect for Dave. A wife might just be the perfect transition for him after he gets out of the Boy Scouts.

But me? Marriage? Why would I defy all logic and go against the odds to waltz down the aisle? There is that one factor that defies all logic, one that has made both men and women do illogical things since the beginning of time... love.

For that reason tomorrow at noon I will be tying the knot with the T-Word's News Editor Paige Kerrigan.

So, Dave, I guess you win this one. I hate to admit it, but you might just be right about this marriage thing after all. It's almost refreshing to see you right about something for the first time in your life.

Good luck with livestock in Pullman, Dave; it's been fun making you look bad.

David Wellington

Dear Mr. and perspective Mrs. Pierce,

As a wise man once told me, "Love is often hard to define but easy to know when it ain't." Or maybe I saw that on a bumper sticker. Anyway, I hope you have found it.

As you start your new life with your new bride, I hope you don't look back too often to reminisce about times past. Rooms that never did get clean. Penicillin cultures growing on stale pizza. Clothes that never did get ironed right. Your newsroom "friends" that came over late at night and just wouldn't leave.

As you gracefully traverse the aisle toward your future, I hope you look forward to the bountiful joys of matrimony. Forever nuptially tying yourself to the woman of your dreams, the joy of your life, the apple of your eye, no doubt you will be anticipating the pleasures of spending the rest of your life with the woman you love. As she cautiously peers at you, her blessed gloom, I mean groom, I hope she in turn recognizes the privileges that will come from netting her man — a perpetual plumber, painter, carpenter, roofer, dish washer, car washer, mechanic, gardener and general handy man.

Marty, your bachelorhood is over! What are you thinking? Now you actually have to clean up your room, empty the garbage, throw out the stale pizza. Your life will be neat, organized and up-to-date. You'll have to start answering to others for your actions. No more late night carousing with the boys. No more paychecks spent on bad bets at the track. What's this love stuff you're trying to con us into believing. Marty, you're a sap. A sucker. A glutton for punishment.

I heard another wise man once say that marriage was like a three-ring circus. First you have your engagement ring. Then comes the marriage ring. Last but not least, you encounter the suffering.

Tomorrow at noon you'll be a new man. At least Paige hopes so. I hate to admit it, Marty, but you may have been right about this marriage thing...at one time. Whether we like to admit it or not, we all wish you and your bride the best of all things in your future. It's been fun sparring with you in this column. Admittedly it's hard to have a battle of wits with an unarmed man, but you put up a magnificent facade regardless. You faked it pretty well.

P.S. IN YOUR FACE!

Procrastination: everybody's doing it

Tim Davison

Staff Writer

There isn't a person alive who hasn't said, "I'll do that first thing tomorrow." Often we have the good intentions of doing this the next day but, inevitably, something else comes up.

During this time of the year, with the days getting nicer schoolwork can seem tedious and, just a bit of a drag. Besides, with all the procrastination you have done up until now, there's a stack of papers higher than Mount Everest collecting dust on your desk. Your mother doesn't know whether to burn them or make them a member of the family. But why not put off that big term paper that was assigned at the beginning of the quarter? After

all, it's 70 degrees outside, let's go cruising! So, off we go to enjoy the weather, spend time with friends, and have a GOOD TIME. A good time where, for a while we can forget about that evil institution SCHOOL.

Just remember a few things first. There is only a week of school left. Shouldn't that term paper be started right away so you will be able to save some of your credibility? Your instructor already thinks so poorly of you that she wouldn't give you a ride to the doctor, but you might salvage something so she'd give you a ride to your own funeral. Also, you are paying for this. Whoever heard of throwing away good money for a bad grade? I

can think of better ways to waste money, like giving it to Jim and Tammy Bakker. The summer break will be upon us soon, and after a few months some of you will be complaining that you want to come back.

So get started on those papers because there's only a day to go! Just think, won't you feel better when it's all over? Come on, what are you waiting for? Stop procrastinating.

On the other hand, it is really nice outside, I'd love to go downtown today, and besides, I can always start tomorrow...

How do we fight back?

Nancy Hartsock
Staff Writer

When is it going to stop? Where will it end? We continue to destroy each other emotionally and physically; and what for?

Shoes — that's what. We are now hurting each other for the possession of tennis shoes. Young people are killing and abusing each other for the newest and most expensive sports shoes.

The Seattle Times stated that a 17-year-old girl from Milwaukee was roughed up on the street by three other girls and then pushed into an apartment for her athletic shoes. Then four boys between the ages of 14 and 17 repeatedly raped her.

What is it going to take to put our priorities into perspective? Whose fault is it that some of the youth of today put so much emphasis on clothes and style? Some people have misplaced ideals. The hero or heroin has become the "fashion plate," not the person who volunteers his or her time to help the elderly or fight for a worthy cause.

How do we fight back? It's difficult to battle against the advertiser who makes promises that if you buy his product you'll be gorgeous, wonderful and accepted by all.

Maybe the nudists have a good idea. The only thing you could steal from them is a hot water bottle on a cold night

Letter to the editor: I beg to differ

You drew an unfortunate analogue in your recent editorial (ThunderWord May 4) with which I cannot help but take issue. The notion that the heterosexual expression of sexual preference is equivalent in any way with the homosexual expression of sexual preference is not merely simplistic, but historically ignorant. I don't presume to attempt a re-education in as few words as I intend to invest here, but I would like to offer a few points for future consideration.

For the homosexual in this society, prior to the events twenty years ago, known as "Stonewall," which triggered the gay liberation movement, the admission of his or her sexuality (much less the open expression of it) was unthinkable. Such an admission assured one of unemployment, ostracism and a total vulnerability to hostilities of the most violent kind. Beyond this, the past held no clear and confident models for such admissions. Homosexuality was a dirty, taboo subject, not permitted even implicitly in any of the mass media. For the Hayes office of Hollywood -- the moral watchdogs for movies for more than forty years -- even the word homosexual was unacceptable in film.

Homosexuals -- deprived of any public voice, deprived of any real community, deprived of any acceptable, happy example to follow -- had no reasonable choice but to lie; no choice but to dissemble; no choice but to live in constant fear of exposure; no choice but to live strangled lives, the parts of their souls empowered to love having been extinguished or forcibly made silent and furtive. Stonewall (I'll let you look up the reference) changed all that. From that time, no longer has this expression been a guilty confession. It is a proud, political act. This expression isn't about the bedroom, not about fornication. It's about fuller awareness, about a heightened social consciousness.

If you are truly as egalitarian as you seem to want us to believe, if you truly believe as I do that a person's sexuality is utterly irrelevant, then I applaud you,

and point to you as a sign of progress made, a sign that more people understand than once did, that homosexuality is and always has been as commonplace of each and every society this planet has seen. But, don't believe for a minute that there aren't people that are eager to suppress and violate the rights and persons of homosexuals. This suppression is vicious. It is often anonymous, often violent. It can come from anywhere, seemingly anyone.

These are the people actually being addressed when human sexuality classes invite homosexuals as guest speakers. These are the people actually being addressed when a gay friend confronts you with his truth. Clear, politically motivated expressions of sexuality will only be silly and unnecessary when everyone agrees to their irrelevancy.

Until that day comes, the suppression of this expression -- an expression that is hard to come by, that exposes deeply personal, private matters to public scrutiny, that still can cost a human everything that gives life meaning -- is equivalent to the suppression of the individuals themselves. Those who would persecute homosexuals want nothing better than for them to be quiet, to be docile. It fits neatly into their agenda. I am afraid that, intentionally or not, your editorial has struck a blow (admittedly a small blow) for every closed-minded, intolerant homophobe on this campus, has slowed to that extent the progress of which I have been writing, has struck a blow against the gay friend you pointedly mentioned in your article.

As I've said, my intention here has not been to educate, but to give a slightly fuller view of an immensely complicated issue that, frankly, is too often simplified, to the detriment of all people concerned. If homosexuals are impatient, their impatience reflects a frustration with the slow rate of progress toward equality, with a clearly-perceived and still-saddening shortfall of tolerance and kindness.

Daniel C. McGlothlen

Letter to the editor: I'm a human being

I am responding to Mary Torcaso's letter (*), published May 4, "I'm a Heterosexual." I am not going to say whether I am a hetero or homosexual, because I do not want to get labeled for who I am. I am going to let everyone know that I am a HUMAN BEING.

In Ms. Torcaso's letter she stated, "privacy is one of the easiest ways to avoid being labeled," then she flaunts her sexuality. She also states, "Homosexuals seem almost impatient to establish that they or their friends are gay." I'd like to ask, where did you get your facts? I don't know of any gay or lesbian that announces, "I'm a homosexual." In fact, a lot of them hide by denying their true orientation. If by chance you are talking about gay rights demonstrations and parades, they are only asking for equal rights, not special rights.

The last issue I would like to address is the human sexuality class. I am enrolled in that course this quarter and feel that I have learned more about my

own sexuality and that of others (both hetero and homosexuals). When the Homosexual speakers were brought into the classroom I was able to ask questions about homosexuality and get the answers. If a question directed to a homosexual was asked of a heterosexual, what kind of response do you think it would receive? That goes for any of the other speakers brought into the classroom, such as those on child abuse and sexually transmitted diseases etc...

I have friends that are hetero/homosexuals, and I don't label them for what they are, I label them for human beings, just like myself. As I read the (editorial) you addressed to everyone I felt that you still had a problem with your sexuality, so I suggest you keep going to your Wednesday night support group. Next time you write a letter like that one I suggest you think it over. You have hurt a lot of readers, both hetero and homosexual, with your discriminatory feelings.

Kitty
(*refers to Torcaso's editorial)

Children's perspective on divorce a sad reality

Christina Shires
Feature Editor

Seventy out of the 120 children at a West Seattle daycare are victims of broken homes. Seven out of every 12 will never know what it's like to have a family that stays together.

Moving from childhood into "teenagehood" and eventually into adulthood, it's easy to lose perspective of what it is like to see things through a child's eyes. What little eyes see and hide and what their little ears hear is incredible. This became clear to me after listening to a dozen second and third graders deliberating over their views on marriage and divorce.

"Becky" has parents currently undergoing "divorce treatment." "Mom says my dad broke her heart 'cause he wouldn't do anything with her. She wanted to go dancing, but he didn't want to. So she left and found a new dancing partner."

Becky, who lives with her father, says, "I miss my mom, and my dad says I need her to teach me the stuff he can't. But she says, 'Becky's fine', but I agree with dad. He said he tried to change, but she still won't come back. He need me more than my mom does because my mom already found another man."

Andrew is a couple years younger than Becky and his parents have been divorced for two years. When he gets old enough to "like girls" Andrew says, "I'm going to make sure she likes baseball as much as me. That way we'll always have something fun to do."

Sound silly? Maybe, but maybe not. According to most of these kids, their parents simply didn't like each other and didn't go together well.

Their advice? "They need to make up their minds," Becky says. As it is, seven out of every 12 kids at this West Seattle daycare will never know how to have a family that stays together.

Get a will to live by

Jeanie Shaw
Staff Writer

Have you ever thought about how you might die or when you will die? It's hard to think that someday, maybe a long way off -- or maybe soon -- you could be dying.

Today medical technology has many heroic measures for helping keep people alive. But what happens if your death is inevitable and medical technology is only prolonging your death.

A "Living Will" is your final say in the manner in which your last days are treated. It is a document that tells your caregivers in the hospital what you want, or don't want, done. You have the right to refuse medical treatment or to have treatment withdrawn if there is no hope for survival.

Duncan Wilson, an attorney in Auburn, said that Living Wills are legal

in this state and they do have the power over hospital decisions. He added, though, that "Sometimes you do have to change doctors to find one that will agree with your decision."

The Society for the Right to Die in New York and the Hemlock Society in California are two advocacy groups that support a Living Will. They suggest that you be specific when you write about what treatments you want or don't want. They also suggest that you select a proxy to speak for you if you are in a coma.

Although this is not on your priority list, don't put it off too long. Once you're in a coma and at death's door, you can't plan ahead. Accidents happen on the freeway everyday. The Living Will allows you to die with dignity. If you don't want to be kept alive on respirators and feeding tubes, then see a lawyer to write your own Living Will.