

The Thunderword

Nov. 24,
2004

Volume 44, Issue 10

Highline Community College

What's
inside



Teacher
puts sole
into the
holidays.
See story,
Page 3.

Weather
or Not?



Wednesday
53°/49°



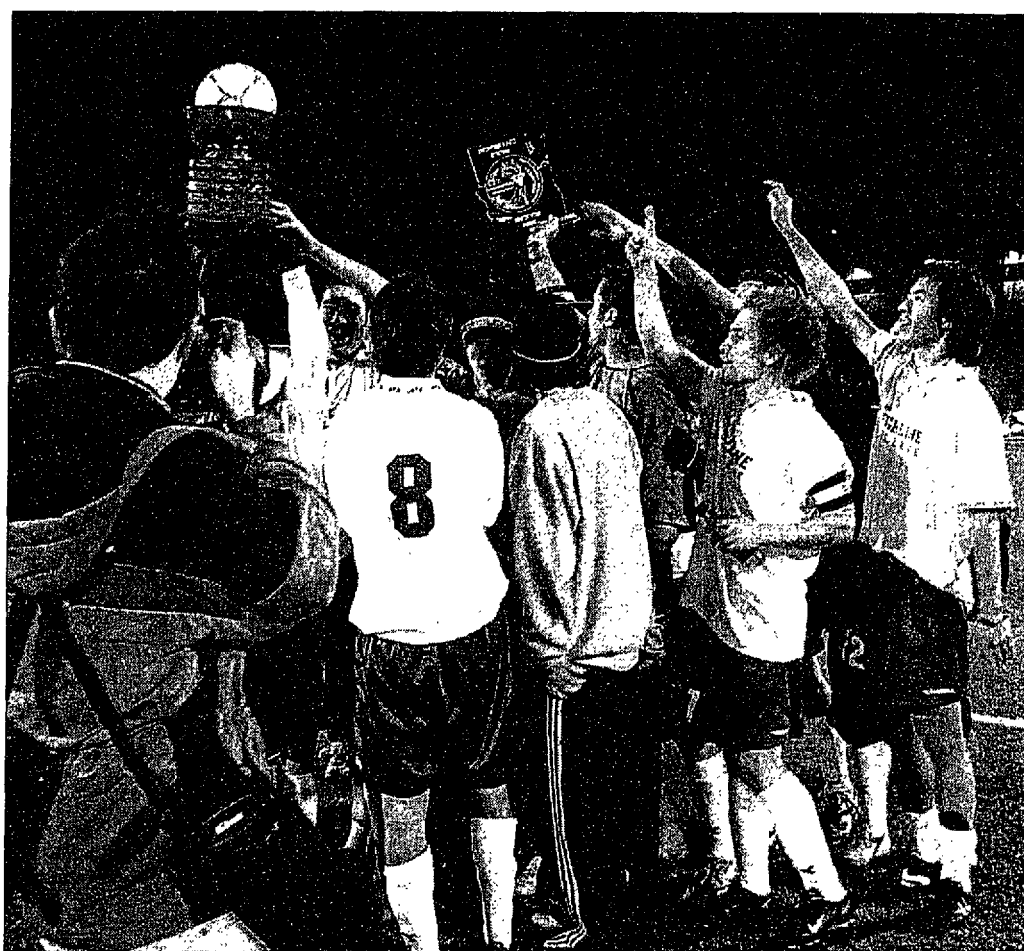
Thanksgiving
47°/33°



Day after that
45°/33°

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MODICALS

Photo by
Jamie Wells

Highline
men enjoy
their mo-
ment after
becoming
NWAACC
champs.

Men reach goal

T-Birds bring home long- awaited title

By Jamie Grossmann
staff reporter

The Highline men's soccer team has made its mark and added to the tradition of Highline athletics with its first NWAACC championship.

The men beat Walla Walla 2-0 Saturday to advance to the championship game Sunday against South Puget Sound. The men then beat the Clippers 2-0 Sunday evening to claim the NWAACC title.

The men strung together one of the best performances in Highline and NWAACC history as they put together three shutouts en route to the championship.

The season just started at the end of August and now three months later the men have ac-

complished their ultimate goal and helped Head Coach Jason Prenovost to his first NWAACC title.

The men came off a hard fought battle against North Idaho two weeks ago, in which Highline came out the victors by shutting out the Cardinals 1-0.

The men began the week with a loose practice on Monday and film study on Tuesday. However on Wednesday it was back to

See Champs, Page 8

Students seek more recycling

By Linh Tran

staff reporter

A Student Government recycling committee is proposing a more comprehensive recycling program for the college.

The recycling committee believes they have a great opportunity to do more for the environment and the community.

"We can do more by reducing the amount of waste produced on campus and through recycling," said Joshua Oakley, student senator and committee member.

Highline has a recycling program but does not collect all recyclable products.

According to Dave Kress grounds and warehouse supervisor, Highline is currently recycling paper products including mix papers and cardboard.

"What we have now we do a pretty good job with what we have. The personnel does an outstanding job getting the paper products and cardboard and getting it out to a recycling company and from that standpoint we do good for what we have," said Kress.

"There is recycling in every building but we are not recycling cans at the moment," said Kress.

Highline does recycle paper, though some staff and students thought Highline did not recycle

See Recycle, Page 11

Campus sits on edge of crime zone

By Amanda Downs and Sara Loken
staff reporters

Highline may seem far away from the crime that continues on the outside of campus.

Only a few feet from campus, Pacific Highway South is host to prostitution, thefts, robberies, drug deals, and assaults.

"Whenever there is a concentration of people using a highway...there is an association with crime," said Greg Dymerski, administrative captain for the City of SeaTac Police Department.

Students at Highline say that they are concerned when using the Highway to get to the college.

Sylvia Jensen said that it feels weird to walk from a bus stop on Pacific Highway

to Highline.

"It's like two different worlds; I feel safer when I'm on the campus," said Jensen.

Student Ryan Malcous agreed.

"I don't like the atmosphere surrounding us (Highline)," said Malcous.

Highline is also subject to its own amounts of crime that could be associated with its location on the Highway.

"This area has a reputation of being a little seedy," said Chief of Security Richard Fisher.

The most prevalent crimes on campus are car thefts and break-ins.

The Des Moines Police Department has taken 45 such case reports here dur-

See Crime, Page 12

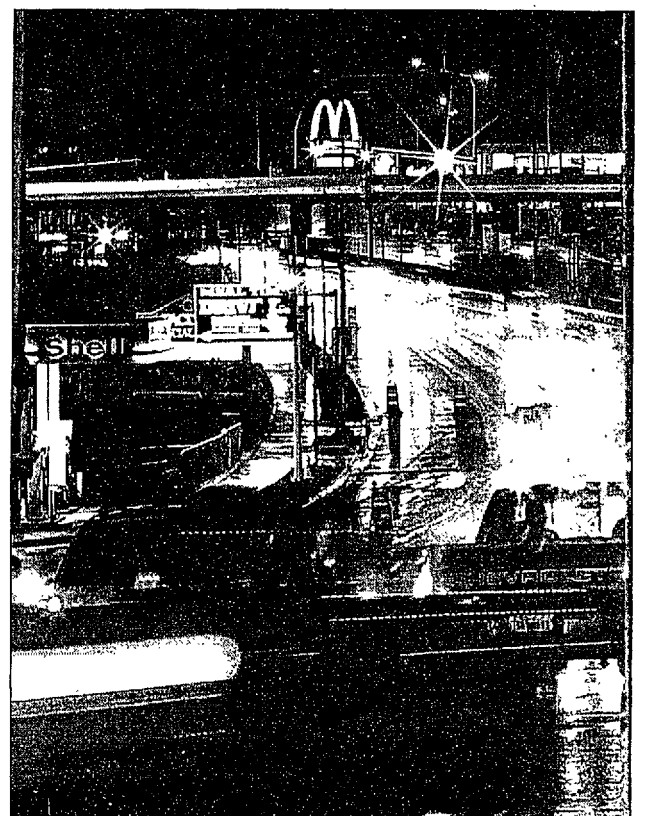


Photo by Robert Alan

Pacific Highway South has lots of traffic and lots of crime.



Man threatens with gun

A Highline operator received a call from a male who threatened to come to campus with a gun on Tuesday, Nov. 23 at 9:30 a.m.

He was asking the operator about the Nursing Program and became agitated when he was told the operator would be transferring him to Entry Services.

"That's not acceptable," the man said, and that he would be coming to campus bringing a gun.

Highline Security had no further information on the incident.

Child care building damaged

Somebody called 911 because of sounds of breaking glass at the Child Care Center on Nov. 20 at night.

The Des Moines Police Department called Highline security to check out the reported noises.

Security saw a tall, slender man wearing a blue, white and yellow jacket running from the scene.

Cases of soda reported stolen

Three cases of soda were stolen from the soda machine by Building 2 at 12:12 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 23.

Upon further inspection, security found that the lock on that machine had been broken.

Huskey jacket missing

A Husky jacket was reported missing at 12:45 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 22.

It is described as a lightweight windbreaker with a purple and gold hood.

Missing items returned

Several found articles have been turned into the security office.

The items were one blue mug, one pair of headphones, two Playstation games and one book with a green cover.

-Compiled by Billy Naylor

News and media are debated at meeting

By Quentin Taminhart
staff reporter

A strong mix of opinions over the freedom of the press kept the conversation intense between attendees at Tuesday's Town Meeting.

Highline professor and Political Affairs club adviser Jim Glennon again hosted the forum, this time entitled "Liberty vs. Security and You."

The freedom of the press to go anywhere and report anything was pitted against our country's security needs.

"I've heard it often said that the first casualty of a war is free press," said Glennon, asking what that meant to students and teachers assembled.

The topic was broached by the showing of footage from an embedded journalist covering the fighting in Falluja, Iraq. The clip first depicted intense urban combat with American soldiers ducking and dodging fire from insurgents and then fighting back with tenacity.

Then it cut to an episode that has gotten worldwide attention

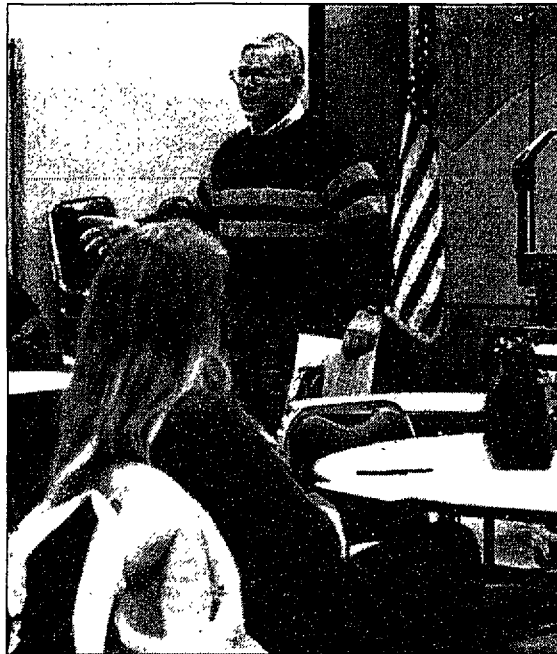


Photo by Bryan Yambe

Professor Jim Glennon speaks to attendees of the second Town Hall meeting.

in the past week. A freelance photojournalist working for NBC videotaped a U.S. soldier shooting an apparently wounded and unarmed Iraqi on the floor of a Falluja mosque. While the circumstances that surrounded the killing are under investigation, the scene has obvious implications for U.S. in-

terests in winning the hearts and minds of the Iraqi people.

In addition to threatening the U.S.'s image as liberator in Iraq, many see such footage as being an excellent recruiting tool for enemies of the U.S. worldwide, potentially putting Americans at home and abroad at greater risk.

Arguing against censoring information on the war, one Highline student asked, "What are we going to do in the future, when we can't look back to these images? When people want to know what happened to their son or daughter? When the generations separated from us can look back unbiasedly and judge what actu-

ally happened? You can't just censor all of this, it's something that's part of us."

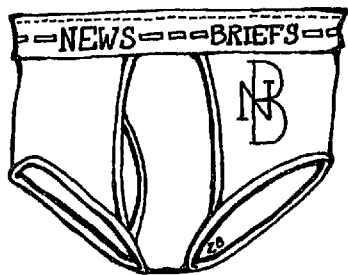
"Does winning the hearts and minds of a people mean that you necessarily have to deceive them?" asked student Taurean Davis.

While a majority of those who spoke said that they favored the freedom of the press, some did say they had qualms over how well the media was doing its job.

Highline Professor Michele Manber pointed out that news organizations were in their respective field to make money just like everyone else. Others responded similarly saying that the media has a obligation to try to report events fairly.

A student who had formerly served in the military asked why the American media had spent so much time covering the prisoner abuse at Abu Ghraib prison but spent relatively little time on how Iraqi insurgents had fired mortars into the facility several times, killing dozens.

Another Town Meeting will be held either Tuesday or Wednesday of next week.



Information on school closures

With winter coming there are some things to know about where to get information on school closures.

A website and radio stations will all be relaying school closure information, www.schoolreport.org, and the radio stations and television broadcasters are KOMO, KING, KIRO, KMPS, KIXI, KLSY, KSTW, and KJR.

You can also call the school, 206-878-3710, for announcements.

Donate money to Giving Tree

Students can donate money to the Giving Tree without having to sponsor a family.

A table in Building 6 will be set up today in 9 a.m. - noon and from 2 - 4 p.m.

The money collected will go

towards families that are still in need. As of last Friday Team Highline was still looking for sponsors for 30 families.

For more information contact Team Highline at 206-878-3710 ext. 3537.

Council is still discussing tax

The Des Moines City Council met last night and further discussed a new parking tax that will affect Highline.

Results of the meeting were unavailable at press time.

The proposed parking tax will call for a \$2 fee to park at Des Moines beaches and parks. The city council is debating whether or not to expand the parking tax to cover the whole city.

Paul Kalchick, Highline Student Government vice president of legislation, attended the meeting and expressed concern, about the amount of money this new tax, if passed, will cost the school.

Bobby Seale to visit Highline

Bobby Seale, cofounder and former chairman of the Black Panther Party, will be speaking on campus.

The event is sponsored by the Black Student Union, Multicultural Services and Student Programs.

He will speak in the new Student Union on Feb. 8, 10 a.m. and noon.

A reception will follow at 1 p.m.

Wristbands benefit research

Pink wristbands that benefit breast cancer research are available to buy for \$2.

The bands are Athena wristbands and the Highline athletic department is sponsoring the event.

The wristbands are currently all sold out but a new shipment is being ordered.

You can also order a wristband from www.athenapartner.org. Or contact Jean Munro at 206-878-3710, ext. 3600.

Scholarships awarded

The Academic Achievement Scholarship has been awarded to 11 students. Winners receive full-tuition waivers for Winter Quarter.

The recipients are: Sherina Adamsom, Holly Maxim, Dustin Leonhard, Vinita Singh, Genie Feist, Melody Mertens, Karan Mahna, JoAnn Petersen, Jennifer Thurlby, Anne Price-Mills, Jeff Reed, Reniva Reiser, Taryn Plypick, Anne Shaw, Jessica Hunsberger.

Why Pay for Parking?
When you live here you could walk to school

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Additional \$100 off 1st. Month With this Ad

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Studios from \$495
1 Bed from \$535
2 Bed from \$695

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Shoes tie together children, smiles

By Maurice Williams

staff reporter

For Phil Droke, the economics of Christmas is money equals shoes equals happy children.

Highline Economics Professor Droke is once again donating pairs of tennis shoes to poor children in Mazatlan, Mexico.

Droke has been going to Mazatlan for a number of years.

One day he wandered by the Pacific Pearl, the local newspaper.

For Christmas each year, Hands Across the Borders (an outreach program), The Vineyard Church, and Pacific Pearl partner to put a smile on the faces of some of the poorest children of Mazatlan by giving them a pair of new tennis shoes through the Make a Child Smile Project.

"I got involved with the Make a Child Smile Project," said Droke. "From there it just got out of hand. It's always a



Phil Droke

kick in the head when you see a child smile."

He became involved with the Make a Child Smile Project eight years ago.

"The church gives you the name of a child and their family outline, you take the outline and go shopping," said Droke.

Volunteers go to the poorest communities to trace the feet of the children.

The project is based on cash donations.

To sponsor a child, a volunteer picks up one of the footprints at either the Pacific Pearl office or the Vineyard Church office.

The paper the donor receives will include the name of the child, his or her age, and where he or she lives.

The footprint on the paper will help the donor know what size shoe the child needs.

After purchasing the shoes, the donor fills the shoebox with other small gifts such as toys, clothes, socks, candy, toothbrushes, etc.

There are volunteers who can do the shopping for the donor.

"I will again be involved in providing shoes to children in the poorer sections of Mazatlan over our Christmas break," said Droke.

Last year Droke took 40 pounds of school supplies collected by Tracy Brigham's class.

"The Make a Child Smile Project's success has grown each year. Last year over 1,000 children received a new pair of

shoes," it said on Pacific Pearl's website.

"However, there are many more children in the poorer communities in Mazatlan who need shoes, and we want to help as many of them as we possibly can. Our goal for next Christmas is 1,500 pairs of shoes."

Droke will continue to look for as many donations as possible; he is planning on continuing his participation with the Make a Child Smile Project.



Photo by Phil Droke

A child looks on as shoes are given out.

To find out more information you can visit www.pacificpearl.com.

Troubles and triumphs

Speakers share stories of battling muscular diseases

By Catherine Matsuura

staff reporter

No matter what hand life deals to us, it takes strength and courage to stay in the game. Guest speakers gave insight into their personal lives living with Lou Gehrig's disease and Muscular Dystrophy.

An awareness forum was held in Building 7 last week. The forum provided education and gave insight about the diseases.

Lou Gehrig's disease and Muscular Dystrophy are diseases that affect both the nerves and muscles.

Two guest speakers, Aaron McNulty and Amber Morse, shared their personal life experiences living with the debilitating diseases.

Aaron McNulty, once a healthy Boeing employee, now confined to a wheelchair, shared his testimony of life with Lou Gehrig's disease.

The purpose of McNulty's testimony was to promote awareness, and to share knowledge about the progression of the disease. In McNulty's case, the progression was very slow.

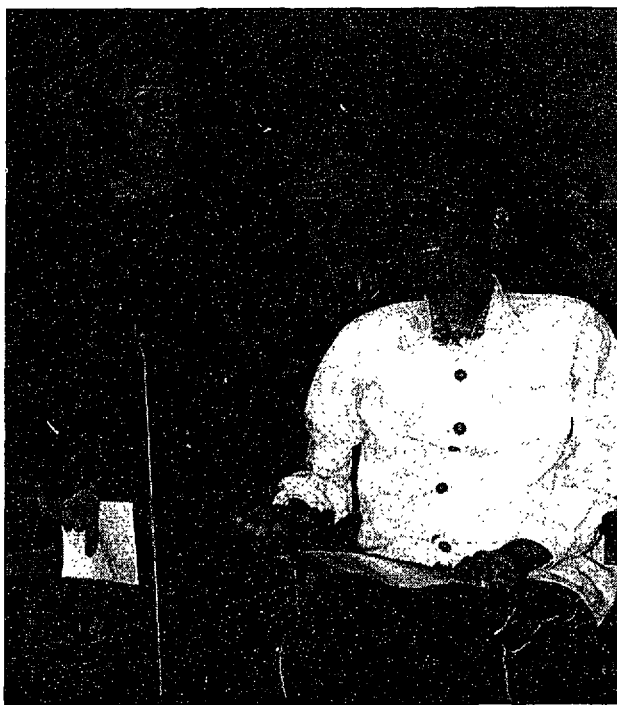


Photo by Keith Daigle

Aaron McNulty and his wife speak about his life with Lou Gehrig's disease.

"In the early stages of the disease, I felt my muscles twitch which I didn't think too much of," McNulty said.

McNulty said that over the next two years his abilities really began to change.

"I felt my muscles begin to weaken, and I began to feel fatigued by the least amount of

goodbye to my family, but what I hate about dying is it will make the family sad," McNulty said.

Kay McNulty stood by her husband's side, and shared how they were once a normal family. "Within a period of two years, I watched my husband's health deteriorate," Mrs. McNulty

activity," McNulty said.

Doctors haven't found a cure for the disease yet, however; a lot of research is being done with hope of finding a cure.

"The benefits about being terminal is I have a chance to say

said.

Mrs. McNulty said the prognosis of the disease was very slow. "It was like the disease was there, then gone, and back again," Mrs. McNulty said.

"Within two years Aaron was very weak and didn't have control of his muscles. Once Aaron fell, and he didn't have the ability to put his hands out in front of him to break his fall," Mrs. McNulty said.

"I'm not afraid of my husband dying, I know he will be with Jesus. What I'm afraid of is watching him live in a dead body," Mrs. McNulty said.

Mrs. McNulty also shared that simple things like eating became a challenge for Aaron.

"Aaron needs constant care, he has to be fed, shaved, bathed, and dressed," Mrs. McNulty said.

Mrs. McNulty stated that once all of Aaron's abilities left him, she had to leave work to care for Aaron.

Mrs. McNulty said the life

expectancy for those with Lou Gehrig's disease is five years, and Aaron is in his second year.

Amber Morse, a student at Highline, suffers from Muscular Dystrophy. "I was born with this disease. My father had one gene and my mother had the other one," Morse said.

"I've been in a wheel chair since the 9th grade. When I graduated from middle school I wanted to walk on my own to receive my diploma," Morse said.

Morse "It felt so good talking those steps

up to the platform although it was difficult, everyone began to clap and cheer for me," Morse said.

Morse said she not only has Muscular Dystrophy; she also has diabetes and a heart murmur. Despite the fact that Morse has several diseases, she manages to keep busy by maintaining her GPA at Highline and staying involved with fundraisers to raise money for youth summer camp.



Editorial

Faking the future

No matter where you go, school will always have it's share of cheaters, but the problem nowadays is that it's literally evolved into an art-form. It's disturbing what people will do when faced with the prospect of not receiving a good grade.

Some students are actually quite intelligent, when it comes to cheating, anyway. Take the student who stuffs answers inside a mechanical lead pencil. Or the student who writes answers on the brim of his baseball cap. Or, reflecting the tech craze of the nation, they send text messages via their cell phones.

Not to mention the websites out there that blatantly allow the downloading of essays and research papers for the right fee. Considering how professional looking these sites are, you can tell they're getting a lot of funding from what they do.

In short the methods are there ready and waiting for all those that want an easy grade (and who doesn't?), but just what are people who cheat planning to do with a degree which they cheated to acquire? Where do they plan to go?

If you do transfer into a four-year, you'll be considered a junior. At that point you should be ready to declare a major. How do you intend to do that if you don't even have the knowledge for it? Classes in the junior and senior levels are more specialized and technical than the broader classes of the first two years, making them that much harder and leaving a smaller room for error.

Professors at universities and college levels aren't idiots. These are people with degrees in whatever field of study they specialize in; with that much under their belts, given time they can decipher whether someone has learned the material or they're just faking it.

This applies to career circles as well. Some skills just can't be copied and must be learned. Plagiarism, copying another's work and not giving them credit for it, is a strict no-no. Jayson Blair, a reporter for the New York Times, was a rising star with his stories till another reporter figured out that one of his stories was hers. Just recently, Stephen H. Dunphy, a reporter who worked over 37 years for the Seattle Times, felt forced to resign when it was revealed that he plagiarized a number of stories a couple of months ago.

Both Dunphy and Blair say it was pressure from their jobs to produce something that gave them the push to copy and paste their articles (or in Blair's case, create them out of thin air). It's that same need to succeed that causes people to cheat sometimes. But in exchange, Dunphy and Blair lost their credibility as journalists.

The resulting stigma will follow them around as well. No college or company wants to hire a charlatan who only pretends to know.

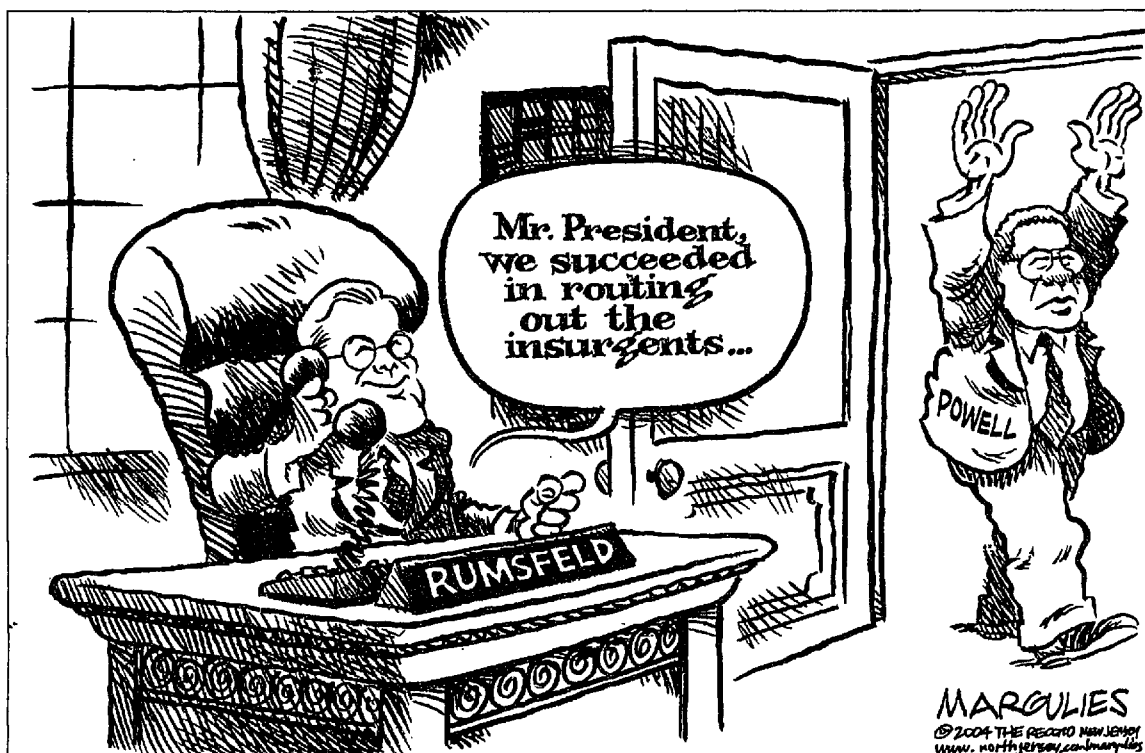
When you fake a paper or copy an answer, it's not just your credibility you're jeopardizing. Your entire future could end up teetering on the balance. Trust and credibility, once lost, is something that especially hard to win back, and cheating isn't worth the tradeoff.

Holidays Dreamers

If any wish could be granted this holiday season, what would it be?

Write a Letter to the Editor and voice your opinions in the paper! E-mail your article to tdavis@highline.edu or drop it by room 106 in Building 10. For more information, contact the Thunderword at 206-878-3710, ext 3317.

Due to limited space, please keep your letter close to 300 words.



Thanks for giving your all

Thanksgiving is the one day of the year where we should express our thanks and appreciation, and I think it's really important although sometimes I feel like it's overwhelming.

Yes, overwhelming. You may think that I've forgotten that Christmas is around the corner, and that all the gift-hunting and store shopping would be more of a hassle, wouldn't it? But, whenever this holiday comes around, I feel overloaded. And ashamed.

I consider Thanksgiving to be the holiday where I should feel lucky. When I get into the specifics of my thanks though, I realize that my list of things to be thankful could go into the millions. Giving it critical thought, I notice every aspect of life deserves at least a bit of thanks.

For example, I'm thankful that I have food on the table; that we have trees and nature; that I have clothes on my back; that I have a part-time job; that there are bookstores; that I have family; that I have a home; that I live near a mall; that there are video games; that I can read; that I can write; that I could go to school; that I have money to spend; that I have morals...

There are loads of things that



T - Time

By Taurean Davis

I should be thankful for. But whenever I think of these things I often end up feeling guilty.

We live in a world where living means that sometimes another party is being sacrificed. To put food on the table, we slaughter turkeys (ironic, much?). We receive clothes for 25 percent off at Walmart only to discover that a family in a third-world sweatshop made it for 50 cents an hour.

In order to fuel our need for paper, we level hundreds of acres of forest. In order to fuel our cars, we scourge the world for oil (in fact, I've heard a rumor that Bush is thinking of opening a wildlife reserve in Alaska for oil drilling.). In order to feel safe and secure, we send thousands of men and women overseas to fight battles that may or may not be justified.

It happens in everyday society, too. What do you do when someone wants something as bad as you do, but there is only one of that something?

Think of it as applying for a

job; there's only one position and you and another vying for it. Will you do what ever it takes to get that position? To get what you want, hell yes. The mud-slinging of between Bush and Kerry in the elections is an extreme example of that.

America is built on the idea of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." Unfortunately, this doesn't count the losers people knock to the wayside when they pursue happiness.

A lot of sweat, tears, blood, and even luck went into creating everything I have. The clothes on my back? Someone made them. The money I spend? It could've went to a more needy family. The part-time job I have? Someone else is unemployed.

I don't like thinking about it and sometimes I try to ignore it, but in light of Thanksgiving, it reminds me to be sincerely thankful for all the things that I have and that I need.

As guilty as Thanksgiving makes me feel, it gives me hope for the future that maybe I'll be more appreciative of what I have.

Until then, boy, am I lucky.

The day after Thanksgiving, Taurean will be up at 4 a.m. to be the first one into Toys R Us.

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"My car goes faster when it's in park."

Choir opens doors to Chinese culture

By Danny Kang

staff reporter

Highline will have the opportunity to reflect through the eyes of China in a choir performance that will be held next week.

Highline's choir is presenting a free performance and exhibition on Thursday, Dec. 2 at 7:30 p.m. in Building 7 called the Reflections of China, which is a cultural immersion experience for the community to engage in.

This is a part of a year-long series that will feature Central and South America during the Winter Quarter and Africa during the Spring Quarter. These events will also be in the same format as Reflections of China, so stay tuned.

The choir, which is headed by Dr. Sandra Glover, a Highline professor of the voice division of the Music Department, has chosen to give a performance that incorporates Chinese music, tra-

dition, food, and art.

The choir consists of 20 students that have been working endlessly to perfect this performance since the beginning of this quarter. The choir has received help with the Chinese lyrics from Shen Yan, a Highline Chinese professor. Dr. Glover said she believes Yan should be given an enormous amount of credit for her contribution.

"It has taken a lot of work but worth every moment," Dr. Glover said.

The performance will include arrangements of Chinese Folk songs sung in Chinese by the choir. One of the pieces is called *Gate, Gate*, a setting of a Buddhist mantra, by Brian Tate, is translated from the Chinese version into English and it shows how music can bring us together.

Two faculty members of the music department will be accompanying the choir and soloists. The instructors are Sheryl



Photo by Keith Daigle

Choir director Dr. Sandra Glover.

Akaka, a Highline guitar and piano professor, and Deborah Evans, a Highline piano instructor.

The Silk Road Music, which

is a professional dance troupe from Burnaby, B. C., will also be performing traditional Chinese dance numbers.

The event is not just going to be a performance by the choir; there will also be authentic Chinese food tasting.

The performers will be wearing traditional Chinese clothes and playing traditional Chinese instruments.

The room will be decorated in Chinese art, and there will be participation exhibits of Chinese calligraphy and ancient knot-tying.

This will enable the audience

to engage in actual Chinese customs rather than just sitting and watching.

"It's not just for entertainment, it is for exploration and understanding too," Dr. Glover said. "If you plan on attending this event all of the senses will be treated to a reflection of China."

Dr. Glover also believes that the Reflections of China concert will allow us to experience their cultures and by understanding other cultures we open the door to friendship and understanding.

"I feel that choral art is a gateway to cultural understanding," Dr. Glover said.

She said that since our country has an open door policy for immigrants it is important that we live our daily lives with our country's policy.

"Americans need to make a more concerted effort to understand people," Dr. Glover said.

Music faculty will play a concert for everyone to enjoy

By Jessie Elliott

staff reporter

Classical and holiday music will be coming to Highline this Sunday courtesy of two music faculty members.

Director of Workforce Training Nancy Warren and Dr. Sandra Glover will be performing a benefit concert that features both voice and piano on Sunday, Nov. 28, 2 p.m. in Building 7.

The benefit concert is for the Breeders Theater Performing Arts Scholarship for Highline students.

Breeders Theater is a private theater company founded in 1999.

The theater has been offering this scholarship for two years, and the benefit concert is a way to enhance the scholarship.

Glover and Warren performed a similar concert last December

and raised \$500. The concert is "pay what you will," but Warren said she does not want to exclude anyone and payment is not required.

"I hope that students don't feel obliged at all," Warren said.

Warren said that she and Glover wanted to put on a performance last year and decided that they could promote a good cause simultaneously.

Glover, a vocalist, and War-

ren, a pianist, have been performing together for the past four years.

"We enjoy the opportunity to perform," Warren said.

Warren will be performing pieces including a traditional Austrian Christmas piece entitled *Still, Still, Still*, and Copeland's *Our Town*.

Glover's selections include *Le Colibri*, by Chausson, and a piece *Jesu Bambino* by Pietro

Yon.

The concert is open to the public and will be an hour long. Warren said this concert is a good opportunity to expose children to classical music because it is a fairly short performance.

Warren also encourages students, faculty and staff to come to the concert.

"They should come so they can be exposed to some great classical music"

'A Christmas Carol' brings holiday smiles for all ages

By Jessie Elliott

staff reporter

Ebenezer Scrooge is back, and this time he is appearing at the Knutzen Family Theater.

Centerstage Theater is presenting an adaptation of *A Christmas Carol* to ring in the holiday season.

Adapted and directed by Alan Bryce, this musical tells Charles Dickens' story well.

A Christmas Carol is a classic story Dickens wrote in 1843 and has continued to be relevant throughout history as a story of goodwill toward all.

Bryce chooses to stay fairly close to the script, but adds traditional Christmas carols into the story. The carols are used mostly in transitional parts of the play, when the scenes are being changed, and they integrate into

the story well.

The curtains open and the street scene onstage takes the audience back to a street in old England. Two carolers huddle in the streets, and the narration begins.

Bryce has common people telling or singing Scrooge's story, giving the feel that every person knew of Scrooge and knew his story.

While the songs were a creative way to move from one scene to the next, the recorded music was so loud that it overpowered the voices of the actors during some parts.

A particularly good narrator was the blind man, Jerod Nace. Nace has a strong singing voice and is very expressive when he speaks.

Another outstanding musical performance came from Samantha Chapman, who plays



photo by Laura Campbell

The Cratchit family is singing Tiny Tim to sleep.

both a caroler and Martha Cratchit, the eldest sister.

As the narrators bring the audience to the next scene, other characters change the set in fluid movements. The stage is fairly

small, and the main piece of the set is on rollers so that one piece can be many different areas. It is not only Scrooge's bedroom, but his office, the Cratchit home, and Scrooge's nephew's home.

Jim Winkler does an excellent job of being the contemptuous Scrooge, as he growls through his lines and yells "humbug" to everyone he sees. Winkler also uses his facial expressions to bring depth to his character.

Bob Cratchit, Scrooge's clerk, is played by John Bianchi. Bianchi does a wonderful job of giving his character heart and spirit needed in the play.

Bryce's adaptation still grasps the main point of Dickens' timeless play, and the carols are an interesting addition. *A Christmas Carol* is a wonderful play to get people in the holiday spirit. It will be playing at the Knutzen Family Theater in Federal Way until Dec. 11.

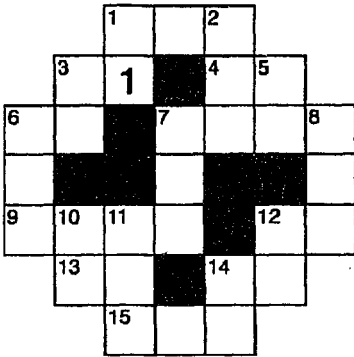
A Christmas Carol plays Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays at 2 p.m. For ticket information and directions call 253-661-1444.

PUZZLES

Rational Numbers

by Linda Thistle

Using the clues, simple arithmetic, and a little logic, place a single digit (0 to 9) in each empty box in the diagram. To help you get started, one digit has been entered in the diagram.



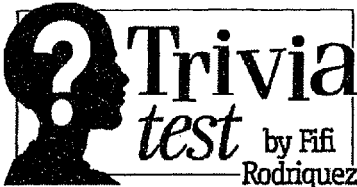
ACROSS

- The first digit is the sum of the other digits
- Four more than 5-Down
- One more than 13-Across
- One-half of 3-Down
- 1-Across plus 8-Down
- Consecutive digits rearranged
- One-third of 14-Across
- 12-Across minus 6-Across
- Five more than 14-Down
- Digits of 7-Down reversed

DOWN

- 6-Across plus 10-Down

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- GEOGRAPHY: Where was the Boer War fought?
- HISTORY: When was the Jewish state of Israel formally declared?
- RELIGION: What is the official state religion of Nepal?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is the correct term for an adult female swan?
- PRESIDENTS: Which U.S. president proclaimed a policy he called New Nationalism?
- LANGUAGE: What is a privet?
- MOVIES: When was the film "Cool Hand Luke" released?

8. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: In what American colony were the Salem Witch Trials held?

9. MYTHOLOGY: According to Greek myth, who was the monster with 100 heads?

10. FOOD: What kind of food is spumoni?

1. South Africa
2. 1948
3. Hinduism
4. Pen
5. Teddy Roosevelt
6. Shrub
7. 1967
8. Massachusetts
9. Typhon
10. Frozen dessert

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European Fare

Across

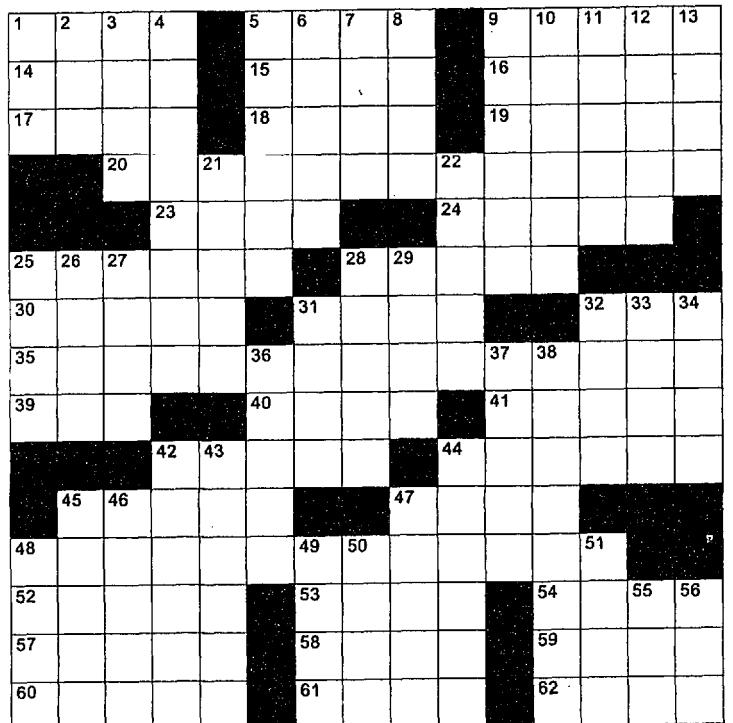
- Quiet
- Arouse
- Data input device
- Nabisco creation
- Smidgen
- Diamond's month
- Mail order store
- Finesse
- London subways
- Warsaw treat?
- Mouth off
- Huddie Ledbetter's goodnight girl
- Sometimes found in lofts
- The Mets own 'em
- Craze
- Needed to tack
- Airline safety org.
- Milan treat?
- Make lacework
- At Starbucks perhaps
- _____ blanche
- Native Missourian
- Heated
- Skull cavity
- Cooking need
- London treat?
- Ignited once more
- First-rate
- Small drinks
- Isolated from others
- Box
- Resound
- Blackthorn fruits
- Towel monogram
- Gym time shirt opponent

Down

- Male swan
- Exist
- Pounce
- Transportation system
- Peaceful demonstrations

Crossword 101

By Ed Canty



- Best man's salute
- Skin sensation
- Squealers
- Grow up
- Beethoven's outputs
- Citified
- Military blockade
- Other
- Mauui neighbor
- Bridal path
- Leave out
- Pro _____
- Black fly, for one
- NYPD symbol
- Affected manners
- Cozy
- Group of practicing lawyers
- Something put up
- Ripened
- Collect
- Muffler
- Found in schools

- Connected to www
- Fancy chambers
- Thin cookies
- Leader in fishing
- Eskimo hut
- Kind of eclipse
- Periods
- Leftover meal at times
- Do-nothing
- Nolte of the flicks
- Frat letter
- Dad's pride and joy

Quotable Quote

Europe will never be like America. Europe is a product of history. America is a product of philosophy.

... Margaret Thatcher

By GFR Associates • Visit our web site at www.gfrpuzzles.com

Arts Calendar

•Dr. Sandra Glover and Ms. Nancy Warren will be performing a benefit concert on Sunday, Nov. 28 at 2 p.m. in Building 7. The concert is "pay what you will," and all proceeds will go to the Breeders Theater Performing Arts Scholarship for Highline students.

•Chinese culture will take center stage at Highline's fall choral concert on Dec. 2. "Reflections of China" will feature pieces in Chinese from the student choir, and a professional troupe from British Columbia.

There will also be authentic Chinese art and a reception with sweet delicacies and tea. The concert is free and open to the public and

begins at 7:30 p.m. in Building 7.

•Centerstage Theater in Federal Way is producing an adaptation of *A Christmas Carol* beginning on Nov. 19. The show will run through Dec. 11.

Tickets are \$7 - \$20 depending on age, and the performances are at 8 p.m. Fridays, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Saturdays, and 2 p.m. on Sundays. For tickets and other information call 253-661-1444.

•Valley Community Players in Renton is producing *My Three Angels* Nov. 19 - Dec. 12. The play is set in French Guiana, and is a comedy about three convicts who work for a family who

are in need of roof repairs. Eventually they prove themselves as real-life angels to the family in need by saving them from people with bad intentions.

It is performed Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., with a special 7:30 p.m. Thursday performance on Dec. 2, and a Sunday performance on Dec. 12 at 2 p.m. For tickets and other information call

425-226-5190.

•The Rainier Symphony is putting on a holiday concert Dec. 11-12. They will be performing selections from Schubert, Tchaikovsky, Strauss, Symphony No. 5, the Nutcracker, Blue Danube, and some holiday

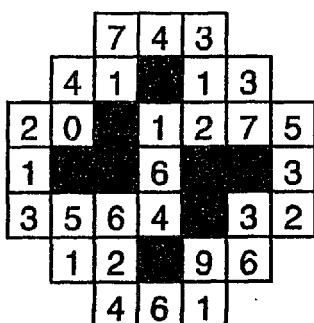
favorites.

Dec. 11 they will be performing at 7:30 p.m. at the Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center. Dec. 12 they will be performing at 3 p.m. at Foster Performing Arts Center. For directions and ticket information call 206-781-5618.

COUNTER ATTACK



Rational Numbers answers



T-Birds soar to fourth

Volleyball team hits stride at NWAACC championships

By Kim Ducharme

staff reporter

Highline's volleyball team surprised the field and finished fourth at NWAACCs this weekend.

The T-Birds came into the tournament unrated, unranked and obviously overlooked. After placing third in the Western Division, Highline was expected to place somewhere in the middle of the pack, but instead upset a lot of teams and placed an impressive fourth.

Highline started the tournament with a tough match against Walla Walla on Nov. 18. Walla Walla, who was ranked first in the very difficult Eastern Division, defeated the T-Birds in a fairly close game, 25-30, 23-30, 28-30.

With one loss in this double-elimination tournament, Highline had to pick up its game or go home. The ladies did just that and won four straight games to put themselves back in the thick of the tournament.

The T-Birds' first win came from Linn-Benton from the south on Nov. 18. Linn-Benton only managed to take away one game from Highline, 25-30, 30-15, 15-13.

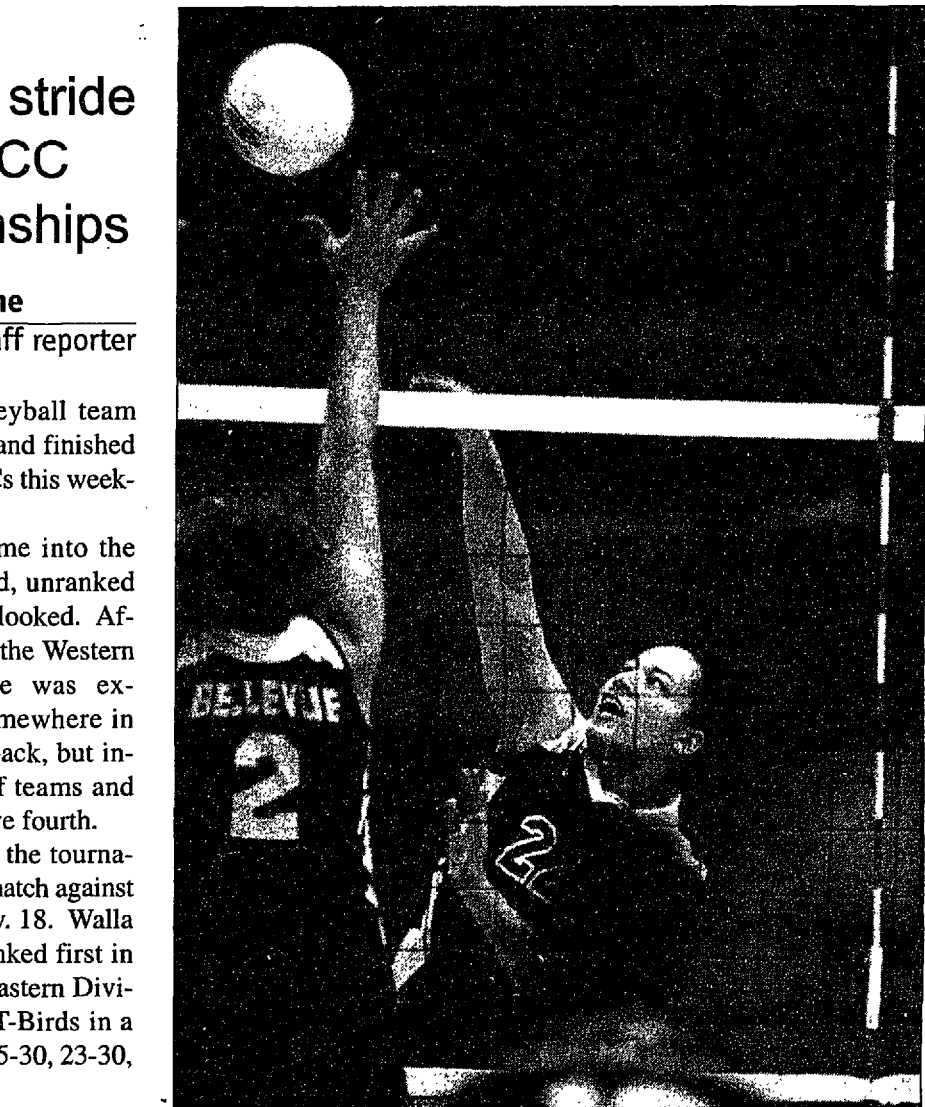
Next up the ladies defeated Columbia Basin on Nov. 19, 35-33, 30-21. That was followed by yet another win against Chemeketa, 30-25, 30-28.

On Nov. 20 Highline took on Bellevue and came up victorious for their fourth win in a row, 30-28, 30-16.

"We played as well as we could have," said Head Coach John Littleman. "It's difficult to play three matches back to back."

The ladies were on a roll until they were stopped by Whatcom from the north, 16-30, 17-30. Whatcom then went on to place third overall in the tournament.

"When you get beat only by top teams in divisions, that's awesome," said Littleman.



Photos by JeffHines.com

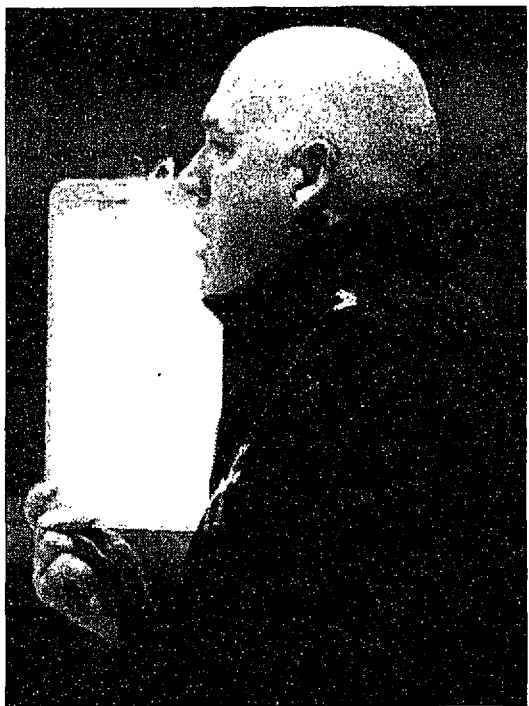
Highline's Shelby Avaava goes up for a shot against Bellevue.

Walla Walla and Whatcom were both ranked first in their divisions.

Coaches around the state were all in agreement that NWAACCs is really anyone's game and it really depends on who is hot that weekend and Highline was definitely hot.

Individually and as a team, the ladies played to their full potential.

Jenna Bloczynski, who was recognized as a first-team tournament all-star, had 41 kills for the tournament and Blythe Howard had 37.



Highline Coach John Littleman calls instruction to his team.

Littleman explained that the team finally found the heart and passion they were lacking before. He paid a lot of credit to this passion from a speech he gave them on their final practice before NWAACCs.

"You have to stop whining like puppies and growl with the big dogs," Littleman said. "And they growled through the whole tournament."

Littleman, who was practically speechless about how the team played, explained that NWAACCs was a real-life Cinderella story for Highline. He couldn't have asked for anything more from the team.

"They played awesome," Littleman said.

Littleman is now focusing on next season, hoping that next year the team won't need to scramble for players as they did at the start of the season this year.

"We lose a lot of talented players," said Littleman.

Littleman is now looking for talented players to fill the missing pieces left behind by the sophomore players who aren't allowed due to eligibility rules to return for a third season.

These players include defensive specialist Adelaia Vargas; outside hitter Bloczynski; setter Khia Behrendt; setter Emily Melver; middle hitter Jennifer Patnode; and outside hitter Blythe Howard.

Highline women open with consolation win

By Martha Molina

staff reporter

The T-Bird women's basketball team were consolation champs at the Shoreline Tournament last weekend, winning two and losing one.

On Friday, Highline lost to Whatcom 71-64.

"We lacked intensity and weren't ready to play," said Coach Amber Rowe. "They led all the way."

Rebekah Johnson led the team with 13 points and six rebounds, followed by Marissa Cain with 11 points, seven rebounds, and four steals.

Even though the ladies managed to rally a few times and beat them in stats, it still wasn't enough for a victory.

On Saturday, after receiving the wake-up call from Whatcom, Highline came back with playing strong defense and spanking Portland 79-48.

Megan Triller had 14 points and 10 rebounds. Johnson had 15 points and 11 rebounds. Bree Marcus, who came off the bench, had eight rebounds.

The T-Birds forced 25 turnovers and had 13 steals against Portland.

The intensity from the Portland game rolled over to the next day.

The T-Birds defeated Linn-Benton, 64-62, in the last few

seconds of the game.

With 33 seconds left, Allison Maas had a great cut to the basket, but missed her first shot. Maas caught her own rebound and shot again, giving the T-Birds the two points that made the difference.

Shelby Avaava rejoined her teammates after playing in the NWAACC Volleyball tournament. Avaava had 12 points, three rebounds, and two steals in the last 14 minutes of the game.

Once again, a strong defense and offense made the difference in the game. "We gave up 41 points in the first half," said Coach Rowe. "In the second half we only gave up 21 points."

Maas had 10 points and eight rebounds, Marcus had 10 points and five rebounds, and Johnson had nine points and five rebounds. Johnson also made the all tournament team.

Point guard Christine Kim allowed only three turnovers during the whole tournament.

"Cain had a big block towards the end of the game," said Coach Rowe. "She yelled and got everyone's energy going."

Right now the T-Birds are at 2-1. Last year around this time, they were 2-0.

Today the T-Birds will play at home in the Pavilion at 5:30 p.m. versus North Seattle. Next week they will visit Bellevue on Dec. 1.



Photo by Bryan Yambe

Bree Marcus brings the ball up in practice this week.

Champs

continued from page 1

business.

On Saturday the men took on Walla Walla in the semifinals and came out victorious, 2-0. The men kept to their game plan and came out aggressive, with defender Kyle Colbath scoring on a corner kick in the seventh minute of the match.

The men looked to add a second goal five minutes later only to be denied. Forward Will Chang drove through the defense and took a shot from the top of the box only to have it bounce off the crossbar.

Walla Walla had its best scoring opportunity stopped when goalkeeper Chris Conner made a diving deflection and defender AJ Koenig cleared the box of the ball.

Colbath came out of the defense once again to score his second goal of the game midway through the first half.

Highline then maintained the intensity and held off a strong aggressive push by Walla Walla, claiming the T-Birds' second shutout of the tournament.

Sunday's championship



Photo by Keith Daigle

The men's soccer team gathers after Riley Miskell scored during Sunday's NWAACC championship game.

game opponent was South Puget Sound who had beat Clark 1-0 on Saturday. Again the men came out aggressive but it took some time to get their feet under them after the battle the night before.

Once the men started rolling the T-Birds pushed ahead and were able to capitalize on a corner kick in the 32 minute. Riley

Miskell made sure that his first goal of the season would be a memorable one when he found the back of the net after the Clippers knocked down the corner kick.

Ten minutes into the second half, Chang went down hard as he attempted to drive through the defense. Reserve forward

Brian Koo came in to replace Chang.

Mere minutes after Koo entered the game, he left his mark, shooting past the Clippers goalkeeper to put the T-Birds up 2-0. Melchior, who was held scoreless during the playoffs, had an assist on the goal.

Conner came up big for the

third straight game in earning his third shutout of the playoffs.

"Crucial saves kill the momentum for the other team and gives your team the momentum," said Prenovost.

Colbath was named the tournament MVP after Sunday's game for his dominating defense and the leadership he showed throughout the season and playoffs.

"Three shutouts in the playoffs. Defense win championships," said Colbath after Sunday's victory.

The men finish the season with an overall record of 20-4-3, 12 shutouts, and led all teams in the NWAACC with 67 goals scored.

"The team came together at the right time," said Prenovost. "This team was awesome. There is a lot of influence from years past that helped mold this team."

As the team walked off the field they exhibited another talent that they hold as they broke into a rendition of Queen's hit *We Are the Champions*. The men walked into Starfire a second place team with championship talent and walked out as the only team left standing and the 2004 NWAACC men's soccer champions.

Loss turns T-Birds into NWAACC champs

By Jamie Grossmann

Staff reporter

Highline may have won the championship on Sunday but the real victory may have come earlier in the season after the Bellevue game.

Some can look to that loss and the players meeting afterward as the turning point. Losses can change the momentum of a team as well as the team's confidence.

The team met and discussed what they were or weren't doing and at that moment the team decided what they needed to do to change the way things were going.

"The Bellevue loss was the turning point," said Conner. "We sat down as a team without the coaches and figured out what we needed to do to get back on track."

"After the Bellevue loss I began to have doubt," said defender Kyle Colbath. "Then we got on a roll and everything began to fall into place."

With Highline's victory in yesterday's championship game, the men put an exclamation mark on a remarkable season that showed just how athletics can bring individuals together for a common goal.

The men ended their season by making Highline history.



Photo By Keith Daigle

Goalkeeper Chris Conner warms up before Sunday's championship game.

For the first time the men brought home a NWAACC title. This team has had its share of bumps in the road but through it all they overcame those bumps to put together one of the best seasons Highline has ever had.

"The guys worked very hard at being teammates and friends," said Head Coach Jason Prenovost. "The team grew up a lot. We matured as a group and team."

"The way we did it with the diversity helped," said goalkeeper Chris Conner. "The diversity brought us closer, we had to work harder to overcome the few bumps in the road."

"Winning the championship was just the icing on the season," said Prenovost. "Bringing a group of individuals together is the most rewarding part of coaching."

Prenovost has been coaching at Highline since the fall of 1994 and has put together a dominant tradition, compiling a record of 131-53-27.

"There have been many players that have helped build this program," said Prenovost.

Many of those players returned on Sunday and helped the men celebrate winning the title.

Depending on the sport,

teams can look to an individual to carry the weight of the team. The T-Birds did not have to look to one person as this was truly a team effort.

"It's fun to see players rise to the occasion. We don't win without everybody on the team," said Prenovost. "The guys on the bench weren't just reserves, they were players."

"Everybody helped out, they may not have been playing but they were helping in other ways," said Conner.

"A lot of people sacrificed to help make this possible," said

Prenovost. "We will enjoy this, thank everybody and then get back to work."

This team has come together to form a family which will forever be remembered in the history of Highline.

"We fought for each other. This team is full of guys with lots of heart," said Conner.

Recruitment for next year has already begun. Some players will be moving on and some will remain. One thing is certain all those players that walked off the field on Sunday were champions.

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11/24/04

THE THUNDERWORD

Winning team kindled writer's interest

Two and a half months ago I began a journey that came to a culmination on Sunday when I was able to witness the Highline men's soccer team win its first NWAACC championship.

What makes this journey so ironic is that when this started I had very little interest in soccer,



Off the Bench

By Jamie Grossmann

let alone immersing myself within its culture and writing about it. I had played for a couple of years when I was younger in the Sunnycrest youth soccer league but that was 15 years ago. Soccer no longer interested me; I played baseball and basketball and participated in other activities for enjoyment.

However, over the last two and a half months I have been given the opportunity to follow the men's soccer team and tell the stories of their travels, triumphs, and defeats. While I was apprehensive at first because of my lack of knowledge and interest, I was quickly reminded of why I enjoyed participating in athletics.

The Highline men's soccer team began the season as a group of highly talented and skilled individuals. By the end



Photo by Jamie Wells

The Highline men's soccer team savors its first NWAACC championship.

of the season they were a cohesive unit that set a goal and accomplished that goal the only way they knew how, by coming together and picking each other up when somebody fell down.

As I watched this group of 22 men interact, I found myself being consumed by their intensity, determination, and mutual respect for one another that

helped them achieve their goal. To be able to witness a group of individuals come so far in such a short time is an amazing achievement and a true testament to the coaches and players for having confidence in each other.

I found myself over the course of the year doing what I could to make sure that I was at

the games and practices, not because it was required, but because I genuinely enjoyed watching the team progress and strive to be better every week. The way that these athletes interacted showed anybody watching why they were on the team. The team had to overcome many different adversities over the course of the season.

The team has players from all over the world: Betheal Habte is from Ethiopia, Daisei Kato is from Japan, as is Ben Stark, just to name a few.

This team overcame language barriers, having to learn how each other plays and how to play together, and two back-to-back losses early in the season to accomplish what no other Highline team had done. The men walked last Saturday into the Starfire Complex in Tukwila the second place team in the NWAACC Southwest division and walked out Sunday night NWAACC champions.

If somebody had told me a couple of months ago that I would have been sitting in the stands at Starfire Complex rooting for the Highline men's soccer team and thoroughly enjoying the game, I would have told them that they were crazy.

For all those who were at the game, they know what I am talking about. For those who did not attend, you missed one of the most exciting and rewarding nights in Highline men's soccer history.

Congratulations, to the men's soccer team and thanks for including the rest of the Highline community and myself in this chapter of Highline's soccer history.

Jamie is on the all-time stuck-on-the-bench team.



1. Three players have hit their 500th home run against the Cleveland Indians. Name them.

2. In 1979, the Toronto Blue Jays set a team mark for fewest saves in a season with 11. Which of their pitchers had the most saves that season?

3. Name the first time the two top-ranked teams in the Associated Press college football poll squared off.

4. When was the last time the University of Houston men's basketball team won an NCAA Tournament game?

5. Which two players hold the record for most career NHL playoff overtime goals?

6. Richard Petty has the longest NASCAR streak of consecutive seasons with at least one victory (18). Who

are the two drivers tied for the second-longest streak?

7. In tennis' Open era, who is the lowest-seeded player to win the women's singles at the U.S. Open?

Answers
1. Babe Ruth (1929), Ted Williams (1960) and Rafael Palmeiro (2003).
2. Tom Buskey led the Blue Jays with seven saves. It was 1943, when No. 1 Notre Dame beat No. 2 Michigan.
3. It was 1984. The Cougars lost to Georgetown in the title game that year.
4. Joe Sakic and Maurice Richard have six each.
5. Ricky Rudd and Rusty Wallace each did it in 16 consecutive seasons.
6. Svetlana Kuznetsova was a No. 9 seed in the 2004 U.S. Open.



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T-Bird men off to slow start

By Mark Knight

staff reporter

Highline men's basketball opened its season with a loss.

Highline lost to Mt. Hood in the Pavilion by a score of 81-72 last Saturday.

"We got off to a slow start," said Head Coach Che Dawson.

In the first half the T-Birds were down at one time by 12 points. The men were really struggling to keep up with last year's second place team in the NWAACC, Mt. Hood.

"Not matching up defensively quickly enough in transition and leaving their guys open for lots of threes," said Dawson. "We also gave up too many offensive rebounds."

The T-Birds then started playing high pressure defense and "came storming back at the end of the first half," said Dawson.

Bryan Manaway came up with a huge baseline dunk that had the crowd roaring on into

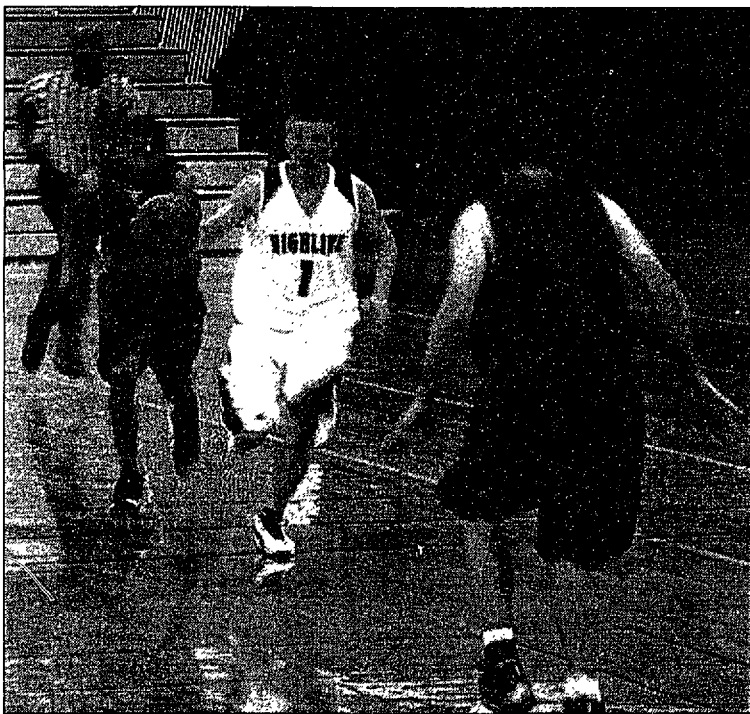


Photo by Bryan Yambe

Highline's Jaxon Skyward drives on Mount Hood.

the break, tying the score at 41.

Manaway finished with 11 points.

Coming back after the period break, Highline didn't look so good, turning the ball over both

times down the court but recovered quickly, drawing fouls and making the shots to follow the fouls.

"The second half was back and forth until about halfway

through," said Dawson.

Mt. Hood at one time led by 17 points and Highline was really trying to stay in the game.

"We made another run at the end of the game but couldn't get closer than five," said Dawson.

Highline's Tavar Proctor was the leading scorer with 20 points. He also came up with 12 rebounds.

Mt. Hood's Jamal Cooke and Nate Perry were the leading scorers for Mt. Hood with 18 points each.

Cooke also had 10 rebounds while Perry had eight.

Highline will be traveling to Skagit Valley Community College to play in the Skagit Valley Turkey Tourney. The T-Birds will be playing against Skagit Valley, Centrailia, and Wenatchee Valley.

The games are on Friday, Nov. 26 and Saturday, Nov. 27.

Highline will also be back at home on Wednesday, Dec. 1. The game will be in the Pavilion at 7 p.m.

Illness slows wrestlers

By Martha Molina

staff reporter

Highline's wrestling team missed the Southern Oregon Open last weekend due to having a shorthanded team.

"We had a ringworm outbreak," said Coach Scott Norton.

The T-Birds were also hurt with a number of injuries. Jason Mendez, the T-Birds' 141-pounder, has been out with an ear infection.

Justin Studer has a neck injury and may not be back for the early December Lassen Duals in Reno, Nev., said Coach Norton.

A couple of wrestlers are having problems with grades, which may prevent them from returning for the second half of the season, he said.

Coach Norton expects to have a couple of more wrestlers added to the roster after grades come out for Fall Quarter.

The T-Birds will get the chance to rest this weekend, and prepare for the Lassen Duals on Dec. 3-4.

Over the break, the T-Birds will be busy as they host their first home meet on Dec. 10 versus Southwest Oregon, then visit Vancouver, B.C. to wrestle Simon Fraser and Douglas.

The following weekend, on Dec. 17, the Thunderbirds will stay at home to host Simon Fraser, Clackamas, Yakima, and Great Falls, Mont. The next day, the T-Birds will host their annual high school tournament.

Jablonsky enjoys success after hard work

By Mark Knight

staff reporter

Jami Jablonsky inspires everyone around her with her hard work and her team leadership.

Jablonsky started running cross country five years ago in high school.

"Her senior year in high school she didn't run as well as she liked," said Coach Robert Yates.

So Jablonsky started to run for Highline.

"I knew they (Highline) had a good program and when I ran here my coach brought out my talent," she said of Yates.

She is inspired to run because she wants to stay healthy. "I mainly run to keep in shape, I want to be old," Jablonsky said.

Keeping healthy goes right along with her career goal. "I am going to be a nurse," she said.

Jablonsky is not taking nursing at Highline.

She is getting a general AA with a 3.6 GPA. She hopes to attend Northern Arizona University.

She is still deciding if she will run for NAU or not but even if she doesn't she has a lot to remember at Highline.

Jablonsky accomplished one of her goals of running under 21 minutes on Oct. 16, at the Jim Danner Invite in Gresham Ore. She had a time of 20:58.

"That was my most memo-



Jablonsky

rable moment, it was the first time I ever broke 21," Jablonsky

said.

Her teammates were just as excited for her to accomplish that goal.

"We should have thrown a big party for her," said teammate Sitges Marshall.

Jablonsky will also have wonderful memories of her teammates. Her teammates are what she says she loves most about cross country.

"I love my teammates," Jablonsky said.

The feeling is definitely mutual as her teammates are also fond of her.

"I am so glad she is our team captain," said Marshall.

"She is awesome, she is a re-

ally good captain," said teammate Sarah Hudgins.

"Everyone likes her on the team," said Yates.

Yates also is impressed that she is always improving and that she is a crucial piece to the women's cross country team.

"That fact that she is doing so well this season is a big thing we have going, she has improved every week," Yates said.

Jablonsky will run track this spring for Highline as well.

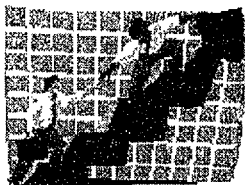
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Des Moines finishes highway project

City could use completed task to accomplish bigger goals

By Amanda Downs
staff reporter

Des Moines' completion of the renovation on Pacific Highway South brings city officials closer to their dreams of the ideal maritime city.

A ribbon cutting ceremony for Des Moines' section of the highway was held on Tuesday, Nov. 16 to congratulate the agencies and officials involved in the project.

"It is a dream that took a lot of teamwork," said Public Works Director Tim Heydon.

Des Moines worked with engineering firm CH2M HILL and contractor Ceccanti Inc. along with other local groups such as the Washington State Department of Transportation on the Pacific Highway project.

Des Moines is the first city to completely finish construction on Pacific Highway South. The idea for rejuvenating the



Photo by Amanda Downs

City of Des Moines Mayor Bob Sheckler (right) gets ready to cut the ribbon on the new Des Moines sign while City Council members Susan White and Gary Peterson look on.

highway originated in 1997; construction began in August 2003.

"We weren't sure if it would be a reality, but now here it is right before us," said Des Moines Mayor Bob Sheckler.

The improved section of Des Moines starts at South 216th Street and reaches to Kent-Des Moines Road.

Des Moines' piece of the corridor now sports landscaped medians, new sidewalks and gutters, and crossing signals.

New traffic signals at South 220th and South 224th Street now stand.

Bus shelters were also erected, and HOV/Business Access lanes can now be used for

buses and carpools.

The street now hosts a sign welcoming visitors to the city.

With colorful metal sailboats on either side emphasizing the city's nautical theme, the sign faces north-bound Pacific Highway South on the South 216th Street corner.

Sheckler jokingly said that Des Moines' sign is better than SeaTac's sign.

"The sailboats make our sign visually distinct," said Sheckler.

The main goals of the project were to improve safety on the highway and to make the street aesthetically appealing to residents and visitors.

The redevelopment of Pacific Highway South is one step listed in a plan to reinvigorate an area of Des Moines called

Pacific Ridge.

Pacific Ridge borders Des Moines' section of the highway and reaches east to Interstate 5.

City officials want to make the area a safe and attractive place for businesses and residents.

The area would be transformed into an urban village, with potential 12-story high business buildings and pedestrian-friendly walkways.

Condominiums and clustered stores and businesses are also on the agenda of improvements.

Beginning to liven up Pacific Ridge could draw in more businesses into the area and to downtown Des Moines, creating a new area altogether.

Des Moines' website at www.desmoineswa.gov has detailed plans for Pacific Ridge, including drawings of the potential future look of the area.

Some of Des Moines' other plans to liven up the city are placing historical Des Moines Beach Park on the National Register of Historic Places.

The park is considered the birthplace of Des Moines, and acknowledging the park as a national landmark could attract more tourists and possibly new businesses to the city.

Recycle

continued from page 1

at all.

The committee wants a program that will extend recycling to aluminum cans, glass and plastic.

"We do recycle white paper and colored paper. We get money for white paper, which is nice.

"But we would like to make sure that people at Highline are able to recycle aluminum cans, plastic and glass in addition to paper," said Woody Moses, the recycling committee adviser.

The committee held a meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 10 discussing the policy and finalized

it but no one had information on the cost of recycling glass, cans, and plastic.

Michelle Kolpack, chairwoman of the Recycling Committee, does the cost analysis for the committee.

However, she was not present at the meeting, which made it hard for Oakley and Moses to explain how much it would cost Highline to extend recycling to other types of waste products.

Kress has been providing information to the committee and is cooperating with them to try to coordinate something that will extend recycling.

"I'm sure it will be beneficial and I am sure it will cost because we would have to buy the containers to hold the products in.

"I know that the recycling committee is looking into that

I've been working with them trying to coordinate something that will take in aluminum and glass," said Kress.

According to King County Solid Waste Division, not all recycling companies accept all types of plastic.

Plastic type 3 PVC, 4 LDPE, and 5 Polypropylene are not accepted by many companies.

There is only one location taking plastic number 3, 4 and 5 which is Interstate Plastics located in Vancouver, Wash.

Glass is accepted in multiple places, however it presents a problem.

Many companies are finding it cheaper to switch from glass to plastic, which is reducing the market for recycled glass.

Even if glass and plastic can be collected, but if there is no

market for these recycled products they will not be reused.

The recycling committee however is more concerned with reducing waste on campus and the environment.

This was apparent at the meeting when they spoke about over-consumption.

"The Pacific Northwest is arguably the most beautiful region in the country, and that is due in large part to its citizens making a concerted effort to preserve the environment in which we live," said Oakley.

"Recycling helps cut down on the need to get new materials from the land, which in turn helps to preserve the land for future generations," said Oakley.

Oakley has generated a total of 573 student signatures, 46

staff and 25 faculty members to sign the petition saying they are interested in seeing a more comprehensive recycling program.

"We already have hundreds of students, staff, and faculty who have expressed an interest in having a comprehensive recycling program on campus.

"We believe that given the opportunity to do so, the Highline community would definitely get behind the recycling program," said Oakley.

The development of the recycling policy is almost finished and to be presented to the ASHCC council towards the end of November.

Oakley encourages students who feel strongly about this subject to contact him at 206-878-3710 ext. 3215 or Woody Moses at ext. 3649.

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Crime

continued from page 1

ing the first 10 months of the year, said Master Sergeant Steve Weiland of the Des Moines department.

Fisher said that Security patrols the parking lots at different times throughout the day.

Even though the surrounding area isn't great, Fisher said that he doesn't believe that Highline's location on the highway has much to do with the campus crimes.

"Crimes happen all around at other colleges," said Fisher.

Student Lacey Walter works at Eagle Fitness health gym on Pacific Highway South and said that she would feel safer at another location.

As an employee, Walter has the responsibility of keeping unwelcome non-gym members out of the gym.

"People off the street come in and try to use our facilities," said Walter.

The unwelcome guests are known to vandalize the gym and break into customers' parked cars.

"We've had to call the police numerous times," said Walter.

Walter said that, luckily, she is usually around people she can trust, such as co-workers and customers.

The Midway Tropical Fish and Pet located right next to a bus stop on the Highway deals with a lot of unwanted foot traffic outside of the store.

"There are fights once in awhile, and a few drunks every now and then," said the store manager Robbie, who declined to give his last name.

A few weeks ago he reported to the police about a man passed out in the parking lot.

"We weren't sure if he was dead or just really drunk," said Robbie.

He has worked at the store for 30 years and lives just a block away.

"It's (the crime) has never been like this. But people haven't always been like this," said Robbie. "We see a lot of

weirdness."

Many of the cities surrounding Pacific Highway South pay special attention to the road.

Burien recently set up special zones around the Highway that police will patrol more.

SeaTac has a Street Crimes Unit of plain clothes detectives who work on drug and drug-related issues.

The Des Moines Police Department is also working to restructure how they handle crime in the area.

"The department has been working the past three months on developing a strategic plan for the police department," said Weiland.

"The plan should be complete by the first of the new year."

The plan includes more officers becoming familiar with the



Fisher

area, creating new hours, staffing, deployment of officers and how the approach to police work will be, said Weiland.

The City of Des Moines has been working to bring in new business along the highway.

"Over the past year Des Moines has spent a lot of money on redesigning Pacific Highway South," said Weiland.

"The hope is with the new look, new businesses will be enticed to locate in this area."

Statistics aren't available yet on whether crime has gone down because of the redesigning.

Deputy Chief Chuck Miller with the City of Kent Police Department said that prostitution is another crime concern on the Highway.

The area from 252nd to 260th is the areas with higher rates of activity, said Miller, but there's a fair amount of activity around 240th.

Highline is located on 240th.

Kent Police Department deploys undercover officers along their section of the Highway to "attract customers," said Miller.

Prostitution along the highway goes in cycles.

If arrests and undercover operations are successful in one area of the highway to push out prostitutes, they eventually move to another section of the highway out of the city's jurisdiction.

To stay safe, the city police departments recommend that students travel in pairs.

If walking alone is inescapable, make sure to present yourself as confident and in control of your surroundings.

Criminals are less likely to target people who look like they are in charge of their environment.

When walking to a car, have the car keys ready in hand to reduce the time standing outside.

As for Highline's issue with car thefts and break-ins, Chief of Security Richard Fisher suggests that students not leave CDs or other valuables in sight in their cars.

He also said that, if students have a radio with a detachable face, they should take the face off and take it with them.

Students half a world apart clear up misconceptions

By Maurice Williams

staff reporter

A group of students at Highline were able to see the ramifications of AIDS with their own eyes.

The US embassy hosted a teleconference at Highline in regard to AIDS awareness.

About six students from Highline and 25 students from Cape Technikon, a school in South Africa, were able to communicate through this teleconference.

It was designed to shatter misconceptions that the groups of students had about each other.

Highline Professor Derek Greenfield is in South Africa working with students at Cape Technikon and helped with the teleconference.

"The teleconference was an exciting opportunity for students at Highline and Cape Technikon to share ideas and experiences as well as continue building the partnership between the two institutions," Greenfield said. "Based in limiting exposures, students often hold deep misconceptions about life in the other country, so the meeting provided a dynamic chance to pose questions, challenge perceptions, and emerge as more informed individuals."

One question asked by a South African student was how much does the American government do about AIDS.

Funding from the U.S. government plays a major role in the fight against AIDS, but so

many countries depend on funding that many aren't fully supported.

As a result, most don't have the means to complete their goals.

The U.S. is supposed to provide funding for various AIDS prevention programs, but there are restrictions.

"They were surprised to hear from my class that the U.S. Government was doing very little about AIDS," Highline Professor Bob Baugher said.

Baugher teaches psychology and behavioral science; his Understanding AIDS class took part in the teleconference.

"They won't give it (funding) to clinics that provide abortions. They also won't give it to clinics that distribute condoms. Unless the clinics preach abstinence, they continue to dangle the funds over their heads," Baugher said.

"We had a couple of younger students but they didn't show up. Most of the students at the teleconference were in their late 20s and early 30s," Baugher said. "Toward the end of the conference we were cut short because some of the students had to go to class."

AIDS is an epidemic that is sweeping the world.

"A lot of people in South Africa are HIV positive. I was impressed that they wanted to talk to us about it," said Baugher. "With AIDS so prevalent in their country, it is amazing that they wanted to know what we were doing, and what we

thought about it."

South Africa has the highest infection rate when compared to the rest of the world. According to avert.org, the rate of infection in America is about 0.6 percent;

but the infection rate in South Africa is roughly 7.5 percent.

These statistics are as recent as the end of 2003.

South Africa has a population of 46.4 million.

At cdc.gov, it reports that an estimated 5.3 million South Africans were HIV-positive in 2003.

The next teleconference has not been scheduled.

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December 3, 2004



Cook up the spirit

Recipes that add spice to the holiday season

By Sara Lokzn
staff reporter

Baking and cooking is a great way to show how much you care during the holidays.

We've decided to help you achieve that by gathering some favorite recipes from Highline faculty and staff.

There's a yummy desert recipe, a couple of side dishes, and some entrees.

Just enough to make a delicious holiday meal.

Chris Lara, financial services cashier, submitted a family recipe for poultry stuffing.

"My parents, having both been born in Scotland, enjoyed this poultry stuffing/dressing. It is made very similar to

bread dressing and has a nutty taste," said Lara.

Elizabeth Arnold, center manager for the Kaplan English program, offered an easy and delicious way to cook chicken.

"I love it because during the pre-holy daze it's hard to find the time (to cook)," said Arnold.

For the chocolate lover, Lisa Peterson, financial services budget analyst, submitted a mouth-watering mocha velvet cake recipe.

"This is so easy, but so yummy and elegant," said Peterson.

We've supplied the recipes; now it's your turn to try them out.

Be careful to read the directions and get all the ingredients in order and enjoy.

Oatmeal Dressing Submitted by Chris Lara

6 to 8 Cups Regular Oatmeal
6 Cups Onions chopped
5 tsp. or 3 tsp. seed Celery salt
1 1/2 tsp. or 3/4 tsp. pwd Garlic salt
1 tsp. dried Thyme
1 tsp. dried Sage
Pepper to taste
Crisco Oil Just enough to moisten (1/4 to 1/3 Cup)

In a large bowl mix the oatmeal and onions, add all of the seasoning and remix.

Pour just enough oil over the oatmeal mixture to moisten, remember the onions and turkey will provide additional moisture.

Lightly stuff the cavity and neck of the turkey.

Bake according to the instructions for your turkey.

"When I have more stuffing than will fit in the bird, I loosely wrap in foil and place beside the turkey. If you have some of the skin or fat on top of this dressing it will infuse more of the turkey flavor," Lara says.

Barbequed sweet potatoes Submitted by Laura Westergard

Oil a piece of foil with olive oil
Wash sweet potato(s) and cut the end off (so it won't explode on the barbeque).
Spread olive oil, basil, pepper and other spices to your liking on the outside of the sweet potato.

Place on the oiled side of the foil standing up (if your barbeque has room -

or lay it down on the foil).

Turn sweet potato often so it cooks evenly.

Serve sliced and garnish with olive oil or butter and fresh cilantro.

Mocha Velvet Cake Submitted by Lisa Peterson

1 box of Dark Chocolate Supermoist Cake Mix
Instant Coffee
Cocoa Mix (the kind you mix in milk)
1 pint Heavy Whipping Cream
Dark Chocolate Ready Made Frosting
Sliced Almonds

Cake: Prepare Cake Mix as indicated on box

Add 1 tbsp. of instant coffee to prepared cake mix.

Bake as directed in bundt pan.

Let cool completely.

Mousse: Pour heavy whipping cream in mixing bowl and float in larger bowl filled with ice.

Add 4 tbsp. of cocoa and 1 tbsp. instant coffee.

Whip with electric mixer until stiff.

Slice cooled cake into 3 layers.

Fill each layer with prepared Mousse.

Glaze: Take the Dark Chocolate ready made frosting and thin with water until pourable (not too thin, just thin enough to be able to pour).

Drizzle over the top of layered cake.

Sprinkle top with sliced Almonds.

No peeky chicken (or Pork chops) Submitted by Elizabeth Arnold

Oven at 400°

9X13 pan

1 family size chicken rice-a-roni
6 chicken breasts or pork loin chops
1 can cream of chicken, celery or mushroom, (cheddar is great too) soup

In pan spray with pam,
open rice-a-roni box pour in contents (and flavor pack)
stir in 4 cups water,
can of soup (looks terrible-sorry)
arrange meat on top
cover with foil....bake 1 hour
no peeking

Cheese-Pumpkin Soup Submitted by Nancy Warren

1/2 c. sliced green onions with tops
2 T flour
1/2 tsp. nutmeg
2 cups milk
2 cups baked and pureed pumpkin
2 T butter
1 tsp. seasoned salt
1/4 tsp. cinnamon
1 can chicken broth (or homemade, which is better!)
1 1/2 cup shredded cheddar cheese

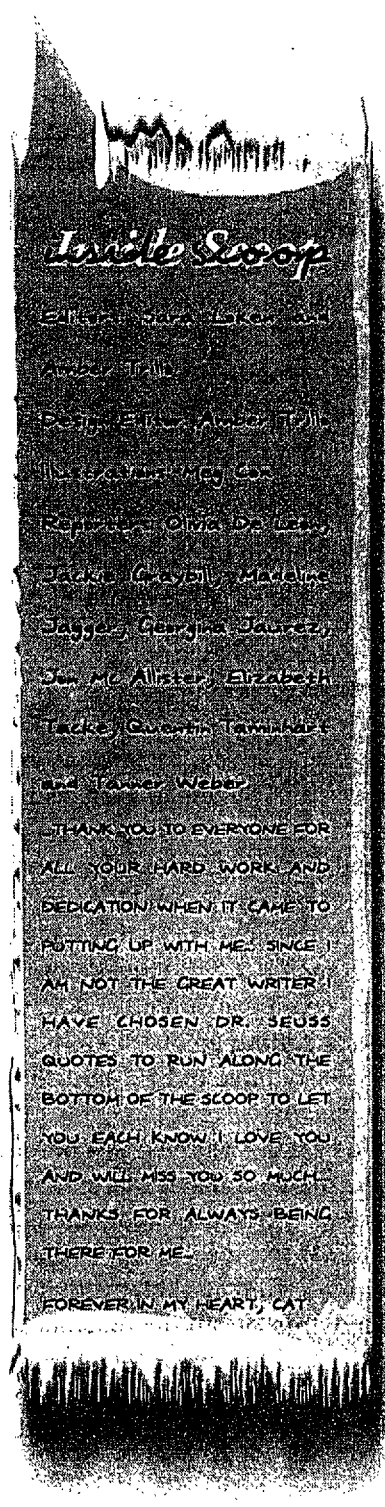
In large heavy saucepan, lightly sauté green onions in the butter.

Stir in flour, salt, nutmeg and cinnamon.

Remove from heat.
Add milk and broth.
Cook, stirring, about 15 minutes until thickened.

Blend in pumpkin.
Simmer five minutes longer, stirring frequently. Add cheese.

Stir until melted.



Holidays come in different packages

By Quentin Taminhart
staff reporter

When it comes to Christmas I'm sure many of you readers are accustomed to the full gamut of festivities, church plays, caroling, *The Nutcracker*, hasty pudding, reindeer and of course chocolate elves...or was it gumdrop leprechauns? - something like that. Personally, I'm not quite on the ball regarding all the pomp and circumstance that surrounds said holiday but that certainly hasn't stopped me from enjoying X-mas over the years.

My younger sister and I fell into a curious place, with both of our parents hailing from fairly traditional Christian backgrounds; my father from Methodism and my mother from Lutheranism, with neither of those denominations ever making their way into our lives in any major way.

Our parents always seemed to want to be all-inclusive. When we were young children, Christmas might mean a day service at a Universalist Unitarian church or a night at our Yoga/Meditation center, followed by receiving our annual loot.

Our extended families have been spread somewhat thin over the country with aunts, uncles and grandparents in Minnesota, California and Montana, so we represent a lone chapter of each, holding what seems like an odd and often relatively snowless vigil out here in the Northwest.

My parents were always rather matter of fact in giving out information. So as I was a fairly bright child, dear Santa met his demise quite early on in my life, though not quite as early as the "babies come from storks" yarn, which I think was quashed at about age 5.

I remember lying awake thinking, "Geez, with dad still up at 3 a.m., and us kids getting up at 5:59 a.m., Santa will really have to haul butt to make that window."

So in some ways it was a bit of a relief to discover that it was in fact Mom and Pop in charge of both delivery and customer service. I mean, what child wouldn't find it sketchy that Santa would drop off all the receipts for all the toys he had "made" you just in case you got "Skeletor's Snake Mountain" when what you really needed was

"Castle Grayskull."

My parents split up when I was in sixth grade, which gave me the opportunity to see my parents' contrasting visions of the holidays manifest themselves in their two respective homes. Because my parents lived quite close, I'd typically spend Christmas Eve and morning at my father's place and then make the mid-morning tromp over to my Mother's to spend Christmas day with her and any of her family that might be visiting.

As I've grown older, my mother's Christmas decorations have grown increasingly more Spartan, while my father has continued to carry the torch, hoping, no doubt, to imbue my two sisters and I with some sense of proper Christmas tradition.

Through the years, Christmas Eve at his house has featured all the classics - a big dinner, a crackling fire, carols playing on the stereo and of course a king-size tree with approximately 50,000 ornaments, lights and candy canes clinging to it.

There was also a healthy collection of stockings freakishly long enough to make any supermodel feel deficient. Each was capable of holding enough X-mas booty to keep us kids occupied while others of our family took turns

unwrapping a gift at a time. I'm sure others have shared my experience of having a parent try to dictate the order and frequency of present unwrapping as the children cast feral eyes on their prey, which seemed to be begging for evisceration.

So the stockings were good, though always filled with the most random of items. What does one do with fake bugs, a set of erasers shaped like footballs, a can of goop that makes a farting noise when you poke it and a bag of stick-on "googley eyes"? And there was always a toothbrush thrown in to boot, as if to remind us that life wasn't

all just "googley eyes and farting," it was also about responsibility and fighting tooth decay!

Christmas at my mother's was something to behold, because of its simplicity. Early on, we had a tree, albeit a small one, but a real live (or formerly alive) chunk of woody brush sitting in our living room.

However, this eventually gave way to an 18-inch tall plastic mini-tree that sat on a tabletop and came

with its own little set of mini-lights and mini-ornaments. That little unimposing guy served us well for many years while not dominating the room as some so-called real trees tend to do.

Even the manger for the small nativity scene that my mother would put out was quirky. It was fashioned from, of all things, the dried ribs of a saguaro cactus, which looked a bit like the bones of some long-dead desert creature.

When it came to gifts, rain checks on certain items had already been standard issue in my household for some time, so good old fashioned regular checks seemed like a natural progression for a teen whose taste in music and fashion (from punk to raver)

had rapidly become about as accessible to a parent as the English language is to Dubya.

See Presents...

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Quentin finds joy in life's simple things. This particular year it was a hot pink glitter Barbie Jeep, with accessories.

Nip, Be who you are, and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter, and those who matter, don't mind.

Local events provide a dose of good cheer

By Jackie Gragbill
staff reporter

Seattle's Christmas offerings include unique, inexpensive, and traditional events that are sure to appeal to the tastes and pocketbooks of just about everyone.

Students on a tight budget will be pleased to know that a plethora of holiday events will be available to bring a smile not only to their hearts, but to their finances as well.

• The Seattle Center has combined all of these elements into a free festival they are calling the Washington Mutual Winterfest which runs Nov. 26-Jan. 2, 2005.

Winterfest offers numerous performances—from the culturally diverse, to the kid friendly, to the distinctive.

Last week's Winter WorldFest, which was the kick-off of the festival, featured over 300 dancers, musicians and entertainers from practically every corner of the world.

Perry Cooper, a spokesman for the Seattle Center, said that the festival is exciting because it lets people see the holiday traditions of many different cultures and it brings them in touch with things they would not normally experience.

Some upcoming festival events include learning how to make traditional holiday treats from all over the world at the DessertFest and enjoying a story from another part of the globe at the World StoryFest.

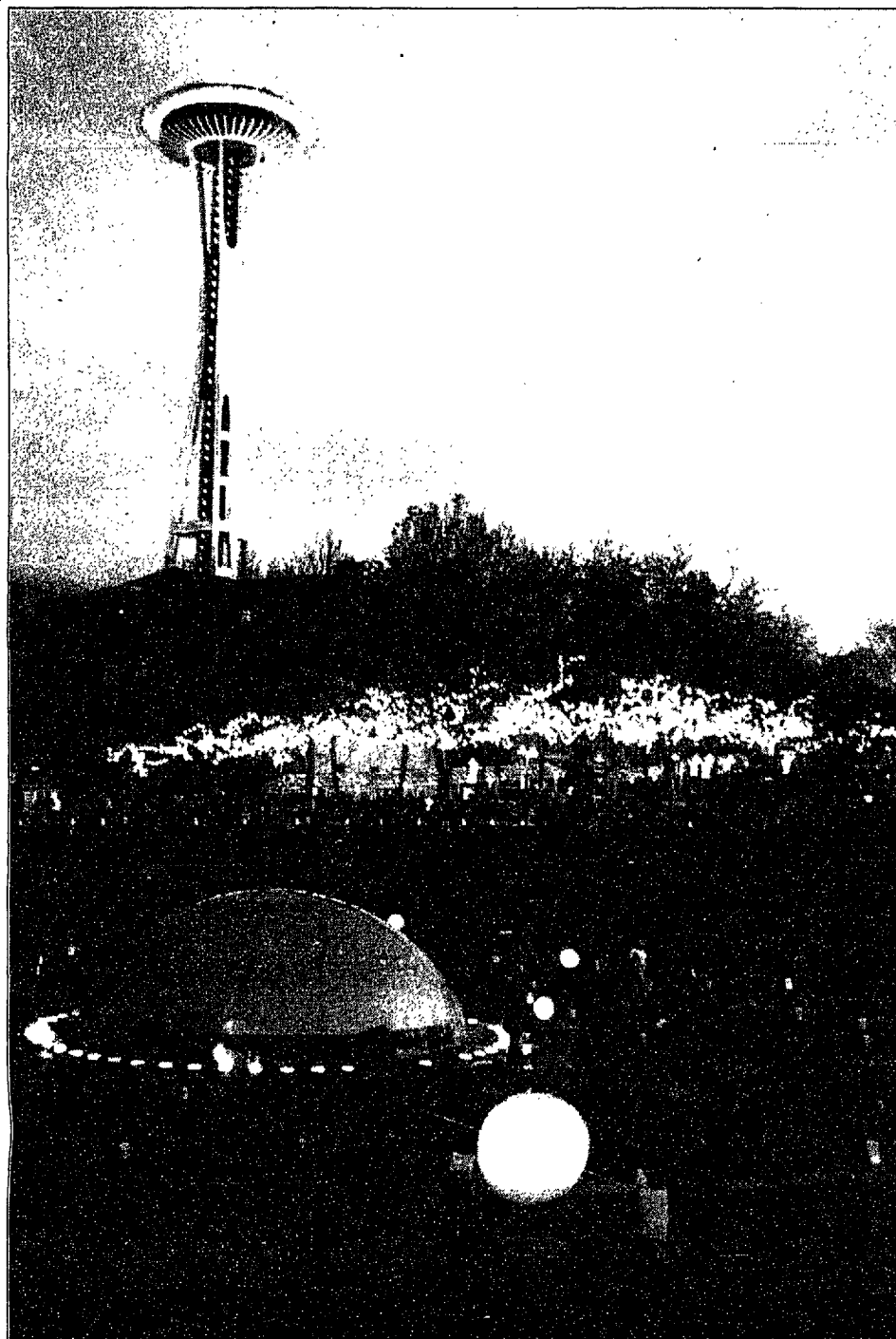
Family friendly events include the popular ice skating rink and a family movie night as well as performances from local middle and high school bands and choirs, said Cooper.

He also said that one of Winterfest's most well attended performances is called Seattle's Best Jazz.

It features top jazz performers from the area as well as the Garfield Jazz Band and American Idol participant Leah LaBelle, said Cooper.

"All of the concerts and events are free. That is part of our vision for WinterFest—that people who can't afford to go to the big name concerts would be able to enjoy holiday entertainment from talented artists, some of whom could charge \$45 a ticket if they wanted to," said Cooper.

Cooper also said that people will

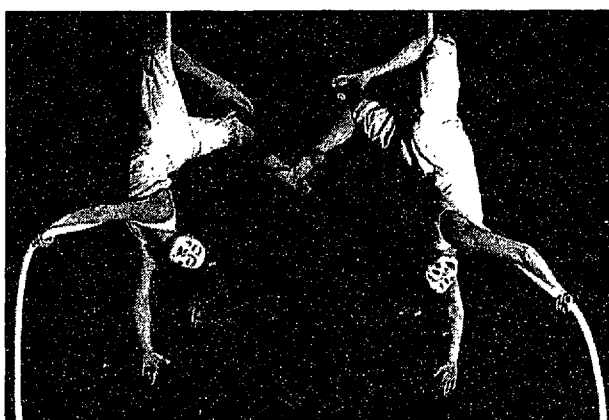


want to be sure not to miss the Circus Contraption's special performances on Dec. 29-30.

"This is the first time we've had anything like this at the Seattle Center.

The group is performing Sugar Snow: An Aerial Performance specifically for WinterFest," Cooper said.

He likened the group to the world famous Cirque du Soleil and



said that they will be dressed like Victorian age pixies and will perform as artificial snow falls from the ceiling of the Center House.

• Kent is hosting its own three-day Winterfest on Dec. 2-4 which has a different theme for each night.

Organizer Sally Goodgion said she is excited about Kent's first ever

Winterfest.

"We've never had a format like this before—it has only been a parade. But we plan to make it an annual tradition in Kent," said Goodgion.

Dec. 2 is Girls Night Out, and Dec. 3 has been named Couples Night Out.

Both evenings will run 5 p.m.-8 p.m. and will offer complimentary chocolates, make-up and hair touch-ups, gift wrapping, daycare, and dessert tastings.

Goodgion said that organizers hope to not only give women a chance to relax from the stress of the holidays with their friends, but to also have a romantic evening out with their sweethearts.

Dec. 4 is an all day event running 9 a.m.-6 p.m. and is titled Family Day.

It features a free pancake breakfast, Dobler—the mascot of the Seattle Storm, free seasonal treats, holiday readings at the Kent library, and will conclude with a tree lighting and caroling ceremony.

"We want people to be able to experience an old-fashioned Christmas in a small community. We will have music at different points in town and we will

even have horse drawn carriages," Goodgion said.

• Another free event is watching the Great Figgy Pudding Street Caroling Competition in downtown Seattle on Dec. 3.

The competition donates the proceeds from its participants to the Pike Market Senior Center, which has 1,000 members who are low income or homeless.

• A visit to the lobby of the Sheraton Seattle Hotel and Towers will be rewarded by a look at the masterpiece of the Sheraton's chefs and some of Seattle's finest architectural firms—a gingerbread village which has been themed Miracle on 34th Street.

Holiday entertainment, a place for unique gift ideas, and Christmas and light displays that don't cost more than a weekend movie at the local theater, are all contained in the following events (all are \$10 or under).

• Benaroya Hall has a lineup of holiday concerts with more to offer than just a classical feel.

Rosalie Contreras, publicity manager for the Seattle Symphony, said that there is a huge variety of concerts and there will be something for everyone to enjoy.

"We have the Holiday Pops concerts which has singers and tap dancers and is just a lot of fun. We also have the Canadian Brass Band, the Mount Zion Gospel Choir in A Gospel Choir Christmas, and A Big Band Christmas with the Duke Ellington Orchestra—which is conducted by the grandson of Duke Ellington," said Contreras.

"If you want a more classical touch, we also have Handel's Messiah with full orchestra and chorale as well as four top soloists," said Contreras.

She said she thinks that not enough students know about Campus Club which allows them the best seat in the house for \$10.

"All students have to do is fill out the application form and send it back with a copy of their student I.D. They will then receive weekly e-mails about concerts," said Contreras.

She also said that students need to show their I.D. and Campus Club card at the box office to receive their tickets.

"When students have purchased four tickets at the \$10 price, they will receive their fifth one free," said Contreras. "It is a great program for students to take advantage of."

The Campus Club order form is available at: www.seattlesymphony.org/_dwn/campus_club_application.pdf

Contreras said she thinks that many

See Events...

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Martha: "Don't give up, I believe in you all. A person's a person no matter how small."

Events

continued from Page A4

people feel intimidated by Benaroya Hall.

"They feel that they have to know the music in order to enjoy it. That is not the case—every time you come it is a different feeling and a new and enjoyable experience," she said.

• The Victorian Country Christmas is another Northwest tradition that is under \$10.

It takes place every year at the Puyallup Fairgrounds and is scheduled for Dec. 1-5 this year.

It is not just another gift show: it boasts 530 Victorian storefronts and has over 20 professional shows daily performed on its various stages.

It was designed to take one back in time—each vendor is required to wear a Victorian costume, and the inside of the buildings are transformed into an old fashioned village from the 1800s.

• Other inexpensive visual delights can be found at the Festival of Trees which displays almost 70 ornately decorated Christmas trees and takes place on Dec. 3-5, Zoolights at the Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium which decorates its grounds with thousands of lights and runs Nov. 26-Jan. 2, and Safeco's Field of Lights which features over half a million Christmas lights and runs Nov. 28-Dec. 28.

All of these offer entertainment, seasonal refreshments, and photo opportunities.

• For more generous budgets, the following big name performances might be just right.

Vocal legend Andy Williams is bringing his Christmas Show to McCaw Hall on Dec. 13 and Mannheim Steamroller will perform its Christmas Celebration at the Tacoma Dome on Dec. 10.

Mannheim Steamroller has made their staple a unique sound—a blend of traditional, electronic, and rock.

Their Christmas music was an instant success and the group has sold millions of records since their first release 20 years ago.

Holiday Happenings

Festival of Trees annual benefit for Mary Bridge Children's Hospital at the Greater Tacoma Convention and Trade Center, Dec. 3-5 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tickets: \$5 (ages 12 and up) \$1 (ages 12 and under). Website: www.marybridge.org/for

Pacific Northwest Ballet presents "The Nutcracker" at McCaw Hall. Nov. 26-Dec. 28, varying times. Tickets: \$17-\$96. Website: www.pnb.org

The Inman Theatre presents "Black Nativity: A Gospel Song Play" Nov. 26-Dec. 26. Tickets: \$10-\$40. Website: www.inman.org

The Taproot Theatre presents "Radioland Christmas" Nov. 26-Dec. 30. Tickets: \$19 and \$25. Website: www.taproot.org. www.ticketmaster.com/type/taproot-theatre-in-the-search-box

ACT Theatre presents its 29th annual production of "A Christmas Carol" at The Allen Theatre. Nov. 26-Dec. 26. Tickets: \$23/\$75-\$85. Website: www.acttheatre.org

The Point Defiance Zoo presents "Zoolights" Nov. 26-Jan. 2. Tickets: \$4-\$9 (ages 3 and under free). Website: www.pdz.org

Enchanted Village presents "Holiday with Lights" Dec. 10-12, 17-23, 26-31. Tickets: \$16.99 or \$12.99 at Safeway. Website: www.sixflags.com/parks/enchantedvillage

Safeco Field presents "Field of Lights" Nov. 28-Dec. 28. Tickets: Adult \$6 Child \$4. Website: http://seattle.mariners.mlb.com/NASApp/mlb/seattleballpark/events_1128.jsp

A Victorian Country Christmas at the Puyallup Fairgrounds. Dec. 1-5 Wednesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tickets: Adults \$9 Students (K-12) \$7.50. Website: www.victoriancountrychristmas.com

The Great Biggy Pudding Street Caroling Competition at downtown Seattle's

Westlake Center, Pine Street between 3rd Ave. and 6th Ave. Caroling 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Awards Ceremony and Community Sing Along 7:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Dec. 5. Free to the public. Website: www.giggypudding.org

The Sheraton Seattle Hotel and Towers presents the 12th Annual Gingerbread Village made 100% this year's them is "Miracle on 34th Street" Nov. 22-Dec. 31. Free to the public. Website: www.downtownseattle.com

Seattle's Museum of History and Industry presents the Goodwill of Seattle Historic Winter Fashion Show. Dec. 18 at 11:30 a.m. Free with regular admission. Adults \$7 Children/Seniors \$5. Website: www.seattlehistory.org/news/calendar.htm

McCaw Hall presents the Andy Williams Christmas Show. Dec. 13 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$39-\$50-\$59-\$50. Website: www.ticketmaster.com/type/Andy-Williams-in-the-search-box

The Tacoma Dome presents Mannheim Steamroller's "Christmas Celebration" Dec. 10 at 8 p.m. Tickets: \$39-\$85. Website: www.ticketmaster.com/type/Mannheim-Steamroller-in-the-search-box

Key Arena presents The Trans-Siberian Orchestra. Dec. 26 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$29-\$44. Website: www.ticketmaster.com/type/Trans-Siberian-Orchestra-in-the-search-box

The Seattle Center House presents Circus Contraption's "Sugar Snow: An Aerial Performance" Dec. 29-30 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: Free to the Public. Website: www.cityofseattle.net/news/detail.asp?ID=4714&Dept=18

Northwest Girlchoir presents "Journey from Darkness to Light" Family Concert at Seattle's Town Hall on Dec. 4 at 1:30 p.m. Tickets: \$12 (\$5 and under free)

Concert at the U.W.'s Meany Theatre on Dec. 11 at 2 p.m. Tickets: Adult \$20 Students \$12. Website: www.northwestgirlchoir.org/seet.htm

Northwest Boys Choir presents "A Festival of Lessons and Carols" at eight locations including The University of Washington's Meany Theatre and Seattle's Town Hall. Tickets: Adult \$15-\$25 Students \$10-\$15. Website: www.nwchoirs.org

The U.W. School of Music presents "CarolFest" at the Meany Theatre. Dec. 6 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: Adults \$10 Students/Seniors \$8. Website: <http://depts.washington.edu/meany/publiccalendar/0412.htm>

Choral Sounds Northwest presents "Making Spirits Bright" at the Highline Performing Arts Center in Burien. Dec. 10-11 at 8 p.m. and Dec. 12 at 2 p.m. Tickets: Adult \$16 Students/Seniors \$13. Website: www.choralsoundsnorthwest.org

The Boeing Employees Choir presents a Highline Community Hospital Benefit Concert at the Highline Performing Arts Center in Burien. Dec. 15 at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free but attendees are encouraged to bring a donation of canned food. Website: www.boeingchoir.org/Schedule.aspx

Burien Live Theatre presents "Christmas Cabaret" at the Burien Community Center. Dec. 5-14 Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets: Website: www.geocities.com/burienlivetheatre/christmas.html

The Rainier Chorale presents "'Tis the Season" at the Kent United Methodist Church. Dec. 4 at 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 5 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets: Adult \$14 Student/Senior \$12. Website: www.rainierchorale.org/index.php

Magical Strings presents its 18th annual Celtic Yuletide Concert at Kent Meridian High School's Performing Arts Center. Dec. 12 at 3 p.m. Tickets: Adult \$14 Students/Seniors \$12. Website: www.ci.kent.wa.us/Arts/PerformingArts/MagicalStrings.htm

Jessie: If you never did you should. These things are fun and fun is good.

Hollywood's holiday: coal or diamonds?

By Sara Loken
staff reporter

Get your shopping done early, and get out of the house because there's a lot of talk about the movies this holiday season.

This time of year, only a few months from the Academy Awards, Hollywood puts out its Oscar hopefuls. Some movies aren't intended to get on the Oscar train; they're for the audience and they're not trying to impress critics. That seems to be a common theme these past few months with the last crop of movies in theaters but it's time to be impressed, so what does Hollywood have to offer?

One of the long awaited and big movies this season is *The Aviator*. It reteams director Martin Scorsese with actor Leonardo DiCaprio. Their last movie was the Oscar-nominated and largely forgotten, *Gangs of New York*.

DiCaprio stars as Howard Hughes, real-life millionaire, Hollywood director and airplane industry tycoon, through the 1920s to the '40s. The movie outlines Hughes' rise to fortune and his famous affairs with Hollywood starlets.

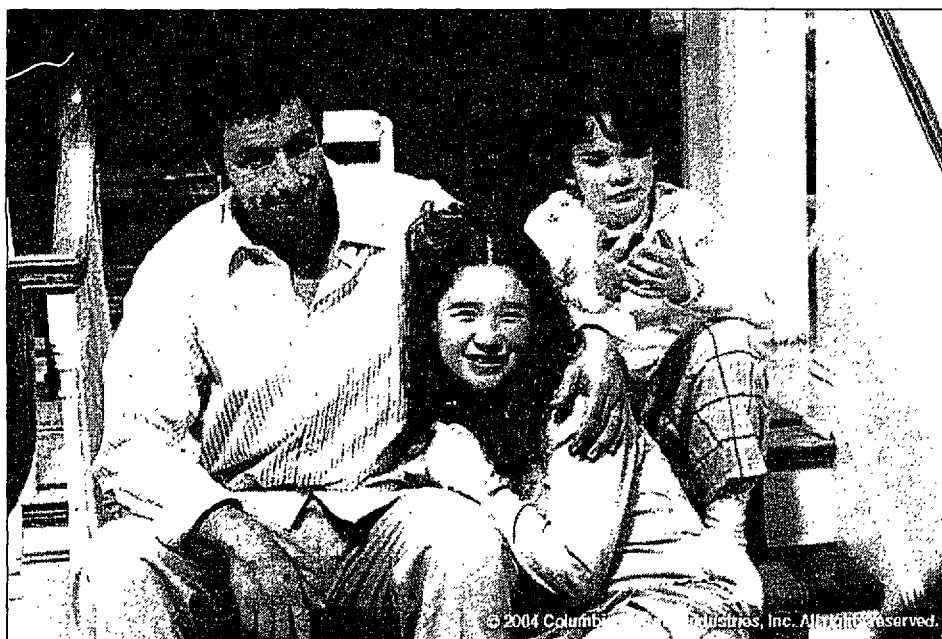
Kate Beckinsale stars as Eva Gardner, Cate Blanchet plays Katherine Hepburn and singer Gwen Stefani makes her screen debut playing the Hollywood siren Jean Harlow.

This movie has the recipe to get the nominations Scorsese is striving for; it's a period piece, big-name stars, with a famous director. With DiCaprio in a leading role, this could be his chance to get a Best Actor nod.

The Aviator opens Dec. 17.

Another epic movie and one that's been long talked about for years is Andrew Lloyd Weber's, *The Phantom of the Opera*.

Set in the Paris Opera House in the 1880s, there's a mysterious phantom that lurks within. Christine, a chorus girl at the opera, receives voice lessons



Adam Sandler plays a father in the new comedy *Spanglish*.

from the opera ghost and becomes the star of the opera house. When she becomes engaged to the dashing Vicomte DeChangy, the phantom tries to win her back with his hypnotizing power over her.

The movie version doesn't seem to stray far from its theatrical roots like so many adapted-to-screen movies. The film keeps the original songs, with the addition of a new one, and all the actors sing their own parts.

Over the years there's been rumors of John Travolta and Antonio Banderas playing the elusive phantom. But the role ultimately went to a somewhat unknown, Gerard Butler. Christine is played by the young Emmy Rossum, who recently starred in *The Day After Tomorrow* and played Sean Penn's murdered daughter in *Mystic River*.

Because this movie is a musical, there's a lot riding on whether Butler and Rossum can sing their parts with accuracy.

Action director Joel Schumacher directs the picture and it's his first period piece. Other movies he's directed include, *Batman and Robin*, *8MM*, and

Phone Booth. But there's been a lot of talk that Schumacher's been working closely with Weber to get the right look for the film.

Phantom of the Opera opens Dec. 22.

There's a couple feel-good comedies this season and James L. Brooks, director of the Oscar champion *As Good As It Gets*, leads the pack with *Spanglish*.

The movie is about a dysfunctional family, the Claskys. Laid off from her job, Deborah, played by Tea Leoni, becomes a stay-at-home mom. While adjusting to the new lifestyle and struggling to keep her sanity the family enlists the help of Flor, a mother and recent emigrant from Mexico as a housekeeper.

Adam Sandler is in a more grown-up role as he plays John Clasky, the father. John is level-headed and is trying to keep his family together with a wife who seems to take it for granted.

Flor is more than a housekeeper as she ultimately becomes part of the family and helps them learn what real family is.

Brooks writes and directs the picture and with the success of *As Good As It Gets* there is some promise for the movie.

Spanglish opens Dec. 17.

In Good Company is another feel-good comedy that hopes to draw both the younger crowd and the adult crowd.

It stars Topher Grace from *That '70s Show*, *Lost in Translation*'s Scarlett Johansson, and Dennis Quaid.

Grace plays a young business man

that gets promoted over veteran business man Quaid. Being young in the business world, Grace seeks guidance from Quaid, who is reluctant to help because Grace is now his boss. But things are really shaken up when Grace starts to date Quaid's daughter, Johansson.

It's the first starring role for Grace and Quaid needs a good movie soon to establish himself in Hollywood again. But the film may be carried by Johansson, who is Hollywood's "it" leading young actress right now with the success of *Lost in Translation*.

Two highly anticipated sequels make their way to the screen this season.

Meet the Fockers hopes to follow in the success of 2000's *Meet the Parents*.

The original cast members are back, including Robert DeNiro and Ben Stiller, plus Dennis Hoffman and Barbra Streisand.

This movie technically is *Meet the Parents* as it's time to meet Stiller's on-screen parents, Hoffman and Streisand.

While Hoffman and Streisand may draw new crowds to this movie, there probably won't be a change in the type of humor as was used in *Meet the Parents*. Expect more gross-out and off-the-wall type laughs.

Meet the Fockers opens Dec. 22.

Ocean's Twelve is the other anticipated sequel this season. What's amazing about this movie is that all the big named stars from *Ocean's Eleven* are back: Brad Pitt, George Clooney, Julia Roberts, Matt Damon, and Andy Garcia. Catherine Zeta-Jones also joins the all-star cast.

In *Ocean's Eleven* a team of crooks steal \$150 million from three casinos in Las Vegas owned by Terry Benedict, played by Garcia.

This time Garcia is in the driver's seat as he vows to get the money back.

Daniel Ocean, played by Clooney, enlists the help of his team to steal more money, this time using Europe as their playing field.

Ocean's Twelve opens Dec. 10.



Gerard Butler and Emmy Rossum as The Phantom and Christine in *The Phantom of the Opera*.



George Clooney plays mastermind crook Daniel Ocean in *Ocean's Twelve*.

Loken: "Don't cry because it's over. Smile because it happened."

More bang for your holiday buck

Gift ideas sure to fit your time and budget

By Elizabeth Tacke
staff reporter

Most students simply do not have the cash to buy extravagant Christmas gifts. But it doesn't mean that you can't give unique or fun presents.

There are plenty of gifts to give on a short budget.

Jennifer Combs, a Highline student, suggests photo albums.

"I love photos. Give a photo album with pictures of you and them in it, of course," she said.

Inexpensive albums can be bought at craft or department stores for under \$10. Disposable cameras are great supplemental gifts; they can be used to fill up the album.

Highline student Crystal Wittman agreed with the value in photos.

"My friend and I took pictures and bought really nice frames for each other," she said.

Mason Debato suggests a simple Hallmark card.

"Sometimes cards can express how people feel about you," he said. He also suggests giving a good book.

"I know I like a good book, as long as it isn't romance," Debato said.

Journals can also be bought at stores such as Borders, Barnes and Noble, or on a tighter budget, a paper or department store. Write down a favorite memory on the first page and pass it on to a friend.

Highline student Maggie Madsen feels that sentimental gifts are often the

best.

"My favorite gift was stepping stones that had the handprints of my grandchildren in them," she said. Madsen also gives useful gifts to her children.

"I always buy toothbrushes for stocking stuffers. You've got to have an orange, too," Madsen said.

But when it comes down to gifts that most people want, chocolate is often at the top of the list.

"I just want a giant Butterfinger," said Madsen.

Chocolate was the popular choice with Highline student Melissa Mortenson as well.

"I'd like to receive chocolate. [Chocolate] bars are only a dollar or two - and they'd have change left over. A little bit goes a long way," Mortenson said.

Another cheap gift that starving college students would appreciate can be made in your own kitchen. Bake up a batch of homemade

Christmas cookies. They can also be fun to decorate when the cold winter rain keeps you inside.

But even further up on the list of wanted gifts among students was money, or money in the form of a gift card.

Every single student interviewed said that money was what college students wanted the most.

"Just give me the ten bucks," said Highline student Yosan Berhane.

Another student, Bernadette Serrano, said that she never knows exactly what she wants until she goes shopping, so she'd just prefer the money.

Students often appreciate gift cards from clothing stores, music stores, or, the ever-popular Starbucks. Gift cards



Forget photo albums, find a friend who would really appreciate good old-fashioned empty boxes.

may seem uncreative at times, but they will sure make students happy.

You can also buy gift cards from fast food restaurants. McDonald's, Burger King, or Subway are popular eating places for students. Give the gift of a free burger and you will forever have a spot in someone's heart.

Outlet malls, such as the Supermall, are filled with great gift ideas. Target and Wal-Mart are big hits as well. Student Amanda Downs enjoys shopping at the outlet stores.

"The Gap outlet has these little perfumes. They're really neat and they're only like \$3," she said.

With the cold weather upon us, scarves, gloves, or hats are needed. Target and Wal-Mart offer great options for cheap.

If the season rolls around and cash is simply too short, you can still pull it off and be a frugal hero. White Elephant

parties, parties where old and used gifts are given, can be fun and sometimes rewarding.

Student Melissa Mortenson's favorite present was a toilet plunger.

"It has sentimental reasons - a white elephant party type of thing. And, they really do come in handy," she said.

It is also possible to create IOUs for free. Give coupons to friends for free backrubs, a trip to a movie, an outing to Seattle, a chocolate cake, etc. The options are endless.

Other students resort to dollar stores when the going gets rough. And some students, like Xavier Miller, swear by them.

"I buy glass roses at the dollar store," said Miller. "It's something they can keep forever - they like them better than the real roses."

"But, I know I want a gift straight from the heart," he said.

DISH
WASHING
COUPON

GOOD FOR 1 MONTH

For easy convenience cut out the coupon above and gift wrap it in an old Thunderword newspaper.

Billy: "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."

'Tis the time for tweed

Winter fashion favors tweed and faux fur coats

By Georgina Juaréz
staff reporter

In the pursuit to find the hottest trends this season, one needs to look no further than our own campus.

All around Highline, winter's must-have fashion is a vision of fur trim and fluffy stuffing.

With winter's cold comes winter fashion. When walking around campus you can't help but notice that students all around have one common goal for winter's cold - stay warm and keep cool.

Most students stay warm by pairing their favorite jeans - usually long in length and body fitting - with puffy or sheared jackets, some with a fur trim and others without it.

Other preferred styles are three-quarter-length coats in tweed, plaid and solid colors as well as snow jackets.

"Fall/winter fashion is all about tweeds and cashmere. Mixing beautiful cashmere sweaters with nice pencil tweed skirts and fitting good jeans with jackets," said Annie Sparrow, owner of the downtown Seattle clothing store Tulip.

Sparrow said denim jeans, cashmere sweaters, and three quarter length coats are some of Tulip's biggest sellers.

Denim is also a big seller at Sway and Cake in downtown Seattle.

"Denim is super hot. Distressed, a lot of ripped and paint spotted jeans are popular. Always with a really sexy fitting blazer is nice," said Amanda Latham, employee at Sway and Cake.

Latham also said that faux fur and fur wraps are in, as well as fur trim, metallic handbags and tops, and leather jackets in bright colors.

The campus is split when it comes to colors.

Some students say this winter's colors are more pastel-based while others think differently, saying that this winter's colors are

darker like browns, blacks, and dark blues.

But color is all around this season; in the clothes that are worn and in the decorations that are put up in celebration for the holidays.

Many students this season attend religious ceremonies in celebration of their respective religions.

In these places of religion most people like to attend in more formal attire.

"I wear a dress shirt, dress pants, and dress shoes," said student Johnny Tran about how he dresses when attending a place of religion as opposed to how he dresses on a casual day- "a sweater, boots, and jeans."

Boots are definitely in this winter.

Shearing and fur trim is not only all the rage for coats but also for boots.

Many students, such as Kenya Scott and Anna Mitsko, agree that in addition to shearing and fur trim, Uggs, leather, and high, pointed-toe boots are also a hit this winter.

A question with uncertainty for winter is whether long scarves are still in this year.

Every student asked responded yes. "They still look good and keep me warm," said student Jean Stephenson.

Winter may be cold, but you can keep warm and stay cool in one of the season's many stylish coats and soft warm boots.



Tweed coats and sweaters are fashion musts this holiday season.



Where to shop for fashion

- Tulip
1201 First Ave
 - Sway and Cake
1631 Sixth Ave
 - The Powder Room
101 Stewart St
 - Les Amis
3420 Evanston Ave N
 - Nordstroms
 - GAP
 - American Eagle
 - The Buckle
 - Lori's Shoes (www.lorishoes.com)
- This is a local Chicago store but the website has great stuff and is worthy of checking out.

Red and green can fade into feeling blue

By Olivia de Leon
staff reporter

The urban myth of the highest suicide rate occurring during the holiday season isn't true.

Highline psychology professor Bob Baugher says that the holiday season suicide ranks only the fifth or sixth out of the 12 months.

It's a typical myth that the holiday season carries the title of being the most depressing seasons.

For many, the holidays are a time full of happiness, good cheer and positive hopes for the upcoming year.

The holiday season is a time for most people to have a reason to be happy due to things like religion, presents and the surrounding of family and friends.

On the other hand, some people do face stress that comes along with the holidays.

Stress factors can increasingly rise with the high demands of the seasonal to-do lists.

However, "We have to ask ourselves, is stress a bad thing?" said Highline Director of Counseling Lance Gibson. "Stress is never a bad thing to have until we can no longer control it and it becomes distress."

It is the distress that can cause more stress.

"When the stress level increases, memory decreases, and when memory decreases, the stress level increases," Gibson said.

For students, memory is a key essential to passing a class with a good grade.

"Therefore, when the stress increases it can cause students to lose memory in their studies."

Even those who feel that they cannot become depressed can develop stress responses such as headaches, excessive drinking, over-eating and difficulty sleeping.

Managing time and priorities, get-

See Blues...

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Presents

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over to my mom's to get my Xmas day teenage debt-relief/welfare check, which luckily fit nicely under the mini-tree.

Yes, Christmas became a laid back affair at my mother's. A couple years ago, sitting down with the mum on Christmas evening to a tasty meal of take-out Indian food while popping in a copy of The Last Temptation of Christ, I recall thinking, "We are not the Cleavers." But that's OK!

I've come to really enjoy the contrasts that my two households offer. In many ways, I feel that I've got the best of both worlds at hand and both my parents value spending time with us kids above all else, which is of course what matters.

At times I wonder, "if I were to sire a pack of rugrats at some point in the dis-

tant future, what kind of celebratory legacy will I have to pass on?" My living room would probably feature a fairly subdued decor, maybe with something original like a palm tree. Unsettlingly long stockings will still be a must though, as no kid can ever have too many googly eyes.

Manda: "Will you succeed? Yes, you will indeed! (98 and 3/4 percent guaranteed)"

Different holidays hold same importance

By Taurzan Davis
staff reporter

Holidays exist beyond borders. In one country, a family decorates an evergreen tree with sparking rainbow hues of ornaments and lights that dazzle and flash to a playful melody. Another family prays in front of a sleek, brass candelabrum and light a candle to commemorate a historical miracle.

Another scene is more lively; a merry celebration brings out the child in everyone, as they dance in majestic parades and attack piñatas without mercy. In yet another, a fasting is held for a whole in respect for their all-knowing lord in heaven. Lastly, a family gathers around, listening to words of wisdom and advice that will surely bring good fortune tomorrow.

All of these scenes are reminiscent of the holiday season, and not all of them are Christmas and Thanksgiving. America is home to more than just one holiday, and although they have their differences they are common in one simple thing: the idea of being together as a culture and as a community.

Las Posadas

Mexico

This holiday in Mexico is rooted in Christianity, or more precisely Roman Catholicism. Las Posadas originally started out as an idea commemorating the Joseph's and his wife's (the Virgin Mary's) nine-day journey to Bethlehem, where she eventually gave birth to the Son of God, Jesus Christ, in a manger outside of town (there wasn't any room at the inn).

Nowadays, the proceedings of Las Posadas are a lot more physical than just prayers; the participants actually act out the part of Mary and her husband Joseph as they journey through the night looking for a place to stay. The word posada means inn or lodging in Spanish and during each of the nine nights, a specific house is targeted with the task of being the 'inn'.

Upon midnight, a troupe of children, adults, and musicians snake their way through the streets to the targeted place. Upon reaching the house/posada, the travelers (as Joseph) sing out to the designated innkeepers asking them for

shelter for the night, saying that his wife (Mary) is weary. The innkeepers initially refuse, but after a bit more pleading from the travelers, the innkeepers let the troupe in.

Once everyone is moved inside and the prayers have begun and ended, everyone moves out to a more larger area (usually a patio of some sort) and the party begins. Colaciones (small baskets of sweets), punch, and fireworks round out the food and entertainment, but the big draw of the evening is the famous pinata-pounding event.

These types of proceedings usually last for eight nights and may even last till morning light. On the ninth night however, the ceremony becomes extremely formal and important as it falls on Christmas Eve.

Some changes are made to make things more realistic such as having an actual Joseph (actor) leading donkey carrying Mary (actor) to a manger or an image of the baby Jesus being set into the cradle by angels. This time the feasting is definitely slated to last the entire night, as they celebrate the birth of Christ and the coming of Christmas Day.

Las Posadas was originally a time where solemn prayers were said over a period of nine days, but currently it has evolved into a festival where everyone can join in the fun whether you're a child or an adult.

Ramadan

Muslim/Islamic

Ramadan is a holiday born from the Quran, much like Christmas was born from the Bible. However, unlike Christmas, Ramadan is a time of fasting and piety and is considered the holiest month in the Islamic calendar.

"We fasted for a month, and that happened in November," says Highline student Ubah Abshir from Somalia. She says that all Muslims celebrate the Islamic holiday although the date on the holiday often changes.

Because the Quran uses a lunar calendar as opposed to the solar one, the timing is somewhat different and Ramadan varies from being celebrated in November to December. Last year, Ramadan didn't begin until Dec. 12.

In accordance to the Quran, the holiday begins when the crescent moon is

seen in the sky, therefore, Ramadan may be postponed until one gazes fully on the moon. From then on, a fasting begins for 30 days.

Abshir says that proceeding through Ramadan is exceedingly hard, saying the meaning of the holiday is "to remind ourselves to get close to Allah and not sin by engaging in pleasurable (indulgent) actions." From sunrise to sunset, you cannot engage in activities that are seen as decadent or excessive which includes eating, drinking, smoking, or making love. By fasting, Muslims learn obedience and self-restraint as depicted by their Prophet Mohammed.

Food isn't entirely out of the picture though as there are two main meals taken each day, one before dawn (souhoor) and the other immediately after sunset (iftar), however not too much can be eaten as indulgence is seen as anathema during the fast.

At the end of the 30 day period, Ramadan is broken with the emergence of a celebration, Eid. "It's a three-day celebration, visiting families, prayer, and charity work," says Abshir. At this point, a massive feast is prepared, and many families and friends visit each other doing this period.

It's a symbol of the trial the Islamic community have been through (Ramadan) and they celebrate the end of it as a community as well.

Santa Lucia Day

Sweden/Finland

This holiday was originally celebrated in Italy, but is also extremely popular in Sweden. In fact, approximately a thousand years ago, a Swedish King made the proclamation the Christmas would last a monthy from Dec. 13 to Jan. 13 from Santa Lucia Day to St. Canutes Day (Canute was the name of the king). Similar to Mexico's Virgin Mary, Lucia was also a virgin, however the background story is entirely different.

In many European languages, the name Lucia is related to light. She was



A young girl celebrates Santa Lucia day.

supposedly the avatar of the sightless and was said to carry a bowl containing her eyes.

Lucia lived during a time when the Pagans prosecuted the Christians, most likely before the 8th century at a time where Europe was largely Pagan; she would travel around giving food and provisions to the Christians in hiding. She wanted to live her life as a virgin, but this angered a possible (Pagan) suitor and he publicly condemned her as a Christian. The local Roman authorities sentenced her to prostitution.

Legend through divine intervention, however, Santa Lucia could not be moved. They tried to burn her to death with fire, but when that failed, they ran a sword through her throat and she died.

Back then, Dec. 13th was believed to be the shortest day of the year and that St. Lucia was the one responsible for bringing the sunlight back to the land. Nowadays, in Sweden, this marked the beginning of the Christmas season and celebrations, including the town crowning of a Lucia (a contest of sorts). Dressed in the white garments archtypical of the Virgin, this Lucia, like the original, would hand out food, usually coffee, lussekatt (sun-colored saffron buns), and gingerbread cookies, to her parents or to guests visiting town. The crowned Lucia would also visit all the hospitals and nursing homes in the town before Christmas Day.

Although, Saint Lucia was Italian, that didn't stop the Sweds from becoming enchanted with her tale and the light of the holiday, a sign that holidays can cross borders and become just a popular by another community, even if it was originally foreign.

Boxing Day (or St. Stephen's Day) is influenced by the British and is celebrated in many European countries.

Boxing Day

Boxing Day (or St. Stephen's Day) is influenced by the British and is celebrated in many European countries.

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Holidays

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celebrated by Britain, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand on Dec. 26, the day after Christmas. No, it's not the day where you throw away all the empty present boxes or box gifts up to take back to the store.

Upper and lower class systems (the rich and the poor) play a key role into how this holiday started. Originally in the past, Christmas was a day where people could exchange gifts between equals. The day after Christmas became a day where people of opposing classes exchanged gifts.

While the British roots and the idea of giving presents to the underclass is accepted, Boxing Day has many differing ideas of its origins.

One idea is that it began as a form of tip from the merchant class to the traders and servants. Another speaks of how lords of large estates would draw everyone together for parties for Christmas Day; the day after, the lords would give provisions like leather goods, food, and clothing to the serfs (the people who maintained the land). Yet another idea is that servants would bring in boxes to work on the day after Christmas and their employers would fill it up with gold coins.

In each scenario, the outcome was the same: the upper class would give to the lower class. Think of it as a Christmas bonus.

In present times, servants and serfs are relatively a thing of the past (unless you count your job), but giving to organizations that perform services are typical on Boxing Day. Not only do people get the day off from work and school, but they can visit family and take advantage of the Christmas discount sales. Sports races and activities are also a common pastime during this holiday.

Kwanzaa

Kwanzaa was born during the times and trials of civil rights movements and riots as a way to bring the community together.

"As celebrated here it is an African American holiday," said Dr. Jean Harris, a Highline professor of anthropology. She says the holiday is the brainchild of Dr. Maulana Ron Karenga, a professor of Black Studies at California State University.

Even with the Civil Rights act enacted, feelings still burn with the injustice of the system and Dr. Karenga began researching for a way to bring the black community together as a whole. Studying African traditions, particularly the Ashanti and Zulu tribes, he formed the basis of Kwanzaa, which is related to the harvest celebrations performed in Africa.

The full name of the holiday is actually "matunda ya kwanza" (which means first fruits in Swahili) and it revolves around the Ngozo Saba, a set of seven

principles that is explained over seven days from Dec. 26 to New Year's Day. The Ngozo Saba include Umoja (unity), Kujichagulia (self determination), Ujima (collective work/duty), Ujamaa (cooperative economics), Nia (purpose), Kuumba (creativity) and Imani (faith).

In addition to the principles, families celebrating Kwanzaa also makes use of seven symbols that represent African ancestry and customs: Mazao (the crops) symbolizes work, Mkeka (place mat) symbolizes history, Vibunzi (the corn) represents fertility or children, Mishumaa Saba (seven candles) symbolizes light, Kinara (candelabra) represents ancestry, Kikombe Cha Umoja (cup) symbolizes unity, Zawadi (gifts) represents growth and success.

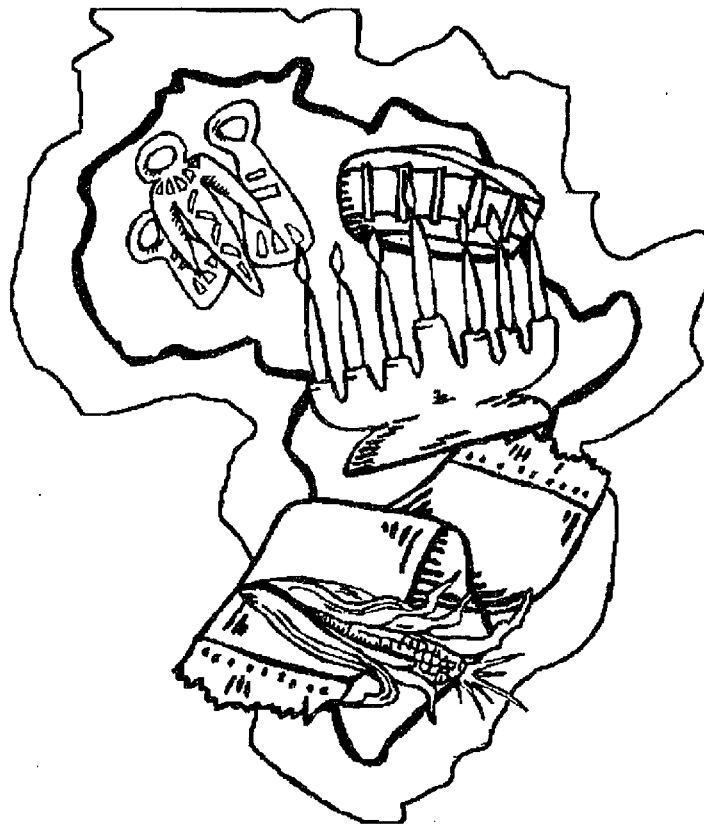
Each day, the family lights a candle on the Kinara and one Ngozo Saba is chosen to talk about that day, says Dr. Harris. On New Year's Eve, a Karamu, or African feast, is held before the last day is celebrated.

Dr. Harris believes wholeheartedly in the ideals set in Kwanzaa by Dr. Karenga.

"One reason [for Kwanzaa] was as an alternative to the materialism of Christmas and the strain that it presents for so many people," explains Dr. Harris. She said that not everyone is comfortable with having their kids believe in Santa Claus when the parents sacrificed to buy them presents. "Another is to call us to recommit to the Ngozo Saba and to build community and strengthen African American families."

Hanukkah

Kwanzaa isn't the only one that uses candelabrum as its focus for the holiday. Judaism's Hanukkah's context is very much centered around candelabrum as well (although this particular candle-



holder is called a menorah). Hanukkah is celebrated according to the Hebrew calendar so it's hard to gauge when it begins; it's always very late November to early December (this year it's Dec. 8).

Jonathan J. Puente, a Highline student, celebrates Hanukkah, and believes the holiday to be symbolic of the Jewish community. "We light candles on a menorah. It signifies a historical miracle. But also serves as a celebration for our family and community," said Puente.

Hanukkah means dedication in Hebrew and the miracle Puente is referring to revolves around the conflicts between the Jews and the Grecian Syrians, who were trying to religiously convert Jews by force around 165 B.C.

A rebel force, lead by Judah Maccabee, managed to end the war with the Syrians after three years of fighting. Taking back their Holy Temple seized earlier by the Syrians, they began preparing a rededication ceremony using the menorah. However the group only manage to find enough oil to light the candles for one night; however, to their surprise the oil lasted eight nights instead.

Therefore, Hanukkah is an eight-day holiday commemorating miracle of the menorah that lasted over a week on a



day's worth of oil. Puente mentions that Hanukkah is also the celebration of light. "In our (the Jews) world we've experienced dark times. There's always a little trickle of light in the deepest darkness," says Puente. He refers to dark times of the Jews like the Holocaust and the Spanish Inquisition, and how they've endured that and survived.

The menorah is basically a candelabrum with eight candles branching out from a center one which is known as the Shamash or servant candle (this one is used to light the other ones). The candles are placed from right to left in the menorah, and each night, after blessings have been said, the servant candle is used to light the other candles from left to right each night.

Puente says that oil has become sacred to the Jews due to the miracle, and is very much used in cooking to fry things. Olive oil - not kerosene.

Latkes, a Hanukkah-themed food, are potato pancakes reminiscent of the ones the Jewish army ate during their campaign with the Syrians. Sufganiyot, another oil-fried delight, is extremely popular in Israel during this time of year and resemble hole-less jelly doughnuts powdered in sugar and cinnamon.

Christmas

Christmas comes from the words meaning Christ's Mass or Christ's Festival and honors the day, Dec. 25, when the Son of God, Jesus, first entered into this world. The religious significance of this day is equal to that of Easter, which celebrates the day Jesus rose from the dead, his second entry into the world.

However, Christmas history and custom are about as varied as the ornaments hung on the tree. There is evidence that over the centuries Christian elements were assimilated with somewhat more pagan ideas, resulting synergy created today's Christmas.

These pagan ideas include the following: caroling, Christmas trees, Christmas cards, red and green decorations, holiday wreaths and poinsettias, Christmas parties and the fable of jolly old Saint Nicholas himself. Most of these elements came from other cultures, for example, Saint Nicholas was originally a Dutch legend, the Christmas tree originated in Germany.

Decking the hall with boughs of holly and caroling is a cry from the pagan Winter Solstice celebrations. People worshiped the sun and light, and during Winter as days became shorter, people eventually celebrated Dec. 21, the longest night of the year and the signal that the days will eventually become longer.

Christian influence arrives in the form of Advent, which starts on the Sunday closes to Nov. 30. Families and churches may decorate using evergreen boughs and even have an Advent wreath consisting of four candles center around a main one (known as Christ's Candle). Each Sunday starting from the first one, a candle is lit Sunday. On Christmas Eve, the center one is lit and Christians may attend a special midnight mass celebrating in prayers.

Christian or Pagan, Christmas carries the opportunity to make the best of both influences, although some feel that Christmas nowadays means spending more money on gifts than spending time with the family. The start of the shopping season, Nov. 26, is enough evidence of that, as sales and discounts on items draw people to stores even in the wee hours of the morning.

One Highline student, Lezlie, feels that the whole season has started to lose its context. "Some people should re-

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It's not about gifts, it's about family

Jackie Graybill
staff reporter

As orange and brown fade into red and green, we are reminded that Christmas is just around the corner and that it seems to come earlier every year.

We want it to come because it brings with it magical sights, sounds, and smells—it has become more than just a day. It has become a seasonal American tradition which is anticipated with delight by many.

Just what is it about Christmas that fascinates us?

The fact that Christmas touches us so deeply points to that it is about something much deeper than its central, but superficial ingredients of gifts, music and food, which are soon forgotten—that it is about memories made with loved ones.

As a child, I thought that Christmas was about the presents. Looking back, I don't remember the gifts I received, but am left with the beauty of fond memories of time spent with my family.

The most endearing holiday movies seem to have a related underlying theme to them—that no matter what its unique makeup, family is the most important thing and is a fundamental value—particularly at Christmas time.

That point of realization is seen on

the little face of Macaulay Culkin in the perennial Christmas favorite, *Home Alone*, as he realizes how much his family means to him and that they are all he really wants for Christmas.

Christmas is a season to share with those you love and for many it is a time to reunite with family who have been separated by miles.

A local radio station, SPIRIT 105.3, has named its Christmas staple "Home for the Holidays."

It selects someone who is unable to



Graybill

see their loved ones for Christmas, due to distance and finances, and reunites them with their family

by paying for their plane ticket and the expense of their trip.

I inevitably end up tearing up when the phone call is made to the one who submitted the request, and then as that individual calls the family member they are about to be reunited with.

The overwhelming joy and happiness expressed by both parties gives me a welcome reminder that family is indeed one of the foundational needs of our human nature.

Family creates what we all crave—a place to be accepted for who you are—a place to belong and to be loved.

Christmas is a holiday when no one should be left alone, when no one should be without the gift of a caring or encouraging word.

When those gifts take place within family, there is something special that happens.

In life, the best things of all can't be bought—you can't buy a special memory or the feeling of love and belonging.

Giving is not limited to that which you can feel and touch and wrap your hands around. Perhaps the most important kind of gift is the gift of oneself, of relationship. The most meaningful gift of this kind is one that creates a memory.

Christmas is unique in that memories of its past add to the magic of not only the present, but the future.

Anticipation grows out of the beauty of past experience and happiness.

Christmas is about sharing the sweetness of experience with others.

That experience may be as magnificent as seeing *The Nutcracker* for the

first time, or it could be as simple as hot chocolate by a fire and a midnight conversation with one you love.

As my own family prepares for Christmas, I am overwhelmed by the incredible gift they are to me. There is truly nothing I want for Christmas that would even equal what they mean to me.

My four younger sisters and I are very close in age and our brother isn't far behind.

As we are starting to move away to college, it means more now than ever that we are best friends.

Absence truly makes the heart grow fonder. Every family activity, every Christmas movie we watch together, every time we go out together, it means so much that we enjoy each other.

If there were one gift I could give to each person this Christmas, it would be that they would have the pleasure of enjoying their family relationships as much as I have had the honor to experience.

Every year Christmas means more—the childlike wonder and the anticipation for gifts to receive has been replaced with the anticipation of memories that will be created and fun that we will have with each other.

That proves to us that family is indeed at the very heart of our fascination with Christmas.

Holidays

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member what the season means means: what people should be thankful for and not be so greedy."

She believes that the presents have consumed the holiday spirit and despairs the shopping holiday.

In addition to Kwanzaa, Dr. Jean Harris also celebrates Christmas, and, like Lezlie, has a hard time coming to grips with the materialism of it all.

"It has become a merchant's season and holiday. My happiest Christmases (and Thanksgivings) have been when I was out of the country and away from the circus that Christmas has become here," said Dr. Harris.

In some ways, those elements of Christmas have leaked to other cultures as well. Highline Chinese teacher, Shen Yan, an exchange professor this quarter, states the Christmas is strictly a commercial holiday celebrated by the younger generation and is usually confined to the urban areas.

"You feel the Christmas atmosphere in the shopping malls, but individual families don't usually celebrate it," says Shen Yan.

Here, she says, people decorate their



houses; in China, that aspect is ignored.

Also, people do not days off for Christmas time like they do in America.

Instead, China celebrates Yuan Dan, New Year's Day, and Chun-Jie, a spring festival of lights that usually occurs around February (following the lunar calendar). Chun-Jie is like the early spring version of Christmas, as Chun-Jie describes it as a time where families come visit each other and celebrate by lighting

crimson red lanterns.

Highline Japanese teacher, Midori Kunitusgu, says that Japan, like China, celebrates New Year's is that Christmas is also considered not to be a religious holiday.

"Since there are less than 1% of Christians in Japan (main religions are Buddhism and Shintoism), Christmas is seen as something fun and romantic," says Kunitusgu.

"Stores will have Christmas decorations with lights, trees, and teddy bears to entice shoppers," says Kunitusgu.

Companies also have year-end parties about the same time so it's literally an time of party.

In France, however, Christmas is seen as a religious holiday.

Ellen Hofmann, Highline's French professor, says that many families attend midnight masses at cathedrals - but after midnight the revelry of food and drink begins.

"Stores are decorated, open and ready for business. Open air markets sell trees and perhaps hot mulled wine or special sausage/saukraut sandwiches reminiscent of Alsations traditions," say Hofmann. She believes that there is a bit less em-

phasis on shopping compared to America's shopping traditions.

Christmas across the world is seen as something fascinating, sometimes performed with high seriousness and religion, sometimes with festivals and partying, sometimes with overwhelming commercialism.

But no matter where you go the core value remains the same; these are the times where people meet or return to one another.

It's a theme that's broadcasted among many cultures and their own holidays.

Through the Jews story of lighting the menorah to remember the light through the darkest days, through Islam holy ritual of Ramadan and the ending celebration that brings everyone together, to Kwanzaa, a holiday born from the wish to create a stronger community.

Being together and communicating with each other is something that can be taken for granted, but luckily many people cultures celebrate the ties between them during the holiday season in Winter.

And despite the fact they are all different in practice, the ideals of community and togetherness are the ties that bind us all together and extends beyond race and religion.

"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself in any direction you choose."

Long distance holidays

War and time separate Highline family

By Jon McAllister
staff reporter

Separation from loved ones is a difficult thing to experience during the holidays. One Highline family is forced to deal with this feeling because of the continuing war in Iraq.

Jean Bons is an adult basic education instructor and her daughter Amy Van Mechelen is a student here at Highline. They are about to celebrate the holidays with one significant absence: Sgt. Joseph "Joe" Bons is serving at the Al Rashid Hotel in the dangerous Green Zone section of Baghdad, Iraq.

"My husband Joe loves wearing a uniform," said Jean Bons. "It's part of his persona." Joe Bons has rotated in and out of Army service, accumulating more than 18 years of experience.

His experience played a significant part in the Army's choice to pull him back into duty for the current war in Iraq.

Joe Bons, who is an infantryman, was recalled to duty on Feb. 8. He then spent six weeks training in California before being deployed first to Kuwait. In Kuwait, Joe's unit spent time acclimating to the extreme heat before being further deployed to Baghdad.

Joe was assigned to a Humvee and first spent time guarding a key bridge over the Euphrates River.

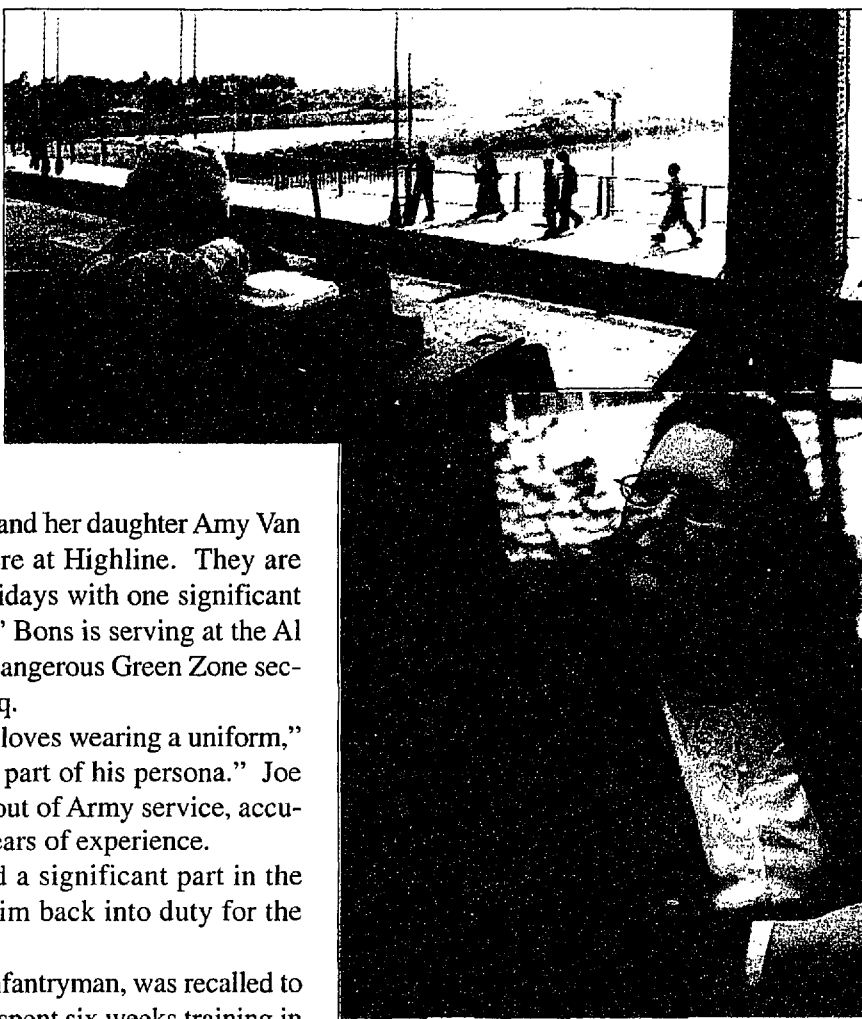
Having served in previous wars, Joe Bons feels that he was deployed despite having obvious symptoms of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

"I feel like they didn't have enough guys," said Jean. "So they sent anyone they could."

It's possible that Joe Bons' PTSD led him to have negative reactions to the hostile environment.

"Joe has had to visit the Combat Stress Team twice to manage issues surrounding his deployment," said Jean Bons.

It's not the local people or country that Joe Bons has difficult issues with. Joe Bons loves the Iraqi people and uses some of his personal time to learn the language and try the local food.



Jean Bons looks forward to her husband's return from Iraq.

Joe Bons applied to receive early retirement from the Army. His application was denied by his brigade's legal office and senior ranking officer.

Jean Bons said she is fortunate because she has a cheap, but highly inconsistent, way to communicate with her husband.

"I am able to communicate with him via Yahoo Instant Messenger," said Jean Bons, "but it's frequent."

Despite the media coverage indicating the everyday violence and disarray in Iraq, Bons is positive about the effort towards rebuilding Iraq.

"Joe thinks everyone over there - the FBI, CIA, the contractors, the food service providers - all of them are just

incredible," Jean Bons said.

Joe Bons' orders keep him in Iraq until May 2005 but there is a slim chance that he may get to come home for the holidays.

"He told me that he might get to come home in mid-December," said Jean Bons. "I am in suspense!"

Jean and Joe Bons don't celebrate the traditional Christmas. They recently discovered their Jewish roots and celebrate Hanukkah, which starts the evening of Dec. 7.

Joe Bons has a lot to think about besides the war he is serving in. His anniversary is on Dec. 20, and his recently pregnant daughter turns 19 on Dec 6.

With the war continuing and the amount of time soldiers serve in Iraq being extended, Joe Bons may be in Iraq for some time to come.

"I can't even comprehend how long he's been gone," said Jean Bons. "I don't even want to think about it."

Blues

Continued from page A8

ting enough sleep, eating well, spending within their budget, exercising and limiting alcohol consumption can help students to control their stress level.

However, when one is unable to control stress, it can lead to depression.

Depression is state of unhappiness and hopelessness, said Baugher.

"The equation I always give my students in my class for depression is: D=SxP, which is depression = sadness x pessimism," Baugher said. "It's when one believes that things will never get better."

Although the holiday season does not hold the highest rank in suicide, the following months after do.

According to the American Association of Suicidology, an education and resource organization located in Washington D.C., the months post December show higher numbers of suicide.

The mean number of suicides per day during the combined years 1989-1996, an eight year period, shows a daily average of 76.3(December) to 88.0(June), with

a mean of 84.8 per day.

And December stands alone as a singularly deviant month with the fewest recorded suicides per day. The same results held factual during the 1984-1996 period documented earlier.

"Some reasons that holds this true are because some feel that they have not accomplished anything during their holiday and feeling lonely during the spring time," Baugher said.

According to the National Mental Health Association, some warning signs of depression are persistent sadness, withdrawal from regular social activities, slowed thinking for response, weight changes,

lack of energy, and feelings of worthlessness or helplessness.

"Imagine the room your in is your life and everywhere you go in the room is painful, both physically and emotionally," Baugher said.

"And the only way out that you see is the door, which is suicide. That is how you can imagine what one feels when they're depressed and thinking about suicide."

Depression can lead to very dangerous results. If you know anyone or feel you're their in a state of depression call the 24-hour Crisis Clinic at 206-461-3222.

Robert Alan: "You know you're in love when you can't fall asleep because reality is finally better than your dreams."