

The Thunderword

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2004

Volume 44, Issue 11

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PERIODICALS

Highline Community College

Higher ed comes to Highline

What's
inside

CWU to move
classes to new
building soon

By Amanda Downs

staff reporter



Dance
team kicks
off again.
See story,
Page B8.

Weather
or Not?



Thursday
46°/37°



Friday
47°/42°



Saturday
46°/36°

Index

Arts.....Pages B5-7
Campus Life..Pages B2-3
Inside Scoop.....A Section
News.....Pages B1, 11-12
Opinion.....Page B4
Puzzles.....Page B7
Sports.....Pages B8-10



Photo by Bryan Yambe

A worker rinses off the entrance to the Higher Education Center on Wednesday. The center is scheduled to be open for business in Winter Quarter, housing both Highline and CWU classes.

Brady said that morning classes will be considered.

Construction began on the Higher Education Center in Spring 2003.

The Central Washington University SeaTac center was formerly located on South 142nd Street at Highline School District's Glacier High School.

Built in 1959 and added on to in 1965, the school was closed in 1980 because of low enrollment.

The building was leased to Central shortly after the high school was closed.

Highline School District

spokeswoman Catherine Carbone Rogers said the building will have uses even after Central moves.

Currently the gym is leased to South Sound Athletics, the soccer fields are used by Highline Soccer, and the building is used by the district for storage.

When Central leaves, the building's future will be decided by the Highline School Board.

Central Washington University has six other satellite campuses, all co-located with other colleges. The SeaTac Center was the only center not located on a community college campus until now.

UW branch
campuses
aim to be
four-year

By Elizabeth Tacke

staff reporter

The University of Washington's two branch campuses say that they want to become four-year universities, but officials at the schools say that will actually increase access for transfer students.

According to the University of Washington website, UW Tacoma plans to increase its current 2,100 students to over 6,000 by the year 2014. They also plan to enroll freshman students starting in the year 2006-2007, but will still primarily remain a transfer institution.

Tacoma plans to offer more degrees at lower-division and upper-division levels and will increase slots for transfer students.

According to its website, "UWT would like to strengthen its connections with transfer-bound community colleges students through stronger advising programs, more communication among faculty members, and the creation of early - and dual - admission programs."

UW Tacoma officials failed to respond to multiple phone calls.

UW Tacoma and UW Bothell officials say the plans will create offshoots of the Seattle campus, increase slots for transfer students, add some freshman and sophomore courses, and create and expand master's and professional degrees.

"The primary benefit is more space," said Bothell's Tom

See Branch, Page B12

Highline dodges Des Moines tax

By Amanda Downs

staff reporter

Students need not worry about the city of Des Moines taxing that already hard-to-find campus parking spot.

Highline is now exempt from a parking tax proposal set forth by the Des Moines City Council.

At a recent council meeting, the motion to exclude Highline from the tax was unanimously passed.

The proposal involved charging \$2 to park in areas such as beaches and parks. Highline's lots would have been charged per parking permit; students would have to pay an extra 10 percent

tax for an on campus parking permit.

Paul Kalchik, Highline Student Government vice president of legislation, was present at the meeting and said that he was amazed that the motion passed unanimously.

Kalchik, along with Highline Senator Josh Oakley, spoke sev-

eral times at past council meetings, commenting on proposals that could affect the college and its students. Both Kalchik and Oakley focused on Highline's budget and how eventually students would be the ones carrying the burden.

See Parking, Page B12



Spring grads should apply now

HIGHLINE

Tent burglarized over break

Highline security caught a burglar walking out of the cafeteria tent around midnight on Nov. 25. The burglar entered by going through the south window. The Des Moines Police Department was notified.

Weight room windows broken

Windows were once again broken at Highline. The windows of the weight room were cracked by a rock between Nov. 28 and Nov. 29.

Cars collide in North lot

An accident occurred in the north lot on Nov. 30 at 12:15 p.m. A blue Subaru Legacy backed into a black Nissan 200SX, damaging the rear panel of the Nissan. Drivers exchanged insurance information and continued on with their day.

Stove dumped near campus

Someone probably leaving the Midway swap meet dumped a Range stove on the south side of VIP parking lot gate.

Missing items returned

Property found this week includes a brown jacket found in Building 22, room 105; a lady's watch, same building, room 10; a pair of peacock feathers earrings; and a \$100 bill.

Crime tip of the week

Two plasma video monitors were stolen from North Seattle Community College last week.

According to security at least a dozen people observed the theft, but no one thought to question the culprits.

The thieves brought their own ladder and tools.

Authorities allowed to move computer equipment carry a badge at all times.

If someone moving campus property looks suspicious, it's okay to ask for proper identification. If you are uncomfortable inquiring, then contact security.

-Compiled by Ryan Barkley

By Jackie Graybill

staff reporter

Students who plan to graduate in the spring should start the application process and meet with an adviser now in order to meet their graduation requirements.

Some students are not aware that graduation applications must be submitted two quarters prior to graduation.

Rebekah Johnson, who plans to graduate in the spring, was surprised to learn of the requirement.

"I didn't pay much attention to it. It is too early and there is too much else to think about," said Johnson.

Highline student Asa Hall said that she wasn't aware of the requirement until she learned of it from a fellow student.

"I think that most students don't know about it," said Hall.

Highline freshman Anna Curtiss said she was glad to find

out that she should apply for graduation two quarters early and said that the information will help her in planning for next year.

Danielle Mottley, who handles graduation evaluations, grades and records, said that graduation applications are important because they show students which credit requirements they still need to meet.

She also said students need an adviser.

"Some students self-advise. When they do that, they run the risk of not having all of the requirements needed to graduate. Every student needs an adviser," Mottley said.

Alicia Mendez, who plans to graduate from Highline with the Running Start program, said that her adviser has been very helpful.

"It has helped to keep in touch with my adviser because there is a lot of pressure your senior year. I have been busy

with work, scholarship applications, and researching and applying for colleges," Mendez said.

She also said that she thinks a lot of students are just floaters who don't pay enough attention to important details like having an advisor or applying for graduation on time.

Students who plan to graduate in 2005 need to submit their application to the cashier along with a non-refundable fee which is listed on the application form.

Students who have submitted an application form but have not attended Highline for a year will need to submit a new form if they wish to graduate.

Those wishing to graduate with option A for their AA degree will be sent an Official Graduation Evaluation four to six weeks after they apply. The Evaluation will alert them to the requirements they still need to complete.

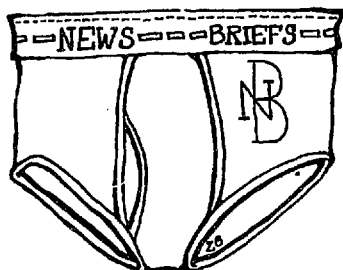
Three weeks after submitting

an application, those wishing to receive their AA, AS, AAS or certificate will be sent a notice to schedule an appointment with an adviser. Students then work with an adviser/coordinator who helps them complete the Graduation Evaluation Worksheet and sends it on to Graduation Evaluators.

Three weeks after their grades are posted, those who have met all graduation requirements will have their degree or certificate put on their transcript. The following quarter, those students will have their degree, certificate or diploma mailed to them.

High school graduates who have filled out their high school completion worksheet will have their diploma mailed to them one quarter after they have completed their requirements.

More information is available at www.highline.edu/stuserv/registration/waitlist.htm or at 206-878-3710, ext. 3242.



Mast Center receives funds

Highline will receive a \$320,000 earmark in the federal 2005 budget for the Marine Science and Technology Center.

Located at Redondo Beach in Des Moines, the MaST center hosts Highline marine biology and other science classes.

Some of the funds will go toward improving the facility and purchasing water quality and environment testing equipment.

The money will also go to curriculum development and establishing a K - 12 camp.

Salmon subject of seminar

Biology professor Woody Moses will speak on his recent trips to salmon habitat restoration projects along the Green and Duwamish rivers at this Friday's Science Seminar.

Entitled "Salmon Habitat Restoration in Western Washington," Moses will discuss the plight of salmon in the modern world and what steps are being taken to preserve their habitats and spawning grounds.

All students, faculty, and staff are welcome to attend.

It will be from 2:10 to 3 p.m.



File photo

The Marine Science and Technology Center in Redondo.

in Building 3, room 102.

For more information, contact Eric Baer at 206-878-3710, ext. 3513.

Scholarship available

Highline can nominate two worthy applicants for the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship Program.

Eligible students must have earned at least 45 credits by the end of Fall Quarter, have a 3.5 GPA or better, and be planning to start at a 4-year college in Fall 2005.

Scholarships are awarded based on academic ability and achievement, unmet financial need, will to succeed, leadership and public service, critical thinking ability, and appreciation for or participation in the arts and humanities.

Applicants must submit one long essay, four short essays, and a detailed resume that describes academic honors/awards (and when they were received), paid positions (including dates and responsibilities), and participation in unpaid internships

and/or service and/or activities.

The deadline for applications is Jan. 6.

For more information contact Laura Manning at 206-878-3710, ext. 6037 or Barbara Clinton at 206-878-3710, ext. 3151.

Bake sale by ASL continues

The American Sign Language club continues its bake sale today and Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Building 6.

The home-cooked goodies range in price from 25 cents to \$2, and include cookies, cupcakes, brownies, cakes, Rice Krispie treats, and hot apple cider.

Donations are also welcome to support the ASL club.

Learn about Americorps

Students can get more information about AmeriCorps today from 12:10 to 1 p.m. in Building 23, room 111.

AmeriCorps is a network of national service programs that engage more than 50,000 Americans each year in intensive service to meet critical needs in education, public safety, health and the environment.

For more information, contact Erik Tingelstad at 206-878-3710, ext. 3599.

Early College Founders Day

Puget Sound Early College celebrates its Founders day on Monday, Dec. 6 from 12:30 to 2 p.m. at Highline's Federal Way campus, located on South 333rd Street and First Way South.

A short ceremony for the founders of the school will be followed by an open house and other activities.

All are welcome to attend.

Puget Sound Early College allows high school juniors and seniors to earn both a high school diploma and an associate of arts degree simultaneously, tuition-free.

Celebrate human rights

Come join the students of Susan Rich's Writing 101 class to celebrate International Human Rights Day today in Building 2 from 10 to 10:50 a.m.

Awahle Farah of the Somali Rights Network will speak on the human rights of Somalia. Refreshments will be provided.

New center faces inspection

By Sara Loken

staff reporter

Parts of the Student Union may be open for use as soon as Monday, Dec. 7.

Currently Student Programs and the Bookstore are moving in and setting up operations in the building. They're hoping to be open to the campus next week, but it all depends on whether the building gets the certificate of occupancy in time.

"All plans depend on getting the certificate from the city of Des Moines," said Jonathan Brown, Student Programs associate dean. "By standards of the city we're not operating, we're setting up for operations."

Inspections to get the certificate are going on all this week.

As of Wednesday the certificate had not been granted. But by noon yesterday the inspections for the fire and sprinkler system, and all plumbing except for the kitchen, had passed.

"For the last two weeks we've had nothing but inspections," said Mike McDonald, superintendent of the Student Union for Lumpkin General Contractors.

Granting of the certificate is at the discretion of the building officials, said McDonald.

The major project to get the building ready for opening is signage. Rooms need to be labeled and directions posted on where to go in case of a fire, McDonald said.

Others aren't too optimistic about the opening date.

"It could possibly open Dec. 7, but odds are it won't be open until Dec. 13," said Phil Sell,

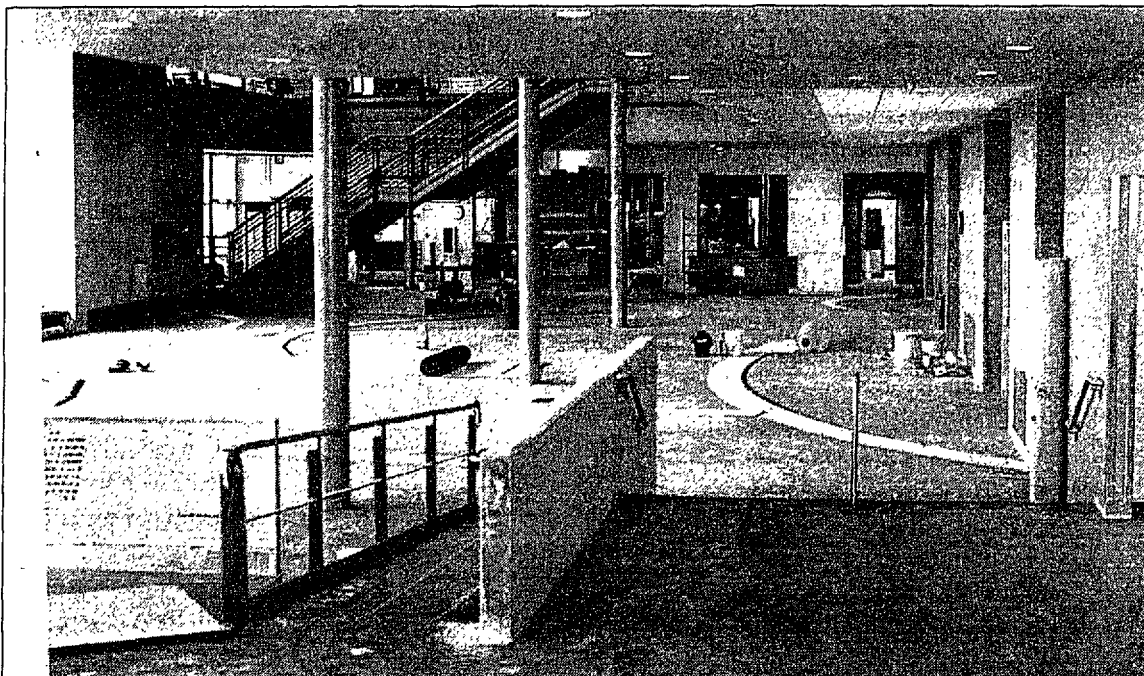


Photo by Bryan Yambe

Parts of the new Student Center won't be ready until January.

facilities project coordinator for Highline.

While only sections of the building might be open, people will be able to get a sense of what the building will be like, said Jonathan Brown.

When the building does open, the north entrance of the building will be open, with a passageway from the entrance to Student Programs and the Bookstore.

Everything else will be sectioned off — the bistro, the cafeteria, and the first floor, said Brown.

The bistro and the cafeteria will be open the start of Winter Quarter.

The new Student Programs office is about the same size as the old office.

"It depends on how you look at it," said Brown.

What's nice about the new

office is that it puts Student Programs and Team Highline closer to advisers, said Brown.

The bookstore will be set up for all operations on Monday, pending the certificate of occupancy.

"We've got our fingers crossed," said Randy Fisher, bookstore director. "Our plan is to be open and operational."

Should the certificate not be granted, the bookstore will be set up in the old bookstore location for book buybacks and a register will be set up to sell office and testing supplies on Monday, Dec. 7, said Fisher.

Signs and dates will be posted to inform students.

The new bookstore doesn't provide more space. It's about 800 square feet smaller than the old bookstore.

"It's going to be a challenge, but the retail space is laid out a

lot better," said Fisher. "I love the look of it."

When walking into the bookstore, general books will be on racks directly to the right with checkout counters to the left, textbooks are located in the very back of the store, and in the middle will be school supplies and apparel, the wall next to the checkout counters will be devoted to candy.

The grand opening for the building is Jan. 25. A student committee is currently planning the event.

There will be entertainment on every floor, with refreshments and every floor will have a theme, said Brown. One floor will be the classy floor, followed by a jazzy and club themed floors.

The event will be during the day and will be open to everyone.

Club Fair set for January

By Linh Tran

staff reporter

More than 30 clubs will be on display at next quarter's Club Fair, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., Jan. 6 in the new Student Center.

James Turner, Student Government treasurer, and other club leaders have been planning the event over the past month.

The purpose of the Winter Club Fair is to introduce students to clubs new and old.

"We have about 36 clubs formed now that are active or supposed to be active, but basically what the club fair is for is to let students know the opportunities they have on campus," said Turner.

"We have a theme already picked out. The theme is Pathways and what that represents is choosing your path," he said.

Pathways was actually a combination of two ideas, futuristic and exploration.

"We combined exploration and futuristic and came up with pathways because the idea is to think about where you are going in life or what door you decide to choose, so we came up with the name Pathways," said Turner.

Choices of entertainment were narrowed down to a DJ.

"Originally we decided on a salsa band but we changed that and we are just going with a DJ. We figure a DJ would be able to play salsa music but if we needed to stop for any reason a DJ would be more versatile," said Turner.

Students who attend may munch on snacks and beverages that will be provided.

"There will be outdoor-styled food such as smores, granola bars, trail mix, juice and hot chocolate," said Turner.

Turner said students should seek out all the opportunities they have on campus.

"Regardless of their interest or what they may not be interested in its always good to check out the opportunities. If no one ever checks out their opportunities they will never go anywhere or be aware of the capabilities that they have," said Turner.

"The most important thing that I learned this year is the ability to access your resources. It's the most powerful thing you can do in school and going to the winter club fair is one of those resources so, it should be used," said Turner.

Speech prof takes different approach

By Dain Kaizuka

staff reporter

Ellen Bremen uses pipe cleaners to help tackle the problem of speech anxiety and student introductions.

"When students are working with the pipe cleaners as part of their introductions, they tend to forget about their anxiety," said Bremen, who is new to Highline this year.

Bremen is youthful, extremely approachable and has a smile that stretches from ear to ear. She is a recently new mother, worked a seven-year career in the medical field and is now a speech instructor here.

"I'm really enjoying Highline so far. It's a very dynamic place and I love the inter-



Bremen and the diversity here at Highline."

Bremen started her teaching career, part time, at the Community College of Southern Nevada. She then moved to full-time teaching at Darton College in Albany, Georgia and finally here to Highline.

"I was teaching in the Deep South and was anxious to get back to the West Coast," Bremen said.

nationalism. Also the students have been very dedicated and enjoyable," Bremen said. "I love the location, my colleagues

With teaching being her second career, she brings a lot of life experience to her job.

"I use a lot of active learning so there is always an activity going on in my classroom," Bremen said. "Sometimes I use pipe cleaners, peanut butter and jelly or dominos, whatever it takes to help students identify and really learn the communication process."

The dominos are used to see how well students can listen with a distraction and the peanut butter and jelly symbolize models of communication.

"I believe fully in the mission of community college, in student-centered instruction that caters to various learning styles and offers students many ways to connect with the material,"

said Bremen.

In 2003 Bremen was the recipient of two awards: the National Council of Instructional Administrators Exemplary Initiative in Educational Technology recognized her for on-line public speaking, and the National Institute of Staff and Organizational Development awarded her for teaching excellence.

"I really believe in integrating technology and distance education. so as many students as possible can receive what Highline has to offer," Bremen said.

"You can never have too many speech classes," Bremen said. "They go along with any degree and look great on your resume."

Editorial

Education on AIDS

When you think of World AIDS day, you definitely shouldn't mistake to be another holiday in lieu of Thanksgiving and Christmas. The purpose of this day is to shine light on something that usually remains in the shadows of society and people minds.

AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) is literally an invisible disease in more ways than one. In one sense it's invisible because no one realizes that they have it. Having sex without abandon can do that, and since this is a college campus, a majority of the students here already have an idea of how the birds and the bees really work.

In society, because of AIDS, sex is something that should now be regarded with caution and for good reason. AIDS is conceived by contracting HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) which can be contracted by sexual transmission, by blood transfusions (sharing needles by shooting drugs is an example), or from biologically from mother to child.

Contracting the virus nearly eradicates your immune system, replicating itself within white blood cells, your body's physical defense system against illness, and completely destroying them. Because of lack of precautions, whether that would be simple abstinence from sex, not having sex with multiple partners, or simply not using a condom, almost anyone can be infected. Not only that, but it may take up to 10 years before any severe symptoms start showing up. In that liminal period, you may end up transmitting the virus to someone else.

People who contract AIDS are at risk to any illness that comes along. It no fun when catching a cold is a matter of life or death. Pneumonia will do you in, in no time flat. And you probably know enough by now that there is no cure to AIDS as of yet; like cancer, it is a terminal illness.

It's even acceptable for people to ask their partner to be tested before having sex with them, to know if they had sex with multiple partners. It's your body. If you're old enough to make the decision to have sex, then you're old enough to take care of yourself as well.

Suppose you do have your partner do a test. Suppose that he or she tests positive for full blown AIDS. What do you do then? Will you shun them? Will you look at them like from another planet? Or will you just ignore it? These are people who are sick from a terminal disease, who may not know if tomorrow will be another day.

The thing they need is support from people who care about them; dying before your time is bad, dying before your time lonely is even worse. This is the second invisibility factor associated with AIDS, pretending that the one who has contracted it is invisible or not needed.

There are people out there that support love one during a time a crisis, through thick and thin, which takes great stamina and energy. But then again, there are also people who can't deal with the fact that a love one is dying.

People who contract AIDS enter a whole new world one that their forced into because of circumstances (either they contracted AIDS through sex or through parents that had contracted AIDS). Highline is founded on the ideas of diversity, this includes people who have fallen under the stigma of AIDS.

Some 47 million people are infected with HIV worldwide. That's 47 million people that may or not be living the next day. That's 47 million people that are possible shunned by family and friends. One of that 47 million may be someone you know.

You be the judge whether AIDS affects you or not, directly or indirectly.



Celebrating the best of both

A recent look into the history of Christmas revealed what I've heard from rumors and such: Christmas really does have pagan themes attached to it.

Winter was the time where the harvest crop of autumn was stored in preparation for the time when the nights became longer and the plants lost their ability to grow.

The shortening of daylight is key. Early European cultures depicted the sun as a god and that light was an element to be worshipped. It was popular to celebrate Yule (the Winter Solstice that occurs on Dec. 21), also known as the longest night of the year. People would celebrate because after that day, daylight would gradually become longer again.

Guess how they celebrated? By singing, having parties, engaging in merriment and festivals of all times. The Romans, before Christianity, celebrated Saturnalia, a holiday worshipping their pagan god of harvest, Saturn, on the Winter Solstice.

During that time they would deck their halls with boughs of holly; schools and businesses closed for the times so everyone could enjoy the carnival atmosphere. The custom of being with friends and family was



T - Time

By Taurean Davis

born and it became a time with associates of all sorts feasted together, exchanging presents with each other.

Kinda sounds a bit familiar doesn't it?

Various other elements reappeared and that were startlingly familiar. I learned that ancient Norse cultures used to burn large logs in their homes. They would feast until the log burned out which could well take over a week. Could this be the origin of the famous Yule log tradition?

I learned that the Christmas tree was actually a 16th century import from Germany. Legend has it a Protestant preacher, Martin Luther, was walking home one night and was inspired by the stars lighting the evergreen trees. Later at home, he recreated the scene by wiring candles onto the tree and lighting them.

Like I said, I'm surprised. The things that I loved as a child (even Santa Claus was revealed to be a foreign entity from a

Dutch legend), and the values I relished so deeply, the ideas of togetherness and warm feelings between family and friends weren't born in the religion my family practices. Christmas, in spirit, existed way before Christ was even born.

Like I said, despite the fact of finding out that Christianity didn't birth Christmas, the realization didn't totally bother me. The main fact was that Christmas, now, has the possibility of being the best of both worlds. It can still combine the morals I learned as a child and still hold the spirit of the season that was, and is now, associated with the more pagan aspect.

If I spent my Christmas trying to split the difference between one or the other, I would either lose my Christmas spirit or my sanity. Christianity has taught me some wonderful things but I'm not ready to let go of those feelings associated with the more pagan half of it. If you ask me, a holiday shouldn't be judged by what religion is practiced or its past history; it should be judged by its meanings and how it affects people as a society.

Taurean wishes everyone Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

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"I'm probably the oldest person in the world that does everything wrong."

Sharp shows skills on debut CD

By Billy Naylor

staff reporter

In a time when the majority of local rappers are sticking to their guns to get somewhere with their music, Highline student Phillip Jacobs is taking the high road.

Jacobs, aka Sharp Skills, just dropped his debut CD *The Responsibility of Sharp Skills* on Nov. 19 at the Walker Chapel AME in Seattle.

From the graphics to the production to the lyrics, this CD pulls off a certain sense of professionalism.

The lyrics on this album are average but what stands out the most is his delivery.

On every track it sounds as if Jacobs has something to say and wholeheartedly believes every word of it.

The topics on this album range from his appreciation of women to songs of regret and faith in God and remaining firm within the storm of temptation.

"This album is a journey through my life, from my highs to my lows and all in between," said Jacobs.

On one of the most passionate tracks, titled *Attacking Me*, he relates his struggle with the

forces around him.

"I see you, killing with hate/ see you, killing my race /see you, killing the states/see you, sealing my fate/ never, dealing with faith that'll come and shake eight deserts/leaning on arms that are great and will take measures."

The production end of this CD remains on point, with Jacobs producing some of the tracks along with DJ Don Christion and Illoquint on the others.

The production is tight and professional sounding, but could have been enhanced by something very small, like the usage of layers.

What makes this CD great is that nothing outshines anything

else, the beats and lyrics flow with each other making this a well-rounded project and well worth the buy.

Jacobs released his CD on GAP records, his mother's independent record label. She has released two of her own contemporary gospel CDs.

Jacobs' family is very musical, with his grandparents, cousins, uncles and mother being singers, but he is the only Hip-Hop artist to have emerged from these musical roots.

For the past year Phillip Jacobs has been here at Highline studying to complete his AA degree and transfer to Wilberforce University in Ohio.

In the time that he has been at Highline, he has done so well in his courses that he is in the Honor Society.

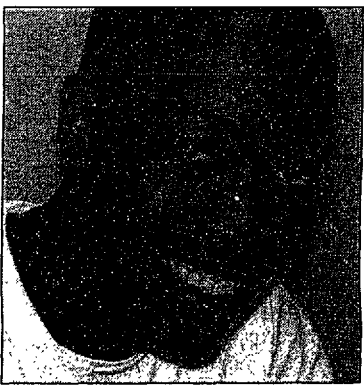
Jacobs is on the positive track now, but it wasn't always so.

After moving from his hometown of Oakland to Omaha and finally to Seattle, Jacobs couldn't shake the gangs, sex, drugs and all sorts of his destructive habits until he stepped into the light.

"My soul was in an uproar. And it was my fault 'cause I was



Jacobs shows off his skills for his new CD, *The Responsibility of Sharp Skills*.



Phillip Jacobs

running from God," said Jacobs.

Now a year later, after giving up all of those habits, he has an impressive CD out, is going to transfer from Highline with an AA on his way to a university and has a promising future ahead of him.

Although he is aware that people might be turned off of his music when they heard he was a

preacher, he isn't worried.

"I don't think it takes away from what I'm trying to do as an artist," said Jacobs.

Check out www.sharpskillsmusic.com for music clips, lyrics, how to purchase a copy of *The Responsibility of Sharp Skills*, show dates, message board and contact information.

Holiday music to entertain one and all

By Jessie Elliott

staff reporter

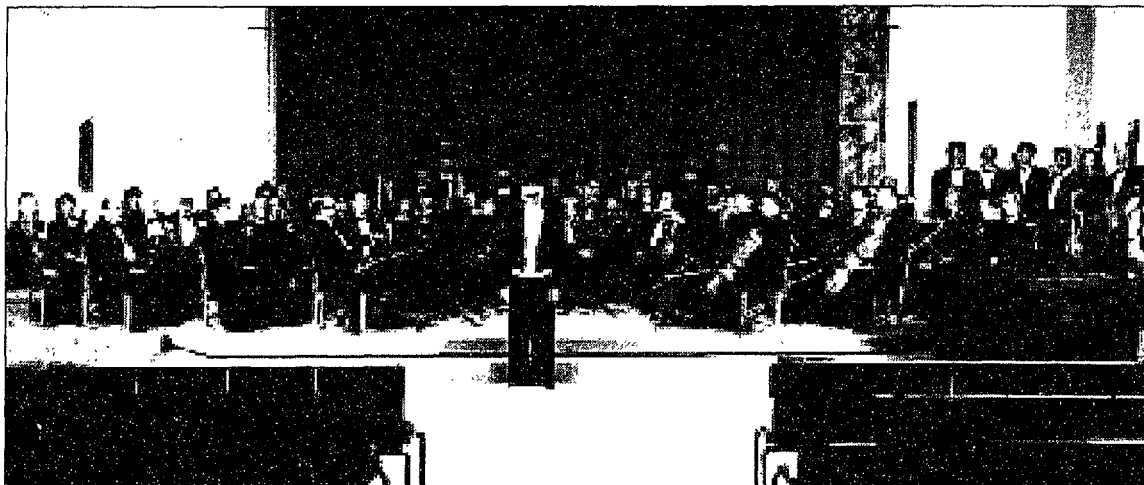
Classical music will get audiences in Federal Way in the holiday spirit this December.

The Federal Way Symphony, formerly the Federal Way Philharmonic, will be performing their Holiday Classical Concert Dec. 4-5.

The Federal Way Symphony was founded in Burien in 1960 as the Highline Symphony and moved to Federal Way in 1985.

The orchestra performed Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony* at the Seattle Opera House to open the Goodwill Games in 1990. This performance earned the group regional acclaim.

Maestro A. Brian Davenport has led the Federal Way Sym-



The Federal Way Symphony performs at St. Luke's Church.

phony for over 18 years, and is credited for shaping the orchestra into an exciting and vibrant group of the Puget Sound region.

Davenport received his B.A. and M.A. in music from Harvard

University, and studied in Paris with Nadia Boulanger and Igor Markevitch. Davenport is the Music Director at the Evergreen City Ballet in addition to his work with the symphony.

The orchestra comprises 60 fully paid musicians who play a variety of classical pieces.

In addition to some holiday favorites, there will be pieces by George Bizet, Beethoven's *Sym-*

phony in C, *The Story of Babar*, the *Little Elephant* by Francis Poulenc, and Mendelssohn's *Violin Concerto*.

All performances are held at St. Luke's Church, featuring state-of-the-art lighting to enhance the audience's enjoyment.

St. Luke's Church is located at 515 s 312th St, Federal Way.

Performances will be Saturday, Dec. 4 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 5 at 2 p.m.

Tickets for the holiday concert are \$25 general admission, and \$20 for seniors. Students 18 and under are admitted without cost.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call 253-529-9857 or go to www.federalwaysymphony.org.

Drama Department holds auditions for winter production

By Jessie Elliott

staff reporter

Highline's Drama Department is preparing for its Winter Quarter production, and it needs actors.

Auditions will be held Jan. 5-

7 at 2:30 p.m. in room 122, the Little Theater, in Building 4. Call backs will be the following week.

Students should prepare a short memorized piece from a play, or they can have a piece provided for them at the audi-

tions.

Everyone is encouraged to audition for a part.

The required forms and information will be available at the auditions.

For students who don't want to be in the spotlight can partici-

pate as well.

There will be a need for people to be involved in costuming, box office, lighting, and stagecraft.

Work study positions are also available for students through applications to the department.

Students participating in the winter production will earn 3-5 credits and will gain experience working in a play.

For more information contact Drama Department Coordinator Dr. Christiana Taylor 206-878-3710 ext. 3423.

Family performs Celtic concert

By Chad L. Martinez
staff reporter

For years the citizens of Kent have enjoyed an annual Celtic Yuletide Concert performed by Magical Strings.

Magical Strings was created by Pam and Phillip Boulding and their five children.

The Boulding family has been gathering to perform these Yuletide shows for 26 years now.

Their first production was in 1979 in Seattle, and the first Kent show took place in 1987.

"It's a good way to keep the family together, and doing things together," said Phillip Boulding.

The Boulding family is always accompanied by the Raney family and their array of Irish dancers.

They also include story telling, juggling, and to complete



The Boulder family before they perform for a concert.

the performance, percussion by Jarrod Kaplan that will shake the rafters.

In the past, the Celtic Yuletide Concerts have performed to herald the return of light to a world darkened by winter's sleep.

This Kent tradition combines original music and influences from different lands with lively Celtic repertoire.

"(They are) the melodic sounds that derive from old Gaelic carols," said Boulding.

The Bouldings play a variety of different musical instruments, including Celtic harps, hammered dulcimers (trapezoidal like instruments with several strings), whistles, strings, percussions and harp-like instruments from around the world.

Brittany, the youngest Boulding, is returning from graduate studies at the Colburn School of Performing Arts in Los Angeles and will wow the audience with her violin solo and lively Irish fiddling.

The Bouldings have been critically acclaimed around the world.

The group has toured and recorded songs with Dan Fogelberg. The Bouldings have also recorded more than 12 albums with record company Flying Fish/Rounder Records, Earthbeat Records, Magic Hill

Music, and their latest title, *Where Dragons Dance* on Allegros Alula Vision label.

The concert begins at 3 p.m. on Dec. 12 at the Kent-Meridian Performing Arts Center.

The Performing Arts Center is located at 10020 South East 256th Street.

This concert is presented by the Kent Arts Commission as part of the 2004-2005 Spotlight Series performing arts season. Tickets sell out very quickly for this event.

For a complete schedule and more information on Spotlight Series, visit www.ci.kent.wa.us/arts or call 253-856-5050.

For concert tickets and listings of other locations call 253-857-3716 or visit them on the web at www.magicalstrings.com.

The real gift doesn't have fancy wrapping

Isn't it strange when you hear somebody say, "my Christmas sucked, I didn't get what I wanted." I'm unsurprised to hear a child pout over not getting the Barbie or Power Ranger toy they wanted, but shouldn't we've grown out of that stage by the time we're teenagers?

I've known a couple of adults who complain in self-pity when their gifts aren't exactly what they want, and I could never understand that logic.

Shouldn't we be more concerned with the fact that there actually are people in our lives who care enough about us to buy us a gift? Maybe we are taking our loved ones for granted, thinking they will always be there to care for us, will always be there to think about us and put forth an effort to try to make us happy during the holiday.

I wonder what it would be like to have no family or friends at this time of year and not be able to go home to anybody on these cold winter nights.

Maybe this obsession with our presents stems from our conditioning as a kid. How when any commercial came on TV, we would tell our parents we wanted



Boks the Spokesman

By Billy Naylor

that for Christmas and the list would keep growing and growing.

I remember one year when I was about 7, I was so proud of myself because, unlike my normal count of a million items, I only had about three things on my Christmas list: a leather jacket, a gold necklace and a

buck knife. I've got no idea how I even knew what a buck knife was, or what I would even do with one, but I did know that when I didn't unwrap a buck knife or leather jacket on Christmas morning I was devastated. I guess I would never be a greaser.

About 4 years ago, I spent my summer with my grandmother in Montana mining for Sapphires. I missed my family more than ever that summer, which made the following Christmas all the more of a blessing. That Christmas I didn't ask for much: slippers, undershirts and a CD or

two. I don't remember if I got those gifts or not, but it didn't matter because I was where I wanted to be.

I'd say the only way you could get the exact present you wanted for Christmas is if you bought it yourself, and the only thing any loved one could give you is the feeling that they were thinking of you when they

picked it out.

My mother told me recently "A good Christmas for me is when everything is relaxed. When there are no arguments or negative comments, when the house is toasty warm and there is a lot of good food"... exactly momma, exactly.

Billy got game, but he's not very good at it.

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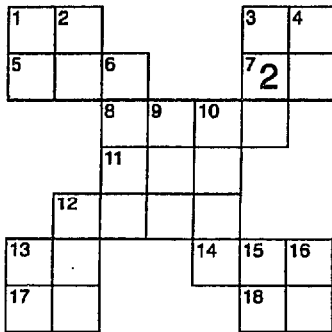
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art dance design music performance production

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

- 15-Down plus 16-Down
- 4-Down plus 16-Down
- Digits of 14-Across rearranged
- Consecutive digits in descending order
- Consecutive digits rearranged
- Five hundred more than 5-Across
- Consecutive digits rearranged
- Digits of 1-Down reversed
- Three less than 3-Down
- 1-Across minus 7-Across
- Nine more than 17-Across

- One more than 3-Across
- Sum of the digits is 13-Across
- Digits of 17-Across reversed
- Six hundred less than 10-Down
- Consecutive odd digits in ascending order
- One-half of 8-Across
- 3-Across times 13-Down
- Same digit repeated
- Two times 13-Down
- Two more than 13-Across

DOWN

- Ten more than 7-Across

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- HISTORY: When was England's Glorious Revolution?
- GEOGRAPHY: What big island lies directly east of Mozambique?
- INVENTIONS: Who is credited with discovering the laser?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Who was vice president of the Confederate States of America?
- TRANSPORTATION: What company manufactures the Diablo sports car?
- RELIGION: What is the last book of the New Testament?
- ARCHITECTURE:

What is a turret?

8. LITERATURE: Who wrote the ancient Greek play "Antigone"?

9. MUSIC: What does the musical direction "crescendo" mean?

10. ETIQUETTE: What is the appropriate gift for a 15th wedding anniversary?

- Crystal or glass
- Increase the volume
- Sophocles
- A small tower
- Revelation
- Lamborghini
- Stephens
- Alexander Hamilton
- Charles Townes
- Madagascar
1. 1688

Answers

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Star Crossed

Across

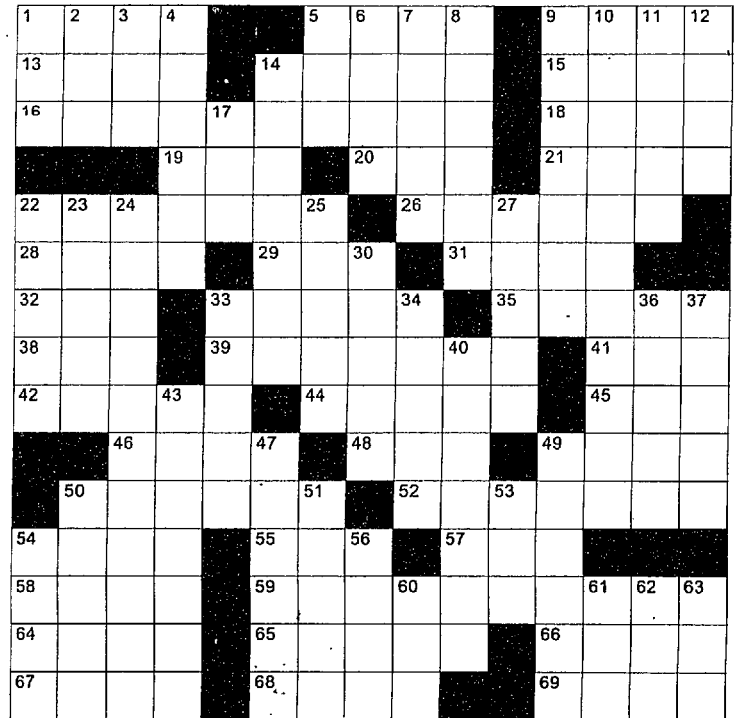
- Daytime TV offering
- Popular 80s band
- Scandinavian capital
- Sole
- Sandbar
- Shoulder piece at times
- Star opposite 59 Across
- Something to pitch
- Till
- Part of a relay race
- G.M. staple
- Pecans' cousins
- Without flair
- Howard or Smith
- "Sam," Penn movie
- Gen. Robert
- Spoil
- Nation of
- Meeting of lovers
- Superlative suffix
- Mass. vacation site
- People of Southeast Asia
- Diamond and Armstrong
- Engine
- Bruins' Bobby
- "What's in a ..."
- Org. of 45 Across
- Tiny flier
- Give one's blessing
- Mud-filled depressions
- Crowd noises
- Goal
- Providence sch.
- Switch ending
- Star opposite 16 Across
- Make a hole
- It may be present or past
- Pad
- Carpenter and others
- Ms., in Tijuana
- Football measure

Down

- Cry
- It can follow twelve?

Crossword 101

By Ed Canty



- PC key
- "Monty ..."
- Sound at the dentist's office
- Turn to steam
- Lured
- Porto ..., Brazil
- Month to turn clocks back
- Star opposite 24 Down
- Old-time dance
- Chooses
- Meatball or fish
- "Hither and ..."
- Madison Ave. workers
- A signed document
- Star opposite 10 Down
- Witch trial site
- Modify
- Georgia city
- Response to "Who's there?"
- Trig. and Geom.
- Mother of Isaac
- Civil wrongs
- Litter
- Cowboy tools

- Makes official
- One's conscience, maybe
- Hank or Burr
- Mason
- Seer's medium, often
- Ms. McEntire
- Coin
- Part of Defense Dept.
- Exclamation of discovery
- Dealer or alarm preceder
- Baby goat

Quotable Quote

It's amazing that the amount of news that happens in the world every day always just exactly fits the newspaper.

... Jerry Seinfeld

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

Arts Calendar

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

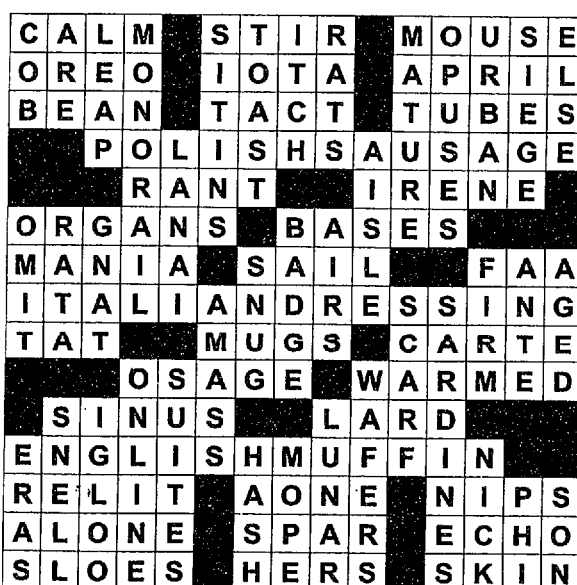
Dec. 11. For tickets and other information call 253-661-1444.

Valley Community Players in Renton is producing *My Three Angels* Nov. 19 - Dec. 12. This comedy is sure to get audiences in the

holiday spirit. For tickets and other information call 425-226-5190.

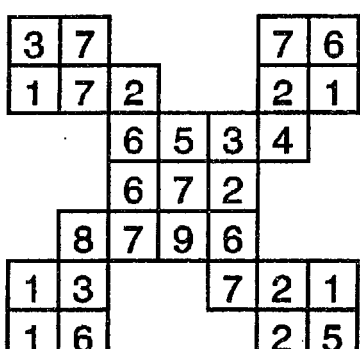
The Rainier Symphony is putting on a holiday concert Dec. 11-12. For directions and ticket information call 206-781-5618.

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T-Birds take turkey title

Highline men capture Skagit tournament crown with defense

By Mark Knight

staff reporter

The Highline men's basketball swept up the Valley last weekend.

The T-Birds won the Skagit Valley Turkey Tourney, beating both Wenatchee Valley and Skagit Valley.

Highline also brought back home an MVP of the tournament, freshman Nathan Jackson.

Highline opened the tournament by beating Wenatchee Valley, 92-87.

"(We) got off to a slow start but closed gap by halftime," said Head Coach Che Dawson.

At halftime Highline was only down by five points.

"(We) went on a run in the second half due to depth and full-court pressure defense," Dawson said.

All of the players were really impressed with how the defensive game went.

"When we picked it up on defense our offense picked it up," said guard Zenrique Tellez.

"(Wenatchee Valley) wore down physically. We played together well and handled adversity well," said Dawson.

Jackson led the T-Birds in scoring with 21 points. Highline's George Irby added nine rebounds and 17 points and Tellez chipped in 13 points.

"I just came out doing what I could by knocking down shots," the sophomore point guard said.

In game two of the tournament, Highline played the host school, Skagit Valley, and edged the Cardinals 73-71.

"It was a real, real close game," said freshman Londen Carter.

"(The) game was back and forth throughout the first half. Skagit was very physical and scrappy and prepared for our pressure defense," said Coach Dawson.

Skagit Valley was prepared for Highline and the T-Birds needed a good streak in the game. Once again, the T-Birds put it together in the second half to pull out the victory.

"We just got to learn to start off strong in the beginning, because not every game is going to go like that," said forward Bryan Manaway.

A close game became a little bit closer at the end.

"Skagit tied the game with about 10 seconds left," Dawson said. "We came right back and Nate Jackson threw a half court lob to George Irby which proved to be the game-winning basket."

Jackson scored 13 points during the game while his teammate, Lucas Eaton, who was a tournament all-star, scored 15.

Irby once again was the leading rebounder, as he came down with nine boards.

The players said defense is what helped them stay in those close games and to win the tournament, as they sometimes struggled on offense.

Highline hosted Bellevue on Wednesdays, Dec. 1, with results unavailable at press time.

Highline's next game is at Yakima on Saturday, Dec. 4.

Over the winter break the T-Birds will be playing four games: Friday, Dec. 10 at 8 p.m. in the Pavilion against Skagit Valley; Saturday, Dec. 11 at 4 p.m. in the Pavilion against Yakima.

Highline will then travel to Treasure Valley to play in the Crossover Tournament on Dec. 17-19.

The last pre-division game is at Bellevue on Dec. 29.

The first division game is against defending champ Lower Columbia on Jan. 1 at 8 p.m. in the Pavilion.



Photo by Bryan Yambe

Highline's new dance team works on steps at a recent practice.

Dance team ready to step

By Madeline Jagger

staff reporter

Highline has a new addition to its sports lineup: the T-Bird dance team.

The squad was pulled together by student Kalla Carter.

"I decided to start a dance team when I found they didn't have one," said Carter, coach and captain of the new dance team.

Highline has had cheer squads in the past, but not recently. The team of 13 consists of nine women and four men. "We are not a cheerleading team but a hip-hop team," Carter said.

They dance to hip-hop music

and the style they use is also hip-hop dancing, like something you might see from Britney Spears or Destiny's Child.

"We are just getting started, so as of now we've only decided to perform at the basketball games," said Carter.

The team practices are on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:15 to 3:15 p.m. This is when they get a chance to stretch, practice dances and socialize.

Carter began with choreographing the first dance, which is also their tryout dance. All of the other dances they perform will be created by the whole team, including dances from each team member.

"They will be shooting for

Wednesday, Dec. 1," said Darryl Brice, faculty adviser.

The group's first performance was to be Highline's at home basketball game against Bellevue.

The dance team hopes to present a new dance every time they perform and don't plan on repeating any dances.

Not only is this team about practices and performing, but also through this team the students have made good friends.

"Everyone gets along really well and I like the choreography," said dancer Manda Valentine. "Kalla is not only our coach but she also dances with us and she is an awesome dancer."

Ten Thunderbirds named to soccer all-star teams

Ten members of the men's and women's soccer teams have named to the NWAACC all-star squads.

The all-star games will be played 6 p.m. (women) and 8 p.m. (men) Saturday at the Starfire Complex in Tukwila.

The women will be sending four All-Stars: forward Marianna Palermo, defender

Tonya McLaughlin, and midfielders Lisa Groce and Alicia Wolfskill.

Highline women's soccer Head Coach Jaimy McLaughlin will be assisting Clackamas Head Coach Tracy Nelson in leading the Southwest Division team.

On the other side the men will be sending six representa-

tives: forward Anthony Melchior, defenders Kyle Colbath and Steve Pirotte, midfielders Raphael Cox and Dave Klein and goalkeeper Chris Conner.

Men's Head Coach Jason Prenovost will be Clark Head Coach Ian Lefebvre's assistant for the game.

"It's a great honor for those that play," said Prenovost.



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Contact Robert Yates (ext. 3463), any Track and Field athlete or come to Building 20 and ask about the Parking Raffle.

Late run not enough for women

By Jamie Grossmann

staff reporter

The Highline women's basketball team played a hard fought game against North Seattle last Wednesday but fell short losing 65-63.

"We have not been beat yet, we have beaten ourselves," said Highline women's Head Coach Amber Rowe. "Sometimes a close loss is better then a win."

Taryn Plypick and Allison Maas led the Lady T-Birds in scoring with nine points each. Three others added eight points a piece in the loss.

Marissa Cain led the women with eight rebounds and added eight points.

"Bree Marcus had a great game," said Rowe. Marcus played nine minutes was 2 for 2 from the field and pulled down six rebounds.

The Lady T-Birds started off quick building a 19-8 lead to start the first half and went into the half with a 30-24 lead.

"The second group went in and built the lead and the en-

ergy," said Rowe.

"There was lots of intensity and momentum in the first half," said sophomore guard Rebekah Johnson.

However, the second half was a game all its own as the women came out and were unable to get into a rhythm and let the lead slip away as the Storm built a 13-point lead, 56-43, in the second half.

"We came out flat in the second half," said Rowe.

Highline made a late run, outscoring the Storm 20-9 to cut the lead to two, but it was too little too late as the Storm pulled out the two-point victory.

"We missed 15 layups in just this game alone," said Rowe. "We get a little lackadaisical. We think we can turn it on and off when we want."

"Our defense was lacking, bad communications on defense and we made bad passing decisions," said Johnson.

The two teams matched each other stat for stat but Highline was 3 for 19 from three-point range and the Storm were 4 for



Photo By Bryan Yambe

Rebekah Johnson and Assistant Coach Damien Crump work on drills during Tuesday's practice.

10. The Storm also made 30 trips to the free throw line and made 11 while the T-Birds were 10 of 15 from the stripe.

"They are starting to get the offense," said Rowe. "It's starting to click in their heads."

The women returned to the court last Friday and practiced through the weekend.

"We put in quite a bit of work over the Thanksgiving weekend," said Rowe. "We worked on our press and zone defenses."

"We have been doing lots of defensive drills and conditioning drills," said Johnson. "Rowe gets on us during practice to keep up the communica-

tion when we stop talking."

While the season is young the women are also still learning to play with each other and understand each other's strengths and weaknesses.

"We are getting more comfortable with each other," said Johnson. "We are gaining a better understanding of what each other is capable of on the court."

The results from Wednesday nights game against Bellevue were unavailable at press time.

The women play Skagit Valley at home on Dec. 10 at 6 p.m. The women will then take their game on the road for a Cross-over Tournament at Peninsula Community College Dec. 17-19 and a game against Douglas on Dec. 22.

The women will then return home to face the University College of the Caribou Dec. 28 at 6 p.m. before wrapping up their non-league games at Skagit Valley on Dec. 30.

The women open up league play at home against the defending division champions Lower Columbia on Jan. 3 at 6 p.m.

Highline soccer to get boost from Mitalas

By Martha Molina

staff reporter

The coach of the last team to beat the women's soccer team will switch sides next year.

Teddy Mitalas will be joining the Highline's women's program as an assistant coach.

"Any time you can bring someone of his high quality, who cares about the program, it is a win-win situation," said Athletics Director John Dunn.

Mitalas had been planning to leave Edmonds in order to be closer to his family and his home in Brier.

"I'm excited to be heading this way," said Mitalas.

"Distance was a problem," he said. "I couldn't schedule my practices, which took time away from my family."

Mitalas has not only found a job closer to home, but a place that will allow him to reunite with long time friend Jaimy McLaughlin.

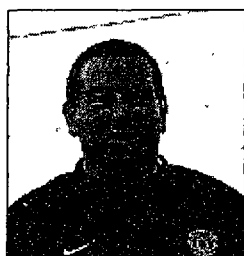
"He is one of the best coaches in the NWAACC," said T-Bird Head Coach McLaughlin. "He's a great coach, and a great recruiter."

Both coaches have had their share of success with championships, including the NWWAAC title. In 2002, Mitalas was champ with the Edmonds' Tritons. In 2003, the T-Birds were runners up with McLaughlin.

"We coach the same game,

but with a different twist," said McLaughlin.

Coach McLaughlin said that with Mitalas aboard, they will be able to cover every inch of the field.



Mitalas "I can point out

things he missed, and he can point out the things that I missed," said McLaughlin.

Mitalas is also a great addition to the overall athletics program college officials say. While McLaughlin and T-Bird men's coach Jason Prenovost cover the southern part of the region in recruits, Mitalas will help out with the northern region.

"Recruiting is about building relationships," said Prenovost.

With a successful coaching history, more players will join and benefit more from the women's soccer program, said Prenovost.

Mitalas believes that coaching functions like a family. He doesn't like to be just the coach, but rather someone his players can come to when they have problems off the field.

"Some girls call me with boyfriend problems because some can't go to their parents,"

said Mitalas. "I'm not just their coach, but kinda like their father."

But being a father also involves discipline for broken rules.

Last year, with three games left, Mitalas caught three of his starting players drinking on their way to Spokane. Around this time, Edmonds was in first place in the NWAACC Northeast Division. With the playoffs around the corner, Mitalas was put in a tough spot and had to decide if he wanted to win or do the right thing.

"I suspended the girls for the remainder of the season," said Mitalas. "It hurt us in the end because it disqualified us for the playoffs, but the girls learned their lesson."

Mitalas likes to teach his team that it is not all about winning. It's about expanding their horizons.

"I like to teach them that there is more to life than soccer," said Mitalas. "I want them to be successful in life, not just soccer."

"I believe that when my team wins, they should be credited not me," he said. "I just managed them. I had my success. It's their team and I want them to be happy."

McLaughlin and Mitalas have already began their recruiting journey. They plan to get at least 22 women on their team,

and hold try-outs for next season. With Mitalas around, McLaughlin will now have time to do more of his duties as a head coach.

"I know that I can give him (Mitalas) a task, and it will be done right," said McLaughlin. "I don't have to baby-sit him."

"We both reinforce the same values and rules," he said.

McLaughlin and Mitalas share a 22-year-friendship that will allow them to play their professional roles as coaches, but at the same time, work together as a family.

Mitalas is stepping down from head coach to assistant, which may be difficult for some coaches to handle.

"We respect each other, we control our ego, there will be no

problems," said McLaughlin.

Even though Edmonds did eliminate Highline from the playoffs, there are no hard feelings. Mitalas couldn't officially announce his new position as assistant coach until Edmonds was done for the year.

"I'm ecstatic because for three years I couldn't get a good assistant coach," said McLaughlin.

Last year the T-Birds had Tom Moore as their assistant coach, but he also helped out with the men's team, which stretched Moore thin. This season, McLaughlin will have someone who is committed, skilled, and efficient.

"I bring players to reality," said Mitalas. "They have to grow up."

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Ski areas waiting for snow

By Trevor McDowell
staff reporter

A late start to ski season may make for poor conditions over winter break.

Not one single mountain in Washington was open for skiers and riders over Thanksgiving weekend and most are not even posting or suggesting an opening date. They all currently have only a few inches of snow if any at all.

Mt. Baker was open briefly last week but closed last Tuesday due to warm temperatures and heavy rainfall. During its closure, Baker went from 22 inches of snow to 12 inches. But officials are hopeful for a winter storm next weekend.

An official from Snoqualmie Pass said "no significant accumulation of snow has occurred for over two weeks and is not expected to occur until possibly next weekend." He didn't know when they would open but he said, "a storm that the National Weather Service is predicting is projected to dump two to five feet of snow from Dec. 3 through Dec. 5."

If this storm actually does happen, Stevens Pass, Mt. Baker, and Crystal would be expected to open. Snoqualmie, White Pass and Mission Ridge are not even speculating on an opening date.

If you want good skiing or riding over winter break, you might want to plan a trip to Canada, Idaho or Wyoming, which all are fairly close and currently have mountains fully open with more snow coming.

Driving north on I-5 for a few hours brings you to British Columbia. B.C. has great skiing and riding available now.

Whistler-Blackcomb is already fully operational and has enough coverage as not to pose too many hazards like uncovered treetops and boulders. Tickets aren't cheap, even in Canadian money: \$71 will buy you a day.

Another good place in B.C. is Big White Ski Resort. This is the not-as-busy and cheaper version of Whistler. This place offers great runs and conditions and \$60 will buy you one day.

Driving east along I-90 for 4 1/2 hours brings you to Idaho. Idaho offers Sun Valley and also two resorts right along I-90, Schweitzer and Lookout Pass, that won't soak you as much as Sun Valley will.

Flights to Sun Valley start at \$200 and lift tickets are \$67 per day. Sun Valley has a resort town right at the mountain and offers world class skiing. It takes 12 hours to drive there if



Photo by Trevor McDowell

The sprinkling of snow at Snoqualmie on Tuesday wasn't enough to open the area.

you cannot fly.

Schweitzer costs college students, with ID, \$25, is roughly six hours away and offers up great skiing, great riding, and a spectacular view.

Lookout Pass is located right off the freeway. Meant more for beginners, \$22 buys you a day on the hill, which is a lot like Summit West at Snoqualmie and is six hours away.

Jackson Hole, Wyoming could also be your winter destination and is roughly 14 hours away by car or \$750 away by plane. Three world-class mountains are found here. Along with skiing, you can snowmobile through Yellowstone or just enjoy the town itself.

Snow King is four blocks from downtown Jackson Hole and is where the U.S. Olympic Ski team trains.

Teton Village is 15 minutes from downtown Jackson Hole and has a very large and busy resort town right at the mountain, resembling Whistler, only

with 2,000 more vertical feet.

Grand Targee is about an hour from downtown Jackson Hole and offers great conditions along with a huge mountain and sparse crowds.

If you just inherited a fortune or received a juicy Christmas bonus then check out www.horizonair.com and click on vacation packages and then click on ski packages. This allows you to set up a vacation with airfare, hotel, shuttle services and lift tickets to resorts like Lake Tahoe, Whistler, Sun Valley, and Alyeska.

For example, a Sun Valley two-day vacation for two people with airfare, hotel, shuttle, and lift tickets included starts at \$705. This varies with number of people, hotel choice and destination choice.

Meanwhile, closer to home:

• Snoqualmie Pass has only a dusting of snow currently and a spokesman said he has "absolutely no idea when they will open. No precipitation is expect

"till next week and hopefully it will keep on falling." They are not posting an opening date.

• Stevens Pass is expecting to open on Dec. 10 and currently has 11 inches of snow.

• Crystal Mountain currently has six inches of snow. Crystal's Fay Holland said "We are waiting for the snow storms to come in and just dump it on the mountain."

• Mt. Baker opened briefly last week but closed again when it started to rain. They currently have 12 inches of snow and are hoping to open again on Dec. 5.

• White Pass has five inches of snow and needs 27 inches to open. They are not speculating on an opening date.

• Mission Ridge has only a dusting right now and has no plans to open on any specific day.



By Chris Richcreek

1. Who has hit the most home runs in baseball's interleague play since it began in 1997?

2. Who was the last Pittsburgh Pirate to win the Cy Young Award?

3. In 2003, Peyton Manning to Marvin Harrison became the second NFL combination to total 600 completions and 8,000 receiving yards. Who was the first?

4. Who was the first college basketball coach to reach the regional final in the men's NCAA Tournament in four different decades?

5. What is the record for the shortest overtime in the NHL playoffs?

6. Name the two teams that played in the third-place game in soccer's 2002 men's World Cup.

7. Who did heavyweight boxer Jack Dempsey fight in his last successful title defense?

- Answers
1. Jim Thome has hit 45.
 2. Doug Drabek in 1990.
 3. Buffalo's Jim Kelly to Andre Reed.
 4. North Carolina's Dean Smith in 1991.
 5. Nine seconds — the time Montreal's Brian Skrudland needed to score against Calgary in Game Two of the 1986 Stanley Cup Finals.
 6. Turkey and South Korea.
 7. Luis Firpo in 1923.

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Business grows big on small parts

Des Moines-based Grakon makes parts for semi trucks

By Tanner Weber
staff reporter

You might be tempted to think the big gray building on South 218th Street is just part of the Des Moines Post Office.

The sign on the building is largely not visible from the street. But Grakon Industries, which makes parts for heavy trucks, is one of the largest employers in Des Moines.

Dennis Graham started

Grakon 26 years ago after working at Bellevue-based Paccar, one of the leading manufacturers of heavy trucks.

"I worked for Paccar for about 10 years before I decided to branch off and start my own business," said Graham.

His experience in the industry helped him to get to know a lot of

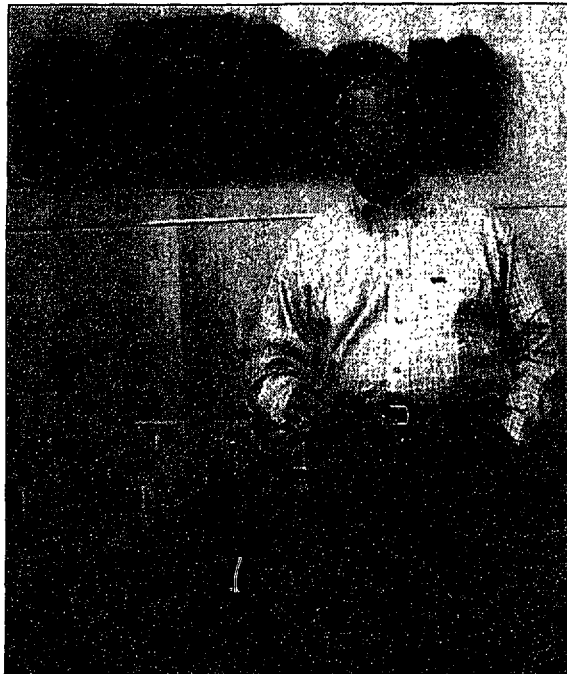


Photo by Keith Daigle

Dennis Graham, owner of Grakon Industries, stands under his company sign.

people, which helped him make contacts for his new venture.

But it wasn't an overnight success.

"I starved for about two years," said Graham.

But eventually, the business started rolling.

Although you cannot buy Grakon products at your local automotive stores, you can see their products on just about every heavy truck driving down the road.

Grakon's 400 employees make and sell products such as interior dome lamps and exterior spot lamps for the semi trucks.

"Grakon products can be found on just about every truck on the road," said Graham.

Grakon has been in the

building by the Post Office for three years.

Even though the office looks big, the manufacturing is actually done in Asia.

Just like other fields, the business of automotive manufacturing is not always smooth sailing.

"We have three or four legit competitors, all which are big corporations," Graham said.

Graham said his business succeeds by selling items that competitors don't always carry, such as ashtrays and cup holders.

"Grakon would not be at the level it is today without hard work," said Graham. "As a business we are aggressive and try to produce products faster than our competitors."

Legislators try to avoid budget cuts in education

By Sara Loken
staff reporter

How much tuition will be, and whether college employees get raises, will all be decided in next year's state budget.

The Washington State Legislature is getting ready to write a new budget for 2005-2007, facing a revenue shortfall of \$1.2 billion.

Even though the economy has grown 4 percent in the last two years, there's still a deficit, said State Rep. Mark Miloscia, D-Federal Way.

"A lot of it is thanks to Tim Eyman," said Miloscia.

Because of the deficit, there will be cuts within the budget. But it's still unclear where the cuts will be made.

"It's too early, we need to look at the final governor's budget and wait for the Senate and House to submit theirs," said State Rep. Phyllis Kenney, D-46th District and chairwoman of the House Higher Education Committee.

The budget comes together in stages. First, the governor,

with the help of state agencies, drafts a budget proposal.

The Legislature, working from the governor's draft, hammers out a final version over the course of the legislative session.

The legislative session starts Jan. 10 and is scheduled to run 105 days. But it's likely that they could run over.

"We hope to stay in regular time. There's a lot of people that are trying to get out on time," said Miloscia.

"It (the budget) will be a long process," said Kenney.

The budget for Higher Education comes out of the general fund budget.

In the 2003-2005 biennium, the general budget was \$23.1 billion. Of that, 11.5 percent, or \$2.7 billion, went to higher education, with 38.5 percent of that going to community and technical colleges.

Highline submits its budget requests along with the other community and technical colleges.

"We're considered by the state as one," said Dr. Laura Saunders, Highline vice presi-

dent of administration.

The money received from the budget is then divided up between the community and technical colleges by how much they requested.

This year Highline requested money for compensation (pay increases) and more enrollment, said Saunders.

Highline made the same requests on the previous budget but was not granted compensation.

"There is a significant imbalance in the budget now," said Saunders.

"The legislature didn't have money to give pay increases."

Kenney hopes to divert bud-

get cuts away from higher education.

"We need to quit under-funding higher education," said Kenney, citing the need for a skilled work force to attract jobs.

"We're certainly going to make a big effort (not to cut more funding)," said Kenney.

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continued from page 1

Bellamy, vice chancellor for academic affairs. The UW Bothell plan is to increase the student population from its current 1,265 to 6,000 in 15 years.

The University of Washington Regents met on Nov. 18 and voted to send the report on to the Higher Education Coordinating Board. The Legislature will start discussions in early January.

A board meeting will be held on Dec. 10 when the universities will come and review their proposals with the board. The board, in turn, will look at the proposal before submitting it to the Legislature.

"The Higher Education Coordinating Board is expected to submit their assessment to the Legislature on their Jan. 27 meeting," said Kris Betker, the communications director for the board.

Betker said that although the plan will probably be passed on to the Legislature, the funding will be tight.

"It's hard to say if it's a good idea or not; it's still so early," she said.

UW Bothell's plan to increase enrollment to 6,000 by the year 2020 will require an additional \$85 million. A huge lump of that money, \$62 million, will come out of state funds.

The expansion costs for a build-out is estimated at \$163 million.

The Legislature, however, may find it difficult to find the money. State legislators say they expect a \$1 billion shortfall in the preliminary 2005-2007 budget, meaning they'll be looking for places to cut rather than places to add spending.

Despite the tight budget, UW's Bellamy was very optimistic about the plan. He said that the need for slots at UW Se-

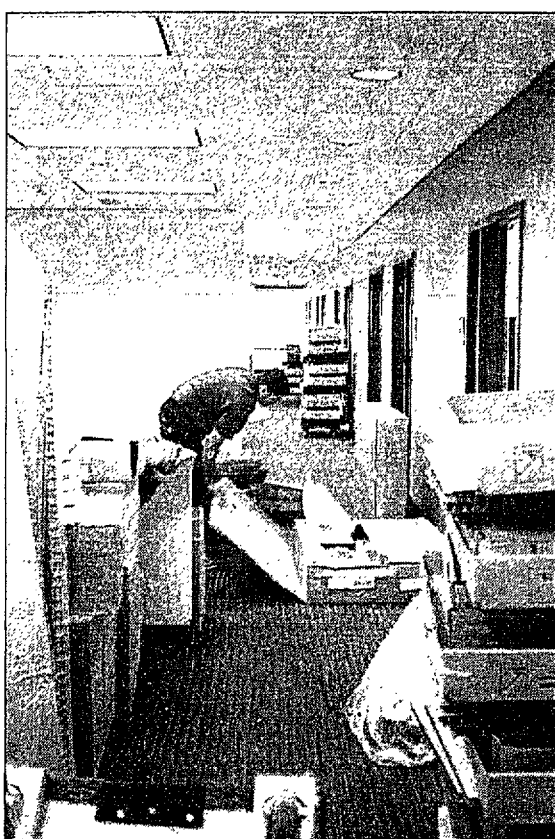


Photo by Bryan Yambe

A worker unpacks office fixtures in the new Higher Education building.

attle could be accommodated at Bothell.

"We plan to stay focused on students who have qualified for UW Seattle," Bellamy said. "There has been a significant increase of qualified students [for UW], but no room."

UW Bothell, which opened in 1990, currently offers degrees in business, environmental science, computing, nursing, and interdisciplinary arts and sciences. All of the above courses have very specific degree requirements that students need to follow closely at the community college level to be able to transfer in.

Bothell currently shares a campus with Cascadia Community College, which feeds many of its students into the UW branch campus.

Suzanne Ames, the communications director at Cascadia, appreciates UW Bothell's commitment to students.

"The partnership with UW Bothell continues to work and

exceed expectations," she said.

"Out of all of Cascadia's students who go on to transfer to a four-year university, 53 percent transfer into UW Bothell."

Bothell is finding further means to reach out to students. They plan to make more slots for students and find better ways to prepare students for transferring.

Students will soon have the option of co-attending UW Bothell and their community college.

Students would then receive advising from both schools, causing less confusion. It's unknown whether it would cost more to be co-enrolled, but four-year schools do typically charge more for tuition than do community colleges.

"The pathway would be much clearer for students," said Bellamy.

UW Bothell also hopes to add some lower division courses and eventually add a freshman

class of about 150 students.

"It's for those who want a very small college experience and still want to live at home," Bellamy said. UW Bothell is a commuter campus and has no residence halls offered to students.

Cascadia's Ames doesn't feel that UW Bothell's undergraduate classes will compete with Cascadia, and referred to the undergraduate classes that will be offered at UW Bothell as an "honors college."

"Right now we don't overlap, so the co-location is extremely beneficial for students," said Ames. "And I don't think that it would change. We expect to launch co-enrollment this spring."

But, if UW Bothell's classes would start expanding into more broad range classes, Ames thinks that it could create conflict.

Despite all the plans to reach out and commit to students, Washington state's tight budget will remain a roadblock.

"Funding is really tight for anything," said the education board's Betker.

Ames considers the tight budget to be the bigger problem.

"Washington state is in a crisis when it comes to funding and finding space for baccalaureate degrees. ... The Legislature is going to have a hard time trying to meet the financial needs of this region," she said.

Parking

continued from page 1

Along with Student Government, Highline employees also spoke at council meetings regarding the tax proposal. Gerie Ventura, media services library technician and Washington Public Employees Association member, made a presentation to the council from a classified staff member's perspective. Lisa Skari, executive director for institutional advancement, also made a presentation on the issue.

City Council member Maggie Steenrod made the motion to exclude educational entities from the parking tax. Highline, along with Mount Rainier High School, is exempt from the \$2 tax.

Steenrod said that the motion to exempt educational institutions was already in her notes before the meeting, but commends Highline's representatives for taking the time to come and present their perspectives. Steenrod also said that their comments may have made the difference in persuading other council members to approve the exclusion.

The proposal was a projected solution to Des Moines' budget deficit. The council is working on the 2005 budget that is still \$1.024 million short.



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