Higher ed comes to Highline

By Amanda Downs

The Higher Education Center is ready to open in January for winter classes.

The 80,000 square foot building, located on the south side of campus, will house the Central Washington University’s SeaTac campus.

Students can now earn a bachelor’s or master’s degree without leaving the Highline campus.

SeaTac’s campus facilities supervisor, Darcy Brady said that the move-in should be smooth.

“We’ll just be picking up our purses and moving over there,” said Brady.

The move is the result of the SeaTac center running out of space at the previous location.

Currently, the enrollment at the SeaTac is 600 students; Brady said that attendance will no doubt go up after the move.

Central’s local campus offers majors in business, accounting, law and justice, along with early childhood education. Minors offered are psychology, business administration, economics, and law and justice.

In order to go through the programs at Central, students must first apply to Central Washington University and go through the admission process.

Along with housing the Central campus, the Higher Education Building will have science laboratories for Highline students to use.

Many of the classes offered for Winter Quarter at Central are in the evenings. Brady said that the center houses many nontraditional students; about 70 percent of the SeaTac campus’ students work in the morning.

Brady said that morning classes will be considered.


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 1963, 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.

Highline dodges Des Moines tax

By Amanda Downs

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 losses 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 several 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.

UW branch campuses aim to be four-year

By Elizabeth Tacke

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 openings off 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 Bohl.
By Jackie Grybill 
staff reporter

Students who plan to gradu-
ate in the spring should start the applica-
tion process and meet with an advisor now in order to
meet their graduation require-
ments.

"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 require-
ment.

"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 Asia 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 Motley, who handles graduation evaluations, grades and records, said that graduation applications are im-
portant because they show stu-
dents which credit requirements they still need to meet.

She also said students need an advisor.

"Some students self-advise. When they do that, they run the risk of not having all of the re-
quirements needed to graduate. Every student needs an advisor," Motley 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 applica-
tions, and researching and ap-
plying 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 gradu-
ate 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 de-
gree 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 advisor. Students then work with an advisor/Coordinator who helps them complete the Gradu-
aton Evaluation Worksheet and sends it to Graduation Evalu-
aton.

Three weeks after their grades are posted, those who have met all graduation require-
ments will have their degree or certificate put on their trans-
scription. 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 com-
pleted their requirements.

More information is available at www.highline.edu/ student/registration/waistlist.htm or at 206-878-3710, ext. 3342.

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

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

Early College Founders Day

Puget Sound Early College celebrates its Founder's Day on Monday, Dec. 6 from 12:30 to 2 p.m. at Highline's Federal Way

campus, located on South 333rd Street.

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 Hu-

man Rights Day in Building 2 from 10 to 10:50 a.m.

Awahle Parah of the Somalia Rights Network will speak on

the human rights of Somalia. Refreshments will be provided.
New center faces inspection

By Sara Loken

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 "Idea 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 Program's Team Highline closer to advisors, said Brown.

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

"We've got our fingers crossed," said Randy Fisher, book store 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 sporting, 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.

Speech prof takes different approach

By Dain Kaizuka

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-
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 around. AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) is literally an invisible disease in more ways than one. In some sense it’s invisible because no one realizes that they have it. Having sex without abon- don 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 contracted 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 neatly 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 immoral 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’s no fun when catching a cold is a matter of life or death. Pneumonia will do you in, in no-flat time. 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 also 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 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.

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

A recent look into the history of Christmas revealed what I’ve heard from romors 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 be coming longer again. Guess how they celebrated? By singing, having parties, en- gaging in merriment and festi- vals 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 carnal atmos- phere. The custom of being with friends and family was born and it became a time with associates of all sorts feasted together, exchanging presents with each other.

Various other elements reemerged that were startingly 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 in- spired by the stars lighting the evergreen trees. Later at home, he recreated the scene by lighting 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 valued so deeply, the idea 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 ever born.

Like I said, despite the fact of finding out that Christianity didn’t birth Christmas, the real- ization didn’t totally bother me. The main fact was that Christ- mas, 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 be- tween 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 reli- gion is practiced or its past his- tory; it should be judged by it meanings and how it affects people as a society.

Tauren wishes everyone Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

The

Thunderword

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Sharp shows skills on debut CD

By Billy Naylor

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 profundity and quality. 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 stem 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/to see you, killing my race/to see you, killing the same as you, sealing my fate/never, dealing with faith/that'll come and shake eight deserts/leaning on arms that are great and will take me/"

The production end of this CD remains on point, with Jacobs producing some of the tracks along with DJ Don Christion and Eloquint 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 destructive habits until he stepped into the light.

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

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 Buriens 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 Symphony 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.federalwayssymphony.org.

Drama Department holds auditions for winter production

By Jessie Elliott

Highline's Drama Depart-

ment 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 auditions.

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 participate 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

The Boulder family before they perform for a concert. The Boulder family performs Celtic Yuletide Concerts. 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 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 Records, and their latest title, Where Dragons Dance on Alle-gros Alda 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 2566 Street.

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 Yule-tide 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 all-alike according to the Boulding family and their array of Irish dancers.

They also include story telling, juggling, and to complete 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.

I think the real magic doesn't have fancy wrapping.

I'm not a stranger 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 presents stems from our conditioning as a kid. How when any commercial came on TV, we would tell our parents we wanted.

The real gift doesn't have fancy wrapping.

Boks the Spokesman

By Billy Naunter

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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) went 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 Zentrique Telleez. “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 Telleez 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 CrossGover 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.

**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 Brinney 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 and four men 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 doesn’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 earned citations from 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 Mariana Palermo, defender Tonya McLaughlin, and midfielders Lisa Groce and Alicia Wolfkill.

Highline women’s soccer Head Coach Jaimy McLaughlin will be assisting Coach Pam Seely in heading the Northwest Division team.

On the other side the men will be sending six representatives: forward Anthony Melchior, defenders Kyle Colbath and Steve Pirrotte, midfielders Raphael Cox and Dale 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.

**Track & Field Fundraiser**

Winner of the Quarter Parking Place Raffle

What is Being Raffled:

1 reserved parking space next to the President’s parking space in the Administrative Parking Lot Next to Bldg. 1 for each quarter.

How long does the reserved space last:

From the first day of the quarter through finals week of the same quarter, 24 hours a day.

Price: $1 per ticket

We will be selling tickets for the winter and spring at once.

Students, faculty or staff can win the raffle. Proceeds from the fundraiser will be used to pay for outdoor track season fees and travel.

Contact Robert Yates (ext. 3463), any Truck 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 than a win.

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

"I'm happy," said Rowe. "I think we have the team to be competitive at this point in the season but we need to answer the door when we have a lead."

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 high school group went in and built the lead and the energy," 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, 54-43, 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 win 65-63.

"We missed 15 layups in just this game alone," said Rowe. "We get a little luckadicalisical. We have to cut 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 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.

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.

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

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

Mitalas has 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 family, 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 Janey McLaughlin.

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

Both coaches have had their share of success with championship, including the NWWAC title. In 2003, 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 aspect of the field.

"Mitalas 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 athletic program college officials say. While McLaughlin and T-Bird head coach Jason Prenoost cover the northern part of the region in recruits, Mitalas will help out with the northern region.

"Recruiting is about building relationships," said Prenoost.

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

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, Edwards was first place in the NWWAC North-East 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 begun 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," said McLaughlin.

Highline and McLaughlin 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."

The Thunderword
Ski areas waiting for snow

By Trevor McDowell

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. A week to ten days is normally enough to get you to British Columbia. B.C. has great skiing and riding available now.

White Pass-Blackcomb is already fully operational and has enough coverage as to not pose too many hazards like uncovered tree tops 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 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, $23 buys you a day on the hill, which is a lot like Summit West at Snoqualmie, 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. These world-class mountains are found here. Along with skiing, you can snowmobile through Yellowstone and enjoy the town itself.

Snow King is four blocks 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 Targhee 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 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.

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 expected 'til next week and hopefully it will keep on falling.' They are not posting an opening date. Stevens Pass is expected 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 idea when it will open on any specific day.

The sprinkling of snow at Snoqualmie on Tuesday wasn't enough to open the area.
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 318th Street is just part of the Des Moines Post Office. The sign on the building is noticeably 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 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.

"Like other fields, the business of automotive manufacturing is not always smooth sailing," said Graham. "We have three or four leg ital 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 the 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, hammer out a final version over the course of the legislative session.

The legislative session starts Jan. 10 and is scheduled to run 105 days. 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 president 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 request 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," said Kenney.

But Kenney hopes to divert budget 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 its 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 too 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 Seattle 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-enrollment 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 UW Bothell's undergraduate classes will compete with Cascadia, and referred to the undergraduate classes that will be offered at UW Bothell as "homes college."

"Right now we don't over-lap, 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.