If you are looking for gifts for the holiday but don't have a lot of money, here's our list of the top 10 gifts under $10:

**Perfect for a teenager's room, a college dorm, or a cabin, it's the CD-holder wallpaper. Just imagine your walls covered with your favorite music! Each CD-holder wallpaper holds up to 24 CDs in nonstick, archival quality, polypropylene sleeves and includes six colored tacks for hanging. It measures 21 inches wide by 31 inches tall and comes in blue, silver or purple; $9.95 available at www.walmart.com.**

**Earring and bracelet set, and college any Claire's website, claires.com.**

**Scrapbooking kit to put together and give to your favorite person. Great to put in a book or frame, the memories will last forever!**

If you still cannot decide what to get, let them decide for themselves. Visa or American Express gift cards can be used anywhere those cards are accepted. Purchase at www.americancanexpress.com or www.visa.com.
**December 1, 2005**

**Holiday recipes for all taste buds**

**BY ALICIA MENDEZ**

**STAFF REPORTER**

To encourage weight gain over the holidays here are some lovely holiday recipes for all to enjoy.

**Spinach Dip**
1 cup crumbled feta cheese
1/2 cup crumbled blue cheese
1/2 cup shredded Cheddar cheese
1/2 cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese
1 cup sour cream
1/2 cup finely diced red pepper
1/4 cup minced green onions
(16-ounce) package chopped spinach, thawed and squeezed dry
1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
2 tablespoons chopped fresh tarragon

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. In a large mixing bowl, combine all of ingredients. Next, put the mixture into a greased glass baking dish. Bake for 15-20 minutes (make sure the top is a light brown). Remove from the oven and let cool for 10 minutes.

**Zucchini Bread**
3 eggs
1 cup oil
2 cups shredded raw zucchini
1 1/4 cups sugar
1/4 teaspoon baking powder
2 teaspoons baking soda
2 teaspoons cinnamon
1 teaspoon salt
2 teaspoons vanilla
1 cup chopped nuts
2 cups flour
Preheat oven at 350 degrees. Strain zucchini until all liquid is out. Beat eggs, sugar, and oil together in a large bowl. Then add flour, baking powder, soda, cinnamon, salt, vanilla, and nuts. Mix together by hand. Add zucchini. Beat mixture. Pour into 2 greased, floured, loaf pans. Bake for 1 hour.

What better a way to celebrate the holidays than baking and decorating sugar cookies? Be sure to have holiday theme cookie cutters.

**Sugar Cookies**
1 cup shortening
1 cup milk
1 1/2 teaspoons active dry yeast
1 teaspoon white sugar
1/2 cup warm water (10 degree F/45 degrees C)
2 eggs
1/2 cup white sugar
2 teaspoons salt
4 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
1/2 cup butter, softened
Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease cookie sheets. In a big bowl, mix together the shortening, white sugar and brown sugar until very smooth. Beat eggs one at a time, and add vanilla. In a separate bowl combine the flour, baking soda and salt; blend into the mixture. Roll dough into 1/2 inch flat sheet and with cookie cutters cut out designs. Place them 1 inch apart onto cookie sheets. Bake for 8 to 10 minutes in the preheated oven. Allow cookies to cool before decorating.

**Pumpkin Pie**
2 tablespoons all purpose flour
1/2 teaspoons salt
2 teaspoons sugar
1/2 teaspoons nutmeg
1/2 teaspoons cinnamon
1/2 cups brown sugar
1 cup canned milk
2 whole eggs well beaten
1 1/2 cups canned pumpkin
1 whole 10 inch unbaked pie shell
Preheat oven 450 degrees. Blend all ingredients together. (except whipped cream) Pour mixture into unbaked pie shell. Bake in oven for 10 minutes at 450 degrees. Then reduce the heat to 325 degrees and bake for an additional 30 to 40 minutes.

**Fudge**
4 1/2 cups granulated sugar
(12-ounce) can evaporated milk
1 pound milk chocolate candy bars, coarsely chopped
2 cups semisweet chocolate chips
(7-ounce) jar marshmallow creme
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 cup chopped nuts
Cook sugar and evaporated milk in a saucepan until mixture boils gently. Lower heat to medium; cook 5 additional minutes, stirring constantly. Then, remove pan from heat; add candy bar pieces, chocolate chips, marshmallow creme and vanilla, mixing vigorously. Add nuts, mix well. Pour into a buttered 13 x 9 x 2 inch pan. Cool until firm; cut into individual pieces.

Hopefully, all of these delightful treats will contribute to weight gain. Eat well.

**Candy Cane Lane lights up the holidays**

**BY LUXE BERGQUIST**

**STAFF REPORTER**

Seattle's Ravenna neighborhood is in its 51st year of a winter lighting tradition that would make Clark Griswold of Christmas Vacation proud.

It only takes five minutes to drive through, but Ravenna's Candy Cane Lane will have you humming your favorite carols in no time.

Decorations are generally lit two weeks prior to Christmas and run through the holiday. Though the decorations are only lit for two weeks, the residents have had the past 50 years to prepare.

Decorations on Candy Cane Lane began after the government stopped World War II-era restrictions on electricity use. First Japanese immigrant Tatsuya "Lawrence" Kawabata started the tradition.

Kawabata felt that his decorations were a way to fit in to his neighborhood, a neighborhood where he was the only minority. The decorations gave him a sense of belonging.

He began setting up his lights the first weekend of every December, demanding that his neighbors do the same. His neighbors obliged and the rest, as they say, is history.

Candy Cane Lane is free to visitors and is located on Park Road Northeast near the intersection of Ravenna and 21st Avenue Northeast.

There are many things to do this season with all the shopping, baking and visiting with family or friends. If you find yourself with some extra time, Ravenna's Candy Cane Lane is definitely worth the trip.

Pictures of holiday lights from Candy Cane Lane and other homes around Washington.
Memorable Christmases:
The Good and the Bad

Highline students share their favorite Christmas memories.

"Happy Christmas in Ireland with all my relatives," said Ciaran O'Brien. "I woke up and it was snowing, it was my first white Christmas."

"Around Christmas I hate being old, because little kids get to open their presents first," said Alex Borishkevich. "The kids don't mind waiting but the older people just start ripping open the presents. They're worse than kids, it's ridiculous."

One student in particular had someone other than Santa visit his house one year.

"When I came to the U.S., I came to Detroit. That was the real get-to," said John Nadyko.

"On Christmas Eve some dude jacked a Mustang and cranked it right outside my window. The cops showed up and there was a shootout. Me and my cousin stuck our heads outside the window and almost got shot."

Unfortunately, not every Christmas runs as smoothly as possible.

"One Christmas, my family burned the food and someone smashed and tripped over a present," said Stephanie Hughes. "I had a broken arm so I couldn't open presents faster than anyone else."

For some, Christmas can bring emotional truths.

"I was in sixth grade, I still believed in Santa Claus. My best friend and I were sitting down writing our wish lists for Santa, when my older brother came in and asked what were doing, said Chase Swalwell. "He told us there was no such thing as Santa and that I should just give the list to Mom and Dad. I was devastated and proud of him. I love my brother."

Some students Christmas memories aren't quite as exciting as others.

"I don't do anything on Christmas," said James Thom. "I'm thinking of Christmas can bring sad memories for some students.

"The worst Christmas was my first Christmas without my grandma around," said Isys Viema. "She passed away two months before Christmas."

Some students' Christmas memories are just downright depressing.

"My parents decided not to buy us Christmas presents one year," said Rich Edmunds. "All we got was a pug dog. I felt shattered emotionally."

"When I was about 8 years old my dad, who doesn't celebrate Christmas, made us clean the basement on Christmas Day which was cold, dark, full of spiders and not very Christmassy at all," said Dominique Palter.

"Two years ago my mom and I got the flu on Christmas," remembers Julie Timlick. "We were barely surviving on nasty Thera-Flu medicine. All I wanted to do was sleep and stop puckering. I didn't even want to open my presents."

"I was really sick with the flu so I got to stay home with my mom, eat chicken noodle soup, and watch Home Alone instead of seeing my relatives," said student Dee Knechtel.

"One of my best memories was when I was 5 and we had Christmas in Montana," said Sheila Hamilton. "I got a new bike for Christmas."

"The first memorable Christmas memory that comes to mind for Mike Benigni, was when he was married and stuffing the turkey for his family dinner."

One tip for this holiday season is to leave the food to those who know what they are doing, and make sure to leave out any extra ingredients.

"One year my dad put in charge of making the pies. My mom bought the ready-made pie crusts for him," said Kate Skelton, a Highline math instructor. "The pies were great all except for the cellophane."

Taking my kids for Santa pictures is one of my better memories," said Jason Prenovost. "We went to the Highline men's soccer coach."

"I stayed in an old Playboy mansion in Lake Geneva, Wis. My family lives in Chicago," said Calvin Walsh.

Others' favorite Christmas memories are remembered in great detail.

"Christmas Eve of 1992 in Germany, I found myself in a room full of family and beautifully wrapped packages full of toys delicately placed under the skirt of the tree," said Jonathan Rema. "It was a glorious tree full of white lights and glass ornaments and other special family memories. The whole evening was full of anticipation and everyone awaited the morning and went to their place of rest to sleep the surprise in."

"When I came to America, for the first 10 years my parents were too poor to buy us presents. We had to fill out the giving tree form, I got sweaters all the time because I didn't write down expensive stuff," said Victor Mazurek. "We came home with nothing and five kids. Now my dad just takes me out and buys me something I need like some furniture, a computer, a TV, something like that. My mom never gets a thing."

"I remember the decorations. It's an old German tradition. The tree was about 10 feet tall with white around the bottom," said Larry Krehbelle. "I remember 1950's Christmas especially because my uncle was gored by a bull beforehand and was delirious for several months and the decorations were something he remembered."

Other students enjoyed Christmas by spending time with their loved ones.

Christmas is arguably the most beloved holiday of the year, although there are a select few that don't find this the most wonderful time of the year.

Highline has its very own Grinch.

"I hate Christmas. I hate all Christmas. You can hate all holidays like Valentine's Day but you can't hate Christmas. Well I do, I hate Christmas music too," said Alicia Akerman.

"I don't like to celebrate Christmas because my son lives in Colorado," said Sandy Kim.
Crime at Highline has stayed at stable rate

BY CHRIS BROOKS
STAFF REPORTER

Although car theft and property theft is a problem at Highline, the school was free of crimes such as homicide, assault, arson over the past two years.

“We don’t have that kind of stuff here,” said Richard Fisher, Highline’s Security and Safety Director.

Fisher’s biggest concern is theft, and statistics from Highline’s security office do not show a significant decrease or increase in crime between 2003 and 2004. Crime rates have had natural random fluctuations, but there do not appear to be any significant trends.

“The biggest problem we have here is vehicles being broken into and items stolen,” said Fisher.

In 2003, 17 vehicles and 52 other significant items were stolen at Highline, as compared to 15 vehicles and 70 items in 2004.

“Car and property theft is something we all think is going to happen to somebody else,” said Highline student Brandon Schleppe.

“My friend’s car got broken into and they never got any of the stolen stuff back,” said Highline student Julie Timlick. “There’s no way to catch the thief.”

According to Fisher, the theft problems in Highline’s parking lots are not unique to Highline or this area.

“Anytime you leave your vehicle anywhere you’re taking a risk,” said Fisher. “Large parking lots in particular invite thefts. I would say it’s no more risky parking here than parking at Southcenter mall.”

Fisher also said the vehicle thefts are not just the result of teenagers looking to joyride.

“We get a lot of professional thieves, they aren’t all just kids,” said Fisher. “You can tell because we never catch them for one thing, and when we find the cars they’re usually stripped for parts.”

Some students expressed concern about the lack of adequate lighting and security in rural areas of the campus.

“Sometimes I don’t really feel safe walking around near the outer portions of the parking lots,” Highline student Cory Darcey said. “There is not always a lot of light around and there is lots of places for people to hide.”

Others have noticed the thefts that are published weekly in the Thunderword’s Crime Blotter column.

“I read about cars getting broken into all the time and it kind of makes me wonder about the safety of my own car,” said Highline student Ryan Flesch. Fisher said the college cannot afford the installation of closed-circuit TV security cameras around campus.

Even if cameras were installed, there would still be no guarantee that vehicles and property would be safe.

“Would it be a deterrent? I don’t know,” Fisher said. “The University of Puget Sound built a parking garage and installed cameras. While their crime rates have gone down, cars still get broken into and items stolen. That stuff will never go away.”

Some students, however, appreciate the work done by the School’s Security

New Board of Trustees has passion for education

BY ALEX CAHAN
STAFF REPORTER

Karen Vander Ark of Federal Way, who has spent her whole life devoted to education and is a graduate of a community college, has been appointed to Highline’s Board of Trustees. Being on a Board of Trustees is something new for Vander Ark, but she has been involved in educational committees for several years.

“Almost everything I do involves education one way or another,” said Vander Ark.

She was appointed by Governor Christine Gregoire to re-place the spot left vacant by Michael Allan. She was asked to apply for the position by President Patricia Bell.

Her term was made effective Nov. 1, 2005, and she will remain a board member until Sept. 30, 2010.

Members on the Board of Trustees go over the budget and analyze the school’s policy, among other topics.

Besides being on the Board of Trustees, she is also a board member for the Federal Way Education Communities in School Foundation and the Federal Way Rotary (a Highline vice president serves on the Rotary as well, and recommended her to President Bell). She was also a former board member on the Federal Way Philharmonic and Citizens for Federal Way Schools.

“Education is important to me because I had to work real hard through college,” said Vander Ark.

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The choir concert left a good impression

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The end of an era for Coach Yates

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CRIME BLOTTER

Rock-crawlers club looks for home at Highline

By Nick Clune

Staff Reporter

For a select few, an unpaved path through the local forests full of big rocks, river crossings, log bridges, and deep mud-pits are a welcomed sight.

The majority of the Highline staff and students would probably never dream of taking their vehicle down such a path, but for Highline Student Suresh Datar this is a beautiful thing. Datar and his fellow members of The Newport Rock-crawlers want to introduce you to the 4x4 lifestyle and outdoor recreation in the sport of four-wheeling.

Four-wheeling is the sport in which participants navigate and drive their truck, Jeep, or sport-utility vehicle through different terrains, most of which requires four-wheel drive.

"Newport Rock-crawlers is a growing four-wheel-drive club," said Datar. "Anyone can join; you just have to have a sense for adventure."

The club is an affiliate of the C.O.R.E 4x4 clubs, which is based out of the Monroe area. "I have been leaving flyers on different rigs in the Highline parking lots," said Datar. "I see a lot of built trucks around Highline and I just want them to come out with my club."

Datar, who drives a highly modified 1999 Ford Ranger, encourages anyone interested in exploring the sport or anyone who just wants to learn more about their four-wheel-drive vehicle to join the club.

"We are a really mellow group, we are like a big family," said Datar. "We promote the idea of Tread Lightly and Pack-it-in Pack-it-out, these practices help to ensure that recreation areas stay open."

"We really want everyone to join. People worry that their rig isn't capable enough," Datar said. "Anyone and everyone is welcome to join the club, every trail has easy by-passes and we don't pressure people into taking the hard lines."

Datar said the club is a family friendly club that promotes having a good time, a sense of adventure, learning how to work on your 4x4 or car, and learning how to drive in harsh conditions, said Datar.

The club currently meets on a monthly basis to gather all members together for a club meeting with dinner and talk about the upcoming club runs.

"We get together for more then just actual four-wheeling runs," said Datar. "We have different donation runs, and work shops that all members are invited to attend."

The workshops are a chance for members to help other members work on their vehicles which provides for a great learning experience.

"Last year we had a donation run up to Mount Pilchuck to cut Christmas trees," Datar said. "We gave the trees away to families that couldn't buy them." The Newport Rock-crawlers are in the process of becoming sanctioned by the Highline Student Programs; Datar hopes to eventually be recognized by Student Programs as an official Highline Club.

For more information on the Newport Rock-crawlers you can contact Datar through email at s103layer@hotmail.com

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A student reported her Toyota Camry was missing from Highline's parking lots between 11 a.m. and 5:45 p.m. on Nov. 22. The Des Moines Police Department was informed of the situation.

Belligerent man in Student Union

Campus security was informed of an adult male in Building 8 bothering students and staff. When security confronted the man, he refused to give identification. After that, he left the campus without further problems.

Suspicious man in parking lots

A male was reported to be walking around Highline's parking lots suspiciously.

Campus security investigated the situation but found no one.

Student faints, another falls

Security was contacted by an Highline instructor about a student fainting while she was giving blood in Building 23.

A fellow student took her to the doctor's office for a check-up and evaluation.

Lost property

The following items were reported lost on Nov. 22, and Nov. 29, respectively.

A Team America World Police DVD box set, in the Student Union Bistro and a set of keys with a green nylon turqouise.

News Briefs

Corrections

Bree Klassen's name was spelled incorrectly in the last week's paper.

In last week's paper Sue Kelly was misidentified. Her official title is Administrative Assistant to Dean of Instruction for Transfers and pre college studies.

Learn the science of drugs

For students wondering what heroin and meth are made of, they now have the opportunity to find out. Science Seminar presents: The Chemistry of Illicit drugs. Katie Guillfod, a chemistry instructor, will be speaking. The presentation will also reveal why clandestine drug labs cost so much to clean up, and define what designer drugs are.

This will be the last Science Seminar of the quarter. It will be at 2:15 p.m. 3:05 p.m. on Friday in Building 1, room 102. All are welcome to come.

Movie Fridays finishes up

Movie Fridays and Tommy Kim, a Highline writing instructor presents: Mississippi Burning. The movie is about two FBI agents investigating the deaths of civil right workers in the 1960s.

Fresh hot popcorn will be served. The movie will be shown in Building 29, room 213, Friday, Dec. 2 at 2:10 p.m. For more information, call 206-878-3710 ext. 3871.

Photo by Mary Raab

Students Emanuel Ntiram and Chey West are enjoying the sounds The Blend in the Highline Bistro.
Learn through comics and study by their narratives

BY BRINTON SLAEKER STAFF REPORTER

Comic books and credits. The two will go together in a new class next quarter at Highline, which should appeal to many students.

Literature 220 will be offered for winter quarter with the main focus of the class being graphic narratives such as comic books, and looking into these narratives for deeper meaning.

"My goal is to look at the social commentary," said Tarisa Matsumoto-Maxfield, the instructor for the class.

I would like to look at the graphic narratives, whether it’s like a little comic book or a larger work, as someone’s attempt to teach us about our contemporary world.

A wide assortment of graphic narratives will be utilized throughout the quarter, including comic books, graphic novels, manga — a Japanese-styled comic book — and movies.

"Recently a lot of the comic books have been made into movies, and a lot of people have been introduced to comic characters through movies like ‘X-Men,’" Matsumoto-Maxfield said.

Students with a variety of different interests may find the class useful due to the variety of subject matter that will be used throughout the quarter.

The class is advertised to students ranging from history buffs, conspiracy theorists and doomsayers, to writers, journalists and graphic designers.

"The history, the conspiracy theory and the doomsayers, all of that stuff goes to the social commentary because a lot of history is coming out of them," said Matsumoto-Maxfield.

"Then the artists, writers, journalists and graphic designers part are all of the things that go into making a graphic novel like the layout, the visuals and the design."

There will also be nine books used in the class, but sharing of books will be allowed.

"I don’t care if people share — you can buy the books in groups and share the books," said Matsumoto-Maxfield.

The idea for the class came from Angi Carter, one of Highline’s writing instructors, who taught the videogame class that was offered last spring quarter.

"She saw a connection to different things like manga, and just the art part of videogames and then graphic novels," Matsumoto-Maxfield said.

From there the graphic novel class came to fruition and is now set for its maiden voyage next quarter.

Literature 220 will be a five-credit class and will meet Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. until 12:05 p.m.

"An interest in or a curiosity about comics will be key," Matsumoto-Maxfield said.

Earn a credit at a low stress Saturday writing class

MARY K. EDISON STAFF REPORTER

Need another elective? Starting winter quarter, Highline will offer a new one-credit class, Writing 190.

Writing 190 will meet from 12:10 to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and doesn’t require a textbook.

"This class is a low-stress elective designed to teach students more about writing for other classes," said Rosemary Adang, coordinator of the Culture, Gender and Global Studies Department.

This is the first time a class like this has been offered.

"So far, the plea is for winter quarter with the idea that we might offer it annually in winter quarter," Adang said.

In addition to learning more about writing, the course will cover how students can succeed at other writing assignments such as essay tests, term papers, lab reports, quarterly reports, summaries, critical analyses, case-study analyses and cross-cultural analyses.

"Each week the class will feature a different faculty member, and they will enlighten students about the writing expectations in their fields and in their classrooms."

"This is an amazing opportunity to peer into a different window on campus to see just what those faculty are looking for in the papers they assign," Adang said.

The schedule for winter quarter, while still in the planning stage and subject to change, includes faculty from these areas: nursing, geology, accounting, psychology, speech, general research writing and Culture, Gender and Global Studies.

"Students will receive credit and their grade based on attendance, and filling out a reflection/evaluation form for each session," Adang said.

For more information, contact Adang in Building 5, Room 202, at Ext. 3822, or email at radang.highline.edu.

To look up other offered classes for Winter Quarter, please pick up a Quarterly Class Schedule Catalog in Building 6 at the first or second floor.

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PAGE 3
THE THUNDERWORD

12/1/05
NEW CLASS
NEW CLASSES BEING OFFERED NEXT QUARTER

LITERATURE 220
WRITING 190
Utilize the opportunity
Harry Potter provides

Harry Potter is good for us.
In a day and age when reading has been largely replaced by the television, Harry Potter has given a breath of life to the waning book industry, and has made avid fans of many who, under normal circumstances, never touch a book unless they had to.

This is an opportunity that should be capitalized upon.
A person who reads frequently shows a marked increase in vocabulary and grammar skills, something many children are sorely lacking.

We have native English-speaking students who are not prepared to enter the Writing 101 class upon entering community college.
Harry Potter has granted us a great opportunity, but we cannot be sure it will last. After the seventh book, there may be no more Harry Potter.
It is an unprecedented phenomenon and it is foolish to expect it to happen again in our lifetime.

So while we still have time, we need to start using the door Harry Potter has opened and move to greater gains. The fact that children and adults are avidly reading Harry Potter shows the interest in books it has already sparked.
We need to cultivate this spark into an enjoyment and passion for reading.
There are many literary works in this world. It should be an easy task to identify a genre or series that one enjoys.
To do this, one can simply visit the library and look for the genres and authors that appeal to the individual.

Furthermore, reading skill greatly improves the quality of a person's writing. Being a good writer is vital to success, particularly in college.
Many classes require papers that require analysis and well-structured arguments, skills that reading helps build.
In addition to the practical application in the classroom, writing is extremely important in the professional world as well.
Those who can write clearly and concisely write better reports, a major asset to most employers.
It is important to use this Harry Potter opening to our advantage.
Reading can be powerfully beneficial. Although we may no longer regard it as a necessity, it is absolutely vital to our success.
Playing women’s soccer this year at Highline, even though it didn’t end in a championship, is an experience I will never forget.

I recently moved from Southern California in search of something different.

I found it.

I chose to play soccer at Highline because I wanted to play somewhere that had an atmosphere that made soccer fun again.

I played soccer last year for UC Riverside, which made soccer a job instead of something that I loved to do. Soccer was 24/7 and I didn’t have the chance to experience anything else.

Highline was a total change of pace.

This past season I was able to go to tests, have a job and play soccer without feeling too overwhelmed.

Back home, that would have been impossible. Soccer was always the priority and I never had the time to do anything else.

I was able to grow up a lot this year and take on more responsibilities.

Playing for Highline was the highlight of the year and something I will always remember. It started off rocky, but with most teams, that is expected.

Egos flared and cliques formed, but as the season progressed we all realized we were working toward the same goal: to win the NWACC championship, which would place a ring on each of our fingers showing off our accomplishment.

At the beginning of the season, it was all about that ring.

We wanted to be like the men’s team and wear it proudly. Later on, when we started to realize we could actually win, it became more about the team instead of each individual’s success.

We talked about it non-stop for the weeks leading up to the Final Four.

The team was inseparable in and out of school.

Girls would come to school saying that they had dreamed the night before about how the game played out. We talked about our opponents instead of normal things like the cute boy that had just walked by.

It was a great feeling, and we all wanted it so badly.

Then we lost in the semifinals. It was probably one of the hardest losses I have ever experienced.

Having that whistle blow and hearing all the screams, but then realizing they weren’t for Highline, was heartbreaking.

When you work so hard for something and talk about it for so long, it becomes second nature to you.

We came to practice each day and worked our butts off, and then it just ended.

I remember thinking to myself, “what do I do now that soccer is over?”

All that work for what? Third place? That wasn’t really something that was high on my list of things to accomplish this year.

Then, my teammates surrounded me with hugs and high fives, and I began to realize why I was playing in the first place. I, and every girl on our team, played for each other and nobody else.

We were playing for the way it feels when you step off that field and knowing you gave it 100 percent.

I remember the days after practice where it was hard for me to walk up the stairs to school, because of the intense workout the day before.

I also remember not caring, because I loved it and knew that I was becoming a better player that would be able to help the team.

We might not have won the championship, but the friends I gained and the experiences I went through with the girls on the team are priceless.

I will remember every joke, every “pre-game” before a big game and I’m sure no one will forget those Thursday nights when a win was celebrated.

The girls become my best friends, and that alone, has made my experience in Washington amazing.

Jessica Wilson was an all-star defender for the T-Birds.

Strive to do your best to realize your true potential.

Excuses are easy. We give ourselves a million reasons why we should not do something, worrying what people might think, or that we might fail. Fear can stop us from doing something dangerous or stupid, but it can also paralyze you from living your life.

At the core of our excuses for putting things off is just a veneer covering up our fear of the unknown. Most of us really want to talk this girl out. Well why don’t you? Because she might say no... Or worse yet she might say yes, and then what the hell do you do? It is easier to let life go by and imagine the what if’s, than to actually take a risk and look like a fool. There are plenty of really smart people out there who pull it’s not because they cannot do any better, but because they are afraid to apply themselves for the fear that they would get a C any way.

I could have done so much better if I had actually tried in that class... Prove it. Why not? Because you are afraid you can’t.

But so what if you can’t? What does it really change? If it is something you care about then keep at it until you get it. If not, then realize that the failure is only an event, not a definition of who you are.

Ask yourself what’s the point of doing something if you are not going to give it all? Sure it requires more work, but you will be surprised at how much you are able to accomplish when you throw yourself into it.

Finally live for yourself. Do stuff because you want to, not because you are trying to fit some social cliché. You need to define who you are, don’t expect and don’t let anyone else do it for you. If you present a confident attitude to the world then people will treat you accordingly. You can have control over your life if you want to; it is really as simple as that. You don’t always have a choice about what happens, it is what you do with what is given to you that defines who you are.

You can use your life as a crutch, making excuses for where you are or you can take what you have and make the best with it.

Not everyone is dealt an equal hand. In the constitution it says that we are all equal, but we aren’t. Not everyone will be able to become a millionaire, a doctor, a celebrity, but if you don’t work as hard as you can toward your goal then your failure is a forgone conclusion.

This was inspired by my late friend David Crowell, who lived every day like it would be his last and left with no regrets.

Keith Daigle is the Arts Editor for the Thunderword.
**ARTS**

**Review**

**LARA TOSCH**

**STAFF REPORTER**

Highline choir's full concert set high standards for the rest of the year's performances.

Tuesday's choir performance by Highline choir and music duo Kent Steadman and Cary Lung was an entertaining and interactive display of musical talent.

The show began with a student reading a story of a child about to leave home for greater things in the West.

During the first half of the concert, the choir sang seven traditional American songs.

Dressed in white shirts and black pants with red and blue accessories, the chorus lined up on bleachers in front of an American flag background.

I am anxious before the performance," said Eddie Sangabriel, a member of choir.

"Once we start it feels natural."

The choir took off with the anthem Star Spangled Banner.

Down By the Riverside, a famous American song, was the highlight of the choir's performance.

"I like it the most," said Alles Rittenhouse, a member of choir.

Rittenhouse led the choir's enthusiastic interpretation of the song by dancing to the music.

The choir's half of the performance finished with two solo songs.

One was Rory O'More, sung by Stephanie Gildart, soprano, along with Tiffany Burbach on the piano.

The second performers, Cary Lung and Kent Steadman, were introduced by choir director Dr. Sandra Glover simply as "old friends."

Steadman and Lung met each other through a, Kenny Hall, a mutual friend. Lung found Steadman and "resurrected" his musical talent.

The two have been performing together ever since.

Steadman and Lung performed pre-Revolutionary War American music with colonial instruments.

The instruments included the harmonica, dulcimer, dobro, and the mandolin.

The music they played "sounded kind of tribal," said Steadman.

The duo recreated songs such as Forked Ear, originally written by Hamlet.

Hamlet's music was never recorded, the only remains of his music are in tablature. The tablature has since been interpreted and recorded on the record Three Forks of Cumberland.

Lung and Steadman encouraged the audience to join in the music and recited the importance of playing music.

**Breeders Theater provides laughs for a cause**

**MARY K. EDISON**

**STAFF REPORTER**

Looking for a good laugh while benefiting a good cause? Attending an upcoming show by Breeders Theater may be just the thing you need after the craziness of the holiday season.

Breeders Theater will perform a musical/comedy production called Rescues Inc. In late January and February at E.B. Foote Winery in Burien.

The play's lyrics, music, and costumes are done by Highline staff members.

The Feb. 1 show will benefit the Breeders Theater Performing Arts scholarship at Highline.

"Rescues, Inc. is a fantasy about a damsel who is captured and held for ransom by an evil wizard, who then sets a dragon to watch over the maiden. Meanwhile her boyfriend, Sir Maza-lot, has hired Rescues, Inc. to try and get her back," said Dr. T.M. Sell, founder of Breeders Theater, who wrote the lyrics for the play.

Sell is a journalism/political science professor at Highline. His wife, Nancy Warren, Highline's director of workforce training, wrote the music.

Melissa Sell, an institutional advancement executive assistant at Highline, will do the costumes.

Highline psychology professor Sue Frantz designed the Breeders Theater Web site.

"So far, (the Breeders Theater) has only done my work, but the cast and directors deserve a lot of credit for making the work come to life and making it much better than it appears on paper," said T.M. Sell, who founded the theater in 1999.

The theater was formed with a benefit performance at Highline called Why/JK, a Millennium Mystery, and continues to benefit students.

"We give at least one scholarship a year to a college student majoring in some area of the performing arts," Sell said.

"We also have given stipends to several interns from the college.

Both the winery and Breeders Theater donate everything for the night (Feb. 1) to the scholarship fund. We often wish we had more applicants for the scholarship, but we've been able to help some very deserving students."

Students interested in applying for the Breeders Theater scholarship can apply through the College Foundation in the spring.

The production of Rescues. Inc. will be Breeders Theater's 10th production at E.B. Foote Winery, and the 15th production overall.

Highline graduates involved with the upcoming production include Jim Cooper, Carlos Calvo and Kirsten Ods. Other members of the production include: Eric Hartley, Julie Haakenson, Doug Knopp, Martin Mackenzie, Scott Green, Matt Loeberke, Patrick Allcorn, William Hammer, choreographer Patricia Britton and director J. Howard Boyd.

Tickets are on sale now and are $20 each, which includes the show, hors d'oeuvres and wine tasting.

Performances are at 7 p.m. Jan. 29, 30, 27, 28 and Feb. 1, 3 and 4, and at 2 p.m. Jan. 22 and 29 and Feb. 5.

"The wineery seats about 80 people, and we usually have sold-out shows," Sell said.

The show is open to all ages, but wine will be served only to those 21 and older.

Tickets are available at the winery, 127B S.W. 153d St., Burien; or at Corky Cellars, 22511 Marine View Drive in Des Moines.

Doors open 30 minutes before showtime, and it's festival seating.

For more information, visit: www.breeders.com or call E.B. Foote Winery at 206-242-3852, or Corky Cellars at 206-824-9462.
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
1. 4-Across plus 11-Down
3. Five times 9-Down
5. One-fourth of 1-Across
6. 16-Across plus 8-Down
10. 5-Across times 7-Down
13. Consecutive even digits in some order
14. 3-Across plus 5-Down
15. Three times 5-Down
16. A Down plus 3-Down
17. Four less than 15-Down
18. The first digit is the sum of the other digits
19. Same digit repeated
20. Sum of the digits of 6-Across
21. Consecutive digits rearranged
22. 5-Across plus 1-Down
23. Sixty more than 1-Down

DOWN
1. Nine less than 11-Down
2. Eight more than 12-Down
3. Same digit repeated
4. Nine times 3-Down
5. The first digit is the sum of the other digits
6. 19-Across minus 1-Down
7. Four less than 16-Down
8. The first digit is the sum of the other digits
9. Same digit repeated
10. Sum of the digits of 6-Across
11. Consecutive digits rearranged
12. 5-Across plus 1-Down
13. Sixty more than 1-Down

TV Fare
Across
1. Salad addition at times
5. Drivel
9. Stepped on
13. Mr. Boesky
14. Smell
15. Assistant
16. Rachel Green of Friends
19. Laser cartridge ingredient
20. Dog command
21. Parents, at times
22. Idiotorad need
23. A louise, e.g.
24. Wine storage place
27. Electrical insulation
28. Finch
31. Birdlike
32. Deep sleep
33. Gram
34. Dr. Niles Crane on Frasier
37. Promised land
38. Summer treats
39. ’twang
40. Danson of Cheers
41. Lanky
42. Emphasis
43. With 53 Down The West Wing actor
44. Chunk
45. Pugest Sound city
46. Fake
49. JFK abbreviation
52. Captain Frank Furillo’s show on NBC

Down
1. Island country of the Pacific 10 Pares
2. Fifty-fifty
3. Military vehicle
4. Texas Governor Richards
5. Money informally

CROSSWORD 101
By Ed Canty

6. Australian parrot
7. Doctor’s org.
8. Equalizes horses in a race
9. Sample
10. Baptistism, e.g.
11. Bad smell
12. Hideouts
14. Later
17. Greenland, for example
18. Greek letter
22. Executed
23. Marcel Marceau and others
24. West Point undergrad
25. Dodge
26. Survived
27. Victoria’s Secret employee
28. Scandinavian
29. Peruvian natives
30. Rowdy
32. Periodic event
33. Whiskers
35. Onondagan language
36. Busy-Var
37. '01 Pacific
38. NBC
39. Canine
40. Dresser
41. Hoodlum
42. List of candidates
43. Lounges about
44. Dresser
45. Hoodlum
46. Well-ventilated
47. Osbosh
48. Dried-up
49. Monetary unit
50. Our
51. Swiftly
52. See 33 Across
53. See 33 Across
54. Story hour place

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

Last Week’s Solution

Footloose

Audition Call!
The Hi-Liners will be holding auditions for:
Auditions will be held in early January. Detailed information will be on our website December 1st.
206-617-2152
www.hi-liners.org

Rational Numbers answers

CASH REDID PAPA ANTI AMOCQEGOION
PERT SCREENTEAIEST
EWE TESEM HAIDES
SLIDE RUDE
CASED PAKISTAN
RUTTY WATER MUM
IDES SIRETS TAR
SIS SLOTS RUTHS
POTBELLY AROSE
AILS STIFF
SPITS SCUD TOT
TEST MARKET TIVE
YELL CHOISEN
EPEE TONER DENT

The Thunderword
Chief Fishernow has NFL connections

BY JAME GROSSMANN STAFF REPORTER

Highline’s chief of security, Richard Fisher will have more than just turkey and gifts to be excited about this holiday season. This will be the first time in almost 16 years that Chief Fisher will have his entire family home for the holidays. However, Chief Fisher is not the only one excited about this.

For anyone who has followed the Seattle Seahawks the name Bryce Fisher may ring a bell.

Bryce, 28, is the youngest of Chief Fisher’s three sons and also one of the newest members of the Seahawks organization. In March, Bryce signed a free-agent contract with the Seahawks that will keep him in Seattle for the next four years.

Bryce played the previous three seasons as a member of the St. Louis Rams organization.

“This means a lot to me, all three of my boys will be home for the holidays,” said Chief Fisher. “It is probably a bigger deal for Bryce. He is looking forward to grandma’s cooking.”

The Fisher family, aunts, uncles, cousins, nephews and nieces all met at Chief Fisher’s sisters house for their Thanksgiving meal. Bryce brought a special guest in teammate Kevin Bentley to join in the meal.

“This was like any Thanksgiving,” said Chief Fisher. “It was good just to have everybody together.”

Bryce was drafted curtuf of the Air Force Academy in 1999 by the Buffalo Bills in the seventh round (241st pick overall). After fulfilling his two-year active duty commitment to the Air Force, Bryce joined the Bills in 2001. By cutting his active duty short Bryce is required to serve nine years of reserve duty in the Air National Guard.

On November 1, Bryce was sworn in as a captain in the Washington State Air National Guard.

Bryce made an immediate impact in the season opener for the Bills against the New Orleans Saints. He finished with two tackles and a sack.

“I knew he was a decent ball-player, but against New Orleans is when I realized that he could play at the professional level,” said Chief Fisher.

Bryce grew up in the Renton area and attended Seattle Prep, where he excelled both in the classroom and on the football field. He was a three-year letter-winner and named to both the offensive and defensive all-Metro league teams. During his senior year, Bryce was a team captain and named the leagues “Lineman of the Year.”

Despite the awards and recognition from his peers, Bryce was not highly recruited out of Seattle Prep.

“The University of Washington wanted Bryce to walk on,” said Chief Fisher. “The Air Force Academy happened to stumble upon him while scouting an opposing team’s running back.”

“When Bryce left Seattle Prep he was a little fat kid,” said Chief Fisher. “Bryce’s position coach at the Air Force Academy made him into the player he is.”

Bryce was a two-year starter on the Falcons defensive line. He started 24 of 31 games and was named the Western Athletic Conference Defensive Player of the Year in the Mountain Division during his senior season.

However, during his sophomore year, thoughts of leaving the academy crossed his mind.

“His sophomore year was hard,” said Chief Fisher. “Quitting crossed my mind, but he talked to his mom and his mom told him to give it a year to try anything before so why start now. So, Bryce decided to tough it out.”

Bryce has proven that he is a hard worker and dedication that he put in at the Air Force Academy was just the beginning. While Bryce is in the midst of his fifth season and is on the verge of setting career highs in tackles and sacks, there is something that stands out more in his dad’s eyes.

“The fact that he completed the Air Force Academy is what I am most proud of,” said Chief Fisher.

Bryce’s two older brothers Roy, 37, and Anthony, 29, will also be around for the holidays. Like any brothers growing up they had their share of sibling rivalry, but have grown into good friends.

Bryce isn’t the only one of the brothers to make it big. Roy played professional basketball for eight years in Europe. Roy was a star basketball athlete at Highlands High School in Burien before moving onto University of California where he remained ranked in the top ten in eight categories. Roy was also the recipient of the Vernon M. Smith Memorial Trophy in 1988 which is awarded to the teams most improved athlete.

While the main goal for any professional athlete is to play for their league championship Chief Fisher has a different dream for Bryce.

“More than playing in the Super Bowl, I would like to see him play in the Pro Bowl,” said Chief Fisher. “The Pro Bowl is the showcase of individual accomplishment. It is validation from your peers and the fans.”

While the 2006 Pro Bowl is still two and a half months and many votes have yet to be cast, Bryce is making heads turn with his play on the field. Through 11 games he has 38 tackles (28 solo), seven and a half sacks, and four pass deflections.

Bryce and the rest of the crew are causing havoc for the rest of the league as the Seahawks have rebounded from two losses earlier in the season to lead the NFC at 9-2.

Women’s basketball hopes to shine over break

BY RAP COX STAFF REPORTER

The road trip this weekend for the women’s basketball team has more than one purpose.

“We are going to Walla Walla this weekend to play in the Warrior Classic,” said Amber Rowe, the head coach. “It is not a tournament, but we will play two very good teams. We play Walla Walla and Treasure Valley Community College. It is a good way for us to play against good competition as well as have some quality team bonding on such a long road trip.”

Highline went 2-1 in the season-opening Shoreline Tournament (Nov. 18-20), but Rowe said there is still room for improvement.

“I was happy with the way the team played,” Rowe said. “We have things to work on, but that is to be expected. All of the girls are learning their new roles and contributing.”

“Allison Maas is playing great. She is our leading scorer and was on the all-tournament team at Shoreline. We have also been very happy with Ashley Cavalieri’s performance so far this year. She is coming off the bench and giving us a scoring lift. Freshman DeNay Boswell has stepped up at the point guard position and is developing nicely.”

Although happy with the play of some individuals, she thinks the team can achieve more.

“I am happy with the team, but I think we should be farther along,” said Rowe. “We have had a lot of inconsistencies at practice (injuries, illness, drama, etc.), which makes it hard to have everyone on the same page all the time.”

Coach Rowe is looking for more leadership.

“I am still looking for some of our sophomores to step up and play a little bit better, but I am happy with the way our new girls are coming along,” said Rowe.

The team chemistry is so great this year,” said Christine Kim. “Everyone gets along so well. It is better to not know

See Women, page 9
The Yates era comes to an end at Highline

Robert Yates, coach of the cross country and track and field programs at Highline for the last four and half years, has been fired.

Ivan Gorne, Vice President of Student Services, made the decision not to retain Yates. He would not divulge why the move was made, but said the position was on a one-year contract.

The firing comes just a couple of months before Highline begins competing in indoor track meets. The outdoor track season begins in March.

Yates returned the Highline track teams to their once-dominant position during his tenure.

While at Highline, Yates coached several All-Americans, led Highline to a track championship in 2004, took third place at cross country in 2003 and 2004 and coached several individual champions in both cross country and track.

At the 2003 cross country championship meet, Yates was named men's coach of the year. The 2004 track season was his most memorable for Yates.

After leading the men to its first team title since 1989, Yates once again was named men's coach of the year. Larry Brenny of Spokane took the women's honor.

"It's very unfortunate that this has happened," said Yates. "I knew this was coming and it has been planned all quarter. It was supposed to happen before track season in the spring, but I fought it and I was able to stay.

Yates said one of the things that led to his firing was the hiring of Connie Johnson as one of his assistants for the 2004-05 school year.

Johnson had been an assistant to Athletic Director John Dunn prior to becoming an assistant to Yates.

"It was a difference of philosophies and Connie's hire was one of the reasons," said Yates.

Dunn said he did not know why Yates was let go.

"I was informed of the decision to fire Yates, but I have no idea what led to this," said Dunn. "All of his assistants will not be back except for Les Black and we will not know anything until January."

It is still unclear how Yates' dismissal will affect the school.

"You never know how this will affect the school," said Dunn. "In my 15 years here, we have hired a lot of people and a lot have left, so you never know what the effect will be."

Both cross country and track programs will be reviewed by the school.

"The evaluation will determine how they serve both the college and the students," said Gorne. "It's very possible that both sports will be back next year."

Coach Yates took over the program in 2001.

Before coming to Highline, Yates spent time coaching both the collegiate and high school level.

At the collegiate level, he spent two years at the Commu- nity Colleges of Spokane as an assistant.

While at Spokane he worked with nine all-Americans in cross country and 12 in track.

In the high school ranks, coach Yates began his career at his alma mater, University High School.

After spending three years at University High, Yates moved to the Portland/Vancouver area and took over at Ridgefield High School.

After four-and-half years as the head coach for cross country and track, coach Yates will not return for the winter or spring terms.

Women continued from page 8

the other team so we can just do what we do best, and not have to worry about them to much.

"We have learned a new offense this week and we're excited to put to it to work this weekend," said Kim. "It will be good to see if the team can stay focused on an away trip and take care of themselves."

Next up for the Lady T-Birds will be a showdown against Shoreline at home on Friday Dec. 9 at 6 p.m.

The Highline women's team will also be busy during winter break with seven games on the schedule, six of which will be played in two tourneys.

The first tourney for the Lady T-Birds will be the cross-over tourney at home. The other seven teams expected to play are Lane, Umpqua, Big Bend, Gray's Harbor, Shoreline, Wenatchee Valley, and Olympic.

After the crossover tourney, Highline will play Bellevue at home on Dec. 21. Tip off is at 6 p.m.

After the Bellevue showdown, Highline will play in the Cheney C.C. Tournament Dec. 27-29. In its first game, Highline will battle Yakima CC.

If Highline beats Yakima, it's next game will be Dec. 28 with a spot in the title game on the line.

The Yates era comes to an end at Highline

Women continued from page 8

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If Highline beats Yakima, it's next game will be Dec. 28 with a spot in the title game on the line.
Athletics start year with highs and lows

Here we are at the end of another quarter and things remain interesting in the Highline sports world.

The men’s soccer team came off its first NWAACC championship to compile one of its best seasons, finishing as the NWAACC West Division Champions at 16-1-1. However, Coach Jason Prenovost’s part came back to haunt him as the T-Birds lost in the first round to Wenatchee Valley, 2-1. The game remained tied 1-1 after two overtimes and was sent to a shootout. Wenatchee Valley hit four of its five shots and the T-Birds were only able to net three. This marked the sixth time that Prenovost and the T-Birds have lost a playoff game that went to a shootout.

The Lady T-Birds also had continued success as they won the Western Division crown. The women finished with a record of 11-2-3 and finished third overall in the playoffs. This was a vast improvement over last year’s disappointing loss in the playoffs to Edmonds. What may have helped was the addition of Teddy Mitalas as assistant coach. Mitalas brought extra guidance that was missing last year. The Highline cross country teams compiled for a fourth-place finish at the NWAACC Cross Country Championships. This was also the first time in two years that Highline did not have an individual champion. However, late breaking news says that their will be some changes next year as Coach Robert Yates has been relieved of his position. Good luck to Coach Yates and wherever the road may take him.

The Lady T-Birds volleyball team took the good with the bad as they were able to pull together a squad when it appeared that it was going to be too long a season with only a few players. They pulled together and made the best of the situation as they finished 11-1.

Expectations remain high as the winter sports get underway. Women’s basketball will be looking to bounce back after a disappointing finish to last years season. In the third round of the playoffs the Lady T-Birds played a hard fought battle against division rival Lower Columbia only to lose it in the final moments 59-58. This year the team looks to return to the Tri-Cities for the NWAACC Tournament and will have a chip on their shoulder to help them get there. The team has added some size in the form of Moana Tallea and Grace Dobson. The team lost Shelby Avana and Megan Triller but will be looking to the recruits to fill the void.

The men’s team has a new look as it added nine freshmen to the squad. The men will look to the four returners, Nathan Jackson, Xinix Skyward, Jesse Campbell, and Loden Carter to lead the team. The T-Birds finished 8-4 in league last year and 12-14 overall. They are off to a 2-1 start and were the champions at the Skagit Valley Tournament for the second year in a row.

Western is without their national champion from last year as Yura Malamara elected to redshirt this year and save the extra year of eligibility for when he transfers next year. They will be looking to make an impressive show and will have their sights set on the NFCAA tournament at the end of the season.

What the rest of the year holds has yet to be determined. One thing is certain; the rest of the year will be filled with both excitement and let down. Let us just hope that there is more to be excited about than there is to be frowned about.

This is Jamie’s final column for the T-Ward. Really!

- Jamie Grossmann

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### Off the Bench

**Jamie Grossmann**

### Scoreboard

#### Mens basketball

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>North</th>
<th>League</th>
<th>Ovrl.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bellevue</td>
<td>0-0</td>
<td>3-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edmonds</td>
<td>0-0</td>
<td>2-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everett</td>
<td>0-0</td>
<td>3-1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Olympic</td>
<td>0-0</td>
<td>3-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peninsula</td>
<td>0-0</td>
<td>2-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seattle</td>
<td>0-0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Skagit Vly.</td>
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#### Women's basketball

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<tr>
<td>SW Oregon</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Umpqua</td>
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<td>1-4</td>
</tr>
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</table>

#### Scores

- Yakima Valley 94, Seattle 80
- Everett 86, Tacoma 83
- Spokane 78, Edmonds 69
- Portland 105, Umpqua 73
- Clackamas 83, Olympia 73
- Lower Columbia 96, Eastern 85
- Utah 95
- Lane 90, Pierce 73

- Washington Athletic Club 83
- Shoreline 79

#### Women's basketball

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>North</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Skagit Valley 71</td>
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<tr>
<td>Green River 44</td>
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<td>0-0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Big Bend 100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Whitworth JV 52</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shoreline 79</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grey’s Harbor 46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Umpqua 73</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clackamas 80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blue Mountain 55</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### Eastern League

| Big Bend        | 0-0        | 3-1   |
| Blue Mt.       | 0-0        | 4-1   |
| Col. Basin     | 0-0        | 1-5   |
| Spokane        | 0-0        | 6-0   |
| Treasure Vly.  | 0-0        | 8-0   |
| Walla Walla    | 0-0        | 1-2   |
| Wenatchee Vly. | 0-0        | 0-5   |
| Yakima Valley  | 0-0        | 3-3   |

#### South League

| Chemeketa      | 0-0        | 4-0   |
| Clackamas      | 0-0        | 3-1   |
| Chevron        | 0-0        | 3-2   |
| Edmonds        | 0-0        | 2-1   |
| Mt. Hood       | 0-0        | 1-1   |
| Portland       | 0-0        | 2-2   |

| Clackamas 69   | 0-0        | 3-1   |
| Lane 40        | 0-0        | 2-3   |
| Linn-Benton    | 0-0        | 0-2   |
| Mt. Hood       | 0-0        | 2-3   |
| Portland       | 0-0        | 2-3   |
Ping-Pong becomes a daily sport for some

BY STEVE PROTTE

The room fills with the sound of laughter and ping pong balls. Everybody is having a good time, whether they are playing or waiting for a table.

Table tennis became a club fall quarter and they meet every day in the Student Union building at about 1 p.m.

Vice President Ash Tran plays everyday.

“We just love the sport,” Tran said. “Before, we had only one table and we would just rally. Now we have two tables and now we’re an actual club.”

“We have about 40 members in the club right now,” Tran said. “But anybody is welcome to come and play.”

Although there is a club, nobody is excluded from playing.

“It’s easy to become a member,” said Tran. “All you need is to submit your name, e-mail address, and phone number.”

One of the perks of being a member is being put on the club rankings. On the far wall lies a bulletin board where the names are tacked up in order of their ranking. Tran lies in second spot, but is not concerned with moving up.

“Most of the matches we play are friendly matches,” said Tran. “If people do want to move up they can do a challenge match where they play someone above them.”

One problem is the lack of women in the club. Of the 40 members, only two of them are female.

Amanda Lewis plays often, and is not worried about the lack of women.

“The guys play with me even though I’m an amateur,” said Lewis. “I just don’t like waiting to play.”

Another regular, Isaac Koto, doesn’t think it’s important how good anybody is.

“When we play amateurs we just rally with them and try to make them better,” said Koto. “If we tried our hardest it wouldn’t even be close, so it would be kind of pointless.”

The main problem facing the club is the short play time. With forty members and two tables, it is difficult for everybody to play as much as they want.

To counter this, the club is open on Saturdays.

“It’s all about just having fun and loving the sport,” said Tran.

Whistler trip for students

BY DANIEL PALERMO

The International Student Program is inviting people on a three-day getaway Dec. 9-11 to Whistler Blackcomb, British Columbia.

Whistler, outside Vancouver, B.C., is the largest and top-rated ski resort in North America.

“The reason we are doing this trip is to give international students a fun vacation outside of the U.S.,” said Aisha Hassan. “Also for all students to have an affordable, fun and exciting weekend trip.”

The trip is still open to everyone at Highline and the community as well.

“There are about 20 spots left on the bus,” Hassan said.

“There is plenty of room.”

For those who don’t ski or snowboard, there are plenty of other activities, including ice skating, sleigh rides, snowmobiling, indoor rock climbing and world-class shopping.

This trip includes two nights’ accommodation, two lift tickets, round-trip transportation with movies on route, beverages, prizes and destination snow guides.

Hassan said cost will be calculated based on the number of people to a room, plus extras like equipment rental or lessons.

A driver’s license and birth certificate or a passport is required to cross the Canadian border.

Plans are to leave Highline in the late morning or early afternoon Friday, Dec. 9 and to return around 8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11.

For information contact Hassan at abhasan@highline.edu or see her in International Student Programs located in Building 6.

New class offered on the weekend for Highline’s art lovers

BY JESSICA WILSON

Can’t make it to Highline for weekday classes next quarter? No need to worry, Highline will be offering a new Arts 100 course on Saturdays.

Rob Droessler will teach the class, which will meet from 9 a.m. to 1:25 p.m.

“I actually didn’t pick when the class meets,” Droessler said. “But I think students who are serious about their education, but have to work a lot, will take the class.”

Droessler said some students have trouble finding classes that fit their schedules, due to jobs that take up a lot of time during the week. Holding the course on Saturdays creates more options for students with busy schedules.

“The main reason for this class is to provide more opportunities for students to get the credits they need,” said Droessler.

“Having a Saturday class opens more time for students who have full schedules during the week.”

The class will involve a lot of hands-on work and art activities.

Interested individuals do not need to have previous art experience, and a majority of the class will be online.

“I think the students will enjoy this course,” Droessler said. “We will have a lot of fun making art in class, and the online portion gives the students the ability to get their work done within their busy schedules.”

“This class will be informative and lots of fun, even for students who have no art experience,” said Droessler.

GOT ADS?

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The top ten Christmas movies

Tradition continues as holiday ships take to Sound

Christmas Ships started in 1949

BY ALCIA MENDREZ
STAFF REPORTER

Imagine tirelessly lit winter holiday decorations floating on Puget Sound. You do not have to imagine it: The annual Christmas Ship Festival will travel Puget Sound waters from Dec. 1-23.

This event was started in 1949 by Lynn Campbell as Spring Street Water Taxi (now Argosy Cruises). It is the largest Christmas fleet in the world. As many as nine ships will visit 45 waterfronts across the region.

Spirits of Seattle, 115 feet long, leads the fleet and will be joined by ships like the Royal Argosy, at a whopping 180 feet, to the smaller Land Mary (98 feet).

Passengers aboard the ships will enjoy decorated dining rooms, ballroom floors, and scenic views of the water.

Each night, different choirs will be aboard the Spirit of Seattle, their holiday music broadcast to the other ships and to the waterfronts visited by the fleet.

People can buy tickets to cruise the Sound or pay nothing and watch from the shore.

Ticket prices run from $21-99 for adults and from $11-49 for children, depending on which ship and which day.

A portion of all proceeds will be given to the Seattle Times Fund for the Needy, which supports various nonprofit organizations.

The ships will visit the Des Moines waterfront on board on Dec. 7.

For more information and a complete schedule, see www.Argosycruises.com.

Cheryl Chase starred in Christmas Vacation, a movie about a severely dysfunctional family in the throes of having a good Christmas.
Giving shoes for a good cause

BY BRINTON SLAEBER STAFF REPORTER

Shoes aren't something that most people worry about. For children in Mazatlan, Mexico though, shoes can be enough to make a happy holiday season.

Every year for the past eight years Phil Droke, the economic coordinator at Highline, has brought money to children in the town of Mazatlan, Mexico. The donations are then used for shoes, school supplies and anything else they may need.

"What you do is you pick up a footprint from kids, and you get a whole family and then you go to the store and find shoes to fit that footprint," Droke said. 

"Then you box them up and you can put in some candy and some school supplies and things like that, then they gather all these things up and then take them out to one of several poor neighborhoods."

Droke began donating years ago when vacuuming in Mazatlan and happened to come across this unique opportunity.

"I was down in Mazatlan looking around for something to do and I heard about this shoe program," said Droke. 

For Droke, the shoe donation has been a way good way of giving during the holidays and has replaced a traditional Christmas that most are familiar with.

"I stepped doing Christmas at home," Droke said. "I don't give presents to any of my relatives, they've got enough stuff. When I heard this was happening there I thought 'well you know, it is Christmas, it might be nice to do something worthwhile for somebody.'"

When Droke came back after the first year he found that others wanted to help too.

"The next year I said something about it to somebody and they said 'well we'd like to do that too, but you were too busy hanging out on the beach so they just gave me the money," said Droke.

Over the years, the word has gotten around Highline about the charity, which has helped the effort grow as many have made charitable donations.

"It's mostly faculty donating, if students want to I've got nothing against using their money to buy shoes," said Droke. "It started with some friends and then they said 'why don't you tell everybody?'"

The effort has been successful over the years and has consistently brought in around $800 to donate to the children of Mazatlan. The money has been enough to help children not only through the holidays but also throughout the entire year. The money that is left over is donated to the "Make a Child Smile" project.

"What I do is I buy some shoes then I donate the money to these guys and then they buy shoes all year round," Droke said.

Any amount of money is gladly accepted although about $25 is an ideal amount for shoes and other necessities for one child.

"Just bring me the money and I'll put it in the envelope and see that they get it to the right place," Droke said. "There's a certain amount of trust involved here, I could just be stealing the money and buying tequila or something... but I just can't bring myself to do that."

In order for the donations to make it to Mazatlan by the holidays they must be given to Droke by Dec. 8. Although money can be sent year round, Droke prefers bringing the donation down in person.

"I like to see the smile on their face when you hand them the money," Droke said "it's a fun thing to do."

For anybody interested in making a donation or for further information on opportunities for donations in Mazatlan visit www.pacificpearl.com or contact Phil Droke at 206-678-3710 ext. 3957 or visit him in his office in Building 11, room 204.

Bring in the holidays with ballroom dancing club

BY ALEX CANAH STAFF REPORTER

Ballroom dancing is a staple at some holiday balls. A good place to learn might be the ballroom dancing club at Highline.

Starting winter quarter, students can join the club, which meets Friday mornings at 9 a.m. in Building 27, in the space adjoining the locker rooms.

"We just like to dance and we want to share that with others," said co-president Erica McLean.

According to the purpose statement written by McLean and Jessica Kim, the club's purpose is to cultivate the growing interest of students in social partner dances, to educate students on the origins and history of various dances, and on the proper technique with which to perform them. They also will provide a practice space for student members of the Pacific Ballroom Dance Company to work on the routines and improve their dancing skills.

Dances that go under the ballroom dance category include the cha-cha, tango, waltz, swing, foxtrot, salsa, mambo, New York hustle, polka, masquerade, and more.

"We will probably teach most of those dances," said McLean.

"Definitely swing, cha-cha, New York hustle, and salsa. And polka would be fun too."

Students can simply show up at the meetings to participate. No experience is needed, and no paperwork needs to be filled out.

While there will be a lot of dancing at the club meetings, the events will be educational as well.

"We're going to start with a brief history on where the dance we're going to learn came from and it's history," said McLean. "For example, the cha-cha came from Brazil, and we'd talk about how that dance formed in Brazil and how it spread."

"After that we'll probably start to teach the basic steps of the dance. Then we'll partner up and teach some moves."

This club is similar to the Swing club already in place, but it meets here on campus, and it is more diverse in its dances.

Co-presidents McLean and Monelly Esteich, and Treasurer Mary Lukasian, will be instructing everyone on the steps to the dances. McLean has been ballroom dancing for three years, and Esteich and Lukasian have been dancing for over a year.

All three girls perform for the Pacific Ballroom Dance Company, a non-profit organization based in Federal Way, as well as many other club members.

The club won't be run quite like the PBDC (which divides the dancers into groups based on skill level), but much of what the club practices will have come from the company.

The club will become official after the Club Recognition meeting that will be held on Jan. 11, 2006.

The club is just for fun and practice right now. "We haven't made any plans as far as performances yet, but we would like to perform on campus once we get something together," said McLean.

For more information, you can email McLean at forget_me_not88@hotmail.com.
AUSTIN MACKENZIE
STAFF REPORTER

The concept of Christmas is a large part of American culture, but very few are really aware of its history. Not only is it an important tradition to Christians all over the world, Christmas is also derived from many ancient traditions and cultures, many of which no longer exist today.

The concept of a virgin birth, widely agreed upon by most Christian sects, is by no means a new one.

To be born of a virgin mother was considered to be a mark of divinity in the ancient world, and is prevalent in many mythologies such as Krishna of the Hindus and Vishnu the Buddha. Also to have claimed virgin birth were some real-life emperors such as Nero and Alexander the Great.

While generally regarded as the day Jesus Christ was born, the origin of the date is attributed instead to Roman celebrations. The Roman feast Saturnalia was a popular Roman festival that included many of the traditions we include in Christmas today such as the exchange of gifts and the decoration of homes with evergreens. It was a week long event from Dec. 17 through Dec. 24.

Also contributing to the establishment of the date was the large number of pagan converts to Christianity who were unwilling to give up the Winter Solstice celebration, which occurred during Saturnalia.

With the ascension of Emperor Constantine and his efforts to solidify Christian doctrine, Constantine declared Dec. 25 an empire-wide feast day.

The evolution of the feast into a celebration of the birth of Christ can be attributed to the coinciding celebrations of the birth of the Greek god Dionysus, also born of a virgin, and the celebration of both the Nativity the Epiphany in Eastern Christian churches on Jan. 6.

The Nativity and Epiphany encompass the birth of Jesus and the subsequent visit by the Magi, as well as his baptism by John the Baptist.

The date was eventually changed into a week long Advent by the Council of Tours, which occurred from Dec. 25 to Jan. 6, the 12 days of Christmas that we see still present in our culture today in the form of a popular Christmas song.

The evolution of the holiday customs we see today are deeply rooted in several different cultures. Many of the traditions originated from either Roman or Germanic pagan traditions, although a few were actual products of Christianity.

The concept of a Christmas tree, as well as the use of plants such as holly and mistletoe to represent the holiday originated from Yule, the pagan celebration of the Winter Solstice which was extremely popular around the time that Christmas was popularized.

Instead of suppressing the celebration, Pope Gregory I instead decided to allow the harmless parts of the tradition in an attempt to increase acceptance of Christianity.

In addition, he also chose to give Christian significance to some of the pagan traditions, again to increase the acceptance of Christianity and also to educate the pagans in the ways of Christianity.

This idea was not totally accepted, and some of the more conservative Christian theologues suppressed such celebrations.

Even today, some conservative Christian sects such as the Jehovah's Witnesses and some Puritan groups do not celebrate Christmas because of its pagan origins.

The concept of Santa Claus evolved around a fourth century bishop by the name of Nicholas of Myra who was known for secretly distributing presents to families.

Nicholas of Myra, who lived in what is now Turkey, was later canonized by the church, and several differing legends evolved from his story.

In the Dutch legend, Sinterklaas, was brought to America when they still owned New Amsterdam, which we now call New York. Sinterklaas was still depicted as a man who dressed in bishop's robes, but he bore some resemblance to the present-day Santa Claus, from whom the name is derived.

Sinterklaas was depicted as a man who wore red, rode a white horse, and climbed down chimneys to deposit gifts into the shoes of children. Sinterklaas was said to come from Spain in a steam boat, and he was accompanied by his helpers, the Zwarte Pieten.

The Zwarte Pieten, or "Black Peters," were regarded as beings that would beat bad children with rods or take them back to Spain with them.

The British legend of Father Christmas, which is still the official name of Santa Claus in England today, was a fat bearded man who wore green robes. He was generally portrayed as a jolly and cheerful man, a deacon for which much of the "Christmas Spirit" is derived from. The Santa Claus of today is an amalgamation of many old legends. The first emergence of the American Santa Claus was in Washington Irving's "History of New York."

In this version, Santa Claus was portrayed as a fat Dutch sailor who wore a green winter robe and smoked a pipe. Santa Clays changed several more times after this initial Americanization, the color of his dress changing multiple times before finally settling on red.

He later lost the horse, which was replaced by the reindeer and sleigh, and the Black Peters, based off Moorish slaves, were replaced with elves.

Many of the Christmas decorations have their roots in the Roman Saturnalia celebration and the pagan Winter Solstice.

A major contribution to the present-day Christmas tree was the use of the Paradise Tree in the medieval morality plays. One of the most popular of plays was Adam and Eve, the only prop being an evergreen tree called the Paradise Tree.

The modern concept of a decorated Christmas tree saw great popularization in 1841 when Prince Albert had fully decorated Christmas trees erected not only in Windsor Castle but also in schools and army barracks after his marriage to Queen Victoria in 1840.

This became extremely popular in England, although it did not make much of an impact in America.

While the Germans had been using and decorating Christmas trees since the early 18th century, it did not become popular among Americans until the 19th Century.

Christmas trees were not lighted until 1882 when a college of Thomas Edison created a string of electric lights that were safe to hang around a tree. This practice became popular in the early 20th century.

Especially within the past few decades, Christmas has become less of a Christian holiday and more of a secular celebration.

It remains a national holiday, due to the greater Christian influence in America when Christmas was popularized.

Today, the holiday is a major source of income for most retail stores, and the cause of a great deal of stress for many holiday shoppers.
Spend a dollar or less on your gifts for your holiday list

BY ALEX CAHAN
STAFF REPORTER

Ah, the holiday season—time to go out and buy presents for people. But let’s face it; you don’t even like half the people you’re buying gifts for—at least not $10 worth.

Did you buy something for your ex-girlfriend’s little sister who’s actually dating your current girlfriend’s little brother just because it seemed like a good idea at the time?

Come on—there are better things to spend money on, like food, clothes and music for your self.

The following is a list of gifts you can get for under a dollar. These suggestions can make you appear to be generous without breaking your wallet.

10—Toilet-paper Santa
Take a roll of toilet paper, two matches, a black felt pen, and a scrap of something red. Tape the matches in position of arms on the roll, draw a Santa face and beard, and tape the red thing to his forehead.

9—Paperclip reindeer
Actually a misnomer—90 percent of this mass is rubber erasers. Take a big pink eraser, a little pencil top eraser, three paper clips and a staple.

If you don’t have any of these things, just steal them from a friend, stranger, or store vendor.

Use the staple to hold the head (little eraser) on the body (big eraser). Unfold and stick the three paper clips all the way through the erasers, forming two legs and antlers.

Voilà! A reindeer! Toilet-paper Santa can be proud of.

8—Used socks
Contrary to popular belief, you can never have enough socks. Used socks are especially nice since they are already broken in. Help your friend jump start their emergency supply.

7—Handmade card
Nothing says “I’m a poor college student” like a homemade card. Perfect for the nice old lady down the hall who bakes you cookies every other week. Clearly she has no grandchildren to love if she’s making cookies for you. Remind her of this by making your card on construction paper with a crayon. Add various misspellings and backwards letters to make it more authentic.

6—Poetry
Write your friend some straight-from-the-heart poetry. This is always priceless. The easiest method is to write a limerick.

Just work their name in somehow, to show you really care. There once was a Seth from Nantucket...

5—Paper Airplanes
More fun than you’d think. Also, there are hundreds of varieties for your hundreds of friends. Fly them near a balcony or ceiling fan and be a kid again!

4—Old Halloween candy
This is good because you didn’t pay for it in the first place. If you haven’t eaten it, you probably aren’t going to.

Give it to someone else, and market it as new holiday candy. They won’t know the difference.

3—Illegally downloaded music
You’re doing it anyway; you may as well make it seem charitable.

2—Grasshoppers
Take a handful of staples (preferably an even number) and twist them together in pairs. The finished product should have a ‘pointy end’ sticking up in four different directions.

This way, no matter how your friend scatters them around the carpet, a pointy end will be sticking up. Guarantee hours of fun for whoever lays them. Don’t give to any friends who might be bitter.

1—Pet Rock
Bellbottom, shaggy hair, and Happy Days on DVD—clearly the 1970’s are coming back. Your friends can be the first on their block to start a new revival trend.

Tell them you went outside, caught and tamed a wild one. That way you look hardcore, and their pet rock can be the talk of the town. Everyone wins!

“Tis the season to be jolly and you’ll be especially jolly with all the money you saved.

Everyone else might think you’re a jerk, but that’s why you didn’t spend real money on them in the first place.

Also, if you don’t celebrate Christmas, with some creativity these gifts can be used for Chanukah, Kwanzaa, or funerals. Enjoy!

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO THE
THUNDERWORD STAFF

TO THE STAFF,

THANK YOU FOR ALL THE GREAT MEMORIES AND HARD WORK. YOU ALL ARE TRULY APPRECIATED.

THE MANY LONG NIGHTS AND DAYS WERE ALL WORTH IT. JUST REMEMBER, A GREAT MAN ONCE SAID “THERE ARE NO BAD TIMES, ONLY BAD TIMES.” ALWAYS FOLLOW YOUR DREAMS AND GOOD LUCK. DON’T FORGET TO TELL TAKING ABOUT MEMORIES ON WEDNESDAYS!

ALWAYS, OLIVER W. LOON

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CONTINUED FROM A4

Christmas proved perilous for some students.

“I was helping my mom lift the Christmas tree with my left arm, thinking it wasn’t very heavy,” said Jerry Jones. “The next morning my whole left arm was broken or something I couldn’t even move it. It took three months to heal.”

“When I was little we used to actually get to live a tree and chop it down. One year my dad cut himself with the axe,” said Alex Ivan.

“I got a remote control truck and I was driving it towards myself and jumping over it, but I landed on it and fell on my face into a cupboard and had to get six stitches,” said Ryan Flesch.

Some students got their ultimate present for Christmas.

Abraham Watson a Highline student remembers getting his first bass guitar for Christmas one year.

“Walhao,” said, a 14-year-old Watson said.

Watson quickly learned to play Tax Man by the Beatles and has been playing the bass ever since.

“When I was 12, I got a Nintendo 64 for Christmas,” said Adrian Parry. “I was really excited and I went to plug it in but the voltage in Germany is 220 instead of 110 so I blew it up. Then I cried.”

Compiled done by Michelle Erickson, Chris Brooks, Alex Caham, Lara Tosch, Ralph Cox, and Daniel Palermo.