

HOLIDAY SCOOP

The Thunderword



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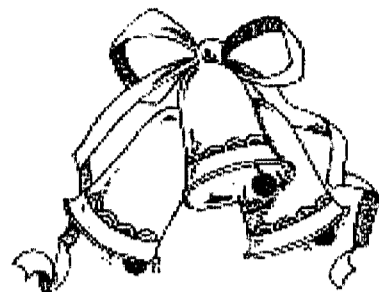


December 1, 2005

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Extra! Extra!

Shoppers Delight!



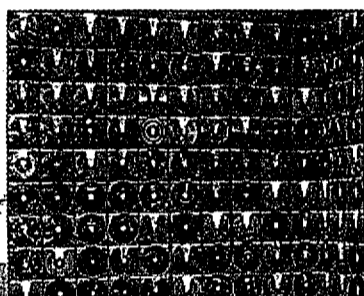
By STEVIE FRINK

STAFF REPORTER

10 Gifts under \$10

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 cubicle, 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, polypro 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 each, available at www.wonderfullywacky.com.

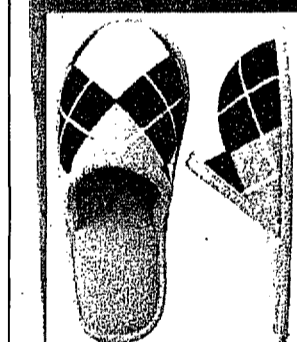


Homemade cookies are not only a simple gift but a yummy gift. Plan a time to bake cookies with friends and family for a fun holiday activity. Recipe ideas can be found at www.southernfood.about.com or www.cookierecipesonline.com.

Earrings, necklaces, pendants and bags in the latest styles and colors are available at any Claire's location or claires.com.



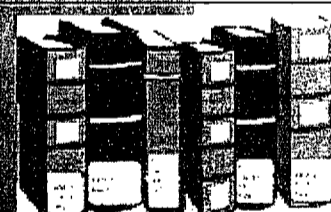
Buy your friend or family member popcorn and watch. Visit www.bestbuy.com or www.blockbuster.com.



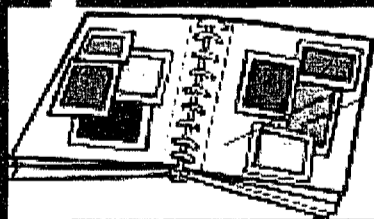
Favorite iPods. Help your friends and family find their favorite iPods. Visit www.bestbuy.com or www.cshaby.com.



Favorite books. It is definitely one of the most popular gifts. Visit www.amazon.com or www.backlist.com for more information.



Scrapbooks. Help your friends and family put together some memories of your favorite times spent with this person. For them all together in a book of memories and the memories will last forever.



Favorite candy. Buy your friend or family member at least chocolate. Visit www.candy.com for more information.



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.americanexpress.com or www.visa.com.



HOLIDAY SCOOP

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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
1 (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

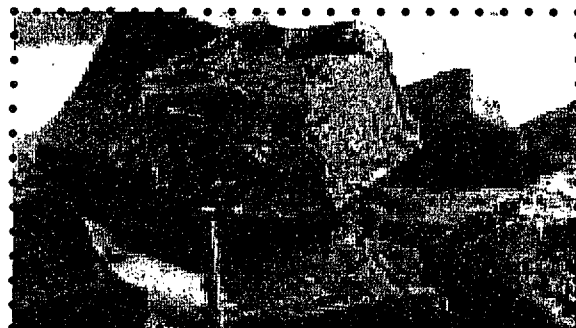
3 eggs
1 cup oil
2 cups shredded raw zucchini
1 3/4 cups sugar
1/4 teaspoon baking powder
2 teaspoons baking soda
2 teaspoons cinnamon
1 teaspoon salt
2 teaspoons vanilla
1 cup chopped nuts
2 cups flour
Preheat oven at 350 degrees. Strain zucchini until all liquid is out. Beat eggs, sugar, and oil together 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 (110 degrees 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 in 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
1/2 teaspoons ginger
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
1 (12-ounce) can evaporated milk
1 pound milk chocolate candy bars, coarsely chopped
2 cups semisweet chocolate chips
1 (7-ounce) jar marshmallow crème
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 crème and vanilla, mixing vigorously. Next 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 LUKE 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



Pictures of holiday lights from Candy Cane Lane and other homes around Washington.

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.

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

DECEMBER 1, 2005

Memorable Christmases: The Good and the Bad



COMPILED BY
THE THUNDERWORD STAFF

Highline students share their favorite Christmas memories.

"Having 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 ghetto," said John Nadykto.

"On Christmas Eve some dude jacked a Mustang and crashed 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 we 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



Alex Borishkevich heartbroken."

"I grew up in the projects, I filled a form our apartments gave us and I asked for Nike shoes," said Eduard Calvish. "They passed out our presents and I got a box, I was really excited. I took it home and I opened it at midnight on Christmas Eve," he

said. "I got the Nike Air force shoes and the first thing I did was put them on and tie them up. I always used to jump up and try to reach the numbers on the apartment doors but I could never jump high enough. When I ran out there and jumped up with my shoes on I touched the numbers,"



John Nadykto

"One of my best memories was when I was 5 and we had Christmas in Montana," said Sheila Hamilton. "The snow came up to my hip."

"I went to a wrestling Christmas tournament and my brother won second place," said Martha Molina. "I was really happy

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 Thorn.

Thinking of Christmas can bring sad memories for some students.

"The worst Christmas was my first Christmas without my grandma around," said Isyss Viena. "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 Christmasy at all," said Dominique Paller.

"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 puking. 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.

Other students can't imagine a Christmas without family.

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 sea-

son 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 was 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, the Highline men's soccer coach.



Jason Prenovost

"I stayed in an old Playboy mansion in Lake Geneva, Wisc. 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 sunrise 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 Mazurets. "We came here with nothing and five kids. Now my dad just takes me out



Victor Mazurets

and buys me something I need like some furniture, a computer, a TV, something like that. My mom never gets me anything."

Older students look back on Christmas decorations with fondness.

"I remember the decorations. It's an old German tradition.

The tree was about 10 feet tall with white around the bottom," said Larry Krehbiel. "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 Christmases. You can hate all other 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.

SEE MEMORIES, PAGE A8

THE THUNDERWORD

THE VOICE OF THE STUDENTS

DECEMBER 1, 2005

VOLUME 45 ISSUE 11

HIGHLINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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.

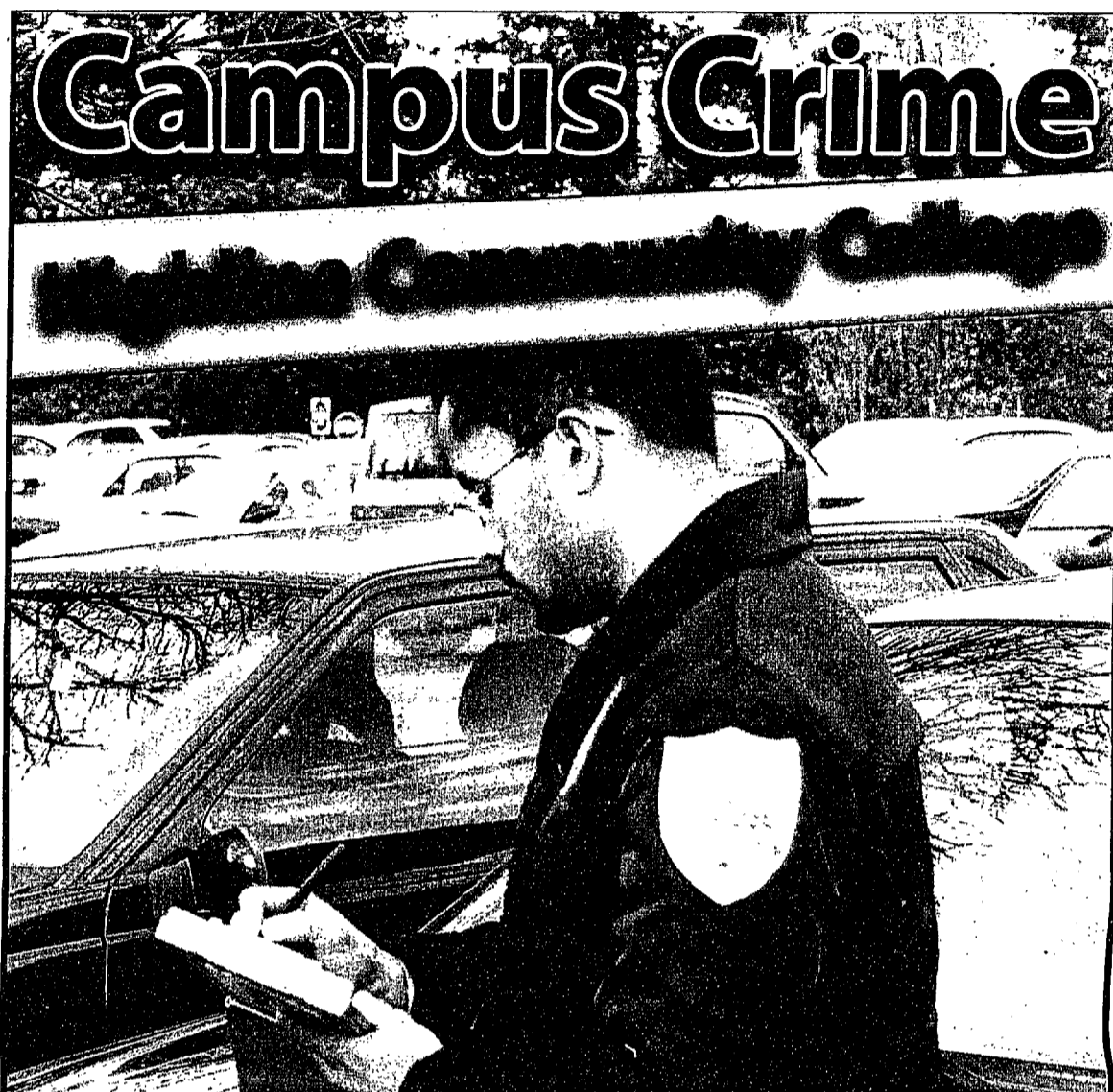
In 2003, 17 vehicles and 52 other significant items were stolen at Highline, as compared to 15 vehicles and 70 items in 2004.

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

"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."



Graphic by Jeremy Kochel

Security at Highline helped maintain a stable crime rate in 2004.

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 Corry Damey 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 can-

not 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, ap-

pear unconcerned, or do not perceive a problem with Highline's overall security.

"I think it's pretty safe," Highline student Alyssa Fenton said. "Nothing has really ever happened to me or any of my friends."

"It is a lot safer than some of the other colleges I have been to," said Highline student Olga Shpak.

Regardless, people need to be aware and take personal responsibility, according to Fisher.

"Don't leave CDs and backpacks and stuff lying around in your vehicle, that's just inviting a thief," Fisher said. "Take the faceplate of your stereo with you when you leave your car. Don't put it under the seat or in the glove box. And if you've got something that's really valuable, you need to leave it with a friend or lock it up in your car out of sight."

Fisher said campus security is doing everything they can to keep the grounds safe, which mainly means patrolling the campus as much as it possibly can.

"We have attempted to increase patrol time," Fisher said. "My officers, unless they are doing a report or on their break, they are on patrol. We make sure lights are on at night and we just patrol as much as possible."

Some students want the safety of themselves and their belongings assured.

"We all pay to come here and it's kind of expected our cars and property will be safe," said Highline student Joshua Birkebak.

For more information, contact campus security at ext. 3218 or visit their office in the lower level of Building 6.

New Board of Trustee 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 replace the spot left vacant by Mi-

chael 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 Sep. 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

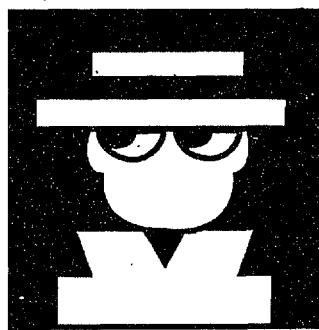
See story, Page 6



The end of an of an era for Coach Yates

See story, Page 9

CRIME



Camry stolen from Highline lot

A student reported her Toyota Camry was missing from one of 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 her 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 turkey.

-Compiled by G. Brooks

CAMPUS LIFE

Rock-crawlers club looks for home at Highline

By NICK CLINE

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.

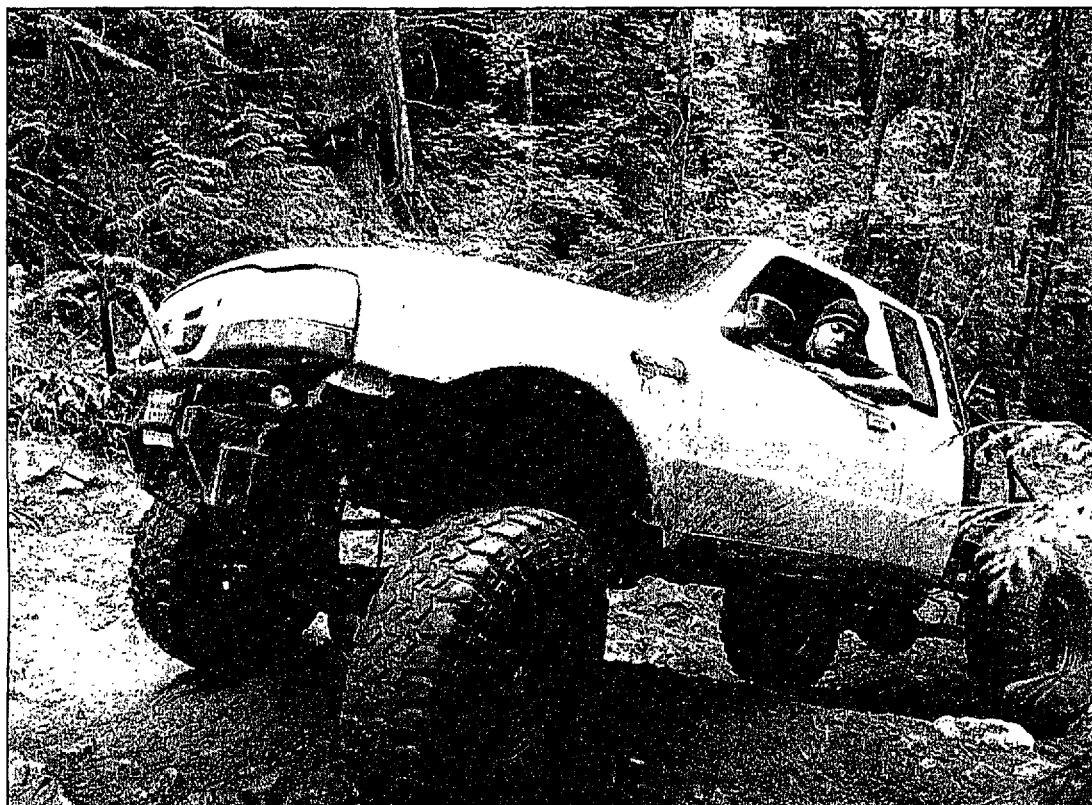


Photo provided by the Newport Rock-crawlers club

Suresh Datar in his 1999 Ford Ranger enjoying a monthly club trail run.

"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 than 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 vehi-

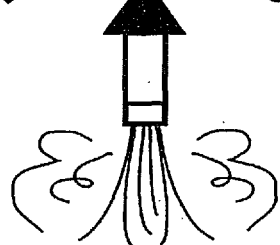
cles which provides for a great learning experience.

"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 s10slayer@hotmail.com

News Briefs



Corrections

Bree Klasen'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 Gulliford, 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 3, 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.

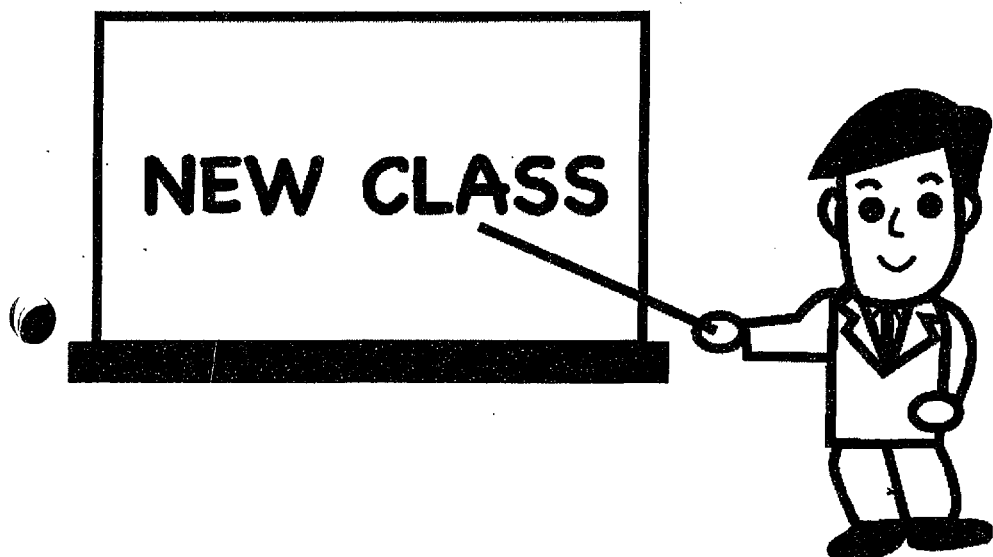
For more information, call 206-878-3710 ext. 3871.



Photo by Mary Raab

Students Emanuel Nistran and Chey West are enjoying the sounds the Blend in the Highline Bistro.

New classes being offered next quarter



LITERATURE 220

WRITING 190

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 several 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 designer's 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 Caster, one of High-

line'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 12:03 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. EIDSON
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 plan 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 expecta-

tions 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.

Treat Yourself to the Advantage

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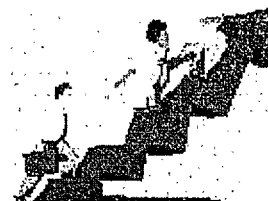
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Editorial

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 would, 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.

Be it current events, humor, fantasy, science fiction, nonfiction or romance, there is a book out there that everyone can enjoy and everyone can be better for having read.

So long as we can find a book that someone enjoys, we can give them the desire to read further.

No matter one's age, reading is an important skill in the modern world, making the decline of reading all the more dangerous.

Bills and contracts often require a great deal of reading, and those who read regularly have a much greater chance of understanding the proposals and making informed decisions.

Furthermore, reading skill greatly improves the quality of a person's writing.

Being a good writer is vital to success, particularly in college.

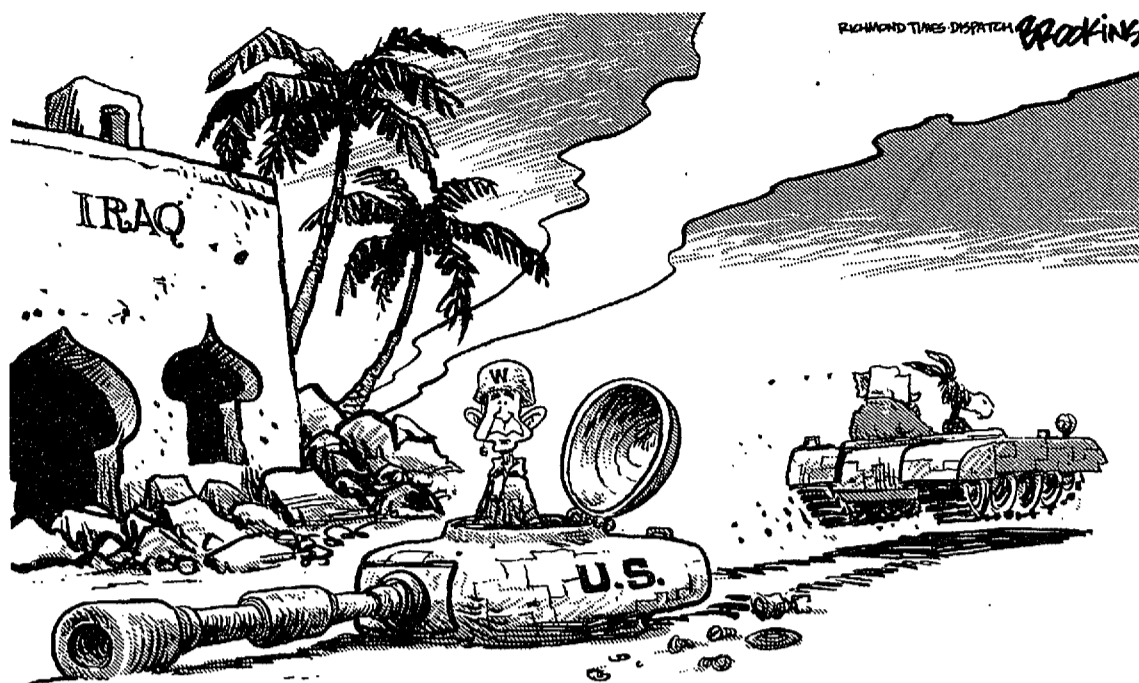
Many classes require papers that require analysis and well-structured arguments, skills that reading helps build.

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.



December shopping tactics

As we approach the holiday season, parking becomes an increasingly scarce and valuable commodity.

From the malls to the grocery stores, everyone is scrambling to get the good stuff before someone else takes it first.

The first step to holiday shopping is preparation. Those who do not go into battle prepared are liable to be trampled as thousands of shoppers stampede them toward the next sale.

And their bodies will be picked clean by the second wave of scavengers looking for dropped or displaced goods.

So, in an effort to keep you alive and more or less intact (aside from your sanity, of course) over the holiday season, I've compiled some tips for the season's shopping craze.

First, next time shop in September. That way you can laugh at all the morons clogging the malls like fat in an artery from now until the end of December instead of joining them in the mad race for materialistic satia-

tion.

Secondly, invest in riot gear. Not only is it stylish, but that heavy steel shield and plastic helmet will protect you from all but the most rabid of shoppers. Taser and club are not required, but certainly advised, as they

can be a great stress relief.

The third one can be handled one of two ways.

Either buy a smaller, more compact car that can fit into ridiculously small spaces, or go all out and get a tank. The small car has the benefits of getting good gas mileage for several

mall trips, as well as the maneuverability to fit in between the morons in SUVs who take up two spaces.

The tank, while expensive, offers many fun options you just don't get with normal cars.

Consider the weight and armor. Sure, you may tear up some streets here and there, but nothing beats the feeling of rolling over a shopper's car and claiming their parking space by

show of force.

An added bonus is an armed turret that can be used to great effect in traffic jams and on irritating drivers. Someone cuts you off? Let them know exactly how you feel about that.

Fourth, but certainly of no less importance, is the method of shopping.

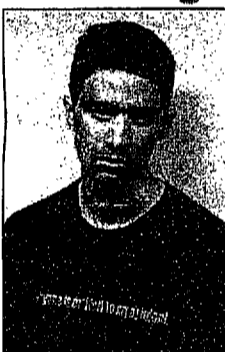
There are two major waves of shoppers, the first rush and the scavengers. Those opting for the riot gear are more likely to be in the first rush, their superior equipment affording them a tactical advantage over their adversaries.

Those without the ability to acquire such gear will probably want to be in the scavenger group (if you were smart enough to get presents ahead of time, you wouldn't be reading this).

The important thing to remember about scavenging is you need to somehow disable or otherwise prevent your competition from getting the best picks. Since it's less of a crowd, the suggested manner is a knife to the back. It's slick, efficient, and relatively quiet.

Oh, and above all else, Merry Christmas!

Random Ramblings



Austin MacKenzie

THE THUNDERWORD

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"The hobbit is mechanically disinclined!"

An excellent soccer experience

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 school, 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 NWAACC championship, which would place a nice little ring on each of our fingers showing off our accomplishment.

At the beginning of the season, it was about 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,



Photo courtesy of NWAACC.org

Jessica Wilson, top left, learned a great deal during her time with the Highline women's soccer team.

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 dreams 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.

Guest Column



Jessica Wilson

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 our excuses for putting things off are just a veneer covering up our fear of the unknown. Man, I really want to ask 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 C'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 anyway.

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 your all? Sure it requires more work, but you will be surprised at how much you are able to accomplish

Guest Column



Keith Daigle

when you throw yourself into it.

Finally live life 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 really is 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 foregone 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

12/1/05

THE THUNDERWORD

Choir concert sets high standards

REVIEW

LARA TOSCH

STAFF REPORTER

Highline choir's fall 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 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 Allen 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



Photos By Keith Daigle

Right to left: Kent Steadman on mountain dulcimer and his partner Cary Lung on the bouzouki.

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, "sounds 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.

"If you want to play music, just play it," said Steadman as he blindly strummed the dulcimer.

Children danced and the audience clapped along with the music.

Lung and Steadman concluded the show with a rousing blues song.

The lyrics, *The blues ain't nothing but a good man feelin' bad, The blues ain't nothing but a good man feelin' bad, It must have been those weary blues I had*, were chanted by Lung, Steadman and the audience.

The choir will also have winter and spring performances based on the theme of Americana.

For more information contact Dr. Sandra Glover at Sglover@highline.edu or at 206-878-3710 ext. 6170.



The Choir sang and some danced while they sang the old folk song *Down By the Riverside*.

Breeders Theater provides laughs for a cause

MARY K. EIDSON

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 Maxalot, 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?2K, a Millennial 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 ap-

plying 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 Olds. Other members of the production include: Eric Hartley, Julie Haakenson, Doug Knopp, Martin Mackenzie, Scott Green, Matt Loehrke, 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. 20, 21, 27, 28 and Feb. 1, 3 and 4, and at 2 p.m. Jan. 22 and 29 and Feb. 5.

"The winery 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. 153rd St., Burien; or at Corky Cellars, 22511 Marine View Drive in Des Moines.

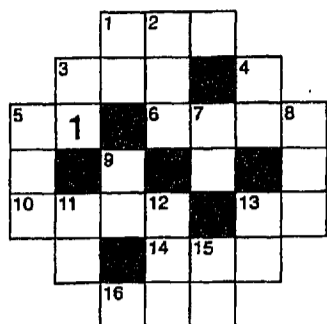
Doors open 30 minutes before showtime, and it's festival seating.

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-Down 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

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

7. Four less than 15-Down
8. The first digit is the sum of the other digits
9. Same digit repeated
11. Sum of the digits of 6-Across
12. Consecutive digits rearranged
13. 5-Across plus 1-Down
15. Sixty more than 1-Down

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TV Fare

Across

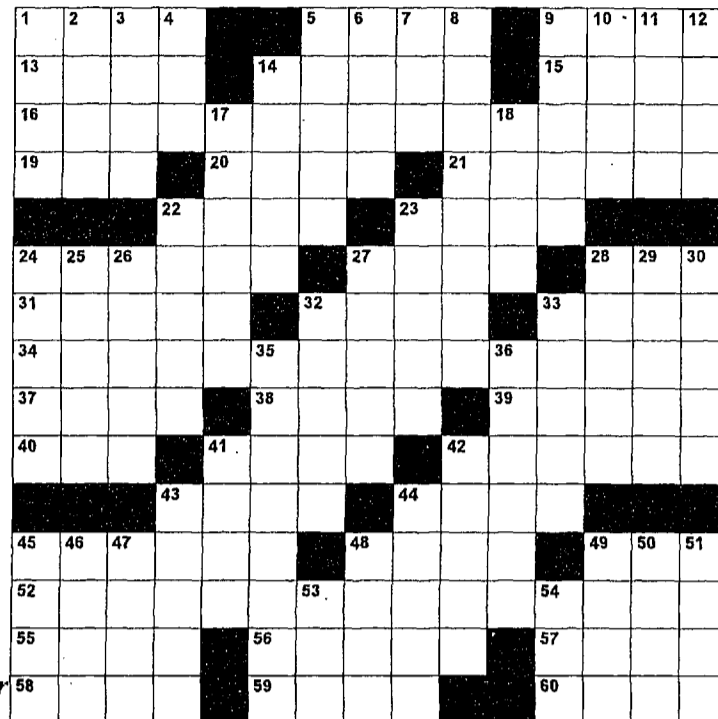
- 1 Salad addition at times
- 5 Drivel
- 9 Stepped on
- 13 Mr. Boesky
- 14 Smell
- 15 Assistant
- 16 Rachel Green of *Friends*
- 19 Laser cartridge ingredient
- 20 Dog command
- 21 Parents, at times
- 22 Iditarod need
- 23 A louse, e.g.
- 24 Wine storage place
- 27 Electrical insulation
- 28 Pinch
- 31 Birdlike
- 32 Deep sleep
- 33 Cram
- 34 Dr. Niles Crane on *Frasier*
- 37 Promised land
- 38 Summer treats
- 39 _____ twang
- 40 Danson of *Cheers*
- 41 Lanky
- 42 Emphasize
- 43 With 53 Down *The West Wing* actor
- 44 Chunk
- 45 Puget Sound city
- 48 Fake
- 49 JFK abbreviation
- 52 Captain Frank Furillo's show on NBC
- 55 European mountain range
- 56 *Mister Ed*, for one
- 57 Region
- 58 Workout spots
- 59 Assist
- 60 Ceremonial elegance

Down

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

Crossword 101

By Ed Canty



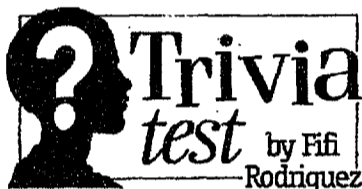
- 6 Australian parrot
- 7 Doctor's org.
- 8 Equalize horses in a race
- 9 Sample
- 10 Baptism, e.g.
- 11 Bad smell
- 12 Hideouts
- 14 Later
- 17 Greenland, for example
- 18 Greek letter
- 22 Executed
- 23 Marcel Marceau and others
- 24 West Point undergrad
- 25 Dodge
- 26 Survived
- 27 *Victoria's Secret* employee
- 28 Scandinavian
- 29 Peruvian natives
- 30 Pares
- 32 Periodic event
- 33 Whiskers
- 35 Onondagan leader
- 36 Bury: Var.
- 41 Clancy and Cruise
- 42 List of candidates
- 43 Lounges about
- 44 Dresser
- 45 Hoodlum
- 46 Well-ventilated
- 47 Quahog
- 48 Dried-up
- 49 Monetary unit
- 50 Pour
- 51 Swiftly
- 53 See 43 Across
- 54 Story hour place

Quotable Quote

If it weren't for Philo T. Farnsworth, inventor of television, we'd still be eating frozen radio dinners.

... Johnny Carson

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8. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Where was the Phi Beta Kappa honorary society founded?
9. LANGUAGE: What does the Greek prefix "logo" mean?
10. LAW: What is a codicil?

1. HISTORY: In what century did Peter the Great become czar of Russia?

2. NATURAL WORLD: What is the longest-living mammal?

3. ENTERTAINERS: Who has a company called Harpo Productions?

4. SPACEFLIGHT: When was the first space shuttle flight?

5. GEOGRAPHY: What river runs through Florence, Italy?

6. DISCOVERIES: Whose experiments led to the invention of vulcanized rubber?

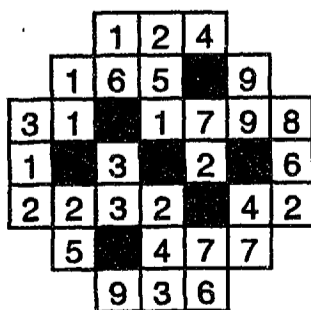
7. MUSIC: When was the soundtrack released for the movie "The Sound of Music"?

10. An addition to a will that alters it
9. Word
- Mary, Dec. 5, 1776
8. College of William & Mary, 1765
7. 1965
6. Charles Goodyear
5. Arno
4. 1861
3. Oprah Winfrey
2. Human being
1. 17th century

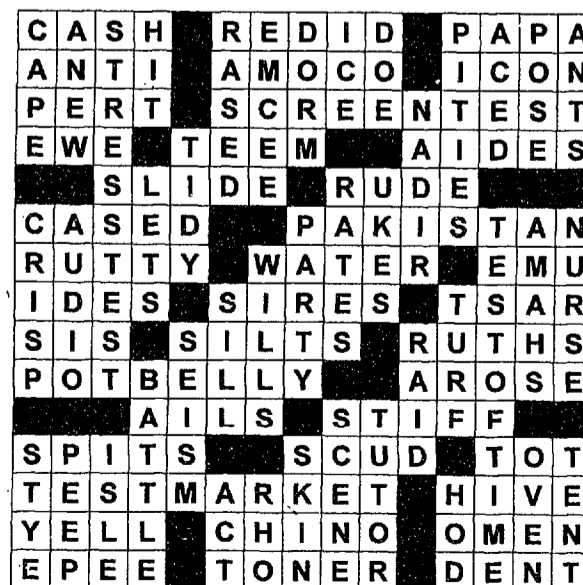
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Last Week's Solution

Rational Numbers answers



CRAMMING



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

Chief Fisher now has NFL connections

By JAMIE 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 about 10 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



Chief Richard Fisher



Bryce Fisher

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 out of the Air Force Academy in 1999 by the Buffalo Bills in the seventh round (243rd 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 Wash-



Associated Photo

Maj. Gen. Timothy Lowenberg swears Bryce Fisher in as a captain in the Washington Air National Guard.

ington 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 his mind, but he talked to his mom and his mom told him that he had never quit anything before so why start now. So, Bryce decided to tough it out."

Bryce has proven that the

hard work 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 Kennedy High School in Burien before moving onto University of California where he remains 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 RAPH 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 players might encounter wintry conditions in Walla Walla.

"I am looking forward to playing in the snow this weekend," said Ashley Cavalieri. "This is our first true road trip. We don't

know much about these other teams this weekend but we know we will show well."

"I love this team," said Olen-thia Dishmon. "Everyone gets along so well. The road trip is only going to help us get along even more. I have learned more in the two months here at Highline than my four years in high school."

"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

T-Bird men win second consecutive turkey tourney

By TREVOR KULVI

STAFF REPORTER

A lot of people use Thanksgiving break to rest, spend time with family and to get away from their normal schedule, but not for the Highline men's basketball team.

For the second straight year, the men's basketball team won the Skagit Turkey Tourney, which was played Nov. 25-26 and hosted by Skagit Valley Community College.

Highline defeated Skagit Valley 72-68 in its tournament opener and beat Centralia 74-69 for the title behind Jaxin Skyward's 17 points.

Despite the title, Highline coach Che Dawson was not pleased with his team's performance during the championship game.

"We had too many defensive break downs and our guys were being forced to shoot the ball quicker than expected," said Dawson, whose team is 2-1. "Our young guys are not quite used to the speed of the game

yet."

In the win over Skagit Valley, freshman Derrick Webb scored 15 points to lead Highline. Dawson was happier after that game.

"The game went very well, but there were moments that indicated that there is some stuff that still needs work," said Dawson. "We controlled the game early and had a lead of 15 late in the game. Since Skagit was the home team, they made a late charge, but we were able to hold them off."

One thing that coach Dawson hopes will get better is the team's motion offense.

"Our motion offense will be more effective when we are reading screens and reacting to defenses more quickly," said Dawson. "If we buy into our weaknesses and focus on what needs to be worked our confidence will get better."

Up next for Highline is a Dec. 3 game at Bellevue.

The next home game for the men will be Dec. 9 against Skagit Valley.

The Highline men's basket-

ball team will be extremely busy over winter break.

During the break, the men will play in a total of five games, four of which will be away from home.

The lone home game will be on Wednesday Dec. 21 against Bellevue.

To open the four game road trip, Highline will battle the Saints of Mount Hood CC on Tuesday Dec. 13.

After the Mount Hood trip, Highline will head east on I-90 to play three games in three days.

The first two of those three games will be the two-day Spokane CC Tourney hosted by the Community Colleges of Spokane.

After the Spokane Tourney, Highline will cross the Washington-Idaho border for a rematch against North Idaho, where Highline looks to avenge its only loss of the young season.

In the last meeting between the two schools, North Idaho left the Thunder Dome with a 81-73 victory.



Photo by Alicia Mendez

Nathan Jackson going in for a layup during a recent practice.

The Yates era comes to an end at Highline

By TREVOR KULVI

STAFF REPORTER

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, two third-place finishes in cross country (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 more 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 Beaty 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 will be reviewed by the school.

"The evaluation will determine how they serve both the



Stock Photo

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.

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 at both the collegiate and high school level.

At the collegiate level, he spent two years at the Community 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.

Women

continued from page 8

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

"We have learned a new offense this week and we're excited to put 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 crossover 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 Chemketa C.C. Tournament Dec. 27-29. In its first game, Highline will battle Yakima CC.

If Highline beats Yakima, its 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 past 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 as-

Off the Bench



Jamie Grossmann

sistant coach. Mitalas brought extra guidance that was missing last year.

The Highline cross country teams combined 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 a long season with only a few players. They pulled together and made the best of the situation as they finished 3-11.

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 Taliloa and Grace Dobson. The team lost Shelby Avaava 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, Jaxin Skyward, Jesse Campbell, and Londen Carter to lead the team. The T-Birds finished 8-8 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.

Wrestling is without their national champion from last year as Yura Malamura 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 NJCAA 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 frown about.

This is Jamie's final column for the T-Word. Really!



BY CHRIS RICHCREEK

1. Who beat out Chicago's Mark Grace for the 1988 National League Rookie of the Year award?
2. Name the only shortstop other than Alex Rodriguez and Ernie Banks to have 40 homers in a season.
3. What rivalry trophy do Houston and Rice play for in college football?
4. Name the last team to win an NBA division with a losing record.
5. How many times have the Boston Bruins reached the Stanley Cup Finals, and how many times have they won a championship?
6. Name the country that is the defending Olympic champion in both the two- and four-man bobsled.
7. Entering October 2005, where was golfer Tiger Woods on the PGA career victory list?

Answers:

1. Chris Sabo of Cincinnati.
2. Rico Petrocelli had 40 home runs in 1969.
3. The Bayou Buckel.
4. Milwaukee was 38-44 when it won the Midwest Division in 1975-76.
5. The Bruins have been in 17 Stanley Cup Finals (last in 1990) and have won five (last in 1972).
6. Germany.
7. He had won 45 PGA Tour events, which put him in seventh place overall.

Scoreboard

Mens basketball

North	League	Ovrl.
Bellevue	0-0	3-1
Edmonds	0-0	2-1
Everett	0-0	3-1
Olympic	0-0	3-1
Peninsula	0-0	2-2
Seattle	0-0	1-3
Shoreline	0-0	1-2
Skagit Vly.	0-0	1-1
Whatcom	0-0	2-0

West	League	Ovrl.
Centralia	0-0	1-1
Clark	0-0	0-2
Grays Harbor	0-0	2-0
Green River	0-0	0-3
Highline	0-0	2-1
Lwr. Columbia	0-0	3-0
Pierce	0-0	1-3
S. Puget Snd.	0-0	1-1
Tacoma	0-0	1-3

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

South	League	Ovrl.
Chemeketa	0-0	4-0
Clackamas	0-0	3-1
Lane	0-0	3-2
Linn-Benton	0-0	2-1
Mt. Hood	0-0	1-1
Portland	0-0	2-2

SW Oregon	0-0	2-2
Umpqua	0-0	1-4

Scores

Yakima Valley 94, Seattle 80
Everett 86, Tacoma 83
Spokane 78, Edmonds 69
Portland 105, Umpqua 73
Clackamas 83, Olympic 73
Lower Columbia 96, Eastern Utah 95
Lane 80, Pierce 73
Washington Athletic Club 83, Shoreline 79
Club Seattle (Wa) 80, Bellevue 77
Blue Mountain 88, Linfield Jv 69
Tacoma 86, Northwest Indian Coll. 62
Spokane 87, Seattle 65
Edmonds 88, Everett 85
Umpqua 74, Clark 72
Portland 79, Col. Basin 67
Eastern Utah 83, Clackamas 78
Lower Columbia 83, Olympic 63
Lane 89, Green River 78
Pierce 78, Sw Oregon 71
Bellevue 77, Washington Athletic Club 72
Club Seattle (Wa) 97, Shoreline 82
Skagit Valley 68, Wenatchee Valley 64
Highline 74, Centralia 69
Chemeketa 84, South Mountain (Az) 68
Southern Idaho 69, Treasure Valley 60

Women's basketball

North	League	Ovrl.
Bellevue	0-0	1-0
Edmonds	0-0	0-1
Everett	0-0	1-2
Olympic	0-0	3-1
Peninsula	0-0	1-2
Seattle	0-0	0-2
Shoreline	0-0	5-1
Skagit Valley	0-0	2-2
Whatcom	0-0	1-0

West	League	Ovrl.
Centralia	0-0	2-0
Clark	0-0	1-3
Grays Harbor	0-0	1-2
Green River	0-0	0-2
Highline	0-0	2-1
Lower Col.	0-0	2-0
Pierce	0-0	0-2
S. Puget Snd.	0-0	1-2
Tacoma	0-0	0-3

East	League	Ovrl.
Big Bend	0-0	3-1
Blue Mountain	0-0	1-5
Col. Basin	0-0	2-2
Spokane	0-0	2-2
Treasure Vly.	0-0	0-5
Walla Walla	0-0	1-2
Wenatchee Vly.	0-0	4-2
Yakima Valley	0-0	5-1

South	League	Ovrl.
Chemeketa	0-0	1-0
Clackamas	0-0	3-1
Lane	0-0	3-0
Linn-Benton	0-0	0-2
Mt. Hood	0-0	2-3
Portland	0-0	2-3

SW Oregon	0-0	2-0
Umpqua	0-0	3-0

Scores

Skagit Valley 71, Green River 40
Big Bend 100, Whitworth Jv 52
Shoreline 79, Grays Harbor 46
Umpqua 73, Wenatchee Valley 64
Clackamas 88, Blue Mountain 55

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Trustee

continued from page 1

Vander Ark started off going to a community college in Denver, and eventually got a Bachelor's degree in marketing.

"I think my community college degree is probably the most practical of my educational career," she said.

Since she is new to the Trustee's position, her plan is to 'sit and listen and learn for a while,' as she put it.

"It will be a big learning curve for me. I hope to learn a lot," said Vander Ark.

Her biggest concern so far is the fact the issue of enrollment.

"Enrollment is down, and that is a big concern for us," she said.

The Board would like to increase enrollment and is looking at ways to do that.

Another concern for her is the student population at Highline.

She wants to make sure there is a strong student base here.

"I understand community colleges and community college students. I understand what they need to get through, and I bring that experience to the board," said Vander Ark.

She has worked with high school students before, including her own children.

She wants to let the students know that there are good community colleges they can get

into.

"I think the community college is an important part of the community. It's one of the most practical, reasonable, and affordable options, and it is right in their own backyard," said Vander Ark.

She is also concerned with where students are headed when they are going through schools.

"I think it's important they look at classes they take, especially the Running Start students. I want to make sure they look ahead to where they're going. It's always important to look to the future," said Vander Ark.

The Running Start program is important to her, especially since she has a daughter currently enrolled in it here at Highline.

She is still a board member with the Federal Way Education Communities in School Foundation, and hopes that it doesn't interfere with her duties as a Board of Trustees member.

She is very committed to both, and there is a real family commitment.

Her husband is also involved with education, and was the superintendent of the Federal Way School District a few years ago.

"I am very happy to be a part of Highline Community College, especially since my daughter is going to school here," Vander Ark said.

"I hope to make it a better place."

For more information call 206-878-3710.

Ping-Pong becomes a daily sport for some

By STEVE PIROTTE

STAFF REPORTER

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 Anh 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," said Tran. "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

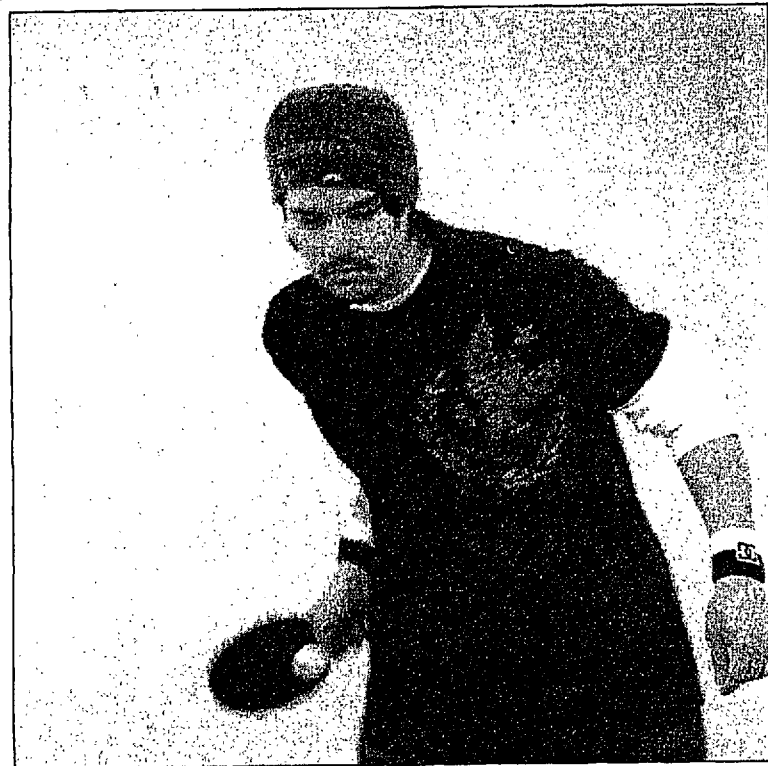


Photo By Alicia Mendez

Highline student Isaac Koto is playing with fellow students.

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

STAFF REPORTER

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 en 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 Ahassan@highline.edu or see her in International Student Programs located in Building 6 upper floor.

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

By JESSICA WILSON

STAFF REPORTER

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.

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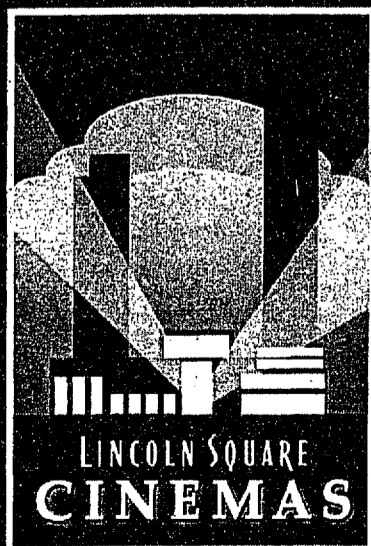
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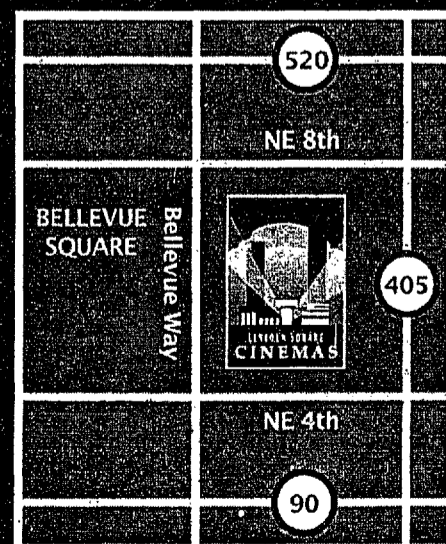
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The top ten Christmas movies Tradition continues as holiday ships take to Sound

Now is the perfect time of year to wrap yourself up in a blanket, drink hot chocolate and watch sappy Christmas movies. Take advantage of it while it is here; this is the only time of the year when you will not get made fun of for doing it.

From the same people who brought you the top 10 list of Halloween movies, here is a list of the top 10 Christmas movies of all time.

Again this is a scientific compilation, so if you disagree with it just understand that the list is right and you are wrong.

There are so many great Christmas movies that some Christmas classics that deserve to be on there had to be cut. So quickly, here are some that don't appear on the list, but deserve honorable mention: *It's a Wonderful Life*, *Frosty the Snowman*, *Polar Express*, *Elf*, *The Santa Clause*, *Beavis and Butt-Head do America*, *Jingle All the Way*, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* and many others.

10. Home Alone, 1990: Young Kevin McAllister (Macaulay Culkin) is accidentally left behind when his family goes on vacation for the holidays. He enjoys his newfound freedom until he is forced to protect the house from a couple of bungling burglars.

A different kind of Christmas tale, it is a fun film that is perfect as a guilty pleasure during the holidays.

9. The Nightmare Before Christmas, 1993: Strange things happen when the worlds of Halloween and Christmas collide. After stumbling upon Christmas Town Pumpkin King Jack Skellington becomes obsessed with the idea of Christmas and tries to combine the two holidays, with questionable results.

Classic Tim Burton, this film is a fun adventure into the behind the scenes world of holidays.

8. Miracle on 34th Street, 1947: A Macy's department store Santa claims to be the real thing. A kindly bearded old man named Kris Kringle suddenly



Chevy Chase starred in *Christmas Vacation*, a movie about a severely dysfunctional family in the throes of having a good Christmas.

finds himself in the middle of a court case where the jury has to decide whether Santa Claus is real or not.

This classic story has been redone several times- as a major motion picture remake in 1994 and a couple of times for T.V. This Christmas standard feeds the believer in all of us.

7. Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer, 1964 (TV): Arguably the most famous of

Santa's reindeer, the story of the red-nosed outcast who just didn't fit in is one that has been retold many times over in movie and song. A story about accepting and celebrating peoples differences, this is a great family film.

6. The Muppet Christmas Carol, 1992: Charles Dickens classic novel of one mans self discovery on Christmas Eve, as interpreted by the Muppets. There have been so many versions of this story done, but this is the best by far.

5. Die Hard, 1988: Taking place during Christmas time, this is a heartwarming tale of courage and love. Not to mention that there are some pretty awesome explosions.

Terrorists take over a building in Los Angeles, and the only person to avoid capture is New York Cop John McClane (Bruce Willis). The hostages, who include McClane's wife, have

only McClane left to save them when the cops cannot get into the building. In the immortal words of Bruce Willis, "Yippee kay yi yay!" and to all a good night.

4. Love Actually, 2003: (OK, first things first, someone promised me a smile so we should be seeing it right about...now). The film follows eight couples who's lives are loosely connected.

It's the month before Christmas and love is in the air. Well, for some.

Some of the characters are falling in love, some out. There is mourning, and flirting, breaking up. The movie explores with its many characters the intricacies of love.

Starring an all-star English cast including Hugh Jackman, Colin Firth, Liam Neeson, Emma Thompson and Keira Knightley.

3. The Snowman, 1982: An animated British film about a little boy's Christmas Eve and night.

Except for the narration in the beginning (done by David Bowie) there is no talking. Instead of a train this time, the little boy takes a trip on a motorcycle with his snowman to the North Pole (one assumes) where all the other snowmen have gathered to feast and dance.

The Snowman is based on the book of the same name by Eng-

lish author Raymond Briggs. The book is wordless, the story told completely through pictures.

2. Christmas Vacation, 1989: "Is your house on fire, Clark?" "No, Aunt Bethany, those are the Christmas lights."

The Griswolds are your normal middle-class family trying to celebrate Christmas as one big happy family. But as Christmas draws closer and more relatives keep arriving, it becomes obvious that a holly jolly Christmas is not what Santa is going to bring them. Hilarious, not a family film- but a good one to find yourself watching late at night curled up on the couch sipping eggnog.

1. A Christmas Story, 1983: A boy, a B.B. gun and a leg lamp...this movie's beauty pretty much speaks for itself.

All Ralphie Parker wants for Christmas is an official Red Ryder carbine-action 200-shot range model BB rifle with a compass in the stock and a thing that tells time. After getting told no by his parents he appeals to his teacher and finally Santa Claus himself, only to be told each time, "you'll shoot your eye out!" The movie begs the question what 12 year old boy would not want pink fluffy bunny pajamas for Christmas?

Starting at Midnight Christmas Eve TBS runs this all Christmas day.

By ALICIA MENDEZ
STAFF REPORTER

Imagine lavishly 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.

Spirit 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.

December 1, 2005

Giving shoes for a good cause

BY BRINTON SLAEKER
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 economics coordinator at Highline, has brought money to donate 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 vacationing 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 stopped doing Christmas at home," Droke said. "I don't give presents to any of my relatives, they've got enough stuff. When I heard about this down 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 they were too busy hanging out on the beach so they just gave me the money," said Droke.

Over the years, the word has gotten out 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 out 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

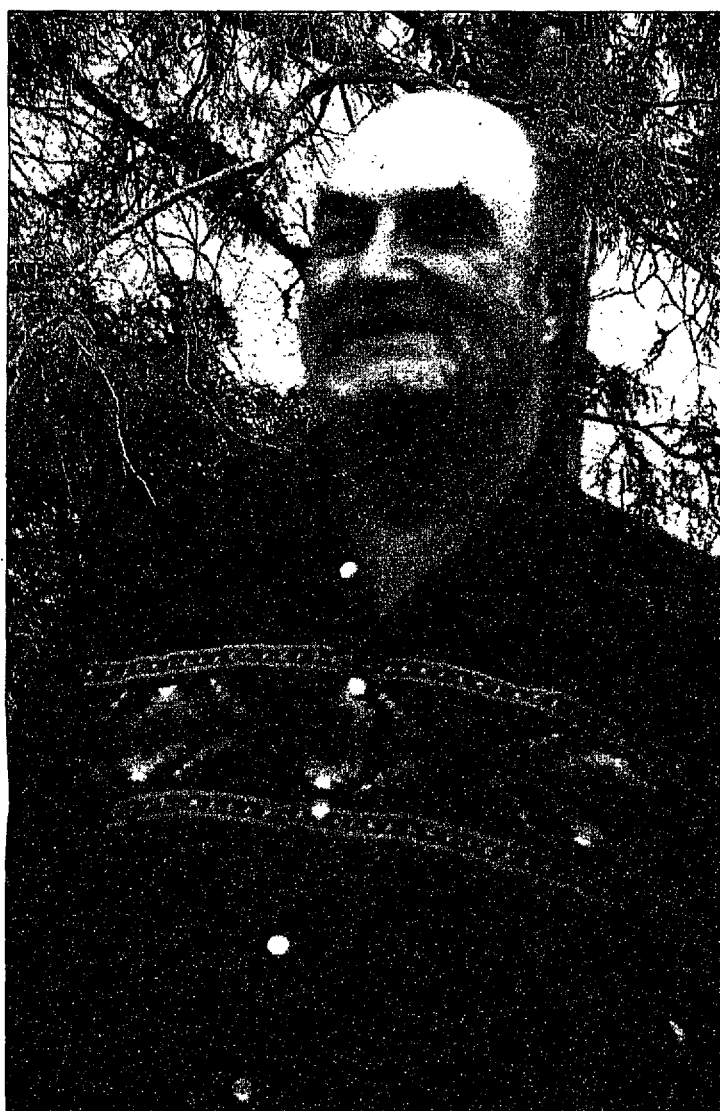


Photo by Alicia Mendez

Phil Droke, economic coordinator, delivers shoes in Mazatlan.

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 206-878-3710 ext. 3957, or visit him in his office in Building 11, room 204.

Bring in the holidays with ballroom dancing club

BY ALEX CAHAN
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 dancing, 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, fox trot, salsa, mambo, New York hustle, polka, masquerade, and merengue.

"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 Menolly Esteb, and Treasurer Mary Luksan, will be instructing everyone on the steps to the dances. McLean has been ballroom dancing for three years, and Esteb and Luksan 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@msn.com.

December 1, 2005

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Origins of Christmas

AUSTIN MACKENZIE
STAFF REPORTER

The concept of Christmas is a large part of American culture, but very few are really aware of its true 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 Hindu and Siddhartha 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 paganism, 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 that 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 theocracies 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 chim-



neys 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 Petes," 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 demeanor 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 Irvine'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 Claus 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 Petes, 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 other Americans until the 19th Century.

Christmas trees were not lighted until 1882 when a colleague 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.



Great gifts of laughter for the holiday season under \$1

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 its 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.

Voila! 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. Play with 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. Guaranteed hours of fun for whoever lays them. Don't give to any friends who might be bitter.

1- Pet Rock

Bellbottoms, 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 FIGHTS WERE ALL WORTH IT. JUST REMEMBER, A GREAT MAN ONCE SAID "THERE ARE NEVER PROBLEMS, ONLY OPPORTUNITIES." ALWAYS FOLLOW YOUR DREAMS AND GOOD LUCK. DON'T FORGET TO STOP TALKING ABOUT MOVIES ON WEDNESDAYS!

ALWAYS, OLIVIA DE LEON

MEMORIES

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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 go get a live 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.

"Wahoo," 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 Ericksen, Chris Brooks, Alex Cahan, Lara Tosch, Raph Cox, and Daniel Palermo.