Board gets input on qualities of future president

By Jocie Olson
Staff Reporter

Highline is looking for a president who can raise money for the college, is committed to the campus and community, and can walk on water.

During an open forum on Monday, campus as well as community members were encouraged to tell the Board of Trustees what they are looking for in the next Highline president.

The meeting is a continuation of Highline's search for a permanent president. The campus has been without a permanent president since Dr. Priscilla Bell was fired in November 2006. The Board cited "philosophical differences" with Dr. Bell.

The trustees, who are appointed by the governor to oversee the management of the college, named Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Jack Birmingham interim president. Dr. Birmingham was a finalist when Dr. Bell was hired in 2001. Don Hunter, a search consultant, was hired by the trustees in October to assist the Board with the search process.

Part of the process is to put together a profile that outlines the characteristics and qualities desired in a president. The forum was designed to get input from faculty, staff, students, and community members.

Some campus members said it is important for a president to have experience and leadership. Laura Westergard, director of admissions and entry services, said, "I feel that there is an ex-

Rights code for students may change

By Melody Ericksen
Staff Reporter

Students may be penalized for plagiarizing, misusing computer resources, or engaging in offensive personal conduct under Highline's new Student Rights and Responsibilities Code.

But the code, which could be adopted by the Board of Trustees in time for Winter Quarter, also will provide an appeals process of students charged with such offenses.

The Student Rights and Responsibilities Code is the official code of conduct by which students' behavior is judged. This code hasn't been revised since 1992.

Over the last two years a committee of Highline officials has been making revisions to the code. They have sent their ideas through the Policy Development Council, Student Government, the Student Affairs Council, and the Instructional Cabinet for revisions.

If the Board of Trustees adopts the revisions to the code at their meeting on Dec. 13, the changes will go into effect around the beginning of next year.

The latest hearing was last week, but no students showed up.

“...I feel that there is an ex-

Students share favorite holiday memories

By Mark Maras
Staff Reporter

The traditions of Christmas are built on memories. As Fall Quarter winds down, Highline students recall their most cherished holiday moments from the past.

For some, Christmas brings back wonderful childhood remembrances. “When I was a little kid, I asked for a bunny for Christmas. On Christmas Day, I opened up all my presents and didn’t find one. Then my parents called me back downstairs and my parents had a bunny sitting under the tree. I named it Barnaby,” said Karen Welch.

“My favorite Christmas memory was when I was 10. My mom asked me to go to find my dad, who was in the barn. When I found him, he was holding a lead rope attached to my new horse. I must have spent the whole Christmas in the stables that year,” said Constance Fox.

“One time, on Christmas Eve, when I was 7 years old, my brothers and dad decided it would be funny to go outside and ring a bell, so I would think that Santa Clause was outside. They started to ring the bell, and I got really excited because I thought Santa
Gun wielding man evades security in the Library

A man was reported to have a gun in the Library on Dec. 1 at 11:35 p.m. The staff called Security and they found the gun lying on a desk in the media room with no one around. Security checked the gun for bullets and found it empty, the gun was a BB pistol.

Rock throwers in bright blazers are spotted

Two male juveniles were reported throwing rocks at Building 12 on Nov. 27 at 7:40 p.m. One of the boys was reported wearing a red jacket and the other wearing a blue jacket. Security arrived and checked the area but did not find the boys.

Falling table hits instructor in the leg

A Highline instructor had a table fall on her leg on Nov. 28 at 10:35 a.m. She was setting up tables in a classroom when one of the tables fell and hit her right leg near the shin. Her leg had some pain and swelling but she didn’t seek medical help.

Snogging couple agree to save it for later

Inappropriate behavior in Building 8 on the second floor was reported to Security on Nov. 30 at 1:40 p.m. Security found two students making out in a chair and asked them to stop. Both students complied.

Students have shouting match in the south lot

A possible verbal altercation among students was reported in the South lot next to Building 29 on Nov. 27 at 7:22 p.m. Security checked the area but did not find anyone.

Cars' owners settle collision without incident

A student reported seeing a blue Chevrolet truck back into an orange Ford Focus hatchback on the access road next to Building 30 on Nov. 29 at 2:20 p.m. Security arrived and talked to the drivers of both cars. Both men agreed for no report to be taken.

Compiled by A. McClurg

Movie Fridays will have lots of free food and pirates

Students can get free pizza and drinks, and see a lot of pirates at Movie Fridays this week. The last Movie Friday of the quarter will be showing Pirates of the Caribbean at World's End. This event is hosted by the International Leadership Student Council (ILSC) and World Languages, and will take place on Friday in Building 2, Dec. 7 at noon.

There are creative ways to practice leadership

Students can learn about being a creative leader at a First Fridays workshop this week. The workshop Creative Leadership: Tapping the Source will take place Friday, Dec. 7 at 10:35 a.m. in Building 3, room 102 between 2:20 - 3:10 p.m. For more information contact Eric Baer at ebaer@highline.edu or at 206-872-3710, ext. 3513.

PTK sale raises funds for Cambodian orphans

Phi Theta Kappa raised almost $400 to help children in Cambodia.

The children really need school supplies," said St. Claire. "Hopefully by helping them get these supplies, they can take a step closer to eventually bettering themselves."

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Free Tutoring!!!

"Feeling overwhelmed? Get help!

Visit the Tutoring Center: Building 26, Room 319

We specialize in turning good students into better students!

Tip of the Week:

"It's not what is poured into a student, but what is planted."

-Linda Conway

Sign up for help in:

Accounting/Business, Languages, Math, Science, Computers, Writing, and more subjects!

Mon-Thurs..., 8:00am-7:30pm
Fri..., 8:00am-1:00pm
http://tutoring.highline.edu

Upthegrove to head House environment panel

State Rep. Dave Upthegrove, D-Des Moines, has been named chairman of the House Ecology and Parks Committee.

Issues the committee will discuss are environmental protection, conservation issues and climate change.

"In order to have good jobs and a strong economy, we need to keep Washington a great place to live," he said.

Upthegrove addressed environmental issues in the when he coordinated clean-up efforts in Puget Sound. He says he will continue to make Puget Sound a priority for the committee, and is also ready to tackle broader issues such as the climate change, aquatic lands and parks and recreation.

During the next few weeks the committee will be finalized. Meanwhile Upthegrove will start developing the committee's agenda for 2008 with the Governor's Climate Change Action Team and other stakeholders, he said.

Students can donate supplies for the needy

Phi Theta Kappa members are collecting clothes and food for the Tent City Residents and the Des Moines Food Bank.

From today: 7:30-11 a.m. and 4-6 p.m. by the totem pole in the East Lot. Items that are being collected are: clothing, socks, blankets, and non-perishable foods.

Get real world experience while earning real college credit.

Building 6, upper floor

Job #1384 Part Time Call

Office Assistant On Campus/Work Study

Student Employment is asking you to join the team. Some tasks include: greeting clients, customer service, data entry, some phone work, copying, and mail handling.

Apply today and be a part of the heartbeat at Highline.

Where: Life Activities Center

When: -Flexible -

Get more information, log on to Interfase at www.myinterfase.com/highline/student or visit Student Employment in Building 6.
College makes bad weather plans

By Nick Dalton
Staff Reporter

Highline will again rely on local websites and radio stations to tell people when the campus is closed or classes are delayed due to weather or other related factors.

"In general we close the campus when travel in the immediate vicinity is hazardous or impossible, if the campus itself is impassable or unsafe, or if the college is without heat, power or water," said Larry Yok, Highline's vice president for administration. "These conditions may be weather related, but not always.

Yok said that closure decisions are based on what's going on here, not everywhere else.

"Because of the many micro-climates in our district, it is possible that roadways are difficult in some areas, but not in the area around the campus," he said. "Since it is not possible for us to have full knowledge of conditions beyond the immediate area, we make our decision to close the campus based on observations on and around the campus."

Yok said he decides whether to close the campus in such cases, and his decision is usually made after consulting with Highline's president and other members of the executive staff, as well as the campus safety supervisor and the director of facilities and operations.

Highline's suspended operations procedure can be viewed at www.highline.edu/admin/hr/admin_handbook/suspended_ops.htm.

Closure information can be found at schoolreport.org, which lists closure information for all schools and has an option to receive alerts about closers.

Drivers should expect only minor delays throughout South King County this week, though heavy rains threaten to slow completion of all projects.

• On both the ramps from westbound SR 167 near 15th Street Northwest, the shoulders will be closed tonight from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. tomorrow.

• On both the ramps from westbound State Route 18 to northbound SR 167, and the northbound SR 167 off-ramp to 15th Street Northwest, the shoulders will be closed tonight from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. tomorrow.

• The westbound State Route 518 off-ramp to southbound State Route 99 (Pacific Highway South/International Boulevard) will reopen tomorrow at 6 a.m., after being closed since Tuesday, Oct. 30.

• The left lane of the ramp from westbound SR 518 into SeaTac Airport will be closed tonight from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. tomorrow.

• The left lane of Interstate 5 southbound will be closed between South 144th Street and Southcenter from 8 p.m. tonight until 5 a.m. tomorrow.

• The HOV lane and the right lane of Boeing Access Road between I-5 and State Route 900 will be closed from 7 p.m. to night until 5 a.m. tomorrow.

• The left lane of westbound Interstate 90 near 80th Avenue will be closed from 9 p.m. to night until 5 a.m. tomorrow.

• Construction has resulted in the closure of access driveways to Checkmate, La Madera Apartments, Blue Ridge Apartments, and Soundview Apartments, all of which are slightly north of the intersection at South 288th Street and Pacific Highway South. During these closures, all three listed apartment complexes can be accessed from 18th Avenue South, which runs north/south just east of Pacific Highway, and Checkmate can be reached from South 288th Street.

� Construction along Pacific Highway South within an unspecified range north and south of the intersection at South 288th Street is expected to cause lane closures and traffic delays daily. Pacific Highway South traveling northbound will experience lane closures until approximately Dec. 14, when the project is expected to be finished. Delays both directions south of South 288th Street are expected to continue into 2008.

Compiled by Nick Dalton
State money should not be used to support a religious event. Last Spring Student Programs rejected a claim by Campus Crusade for Christ to fund a event they were having at the end of the quarter. The claim was then appealed to the Dean of Student Services Toni Castro. The appeal eventually succeeded and it was ruled that the event should be funded because there is a social aspect to the event and because Student Programs funds social events across the board. The ruling came in August, too late to fund the event but Student Programs said they now will fund similar events if requested.

Jonathan Brown, associate dean of Student Programs said, "there has been an easing of our prospective but the policy hasn’t changed."

The fact that Student Programs has eased their prospective on dealing with a policy issue regarding religious events is troubling. Although there is some wiggle room in the policy, Student Programs needs to be thorough in the evaluation process of funding student activities, especially the requested concerning religious events.

The policy states that S&A funds cannot provide for, or be used as seed money to fund-raise for, religious worship, exercise, or instruction. The other policy states that S&A funds can be provided to religious student groups for non-religious purposes on the same basis that such funds are provided to any other student group.

What this means is religious clubs have the same rights as any other club including the right to be funded just like any other club as long as the event that is funded isn’t a religious event.

Because of the precedent set by the ruling on this issue, Student Programs can now use S&A funds for religious events as long as there is a social aspect to the event. That means Student Programs will fund any student-led event, because all events have some social aspects to them.

Although it is a good thing that Highline funds student-led events, this is a ruling they should not have made. It is a bad idea to ease your viewing of policies set by the state on such a divisive issue like religion.

This sets a precedent that could have negative consequences down the road.

Staff

"Yeayer!!!"

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I just wanted to clarify a couple of comments made in the recent issue of the Thunderword posted Nov. 29. The editorial was titled Students don’t show at forum found on page 4 in the Opinion section.

Our writer stated in his second paragraph that, “This hearing was a chance to get students, faculty and staff to put input on the changes they are trying to get approved.”

As Toni Castro, dean of Students, informed me, this public hearing was merely a formality in accordance with Washington state code and was intended to be one last chance for any closing comments or questions. At this stage of the process we are beyond any more input. Note, this process has been ongoing over the last two years.

The writer goes on in the following paragraph to claim, “This tells us that Highline students don’t really care about their rights as students. There wasn’t even a representative from Student Government there.”

I would point out that a student’s application for admission to Highline constitutes acceptance of the responsibility to comply with established policies and regulations. So, I would say we all pretty much know what we are getting ourselves into. I would also boldly declare our student body to be above average when it comes to understanding their rights and responsibilities. I see our students as highly involved, motivated, mature, respectful, honorable, and very well informed.

I believe they have the capacity to understand that any changes to this code will have undergone a rigorous process and will only serve to benefit and protect them.

There has been a rigorous process which your Student Government has been a continuous part of. Aside from the Revision Committee, these policy revisions were reviewed by the Policy Development Council (the Student Body President represents students on this committee), Student Government, the Student Affairs Cabinet, and the Instruction Cabinet. Nothing passes through Student Government without being voted on by representatives in the Student Council.

Before this was accepted by vote, paralegal student Re-ne Reiche took it upon herself to read word for word every change made to the Code on behalf of the students and found it to be acceptable. In fact, Renee may be subject to editing for length.

Write to us

The Thunderword encourages letters to the editor and columns from the college community. Editorial cartoons on timely subjects also may be considered.

Submissions will be edited for style. Due to limited space, please limit your submission to 500 words or less. Submissions that are too long may be subject to editing for length.

E-mail your submission to thunderword@highline.edu.

Letters and columns can be on any topics. Topics of interest to the campus community take priority.
Highline's Jazz Band aims for bigger things down the road

By Ariel McKenzie
Staff Reporter

Highline's Jazz Band can all play, but the trick now is learning how to play together.

The band, directed by Ben Thomas, is a non-auditioned band for people who want to learn about music. She said that although it is non-auditioned, members are still expected to practice at home and learn the music.

Guitarists Aaron Torres and Mike Smith lay down some licks.

Searle said that the music the band does is mostly jazz standards. Jazz Band is currently working on Little Sunflower by Freddie Hubbard, and All Blues by Miles Davis.

A few years ago, Highline's Jazz Band went to China to do a performance. Past Jazz Bands have also played for the Governor and done performances on and off campus. Dr. Thomas said that she hopes to see the current Jazz Band do performances in the future.

"I'd like to see them working on more songs and this band out playing like we have in the past," Dr. Thomas said.

Highline's Jazz Band aims for bigger things down the road

By Satori Johnson
Staff Reporter

The Renton Civic Theater's production of The Lion in Winter will surely make a roar this weekend as they open their doors to the public.

The Lion in Winter is a Broadway play written by James Goldman and debuted in 1966. The play has been nominated for two Tony Awards and was cinematically adapted in 1968 and again in 2003.

"What is particularly interesting about this play is that this family, with all its faults, is in an incredible position to influence the world," said Director Gregory Magyar.

The play is a fictionalized retelling of the history of the dysfunctional Plantagenet family, one of the early royal houses of England. King Henry II of England and his wife Queen Eleanor of Aquitaine have entirely different futures in mind for the kingdom and which of their three sons, Prince Richard the Lionheart, Prince Geoffrey, and Prince John, will succeed to the throne.

Eleven actors perform in this show.

Cast members include LeAnn Hittenberger as Queen Eleanor and Eric Hartley as King Henry II. Travis Myers, Jay Irwin and David Kelly play the three princes, and Larry Shaw and Meredith Armstrong play French royals.

"The play has become a modern classic. (It's) an amazing piece of writing," said Magyar. "In a sort of cheeky way, it's a comedy. But in the same token it has a dark, witty side."

Unlike other local theaters' plays and musicals that are loaded with holiday themes this time of year, The Lion in Winter isn't so much about Christmas as it is about a dysfunctional family.

"We were specifically looking for something different in tone from what everyone else is producing this time of year," said Magyar.

Director Magyar has been with the Renton Civic Theater for more than 10 years. Since he moved from Santa Fe, New Mexico, he has taken on an active part in the theatrical community. In conjunction with directing the Renton Civic Theater, he also acts as managing director of Driftwood Players Theater in Edmonds.

He said that being director of Renton Civic Theater has allowed him to work with great scripts and great actors.

The Renton Civic Theater was founded in 1987 has been fueled by the donations of its community members.

They have become a premier venue for theater in the Puget Sound and regularly offer family friendly productions. The theater is located at 507 S. 3rd St. in Renton.

The play runs from Friday, Dec. 7 through Sunday, Dec 23. Performances are on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m.

Tickets for The Lion in Winter are $20 for general admission, and $15 for students/seniors with discounts for groups. Information and ticket sales are available at www.rentoncivic-theater.org or by calling 425-226-5529.
Falkner fills Bistro with her soothing voice

By Ariel McKenzie
Staff Reporter

If you need a five-credit humanities class and you want to learn more about films around the world, Highline’s new Global Cinema course may be for you.

For the first time at Highline, Global Cinema will be offered as part of the new Film Studies Program.

The film program, which began this fall, includes courses which aim to teach students more about the technical aspects of film and to give them a deeper appreciation for film.

Susan Rich, writing and humanities instructor, said that the Global Cinema class will watch films from around the world; including films from countries such as South Africa, Palestine and Bosnia. She said that this class will focus on the youth culture in other countries and how they are represented in films.

“Globaline is an international campus and I think there should be courses that reflect that,” Rich said.

A South African exchange student at Highline, Charles Motoko, will come as a guest speaker to the Global Cinema class, said Rich.

Students who take the Global Cinema class will watch movies such as The Cranes Are Flying, Paradise Now, and Tootsi. Rich said she chose these movies because she thinks Highline students will be able to relate to them.

“The idea of being on the cusp of change,” said Rich, “is something she thinks student’s can identify with. “We will be looking at young people facing problems in their lives.”

She said although the class will look at the problems other young people are facing, not all of the movies will be sad and the movies also have a lot of comedy.

Rich, who has lived in several places outside of the United States, said that she believes students benefit from having a global perspective.

Rich said that two new courses will be added to the Film Studies program every quarter. She said she hopes that students who take the Global Film course will become more interested in the field of film and that they will take other film classes offered at Highline.

Susan Rich has a double major in creative writing and film studies. She said that as a poet, she sees a lot of connections between creative writing and film.

“Film is poetry of the twenty-first century,” said Rich. “In many ways, both are image driven and rely on the empathy of the viewer or reader.”

Rich said that she also worked at the Edinburgh International Film Festival, which is the world’s longest running film festival and takes place every August.

Global Cinema meets Monday through Thursday from 12:10 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. More information about this class and any other class in the Film Studies Program can be found by contacting Rich by emailing her at srich@highline.edu.

Burien Little Theatre is calling for a violinist

By Ariel McKenzie
Staff Reporter

Burien Little Theatre is looking for a talented violinist.

The upcoming production is a musical comedy titled I Love You, You’re Perfect, Now Change. A violinist is needed for the show’s two-person orchestra.

Performances run Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, Feb. 8 through March 2. If chosen for the position, there is a compensation of $500 and two complimentary tickets to the show.

More information about this position can be found by contacting Karen Knoller at 206-216-5253 or kknoller@att.net.

More information about the upcoming production or about Burien Little Theatre can be found at www.burienlittletheatre.com.

Make a donation to the homeless this season, buy a book of poetry

If you are still searching for a gift for your friends and family this season, check out the poetry anthology titled Beloved Community: The Sisterhood of Homeless Women in Poetry.

This anthology contains the poetry of several homeless women from Seattle. Within the book, these women share stories from their lives and experiences living on the street.

The proceeds from these books will be donated to WHEEL and other programs which help homeless women, who live in the Seattle, area to get off the streets.

WHEEL is a homeless advocacy group which strives to help the homeless get off the streets.

The cost for the anthology poetry book is $17.95 and can be purchased at www.whitpress.org.
**Holiday Fun**

**Holiday cinema classics for all ages**

By James Bermingham

Staff reporter

This Christmas, spend time with family and friends watching some entertaining holiday movies. It can be difficult trying to pick out a movie to get you into the holiday spirit because there are so many of them, but here are a few to help you get started.

• A classic Christmas movie that the whole family will enjoy is *It's a Wonderful Life*. It stars James Stewart and George Bailey, and is a film about a man, George, whose attempted suicide on Christmas Eve gains the attention of his guardian angel, who is sent to help him in his hour of need. The movie is told through flashbacks that show George all the people whose lives he's touched. The film’s simplistic plot makes it a great film for the whole family. The film was released Dec. 20, 1946. It was directed by Frank Capra. Its running time is 130 minutes.

• A funny Christmas movie for an adult audience is *The Ref*. The Ref stars Dennis Leary, Kevin Spacey, and Judy Davis. *The Ref* is a movie about a married couple whose only similarity seems to be a love for arguing with each other. The arguing doesn’t stop when Gus, (Dennis Leary), who is a robber, is forced to hold them hostage. Things get really interesting for Gus when Lloyd’s (Kevin Spacey) family and his evildoer come to dinner and the whole family gets into the arguing spirit. This is a film that you may have to watch twice because you might miss a little of it when you’re laughing so hard. The real comedy of the movie comes out when Gus is forced to act as a ref between the two. Ted Demme directed this film. Its running time is 93 minutes.

• A good Christmas movie for the kids is *A Charlie Brown Christmas*. A Charlie Brown Christmas was written by Charles Schulz. It is about Charlie Brown and his search for the meaning of Christmas. The movie is a cute 25-minute film that the whole family can enjoy. If you like any Charlie Brown films, you will enjoy this. It was directed by Bill Melendez.

• A holiday movie that is funny and for an adult audience is *Love Actually*. The film weaves a number of love stories together, linking many characters together in the process. The film begins five weeks before Christmas. The stories range from a former rock-and-roll star trying desperately for a comeback to the Prime Minister of England. This isn’t your traditional Christmas movie, but it’s just as good. The movie is rated R and is 135 minutes. It was directed by Richard Curtis.

• *Miracle on 34th Street* is a good Christmas movie for the kids. The movie is about A 6-year-old who has doubts about childhood’s most enduring miracle - Santa Claus. The arrival of one Kris Kringle, a department store Santa who believes he’s the genuine Santa Claus, turns the skeptical child’s world upside down. The movie is a heart-warming story that every kid will love. The movie is 74 minutes and rated PG. It was directed by Henry Koster.

• *The Santa Clause* is a funny Christmas movie that people of all ages can enjoy. Tim Allen stars in this flick as a man who accidentally kills Santa. He has to put on the suit and finish the job, not knowing that when he does put the suit on that makes him the new Santa. When he’s done and returns to the North Pole he is told he is the new Santa and he has until Thanksgiving to get his affairs in order until he takes over the job for good. The Santa Clause is a modern classic Christmas movie. The film’s run time is 97 minutes. It was directed by John Pasquin.

• *Home Alone* is a good Christmas movie that is loads of fun to watch. The film stars Macaulay Culkin as Kevin McCallister. Kevin, after a fight with his brother is told to go up to the attic and go to bed the night before his family and extended family go on a Christmas vacation. That night, Kevin wishes his family would simply disappear. After a power-line failure which neutralizes all of the alarm clocks, the rest of the family rushes to leave for a Christmas vacation to Paris, France. Thus, Kevin’s wish is fulfilled. The fun really begins when two burglars try and rob the house and Kevin tries to defend the house from the crooks. The movie is a funny adventure the whole family will love. Its run time is 103 minutes. It was directed by Chris Columbus.

• *A raunchy comedy that you can’t help but love is Bad Santa*. Bad Santa stars Billy Bob Thornton as a drunken man who is a department store Santa that robs the stores when the holiday season is over. The movie is hilarious but vulgar. This is a film that is for a more mature audience. Its run time is 98 minutes and it is rated R. It was directed by Terry Zwigoff.

• *Jingle all the Way* is a funny family Christmas movie. Howard Langston (Arnold Schwarzenegger) is often busy at his job, and has a hard time finding time for his wife, Liz (Rita Wilson) and his young son, Jamie (Jake Lloyd). Howard thinks he can make everything right if he gets his son an action figure that he requested for Christmas. However, Howard forgot to get the toy and soon found out the entire country was sold out of them. He ends up on a city-wide search for the action figure. The film’s run time is 103 minutes. Brian Levant directed it.

• Perhaps the definition of a classic Christmas movie is *A Christmas Story*. The film relates the tale of Ralphie Parker (Peter Billingsley), who wants a BB gun for Christmas (specifically, “an official Red Ryder, carbine action, two-hundred shot range model air rifle, with a compass in the stock ‘this thing’ which tells time”) and he will go to any lengths to get it, despite the numerous adult admonishments, especially those of his mother, of “you’ll shoot your eye out.” Over the course of the film, Ralphie hides a Red Ryder advertisement in his mother’s Look magazine, gives a spotting of grizzly bears in the neighborhood, blurs his desire outright, writes an essay on the subject, and asks an impatient Santa just as the department store closes. Ultimately, Ralphie’s “Old Man” gives in and buys Ralphie his BB gun for Christmas, stating that he had one himself when he was 8 years old. Ralphie eagerly runs outside in his boots and pajamas to “try it out,” but the BB ricochets off his glasses, injuring him slightly and briefly, but incorrectly convincing him that he did shoot his eye out. The film is a great Christmas story that is simple and funny that everyone loves. The movies run time is 94 minutes. It was directed by Bob Clark.
Christmas is just around the corner and that has us all thinking about what the holiday season is really about. Presents!

While everyone wants to get the new iPod Touch, not all of us can afford to give it. Thankfully, giving a gift isn't about how much money you spend, but the thought behind the gift.

Gifts don't have to be worth a lot of money to be full of memories. Tickets to holiday concerts, plays, and ballets are a perfect gift for the music and theater lover in your life. Tickets to the Pacific Northwest Ballet's production of The Nutcracker Suite start at $20 for weekday performances and $24 for weekend and peak performances and run through Dec. 29.

Not a big ballet fan? Try going to your local theater for their holiday shows. Tickets are usually in the range of $10-30 and many shows are good for all ages.

Gift cards can be great presents as long as they are done properly. Although gift cards for presents are often seen as impersonal, a gift card with a purpose can be a fantastic gift. So give your crazy Uncle Eddie who has been trying to build that second deck for years a gift card to Home Depot. This gift will keep them enthralled for months to come.

Gift baskets can be a relatively inexpensive way to give someone a special treat for the holidays. The picture frame for the family vacation to Hawaii to give the scrapbook a little more color.

Another fabulous idea is the gift of music this year with an iTunes gift card. CD\'s are becoming more and more outdated thanks to MP3 players and iPods. Give the gift of music every year. With a little thought and some simple binoculars in a photo frame for the family vacation to Hawaii to give the scrapbook a little more color.

Another fabulous idea is the gift that keeps on giving. Donating a toy or money to a charity in someone's name is a gift that will make more than one person happy at once, although I wouldn't donate your little brother's new bicycle to Toys for Tots, he might not appreciate it as much.

If you have a printer and some spare time, another good way to personalize a gift card is to make your own. A gift for one free homemade dinner or a back massage may seem a little childish, but there are few things we take for granted like the time and company of people you care about.

A scrapbook is a unique gift that is cost effective and personal at the same time. Take all of your favorite pictures of the family and put them in a photo album with captions for mom. She will appreciate the gift for years to come.

Scrapbooks can have themes such as Christmas or vacation memories. Dress up your scrapbook with little snowflakes or presents for Christmas themes, and pictures of flip flops or palm trees for that family vacation to that same boring things every year. With a little thought and some work, you can find a gift that is thoughtful, useful, and memorable.

You don't have to spend a lot of money to get the right gift for the right person.
**Lighted zoo and clams brighten up holiday season**

By Melody Ericksen
Staff Reporter

This Christmas you can enjoy a zoo or clams in lights, or you can wander in the past. There are many holiday events that you could take part in with family or friends.

Attend Zoolights at the Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium. This year is the 20th anniversary for this event.

Every year the zoo is transformed into a winter wonderland. There will be replicas of whales, elephants, owls, reindeer, an injured eagle, and a replica of the new Tacoma Narrows Bridge. There will be live entertainment and refreshments available as you wander through the zoo.

Zoolights will also be open Christmas evening for the first time ever.

People can also shop for holiday gifts while enjoying Zoolights. The upper level of the North Pacific Aquarium will be closed Friday and Saturday nights for private parties and events.

To book an event of your own at Zoolights call 253-404-3805 or email heidir@tacomaparks.com.

Zoolights at the Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium will take place from Nov. 23 - Jan. 1 from 5 - 9 p.m. Zoolights will be closed Nov. 26 - 28, and Dec. 3 - 5 and 24.

To find out more about Zoolights and how to get tickets go to the zoo’s website at www.pdza.org.

Zoolights is located at 400 N. Pearl Street, Tacoma.

Another fun family event to attend could be the Victorian Country Christmas Festival. This festival is taking place at the Puyallup Fairgrounds. The fairgrounds have been transformed into an old-fashioned Victorian village where the streets are lined with more than 530 shops complete with shopkeepers in Victorian attire.

You can shop for hand-crafted gifts, tasty food, and learn to cook fancy foods at different demonstrations.

People can also take the opportunity to take a ride on a decorated Santa Tram or take a ride in a horse-drawn Victorian-style carriage.

There will be Christmas lights, tram rides, theaters and shows. There will be no shortage of holiday activities to keep you entertained.

The Victorian Country Christmas Festival will be running Nov. 28 - Dec. 2. Wednesday - Saturday from 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. Parking is free.

The Victorian Country Christmas Festival is located at the Corner of South Meridian and 9th Street Southwest in downtown Puyallup.

In Renton the annual tradition of Clam Lights has begun. This display of holiday lighting is called Clam Lights for the sponsor Ivar’s Fish and Chips.

“There are actually lighted clams at the park; the trees are all lit up, as well as the water walk along the beach, and all the buildings. The whole park is very festive,” said Kris Simpson, the recreational manager for Clam Lights.

Clam Lights is located at 1201 Lake Washington Boulevard N., Renton, in the Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park. They will be on nightly from 5 - 9 p.m. and will continue until Jan. 1, 2008. Admission to the park is free.

In Tacoma, Argosy “Singing” Christmas Ship Festival has started and will continue until Dec. 23. This special holiday event has been a local tradition in the Northwest for 55 years.

The ship is not at any set location because for each night that the trip will be running it will start from a different port in a different city.

“Argosy Cruises recommends that you buy your tickets in advance online if you are planning on participating in with family or friends. Tickets are for $34 for adults and $19 for children. On Wednesday, Dec. 12 the Spirit of Seattle will be departing from Des Moines Marina. It will leave at 7 p.m. and return at 9 p.m. “Santa is on board; there is a large choir that sings to the ships near the end of the voyage, and private boats come out to play for him. It's a very fun game,” said Beth Wells, a guest service representative at Argosy Cruises.

“Singing Clam Lights at the Point Defiance Zoo’s Zoolights is one of the area’s brightest holiday festivities. Attend Zoolights at the Point Defiance Zoo’s Zoolights and experience warm Christmas lights, tram rides, theaters and shows. The upper level of the North Pacific Aquarium will be closed Friday and Saturday nights for private parties and events.

## It wouldn’t be the holidays without yummy, easy sugar cookies

Reward Santa for all his hard work this holiday by leaving him a plate full of delicious homemade cookies.

If you don’t want Old Saint Nick to check his list again after tasting your cookies, allow me to give you a few tips to help you stay off his naughty list.

First thing with every cookie recipe is to read it all the way through. This allows you to make sure that you have all the ingredients needed for the recipe.

All of the ingredients should be at room temperature before starting the recipe.

Always pre-heat the oven so the cookies can bake at the appropriate temperature.

Measure the ingredients carefully and double check to make sure that you are using the right ingredient.

I am awful at confusing baking soda and baking powder, so before I even measure them out I check the recipe again.

Most recipes will call for dough to be chilled. This is extremely important because the dough will be chilled. This is extremely important because the dough will be easier to work with, and if you are going to use cookie cutters the shapes will hold their shape better.

Lastly, if frosting is going to be part of your holiday cookie experience, wait until after the cookies are cooled before frothing.

Many people have family cookie recipes that they make every year, but here are a few recipes that I love making year after year.

**Sugar cookies** are a holiday favorite for many people. I love to strategically plan my shapes so I get the most cookies out of the dough. Here is a great sugar cookie recipe with a hint of lemon.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>21/4 cups of flour</th>
<th>1 tspn of baking powder</th>
<th>3 tspn of salt</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 cup of sugar</td>
<td>2 eggs</td>
<td>1/2 tspn of vanilla extract</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 tspn of lemon extract</td>
<td>1/3 tspn of lemon extract</td>
<td>1/2 tspn of sugar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Blend dry ingredients into butter and sugar mixture. Chill for at least one hour. Roll out dough on a lightly floured surface. Cut out assorted shapes using cookie cutters. Bake on an ungreased cookie sheet for 6-8 minutes at 400°. Allow to cool completely before decorating.

Gingerbread men are fun for children to make as well as adults. Here is a recipe that uses pudding so that the cookies stay moist:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1 1/2 cups of flour</th>
<th>1 1/2 teaspoons of ground ginger</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/2 tspn of lemon extract</td>
<td>1/2 tspn of sugar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Blend all ingredients in a bowl. Mix dough and divide into small balls. Roll dough between two pieces of waxed paper. Bake at 350° for 10 minutes. Cool completely before frosting.
easy Christmas cookies

Ingredients:
- 1 tsp of ground cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp of baking soda
- 1/4 tsp of margarine or butter
- 1/4 cup of packed brown sugar
- 1 package of butterscotch instant pudding
- 1 egg

Instructions:
1. In a medium bowl, mix together flour, ground ginger, cinnamon, and baking soda. In another bowl, cream sugar and butter. Mix in egg and pudding. Add the dry ingredients. Mix until combined. Refrigerate dough for one hour. Roll out dough and cut into desired gingerbread men shapes. Bake on an ungreased cookie sheet for 10 minutes at 350 degrees. Rolled cookies with a jam filled thumbprint in the center are great for holiday parties. Try this recipe that will have your cookie platter empty in no time:

- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 tsp of salt
- 2 1/2 cups of butter or margarine
- 1/4 cup of sugar
- 2 egg yolks
- 1 tsp of vanilla
- 1/3 cup of jam

Mix flour and salt together in a separate bowl, beat butter for 30 seconds; add sugar and beat until fluffy.

Add egg yolks and vanilla; beat until mixed well. Add dry ingredients to beat mixture, and beat until combined. Cover and chill for 1 hour.

Shape into 1-inch balls and place them 1 inch apart on an ungreased cookie sheet. Gently press down the centers with thumb. Bake at 350 for 15-17 minutes. Cool on a wire rack and fill centers with jam before serving.

To keep your Christmas cookies fresh, store them in an airtight container.

Give of yourself this holiday season

By Satorri Johnson
Staff Reporter

You don’t need to spend a lot of money, or sacrifice a lot of your time to make a difference in your community this Christmas.

Donating non-perishable items from your pantry, or old coats and blankets from your closet can make a difference to homeless and struggling families this holiday season.

Local organizations and businesses are doing their part to help Washington citizens who need help this season. They are asking community members for a variety of contributions. Donations of money, clothing, and food will alleviate some struggles in your community this Christmas and will face this time of year.

Des Moines Food Bank is supplying community members with complete Christmas dinners on Dec. 19, 20 and 21 from 9 a.m. until noon. For the cost of an iPad (retail value of $249), Associate Director of Des Moines Food Bank Barb Shimizu says they can provide up to 1,494 meals for people who need a little extra help. She said they have to make their dollars stretch by buying wholesale and bulk items.

“The biggest need is for financial contributions, but food donations are always appreciated,” Shimizu said.

Food donations and financial contributions to Des Moines Food Bank can be made at the food bank, located at 22229 4th Ave. S. More information is available at the website www.myfoodbank.org.

Mike Werle, director for the Manhattan Community Hall in Burien, said they will also provide complete Christmas meals to their Burien community members. They are expecting to serve more than 500 families this Christmas and will face some challenges doing so.

Werle said that acquiring enough food has been difficult because they don’t have the facilities to store perishable food products that they might have purchased ahead of time.

For more information about how to help the Manhattan Community Hall, call 206-433-9900.

Food banks in Kent, Maple Valley, Federal Way, Renton and Auburn will have similar programs that provide food for families the corresponding communities. South King County food bank information is available at www.hope-link.org/gethelp/food.

Calvary Lutheran Church in Federal Way will host community dinners organized by the Federal Way Community Caregiving Network on Wednesday Dec. 12 and Dec. 19.

They are preparing dinner for 100 people from the Federal Way area, most of whom are homeless. This holiday season, 70 volunteers will spend their evening away from home, and offer their time to cook and serve food to the local.

“It’s hard to see people hungry,” said Jan Olsen, the administrative coordinator at Calvary Lutheran Church.

The dinners are orchestrated by the Federal Way Community Caregiving Network, which is funded strictly through charitable donations.

This year the organization is in need of donations of food, clothing, hygiene products, money and time. Anyone can volunteer to help at the weekly dinners or request information by calling the Caregiving Network at 253-661-6500.

“Not everyone can be a foster parent, but anyone can help a foster child,” is Sleep Country USA’s slogan for their holiday toy drive.

The mattress franchise says they want to help the 18,000 foster children in Washington by collecting unwrapped toys and used and new coats.

“We want to work together to help make sure (foster) children have the items and resources they need to have a happier, more successful childhood,” local Sleep Country Sales Associate said.

Donations will be accepted at any Sleep Country location until Dec. 16. Store hours are Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Locations and more information are available on their website www.sleepcountry.com or by calling 888-88-SLEEP.

Asian Counseling and Referral service is hosting a food drive on Dec. 8 at the Columbia City Theater from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The event will feature electric violinist Geoffrey Castle who will be performing at 11:30 a.m. It’s Not For Me, a live youth theater production, will begin at noon for attendees to enjoy.

The organization is accepting food donations including rice, ramen, tofu, soy milk, canned fish, and soy sauce. They are

See Help / B6
Winter festivals common all over the world

By Katie Chan
Staff Reporter

Many people in all over the world celebrate Christmas, but some who don't have their own festival for winter.

International students at Highline say they observe Christmas in their countries in different ways.

Nori Ike, who is from Japan, says they don't; do much for Christmas, but they will spend the holiday with their family or lovers.

“We will have a great dinner with our family with a cake. Couples usually will spend the holiday on romantic dates and they will go to fancy restaurants and exchange their Christmas gifts,” Ike said. “People who are single will have a party with their friends and exchange presents.”

Elsie Leung says Christmas is one of the biggest festivals in Hong Kong.

The streets and shopping malls will decorate a lot of lights and Christmas trees. Children or teenagers will give Christmas cards to their friends or classmates,” Leung said. “Families also will go to Western restaurants to have turkey or some other food for Christmas dinner.

“Schools will have 10 day holidays for it and many Christian schools will organize some activity or party for students,” Leung said. “We usually have to buy Christmas gifts and randomly draw another from someone else.”

Yosuke Tami, who is from Japan and lived in Singapore for 18 months, says Singapore is a diverse country and some people celebrate Christmas.

“Many places will decorate and have Christmas tree in the famous place called Orchard,” Tami said. “People will go shopping, have Christmas dinner with their family or hang out with friends.

“There is a big monitor and people will get together and countdown for New Year with fire work,” Tami said.

Although Christmas is celebrated in many countries, Christmas in some countries not big.

Xiao Gao from China says only teenagers will celebrate Christmas, as many elders don't even know anything about it.

“Young people usually will go out with friends, have dinners during Christmas,” Gao said. “We still have school on Christmas and it is just like a normal day.

Gao says their major festival is Chinese New Year on February.

Gao says before Chinese New Year comes, they will go shopping for the new clothes and prepare to wear them during the festival. Many people also will go to their hometown to visit their families.

“During Chinese New Year, we will have a big meal with everyone in the family. When we visit people, adults suppose to give them gifts,” Gao said. “Children usually will receive red money pockets from their parents and people who married.

“People, who live in a small town or village, will have fire crackers in the early morning. They will also have the fire work at night in their balcony or open field,” Gao said. “We can see fire work everywhere in the town.

“Lion dance team will go to everyone's house to dance,” Gao said.

Gao says some people also will go to temple to pray and see the fortune tellers in order to predict their career, health, life in the coming year.

Nguyen Doan from Vietnam says people who are Christian will celebrate Christmas, but it is not as big as the U.S.

Doan says they don't have Christmas holiday at school.

However, Christians might decorate Christmas trees or go to church.

We have Christmas soup and some Vietnamese food for Christmas,” Doan said. “We don't have turkey or some American food to celebrate it because those are very hard to buy over there.

“Children usually have gifts from their parents and they believe the presents are from Santa Claus,” Doan said. “However, we don't have Christmas holiday at school.”

Hai Leung, who is from Vietnam, says their major holiday is New Year.

“Our New Year will be on February this coming year according to the lunar calendar,” Pham said.

Thant Zin from Myanmar says the country doesn't celebrate Christmas.

“Many people are Buddhists over there,” Zin said.

Zin says the traditional festival is water festival occurs on April.

“We go everywhere and pour water on each other which represents cleaning their sin for the coming year,” Zin said.

“However, we cannot pour water on a monk, or a pregnant woman,” Zin said. “If we do, we believe it won't rain for the whole year.”

Niphon Sukuan, who is from Thailand, says they don't celebrate Christmas either but they have a festival called Loy Krathong on November.

Sukuan says people in this festival have to bring their bowls made of leaves, candles and incense sticks and food. They light candles and incense sticks during the Krathong to float on rivers, streams, ponds or canals, and make a wish.

Sukuan says the festival is not only for religions but it is also a social society activity.

“People usually go to temples for the holidays to hope they have good luck and be given holy water for medication,” Sukuan said.

The perfect pill for a holiday bill

Once upon a time, George Bailey was caught penniless during the holiday season. Don't be like George Bailey. Call us today and schedule an interview for immediate job opportunities. We have just what you need to alleviate a holiday headache during the winter break.

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Great Pay & Flexible Schedules
Part-Time & Full-Time Available
Training Provided
Scholarship Opportunities

Call today to schedule an interview.
253-856-1332

Customer Sales/Service
All Ages 18+
$14.50 Base/App.
Conditions Apply

Holiday Fun

Help

Continued From Page B5
also accepting donations of diapers, baby food and baby formula for younger families living in the Highline City. 

The Union Gospel Mission is hosting their Coat a Blanket Drive on Saturday, Dec. 15, also at the Columbia City Theater from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

They will be collecting new or gently used coats and blankets for Seattle's homeless. Seattle drummer Lenard Jones will perform at 11:30 a.m. followed by guitarist Michael Powers performing at noon.

Both drives will feature Frosty the Snowman, who will be taking pictures with children starting at 11 a.m. and have information on early education, parenting and school readiness for parents.

Kashieh Farr, community Liaison for MUSICA newspaper, says the events are not just a drive, but a safe place for families to come and enjoy holiday festivities.

The Columbia City Theater is located at 4916 Ravenna Avenue Northeast in Seattle. Ticket prices for both events are $10 for adults, $7 for students/ seniors/military, and $5 for children under 8 years old. For more information, call 206-356-1720, or visit the website at www.musicaentertainment.org.

Whether you have a lot or a little to give, there is a place for your contributions to be made into good use, and a family that is in need of your generosity.
Dance, act and sing:
Get into the holiday swing

By Ariel McKenzie
Staff Reporter

Christmas is near and many of us are looking for some entertainment with holiday spirit. Whether you are on a budget or you have some extra cash to spare this season, there is a Christmas production for you.

*Unexpected Productions will present *A(n) Improvised* Christmas Carol* this season. This play takes the original Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* and puts a twist on it by allowing the audience to shout out details about the characters and the paths that they take. The actors then have to work with the improvised script the audience has given them. This show runs Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, Dec. 8 through Dec. 23.

The Friday and Saturday showings will begin at 8 p.m. and the Sunday showings will begin at 7 p.m.

Tickets are $12 for general admission and the show takes place at Market Theatre, 1428 Post Alley, Seattle. Tickets can be purchased online at www.unexpectedproductions.org or by calling 206-325-6500.

*A traditional rendition of Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* is presented by ACT Theatre this season. This year marks the 32nd production of *A Christmas Carol* presented by ACT Theatre. This show runs Thursday, Dec. 6 and Friday, Dec. 7 at 5 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Tuesdays, Wednesday, Thursdays, and Fridays, Dec. 11 through Dec. 21 at 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.; Saturdays, Dec. 8 through Dec. 22 at 2 p.m. and at 7 p.m.; Sundays, Dec. 9 through Dec. 23 at 1 p.m. and at 4 p.m.; and Monday, Dec. 24 at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. The play does not run Tuesday, Dec. 25.

The show takes place at the ACT Theatre, 700 Union St., Seattle, and ticket prices range from $30 to $45 for general admission. Tickets can be purchased online at www.acttheatre.org or by calling 206-617-2152.

*Intiman Theatre will be presenting its 10th anniversary of Langston Hughes's gospel song play *Black Nativity*. This production features an entirely black cast presenting a remake of the traditional nativity story. Members of the Total Experience Gospel Choir and the Black Nativity Choir will sing gospel songs along with an onstage band.

This show runs Thursday Dec. 6 at 7:30 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 7 at 9 p.m.; Saturdays, Dec. 8 through Dec. 22 at 2 p.m. and at 8 p.m.; Sundays, Dec. 9 through Dec. 23 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, Dec. 11 through Dec. 21 at 8 p.m.; Monday, Dec. 24 at 4 p.m.; and Wednesday, Dec. 26 through Friday, Dec. 28 at 8 p.m. The play does not run Tuesday, Dec. 25.

The play takes place at the Intiman Playhouse, 201 Mercer St., Seattle. Ticket prices range from $35 to $42 for adults, $30 for youth and seniors, and $15 to $25 for children. On Dec. 6, Intiman offers a "pay-what-you-can" showing. Intiman also offers a family ticket pack in which a pack of two adult tickets and two children's tickets are priced at $70. Tickets can be purchased online at www.intiman.org or by calling the Intiman Theatre ticket office at 206-269-1900.

*A holiday tradition for many people in the Seattle area is Pacific Northwest Ballet's production of The Nutcracker*. This season is the 24th year of the Nutcracker production presented by the ballet. This production, created with the help of Maurice Sendak, children's author and illustrator, follows the original story of *The Nutcracker*.

The show runs Fridays, Dec. 7 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturdays, Dec. 8 through Dec. 29 at 2 p.m. and at 7:30 p.m.; Sundays, Dec. 9 through Dec. 23 at 1 p.m. and at 5:30 p.m.; Wednesday through Friday Dec. 12 to Dec. 28 at 7:30 p.m.

The production takes place at Marion Oliver McCaw Hall, 321 Mercer St., Seattle. Ticket prices range from $20 to $115 for adults and $12 to $105 for children. Family packs are offered and range from $158 to $432 and include four tickets to any one performance of *The Nutcracker*. Tickets can be purchased online at www.pnb.org or by calling the Pacific Northwest Ballet box office at 206-441-2424.

*Burien Little Theatre is presenting *Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge*. This show is a non-traditional remake of Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* written by Christopher Durang.

The play runs Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays Dec. 7 through Dec. 16.

Shows on Friday and Saturday begin at 8 p.m. and Sunday shows are matinees which begin at 2 p.m. The Burien Little Theatre is located in the city of Burien at 425 SW 144th St. Tickets are $16 for general admission and $13 for seniors and students. Sunday matinee shows are $13 for general admission. Tickets can be purchased online at www.burienlittletheatre.com or by calling 206-242-5180.

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*Pacific Northwest Ballet continues its long standing tradition of presenting The Nutcracker.*

Chris Benton/PACIFIC NORTHWEST BALLET

*The Thunderword / Dec. 6, 2007*
Bah, humbug! Christmas lost in commercialization

By James Bermingham  Staff Reporter

B

Oh Humbug! Christmas used to be a wonderful thing that brought happiness to everyone. Now it’s a whole season that Christmas is about being about family and friends coming together. It’s about reaching out to people.

But look at what Christmas has become now. It has changed from a day where sharing and friendship matter to possessions being the only thing that matters. Kids now make fun of other kids whose families can’t afford to buy them the latest video game systems.

People don’t want to see each other for Christmas any more, they just want presents. Now the Christmas season starts the day after Thanksgiving. They call that day Black Friday because most businesses think they will start turning a profit for the year that day.

The worst part of the season is the commercials. Businesses now use Christmas songs that we all enjoy in their advertising. To me, that seems like they are cheapening the season. Now when you hear a Christmas song you are forced to think about what commercials used that song.

All this makes me wonder what happened to Christmas. It feels like everyone has become like I used to be. Where did the values of Christmas go? Why do we now care more about possessions than family and friends? And most importantly, how do we get Christmas back?

These are all questions we need to answer if we ever want to have a meaningful Christmas again.

From now on, spend your Christmas with friends and family. Surround yourself with people you love and ignore the commercialism and materialism that we have created. If you don’t, one night you may meet the three ghosts of Christmas.

Christmas is about family, home

By Carrie Drager  Staff Reporter

Seattle and Billings are two worlds apart.

Unfortunately for me, I am caught in the middle of both.

For those of you who don’t know where Billings is, it is the largest city in the great state of Montana. Yes, that’s right Montana, home of the Unibomber and the former speed-limitless highway system.

In Montana, everything is done a little different than it is in Seattle.

In Seattle if you smile at a stranger or say hello, most people will assume that you are the next Green River killer. In Montana, greeting a stranger is a common occurrence.

I often forget which state I am in and will smile at or say hello to someone I don’t know. During the holidays though, I am not a potential murder. I am a person caught up in the festivities.

For me Christmas before I moved to Seattle was always about family.

My family gets together every Christmas Eve. We have a dinner of steamed salmon, wild rice, and fresh vegetables before heading to church. We met up with my aunt, uncle, cousins, and grandparents to enjoy an evening service of praise and worship, more often than not with my parents leading and singing in it.

Then my sister, parents and I would head home to open presents. When we were little we would only open one and it was always pajamas to be worn to bed that night.

The next morning after sleeping in, we would get up and everyone would help Morn make a nice brunch with all of our favorites. Sausage and hash browns for my dad and me and pancakes for my mom and sister.

The problem is, the longer I am in Seattle, the more "family members" I get. My teammates, classmates, and friends in Seattle have become members of my family. My teammates truly are my sisters. I live with two of them and not a day goes by that I don’t think about them and what they are up to.

We go shopping together, take classes together, and spend time on the field together. Last year most of my Christmas shopping happened with my teammates.

The past few weeks have been a rollercoaster, trying to decide if I will miss Seattle or Christmas with my folks more.

It’s hard not to be happy to be going home, but at the same time, it’s also difficult to leave. As my ties with Seattle strengthen, my urge to stay becomes greater, but for now, I plan on enjoying Christmas with my family.

Need some extra spending money?

JCPenney & YOU

A Perfect Fit

JCPenney Southcenter store is now hiring for Holiday Help! Weekends, Nights, Days, Full time and Part time positions available. We offer a great associate Discount. Two easy ways to apply: On line at jcpenney.net or at our store.
**Puzzles**

The Thunderword / Dec. 6, 2007

**ARTS CALENDAR**

Highline’s Chorale and Women’s Ensemble begin their 2007-2008 season with J.S. Bach’s Magnificat. The free concert will be 7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 10 at 7:30 p.m. in Building 7. A dress rehearsal performance, Monday, Dec. 10 at 1:20 p.m. in Building 7, also is open to the campus community.

The Women’s Ensemble will perform work from Renaissance composer Josquin des Prés, followed by English, Jewish and Latin folk song arrangements.

The first half of the concert concludes with student pianists performing a four-hand arrangement from contemporary literature.

Kent’s Spotlight Series offers two very different holiday programs this month. The Magical Strings Celtic Yuletide Concert returns on Sunday, Dec. 9 at 3 p.m. Santaland Diaries and Other Stories delivers holiday cheer with some spice on Friday, Dec. 14 at 7:30 p.m. Both performances take place at Kent-Meridian Performing Arts Center, 10020 SE 256th St., Kent, as part of Kent’s 10th anniversary Spotlight Series.

Tickets for Magical Strings are $17 for adults, $15 for students and seniors, and $52 for a family pack (2 adults, 2 children). Tickets for Santaland Diary and Other Stories are $20 for adults and $18 for students and seniors. Tickets are available online at www.kentarts.com, by calling 253-856-5051 or in person at the Kent Commons (525 4th Ave. N.) Hours for phone and in-person sales are Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Box office is closed on Sunday.

—Got arts news? Send your items to Arts Editor Ariel McKenzie at amckenzie@highline.edu, or call 206-878-3710, ext. 3317. Please include time, date, location and contact information. On-campus events get first billing.

**Crossword 101**

**By Ed Canty**

**Across**

1. Hemingway nickname
2. Fruit
3. Deep in thought
4. Couple’s pronoun
5. W.W. II conference site
6. Be fond of
7. Ocean State coll.
8. Cloistered
9. Court wear
10. Duds
11. Ruse
12. Little one
13. Group of witches
14. Pennies
15. "Comin' the Rye"
16. "The Shining", e.g.
17. Bob, for one
18. Swindles
19. Clinton's attorney general
20. "Soprano's" song, maybe
21. Auction actions
22. "Gershwin's "_ and Best"
23. Broadcast
24. Questioner
25. Scold
26. Zippy flavors
27. "Sir, in India"
28. "Words to Live by"
29. Lazybones
30. Movers and shakers
31. "Ivan and Nicholas"
32. "Vigorous dance"
33. "Shrewdness"
34. "Mongolian desert"
35. "High Noon?"
36. "Did the Gregorian chant arise?"
37. "ERS: What kind of horse was Gary Cooper's character in High Noon?"
38. "Where whiskers known?"
39. "Intifada?"
40. "What is sco"..."s general"
41. "What is the name of Gary Cooper's character in High Noon?"
42. "Alexander of "Seinfeld""
43. Subway coin
44. "Hauls around"
45. "Goblet feature"
46. "Comin' the Rye"
47. "Clinton's attorney general"
48. "Common request"
49. "Soprano's" song, maybe
50. Auction actions
51. "Kind of control"
52. "Bit of baby talk"
53. "54. Pub fixture"

**Down**

1. "Hitching place"
2. "Saturn or Mercury"
3. "Quarry"
4. "Nile hiker"
5. "Huffs and puffs"
6. "Be fond of"
7. "Ocean State coll."
8. "Cloistered"
9. "Court wear"
10. "Puzzler's buffalo"
11. "Ruse"
12. "Little one"
13. "Pennies"
14. "Bob, for one"
15. "Swindles"
16. "Movers and shakers"
17. ""Ivan and Nicholas"
18. ""Vigorous dance"
19. ""Shrewdness"
20. ""Mongolian desert"
21. ""High Noon?"
22. "Did the Gregorian chant arise?"
23. "ERS: What kind of horse was Gary Cooper's character in High Noon?"
24. "Where whiskers known?"
25. "Intifada?"
26. "What is sco"..."s general"
27. "What is the name of Gary Cooper's character in High Noon?"
28. "What is sco"..."s general"
29. "Lazybones"
30. "Movers and shakers"
31. ""Ivan and Nicholas"
32. ""Vigorous dance"
33. ""Shrewdness"
34. "Mongolian desert"
35. "High Noon?"
36. "Did the Gregorian chant arise?"
37. "ERS: What kind of horse was Gary Cooper's character in High Noon?"
38. "Where whiskers known?"
39. "Intifada?"
40. "What is sco"..."s general"
41. "What is the name of Gary Cooper's character in High Noon?"
42. "Alexander of "Seinfeld""
43. Subway coin
44. "Hauls around"
45. "Goblet feature"
46. "Comin' the Rye"
47. "Clinton's attorney general"
48. "Common request"
49. "Soprano's" song, maybe
50. Auction actions
51. "Kind of control"
52. "Bit of baby talk"
53. "54. Pub fixture"

**Quoteable Quote**

"I bought some batteries, but they weren't included."

— Steven Wright

**Weekly SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 3x3 box contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:**

* Moderate ** Challenging *** HOO DOY!**

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T-Birds claw out close victory against Bulldogs

By Rachel Comstock
Staff Reporter

It took the Highline women's basketball team a couple extra days to ground out a win against Bellevue. The game was scheduled for Dec. 2 however the game was rescheduled due to the snow. The game was rescheduled for Dec. 4 and the T-Birds came out with a big win with the final score being 63-61.

The T-Birds were loaded in the van on Saturday and just leaving the school parking lot when Bellevue's head coach called to cancel. "Their coach called me when we were just leaving the school. He said it was because of the snow and a couple of their players couldn't get there, however that doesn't seem to be the real reason why," said Mosley.

"We were very disappointed. We were prepared for it and when it was cancelled we were let down but at the same time it made us want to beat them even more because it doesn't matter the time or day we're still a great team," said sophomore guard Kerstin Torrescano.

Even though the game was put off for a couple more days the T-Birds were even more pumped and ready to play, said Torrescano. "When they cancelled we were all mad but at the same time it made us want to beat them even more," said Torrescano.

Leading the T-Birds to victory was sophomore guard Vanessa Baines who had 17 points. Also adding to the close win was Torrescano, who had 11 points, and sophomore forward Valarie Cook who had nine points and eight rebounds.

"We outrebounded them which is big because we have been working on it all last week. During practice we would keep track of how many times they didn't block out and then they would run for as many times they didn't for their punishment," said Head Coach Amber Mosley.

This was the first game that the T-Birds had all 12 players in uniform. "It made it a whole different line up," said Mosley.

The T-Birds have a tough schedule ahead of them for the winter break. This weekend the T-Birds will travel to Wenatchee to play in a tournament held on Dec. 7 and 8. The T-Birds will face Portland Community College on Dec. 7 at 6 p.m and Southwest Oregon on Dec. 8 at 4 p.m.

The Lady T-Birds will then travel to Whatcom to play in the Crossover Tournament that is held through Dec. 14-16. For the first game the T-Birds will play Skagit Valley at 2 p.m.

"This will be a good game. They beat us in our first game at the NWAACC Tournament," said Mosley.

After competing in the Crossover Tournament, the T-Birds will host Whatcom on Dec. 21 at 2 p.m.

"I think we're doing really good because we had some time off. Wrestling makes you tired. Once you get a little break, and then it's over, you

Highline wrestlers look forward to returning to the mat at home

By Mark Maras
Staff Reporter

Anyone hoping to see Highline's wrestling team perform is in luck with some home meets coming up.

Last weekend, the team was scheduled to wrestle Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, B.C. The meet was cancelled a few weeks ago because not everyone on the team had passports.

Tomorrow the team has a home meet where they wrestle Clackamas. The meet starts at 7 p.m.

The following Sunday, Highline stays at home to square off against Southwestern Oregon at 3 p.m.

Highline beat the Lancers once already earlier in the season.

The team wants to have you there. "We're looking for a strong showing. Both teams are pretty tough and we already beat Southwestern Oregon before," said captain Pano Dreves.

Next week, on Dec. 13, Highline has another home meet where the team goes up against Yakima Valley.

"I think we're doing really good because we had some time to rest without a tournament this weekend, and not travel. We should do better because we got a full-line up now," said co-captain Anthony Zender.

The team may have picked up someone for their 133-pound class, which the team has had to forfeit ever since the season began.

Zender looks to return to the mat after undergoing knee surgery that kept him out for two weeks. "It was pretty frustrating not to be able to get out there. But I realize it was best to sit out with my knee injury. Now I'm ready to wrestle," Zender said.

Once the next few meets are done, the wrestling team will get to have some time away from practice with about a two-week break to enjoy their holiday season. Though they may have time away from the mat, the wrestlers plan to stay focused and stay on top of their game by weight-lifting and jogging while on break.

"It's pretty crucial that we get some time off. Wrestling makes you tired. Once you get a little break, and then it's over, you

Highline's Marshall Giovanni wrestles with teammate Anthony Zender. Zender returns to the team after a two-week hiatus.

South Puget Sound will pay a visit to Highline on Jan. 12 for a game at 1 p.m. The T-Birds will then travel to Vancouver, Wash. to take on the Clark College Penguins on Jan. 16 to play at 6 p.m.
T-Birds win one, lose two in Idaho tournament

By Nick Bare
Staff Reporter

Highline finished 1-2 in a tough tournament last weekend in Twin Falls, Idaho that featured two of the best junior college basketball teams in the country.

"We got out of it (the tournament) what we wanted to. We played some very tough national level competition and had to learn to compete and deal with adversity while staying together. We did that," Highline Head Coach Che Dawson said.

The T-Birds lost to Sheridan in the first game 98-70. The College of Southern Idaho beat the T-Birds 103-44 in the second game, and Highline beat Colorado Northwestern 98-81 in the last game of the tournament for the T-Birds.

Highline battled hard in each game, but didn't play to their potential throughout the tournament. 

"We competed hard in all three games, but not always as smart or as consistently as we could have. That's where we have to grow, understanding that effort and focus have to be brought to the table every minute of every practice and game," Dawson said.

The T-Birds opened the tournament against 11th ranked Sheridan College of Wyoming. Sheridan pulled away late to secure the 98-70 victory.

Highline was able to play with the Generals throughout most of the game, but Sheridan flexed its muscles as the game wore on.

"It is by far the best junior college team I have ever seen, live or otherwise. There is no doubt their team could beat 50 Division I teams on any given night," Dawson said.

The Generals outscored Highline on the offensive end 26-18, and overall 51-41.

"We were competitive for 75 percent of the game; down seven with seven minutes to go. We lost focus and allowed them to take advantage of their inside strength with offensive rebounds and second-chance points," Dawson said.

Freshman forward Coby Gibler led Highline with 19 points and five rebounds.

Sophomore guard Antoine Watson led the Generals with 22 points. Forward Dennis Williamson added a double-double with 15 points and a team-high 11 boards.

The T-Birds' second game of the tournament pit them against the winningest junior college basketball team in the country, the College of Southern Idaho.

Southern Idaho's roster is filled with Division I transfers, and they are stocked with great athletes and it showed in the win against Highline.

The Golden Eagles started fast and jumped out to a 60-19 halftime lead. Southern Idaho went on to win 103-44.

Highline turned the ball over 30 times compared to Southern Idaho's 13. The Golden Eagles also outrebounded Highline 55-30.

Forward Lavell Harris led the T-Birds with 10 points. The Golden Eagles had five players score in double-digits led by guard Joey Shaw with 14 points.

Coach Dawson was impressed by what he saw on the court from the Golden Eagles.

"CSI (College of Southern Idaho) is by far the best junior college team I have ever seen live or otherwise. There is no doubt their team could beat 50 Division I teams on any given night," Dawson said.

Southern Idaho's height made scoring a difficult task, and the pressure applied by the Golden Eagles led to Highline turning the ball over 22 times with seven minutes to go.

"They started five players over 6'5" and had another five come off the bench above that height. It was difficult to score inside because of their size and length and we shot the ball horribly from the perimeter," Dawson said.

The T-Birds were able to hold the Golden Eagles under their season scoring average of 109.9 points a game.

"We competed very hard in what would have been an intimidating environment for many teams. I was proud of our guys after that game," Dawson said.

Highline's Gibler suffered a mild concussion against the Golden Eagles and was held out of the last game of the tourney. That final game for the T-Birds ended with a 98-81 victory over Colorado Northwestern.

Highline shot 57 percent for the game compared to a lowly 30 percent for the Spartans.

"We shot 65 percent in the second half once we figured out that a little bit of patience and ball movement would give us great shots all night long," Dawson said.

The T-Birds had six players score in double-digits led by guard Cordero Bennett, who scored a team-high 28 points.

Coach Dawson predicts playing this tough competition early in the season will help the team improve on the court.

"Last weekend will be of tremendous value to us. It should help our confidence and our resolve in adverse situations. It also taught us that as long as we stay the course together, we will get through anything that is thrown at us," Dawson said.

Highline will play a host of games over the break starting with a trip to Bellevue tomorrow night at 7:30. The T-Birds will host Spokane Saturday at 3 p.m.

Highline then travels to the Shoreline Classic tournament with games Friday, Dec. 14 through Sunday, Dec. 16. The T-Birds will play North Idaho in Coeur D'Alene on Dec. 21, time is TBA. Highline closes out pre-season play with a trip to Spokane to play the Sasquatch at 3 p.m. Dec. 22.

NWAACC West Division games will start on Jan. 2 when Highline travels to play Centralia at 8 p.m. Highline will host Grays Harbor at 3 p.m. on Jan. 5. The T-Birds will host South Puget Sound on Jan. 12 at 3 p.m, and they travel to play Clark Jan. 16 at 6 p.m.

Scoreboard

Men's Basketball

Dec. 4
Pierce 99, Olympic 86

Dec. 1
Highline 98, Colorado NW 81
Big Bend 93, Linfield JV 55
Mt. Hood 75, Walla Walla 64
Snow College 84, Edmonds 67
Salt Lake CC 93, Green River 44
SW Oregon 118, Redwoods 94
Shoreline 84, Wen. Valley 67

Women's Basketball

Dec. 4
Highline 63, Bellevue 61

Dec. 2
Spokane 82, Everett 77
Centralla 80, Chemeketa 46

Peninsula 82, LCC 78
Spokane 69, Bellevue 50
Blue Mountain 78, Portland 74
Col. Basin 82, Clarkmass 71
Chemeketa 102, Chem. Alumni 73
Clark 94, Lane 85
Yakima Valley 111, S. P. Sound 87

Nov. 30
SW Oregon 84, Bartnell 80
Southern Idaho 103, Highline 44
Mt. Hood 85, Big Bend 76
Walla Walla 89, Linfield JV 66
North Idaho 81, Edmonds 70
Snow College 86, Green River 77

W. Wyoming 85, T. Valley 75
Wen. Valley 79, Skagit Valley 71
Col. Basin 83, Portland 66
Spokane 102, Seattle 56
Whatcom 92, Camosun 63
Clarkmass 103, B. Mountain 89
Yakima Valley 91, Centralia 80

Lane 73, Wen. Valley 57
Merced CC 64, SW Oregon 51
Salt Lake City CC 80, Umpqua 59
Dec. 1
Clackamas 68, Linn-Benton 65
Centralia 83, Edmonds 43
Everett 65, Wen. Valley 52
Spokane 81, Lane 71
Chemeketa 70, Pierce 47
Seattle 74, Treasure Valley 58
Walla Walla 82, Mt. Hood 40
SW Oregon 54, Mendocino 46
Umpqua 74, Snow College 69
CEU 66, Treasure Valley 45

Green River 66, NW Indian 32
Blue Mountain 76, Clark 54
Skagit Valley 95, Tacoma 79

Nov. 30
Spokane 69, Edmonds 43
Lane 71, Centralia 63
Wen. Valley 57, Chemeketa 51
Everett 99, Pierce 27
Linn-Benton 63, Colum. Bible 40
Clarkmass 102, Mult. Bible 39
Lanagura 62, Peninsula 56
Yakima Valley 84, Malapaisa 35
Treasure Valley 73, Mt. Hood 56
Walla Walla 62, Seattle 54
Graphics program wins top honors in print contest

By Carrie Draeger
Staff Reporter

Highline’s Graphics Production Program continued its tradition of excellence at the International Association of Printing House Craftsmen Awards Banquet, earning 10 medals, including four golds.

The program submitted 15 entries in the categories such as brochures, posters, calendars, and soft bound books. Students won four gold medals, two silver medals, two bronze medals, and two honorable mentions.

The association receives submissions from around the United States and from 11 international countries including Canada and Mexico.

Initial submissions are sent into a local chapter of the association. Then submissions are judged by a panel of experts and then sent to the association office to be judged.

Judges are flown in from around the globe to pick the winner. There are 40-50 categories ranging from brochures and booklets to stationary and presentations.

Highline’s program started submitting entries on a regular basis to the IAPHC four years ago.

There is no category for college level submissions, so Highline’s students work is judged against professional printers’ work from around the globe.

“Four to five years ago we started doing work with state and non-profit organizations. ... It provides the students high level work,” said Tony Sittner, graphics production program manager.

In past years the program had submitted college jobs to the IAPHC, but these jobs were not the type of work that the association was looking for, Sittner said.

On campus projects that the program works on include Arturias, Highline’s annual literary publication. The program also does similar projects for Green River and North Seattle Community Colleges.

Projects from outside agencies give the program the benefits of being virtually self-sustaining and giving its students a great job experience, Sittner said.

“It helps reduce the burden on the college,” Sittner said.

With the payment from jobs off of campus, the program is able to pay for all of its costs and even for some of the salaries of its professors, Sittner said.

The down side to training their students so well is that many of them take job offers before graduating from the program, he said.

Many students receive job offers after two or three quarters.

“Because of their experience our students advance rather rapidly. ... We get calls on a weekly basis for placing students (in jobs) that we can’t fill,” Sittner said.

The program currently has 30 students and is looking for more, Sittner said.

“We are in the process of recruiting (students),” Sittner said.

The incorporation of college values states that all students should have access to education, uphold community values, and respect the personal values of others.

The section on academic honesty goes into depth about plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, collusion, academic misconduct.

It also discusses the sanctions and penalties that the student will suffer should they be found of academic dishonesty of any kind.

For example if a student is found guilty of plagiarism they can be subject to a verbal or written warning, receive a grade of 0.0 in the class, or a lowered grade for the assignment, project, or test that they were caught plagiarizing on, and even dismissal from Highline.

“The addition of a civility section is really important because it outlines the college’s expectations for the students to go by,” said Jonathan Brown, associate dean of Student Programs.

“I think that the code will make a lot more sense to students once it is being utilized,” Brown said.

An example of unacceptable behavior is the unauthorized use of college equipment and/ or supplies for personal gain, the unauthorized use of personal vehicles on campus e.g. skateboard, bicycle, motorized vehicle on campus pedestrian walkways.

Disorderly or disruptive conduct, inattention, refusal to comply with any lawful order to leave campus, unauthorized assembly, falsely filing a formal complaint or emergency, stalking, or subjecting another person to sexual harassment physical or verbal can receive any of the following punishments: an oral admonishment, and written warning, disciplinary probation, suspension or dismissal from Highline.

The student could even be subject to drug, alcohol, psychological, or medical evaluations by a certified or licensed professional.

The student complaint process provides formal procedures for students to resolve complaints and concerns.

In addition there is also a complaint process for the staff that wasn’t there before.

“I think that the complaint process will be very important thing for the students use, there just wasn’t just wasn’t any provision for that kind of thing in the past,” Brown said.

“The complaint process is a major section that’s been added that wasn’t even there before, the computer resource policy is another one,” Brown said.

The misuse of information technology prohibits the following: a failure to comply with laws, license agreements, and contracts governing network, software and hardware and also the abuse of communal resources.

The computing resource policy says that if students misuse information technology they may lose access to the college computing resources, and could be subject to disciplinary, civil or criminal action under Washington state or federal law.

“I think that it’s in the best interest of the college to have the code updated, especially concerning the technology, I think that it will make a day to day difference,” Brown said.
Businesses find success at Normandy Park Towne Center

By Nathan Brown
Staff Reporter

Businesses in the new Normandy Park Towne Center say they are pleased with the new location.

Currently, four businesses are open in the Towne Center. Normandy Park Athletic, Papa John's, Normandy Park Family Chiropractic, and Desert Sun Tanning Salon are the first to try out the new development. All of the businesses have similar things to say about the way business is going.

“Our patients love it here,” said Normandy Park Family Chiropractic office manager, Denise Michnick. The chiropractic practice was the only business which was in the Towne Center space before the redeveloping took place.

During renovations the chiropractic office, which is owned by Dr. Roger A. Shelton, was relocated to a temporary building which was a little less visible, Michnick said. The business was relocated for 19 months before moving back to the Towne Center area on Oct. 19.

“We haven’t had a chance to have a grand opening ceremony yet,” Michnick said.

Papa John’s Pizza has been open at the Towne Center for about five weeks, General Manager Gary Evans said. Things are working out great at the current location, he said.

“We have three stores in Kent and we’re trying to bridge the gap up to Pac Highway,” Evans said.

Desert Sun Tanning Salon is also pleased with the way business is going since its opening on Oct. 25, Sales Associate Michelle Inklebarger said. Desert Sun brightens the days of 70 to 100 people a day, from local customers all the way out to Kent, Inklebarger said.

Normandy Park Athletic opened its doors on Aug. 1, said owner Jay Johansen. Johansen said his club is local rather than regionalized and that business has been going very well.

“We cater to high school students, young parents, college students and have loads of equipment,” Johansen said. Essentially business has been good and Johansen said he was very happy with the Schuster Group, who are the developers of the Towne Center.

A real estate investment firm, the Schuster Group bought the Towne Center property in 2001 for $2.9 million, according to King County records.

“It was an undervalued and underutilized asset when we bought it,” Schuster Group founder Mark Schuster said in an interview with the Puget Sound Business Journal.

The Normandy Park Towne Center is very important, said the Schuster Group's director of corporate communications Rosemary Coleman. When deciding which areas to purchase and develop Schuster ensures the development will enhance the community, Coleman said.

After 27 years in business, Coleman said, the Schuster Group studies communities and is very thoughtful about whether new development will be beneficial. She said the town center has been redeveloped, but not at the cost of the environment.

“We always build environmentally sound,” Coleman said. The Schuster Group weighs how toxic building materials will be on the environment and measures how effective the building insulation is.

“Building green is more expensive but it’s the right thing to do,” Coleman said. “Our owner is an environmentalist.”

Other businesses, which are scheduled to move into the Towne Center are BK Nails, The Beauty Zone, Normandy Park Yacht Club, and Neoyaki Teriyaki.

The Normandy Park Towne Center is located at the intersection of First Avenue Southwest and Southwest 200th Street in Normandy Park.

All rise: Supreme Court will hold session at Highline this Spring Quarter

By Shannon Clary
Staff Reporter

Washington Supreme Court Justices will be holding court at Highline next spring.

The Washington State Supreme Court is coming to Highline on May 5 and 6. Every year they pick one or two places to hold court and reach out to the community.

On Monday, May 5, the Justices will attend classes to talk with students and answer questions. Lunch is provided on both days for students, faculty and staff.

On May 6 the Supreme Court Justices will be hearing actual cases. The public is encouraged to attend. Three cases will be heard that day. The cases are unknown until about three months before their visit.

Joy Smucker, chairwoman of the Business Division and paralegal instructor, is a part of the committee planning the event.

“For one day the court is going to leave the ivory towers of Olympia. They will let the public know what the court is about,” said Smucker.

The attorneys of the cases will have one hour of oral argument, then for 20 minutes the justices will answer questions from the public.

Smucker tried to have the justices visit a year ago but there were scheduling conflicts. After being very persistent a date was confirmed this past summer. She says it is very important that the Justices are coming to Highline because they usually go to four-year universities.

This is the first year Highline is hosting this event.

Smucker said that the Justices spend a small amount of their time actually hearing cases, so the fact that they are coming to Highline is very important.

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Search

Continued From Page A1

explained that one of the qualities she is looking for in a president is someone who has strong leadership in the community college system.

Some people said a president needs to go beyond the borders of Highline. Due to Workforce Development Services Erik Tingelstad said he would like to see a president who has experience working with a state board and also has experience in developing international partnerships.

Vice President of Institutional Advancement Lisa Skari said she wants a president who is proficient in dealing with the public and someone who enjoys that part of it.

Karen Vander Ark

"They are the living embodiment of who we are," Skari said.

Coordinator of the Business Information Technology Department Jessica Gilmore told the Board she wants a president who can help market Highline to the community so people know what they are getting when they walk through our door.

Former Highline trustee Arun Jhaveri said Highline's president should be focused on education which has global implications as well as have leadership in educational excellence, be able to raise money for the college, have a teamwork approach with faculty and staff, and believe and implement multicultural diversity.

Divinity was an issue some campus members felt a president should be aware of.

"I would like to see efforts in diversifying staff," said Jack Harton, reference librarian and search committee member.

Being able to speak locally but also have a bigger perspective of the community college is what Helen Burn, math professor and chairwoman of the pure and applied sciences division, said she would like to see in a president.

Some people said they know what they are not looking for in the next president.

"I'm not looking for a show person or salesperson," said Jason Prenovost, marketing director.

Although opinions varied about the qualities a president should have, most everyone agreed that Highline is a great campus.

"We have an amazing place here I would hope that our next president would add to that and move us forward," said Susan Landgraf, chairwoman of the journalism department.

During a second forum on Monday, Highline's Board of Trustees said what they are looking for in a president.

Trustee Dr. Edward Davila explained the new president will have to find a balance between being outside the campus and being on the campus.

One of the jobs of a college president is to raise funding for the college.

Board of Trustees Chairwoman Karen Vander Ark said that Highline needs someone who has an understanding of alternative funding.

Trustee Rita Creighton said that the campus community wants someone to bring stability and continue in global education.

"This college is one of the jewels of the community," Creighton said.

Highline's Board will hold a meeting on Dec. 13 to approve the profile.

Meanwhile the campus has narrowed out the members in the search committee.

The faculty representatives on the committee are Ruth Fricke, psychology professor and president of the Faculty Senate, Jack Harton, reference librarian, Ed Morris, math professor, and Jason Ramirez, math professor.

Memories

Continued From Page A1

was coming. So I ran upstairs and went to bed because I knew I wouldn't get any presents if I was awake. Every year, my brothers and dad remind me of that story," said Megan Riggs.

Christmas is also a time to bring families together.

"My grandma was the glue of our family, and the Christmas after she passed was, the most memorable. Because I realized that I can love her and live my life and move on. That Christmas, our family was closer than ever," said Ashley Berson.

"My greatest gift for Christmas every year are my three sons. As long as I can see them and know that they are doing well when I'm not around, that's all I need to know," Long said.

"Christmas is also a time for me to remember my childhood memories of love. My first Christmas with my future husband was last year. It was the best Christmas ever. I got to spend it with him and his family, and then him and I with my family. He knows me so well and knows that doing make-up was a hobby of mine and I'm very passionate about it. So for Christmas, he bought me a very expensive set of make-up brushes. It was one of the most thoughtful and best gifts I've ever been given," said Lena Allen.

Karen Vander Ark

"I'm still not sure whether I'm going to let my kids have that," Long said.

"It was 6 a.m. in the morning when she told us, and the plane left at 4 p.m. that day. I can still remember how excited me and the other kids were. This stands as my favorite Christmas memory, that vacation gift from my parents and my grandma," said Jessica Pierce.

Christmas brings memories of love.

"My first Christmas with my future husband was last year. It was the best Christmas ever. I got to spend it with him and his family, and then him and I with my family. He knows me so well and knows that doing make-up was a hobby of mine and I'm very passionate about it. So for Christmas, he bought me a very expensive set of make-up brushes. It was one of the most thoughtful and best gifts I've ever been given," said Lena Allen.

Students can learn how to design and develop their own computer games

By Angela McClurg

Staff Reporter

If you are one of those people who can spend countless hours on the internet playing a game of World of Warcraft, then you should sign up for CSci 110 with Ravinder Kang, a professor at Highline who teaches students how to build their own computer games.

"This class is a great way to gain some exposure of the careers in the game development and design field," Kang said. It allows students to build skills in team working as well as taking on the responsibility of meeting individual deadlines.

To learn more about this course, you can e-mail Kang at rkang@highline.edu or you can take a look at former students of the programs' work and see how their games turned out at www.highline.hcc.edu/csci.

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