

WHS salutatorian wants a career in education

By Briana Alzola
Post-Record staff

Rachael Hoover wants to make a difference.

She is the co-founder of the Interact Club, a community and international service club.

Hoover also volunteers at the Oregon Zoo.

"I have always loved animals," she said.

Her zoology teacher Linda Miller describes her as "an awesome student. She enjoys learning and is always pleasant to have in class. I could count on her for anything. I wish I had more students just like

her."

Even with her love of zoology, Hoover discovered it was not the learning path she wanted to follow.

"I wanted a career in animals, but I realized I like people even more so," she said.

This love of working with people will serve her next year at Western Washington



Rachael Hoover

University in Bellingham where she will pursue a career in elementary education.

Hoover would like to teach third or fourth-graders.

For her senior project Hoover decided to write, illustrate and self-publish her own children's book. She will end up donating copies of her book, *Jacob and the Bed Bugs*, to elementary schools and libraries in the area.

Hoover should be prepared for WWU, as she has taken Running Start classes at Clark College.

"It was just this year, part

time," she said. "I got experience in college life and classes."

Even though she attended a few classes away from WHS, Hoover was still involved in school programs.

"I like club activities," she said. "Just because it is a way to make new friends. Sometimes you don't have any classes with your friends, but you can all join the same club. It is a way to make a difference but still have fun, a good way to connect."

Besides Interact Club, Hoover is a member of National Honor Society and

holds leadership positions in Readers Club.

Readers Club is a group of students who get together to recommend books for the school library. Then, once a year, the group makes a trip to Powell's Books in Portland and buys the books.

She also loves tennis, and has played on the WHS team for four years.

While excited to continue life outside of Washougal, Hoover looks back over life here somewhat wistfully.

"I am going to miss it," she said.