

THE MAST

Pacific Lutheran University



Out after round one
Volleyball loses its first game
in the NCAA Division III West
Regional
PAGE 12

**Call of
conscience**
New video
game causes
controversy
PAGE 4



NOVEMBER 20, 2009

www.plu.edu/~mast

VOLUME LXXXVI NO.10

Shot down: Vaccine shortage hits home



Photo by Ted Charles

Junior Holly Dunning waits in line for an H1N1 vaccine on Oct. 27 in the University Center one of the times the shot was offered. Throngs of people can be seen behind her, waiting for a chance to get the vaccine before they ran out.

Jack Sorensen
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In the wake of one of the largest global health scares of the past decade, clinics and vaccination centers nationwide face an unforeseen shortage in H1N1 vaccinations.

Despite their best efforts to immunize the public, the Pacific Lutheran University Health Center and centers like it are being forced to reschedule and, in some instances, completely cancel scheduled vaccinations.

Until recently, the online schedule for PLU swine flu vaccinations reads, "Due to shortages in the supply of H1N1 vaccine, all on-campus vaccination clinics for PLU students have been temporarily suspended." According to the website, the clinics will reopen when the Pierce County Health Department "resumes vaccine shipments to the university."

PLU issued a student-wide e-mail at 5 p.m. Wednesday announcing that 100 H1N1 vaccines would be available today at 11 a.m. in the UC.

Susana Doll, director and physician assistant for the PLU Health Center, said that the center is doing all they can to try and secure vaccines for the student body.

"The Tacoma Pierce County Health Department has an outgoing message every day saying if they have vaccines available," Doll said.

Whenever there are availabilities, Doll and the

Health Center fax the Health Department asking for shipments, Doll said.

As of Nov. 17, Pierce County has been forced to shut down multiple clinics. The definition of "prioritized populations" to receive the remaining vaccinations has been changed to "healthcare workers and emergency medical services (EMS) personnel with direct patient contact" and pregnant women, according to the Pierce County Health Department website. Only if medical providers meet these population needs may they proceed to vaccinate the "initial priority populations" as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Pierce County is not the only county to be impacted by unpredicted vaccine shortages; counties in every state across the nation are being forced to reduce clinic sizes and treatment plans data from the CDC said.

Doll attributed the shortage to "manufacturing delays. It's very labor intensive to make vaccines."

Manufacturers must first cultivate the virus in chicken eggs. After incubation, the virus is tested for potency and determined if the strength of the virus is adequate to manufacture vaccinations, according to the CDC's website.

In a Q&A regarding vaccine shortages on the CDC website, the Health Center said that the first viruses were not ready for testing until August and the results told scientists "larger quantities of

Short changed

Minimum wage stays the same

Christina Huggins
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Washington State Department of Labor & Industries (L&I) announced that, for the first year since 1998, the state minimum wage will not be raised in 2010. Instead, the minimum wage will remain at \$8.55 an hour.

L&I said that there is no change this year because inflation has not gone up according to the federal Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers changes in the "cost of goods and services

needed for day-to-day living."

CPI-W compiles this information annually. Washington State voters passed Initiative 688 in 1998, which requires the state's minimum wage to be dictated by inflation.

This comes as bad news for many entry-level workers, but provides some breathing room for employers. Pacific Lutheran University student workers, many of whom are paid minimum wage, will lose out on a wage increase.

PLU has asked all departments to budget carefully and try to cut back costs wherever possible,

SEE WAGE PG. 3

SEE H1N1 PG. 3

Christmas cards spread joy

RHA makes holiday cards for local senior citizens

Tyler Scott
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Festive Christmas music rang throughout the Cave Monday night as a group of almost 20 students gathered to help give hope to people who might feel alone during the upcoming holiday season.

Several tables featured holiday-themed stamps and paper for students to make Christmas cards that will be distributed to senior citizens in local long-term care facilities.

Pacific Lutheran's chapter of the National Residence Hall Honorary (NRHH) sponsored the two-hour event and will distribute the cards during the next couple of weeks.

"The Christmas card drive is just really to bring a bunch of the student leaders on campus together," said Cori Jo Jahnsen, president of the NRHH PLU chapter.

"It facilitates a way for them to do something simple that won't take a lot of time out of their day, but they can still serve the community."

Monday's event was an example of the type of service projects NRHH puts on throughout the year.

The organization seeks to put together a couple of service opportunities for students each semester, Jahnsen said.

"NRHH is made up of the top one percent of on-campus leaders, and we are focused on recognizing everything that goes on on campus, especially

within the residence halls," Jahnsen said. "We are focused on leadership, service and academics."

By 9:00 p.m. Monday night, a total of 17 students from six different organizations had put together 75 Christmas cards.

NRHH sent out an e-mail in advance to various student leaders on campus in an effort to promote participation, but not everyone who attended came as part of a student organization.

"I just came to be supportive and make some Christmas cards," senior Kirsta Dunlap said. "I think this is a good idea, acknowledging people who may not have family to visit them and just showing them that there are people out there who care."

Senior Eric Greninger noticed an advertisement in the Daily Flyer and felt the need to take part in an event that will help comfort people during the holiday season.

"I think it's great," Greninger said. "There's a lot of people around the holidays, around Christmas time, and I just figured I had some spare time and it would be a good thing to do, kind of a Christian duty."

NRHH Vice President of Community Service senior Autumn Leir said in an e-mail sent out to campus leaders Wednesday that the organization is hoping for more Christmas cards.

Even though Monday's event has ended, NRHH is encouraging students and organizations to make more

cards and submit them by Nov. 20.

Because the organization that submits the most cards receives free pizza, NRHH is hoping for enough cards to share the holiday cheer beyond just the local community.

"If there's extra, we'd really like to send some overseas to some soldiers," Jahnsen said. "We've been in contact with ROTC about that."

Friday's deadline ensures that NRHH will have time to potentially send cards abroad before Christmas, but there is still time to participate in the Christmas card drive.

Any submissions will go in the NRHH box at the Residence Hall Association office in the lower floor of the University Center.

PLU employee retiring

Susanna Doll to retire after 16 years

Ashley LaMagna
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Students have visited the health center here at Pacific Lutheran University, but have they truly experienced the Health Center?

Doreen Splinter, Clinic Coordinator, would say no, unless you have come in and seen her friend and colleague, physician assistant and clinic coordinator Susanna Doll for the "sex talk."

If you are a female student who has been in to see Susanna, you may understand this statement.

"She is very easy to talk to and she has such an open heart and mind," Splinter said, referring to the ways Doll has contributed to the Health Center since starting in 1993.

"She gives so much of her personal time that people really aren't aware of," Splinter said. "She will go to the residence halls and just sit and talk to students, and it doesn't matter how tired she gets or how tired we get, she treats every student that walks in as if they were her first student of the day."

Doll started with the Health Center in 1993 after coming from a job at the VA Hospital working with older men.

"I felt like I'd been given a new life when I came to PLU," Doll said.

Doll has a passion for women's health in particular, because "men never come in for care unless they're broken," Doll said.

Splinter iterated Doll's contributions by describing what will stay with her as a favorite memory.

"Just to see Susanna and a student both crying means that they have worked through the student's problem together and that will be my most cherished memory," Splinter said.

Doll's reflections on her time here at PLU were nothing but positive as well.

"I see lots of colds and sore throats but every one is attached to an interesting person," Doll said. "I never feel bored. Professionally, intellectually and



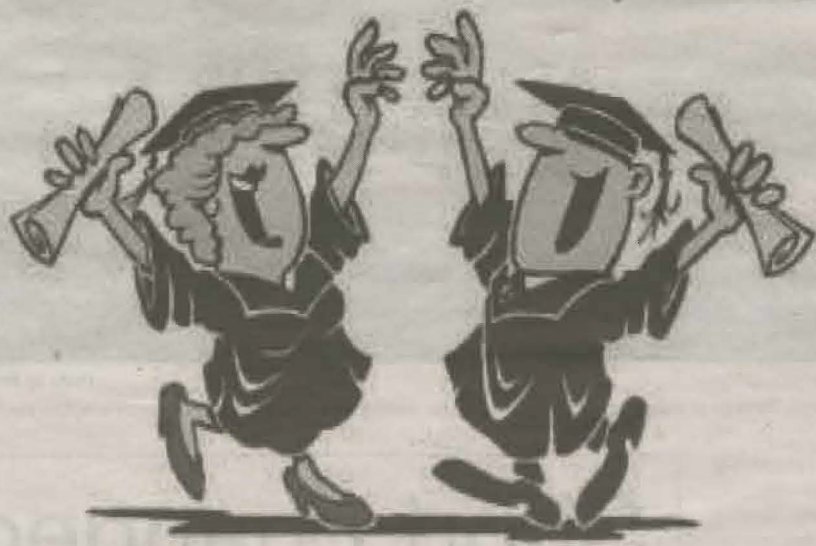
Doll

personally it has been very satisfying for me."

Splinter's final assessment sums up what Susanna Doll has meant to PLU and the Health Center through the years.

"The Health Center is her heart and soul. It is a loss for PLU, but a wonderful gain for the military," Splinter said.

Doll will be working part time at Madigan Army Hospital.



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STATE, NATION and WORLD BRIEFINGS

Local to Global

\$849 billion health care bill proposed by Senate



AP Photo by Alex Brandon

Sens. Richard Durbin, D-Ill., left; Al Franken, D-Minn.; Charles Schumer, D-N.Y.; Mark Begich, D-Alaska; Tom Harkin, D-Iowa; Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., are all smiles during a news conference on health care legislation on Capitol Hill in Washington, Wednesday, Nov. 18.

David Espo

ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORTER

WASHINGTON (AP) — The political stakes enormous, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid launched long-awaited health care legislation Wednesday estimated to extend coverage to 94 percent of eligible Americans at a cost of \$849 billion.

Initial maneuvering on the Senate floor was expected later in the week on the measure, bitterly opposed by Republicans eager to deny President Barack Obama a victory on his top domestic priority.

Officials have said the measure would require most Americans to carry health insurance and would mandate large companies to provide coverage to their workers, as well as ban insurance company practices such as denying coverage on the basis of pre-existing medical conditions.

As rank-and-file Democrats gathered to learn details of the measure, a senior Democratic leadership aide said the Congressional Budget Office had estimated it would spread coverage to 31 million Americans who currently lack it while still reducing federal deficits by a total of \$127 billion over 10 years.

The aide also cited a CBO estimate that the

bill would achieve cuts of \$1 trillion over a decade in projected health care costs.

Aides have said previously much of the bill would be financed by cuts in projected Medicare payments. Reid has also had under consideration higher payroll taxes for upper wage earners, but there was no word on whether he had decided to incorporate that provision into the measure he crafted.

At its core, the bill would set up new insurance marketplaces — called exchanges — primarily for those who now have a hard time getting or keeping coverage. Subsidies would be available to help defray the cost of coverage for people with lower incomes.

Reid announced two weeks ago it would also include an option for consumers to purchase government-sold insurance, with states permitted to drop out of the system.

With the support of two independents, Democrats have 60 seats, the precise number needed to choke off any Republican delaying tactics. None of the 40 Republicans is expected to defect on the first test vote, expected by weekend.

Reid was releasing his legislation more than a week after the House approved its version of the health care bill on a near party-line vote of 220-215.

Obama's view on Palin's book

Associated Press Reporter

BEIJING (AP) — Sarah Palin's new book may already be a best-seller, but President Barack Obama says he probably won't read it.

The president says he's sure sales of "Going Rogue" will do well without his readership. While he wouldn't say whether he thinks Palin will run for president in 2012, he says

she has proved to be a popular figure with a large following in the Republican party.

In an interview promoting her book, Palin rated Obama's performance as president as a 4 out of 10. Obama dismissed the criticism, saying he and the former Republican vice presidential candidate have different political philosophies.

Obama spoke during interviews with CBS News, CNN and Fox News.

Green jobs promoted

Associated Press Reporter

SEATTLE (AP) — Pacific Northwest states are getting more than \$1.1 million from the U.S. Department of Labor to encourage green jobs.

The stimulus grants are to improve training for jobs that reduce energy use and benefit the environment, and help state employment departments improve information gathering.

In job training money, Alaska's Cook Inlet Tribal Council will receive more than \$67,000, and \$100,000 each will go to Oregon's Portland YouthBuilders and Seattle's Apprenticeship and Nontraditional Employment for Women. Alaska's state employment agency will get \$800,000, while Oregon will receive \$1.25 million and Washington \$1.06 million.

The grants are part of nearly \$55 million being awarded nationwide Wednesday by the Labor Department.

H1N1 CONT. FROM PG. 1

virus were needed to make the vaccine."

The same Q&A stated that of the CDC's goal to ship 30 million vaccinations by the end of October, only 16.9 million had been sent.

Doll believes, however, that there is an error in the distribution as well.

"There must be distribution problems," Doll said. "We were told last week we would get 300 vaccines, we're not certain yet."

The government is still trying to meet the demands for vaccinations. As recently as Monday, the Federal Distribution Association approved a fifth company to begin manufacturing H1N1 vaccines in hopes that they will soon be able to release a second shipment.

"There's no availability... it's frustrating for all of us," Doll said.

Despite less-than-desirable conditions, Doll is pleased with the responsibility students have taken in preventing and controlling swine flu on campus.

"I think PLU is better prepared than any other institution I've read about," Doll said. "There was a flurry of ILI [influenza-like illness] patients a couple weeks ago, a couple last week but there haven't been any this week."

Doll warned that this time is the hardest part of the semester—intellectually, physically and emotionally. It is therefore the easiest time for students to get sick. But Doll believes PLU students are making smart decisions regarding their health.

"In my whole career—I've been a PA for 35 years—I've never seen anyone willing to stand in line for an hour waiting for a vaccine," Doll said. "Especially young people."

WANTED:
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WAGE CONT. FROM PAGE 1

including student employers. Many employers at PLU had planned for a minimum wage increase and now have a bit more cushion in their budget.

"All [departments] are under a lot of pressure to make sure that there is no spending without reason," said Pam Martin, manager of Student Employment.

Although Martin says that there are no guarantees, this continuation of the current minimum wage could possibly create more job opportunities for students.

Rebecca Farris, administrative assistant for Dining & Culinary Services, agrees with Martin that more positions could be possible.

Farris said that Dining and Culinary Services has been conscious that students need jobs and have been hiring fewer outside temps, filling the positions with more student

workers.

"Student workers are key," Farris said.

Farris said that when minimum wage goes up, workers who are paid more than minimum wage are suddenly not paid that much more than entry-level workers.

This puts pressure on the company or department to raise the wages of all workers, thereby creating a financial strain.

"Having minimum wage not go up definitely helps out," Farris said.

With more than 200 student employees, Dining & Culinary Services has not cut jobs due to the budget cuts, but it has been more active in finding out which shifts are necessary and cut down some unnecessary shifts.

For more on the L&I or CPI-W visit <http://www.lni.wa.gov/news/2009/pr090928a.asp> and for more on student employment at PLU visit <http://www.plu.edu/studentemployment>.



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From the editor



Thoughts from the Boss

Kari Plog

Editor-in-Chief | mast@plu.edu

Gamers beware

I am not a video-gamer. I am one of very few people who refuse to play Guitar Hero due to lack of talent, I am probably the only person on the planet who has yet to play Rock Band. When I do manage to find the time and lose myself in a world of gaming, I prefer the savory Mario Kart, Mario Party or Super Smash Brothers. After all, video gaming is supposed to be a relaxing passtime separate from the realm of reality—or is it?

Violent video games are nothing new to our society, but when I heard about Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2, I was very disturbed about one of the levels in the game. According to a Fox News article prior to the release of the popular game, footage was leaked revealing that players can shoot innocent civilians in an airport in a realistic rendering of a terrorist attack.

Vince Zampella, head of Infinity Ward, the game's developer, said before this footage was released that Infinity Ward intended for the player to be emotionally attached and emotionally shocked. They succeeded, because I am emotionally shocked and appalled and I haven't even played the game.

As if the concept of realistic war gaming is not disturbing enough, did we have to take it one step further and give the gamer the first-person perspective of murdering innocent civilians? According to the article, the developers said they wanted to "evoke the atrocities of terrorism," yet the way in which they do this is by making you the terrorist in charge of committing said atrocities. Not only does it bring the incident to life, it does so for the sake of entertainment and profit. This does not vilify the act of terrorism—it glorifies it.

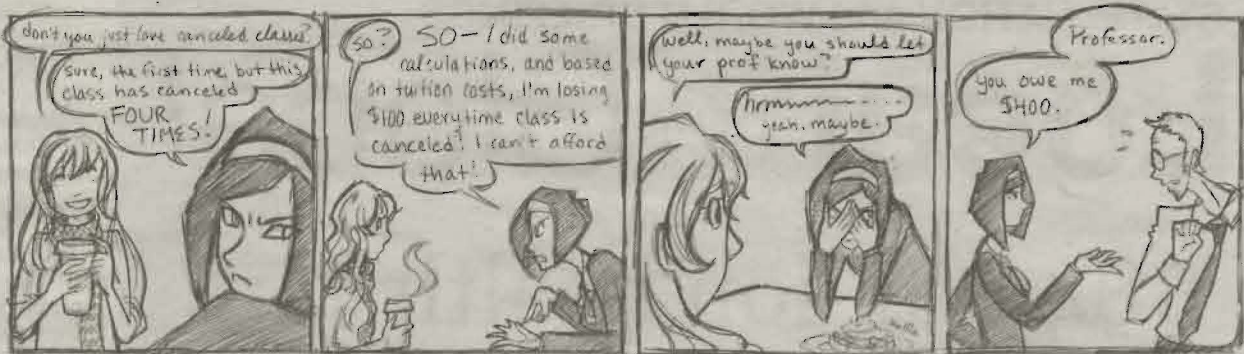
According to the Fox News article, gamers are warned that the scene may be disturbing. They the option to skip the level. This is a red flag—if you have to put a disclaimer on a level because of disturbing content, a company cannot justify including the level in the first place. Also, if the level is optional, the gamer has no need to play it to reach the ultimate goal of defeating the game. This turns the unethical scenario into a bonus feature purely for the sake of entertaining the gamer. That is absolutely repulsive. It gives the impression that the developers actually thought this level increased the value of the product.

In the article, the developers said, before the footage was leaked, that they strive for "real world" authenticity in weapon types, military tactics and locations. There is no justification for creating such an unethical scenario in a game that is intended to look and seem real. If we heard about soldiers walking into an airport overseas and open firing on innocent civilians on the news, we would be outraged. People should be equally outraged that a video game company designed a product depicting this scenario merely as a bonus level.

I am a firm believer in creative expression and giving artists the freedom to design what they want. However, when that work is being disseminated to the masses, there is an ethical standard to take into account. This video game concept is not up to par with any type of ethical standard.

For further review on Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2, see A&E pg. 8

Meaningful Nonsense



Comic by Aubrey Lange

KCNS needs recognition



So Wise

Sarah Wise

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One branch of student media at Pacific Lutheran University is being overlooked. KCNS is floundering in the shadows of these branches of student media and students should take notice. If KCNS remains an anonymous entity on campus, there may not be a television station in the future.

Student media is an important aspect of Lute life that brings entertainment, news and practical hands-on experience to the students of Pacific Lutheran University. It provides students with experiences that they otherwise may never have, such as DJ-ing a live radio show, being a news anchor on television or taking photographs for an award-winning newspaper.

As a first-year, I had no clue that PLU even had a television station. Of the students aware of the station, even fewer know what channel to tune into on campus. And how many Lutes know what programming the station offers, apart from news?

KCNS is living in a sea of anonymity, and the numbers show it. The station hires a handful of students to produce television shows and each show

relies on volunteers to help make the show a reality. Yet volunteers appear to be in short supply, and shows often feature friends of the producers.

This lack of involvement with the station is due to a general lack of knowledge on campus regarding the existence of the television station. Located directly between The Mast and KCCR, the studio itself is rather obvious. But what goes on inside remains a mystery even though the doors are open to everyone.

Awareness needs to be raised on campus regarding the existence of KCNS. The station needs to promote itself in a much more vocal way and on a larger scale than it currently is. Once general awareness has been increased, students involved need to become active and promote by word of mouth.

It is important that KCNS thrive on campus as well as The Mast and KCCR do. KCNS provides unique experiences and important knowledge from serious news reporting to silly entertainment that can prove to be useful in future careers.

It's easy to get involved. Anyone can tune in to KCNS

from any television on campus on channel 26. Current shows are also available to watch instantly on the KCNS website <http://plu.edu/~kcns26> or on the KCNS Facebook group.

Volunteers can drop in to the studio any time to learn about the station and to get involved with the shows, or they can send an e-mail to the general manager at kcns26@plu.edu.

Tune in, get involved and spread the word. Don't let this unique mode of expression die on campus.

"KCNS is living in a sea of anonymity, and the numbers show it."

contact mast@plu.edu for more info

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The Mast adheres to the Society of Professional Journalists' code of ethics, which includes the guidelines to "seek truth and report it," "minimize harm," "act independently" and "be accountable."

The Mast encourages letters to the editor. Letters must be submitted to The Mast by 5 p.m. the Wednesday of publication. Letters without a name, phone number and class standing (e.g., first-year, junior, etc.) for verification will be discarded. Letters should be no longer than 500 words in length and typed. The Mast reserves the right to refuse any letter. Letters may be edited for length, taste and errors.

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All cases should be equal



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I am generally opposed to the death penalty. All judicial systems are so flawed that taking any final action seems like a poor choice. We only need to look at the data on the numbers on wrongly convicted death row and other inmates to know how true this can be. I also oppose the death penalty for more moral reasons; I have a hard time with the notion of playing God with any stakes, let alone someone else's life.

However, certain cases, sensationalized and emotionalized by the media, make me wish for exceptions to my own political stances. North Carolina police confirmed the discovery of the body of 5-year-old Shaniya Davis Monday. Shaniya's meth-addicted mother reportedly sold her into sexual slavery before her death, according to CNN.

It is difficult to not be personally moved by this story, which was accompanied by pictures of a vibrant, beautiful child. Certainly details about her father, who trusted her mother with Shaniya for a weekend and then never saw her again, create tumultuous emotions for me.

The sentimental side of me wants some retribution for this, including Shaniya's mother or the man who "bought" her facing the death penalty. But should these affecting details change a political stance? Should emotion and subjective reaction enter into our heuristics of political ideals?

In courtrooms, lawyers capitalize upon the jury's emotions to gain votes. In elections, candidates do the same, appealing to notions of family values or absolute truth in an attempt to gain voter trust. This can be quite effective, but it is also manipulative. Ideally, I think emotions shouldn't sway us from our core principles, whatever those principles may be.

Making an exception for this case in my political stance may be emotionally cathartic, but, in the end, it's hypocritical. There certainly may be people whose political belief systems allow for the death penalty under specific circumstances; some have argued that it should only be used in the case of premeditated and cruel murder, multiple murders or sexualized murder. I have never made such exceptions, mostly because all of my previously stated apprehensions still exist in those cases.

A true political stance cannot waver due to sensationalism attached to a specific case. If we are sure of our opinions, then that opinion must hold whether or not the victim is adorable or the case is particularly tragic. In this world of the media embellishment, it is difficult to see past the array of television personalities and opinions. If we want to be true to what we believe in, whatever that is, all cases must be equal.

Be thankful



Miller Musings
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Miller
kim@plu.edu

In my opinion, rainy days are the dark storm cloud hovering over the joy of life. I understand that life is stressful. You might not have gotten into the course you wanted. You might be frustrated with the mountain of assignments due before the end of the semester. You might be homesick, or worried about the economy or whatever. Regardless, I hope you understand the importance of Thanksgiving and practice giving thanks.

Thanksgiving is different with every family; some crowd around their television to watch the big game while others nearly have fistfights over the dinner table. The traditional Thanksgiving feast involves stuffing, gravy, mashed potatoes, cranberries, pumpkin pie and tryptophan-laced turkey.

Last week was Hunger and Homeless Awareness Week at Pacific Lutheran University. Activities included donating canned food or serving food at a local shelter. I am thankful my next meal is not at the mercy of others' generosity.

This week was International Education Week. Approximately five percent of PLU's student body is from foreign countries. Thanksgiving is of little significance to international students unless it is spent with a traditional American family. Part of studying abroad is to understand the culture of another country. Thanksgiving is a homegrown, American tradition that is important to the experience of any international student. Thanksgiving is a time to open doors to those who cannot be with family. I am thankful I have the opportunity to go home, to bring a friend with me and that PLU has a tradition for those who stay on campus.

Veterans Day was Nov. 11. I am thankful for our veterans. I am thankful our troops uphold American ideals and protect us. I am thankful America is not a battlefield.

I am thankful, despite my all-nighters and heavy workload, that I attend Pacific Lutheran University. I truly love it here and feel blessed that I am able to pursue a college education.

I am even thankful for the dreadful rainy days, because I appreciate the sun so much more. Everything is greener and more lush after heavy rains and puddle jumping is always a plus. The sound is magnificent.

I am thankful for my health, my friends and my happiness. I am thankful for people who take the time to read my column each week. I am thankful for dreams, books, hobbies and experiences. I am thankful for my one wild and precious life.

The most important Thanksgiving tradition is expressing thanks for the good things in our lives, being wholly positive for just one day. Recognize what you are thankful for this Thursday.

Letter to the Editor

PLU over-policed

My parents stopped by my house last Friday night on their way through town. They came inside to find my roommates and me sitting listlessly in the living room in front of the TV.

"Pretty tame around here for a Friday night," my mom said. "I thought a college town would be a little livelier."

So did I, Mom. So did I.

I know that most people wouldn't consider this a traditional "college town," but I think it's a little sad that the nightlife around here can't even intimidate my lovely, innocent mother.

The problem is that there is nowhere to go. University-paid police have been breaking up just about every party they can manage. Why have their efforts increased so dramatically? And why has the criteria for an "out-of-control" party become so stringent?

Student Life sent out an e-mail Oct. 29 informing students that PLU would be beefing up the police presence around campus during Halloween.

"We encourage healthy, safe and responsible activities and are concerned for your current and future well being. Please be sensible, respectful, safe and legal. The consequences of doing

otherwise are too great. For increased safety this weekend, we have additional off-duty Pierce County Sheriff's Deputies patrolling the perimeter of campus on behalf of PLU."

In the past, this message might have sounded like, "Don't worry, student body. We will protect you from gun-carrying muggers and hooded assailants." But now it sounds closer to, "We called more cops, student body. You better not do anything we don't approve of."

The presence of these hired officers has become more like a threat than a reassurance. I'm just confused as to what we did to warrant such a watchful eye placed upon us.

We recently had a party at our house broken up by the police. An officer told me that no neighbors had complained and there were no disturbances in or outside of the house, yet the house was still invaded by police. This troubles me because I have always been under the assumption that, unless they have a warrant or probable cause, police are like vampires—they can't come into your home unless you invite them. Their time would be much better spent preventing crime, which seems to be very prevalent in Parkland.

I appreciate that the university

pays these off-duty officers to help keep PLU's surrounding neighborhoods safer, but are they being paid to police crime or to police the students?

Another confusing aspect of these violations of privacy is the involvement of Student Conduct. After an incident off-campus, the police notify Student Conduct of the situation and the students involved are dealt with according to the PLU's Neighborhood Relations policy.

The policy, as it appears in the Student Handbook, reads, "PLU is an integral part of Parkland, and therefore all members of the PLU community have a responsibility for the quality of the greater Parkland neighborhood. PLU expects all students to act safely, legally and neighborly and may intervene if students' behavior off-campus negatively impacts campus-neighbors or the on-campus community."

This policy is put in place to serve a worthy purpose, but it allows the university and the police to inappropriately infringe upon the private lives of off-campus students. The completely legal events, which take place inside my home, should not be subject to arbitrary scrutiny by the policing body of a university.

Andrew Gilbertson
senior

Sidewalk Talk

Are you a big video-gamer and why?



"Yes because all of my real friends won't hang out with me."
Andrew Reyna
junior



"I think all of my friends are, but I'm not. I think they just like first-hand shooters and RPGs."
Andrea Nelson
junior



"I'm not, I can't sit still that long."
Andrew Ratzke
senior



"I enjoy video games because they allow me to unwind when I generally cannot."
Jessica Ritchie
senior

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or at mast@plu.edu

With



from O

Kate Geldaker
INTERNATIONAL EDITOR
geldakkh@plu.edu

The Hispanic Studies program at Pacific Lutheran University is celebrating the fifth year of its program in Oaxaca, Mexico, titled "Development, Culture and Social Change." There are 27 students participating in this program – a record high – and 23 of them are from PLU.

PLU created this program in collaboration with University of Puget Sound to bring an academic standard to students

studying in Latin America, especially regarding language development.

Tamara Williams, director of the Oaxaca Program, said it is "a program that forces you to see Mexico from a variety of perspectives but purposefully exposes the margins of society."

Oaxaca is the second-poorest state in Mexico. Its major income sources are remittances and agriculture.

"It is a challenging place to be and a challenging program to be in," Williams said. "It is for students with questions."

The Hispanic Studies program decided on creating

its program in Oaxaca as opposed to elsewhere in Latin America because of the many experiences it offers regarding its culture and history. It also aimed to bring awareness of Mexico-U.S. relations.

The students in PLU's Gateway program in Oaxaca study Spanish as well as art, archeology, sociology and have the opportunity to participate in a local internship.

James Predmore, associate professor of Spanish, is now facilitating the program. Each year a different faculty member from PLU or UPS accompanies the students on their program to Oaxaca.

Students and professors have immensely enjoyed the experience in Oaxaca with their families, the culture, the language and the community.

"I miss the most both the city of Oaxaca, a city where public spaces are used a lot, and the community that was built there in terms of the program, professors and NGOs," said assistant professor of Spanish Carmita Palerm, who led the program in Fall 2008. "It was a really challenging and nurturing environment."



Dear Prospective Oaxaca Study Abroad Student,

Oaxaca de Juarez, Mexico, is a beautiful colonial city vibrant with both Spanish and Indigenous culture. Oaxaca is considered by many to be the indigenous and cultural heartland of Mexico. In the state of Oaxaca alone, there are 16 unique indigenous languages spoken.

The people here are very friendly-- don't be afraid to strike up conversations with strangers, with whatever Spanish-speaking abilities you may or may not have.



They appreciate the effort at bridging the cultural gap. If you have any extra time down here, you have to visit as many nearby pueblos (villages) as possible. Some suggestions include Teotillán del Valle, Mitla, Etla, Tlacolula, San Juan Sosola and Xoxocotlán. The people in these towns are the friendliest, humblest and most generous I have ever met.

My favorite part of this trip has been the food. Oaxacan cuisine is very distinct and delicious, consisting of everything from tlayudas (giant tortillas with pork grease, guacamole, beans, peppers, and your choice of beef, pork, or sausage) to chicken with mole sauce (made from certain chili peppers and up to 31 other ingredients), from chiles rellenos (chiles stuffed with cheese and chicken) to tacos.

The produce includes nísperos, chayotes, naranjas (oranges), bananas, higos (figs), aguacates (avacados) and many other fruits. The food stands (puestos) are the most risky in terms of getting sick, but if you avoid food with lettuce and give your stomach time to adjust to Mexican food first, you should be fine. Not to mention that the puestos have the best food here.

Prepare to be shocked by a stark reality about very sad economic situations in Mexico. The trips with Witness for Peace will be very eye opening - and possibly world shattering - as you learn about the difficult realities facing many Mexicans every day and as you take an in-depth look at free trade policy and neoliberalism, the roots of immigration to the U.S. and the repression and resistance of the indigenous peoples of Mexico.

Don't forget to bring an open mind and an adventurous attitude.

Junior, Josh ("Josué") Stromberg

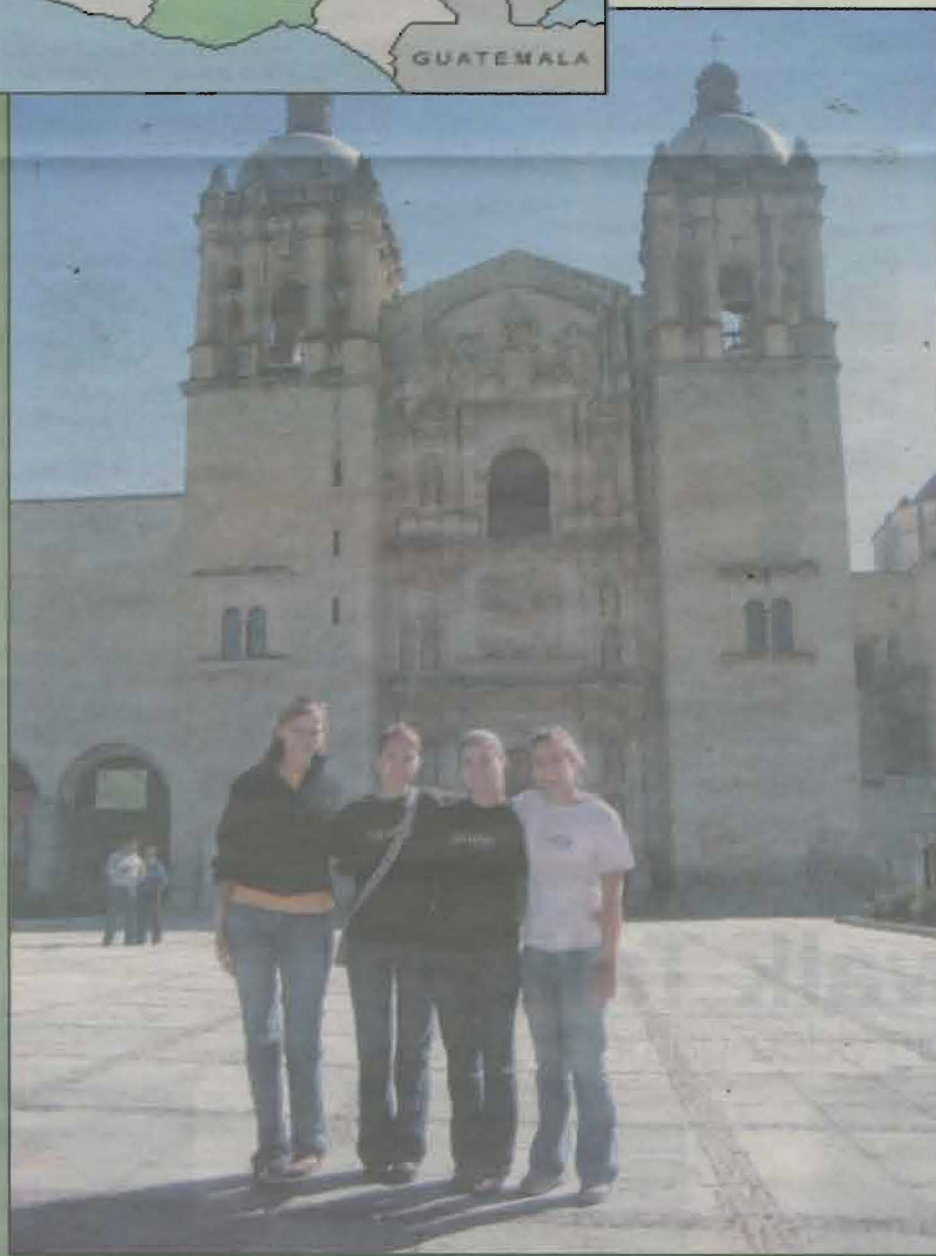


Photo compliments of Liz Pfaff
Senior Liz Pfaff, and alumnae Alison Cambronne, Michele Hegg, and Claire Brauer-Rieke standing in front of Santo Domingo north of downtown Oaxaca during their semester in Mexico, Fall 2008. The plaza in front of the church is a common place for people to meet up.

To the future Oaxaquenos

I'm writing this letter while sitting outside my host family's home eating a banana from their garden and basking in the warmth of Mexican sun. No—I'm not trying to make you jealous. I'm writing to share a bit of my experience studying abroad in Oaxaca, Mexico.

With six weeks left here, the program has been amazing: a mix of academic topics, cultural experiences, travels within Mexico, and, of course, fun, has served to make me more socially aware and help me suffer through less awkward moments of linguistic mistakes in my Spanish.

With the small amount of space, here's what I most want to share about:

- Don't forget Pepto Bismol—it's bonding over bodily functions is a common experience.
- Don't be afraid to try any of the Oaxacan gastronomy and seven kinds of grasshoppers.
- People will laugh at your Spanish, but you'll notice they are laughing for a purpose, not on accident.
- The best cure for the mosquito itching and the mosquitos hate the smell of eucalyptus.
- If you've never seen pyramids, the ruins of Teotihuacan, Teotillán del Valle, and the ruins of Monte Albán and Teotihuacan are breathtaking.
- The beaches are worth the wait. The beaches are worth the wait.
- The people are the most friendly. Talk to your host family or in the street. The Oaxacan people are so friendly. You will learn mucho.

No matter your experience, you will gain a new perspective on social development and how our country's closest neighbor has a rich Oaxacan culture.

Sophomore, Kaitlyn

Oaxaca, México



Photo by Liz Pfaff

Monte Albán is a pre-Columbian archeological zone of the Zapotec culture, one of the indigenous groups of Oaxaca. According to their history, this is the site of creation. The site is a source of Oaxacan pride, culture and history. Every year, PLU students studying in Oaxaca tour this ancient city, which about 20 minutes away from Oaxaca. Monte Albán is also a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage Site.

of PLU:



ce that I have here, the following is Oaxaca:

s gonna happen. Just deal with it. a good thing.

he food. Oaxaca is famous for it's f mole. It's delicious, minus the

ish. Wait. Keep talking. One day because you said something funny on

is Vick's Vapor Rub—it stops the ne smell.

before, or even if you have, Monte htaking.

nding roads it takes to get there. I

y I've ever met in my life. Make and the people you meet in the stores community is open and welcoming.

u will leave Oaxaca changed — with opment and change, understanding hbor lives and appreciation for the

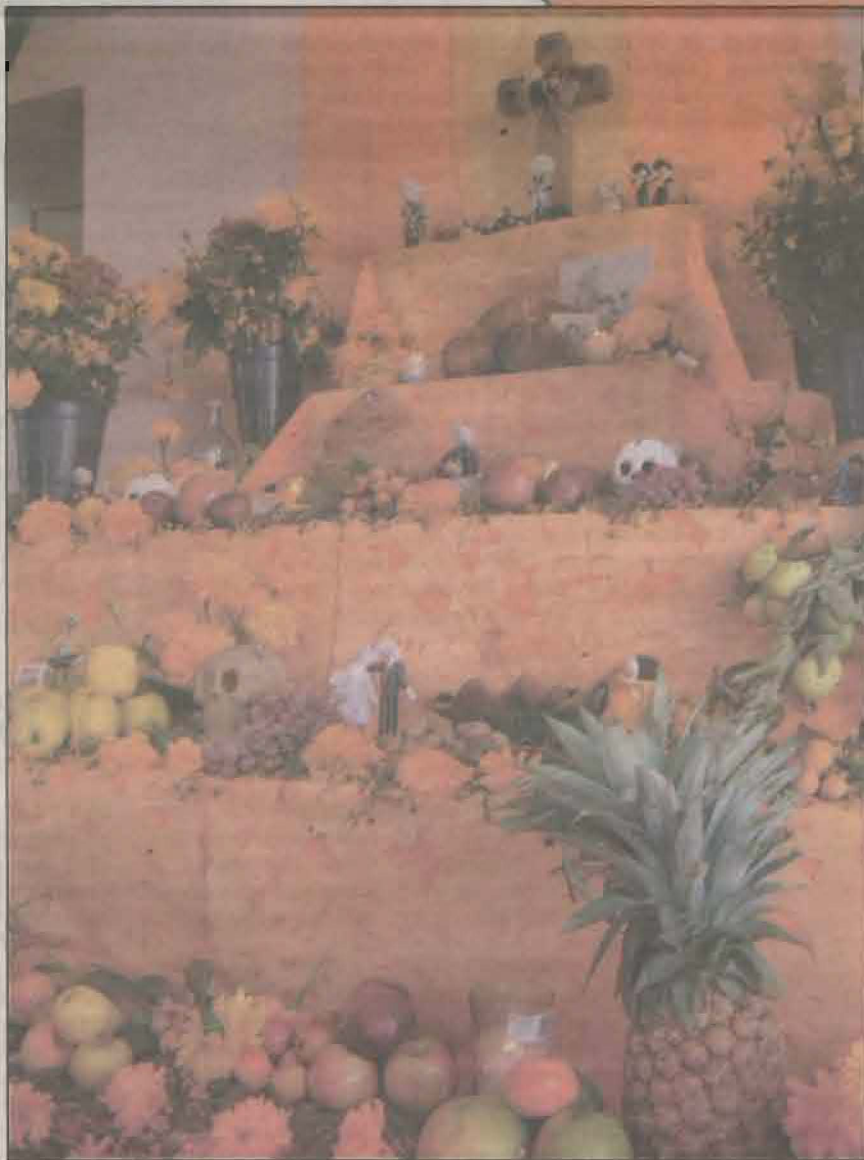


Photo by Liz Pfaff

Families, schools and businesses in Oaxaca create altars in honor of loved ones who have died. The altars are built in mid to late October for the Day of the Dead, Nov. 1-2. Altars are decorated with flowers, food, photos of loved ones, items the deceased enjoyed in life, etc.* This altar is a household altar of a host family in Oaxaca.

Saludos prospective sojourners!

It is mid-November as I sit on my host family's patio, watching the sunset paint the mountains pink and orange. The heat of day is fading, but the warmth of evening still allows one to comfortably wear a skirt and sandals.

Any person walking down the street will tell you that today is not a national holiday, the birthday of a local patron saint or otherwise special. But what do you know? Here is a mariachi band coming down the street.

After two months of living in Oaxaca, Mexico, I thought I might get used to these random parades, but the shrill trumpets and waddling tuba players always catch me off guard regardless of the hour.

These happy scenes are just one of the wonderful things about Oaxaca: no one needs an excuse to celebrate life.

Time in Mexico runs by another clock entirely. In America, we are always in a hurry; in Mexico, people only hurry if they are being chased by jealous lovers or if they are late for their own wedding—even then, a bride's delay of an hour and a half is no reason to quicken one's pace at life.

Mexican time is like Mexican love: free and affectionate.

Families and lovers flock to the parks and communal spaces to socialize, leaving the privacy of their homes as a sacred family space. Parks, taco stands and fountains overrun with adorable little children closely followed by their beloved balloons.

This is a country of salsa, both the kind you eat and the kind you dance.

Make sure to pack your swimsuit, hiking boots and appetite. You will undoubtedly need all three. Hope you are all happy and healthy.

Bon voyage!



Sophomore, Katy Allen-Schmid

'Call of Duty' sports weak story



AP Image

This screenshot from "Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2" shows off the game's impressive graphics engine. Though the game is action-packed, it fails to live up to its predecessor in terms of plot and character. Many people are also up in arms about a certain sequence in the game which has your character open fire in an airport.

Video game packs in action, skimps on plot

Lou Kesten

ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORTER

"Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2," almost certain to be the year's best-selling video game, has also become its most notorious. That's because of a prerelease leak showing a terrorist raid on an airport—exactly the sort of thing that's guaranteed to rile up anti-violence watchdogs and generate free publicity.

Now that I've played "Modern Warfare 2" (Activision, for the Xbox 360, PlayStation 3, \$59.99), I can report that the airport massacre is absolutely essential to its story. The rationale behind your character's participation in the assault, however, is idiotic: You're really a good guy who has infiltrated the terrorist cell. So fire away.

The remainder of "MW2" deals with the repercussions from the terrorist attack, which causes escalating global tensions to explode into all-out war. Tanks rumble through the Virginia suburbs, helicopters circle the Washington Monument and millions die—all because of an awesomely ill-conceived plan to get intel on a terrorist.

I'm not giving anything away that you haven't already

seen in Activision's TV ads. The sight of D.C. in flames is spectacular, and it's a terrific setting for virtual combat. "MW2" is filled with such mind-blowing set pieces, from the slums of Rio de Janeiro to the snowy mountains of Russia.

It's in getting from one set piece to the next that developer Infinity Ward stumbles. The overarching story concerns a special forces team's efforts to bring down Vladimir Makarov, the terrorist mastermind who engineered the airport attack. But it's easy to lose sight of that goal when the White House is under siege.

Granted, the plot isn't that much more ridiculous than a typical season of "24." In comparison with some other video games—say, "Metal Gear Solid 4"—the "MW2" script is almost elegant.

And most players won't give much thought to the story, given the frenetic, headlong action. The controls are tight, giving you an intuitive feel for even the most exotic weapons. Combat varies nicely between levels: Sometimes you need to be sneaky, sometimes you need to be destructive, and sometimes you just need to run like hell. Occasionally it's difficult to figure out what your goal is, but such confusion isn't entirely out of place in the fog of combat.

The solo campaign is short—about eight hours—and "Modern Warfare" veterans will race through it to get to the multiplayer offerings. The major innovation is a collection of 23 cooperative, two-player missions,

which can be completed online or with a friend on the same couch. It also has a full complement of competitive modes, with enough new maps, weapons and gameplay tweaks to keep franchise fans fighting for months.

If you're into online combat, "MW2" is a must-buy. I just wish Infinity Ward had taken the time to write a more coherent story for the single-player adventure.

"If you're into online combat, 'MW2' is a must-buy."

Gateway games draw rookies to tabletop

Tabletop gaming, like any addictive activity, has its gateways—the games that grab hold and pull you under. It begins innocently enough with a few games of "Puerto Rico," but soon, you find yourself scoffing at the newest version of "Monopoly" and rolling to stab some goblins with your longsword in "Dungeons and Dragons."

That's not to say that board games will turn you into an elitist snob. But, like any great activity, as you delve deeper into their depths, you become particular.

Take a look at some of the games I would consider to be "noobie-friendly" and maybe give a few of them a try.

"*The Settlers of Catan*" (1995): The reigning champ of tabletop gaming is incredibly simple to learn, quick to play and fun to master. Designed by German tabletop aficionado Klaus Teuber, "Catan" is a game of exploration, trading and economic supremacy. Rookies can learn the rules and be rolling away in a matter of minutes.

"*Munchkin*" (2001): This zany, pun-laden card game is one of the most chaotic



clickm@plu.edu

and hysterical tabletop games out there. Each player starts on an even playing-field as they delve into a monster-filled dungeon. Collecting items like The Chainsaw of Bloody Dismemberment or the Kneepads of Allure will give players the skills necessary to best the denizens of the dungeon, gain levels and one-up their opponents.

The best part about "Munchkin" is the variety it offers—there's a "Munchkin" for everybody.

"*Carcassonne*" (2000): This straightforward tile-laying game pits two players against one another as they build roads, walls and cities. "Carcassonne," much like "Catan," has simple rules that allow for a much greater strategic

complexity as players become more adept at utilizing both their own and their opponent's tiles. The game is extremely quick-playing and easy to set up and tear down, making it the perfect pick-up-and-play game.

"*Memoir '44*" (2004): A WWII-themed strategic combat game, "Memoir '44" sports a slick troop movement system dependent on cards that indicate a zone and a number of squads within that zone that can be moved. Combat is handled with a simple dice-roll. The game comes packed with a multitude of scenarios, from Omaha Beach to the Battle of the Bulge, and expansions to the game add battles from the Eastern Front and Mediterranean campaigns, so you'll never get bored.

"*Bang!*" (2002): The true spaghetti western of tabletop gaming, "Bang!" is a card game that puts players in the role of the sheriff, deputy, outlaw or renegade—but everyone's roles except the sheriff's are kept secret. The game plays out with everyone trying to achieve his or her particular goal, taking shots at one another across the table, drinking whiskey

and passing dynamite, hot-potato-style, around until it explodes. "Bang!" is one of those games that people cannot get enough of once they've played it—it's incredibly fun, simple and addicting.

"*Dominion*" (2008): This is the newest poster-child of tabletop gaming. "Dominion" is a game of deck-building—your deck of cards represents your land, fortune and servants. You compete with other dominion-holders, buying cards and balancing your deck between victory points, which are useless to draw, but indispensable in winning the game, and action cards. "Dominion" moves quickly, is easy to learn and already has two expansions on the market: "Intrigue" and "Seaside." With hundreds of possible combinations of cards, "Dominion" never grows stale.

So there you have it—a list of what I would consider to be great gateway games. Many of these games are ones that got me interested in tabletop gaming, and still others are ones that I have used to introduce friends into the fold. I hope you'll give tabletop gaming a chance and try one of these games out.

Recession opens doors for indie films

The Cuddly Inferno



Rhain Leddy

leddyrn@plu.edu

We've all seen it happening all around us: the ongoing economic recession is slowly taking hold of our capitalist society. Prices are going up, demand for goods is decreasing and inflation is projected to be at record highs within our lifetime. I'm not going to get into the politics.

Rather, I would like to propose something to you that would be the last thing on the mind of the average, working-class American. Then again, I don't think I fall into that category just yet. So, on that note, I wonder: what will this recession mean for the movie industry? I have an idea, one that seems more of a triumph than a loss.

I predict that the rising production costs of big-budget films will eventually make them too expensive. Now, before you scream in horror that Michael Bay can't make any more cars explode or change into sentient beings, take a seat with the other filmmakers who rely on explosions to drive a plot.

The rising costs of film production could bring about the rise of the independent, or indie, film. Indie films, which use a fraction of the budget normal blockbusters usually require, are more often than not more substantial, more emotionally driven and deal more with the humanistic side of characters.

I am enthusiastic about this possible change. Existing independent filmmakers would get the credit they finally deserve and existing Hollywood directors and producers would be able to get in on the action. They would gain valuable skills and greatly expand their fan base.

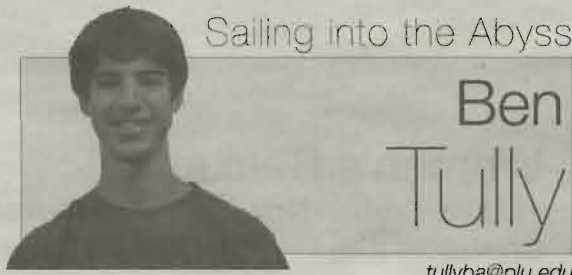
The rise of the independent film could come with not only the recession, but with viewers tiring of overly flashy films and hugely overdone plot devices. Even I am getting rather tired of all of the imitators of the greats, and I've got an odd penchant for liking bad movies.

I predict that this rise in prevalence of independent films could go one of two ways: one, directors will turn to more economical, subtle filmmaking (Michael Bay chronicles the life of a child, without explosions). Alternatively, the movie industry will become flooded with millions of amateur filmmakers trying to get their 15 minutes of fame. I'm shooting for the former.

I would like to know your thoughts about this scenario. If you have anything to say about it, feel free to e-mail me at leddyrn@plu.edu. Also, I'm thinking about adding a catchphrase to the end of my columns and wouldn't mind some creative input.

Northwest band forges genre

Built to Spill contributes to indie rock



quite shine through until its sophomore effort, "There's Nothing Wrong with Love." In 1994, when grunge was just beginning to fade, a band with as much finesse as brute force was coming out of the woodwork.

The next album, "Perfect From Now On," was even better than its predecessor. Each song in "Perfect" is tinged with angst but doesn't sacrifice the craft. With its complex song structures and cryptically edgy lyrics reminiscent of the Pixies, this masterpiece is still the high point of an incredible career. Though remaining tenaciously underground, Built To Spill was the harbinger of a new generation in the upper left. Independent you might call it. Or better yet, indie.

Suddenly, everyone wanted to sound like this band. They weren't doing anything totally unusual with their instruments. But, somehow, Martsch and company were speaking a new language. Soon Modest Mouse joined the party and, shortly after that, a bunch of kids from Western who called themselves Death Cab for Cutie hopped on-board.

There are many more factors to the Northwest's indie explosion around the turn of the century. Built To Spill was undeniably a huge part of it. Seventeen years after its formation, the now five-piece band keeps on churning out music, having released its seventh record, "There Is No Enemy," this October. If you're fortunate enough to be 21 or older, you can see them playing in Seattle tonight. At least pick up a CD. It's acts like these that keep rock and roll alive and well.

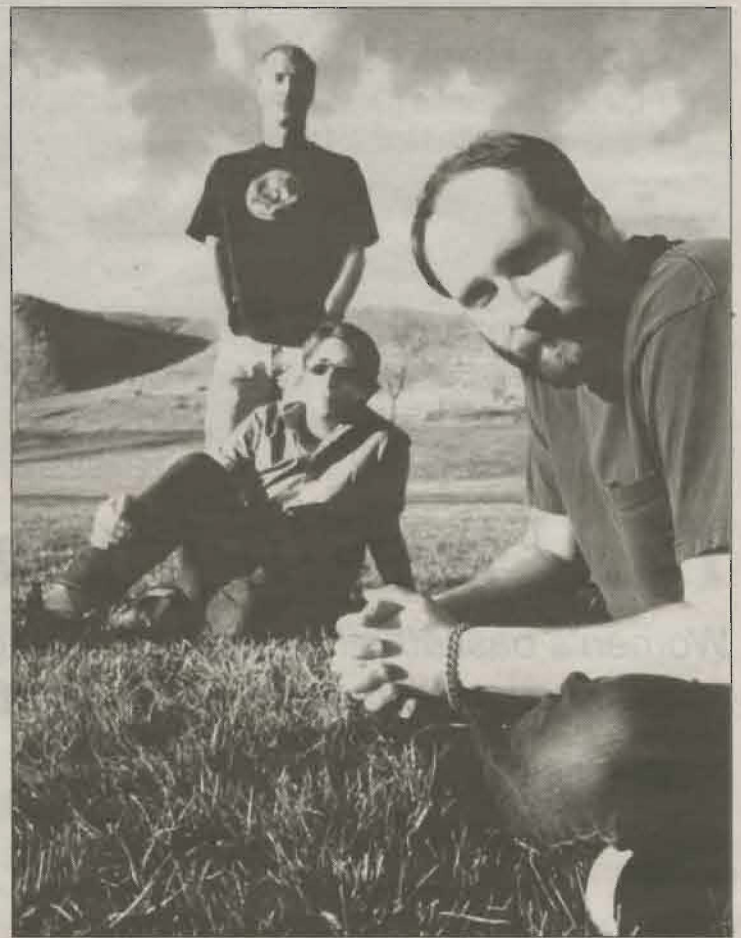


Photo courtesy of Built to Spill

Built to Spill, fronted by vocalist and guitarist Doug Martsch, hails from Boise, Idaho. Active since 1992, the band is believed to have helped spur the explosion of Northwest indie rock in recent years.

Is Idaho part of the Pacific Northwest? It's questionable. Part of the Northwest? That's more like it. However one might categorize this enigma of a state, I've decided to include an Idahoan artist in this series. That artist is Built To Spill.

Imagine a jam session with a bass guitar, drums and five or six meandering electric guitars. Then imagine that this jam session is rehearsed enough to become a cohesive composition. Put a wailing Neil Young sound-alike above it all and you have Built To Spill.

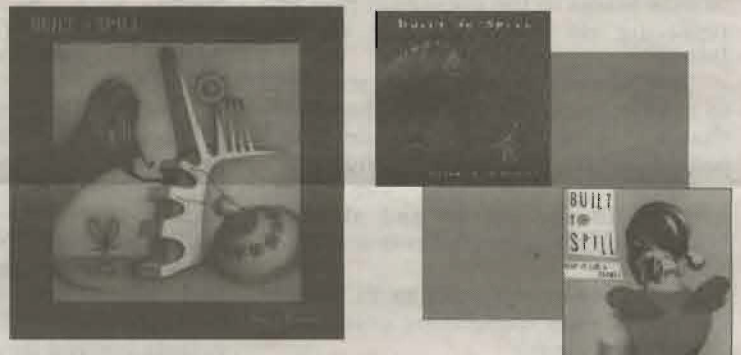
The Frankenstein behind this patched-together creation is Doug Martsch, a man who vaguely resembles James Garfield with his receding hairline and thick beard. Even though Martsch looks like an assassinated president and sounds like the legendary Godfather of Grunge, he's created some of the most original rock music over the last 20 years.

"Imagine a jam session with a bass guitar, drums and five or six meandering electric guitars."

Built To Spill formed in 1992 when Martsch left his Seattle-based band, Treepeople, and returned to his native Boise. He formed the group with Ralf Youtz (no relation to PLU music professor Gregory Youtz) and Brett Netson. The first album, "Ultimate Alternative Wavers," was released in 1993. The cover of this album depicts a rather creepy family portrait parody of the three members, posing in an oval picture frame, seeming to say "Cheese!"

The cover and the title of this album instantly radiate the sardonic quirkiness of this band. The debut album includes songs called "The First Song" (guess where this falls in the track list), "Built To Spill" and the epic finale "Built Too Long Parts 1, 2 & 3."

While the sense of humor was there from the beginning, the band's musical originality didn't



Saxifrage finds voices

Literary arts journal enters 36th year

Matt Click
MAST A&E EDITOR
clickmt@plu.edu

Saxifrage, Pacific Lutheran University's annual literary arts journal, hosted its first open mic of the year Nov. 10 at Northern Pacific Coffee Company. A small crowd of readers and listeners gathered and gave a preview of what to expect, content wise, this year.

Senior Jacob Harksen, who co-edits the 36th edition of Saxifrage with junior Jason Saunders, said that the publication has to be approached a bit differently this year due to budget constraints.

Because they cannot increase the size of the book, more emphasis is being placed on the quality of the pieces, rather than the quantity. Plans for an online edition will leave limitless room for poetry, prose, artwork and photography.

"We'll no longer have the conversation of 'Will this fit in the book?'" Harksen said. "We can make sure that the best content doesn't go homeless."

Harksen and Saunders are also placing more importance on transparency and exposure, turning Saxifrage into a visible media outlet throughout the year. They urge artists, writers and photographers to keep in touch with them and visit them in their office in UC 144.

"We want to be able to act like editors more than just a few weeks a year," Harksen said. "And we want to know what people are up to, but we can't accomplish that without interacting with people."

For PLU students, Saxifrage offers a chance to see their work published.

Also being implemented is a new, extra-long submission period. Pieces can be submitted from Dec. 1 through Feb. 26 at midnight. Submissions can be sent to saxifrage@plu.edu.

For Harksen, Saxifrage is about finding conversations within the community.

"We have a lot of voices," Harksen said. "Our job is to distill out of all those separate voices a tone, a conversation."

Saxifrage will host their fourth annual poetry slam in February and urges PLU students to submit their work.

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AN EDUCATION (PG-13)
 STARTS FRIDAY!
 Fri: 2:30, 4:45, 7:05, 9:15
 Sat/Sun: 12:15, 2:30, *4:45, 7:05, 9:15
 Mon-Thurs: 2:30, 4:45, 7:05, 9:15
 *A discussion will follow Saturday's 4:45pm showing

THE DAMNED UNITED (R)
 Fri-Thurs: 2:00, 8:55

COCO BEFORE CHANEL (PG-13)
 Fri: 4:15, 6:35
 Sat/Sun: 11:45am, 4:15, 6:35
 Mon-Thurs: 4:15, 6:35

A SERIOUS MAN (R)
 Fri/Sat: 2:15, 4:30, 6:50, 9:10
 Sun: 12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 6:50, 9:10
 Mon-Thurs: 2:15, 4:30, 6:50, 9:10

Lutes SPORTS SCHEDULE

Men's Basketball

PLU at Concordia (Ore.) Nov. 21, 7:30 p.m., vs.
Evergreen State Nov. 24, 7 p.m.*

Women's Basketball

PLU vs. Corban Nov. 20, 4:30 p.m.,* at
Concordia (Ore.) Nov. 21, 5:30 p.m.

Swimming

NW Invitational at Portland, Ore., Nov. 21-22



AN ASTERISK REPRESENTS A PLU HOME GAME

PLU ready for tip-off

Women's basketball excited for young team, looks to improve on last year's 14-11 overall record

Brendan Abshier
MAST SPORTS EDITOR
abshieb@plu.edu

The Pacific Lutheran University women's basketball team will begin its season Friday, Nov. 20 at 4:30 p.m. with a non-conference game against Corban College.

The Lutes have high hopes for the season despite being ranked seventh of nine teams in the preseason poll and replacing its entire 2008-09 starting lineup.

"We're excited for a fresh start and to really shock people with the ability that we've been able to create here," junior captain Jordan Westering said.

Westering also said she looks forward to the energy and skill the team's new transfer students and first-years bring.

Westering transferred to PLU from George Fox her sophomore year.

PLU has gone 14-11 overall the past two seasons and looks to improve this year while facing a relatively tougher schedule than last year.

"Every year is a new year," head coach Kelly Robinson said. "Ideally everyone wants be national



Backstrom

champions and have two or three losses, but the reality is that every year you have a new team and you rebuild and you see what kind of personnel you have."

The Lute's non-conference schedule includes teams such as Seattle Pacific, Seattle University and Evergreen State College.

"We're really pumped up and excited to start playing games, get going and to have something to look forward to," sophomore guard Sara Backstrom said.

PLU's roster consists of four first-years, four sophomores, three juniors and one senior. Although the team seems young, the Lutes' spirits are not getting bogged down.

"I think what's exciting about all the new personnel is how eager everyone is," Robinson said. "We're really young again as we continue to rebuild, but we're learning."

One of the team's toughest conference opponents will be defending national champion George Fox, who is chosen to finish first in the NWC, according to the preseason poll.

The Lutes split two games with Corban in the past four years with PLU winning 76-66 in 2005 and losing 61-44 in 2006.



Westering

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SHINE

Lutes sink to bottom of standings

A duet of defeats lands PLU men's and women's swimming in seventh places

Hailey Rile
MAST SPORTS INTERN
rilehm@plu.edu

Whitworth and Whitman swam past Pacific Lutheran University this weekend at the PLU pool.

The PLU swimmers hosted the Whitman Missionaries Nov. 14.

"This was the first men's loss to Whitman in this 31-year period," junior Alex Limoges said.

Whitman was just too much for the Lutes to handle, the men finding victory with a score of 126-79 and the women with a score of 122-83.

First-year Jacob Nord had two finishes against Whitman, winning both the 50-meter freestyle and 100-meter freestyle and out-touching Whitman junior Jamie Nusse by one-tenth of a second in both races.

"I have been swimming for 13 years and have never seen anything like it," Lute sophomore Elizabeth Althaus said.

Both Limoges and Althaus believe



Photo by Ted Charles

Senior John Pedack comes up for air in the 1000-meter freestyle Saturday. PLU dropped to 0-3 in Northwest Conference competition despite having strong performances by many Lutes.

that the PLU teams need to continue to train and work hard to improve their technique and endurance.

"I think that we are doing a really good job," Althaus said.

The Lutes hosted the Whitworth Pirates Nov. 13.

Whitworth came out strong and did not let up, winning eight out of 11 events on both the men's and women's sides.

The Pirates won easily with a score of 139-65 on the men's side and a 130-74 decision on the women's.

Despite the losses, the Lutes came out on top in multiple events.

First-year Shelby Allman and junior Kasey Dorcas made it a 1-2 PLU finish in the Women's 200-meter Individual Medley. Allman touched with a time of 2:25:21 and Dorcas was right behind with 2:25:30.

First-year Rachel Troutt had a strong start in the Women's 200-meter Breaststroke and held her lead to win.

Junior Casey Jackson touched first in the Women's 200-meter Backstroke.

Rempe touched first in the 200 Freestyle with a time of 1:51:59 and Nord won both the 50-meter Freestyle and 100-meter Freestyle.

The PLU men and women are now both 0-3 in this season's dual meet competitions.

Limoges took first-place finishes in the 200-meter Individual Medley with a time of 2:06:81 and the 200-meter Backstroke with a time of 2:05:28.

The Lutes dive into the pool tomorrow and Sunday when Lewis & Clark College hosts the Northwest Invitational in Portland, Ore.

Lute athletes
earn more than
just playing time

By Brendan Abshier

Football

Junior Greg Ford and senior Andy Sturza both received First Team All-NWC honors after helping the Lutes to a 3-6 record with three home wins. Junior Jordan Rasmussen and seniors Drew Griffin and Giustin Jenkins were both nominated to Second Team All-NWC.

Volleyball

Junior Beth Hanna earned American Volleyball Coaches Association Division III Third Team All-America honors. Junior Sarah Beaver and senior Kelcy Joynt also made the AVCA Division III Honorable Mention All-America list. The three also gained All-NWC First Team honors and All-West Region First Team honors. Sophomore Kelsie Moore earned All-NWC Second Team and was named to the All-West Region honorable mention list. Head coach Kevin Aoki was awarded NWC Coach of the Year, his sixth time winning the award.

Men's Soccer

Seniors Jason Bjorgo, Derek MacLean, Any Hyres, and sophomore Chad Kearns earned All-NWC First Team honors. Head coach John Yorked was awarded NWC men's soccer Coach of the Year as voted by NWC coaches. Sophomore Spencer Augustin made the All-NWC Second Team. Junior Daniele Zacagnini and sophomore Surafel Wodajo also earned honorable mention.

Women's Soccer



Newby

Senior Meredith Newby earned All-NWC Second Team Honors. Sophomores Jordan Daniels, Karli Hurlbut and Olivia Lee were also named to the All-NWC Honorable Mention list.



Photo by Ted Charles

A group of Pacific Lutheran defenders move in to make a tackle on a Menlo opponent Nov. 7. PLU won the contest 35-17 to cap the team's 3-1 home record this season.

EMAL closes '09 season

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The Lutes finished their 2009 campaign Saturday in a 62-44 loss to nationally-ranked and undefeated Linfield. Pacific Lutheran University rallied back from a 28-point deficit at the half to get within 18 points of the powerful Wildcat squad. The aerial assault proved deadly again for PLU as junior Jordan Rasmussen unleashed his fury for 325 yards and five touchdowns. Junior Greg Ford was on the receiving end of two of them, racking up 100 yards on 11 receptions. The Lutes finished the season 3-6 (3-3 NWC) but the story of this season doesn't lie in the final record. At the beginning of the season, the Lutes suffered two big losses (46-7 against St. Olaf and 49-7 against California Lutheran) and a slew of injuries on the offensive line. The offense showed little signs of life in the opening weeks of the season but after a bye week the Lutes came out fighting. "From that point on, this was a different football team," head coach Scott Westering said. In a memorable homecoming game, the Lutes put up 43 points and 552 yards of offense to bury Lewis & Clark 43-7. The restructured offensive line and the new twin-quarterback attack of sophomore AJ Palazzo and junior Jordan Rasmussen breathed some life into the sagging offense with the help of their receiving core led by junior Greg Ford. The team had some teeth on offense, and continued to show those teeth during the rest of the season. Following the win against Lewis & Clark, the Lutes suffered three losses to Gustavus

Adolphus on a last second score then fell victim to an impressive comeback against Willamette before suffering a crushing double overtime loss to Whitworth. "Those were three games that ended up being losses on the score board that we played very, very well in," Westering said. Even in those losses the stats for the Lutes looked impressive. Every week, the Lute offense went out and dropped bombs on the opposition without discretion. The Lutes finished the season with an impressive 2549 yards through the air as Palazzo and Rasmussen picked apart corner backs and safeties week after week. The Lutes outgained their opponents through the air by more than 500 yards (2549-2016). PLU's rushing attack was not unimpressive, gaining 993 yards and blasting past defenders for 10 scores on the season. Greg Ford led all receivers with a staggering 1120 yards on 70 receptions and scored 10 touchdowns. The Lutes had three other receivers with more than 30 catches in junior Isaac Moog, senior Drew Griffin and junior Kyle Whitford who had 33, 39 and 35 receptions, respectively. Looking forward to next season, coach Westering is excited. "We're getting a boatload of these guys back," he said. The Lutes will lose only one offensive starter at the end of this season. On defense, the team loses five starters but coach Westering was quick to say, "we've got some young guys chomping at the bit ready to step in and gel as a defense."



Ford

Around the
conference

Brendan Abshier
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All-Sports update

Whitworth University gained a ten-point lead over Willamette University, topping the Northwest Conference post-fall season in the hunt for the 2009-10 McIlroy-Lewis All-Sports Trophy. Whitworth earned two conference titles and a duo of second place finishes to help boost its lead with 88 points. Pacific Lutheran University sits in the middle of the pack with 66 points. Whitworth has won the award the past two years.

First time's the charm

The Lewis & Clark football team celebrated after picking up its first Northwest Conference win since 2003 Nov. 14, defeating the Puget Sound Loggers 30-27. The Pioneers' last conference victory came six years ago after beating Puget Sound 25-23. "This is a grea way to end the season and start our momentum for next season," head coach Chris Sulages said.

In search of gold

The Whitworth Pirates squeaked out a 2-1 win over the Claremont-Mudd-Scripps Colleges in round two of the NCAA Division III men's soccer tournament. The win advances the Pirates to the round of 16 and will face-off against Hardin-Simmons. It will be Whitworth's third trip to the round of 16. It's first since 2005 when the team advanced to the final four.

Loggers get axed

The No. 22 Puget Sound Loggers volleyball team dropped its first round match to California Lutheran in five sets. The loss sends the team home from the 2009 NCAA Division III Women's Volleyball Championship with a season record of 18-7.

Scorecard

Men's Basketball
as of 11/18

NWC Standings			
Team	NWC	%	All
Pacific	0-0	.000	1-0
George Fox	0-0	.000	0-0
L&C	0-0	.000	0-0
Linfield	0-0	.000	0-0
PLU	0-0	.000	0-0
Whitworth	0-0	.000	0-0
Willamette	0-0	.000	0-0
UPS	0-0	.000	0-1
Whitman	0-0	.000	0-1

Team Points Leader
N/A

Team Rebounds Leader
N/A

Team Assists Leader
N/A

Team Steals Leaders
N/A

Team Blocks Leaders
N/A

Women's Basketball
as of 11/18

NWC Standings			
Team	NWC	%	All
L&C	0-0	.000	2-0
George Fox	0-0	.000	1-0
UPS	0-0	.000	1-0
Linfield	0-0	.000	0-0
PLU	0-0	.000	0-0
Whitman	0-0	.000	0-0
Whitworth	0-0	.000	0-0
Willamette	0-0	.000	0-0
Pacific	0-0	.000	0-0

Team Points Leader
N/A

Team Rebounds Leader
N/A

Team Assists Leader
N/A

Team Steals Leaders
N/A

Team Blocks Leaders
N/A

Men's Swimming
as of 11/18

NWC Standings			
Team	NWC	%	All
Whitman	3-0	1.000	4-0
UPS	3-0	1.000	3-1
Whitworth	3-0	1.000	3-1
L&C	2-0	1.000	2-0
Willamette	0-2	.000	0-2
Linfield	0-3	.000	0-3
PLU	0-3	.000	0-3
Pacific	0-3	.000	0-3

- Team Leaders:
50 Free - Jacob Nord, 22.05
100 Free - Jacob Nord, 49.32
200 Free - Phil Rempe, 1:51.31
500 Free - Phil Rempe, 5:01.69
1000 Free - Alex Limoges, 10:52.49
50 Back - Alex Limoges, 26.50
100 Back - Alex Limoges, 56.38
200 Back - Jackson Kowalski, 1:59.06
50 Breast - Rayan Carter, 29.01
100 Breast - Rayan Carter, 1:05.22
50 Fly - Alex Limoges, 24.91
100 Fly - Mathew Kim, 57.00
100 IM - Rayan Carter, 57.81

Women's Swimming
as of 11/18

NWC Standings				
Team	NWC	%	All	%
Whitman	3-0	1.000	4-0	1.000
UPS	3-0	1.000	3-1	.750
Whitworth	3-0	1.000	3-1	.750
Willamette	1-1	.500	1-1	.500
L&C	1-1	.500	1-1	.500
Linfield	0-3	.000	0-3	.000
PLU	0-3	.000	0-3	.000
Pacific	0-3	.000	0-3	.000

- Times Leaders
50 Free - Elisabeth Simpson, 26.60
100 Free - Jessie Klauder, 56.63
200 Free - Jessie Klauder, 2:02.66
500 Free - Elizabeth Althausser, 5:35.85
1000 Free - Courtney Karwal, 11:28.45
50 Back - Casey Jackson, 29.71
100 Back - Casey Jackson, 1:01.28
200 Back - Casey Jackson, 2:14.56
50 Breast - Jessie Klauder, 34.08
100 Breast - Jessie Klauder, 1:15.02
50 Fly - Jessie Klauder, 29.22
200 Fly - Shelby Allman, 2:28.33
100 IM - Jessie Klauder, 1:04.23

Lutes spiked in opening round

PLU women's volleyball bumped out of NCAA West Regional

Erica Ellersick
 MAST SPORTS REPORTER
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"One quote that a player on our team mentioned to us was, 'We breathe in battles, and exhale victories,' and it really stuck with all of us," sophomore Kelsie Moore said. "We have definitely had our share of battles as far as people getting sick or injured, yet we finished the season undefeated in conference."

The Pacific Lutheran University volleyball team fell to La Verne University Nov. 12 in the first round of the NCAA Division III West Regional tournament at University of Redland's Currier Gymnasium.

"Even though we lost in the first round at regionals, none of us look at it as a 'loss,'" Moore said.

PLU came out on top the first set, 25-23, and dropped three in a row to La Verne, 25-18, 27-25, 25-19.

"La Verne placed second in the nation last year and didn't lose too many people," Moore said, "so when you think about that and how well we played against them, it really shows how good our team is."

In the NCAA Division III West Region tournament, PLU finished third overall for the fourth year in a row.

"One of the most heartbreaking things about the season ending is that we won't get to play with these five amazing seniors again," junior Beth Hanna said.

The women's volleyball team ended its season with a 20-7 record for the second

consecutive year.

"I think we also learned how deep our team is, too, with Beth being injured and Amber stepping up to play," Moore said.

Northwest Conference Player of the Year senior Kelcy Joynt finished the match with 19 kills and .261 attack percentage.

Three Lutes ended with double digits in kills: Moore with 12, sophomore Erin Bremond with 11 and sophomore Amber Roberts with 10.

Junior setter Sarah Beaver gave 52 assists in the match. Joynt had a strong defensive performance with 22 digs. Bremond ended with four block assists.

"We really tried to play free and fast every single match and even up until the last play of the La Verne match we did this," Senior Brenna Archibald said.

PLU has a history of tearing through competition. The seniors ended their four years with 60-4 record in conference matches.

"Each of them added something a little bit different and our coaches are totally right when they say that those girls have set the bar really high for this team and this program," Moore said.

For the third season in a row, outside hitter Hanna earned the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) West Region First Team honors.

Joynt and Beaver joined Hanna with All-Northwest Conference First Team honors. Moore was an All-NWC Second Team selection.

"We'll have to keep working hard in the offseason so that

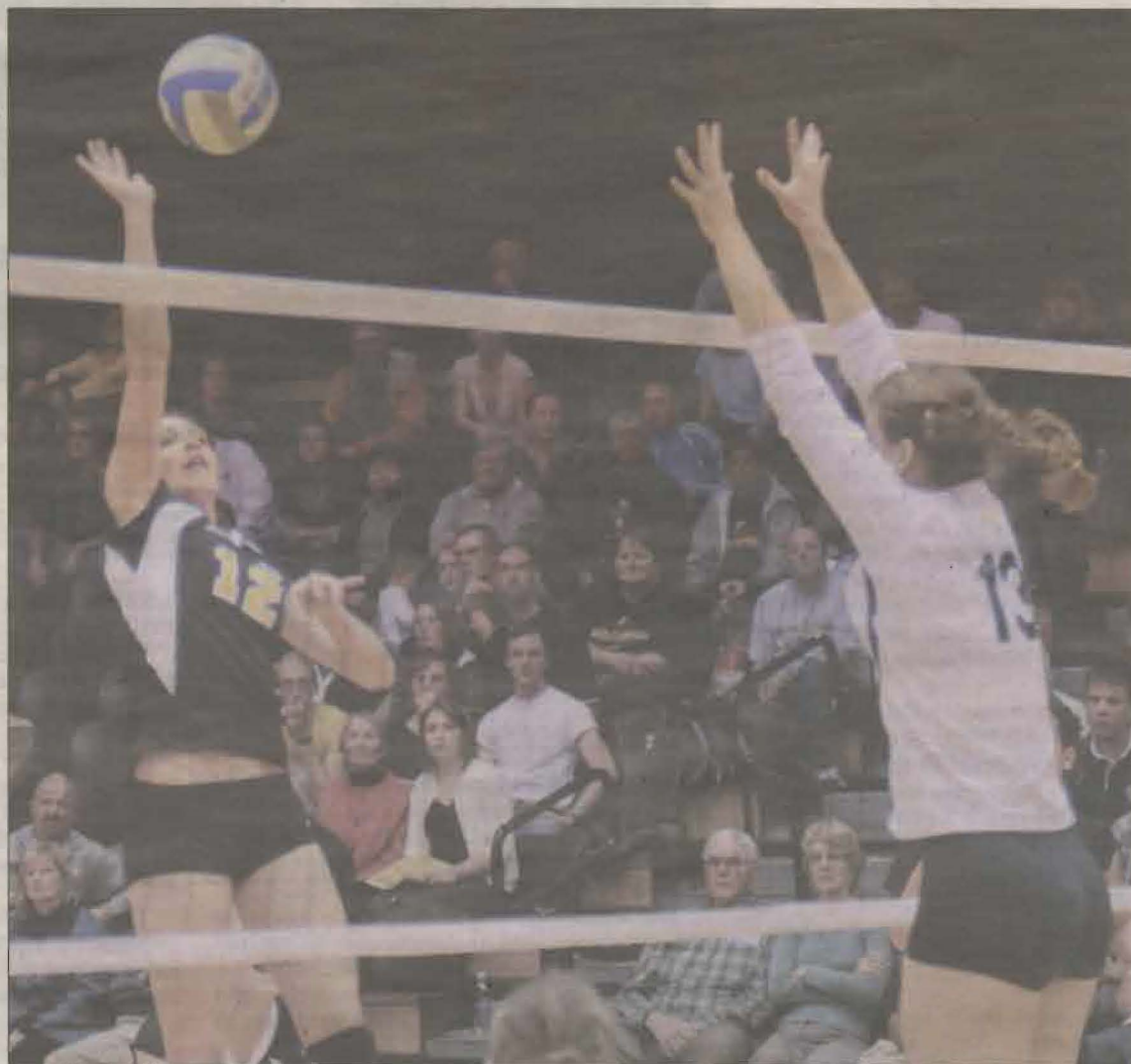


Photo by Ted Charles

Senior captain Kelcy Joynt reaches for the ball in a match earlier this season. The Lutes finished the season 20-7 but were knocked out of the NCAA Division III West Regional Tournament in the first round.

we will come back next year and pick up where we left off," Hanna said.

The Lutes expect a strong performance next year with their successful returners and

coaching staff.

"There will no doubt be some new bodies into the program next year, which will be an adjustment," Archibald said, "but the program is something

that will be carried on by the returners."

Head coach Kevin Aoki was awarded NWC Coach of the Year, his sixth time winning the award.

What's available in the Holiday Catalog?

The Financial Lives of the Poets

"Hysterically funny—and painfully timely..."

by **JESS WALTER**, local author and faculty member of PLU's MFA program

A job to gamble everything on a quixotic notion; a Web site devoted to financial journalism in the form of blank verse. When his big idea—and his wife's eBay resale business—ends with a whimper (and a garage full of unwanted figurines), they borrow and borrow, whistling past the graveyard of their uncertain dreams. One morning Matt wakes up to find himself jobless, hobbled with debt, spying on his wife's online flirtation, and six days away from losing his home. *Is this really how things were supposed to end up for me, he wonders.*

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