

Photo by Ted Charles

Students circle in remembrance of fallen soldiers of the Iraq War during chapel break March 19. Students gathered in Red Square for a moment of silence while holding flags bearing the names individuals that have been killed during the conflict.

PLU Women's Center turns 20

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The Women's Centers sponsored a gala to celebrate its 20th birthday Monday in the Chris Knutzen Hall in the University Center with 160 people in attendance.

"At this gala, the Women's Center is celebrating 20 years of working to create change for the better," Men Against Violence project coordinator Jonathan Grove said. "The kind of change

that started when women demanded the right to vote, to wear pants, to go to college, to work outside the home, to be elected, to run things. It is 20 years within a much larger context, but for PLU those 20 years have meant a lot of change."

The event included dinner and a silent auction with a trip to Ecuador.

"For me, it was just a really special milestone. The projects and their successes now are a

SEE GALA PG. 3

Remodeling RA roles RHA inacts changes to RHC

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Pacific Lutheran University Resident Hall Association (RHA) has planned a reformation of the Resident Hall Councils (RHCs) for next year by adding an executive position in addition to remodeling the roles of Resident Assistants (RAs).

A committee of current RHC members has met for the past three weeks to create a bill that outlines the new model for RHC. The bill has been passed to the President's council for officiating.

The new model adds a social justice director to RHC executive

positions and includes committee duties to RAs' roles in sign making, assisting with planning and formally attending RHC meetings.

"When it was first proposed, I was very hesitant on it," said sophomore Alexis Briggs, RHA communication director. "I was very apprehensive about the RAs being forcibly involved with RHC."

The new model was formed to reestablish communication between RHA and RHC after a year of issues and inconsistencies, which resulted in missed meetings between the two institutions.

"We have a social justice

SEE RHA PG. 3

Students for Peace silently stand

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Pacific Lutheran University's Students for Peace club hosted a moment of silence last Friday in Red Square to commemorate the seventh anniversary of the U.S. invasion of Iraq.

Approximately 20 students passing through Red Square joined the group to silently commemorate lives that have been lost during the conflict.

Students for Peace encouraged students of all political stances to take time Friday to honor the dead.

Club members met in Red Square at

10:30 a.m. and took handfuls of flags, each marked with a name of a casualty.

Those gathered remained silent for six minutes and fifteen seconds, while roughly three-dozen students walked past. Club members broke the silence by reading the names of the fallen U.S. personnel.

Club leaders sophomore Elizabeth Ginsberg and Abby Crisafulli expressed concern that a nation that has spent almost a decade at war has forgotten that war continues every day.

The event was about telling PLU students that the U.S. is still involved in Iraq and Afghanistan and, though media coverage may have waned, people are still dying.

Ginsberg said that the deaths of 4,000 Americans, 300 international troops, and 95-105,000 Iraqis are reason enough to do all she can to remind students of the conflict. According to a CNN casualty report, 4,390 U.S. citizens have died in Iraq as of this month.

Erica Landis was one of the students in attendance on Friday. For her, the event was about taking time from the other stories in the news to remember those lost and to continue to look for a "solution to all of this fighting," she said.

The Students for Peace club has hosted an event every year for the past five or six years, Ginsberg said. The event has been more politically geared in the past,

but Ginsberg said it is important to keep the event apolitical as the nation enters its eighth year of the Iraq conflict.

"Taking a political position wouldn't really be productive," Ginsberg said. She said her hope is to get people to simply recognize the war.

Ginsberg also said she feels it's important for students to know that Students for Peace is active throughout the year, not just during the war commemoration.

Upcoming events hosted by Students for Peace include a guest lecture by Karambu Ringera, director and founder of International Peace Initiatives, a global organization based in Kenya. The event will be held April 14 in Xavier 201.

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Financial rundown

Financial aid days approach in April

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The office of Financial Aid is hoping to alleviate students' concerns regarding tuition for next year.

They will host Financial Aid Days April 5-7 to help students understand financial aid. The event will provide students the opportunity to ask questions as they apply for financial aid for the next school year.

Faculty members will be at tables in the University Center to answer questions and provide information about everything from the process of re-applying for financial aid to transitioning to the new direct loan system.

Director of Financial Aid Kay Soltis said the office's primary goal is to ensure that students are financially secure for the current year and to "guide [students] in the right way for next year."

Financial Aid Days is meant to help students complete the necessary steps to register for next year and to answer any questions about direct lending, Soltis

said. Congress issued a mandate that all colleges and universities move to a direct loan line by July 1.

The questions most frequently raised by students revolve around what direct loans are and how direct lending is different.

Soltis said the Office of Financial Aid is paying special attention to educating students about direct lending and its impact on students.

Aside from staffed tables, Financial Aid Days will feature student forums all three days that will focus on what Soltis called "financial aid literacy," including information regarding applying for loans for next year, searching for scholarships and cost saving tips.

"It's concentrated," Soltis said. "The idea is that we're hoping that you don't necessarily have to come to us—we're going to come to you and we're here for you."

Soltis encouraged students to stop by one of the tables and ask questions.

"Come to the forum," Soltis said. "Ask the questions. We'll be more than happy to tell you in very quick, brief terms what it means."

Direct Lending system in action

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All colleges and universities in the U.S. will be using the direct lending process by July 7.

Direct lending refers to a student loan system in which the lender is the U.S. Department of Education instead of the traditional bank or other loan agency, according to the Department of Education (DOE) website.

Pacific Lutheran University began transitioning to the direct lending system before Congress passed the bill mandating it.

"A lot of big lenders had left the program. It made sense for PLU to make this change for our students' sake," said Kay Soltis, director of Financial Aid. Soltis is responsible

for ensuring students are educated about the transition to direct lending. The Office of Financial Aid will host Financial Aid Days April 5-7.

The first step in applying for financial aid is to understand direct lending; what it means and how it is different from traditional lending.

The process remains relatively unchanged. Students fill out the same paperwork. The only difference is that now PLU's Office of Financial Aid will take care of the rest for the students.

Under the new plan, students will take out loans directly from the federal government, a process which the Department of Education said will reduce interest rates and allow for a better loan guarantee and more payback options.

Progress shaves for a cause



Left: A member of PLU's Progress club shaves the head of junior Harold Leraas March 19 during the head shaving ceremony. Leraas left his hair as a mohawk following the event.

Below: Junior Erika Meyer cuts the first locks of hair off junior Marta Behling on March 19. Progress raised approximately \$1700 during its annual Save it or Shave it program on campus this spring. For more information on this event and student reactions see page 4.

Photos by Ted Charles

For more information on this event and student reactions see page 4.



Campus Safety trains to protect

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Pacific Lutheran University's Campus Safety responds to an average of three to five out-of-the-ordinary incidents every day. These incidents fall outside the normal routine of building checks, escorts, video surveillance and the locking and unlocking of buildings.

Housed in the basement of Harstad Hall, Campus Safety currently employs 68 students, six professional officers and two professional parking officers.

Campus Safety is headed by Tony Berger, who has occupied this position for two and one half years. Berger is a member of the Pierce County Sheriff's department, with whom Campus Safety has a close

relationship.

Next in the chain of command is assistant director of Campus Safety Jeffrey Wilgus, followed by four professional operations supervisors who oversee the student supervisors.

Student employees receive a monthly paycheck and one fourth of student safety officers earn a stipend that covers half of a double dorm room on campus. Student safety officers must apply for this stipend.

Berger said that once Campus Safety hires employees, the retention rate is very high.

Once hired, employees are initially trained in PLU policies and procedures followed by continuous field and incident training throughout their Campus Safety career.

"With professional workers, we hope they already have experience in areas like security or law enforcement," Berger said.

Even with this experience, professional offices also train

intensely for one month following the hiring process.

In addition to ongoing training that includes almost daily mock scenarios, all employees attend a summer training workshop.

During the summer, the amount of employees reduces to approximately 30 total workers, with all six professional officers retained.

Student employees must have multitasking skills as well as the ability to handle emergency situations.

Student officers are paired with student officers in training during field exercises and later must be signed off on a checklist of abilities.

Campus Safety often receives criticism from the PLU community. Berger said most student workers handle this criticism well. "We are in the business of dealing with people who are not having the best day," Berger said. "People act differently when stressed out."

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Eager for Spring Break? Just remember:

The UC will close early (at 6 p.m.) on Friday, March 26!!

Local to Global

House boosts financial aid for college students



AP Photo by Charles Dharapak

President Barack Obama signs a document for Rep. Patrick Kennedy, D-R.I., after signing the health care reform bill in the East Room of the White House in Washington, Tuesday, March 23. A beaming Obama signed a historic \$938 billion health care overhaul Tuesday that guarantees coverage for 32 million uninsured Americans and will touch nearly every citizen's life, presiding over the biggest shift in U.S. domestic policy since the 1960s and capping a divisive, yearlong debate that could define the November elections.

Jim Kuhnhen
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP) — Riding the coattails of a historic health care vote, the House on Sunday also passed a broad reorganization of college aid that affects millions of students and moves President Barack Obama closer to winning yet another of his top domestic policies.

The bill rewrites a four-decades-old student loan program, eliminating its reliance on private lenders and uses the savings to direct \$36 billion in new spending to Pell Grants for students in financial need.

In the biggest piece of education legislation since No Child Left Behind nine years ago, the bill would also provide more than \$4 billion to historically black colleges and community colleges.

The bill was paired with the expedited health care bill, a marriage of convenience that helped the prospects of each measure. That combined measure passed 220-211.

"We are pairing this historic health reform with another opportunity that cannot be missed — the chance to make the single largest investment in college affordability ever at no cost to the taxpayers," said Rep. George Miller, D-Calif.

The Senate will take up the bill next week under the same expedited rules used for health care legislation. That means the Senate can pass the education measure by a simple majority, virtually guaranteeing its success despite qualms from some Democrats and opposition from Republicans.

House lawmakers passed the bill last year, but in the Senate it did not have 60 votes to overcome a near certain filibuster. By riding shotgun on the fast-track health care bill, the legislation now can avoid that obstacle.

Still, Obama won't get the Pell Grant expansion he initially sought. Congressional Democrats had to trim their original spending plans when the 10-year savings realized by switching to direct government loans dropped from \$87 billion to \$61 billion.

Private lenders have conducted an all-out lobbying effort against the bill, arguing it would cost thousands of jobs and unnecessarily put the program in the hands of the government.

America's Student Loan Providers, a trade group representing lenders, called for the Senate to reject the measure. "This is not the final chapter," the group said in a statement. "The Senate now has the historic opportunity to pass health reform — without eliminating thousands of jobs and critical student services."

Under the college lending program, financial institutions provide college loans at low interest rates, the government guarantees the loans in the event of default and subsidizes private lenders when necessary to keep rates low.

"By moving to the federal government's direct loan program, we will put the best interests of students first and make college loans more reliable and affordable," said Rep. Ruben Hinojosa, D-Texas, the chairman of a House higher education subcommittee.

In addition to using the \$61 billion in savings from that change for Pell Grants and higher education institutions, the legislation would direct about \$19 billion for deficit reduction and to offset expenses in the health care legislation.

Besides increasing Pell Grants, the bill provides \$1.5 billion to make it easier for student borrowers to repay their loans. Beginning in 2014, borrowers would be allowed to devote no more than 10 percent of their monthly income to repay student loans. The current cap is 15 percent.

Still, the legislation is not as generous as the bill the House passed last year. The bill had anticipated far more spending on community colleges and had called for increasing the Pell Grants each year by the consumer price index plus 1 percent. Democrats had to scrap the additional 1 percent increase.

Instead, the bill proposes no increases in Pell Grants over the next two years and a modest increase over the five years that follow. The maximum Pell Grant, which a House-passed bill last year would have raised to \$6,900 over 10 years, will now only increase to \$5,900. The current maximum grant for the coming school year is \$5,500.

What's more, a poor jobs market that has driven potential workers to colleges and technical schools has put a strain on the Pell Grant program. Of the \$36 billion destined for Pell Grants, \$13.5 billion would help fill a \$19 billion Pell Grant shortfall.

GALA CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

result of all the work over the years," Women's Center director Bobbi Hughes said. "It is powerful to see those connections and gives a lot of meaning to my work."

The evening featured the story of the Women's Center through the years and people impacted by help from the Women's Center.

"I liked being able to see the past of the Women's Center," sophomore Hannah Febach said. "I work there now, and it was interesting to see who started it all."

The celebration of the Women's Center marked 20 years of advocacy for women voices.

"Looking back, photos at the founding and growth of the Women's Center are inspiring," said Jennifer Warwick, victim advocate for Voices Against Violence. "The Center brings PLU a place to empower men and women, a place to seek safety and support, a place to encourage activism against injustice, and a place to honor women."

Advocates for the Women's Center say it is for people of every gender, that every person deserves a voice.

"The Women's Center for me, and I hope for this campus, gives everyone the opportunity to be heard, valued and respected no matter how they identify, and no matter what value others may grant them," Grove said.

Laps for Lute Loop



Photo by Ted Charles

Sophomore Alex Martin waves his arms in excitement as he and other Lutes take off from the starting line during the Lute Loop March 17. The Loop included booths from local businesses as well as a smorgasbord of carbohydrates-packed foods crowned by a basket of green bagels.

RHA CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

director and it's going to make sure that RHC and RHA all line up" Briggs said.

"The first thing I got when I started my term was that RHA was not communicating with RHC but now that we're adding one executive position, I think it'll have a very positive effect."

Current formal RHC positions

include president, vice-president, communication director, sustainability director and activities director.

"Social justice directors will help spread more community awareness and create more equality on campus in resident halls," said an anonymous RHC member for Stuen Hall.

"They would plan events such as gender exploration week and encourage diversity on campus."

House, Obama pass health care overhaul

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President Obama signed his health care bill into law Tuesday at the White House.

The House of Representatives passed the bill Sunday 219-212 with all Republican representatives in opposition.

Obama says this is the right step for the U.S.

"The bill I'm signing will set in motion reforms that generations of Americans have fought for and marched for and hungered to see," Obama said as he signed the bill.

"Today we are affirming that essential truth, a truth every generation is called to rediscover for itself, that we are not a nation that scales back its aspirations."

The health care reform bill requires most Americans to have health insurance, and the government will subsidize costs for low-income families, costing the government an estimate of \$938 billion from the Congressional Budget Office.

"I think it's a good idea, but it's probably going to bankrupt us in the future," first-year Akriti Chaudry

said. "I don't really know too much about it though."

The bill also ensures medical coverage for people with pre-existing conditions, extends children's coverage until the age of 26 and requires companies to cover employees.

People in opposition say the bill will create unaffordable levels of debt, leave states with expensive new responsibilities, weaken Medicare and give the government a huge role in the health care system.

"I do not like the bill, because there are so many exceptions for certain states," sophomore Morgan Ostendorf said. "Obama is trying to please everyone, which isn't possible. Instead of trying to make a good health care plan, he made one that all the high power people like."

President Obama says he is proud of the bill, and used 20 pens to sign it.

"We pushed back on the undue influence of special interests," Mr. Obama said in his remarks on the House's decision. "We didn't give in to mistrust or to cynicism or to fear. Instead, we proved that we are still a people capable of doing big things. This is not radical reform, but it is major reform."

From the editor



No smooth sailing

Pacific Lutheran University boasts strong academics and exercises outstanding efforts to maintain community. Unfortunately, PLU created a negative reputation last weekend when irresponsible binge drinking took place on board the Argosy cruise ship.

At the annual Spring Formal dance "I'm On A Boat," a student had to be transported from the ship

to the hospital due to alcohol poisoning. This student was not the only one that made the decision to drink, despite the ban on alcohol at the event. The boat had to dock an hour early.

"My main concern is how these decisions that students are making impact the community," director of Student Involvement and Leadership Eva Johnson said. "Actions and decisions [like this one] are based on 'me as the individual' not 'me as part of the community.'"

I am not writing to advocate sobriety, but rather I am advocating to increase awareness about the repercussions of individuals' actions. Personal decisions we make have an impact on the collective community. This isolated incident affects the overall reputation of the university in the greater Seattle community. Decisions made at Spring Formal by a minority of students will have an impact.

When grandma has her 90th birthday cruise courtesy of Argosy, the 2010 Spring Formal will resonate with the staff members when you step onto that ship wearing a PLU sweatshirt. Decisions made by a small number of students created a reputation, and now others have to live with that reputation whether they attended the dance or not.

I am not writing to tell anyone to stop drinking,

and PLU's role is not to dictate the moral decisions of students. However, when students smuggled alcohol into that dance, they imposed their moral judgment on the entire PLU community. The ramifications of this decision reflect on every student affiliated with PLU, which disrespects the university's commitment to embracing community.

Binge drinking is a problem on college campuses. Alcohol is a part of PLU culture without question. The PLU Student Athletic Advisory Committee has been taking action to ensure PLU doesn't fall victim to statistics. The "Don't be..." campaign has been heavily advertised around campus. These posters showcase statistics about poor decisions made under the influence of alcohol.

This campaign is important because it doesn't dictate moral decisions, but rather weighs the options. It amplifies the harm that can result from a lack of good decision making while encouraging people to be smart if they make the decision to drink.

Whether you decide to drink or not, be smart, be aware and understand that by choosing to attend PLU you are a part of the greater community. Your actions and decisions affect the community. So be that change, and not another statistic. Have fun and allow others to have fun on their own terms.

Letter to the Editor: New future for ASPLU

We would like to address the issues brought up by Kate Miller in her article "Calling for transparency" from the March 12 issue of the Mooring Mast. She mentions that she proposed a bill to increase transparency within ASPLU. To quote a specific line in her bill, "the first step in this promotion of transparency is having clearly expressed descriptions and purposes of different positions" (ASPLU Bill 7, lines 9-10).

We both believe that this is an important issue that needs to be addressed in ASPLU. But this goes much deeper than just creating position descriptions; we feel that the current by-laws are not up to full potential. We hope to fix these inadequacies so that the organization has more clarity and structure.

Another issue that Kate brought up was feeling restrained in her organization by politics and by leadership. As the new ASPLU executives, this will not be acceptable.

ASPLU will be an organization

where students are free to speak their minds. Honest and open dialogue is necessary so that all opinions on issues come forth. This will give ASPLU the opportunity to make the best decisions for the student body. At the same time, ASPLU will hold senators to the expectation of representing not just themselves, but the students.

"We have seen passion on this campus when students care about an issue."

Finally, Kate talked about the need for students to hold ASPLU responsible. She called for students to care and to speak out. We could not agree more. We have seen passion on this campus when students care about an issue. But if students are not showing that passion about the issues ASPLU is addressing, perhaps that is a sign that ASPLU is not addressing the

correct issues.

The goal of ASPLU should be getting to know the student body. This is not something that we as the executives can fix by ourselves, but something that ASPLU as a collective must commit to. With the student leaders in ASPLU committed to connecting, ASPLU can finally be the voice of the student body.

We want you to hold ASPLU responsible. Get to know your senators and expect them to get to know you. If you have questions or want to talk about the direction ASPLU is headed, please e-mail Alexis (ballinaj@plu.edu) or Adam (whistlaj@plu.edu). We would love the opportunity to get to know you better.

Alexis Ballinger
2010-2011 ASPLU President
Class of 2012

Adam Whistler
2010-2011 ASPLU Vice President
Class of 2011



Bald and Bold

Pacific Lutheran University has four more bald students. This is not due to premature aging, stress or illness but because the student body decided it should be so.

"Save It or Shave It" concluded last Friday. Students asked for donations towards saving or shaving their hair and raised approximately \$1,700.

Getting college students to donate to anything is difficult. With tuition, bills and other expenses, students' wallets usually go hungry. However, one campus organization inspired students to give and to be excited about it.

Progress is a club whose purpose is to raise money and awareness about the Mary Bridge Children's Hospital in Tacoma. The club began 2 years ago, founded by Harold Leraas and Andrew McGuiness.

The money raised by the 15 students goes to the Free Care Fund at Mary Bridge. The club had raised more than \$13,000 for the fund as of December, mostly through very creative advertising.

"The specific focus is to get children cared for, but we also aim to raise awareness about healthcare issues, specifically with children," sophomore Progress President Phillip Kendall said.

Club members recognize the inability of children to pay for healthcare and refuse to allow children to be crippled by parents' socioeconomic status. The Free Care Fund supports children who can't pay for medical expenses, because the kids certainly can't get jobs.

"Save It or Shave It" is one of the club's two main fundraisers. The "Sign Me" drive, each fall, has club members partitioning their bodies into pieces of real estate, with students purchasing the right to draw on the club members' bodies.

Healthcare is on the national agenda, evident in Congress's passage of the healthcare bill. Progress's efforts further prove PLU is a nurturing environment for homegrown efforts that have larger effects.

Letter to the Editor

Response to "Conservatism: It's Worth Your Vote"

It was with some interest that I read Paul Edwards' guest column. I applaud Mr. Edwards for passionately outlining his position and reasons for believing in conservatism; however, I take issue with the logical fallacies in his arguments.

First, describing liberalism as a movement rife with "deceit, emotional blackmail and cynical finger-pointing" is a gross mischaracterization (I'm sure there is just as much deceit within conservative ranks). Edwards' argument would be much stronger if he spoke to the actual beliefs of liberalism and refuted those instead of setting up a straw man.

Second, his assertion that "liberalism has failed" assumes that all our current economic and social woes stem from putting into practice liberal ideology, when this is simply not the case. Third, the assumption that conservative policies will inevitably effect the changes outlined in the article is misguided.

Edwards needs to examine the nuances of government policy and their consequences, intended or otherwise.

For example, he argues that deregulation will lower the cost of living and leave citizens free to "lead [their] own productive, profitable lives," even while

some scholars assert that the deregulation of financial institutions in the late 1990s (particularly the Graham-Leach-Bliley Act of 1999) contributed significantly to the current economic crisis.

Deregulation, as well as other conservative policies mentioned in the article, can have unintended consequences, but nowhere in his arguments does Edwards account for this.

My advice to Edwards? Question everything.

Jonathan Young
Visiting University Organist

Mast Staff 2009-2010

The Mast is published each Friday, by students of Pacific Lutheran University, excluding vacations and exam periods. The views expressed in the editorials, columns and advertisements do not necessarily represent those of the PLU administration, faculty, students or The Mast staff.

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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The next person who hits the automated handicap door button when they are capable of pushing the door open ought to take a closer look at the costs involved.

I notice the most able, fit and competent individuals fail to grasp a handle and pull open a door. They feel the need to personally exploit a device designed specifically for disabled people.

The handicap-automated door is not everyone's butler; it is a mandated code for new buildings in order to provide equal access and flow to disabled members of our community.

My brother was wheelchair-bound for 6 years, and I recognize how inconvenient restricted

access can be. The automated handicap doors Pacific Lutheran University provides are a blessing for those who need them.

The counter-argument is always the same: "But Dan, we're paying thousands of dollars in tuition. We have the right." False. The cost of operating these doors is approximately \$4,500 every year, not including maintenance costs and repairs.

Students drive up tuitions by frivolously using PLU's automated doors. Environmentally concerned individuals will recognize that the wasted energy is costly to the environment.

Next time you're walking toward the door with the metal button next to it, think about the principle behind the act. Because seriously, what's so hard about opening a door?

Grab-bag graphics



Comic by Rebecca Scarborough



So Wise

Sarah Wise
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A touch of Tacoma pride in London, UK

Hanging above the main entrance to the Victoria and Albert Museum in South Kensington, London, is a colorful, giant glass chandelier.

When I first visited the V&A, a fellow Lute and Tacoma local such as myself pointed to the chandelier and commented to me "that looks a lot like a Chihuly."

In Tacoma, Dale Chihuly is a well-known glass artist. We take great pride in Chihuly, whose works can be found all over Tacoma, including in Pacific Lutheran University's Mary Baker Russell music building.

But Chihuly is not just a local celebrity; his works are renowned throughout the world, with permanent and temporary collections located across America, England and the United Arab Emirates.

I felt thrilled when I discovered that the chandelier hanging in the Victoria and Albert was, in fact, a piece by Chihuly, and that the museum had specifically commissioned the chandelier from the Pacific Northwest artist.

I became more interested in Chihuly's history. I knew

why he is so popular in the Puget Sound area, but I had never imagined he was well known enough to be in a museum such as the V&A as far away as London.

Perhaps it was the Tacoma pride welling up inside me, but I felt an interesting connection with Chihuly at that moment.

I had grown up around Chihuly's art, seeing permanent displays of his work all over Tacoma. My senior yearbook portrait from high school was taken in front of Chihuly's Persian Glass display in Mary Baker Russell on the PLU campus.

I have spent many sunny days in downtown Tacoma visiting the glass bridge with friends. And now, as a new part of my life unfolds in London, I find that Chihuly is with me here, too.

Seeing such a monumental work by Chihuly in such a famous museum was exciting, and it made me proud to say that I am from Tacoma. It felt like a touch of home hanging there from the ceiling for the entire world to see.



Photo by Karie Hamilton

The ceiling of the glass bridge in downtown Tacoma.

Taylor Tells All



Taylor Krueger
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Communication required:

Teachers, parents, students need to be on the same page

A sixth-grader at Enka Middle School in Buncombe County, N.C., was bullied and harassed by peers because of a misunderstanding between her mother and her teacher. To ensure quality learning, parents and educators need to communicate and understand the context surrounding teacher-student relationships.

The student's mother, Patty Clement, wanted her daughter's teacher, Rex Rowland, suspended for writing "loser" on a graded assignment. Clement's daughter received extra credit and scored more than

100 percent on the assignment. Rowland apologized for the name-calling, but said it's how he jokes with students.

Other parents defended Rowland's methods of relating to students. It's highly unlikely Rowland purposely humiliated or degraded his students during his 12 years at Enka.

"He's the cool teacher that people wanted to be in class with," said Ian Andrews, one of Rowland's former students, in an AOL news article.

The student was removed from Rowland's class, but Clement continued to press the issue. She started an online petition titled "Please Get Rex Rowland out of Enka Middle School" and addressed it to Buncombe County School District Superintendent Dr. Tony Baldwin. According to Newsweek, the petition

has 151 signatures.

Clement's daughter was forced to stay home from school after receiving almost 100 threatening text messages from peers. It is not fair to subject a sixth-grade girl to such torment and cruelty because of faults made by adults.

A simple phone call or professional conversation between Clement and Rowland, discussing the context of the situation and what the term "loser" actually meant in the specific instance, could have prevented the misunderstanding.

Communication among parents and teachers needs to be addressed ensuring the safety and health of students, because no sixth-grader should have to deal with something like this.

Sidewalk Talk

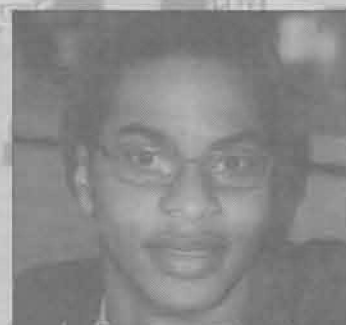
What are your spring break plans?



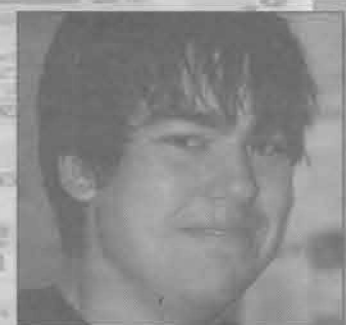
"I'm going to be rowing."
 Kaia Fink
 first-year



"I'm going to Colorado with Caitlyn Sass Jackson and Emma Struss."
 Elizabeth Ginsberg
 sophomore



"I'm going home to Trinidad. Much needed."
 Maurice Eckstein
 junior



"Do my internship, go back to the parent's house, then hit the bar."
 Matt Forsyth
 senior

Disability Services:

dis·a·bil·i·ty
[dis-uh-bil-i-tee] –noun
“an illness, injury or condition that makes it difficult for someone to do the things that other people do” (Cambridge Dictionary Online)

The goals of DSS are to:

1. appreciate and understand the needs of our students with disabilities;
2. develop a comfort zone for these students by establishing accessible, barrier-free campus environment; and
3. provide a classroom environment that gives our students with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in discussion and activities.

Haley Miller
LUTELIFE EDITOR
millerhr@plu.edu

Disability Support Services (DSS) is the primary resource for student disability accommodations on campus. Housed in Ramstad 106 and staffed by only two people, it is a vital resource often overlooked by students.

For the 2009-2010 school year, 70 students have received accommodations for various disabilities. Eight additional students are registered with DSS but do not receive accommodations.

The process of registering with DSS is extensive. Students must first submit documentation of an existing disability. Prior to the start of the term, students meet with DSS director Ruth Tweeten to discuss accommodations for specific classes.

Then, a letter of accommodation is mailed out to professors with students' written permission. Students meet individually with professors to discuss implementation of the requested accommodations.

Some common classroom accommodations include extended time for exams, testing in separate rooms, note-takers, ergonomic chairs and assistive technology.

An accommodation is considered unreasonable if it creates an academic hardship or significantly compromises the health and safety of the student or others. Faculty members are not asked to change the essential nature of the course in order to accommodate students.

While the accommodations DSS provides do not guarantee academic success, the program aims to level the field.

On its website, DSS says its mission is to appreciate and understand the needs of students with disabilities, develop a comfort zone for them and provide a classroom environment that gives students with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in discussion and activities.

A DSS advisory group comprised of approximately 15 faculty representing various departments, the health center and student life meet on a regular basis to discuss accommodation services.

“Administration here is very supportive...there is no sense of us versus them here,” Tweeten said. “Our faculty tends to over accommodate if anything, asking ‘what more can I do?’”

Accommodations often extend beyond the classroom. DSS consults with Residential Life and the Health Center when granting single-room occupancy requests in order to provide maximum access and mobility for students with physical disabilities.

Students with disabilities are also encouraged to participate in study-away programs but recommended to pick the program carefully.

DSS strives to ensure confidentiality. Faculty members receive information on a need-to-know basis and students can choose not to disclose his or her specific disability to professors.

Each fall and spring semester, DSS administers surveys

“Students with disabilities qualified to be here on the same level as all other students...on their own.”

DSS director Ruth Tweeten

Support

a vital but often-overlooked campus resource

Students regarding their level of satisfaction working with DSS. Of the students who responded, an overwhelming 80 percent agree that accommodations positively impacted their academic experience. Students also consistently give high ratings to faculty members implementing these accommodations.

In general, students report positive experiences working with DSS. According to self-report measures, they are also very active in campus life.

Disabilities are not the same basis they get here. "They don't report that their disabilities are prohibitive," Tweeten said. "Many students are very active in leadership roles."

If a student struggles despite any accommodations he or she receives, DSS recommends utilizing the Academic Assistance Center in order to help the student achieve academic success.

Most importantly, accommodations are based on a documented need and are not intended as an unfair advantage over other students.

"Students with disabilities are qualified to be here on the same basis as all other students...they get here on their own," Tweeten said.



BY THE NUMBERS

- 70** students receiving accommodations
 - 26** learning disabilities
 - 20** ADHD/ADD
 - 18** physical disabilities
 - 7** psychological disabilities
 - 1** Asperger Syndrome
- 8** students registered with DSS not receiving accommodations

**Statistics courtesy of Disability Support Services*

Big Star remembered after frontman's death

Band deserves place with other rock greats

In the late '60s and early '70s, rock and roll went off the creative charts. Just about every legendary classic rock artist was making his or her best records during this era. Examples: The Who, Pink Floyd, Led Zeppelin, Jimi Hendrix, The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, The Kinks, Neil Young, David Bowie, Elton John. But one band that broke onto the scene around this time usually doesn't find itself among these names.

Big Star formed out of a friendship between two Beatles-crazed youngsters from Memphis, Tenn. Alex Chilton found brief success as the singer for the Box Tops, whose hit song "The Letter" is still an oldies radio staple. Guitarist-singer-songwriter Chris Bell was his childhood friend and fellow musical talent. Andy Hummel and Jody Stephens filled out the quartet on bass and drums.



AP Photo

Alex Chilton (right) stands alongside other members of the rock band Big Star. Chilton, a singer, songwriter and guitarist, died March 17 of complications due to a heart attack.

Beginnings and Disbandings

The band's first album, "#1 Record," gained overwhelmingly positive reviews in 1972, but sold poorly thanks to atrocious marketing by Stax Records. The debut band embodied the power pop genre with gems like "The Ballad of El Goodo" and "Watch The Sunrise." It turned the British invasion sound into a polished yet vulnerable American sensibility.

The financial frustration led to tensions within the band, culminating in Bell's departure after various accusations and escalating drug use. After briefly disbanding, Big Star got back together as a three-piece with Chilton at the helm. The band released the similarly acclaimed "Radio City," which was marketed with the same incompetence by Stax, two years after the band's debut. Hummel soon left the band in search of a steady job, cutting the band down to two.

The third Big Star album is considered Chilton's magnum opus.



"Third" turns all the front man's frustration into a disturbing masterpiece of heartbroken ballads, sprawling pleas and grating confessions. An example is the song "Holocaust," one of the most harrowing songs ever recorded by a rock band.

The album was not released until 1978, three years after it's original pressing due to the unexpectedly bleak nature of the songs. But the band had broken up before the album had even been given its simple title. This ill-fated record turned out to be the swan song of the ill-fated band that created it. Bell died in a car accident just after the release of the album, ending any hope of a reunion and adding to the depressing state of affairs.

Chilton died unexpectedly at 59 years

of age March 17 of a heart attack. Little more than that is known. Though his name doesn't mean as much to the general public as Michael Jackson's or Frank Sinatra's, the outpouring of tributes and reverence for Chilton has been moving. Representative Steve Cohen took a moment to give a poignant eulogy to the House between fierce battles regarding health care Friday, describing Chilton as "an embodiment of Memphis music: hard, different, independent, brilliant, beautiful. We're lucky he came our way."

Remember Chilton

It always strikes me as sad that so many people aren't fully appreciated until after they are dead, but I felt had to address this great artist. Chilton established himself as one of the most visionary musicians of his generation by leading his band with only three major albums and a here-and-there solo career. Big Star found a sort of honesty within the rigid structure of rock and roll that

is rare beneath the sex and drugs façade. The band has a cult following simply because so few have been exposed to its music.

You may be more familiar with Big Star than you think. For example, the theme from "That 70s Show" is a cover of Big Star's "In The Street," performed by Cheap Trick. Allmusic.com critic Jason Ankey describes Big Star's "impact on subsequent generations of indie bands on both sides of the Atlantic (as) surpassed only by that of the Velvet Underground." Many bands such as REM have been vocal about Big Star's influence in their music and a surprising number of major artists have covered the band, including Wilco and Elliott Smith.

Big Star may not be a household name, but if you have never heard them, you owe it to yourself to change that. One of the group's most loved songs, "Thirteen," contains the line "Rock and roll is here to stay." That lyric still rings true in 2010 and Alex Chilton and Big Star are a big part of the reason why. Rest in peace.

Gaga wraps viewers around finger

New video showcases pop star's signature style, influence

Alex Domine
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There's something you may not realize about the latest pop phenomenon: Lady Gaga was one of 20 people granted early admission to Tisch School of the Arts at New York University by age 17, according to her official website.

Lady Gaga has transformed the standard layout music videos with several layers of intricate detail that provide a different musical and cinematic experience. An example of this is her new "Telephone" video.

Lady Gaga posed for the camera barely one minute into the 10-minute feature with a blurred out shot of her vagina blatantly centered in the screen. The shocking frame was followed by a quote that shot down rumors that she was part male.

The video continues with the story of two

rebellious women on a mysterious mission.

The track itself is teeming with hidden musical layers. Underneath Lady Gaga's voice are three to five different voices harmonizing, busy dial tones and white noise.

The first motif is a harp continuously looped from beginning to end amidst Beyoncé's hidden gospel riffs and Lady Gaga's synthesized counter melodies.

What separates "Telephone" from typical short films and music videos is the rhythmic intensity in the cinematography. Every scene change, every angle and every movement is carefully synced with the beat of the track.

The "Let's make a sandwich" portion of the film is shopped so that Gaga is spreading mayonnaise and biting at impossible speeds. Perhaps the most musically intense scene is

Lady Gaga's dance routine in cheetah print. This scene makes for an overwhelming rhythmic slideshow in which she poses in a different frame on every offbeat.

"Telephone" has driven pop critics and viewers to attack Lady Gaga's overwhelming product placement, obscenities and outlandish expression, all of which only scratch the surface of her overwhelming invasion of the music video industry.

Is it really her eccentric flair that has us at the edge of our seats, or does her musical authenticity have us wrapped around her finger?



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THE GHOST WRITER (PG-13)

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Mon-Wed: 3:30, 6:15, 9:00
Thurs: 12:45, 3:30, 6:15, 9:00

THE RUNAWAYS (R)

Fri: 2:10, 4:40, 7:00, 9:15
Sat/Sun: 11:45am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:00, 9:15
Mon-Thurs: 2:10, 4:40, 7:00, 9:15

THE HURT LOCKER (R)

Fri-Wed: 8:45
Thurs: 1:20, 8:45

THE LAST STATION (R)

Fri-Wed: 1:30, 4:00, 6:25
Thurs: 4:00, 6:25

CRAZY HEART (R)

Fri: 2:00, 4:25, 6:50, 9:10
Sat/Sun: 11:30am, 2:00, 4:25, 6:50, 9:10
Mon-Thurs: 2:00, 4:25, 6:50, 9:10

On-the-go games travel with students



Spring break offers opportunity for tabletop gaming

With spring break, and sweet freedom, hours away, many of us will flee campus for greener pastures, bluer skies, fluffier pancakes, what have you. Camping will occur, as will stays in hotels and lengthy visits to family far away. And now there's this strange thing called free time that is sitting there in heaping piles and we're supposed to be using it to do things that we, as college students, don't get to do all that often—like sleeping and eating. And breathing.

Naturally, we can also use this newfound free time to play board games.

But there's a problem: with all the traveling around and driving and flying, how are we supposed to lug our board games along? I know I'm not cramming a 15-pound Fantasy Flight Games box into my duffel. Luckily there are plenty of good travel-sized games out there—games that don't take up a bunch of room in one's luggage, and don't require a lot of table space to set up, so they can be played on-the-go, or even outside. Here are a few of my favorites.

Citadels:

French game designer Bruno Faidutti released this one in 2000. It has since become one of Fantasy Flight Games' biggest titles in the U.S. A simple card game, "Citadels" puts the player in the role of the leader of a medieval city. Players take on a certain role every turn—the Assassin can rob another player of their turn, the King always goes first, the Architect can build more things, among other roles. The real strength of "Citadels" lies in its ease of play and versatility. The game supports two to seven players, with options for longer or shorter games. It also takes up less space than a VHS tape, so there's that too.

PLUtonic gears up to record CD

A capella group needs support to hit studio

Matt Click
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PLUtonic, Pacific Lutheran University's own men's a cappella chorus, will soon be recording an album of its songs. In just three short years, PLUtonic has competed all across the country, performed to sold-out audiences

and gained national attention, even receiving an invitation to appear on "America's Got Talent." However, PLUtonic cannot record the album on its own. The a cappella group is calling upon its fans and friends to make this happen.

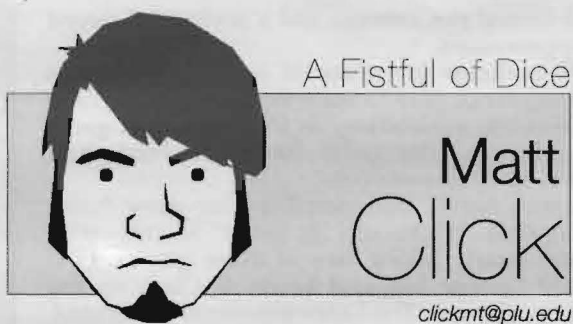
"The CD process, including recording, mastering, mixing and producing costs a lot," the group's press release said. "As almost all of the concerts and shows that we do are free, our funds are extremely limited and require outside help to keep up with the demands of our fans."

The album will include more than 10 songs and feature original

work as well as the group's signature covers. While the group is offering a number of support options, simple \$20 donations will go a long way. Checks made out to PLU, PLUtonic — CD can be mailed directly to 1116 Wheeler St. Tacoma, WA 98444.

Other options include donations all the way up to \$1,000. The names of people who donate more than \$250 will be listed in the special thanks section of the first album's CD booklet.

For more information on how to help PLUtonic record its first album, contact Jesse Hull, president of PLUtonic, at hulljd@plu.edu.



clickmt@plu.edu

Race for the Galaxy:

This science fiction-themed card game includes resource management on a galactic scale. What initially comes off as a strange and somewhat clunky system soon becomes fluid and fast-playing. The art on the cards is vibrant and appealing, and the multitude of expansions available promise endless re-playability. There's no board for this one, and the box is about half the size of a typical shoebox, so it can be carried and played anywhere.

Red November:

A recent favorite of mine, "Red November," takes place on a doomed submarine crewed by gnomes. Fires are erupting, rooms are flooding by the minute and a monstrous kraken looms outside the viewports, eager to devour the helpless gnomes.

This tiny board game (the board takes up less space than a piece of notebook paper) packs the thematic punch of its larger brethren, with lots of spiffy art and neat tiles to pass around and play to the table. The game is a balancing act of time—you can take as long as you want to seal a hatch, but for every minute you spend doing that, fires are springing up and the submarine is sinking deeper and deeper. Pick this one up if you like awesome things.

This spring break, take a few board games along. You might say, "But what if it's sunny out?" Well, bring these games outside with you and enjoy the sun! That's the beauty of travel-sized games. Everyone, enjoy the break. Happy gaming.

PLU Hebrew Idol returns for third season of films

Taylor Krueger
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kruegetm@plu.edu

The Pacific Lutheran Theological Society (PLUTS) sponsors the competition Hebrew Idol, a student-led video competition.

Students in Religion 211, "Religion and Literature of the Hebrew Bible," produce videos from 12 - 15 minutes in length to showcase interpretations of their chosen biblical story. Choices vary from popular stories found in Genesis to royal thrills from the book of Samuel and Kings.

"It's not by chance Hollywood makes movies based on the Hebrew Bible," said assistant professor of Hebrew Bible Antonios Finitis. "It has the most inspiring stories."

Now in its third season, Hebrew Idol has a new logo designed by Nicole Gleadle and a color-exploding website created by Nick Butler.

The competition consists of online voting to determine the top three videos. The nine finalists this year have produced movies with genres including comedy, drama, musicals and reality television. It seems the gender dynamics were put in a blender this season with some videos including all female leading characters and two videos with all male casting, which inevitably leads to lots of cross-dressing. Approximately 150 students have voted so far, and only three weeks remain to cast your vote.

"Hebrew Idol pushes students of religion to really look at a passage or story from the Old Testament and find the relevancy of its meaning in their lives."

Anthony Geyman
PLU Hebrew Idol, 2009

The top three video contestants compete live Thursday, April 15 in Admin 101 at 6 p.m. in front of audience members and a panel of judges. More than five months of work and preparation by students and faculty have gone into the live finale.

Anthony Geyman, Jacklyn Kellogg and Craig Weber were voted PLU Hebrew Idol in 2009. Their video "Hebrew Bible Diaries: Samson" won critical and popular acclaim among students.

"The competition is more than just some silly class project," Geyman said. "Hebrew Idol pushes students of religion to really look at a passage or story from the Old Testament and find the relevancy of its meaning in their lives."

Their winning video featured more than 20 actors and several battle scenes. Geyman, Kellogg and Weber will be inducted into the PLU Hebrew Idol Hall of Fame this year. The most memorable scenes from past seasons are revisited during the Finale as they become part of the competition's lore.

"It's different from what you'd expect in a religion class," Kellogg said. "It's interesting to see everyone's work and what they come up with."

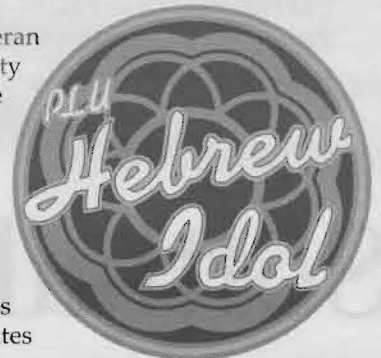
The Hebrew Idol Competition was conceived so the PLU community could witness the talent and reward the best video productions.

"We want to hear Lutedome's opinion," Finitis said. "Who's your idol?"

Geyman throws the gauntlet to students interested in taking Religion 211 - "Think you got a knack for film making? Well, prove it."

As for the award ceremony on April 15: "We want to upstage the Oscars," said Finitis. "I see students creating better films than Hollywood and it's time to show them how it's done."

Vote now at <https://sites.google.com/a/plu.edu/hebrew-idol/?AuthEventSource=SSO> to decide who should be named PLU Hebrew Idol 2010.



Lutes SPORTS SCHEDULE



Baseball

PLU vs. Willamette* March 27, noon, 3 p.m.
 PLU vs. Willamette* March 28, noon

Women's Tennis

PLU at Linfield March 27, noon, 2 p.m.,
 PLU at Pacific March 28, noon, 2 p.m.

Men's Tennis

PLU at Pomona-Pitzer March 27, 9 a.m., at
 Westmont 3 p.m.
 PLU at Occidental March 28, 11 a.m.

Softball

PLU at Linfield March 27, noon, 2 p.m.,
 PLU at Pacific March 28, noon, 2 p.m.

AN ASTERISK REPRESENTS A PLU HOME GAME

Softball to be tested during break



Mast Sports Insider

Tyler Scott

scotttj@plu.edu

The 2010 Pacific Lutheran softball has stormed out to a perfect 8-0 league record against the three cellar dwellers of the Northwest Conference. That streak will be challenged this weekend.

The Lutes will travel to Oregon for a Saturday doubleheader against six-time defending NWC champion Linfield. PLU will follow that up with a Sunday doubleheader against fourth-place Pacific.

Conference coaches picked the Wildcats to win their seventh straight title this season, with Linfield receiving seven of the eight first-place votes in the preseason poll. Linfield returns five all-NWC first-team performers who were underclassmen on last year's team.

Linfield's success is an example of talent rather than experience. The Wildcats own a 14-4 overall record, 7-1 in conference play, led by sophomore shortstop Staci Doucette's .436 batting average and seven home runs. Doucette is the defending NWC Player of the Year.

But the Lutes have some firepower of their own. Sophomore Stacey Hagensen leads the team with a .489 batting average, four home runs and 19 runs batted in. First-year Ramona Lorton boasts a team-

best 1.45 earned run average and a perfect 4-0 record in five appearances.

Pacific Lutheran lost three of its first five games in non-conference play to start the season. But those three losses are misleading, as PLU lost each game by a single run. The Lutes have outscored their opponents 90-39 this season.

The Lutes barely completed a four-game home sweep against Whitworth in early March, with the Pirates nearly taking two of those games. PLU dominated George Fox and Lewis & Clark on the road two weeks ago. The Lutes outscored the Bruins, 23-4, and the Pioneers, 22-5, in four games.

PLU has had two weeks to prepare for Saturday's matchup. A sweep either way puts the winner in control of the championship race.

Prior to Linfield's recent dominance, the Lutes owned the Northwest Conference. PLU won 16 conference championships between 1987 and 2003. The Lutes won national championships in 1988 and 1992 and placed fourth nationally as recently as 2002.

Since a second-place finish in 2004, the Lutes have not placed better than third and have not won more than 24 games.

In head coach Erin Van Nostrand's second season at the helm, the Lutes appear to be poised for a run of extended success. Half of PLU's 20 players, are first-years and only two are seniors.

Saturday will answer the question of whether or not



Hagensen

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

TEAM RECORD

10-3 (8-0 NWC)

TEAM LEADERS

STACEY HAGENSEN - .489 AVG, 4 HR
 AMBER ROBERTS - .392 AVG, 12 SB
 RAMONA LORTON (4-0) - 1.45 ERA, 16 K

FACTS

8 CONSECUTIVE WINS
 OUTSCORED OPPONENTS 90-39
 10-3 IN DAY GAMES
 8-0 WHEN LEADING AFTER 4TH INNING

these young Lutes are ready to compete against championship-caliber competition. It could signal a transition in the Northwest Conference, returning the crown to Parkland after a six-year hiatus.

The Lutes have established themselves as early contenders for the Northwest Conference crown. But being the best requires beating the best, and PLU will face that challenge Saturday.

Sports

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CONTACT BRENDAN ABSHIER FOR MORE INFORMATION

abshieb@plu.edu

Men stop sour streak, start road-trip series

Paula McFadden
 MAST SPORTS REPORTER
 mcfaddpc@plu.edu

Seniors Joel Trudel and Justin Peterson dominated in an 8-1 Lute doubles victory during a non-conference match against Seattle University March 19 in Seattle and the Pacific Lutheran University men's tennis team ended its losing streak.

Pacific Lutheran University lost to the Redhawks last year 4-3 when it played four matches in one day.

Trudel and Peterson defeated sophomore Mark Shkretbtan and first-year Yusuke Kanehira at No. 1.

Senior Michael Manser and junior Scott Sheldon defeated senior Alex Montgomery and sophomore Simon Meske 8-5 No. 2 in doubles.

"I thought we played very well against Seattle U, probably our best match since the first match of the season," head coach Craig Hamilton said. "Our top three seniors showed strong leadership."

Trudel beat Shkretbtan at No. 1 in singles, and Peterson defeated Meske No. 2. Senior Michael Manser at No. 3 gave PLU another win against Montgomery.

Junior Scott Sheldon lost a close match to junior Patrick Boorkman at No. 4, and first-year Taylor Dickey was topped by

Kanehira at No. 5 in a close tiebreaker.

The victory improves PLU's season record to 8-5 with Seattle University's record at 5-8.

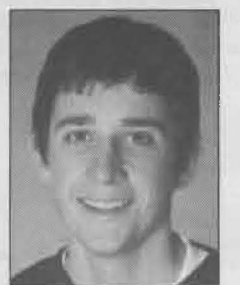
"For Seattle U we focused and played with an intensity that has been absent in previous matches," Manser said. "Hopefully we can take our positive results from the weekend and keep things rolling throughout our Spring Break trip to California and then on into the conference tournament."

The team left today for a spring break tournament against five other teams in southern California.

"I am excited for our spring break trip next week and hope we continue to play well," Hamilton said.

The Lutes have four conference matches left after spring break and will look to play well in order to be in a good position for the postseason.

"If we play up to our abilities we should win them all and head into the conference tournament ready to contend for the conference championship," Hamilton said.



Manser

PLU cycling club shifts into gear

Heather Perry
MAST SPORTS REPORTER
perryhn@plu.edu

Wilson placed 22nd in the men's C race while DeJong and junior Patrick Ruthford placed 26th and 29th respectively in the men's D race. The races were 41 mile long.

The Pacific Lutheran University cycling club placed 11th of 17 as a team against the University of Oregon and Oregon State University last weekend.

The club has a total of five riders, cycling club president senior Amara Boursaw said. Other schools such as the University of Washington have 30-plus riders who are able to compete and earn points.

Boursaw placed fourth in the women's A criterium. Junior Jordan Tremper and first-year Tyler Wilson placed 13th and 17th respectively in the men's C criterium, while sophomore Brandon DeJong placed 26th in the men's D criterium.

INTERESTED IN JOINING THE CYCLING CLUB?

Contact
Amara Boursaw
for more
information.

boursaar@plu.edu

Wilson, Tremper, Ruthford and DeJong make up the men's C team for the 11-mile time trial and placed sixth.

The cycling club's next competition is at Western Washington University and the University of Washington March 27-28.

Although the club does not receive any money from PLU, fundraisers such as the 18-hour ride-a-thon, which raised

about \$1,500, allow members to forego dues.

"Anyone can join," Boursaw said. "You just need a road bike so you can come ride with us and race if you want. Collegiate racing is a great place to start and all levels are welcome."



Photo by Amara Boursaw

First-year Tyler Wilson leads the Men's D pack during a race in Boise earlier this season. The cycling club raises all its own funds for traveling and competition.

Long-time Lute announces retirement

Swimming coach steps down, will remain active in PLU swimming program



Paula McFadden
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Swim coach Jim Johnson announced his retirement beginning May 31 after 32 years of coaching at Pacific Lutheran University.

"I say this in jest, but how did I last 32 years?" Johnson said. "It is just time."

Johnson

Johnson led the PLU swimming team to 18 Northwest Conference championships, earning Conference Coach of the Year for men's swimming in 1992, and women's in 1994 and 1996.

He will continue to help PLU swimming through fundraising and donor development.

"He has made a huge impact in many lives," assistant coach Allison Kolp said. "Jim has taught me a lot in the last few

years, and I will also be grateful to him for that."

Johnson won the battle against cancer last year after two years of treatment.

Jim's final piece of advice for students and swimmers was to keep going.

"I want to stand as an example to fight through adversity," Johnson said. "In swimming, kids that have the talent and opportunity do not stick with it. Don't give up."

Johnson reached a milestone Nov. 12, 2005, after PLU beat Pacific. This gave Johnson his 300th career victory at PLU.

Johnson also coached 60 NAIA All-Americans and 35 academic All-Americans during his coaching spree as a Lute.

PLU is currently looking for somebody to replace Johnson as the head coach for the men's and women's swimming teams.

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