

THE MAST



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APRIL 20, 2007

PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

VOLUME LXXXIV, NO.19

Lutes mourn tragedy

Massacre worst in US history

SUE LINDSEY
Associated Press Writer

A gunman massacred 32 people at Virginia Tech in the deadliest shooting rampage in modern U.S. history Monday, cutting down his victims in two attacks two hours and a half-mile apart before the university could figure out what was going on and get the warning out to students.

The bloodbath ended with the gunman committing suicide, bringing the death toll to 33 and stamping the campus in the picturesque Blue Ridge Mountains with tragedy, perhaps forever.

"I'm really at a loss for words to explain or understand the carnage that has visited our campus," Virginia Tech President Charles Steger said.

He was also faced with difficult questions about the university's handling of the emergency and whether it did enough to warn students and protect them after the first burst of gunfire.

The shooter has been identified as Cho Seung-Hui - a 23-year-old senior majoring in English.



Photo by Chris Hunt

Senior Brad Lubken sings a hymn at the candlelight vigil Tuesday night. The vigil was held in support of students and staff at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Va. PLU also held chapel and a day of solidarity in remembrance of those killed in the massacre.

Students unify in support of Virginia Tech

ANDREW CHAPLIN
Mast news reporter

Lutes gathered this week to show their support for the Virginia Tech community after Monday's tragic shooting. Candlelight vigils took place Monday and Tuesday night, as well as a day of solidarity Wednesday. These expressions of support gained local recognition by various news organizations.

A large group of campus organizations were involved in the planning of this week's events, including ASPLU, Students for Peace, Campus Ministry and RHA.

Monday's candlelight vigils, which drew crowds of more than 100 both nights, included song, verse and prayer. After the planned section of the vigil, there was singing for at least a half hour.

"The vigils were mostly a time for students and faculty and anyone who was present to talk about, react to and send their prayers to the Virginia Tech community," said Tamara Power-Druttis, '07/'08 ASPLU Vice President. "Never in my three years at PLU

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Dancing the night away



Photo by Chris Hunt

Sophomore Justin Ferris, first-year Mike Engh, sophomore Clare Marie Edgerton and sophomore Kristina Huehl perform a tap dance to the song, "Always Look to the Bright Side of Life." Dance 2007 was deemed a success by attendees.

Annual performance attracts students; deemed success

VY DOTSON
Mast news intern

Dance 2007 kicked off Passport weekend in Eastvold 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Dance Ensemble performs in the annual PLU dance recital composed of different dances performed by the students.

This year's Dance 2007 was thought to be a success by the dancers. "Yes, I love the show. There is so much talent and energy," sophomore Ali Franetich said, who was in the production. "Every piece is diverse and reflects a different style and element of dance."

Ali Franetich did not attend the annual show last year, but first-year Kalessa Hamilton did.

"Last year I came to Passport Weekend and saw it and loved it; that's why I'm in it this year," Hamilton said.

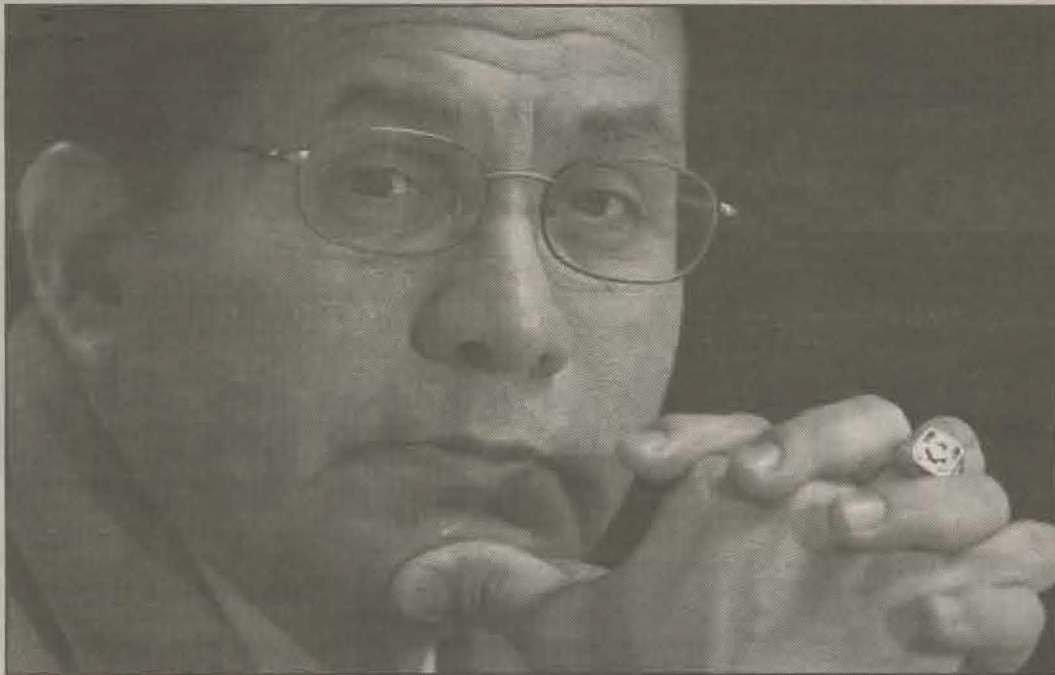
Many students attend the production every year because of the annual changes.

"The show is a little different every year because each show represents the unique creativity of all of its choreographers and dancers."

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STATE, NATION, WORLD BRIEFINGS

Local to Global news



AP Photo: Kiichiro Sato

Attorney Gen. Alberto Gonzales listens to a panel during a discussion on Project Safe Childhood in Cincinnati, Ohio in this March 27 file photo. With President Bush standing by him, Gonzales is fighting to save his job by finally describing his role in the firings of eight federal prosecutors and explaining why his story keeps changing - but even White House officials concede the task is a tall order.

Bush, Democrats give no ground on Iraq

President Bush sparred across the table with Democratic congressional leaders opposed to the Iraq war Wednesday in a prelude to a veto showdown over a conflict that has claimed the lives of more than 3,200 U.S. troops. During an hourlong meeting at the White House, the president told lawmakers directly he will not sign any bill that includes a timetable for a troop withdrawal, and they made it clear Congress will send him one anyway.

McCain says he backs no gun control

Republican presidential candidate John McCain declared Wednesday he believes in "no gun control," making the strongest affirmation of support for gun rights in the GOP field since the Virginia Tech massacre. The Arizona senator said in Summerville, S.C., that the country needs better ways to identify dangerous people like the gunman who killed 32 people and himself in the Blacksburg, Va., rampage. But he opposed weakening gun rights and, when asked whether ammunition clips sold to the public should be limited in size, said, "I don't think that's necessary at all."

Triathlon organizer faces restraining order

A judge has issued a temporary restraining order barring a Canadian company from promoting a series of triathlons it plans for north-central Washington this summer.

The groups Total Health Events and Lake Chelan Multisports Foundation filed a lawsuit and requested the restraining order. The documents state the groups have permits from the city of Chelan to conduct a multisport event July 21-22.

Those are the same dates that Brent Kamenka, organizer of the My First/My Next Triathlon, and his company has planned an event.

Last summer, the city halted a similar event organized by Kamenka, citing inadequate safety measures.

Chelan County Superior Court Judge John Bridges issued the temporary restraining order April 6. The order prohibits Kamenka from interfering with the event organized by the other two groups.

Kamenka said he is no longer accepting registrations for his race and that he has suspended print ads. However, he said he is continuing to advertise the triathlon online, which is something the restraining order prohibits.

"We don't feel it has any merit," Kamenka said. "My understanding is that as long as we are not accepting applications for our event, that should satisfy the restraining order."

'American Idol' says sayonara to Sanjaya Malakar

Sanjaya Malakar, the under-talented but unflappable singer who horrified and captivated millions in his improbable "American Idol" run, was finally voted off the show Wednesday night.

When the result was announced, Malakar wiped away tears and got a big hug from LaKisha Jones, the next lowest vote-getter.

"I'm fine," he told Ryan Seacrest. "It was an amazing experience."

"I can promise you: We won't soon forget you," Seacrest replied.

Malakar then performed one last song, "Something To Talk About." Putting his own twist on the song, the 17-year-old known for his pretty looks and ever-changing hairstyles ad-libbed: "Let's give them something to talk about ... other than hair."

On Tuesday night's show, Simon Cowell had slammed his performance as "utterly horrendous." And for once, the notoriously mean judge was vindicated.

Six contestants are now left: Jones, Blake Lewis, Jordin Sparks, Chris Richardson, Melinda Doolittle and Phil Stacey.

Malakar seemed buoyed by his widespread fame.

"Welcome to the universe of Sanjaya!" he proudly proclaimed on a recent telecast, following a backhanded compliment from an exasperated Cowell.

But, in the end, Malakar could not win enough votes to join the ranks of Taylor Hicks, Kelly Clarkson and Carrie Underwood.

He will, however, live forever on YouTube.

Man finds stolen Chihuly sculptures in vacant lot

A man found several stolen glass sculptures designed by artist Dale Chihuly in a vacant lot less than a mile from where they had been taken, authorities said Wednesday.

The red glass reeds were found Tuesday in poor condition in and around a trash pile, said Detective Peter Cuervo, a spokesman for the Coral Gables Police Department. Eight reeds had been stolen from the exhibit at the Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden and authorities believe they recovered them all.

"It looks like they were just thrown and discarded," Cuervo said.

They were taken from the garden during the evening of April 10 or early April 11 by thieves who scaled a wall and replaced the 7- to 8-foot reeds with thin, red plastic pipes, Cuervo said.

There are no suspects, but some fingerprints were found on the reeds and have been sent for analysis, Cuervo said.

Briefs gleaned from the Associated Press Wire Service.

CAMPUS SAFETY

SAFETY BEAT

April 9

CSIN received an off campus call on the 7911 line from a cell phone. A check of the phone records came back to a student as a suspect. The matter has been forwarded to Student Conduct.

April 10

An RA reported a broken window in a bathroom in a residence hall. The cause was undetermined.

April 11

CSIN received a call about a suspicious male that was loitering around a residence hall. PCSD was contacted for assistance and contact was made with a local male who was RFC'd for non-cooperation.

A student reported that her ex-boyfriend had taken her car keys without her permission or knowledge. PCSD was contacted and the ex-boyfriend was RFC'd.

April 12

A student reported that someone had broken into his car while parked on 121st St. PCSD was contacted for a formal report.

A local resident reported that someone had broken into a car while it was parked on 121st St. PCSD was contacted for a formal report.

April 13

A student reported that his vehicle had been broken into while parked in the Olson Lot. PCSD was contacted for a formal report.

Three local youth were seen skateboarding at a residence hall, one wrote the word 'Bloods' on a window. The three departed be-

fore contact could be made. The youth that wrote on the window was identified as a local minor April 16 and arrested for vandalism. He and one of the other two were RFC'd.

April 14

The automatic fire alarm in a residence hall went into trouble. After investigation it was discovered that water had leaked from a second floor 'sauna party' and gotten into the alarm panel. The matter has been forwarded to Student Conduct.

April 15

The automatic intrusion alarm was activated in Ingram. On arrival, alcohol was discovered in a computer lab and two students were identified as having possibly been in the room when the alarm was activated. The matter has been forwarded to Student Conduct.

A student was caught urinating on campus grounds. The matter has been forwarded to Student Conduct.

A student reported that there was a male sleeping in the back seat of a car in the Tinglestad Gated Lot. Contact was made with a student who appeared to be under the influence of alcohol. The student was escorted back to his residence.

A student reported that a non-guest had made several sexually related and aggressive comments towards her off campus and had been hanging around the Library. The man was contacted and escorted off campus and will be RFC'd once his identity can be verified.

Safety tip of the week:

If you feel someone is following you, go to the nearest occupied residence or building and ask for assistance.

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Students encourage green tags at PLU

Environmental movement promotes idea of green tags to offset carbon emission

BRYANNA PLOG
Mast news reporter

As spring finally takes hold, look for the PLU campus to not only look greener but perhaps a little GREANer too. PLU's Grassroots Environmental Action Now student club is continuing their focus on renewable energy with Earth Week events on campus and a campaign for PLU to commit to renewable energy.

A main goal for GREAN this semester is to completely offset PLU's energy usage by purchasing green tags, which invests in renewable energy such as wind power, solar power and small-scale hydropower.

Since buying green tags would cost the school money, the Board of Regents must approve GREAN's resolution, even though it would only raise tuition by about \$10 a semester. GREAN is currently circulating a petition to show student support for this idea and are confident they can raise at least 1000 signatures.

GREAN president JP Kemmick, a senior, has been the main organizer of this campaign.

"People are really excited about this," Kemmick said. "It's a way big deal."

GREAN members are currently in the process of gathering as many signatures of PLU students as possible that

would be willing to pay the \$20 tuition increase in order to help the environment.

"We're just adding a small fee to our existing electricity bill," Kemmick said. "Any money that is left over from our \$20 tuition increase is what I like to call energy conservation implementations." Kemmick said these could be used for anything from more energy-efficient light bulbs to better-insulated windows.

If GREAN's resolution gets approved, PLU would be one of a growing number of universities already implementing this program, including Western Washington University and Evergreen State University. PLU already has this program in place for environmentally-conscious Morken.

Green tags work by having PLU, or any single consumer, buy the amount of renewable energy that they actually use, offsetting the emissions of the campus. People elsewhere would then be using renewable energy sources instead of burning coal or using nuclear energy.

"The more renewable energy put into the power grid, the less coal that needs to be used," said junior Gwen Johnson, a member of GREAN.

In preparation for Earth Day April 22, GREAN also planned events this past week focused on how consumers use energy and how they can be more conscience and environmentally friendly about it.

April 17 featured Peter Illyn, the founder of the Christian environmental ministry, Restoring Eden. There was a talk about alternative automobile fuels such as biodiesel Wednesday, followed by a screening of the film "Kilowatt Ours," about practical ways to conserve energy. Earth Week on campus finished off with a presentation about how one man and his wife use solar energy to power their cabin.

Once these events are over however, GREAN returns to their campaign for green tags. They will be "dorm storm-

ing" all next week, knocking on doors, explaining the program and continuing to ask people to sign the petition.

"Most people aren't aware," said Kemmick. "(But) I didn't have a single person say, 'no I don't think so.'"

The resolution will go to the senate in a few weeks and if they approve the idea, then the Board of Regents will review it. The tuition increase would begin in fall 2008.

"It's nice that we can in some way shape our future," Kemmick said. "That we have a voice."

GREAN's focus on energy this semester has already included the all-hall energy challenge and there have been numerous events on campus focused on climate change and the effects of carbon emissions.

Since PLU is already environmentally aware, President Anderson signing a declaration earlier this year committing PLU to climate neutrality "as soon as possible," Kemmick and the members of GREAN are confident that the student body will support the idea.

"It's a pretty small chunk of money," Kemmick said.

Students can sign the petition at any of the Earth Week events.

To learn more about green tags at PLU or to get involved in the campaign, visit GREAN's website at:
<http://www.plu.edu/~grean/>

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Clubs, students celebrate diversity

Different groups around campus hold events celebrating diversity

JILL RUSSELL
Mast news reporter

A "themed" week is not an uncommon phenomenon at PLU. Just about every week is set aside to commemorate something — whether it is sexual assault prevention, community service or GLBT awareness. One week in particular is set aside this month for something that is quietly flourishing and emerging campus-wide.

The aptly named Diversity Week began April 15 and lasts until tomorrow. The Diversity Center and Student Involvement in Leadership will be sponsoring the week for its third consecutive year. Several clubs are participating in the festivities, including: Hawaii club, Black Student Union, Harmony and the Jewish club. Contributions from the clubs include several campus-wide workshops, panels and discussions on a variety of topics and themes.

"Diversity Week is much stronger this year," Hawaii Club president Desi Koanui said. "There are better organizational skills among everyone and there is a better bond among the clubs involved. Angie (Hambrick) is also a strong component for making it all work this year."

Hambrick is the Director of multicultural affairs in the Diversity Center.

"Diversity Week is essentially for the people who are unaware of what the world really is all about," Koanui said. The Hawaii club will be hosting a hula workshop one night during the week.

PLU as an institution has a long history of struggling with promoting, increasing and sustaining diversity on its campus. Students of color, as well as sexual and religious minorities have created a resurgence of student leaders actively trying to promote tolerance, education and understanding throughout the campus.

One main problem that lingers throughout the small community of diversity clubs is the same few people attending every event.

"Other people don't feel as comfortable," Hawaii Club Luau dancer Will Werner said. "Some people just haven't had enough experience with minorities."

Even though these loyal friends and supporters are much appreciated, the goal of the clubs involved in Diversity week are to attract new students willing step out of their comfort zone and experience a culture different from their own.

"You should always be willing to expand your horizons and experience something new," Hawaii club member Jess Waiiau said.

With only 16 percent making up the total minority student body, it's easy to see why some students can feel like they are on the outside looking in. It's also easy to see how simple it is for some students from the majority population to remain ignorant to differing cultures and social issues that minority students struggle with everyday. Therefore, Diversity week remains an important outlet for clubs on larger scale, to encourage all students to take part



Seniors Wiahea Perreira and Desi Koanui eat at the annual Diversity Week lu'au that was put on by the PLU Hawaii Club. The entire week was a celebration of the diversity on campus, which makes up 16 percent of the student body. Photos courtesy of Jill Russell

in educating themselves on diverse issues and topics.

Kicking off Diversity week this year, the newly revamped ethnic club, Black Student Union, celebrated with a backyard barbecue April 15. The group's fears of rain were quashed as the sun made its rare appearance and added warmth to the event. Retro music played in the background and the smell of ribs filled the air, silently luring hungry lutes. People sat on

lounge chairs that were placed in a sporadic pattern around the lawn. As students ate, gleefully enjoying each others company, many expressed thoughts for the upcoming week.

"I didn't know that we had a Diversity Week until now," Sophomore Trina Togafau said. "I know," piped in senior Lawrence Brooks. "But it's cool because it creates an opportunity to get to know other students."

Introductions were made over baked beans and corn bread, as people mingled and made new friends. Members from the Hawaii club and Harmony made special appearances and showed support for the BSU.

"We're celebrating because it's fun," Harmony president Christine Claridge said. "Diversity Week provides an overall holistic experience and makes you a better person."

Dance

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sophomore Kimberly Whitton said.

There's an application and auditioning process for the show's choreographers each year. This process allows for diversity in the show, thus not every year is the same.

Senior Kyle Nowadnick was "very impressed with not only the dancers, but also the background, lighting and use of costumes. I felt the dances really fit the music."

Nowadnick, like many other students, has attended Dance Ensemble in previous years. When asked if he knew this year's dance ensemble had a different producer than the previous year, he did not know.

Tara Holliday produced the show this year in place of professor Maureen McGill who had produced the previous years' Dance Ensemble. Holliday worked as McGill's assistant director for the past four years. Coming into this production she already knew the ropes.

When asked how she thought the show went she answered, "It was fabulous. I could not have been more pleased. I'm always amazed at the talent that comes out of the woodwork."

Dance Ensemble is not only an entertaining tradition, but also an artistic outlet for many students to express themselves through. Viewers, like Nowadnick, also come for inspiration.



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Panel encourages communication

SOAC week event stresses multi-culturalism to students

Bilingual is the English term for someone who can speak two languages. But what does the world call someone who can speak only one language?

"American," said Joanne Lisosky, one of the panelists for the Wednesday night SOAC week discussion: "A Clash of Cultures and Communication."

With the world getting smaller thanks to improving technologies of travel and communication, residents of the United States face the unavoidable challenge of encountering unfamiliar cultures. Communication professor Art Land's WRIT 101 "Writing for Media" class hosted the panel discussion exploring how to deal with cultural barriers through the use of effective communication strategies.

Panelists included professionals who shared their experiences dealing successfully with people around the world.

Communication professor Joanne Lisosky began her international travels as one of the first journalism students to visit the Soviet Union in 1983. She was soon concerned she would be spending more time there than originally planned

after misplacing her ticket home in her luggage. Still, a couple of hours spent under the watchful eye of the Soviet sentry did not dampen her enthusiasm for exploring.

Over the years, she has traveled for the UN to various African nations and has taken students to Australia and the UN headquarters in Geneva.

"I was really enticed by the risk of being a woman by myself across the world and trying to make a difference," Lisosky said.

Darren Brewster is the marketing coordinator at the World Trade Center of Tacoma. He has traveled on trade missions to China and has extensive knowledge in assisting companies with import, export and trade-related matters. He is currently working to form a sister city relationship between Jiang, China and University Place, Wash.

Brewster suggests learning dining customs for a culture, especially if you are doing business "because tons of business actions happen over food and drink. So if they use chopsticks, you use chopsticks. If they use their left hand, then use your left hand. It shows curiosity and also that you care about their culture."

Captain Andy Ecklund is a PLU Alumnus, and currently works at PLU as a recruiting officer for the ROTC program. His duty assignments in Germany, Iraq and Afghanistan expanded his ability to adapt and gain trust in other cultures.

From his recent experience in Iraq, Ecklund discovered how hard it is to communicate some everyday ideas from Western culture. "The concept of freedom is so foreign; it is very frustrating," Ecklund said. "Be extremely careful of what you promise, and if you do promise something make sure you deliver your end of the bargain."

The class was impressed with the turn-out, and students seemed eager to broaden the discussion.

"I never lost interest when Joanne Lisosky shared her stories of travel, conflict and friendship," first-year Andrea Jensen said.

Others were simply surprised to learn something new about someone they thought they knew everything about.

"I knew Captain Ecklund before the discussion, but I was surprised by his cultural experiences," junior communication major Chris Oledan said.

The panelists acknowledged real and difficult problems remain between countries and cultures, but each remains optimistic about the potential for skilled communicators to reach across cultural borders. All agreed that citizens of the United States have much to offer and look forward to, and being open and curious about other cultures is extremely important.

"Curiosity about other cultures will break down animosity," Lisosky said.

Editor's note: This article was written by Andrea Jensen Brett Langlois, Ryan Langlois, Keegan Maharaj, Chris Oledan, Laura Pease, Amber Walker, Ammanda Woodard

"Curiosity about other cultures will break down animosity,"
Joanne Lisosky, panelist and communication professor

Massacre

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Wielding two pistols, the Seung-Hui opened fire at about 7:15 a.m. at West Ambler Johnston, a coed dormitory, then stormed Norris Hall, a classroom building on the other side of the 2,600-acre campus, chaining the doors behind him to keep anyone from escaping.

Two people died in the dorm room, and 31 others were killed in Norris Hall, including the gunman, who put a bullet in his head. At least 26 people were hurt, some seriously.

Students jumped from windows in panic. Young people and faculty members carried out some of the wounded themselves, without waiting for ambulances to arrive. Many found themselves trapped behind the chained and padlocked doors. SWAT team members with helmets, flak jackets and assault rifles swarmed over the campus. A student used his cell-phone camera to record the sound of bullets echoing through a stone building.

Trey Perkins, who was sitting in a German class in Norris Hall, told The Washington Post that the gunman barged into the room at about 9:50 a.m. and opened fire for about a minute and a half, squeezing off 30 shots in all.

The gunman, Perkins said, first shot the professor in the head and then fired on the students. Perkins said the gunman was about 19 years old and had a "very serious but very calm look on his face."

"Everyone hit the floor at that moment," said Perkins, 20, of Yorktown, Va., a sophomore studying mechanical engineering. "And the shots seemed like it lasted forever."

Students bitterly complained that there were no public-address announcements on campus after the first shots. Many said the first word from the university was an e-mail more than two hours into the rampage — around the time

the gunman struck again.

"I think the university has blood on their hands because of their lack of action after the first incident," said Billy Bason, 18, who lives on the seventh floor of the dorm.

"If you had apprehended a suspect, I could understand having classes even after two of your students have perished. But when you don't have a suspect in a college environment and to put the students in a situation where they're congregated in large numbers in open buildings, that's unacceptable to me."

Steger defended the university's handling of the tragedy, saying authorities believed that the shooting at the dorm was a domestic dispute and mistakenly thought the gunman had fled the campus.

"We had no reason to suspect any other incident was going to occur," he said.

Steger emphasized that the university closed off the dorm after the first attack and decided to rely on e-mail and other electronic means to notify members of the university, but with 11,000 people driving onto campus first thing in the morning, it was difficult to get the word out. He said that before the e-mail went out, the university began telephoning resident advisers in the dorms to notify them and sent people to knock on doors to spread the word. Students were warned to stay inside and away from the windows.

"We can only make decisions based on the information you had at the time. You don't have hours to reflect on it," Steger said. He called the massacre a tragedy of "monumental proportions."

A law enforcement official, speaking on condition of anonymity because the investigation was incomplete, said

that the gunman had two pistols and multiple clips of ammunition.

Some students and Laura Wedin, a student programs manager at Virginia Tech, said the first notification they got of the shootings came in an e-mail at 9:26 a.m., more than two hours after the first shooting.

The e-mail had few details. It read: "A shooting incident occurred at West Amber Johnston earlier this morning. Police are on the scene and are investigating." The message warned students to be cautious and contact police about anything suspicious.

Everett Good, junior, said of the lack of warning: "Someone's head is definitely going to roll over that."

Edmund Henneke, associate dean of engineering, said he was in the classroom building and he and colleagues had just read the e-mail advisory regarding the first shooting and were discussing it when he heard gunfire. He said moments later SWAT team members rushed them downstairs, but the doors were chained and padlocked from the inside. They left the building through a construction area that had not been locked.

A White House spokesman said President Bush was horrified by the rampage and offered his prayers to the victims and the people of Virginia. "The president believes that there is a right for people to bear arms, but that all laws must be followed," spokeswoman Dana Perino said.

After the shootings, all entrances to the campus were closed, and classes were canceled through Tuesday. The university set up a meeting place for families to reunite with their children. It also made counselors available and planned an assembly for Tuesday at the basketball arena.

Students

continues from page 1

"Never in my three years at PLU have I seen people gather together as much."

Wednesday's show of solidarity provided the community with more opportunities to show their support through song and prayer. University Choral and Choir of the West performed a moving rendition of "Beautiful Savior"

to a crowd of more than 100. The ceremony concluded with a speech by President Loren Anderson about the importance of building community with Virginia Tech.

A banner-signing and letter-writing campaign took place in red square during the day on Wednesday. The banner, which read "our thoughts and prayers are with you," included handprints of concerned PLU community members and notes to the Virginia Tech community. So many people came to include their support that a second large banner was created at the last minute. People also had the option to write letters to the Virginia Tech community. The banners and the letters were sent out Thursday afternoon.

A King 5 story ran this week that captured students grieving and showing support. PLU has gained

recognition for its support largely due to similar events that happened six years ago with the murder of Dr. James Holloway. The news coverage came with mixed reviews from the PLU community.

"It is doing PLU a disservice to say that our support was only because of our event that happened six years ago," said Kyle Morean, a member of Students for Peace. "This really shows the caliber of students at PLU."

Another local connection is fellow Lute Holly Adams, a '74 alumna, had a daughter, Leslie Sherman, who was a sophomore at Virginia Tech and is one of the victims of the shooter.

In President Anderson's address at the concluding ceremony Wednesday, he noted that this is an opportunity to build community with Virginia

Tech because of our common history.

PLU community members are encouraged to continue showing support and react to these events. Campus Counseling and Campus Ministry are available for additional emotional support for those in grief.

"It is important that there is a message of hope included," Power-Drutis said. "In this way, PLU's response is important to hear."

"It is important that there is a message of hope included...in this way, PLU's response is important to hear,"
Tamara Power-Drutis,
ASPLU vice president



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From the editor

Pay attention to each other and learn to change our flaws

Stop ignoring each other and the issues that are smacking us in the face.

The shooting at Virginia Tech showed that there are issues in our society that need to be examined and not just the issue of gun control.

The person who pulled the trigger, Cho Seung-Hui, is responsible for taking the lives of 33 people, including his own. However, there is more to this story than pointing fingers or writing it off as another crazed gunman.

College-aged individuals repeatedly display acts of violence against one another and we all see it in our media. Yet, most ignore the social implications that could be learned from some of these horrible events.

Students and faculty need to take in their surroundings and not keep quiet when they see another classmate, student or just human being that looks to be hurting. It might be awkward at first to ask someone who is almost a stranger a personal question, but we need to break down our fears of awkwardness and find strength in our ability to be kind to one another.

Perhaps if students and faculty at Virginia Tech had given Seung-Hui some attention and questions, he might have still wanted to commit an act of violence. However, if even one person had talked to him enough to figure out he was thinking about doing some kind of violent act against the campus, this person would have had a chance to stop Seung-Hui.

Besides having our generation being fairly content with seclusion (we can do almost anything sitting at a computer now), we also seem to be overly zealous when it comes to falling in love and not wanting to let go of someone.

While it is still uncertain whether Seung-Hui's shooting rampage began because of a domestic violence case or not, we should still recognize that a lot of people being accused of this type of violence seem to be getting younger and younger. We need to figure out why people our age are so hurt or angered about losing a significant other or lover that they would resort to violence.

We have a lot of social issues to think about when it comes to our generation and this story points a lot of them out. We are a generation that has grown up seeing violence everywhere. We are a generation that has the capabilities to listen to the cries of those across the world, but forget to listen to those of our neighbors. We, especially those in college, are a generation filled with stress.

Yet, even with all of our problems we can be a generation of solutions. It's time to stop ignoring each other and tackle our issues before they attack us.

Guest Editorial: Kristi Bruner

Foreign language capstone presentations lost in translation

PLU is a school of many languages. At least until the Language and Literature department decided to remodel the capstone.

With a strong study abroad program, many international students and even an international hall, this university is home to many language and literature majors.

In the past the capstone for language and literature majors was required to be completed in the target language. However, the Department of Languages and Literatures announced a change in requirements April 9 that include presenting and writing the capstone in English as part of a remodel of the program.

For a school that hosted a whole week of world conversations and boasts being a university of many languages, it sure has a funny way of showing it.

The changes are in response to a lack of resources to support independent studies and thus one faculty member will teach a seminar in English for all Chinese, French, Norwegian and German students. Spanish students are lucky enough to not be affected by these changes because the department is large enough to provide a seminar course taught in Spanish.

This announcement shocked and upset not only students that are affected by the changes, but students all over campus. Quickly after the news, language majors were going into other classes explaining their cause and asking for signatures on a petition that was presented April 16 to the department along with alternative suggestions for changes.

These students should be commended for taking action by working in hopes of reversing or improving the current requirements.

Senior capstones are meant to demonstrate a student's grasp on a specific subject and ultimately determine if they are ready for the real world in that subject's line of work. It seems only logical that language majors would complete their capstones in the target language.



Cartoon by Adam Spry

Alaska: mythical land revealed



Ronan ROONEY

DON'T WORRY, BABY

I wish I could tell you that everyone you'd pass on the street in Alaska would be wearing boots, checkered flannel shirts and sporting beards down to their bellies, but I cannot tell you this in all truthfulness, so I shall lie.

In Alaska, whales and bears have nothing better to do than prance around for your entertainment! Icebergs will form from clouds, eagles will perch on your shoulder for pictures and salmon will fly into your arms!

My beloved state of Alaska is one of many mythical places around the world. Mythical places bear the weight of fame beyond their control, often spinning to folkloric proportions.

Timothy Treadwell, star of the award-winning "Grizzly Man," lived with bears like a complete idiot and entered Alaskan mythology. Treadwell appeals to those who want to believe that love conquers all—even the food chain. Those of us raised in bear country know the dangers of a bear no longer afraid of approaching humans. Bears are notorious flirts and take rejection poorly.

America, Alaska is a novelty to you. We are like a theme party you buy in a box with all the familiar

kitschy trinkets and knickknacks. You think we are eccentric, that we must be crazy to live in the cold. When we talk on the phone, you ask us, "Is it cold in Alaska?" When we were kids, you asked us if we had pet polar bears. Admit it!

Being from a mythical land, I've learned that I absolutely do not understand other mythical places. Iraq, Harvard, the 1970s and Utah—I do not understand you.

There are advantages to the mythical legend of Alaska. Before "The Deadliest Catch" appeared on The Discovery Channel, nobody cared that my family is full of fishermen. Now, when I share this information, people react like I told them I hold the world push-up record. Not since the time of Jesus have fishermen been so cool.

Being from Alaska guarantees conversation starters. If anyone has a relative/friend/acquaintance from Alaska, we Alaskans are bound to hear about them, where they live, and do we know them? America, please stop asking. Of course we know them.

Also, please don't tell us about your cruise ship trip to Alaska. A little known secret: cruise ships are about as popular in Alaska as a traveling circus that throws peanuts at you and expects you to clean up after the elephants.

America, what is the deal with ANWR? What makes you think you can live the most gluttonous life of any nation in the world and make up for it by not drilling oil in Alaska? It's like eating a pound of corn chips and sipping a diet coke. Nobody is impressed.

An ultimate truth pervades Alaska like all mythical places: everyone is unique. With apologies to the sixty-seven fellow Alaskans enrolled at PLU and everyone we left back home, I have done my best to tell you what it is like to be from my mythical land.

Students are required to write papers and complete presentations in the target language from the beginning courses all the way to the advanced. They are prepared for their capstones and deserve to show what they have learned. Completing a language capstone in English seems to defeat the purpose of a language capstone because it fails to accurately show the student's knowledge and understanding of the subject matter.

The department has acknowledged that it is ideal

to preserve the language capstone's original purpose and will do everything possible to make appropriate changes with the input of the students. Once the individual language departments finish discussing the changes, a student-faculty forum will be held to further discuss the situation.

Students should continue to fight for their capstone because without that, the only thing that languages represent to PLU is that they are foreign.

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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 identification for verification will be discarded. Letters should be no longer than 400 words in length, typed and double-spaced. *The Mast* reserves the right to refuse any letter. Letters may be edited for length, taste and errors. Letters are printed in the order they are received.

The Mast can be reached at (253) 535-7494 or mast@plu.edu.

Sidewalk Talk:

What are your thoughts on the Virginia Tech shooting?



It was a really bad thing. He obviously had problems. He should have turned to somebody for help.

Tony Slater, sophomore



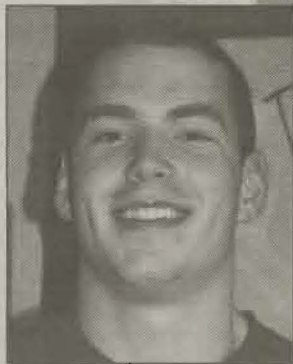
It's kind of ridiculous how much our country focuses on the bad. The media's been plastered with the same repeated images.

Chris Hamilton, junior



It's terrible. I kind of feel bad for the guy it seemed like he had a lot of issues and didn't know how to handle them.

Amanda Clancy, sophomore



It takes someone who's pretty twisted to do something like that. We need to take some time out of our days to think about what happened.

Brett Monson, first-year



It's just sad.

Christopher Isar, first-year



When it comes to tragedies that have happened in the last five to 10 years, this one affected me the most because I have two friends on the East Coast that go there.

Rich Wilkins, junior

Hook up, but know yourself



NOT MUCH WITH THE DAMSELING

She cocks her head at an angle, brushing her brown, side-swept bangs from her eyes so she can get a better look at the Abercrombie-model lookalike in the green shirt.

The man in green, obviously in search of a fun night away from Naval Air Station Fallon — where the movie "Top Gun" is set — looks back at the 21-year-old girl.

She looks down, then looks back up at the tanned military man and smiles. She knows she looks hot in her tight white capri pants and cork heels.

She takes another sip of her drink, and as she lowers the glass from her glossed lips she sees the boy walking across Sandwinds, a bar that is as close to a dance club as you can get in Fallon, Nev., a town about an hour east of Reno.

He asks her to dance and she answers yes, thrilled by the attractive man's attention. It is not long before the tipsy girl invites him to her apartment.

"Do you want to come lay in my bed?" she asks the man whose name she can now, about eight months later, barely remember.

"Ryan — it was Ryan," she exclaims with revelation. She verbally punishes herself for not recalling it: "Oh my God, that was disgusting of me."

But it's easy to forget him. To her, he was just another guy — number 13 out of 16, to be exact — who easily stripped off her tight T-shirt and had sex with her. Like many men she's hooked up with, she never saw him again.

But she doesn't view this situation — or any other — as a hump-and-dump. It's simply part of the game.

This game — the hookup game — is what worries Laura Sessions Stepp, a Washington Post reporter who recently released the book "Unhooked: How Young Women Pursue Sex, Delay Love and Lose at Both."

"Unhooked" is about how young women do emotional damage to themselves in our "hookup culture," where people have replaced dating and relationships with casual encounters — which ranges from making out to oral sex to intercourse — with men they are not dating or hardly know.

Sessions Stepp theorizes that young women of our generation hook up because, since the time we were born, we've been told by our parents and other adults that we should go for what we want. We not only strive for the good grades, but carry the attitude that we deserve what we want into the bedroom as well. Sessions Stepp says that in order to accomplish the success, independence and everything else we in the post-feminist era are expected to achieve, young women believe they cannot afford to invest time and energy into a relationship, or any other sort of "we."

Hooking up is our alternative to relationships, something many young, independent women do not believe they can have while still maintaining successful lifestyles.

"It's very sexually liberating and freeing," said my friend who had sex with 14 men in the past 13 months. "But it's probably not really a healthy practice."

Sessions Stepp agrees. While she writes that some

Letter to the editor...

Lessons need to be learned from shooting

I have been impressed by and grateful for the efforts of the University to grieve for Monday's tragedy at Virginia Tech. The candlelight vigils and the Day of Solidarity organized by student groups have allowed the PLU community to reflect on the event, honor the victims and offer support to each other with some sense of stability in a time of confusion and anguish.

As I reflect, read the news and take part in the events on campus, I begin to realize that I am surprised and distressed by something beyond the 32 deaths. The words "senseless" and "unexplainable" used in prayer and conversation to describe the incident are adding insult to injury. These events are, actually, quite explainable. For example, on BBC online, the story about the Virginia killings is second only to the headline "More than 170 dead in Iraq blasts." This example offers us one splinter of sense in the ruin.

An opinion piece published April 17 by the Tacoma News Tribune criticized the debate about gun control emerging the day after the incident. It said, "It didn't take long for some ridiculous and offensive finger-pointing to start." Why are we grieving over the senselessness of the act, and yet it is ridiculous to try to pinpoint a cause? How will we claim "never again" without honest reflection on the social factors involved? Change and prevention cannot come without this debate. On this principle I resent their

women can happily climb out of bed with a stranger and head to philosophy class, most cannot.

"Instead, they obsessively check their cell phones to see if Mr. One Night Only called," a New York Times article about the book writes. "They feel bad about themselves and lose the opportunity to learn how to build a relationship."

Students at PLU know the drill. Men and women alike head to off-campus parties almost every Friday and Saturday night, Nalgene bottles filled with their drinks of choice, looking for a good time anywhere they can get it. And if it includes hooking up, even better.

We, like many others at private universities across the country, where the hooking up phenomenon first became most prominent, know how to work hard and party hard. Young women, according to Sessions Stepp, attempt to maintain grades, success and independence while getting their sexual kicks. They seek power and independence through these sexual encounters.

But Sessions Stepp says this is a false sense of power: "Real power is not giving it away, but using it wisely. That's when you're liberated, really."

Sessions Stepp claims that young women are hurting themselves emotionally by attempting to have casual sex like men, partly because chemicals released in the brain during sex act differently in men and women. The chemical oxytocin is released in women, which makes women want to nurture their young and stay close. In men, testosterone is released, which suppresses oxytocin and signals men to leave the nest and spread their seed elsewhere.

Sessions Stepp is not saying never ever hook up. Neither am I. What she does advocate for is hooking up smarter. She wants young women to think about choices before making them.

Critics of Sessions Stepp claim she is anti-feminist and publishing a new version of "The Rules." But, she has a point. How often do we really look at why we hook up with people? It gets boring fast, there is no long-term fulfillment and it usually doesn't eliminate the drama we are attempting to avoid.

Besides, hooking up has almost completely eradicated dating. Next to "Unhooked" on the self-help shelves at Barnes and Noble, are books entitled "How to Date in a Post-Dating World" and "The Hookup Handbook."

There is no middle ground anymore. Courtship has been erased by two extremes: hooking up or serious relationships.

We should take a look at why we are hooking up. If we are not ready for the serious relationship, let's get to know someone before having sex — or even making out — with them. (This goes for men as well as women. Yes, guys, we've caught on to your ways. In "Unhooked," a senior male from George Washington University said, "Because girls are more assertive, it's easy for us to be assholes.")

Let's put down our plastic keg cups and cocktail glasses and get to know people before swapping saliva and other bodily fluids. Let's allow ourselves to feel those nervous butterflies we're supposed to feel on first dates. Let's actually have first dates.

And if you feel like hooking up now and then, who am I or a 55-year-old Washington Post reporter to stop you? Just be smart about it. Do not hook up to suppress feelings or gain power.

If my friend in Fallon, who has since moved to the Pacific Northwest, had thought about why she was hooking up, she might have looked at the man in the green shirt coming toward her, introduced herself, and kept her white capris and brown T-shirt on long enough to remember his name was Ryan.

concluding remarks: "How can we fathom what would drive someone to commit murder on such an appalling scale? This was not in any way a rational act. For now, let us simply grieve."

We cannot simply grieve; we must also ask why. To have any real hope for a future without "senseless" violence, we must dare to "fathom" the causes.

Let's talk about gun control, our war policies, intimate partner violence, mental illness in young adults, safety on college campuses, emergency procedures, the role of the media and death. There is an opportunity for growth and healing through these discussions. How many more "unexplainable" massacres will it take?

The PLU community must continue to heal together, showing compassion and solidarity for those affected by the Virginia Tech shootings. We must also stop writing it off as a senseless act of random violence perpetrated by one disturbed individual, and look a little deeper into our society. In our prayers for healing, we should also ask forgiveness and redemption for ourselves for the violence pervasive in our country.

In the words of professor Phil Zimbardo, "This is not to excuse immoral behavior; the point is simply that understanding how someone could have engaged in wrongdoing, rather than dismissing it as a bad deed done by a bad person, allows us to identify corrosive social forces — the very same forces we need to counteract if we want to avoid going down the same wrong path."

Amber Morley, senior



LUTES SPRING INT

PLU Orgs unite for a cause

Snapshots of Spring Break
JESSICA HOLDEN
Mast writer

Nearly 100 students spent their spring breaks participating in service learning projects all over the country. In a week – sometimes less – students were exposed to new and challenging ideas. Perceptions and understandings were challenged and new friends were made.

Eating two sparse meals a day and understanding – at least briefly – what it means to be truly hungry and malnourished. Building a wall for a new house – with few instructions, out in the cold. Sorting garbage before heading out for an afternoon of back-country snowshoeing. These experiences are far cries from MTV's version of college spring breaks, but they are real at PLU.

Campus Ministry began planning "alternative" spring break trips many years ago. Students went to Antigua, Guatemala for Easter two years ago. Last year they occupied a tent city helping clean up New Orleans.

As interest for these trips grew, other trip ideas began emerged. The planners decided it was time to get together and collaborate.

Staff and students from Campus Ministry, Student Involvement in Leadership, Outdoor Recreation, GREAN, Catholic Campus Ministry and the Center for Public Service have been meeting since last fall to share ideas, develop application processes, advertise collectively and talk about reflection tools for the trips.

The self-initiated alliance became known as "Service Project Runaway."

At a post-Spring Break gathering last week, participants shared their experiences.

Fifteen students became members of the Global Village at Heifer International Ranch, "living" in Tibet, Mozambique and the Mississippi River Delta. Their lives replicated the different levels of poverty in each region experience. They went through "customs" and had their watches and other possessions taken away before being assigned a region and lifestyle.

"I was really hungry and we didn't have any food; I was really tired and I couldn't go to bed," said John Nitz, a "resident" of the Mississippi Delta, his group was the least poor in relation to the others.

Heifer explains in its website that the organization works with communities all over the world to end poverty while caring for the earth and expanding networks of hope, dignity and self-reliance. Students learned – and physically experienced – that hunger also means not having adequate nutrition.

Fourteen Lutes on the Habitat Spokane build site, organized by campus ministry, did not know anything about building a wall of a house, but that didn't slow them down.

"They gave us tools and measurements, told us to do it and we figured it out," sophomore Nicole DeCamp said.

Working with other college spring breakers and the family who was to receive the house, the work team installed radiant floor heating, dug trenches, caulked, touched up paint and, successfully finished the wall.

Habitat for Humanity partners with families in need of housing to build affordable homes in all 50 states and in 90 countries.

The group from PLU shared the parish house of a local church, cramming the entire group in with only one bathroom.

Participants said that while learning about construction, they also learned from the community they developed while working on the home. "We had a lot of fun as a group; it didn't feel like work," DeCamp said.

As senior Frani Adair and other PLU students stood in Texas, face to face with a group of children in Mexico, the only thing separating them was a fence. A simple metal fence. "That's the closest they can get – looking through a fence." –Adair

After crossing between Juarez, Mexico and El Paso, Texas several times, Adair realized that peering through the fence between them was as close as these children could get to where she stood.

The fence surrounds the entire city, and there are border patrol cars are all over, she said.

The PLU group spent their time learning from different organizations and the people in the city. They visited a women's center, an emergency homeless shelter, and met with a doctor who provides free health care to people who need it, serving thousands of families.

"The culture was not different on each side," Adair said. "It is a city split in half by a border."

As soon as the old school bus rattled onto Main Street (the only street) at Holden Village, it was unmistakable that this place was about community. The entire village was there to greet it and usher its occupants inside for a hot, hearty lunch of homemade soup and bread.

Holden Village, organized by ASPLU Outdoor Recreation, is the site of a 1930s copper mine nestled in the North Cascades, now a Lutheran retreat center. While the residents of Holden Village constantly change, the winter population is about 70 people. Many come and go, and most are on staff for a few

"I was really hungry, and we didn't have any food; I was really tired and I couldn't go to bed."

**John Nitz
Mississippi
Delta
Resident**



Students talking to children on the Mexican side of the International Fence that separates the two



photo courtesy of campus ministry

Students with Habitat for Humanity building homes in Spokane, Wash. for families in need.

months or a year. Others stay for shorter periods as volunteers and registered guests. The village is remote and isolated: there are no telephone lines or televisions and cell phones don't get a signal there.

The 12-member work team from PLU spent the mornings of its week there volunteering. The group scrubbed, sanded and refinished the old church pews used for worship during the busier summer months. They also helped prepare a chalet for a new family moving in.

"Nobody but us would know that the benches look any different," said Beckwith, program specialist with SIL. "But we know."

Several students also got to help sort the village's garbage into recyclable materials, compost and landfill items. All waste produced at Holden is highly visible and has to stay in the village. As a result, residents are very intentional about what they consume and how they

treat it when they are finished with it.

Afternoons were spent tromping in the snow, learning new crafts, enjoying books, and getting to know villagers. For some Lutes, this was their first time on snowshoes or cross-country skis. Others learned to weave while some enjoyed the sauna.

The strong sense of community and relationships that quickly developed made saying good-bye difficult.

The public service project consisted of day trips into the Puget Sound, and was organized by SIL and the Center for Public Service. Even students staying on campus for the week had plenty of opportunity to get their hands dirty.

Twenty international students with the Embassy Program, spent an afternoon working on a trail with the Puget Creek Restoration Society. Puget Creek is a 66-acre nature area in Tacoma's North End. According to the Puget Creek Restoration Society, it is one of three salmon-bearing streams within



STUDENTS TAKE PLU SERVICE TO MISSION: SPRING BREAK

Students tell of their personal experience on the Service Project Runaway

Students embrace an ignored

community
JENNIFER PERUSSE
Guest Columnist

The Urban Plunge was three-days and three-nights of an immersion experience in Tacoma focusing on homelessness in our downtown community. This alternative spring break option gave three of us the opportunity to experience homelessness from an insider's perspective.



Jennifer Perusse

We lived each of the three days utilizing only the resources easily available to the homeless community, almost completely as a homeless person in Tacoma would, except that instead of sleeping in shelters at night we slept in churches..

We had only the clothes on our backs, two dollars each, bus fare to get home, journals and a blanket.

Though we immersed in the community, we did not pretend to be homeless, and were honest with

anyone who inquired our motives. The Urban Plunge was sponsored by the PLU Volunteer Center. The small student group served as an advantage to blending in and smoothly engaging in conversations within the community. Contrary to my expectations, I was provided with two very opposing perspectives. In our situation, we encountered little middle-ground. People either supported the homeless or they

wanted to push them out of the city.

During our time with speaker Michael Stirvek, our eyes were opened to the humanity of homelessness. Homelessness can happen to anyone. Homeless people are not a "they," but rather a person like you and me, and that person happens to be homeless. Stirvek will be the first to tell you that homeless people are a gift to the Tacoma community. He explained how the city wants to push them out with an enlightening metaphor. He told us of a town that was swarmed with bats every summer. The town worked for months to exterminate all of the bats. By the time next summer rolled around the bats were gone but the town was infested with bugs. We often kill off what we fear or do not understand. Those who are homeless in Tacoma are often looked at as a whole that should be pushed out of the city. The time is not taken to realize the gift these people can be.

As a social work major, I have encountered the common perspective that, "People are homeless because they are lazy and simply lack skills to be successful." As expected, this proved to be untrue during our Plunge. We made several new friends that happened to be homeless and possessed remarkable talents. Many of our friends were bilingual in English and Spanish, one was an outstanding painter and another highly skilled at teaching chess. I don't know about you, but those are definitely gifts that I don't have. This experience reinforced for me the fact that each person is unique. Everyone has their own story and their own reasoning for where they are today and

where they will be 10 years from now. We cannot group the homeless into one general personality category or lifestyle, just as we cannot group students into one personality category or lifestyle.

"Homeless people are not a 'they'."
Jennifer Perusse
Junior



Photo courtesy of Jessica Holden

Students taking a lunch break on a long snowshoe the last day with Outdoor Rec.

Mission opens eyes to advantages of the

United States
COURTNEY STRINGER
GUEST COLUMNIST

After studying abroad in China for a semester and seeing the most unbelievable things, I was not prepared for what we experienced in Mexico. On the plane ride down, I was thinking about going to Mexico and hadn't dreamt about the harsh realities of what we would see.



Courtney Stringer

The trip impacted me in the fact that I don't think any student at PLU should take their education and the opportunities that PLU, our community and nation provides for us, for granted.

Juan worked for over 10 years to support one of his brothers through a college education in Mexico. He sold all the furniture in his house, just so his brother could pay his college tuition. This says a lot about the integrity of such people and the privileges that we are given each day

that most people just take for granted.

Similarly, the immersion trip inspired me to look at all angles of an issue. Many times watching or even ignoring the news, in our PLU bubble, issues are presented from one side and one side only. The media and many politicians claim that undocumented persons, such as Mexicans illegally working in the US, are taking our jobs. However, a different story was presented to me at the border. More than 50 percent of the agricultural work in the U.S. is done by illegal immigrants. Therefore, our economy depends on these people and these people have started to become dependent upon us as well. After the North American Free Trade Agreement, known as NAFTA, huge American companies moved only miles across the border and set up shop in Mexico, for cheap labor costs and the tax incentives that companies receive. Labor enforcement is relaxed and environmental laws are not upheld. As we witnesses in Juarez, which was once the Rio Grande, has now been polluted by such factories in densely populated areas.

I was left to return with the thoughts, "Are Mexican workers taking our jobs? Or is the source of our problem coming from the top such as governmental laws, agreements, policies and corporations that seem to have an impact on it's workers lives, their communities and the environment in which one lives?"

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE ORGANIZATIONS WHO HOSTED THE TRIPS?

For information:

Heifer International, visit www.heifer.org

Habitat for Humanity visit www.habitat.org

How do I get involved?

Contact us:

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Outdoor Rec

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photo courtesy of Eric Buley

countries. pictured: Courtney Stringer and Eric Buley

city limits. They worked with teachers and Starbucks employees. Students pushed gravel-filled hand carts up and down the mountain.

Another group of students worked in the Spanaway Elementary Community garden, not too far from Puget Creek.

"We were tired but happy," said Bruno Baptista from Brazil. "It was a good day."

The coalition between campus ministry and other campus organizations provided many students with experiences for spring break opening their eyes to the world outside the Lute dome.

For more details on spring break trips check us out online, www.plu.edu/~mast

Spring Formal 2007: "Casablanca"



Left: Anyone who has seen Casablanca would recognize the sign for Rick's Cafe. A replica of the sign stood outside the entrance to the bar at Spring Formal 2007.

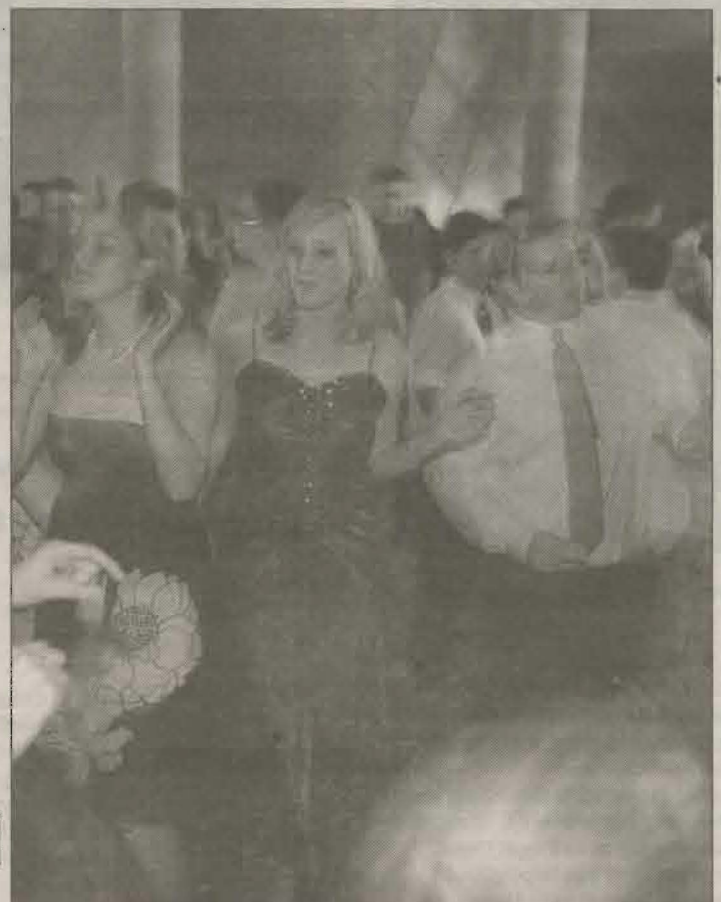
Below: Spring Formal, held at the Museum of Glass in Tacoma began 8 p.m., featured a large dance floor and space for people to sit, talk and rest, without bumping into the dancers.



Above: On an event-filled weekend PLU students came April 14 to dance the night away in "Casablanca," the theme of this year's spring formal.

Right: The Museum of Glass featured many different pieces of artwork. One of the galleries remained open for students to walk through and browse the artwork. The dance-floor also had artwork adorning the wall.

Below: More than 400 students are estimated to have attended spring formal. The last song of the night was "As Time Goes By," from the movie itself.



Photos by Chris Hunt



Above: As the night progressed more and more students came. The dance coordinator's gave a special discount on tickets after 10:30 p.m. to accommodate people in dance ensemble.

Left: Seating was arranged on the perimeter of the dance-floor and in the bar for students to rest and chat and take pictures with their friends.

In with the old out with the new



Jon HARTHUN

Reviewing and interviewing the most overlooked band of the year

What do you get when you combine the multi-instrumental craftsmanship of the Beatles, the harmonious liveliness of the Beach Boys and the raw emotion of the Temptations? You get Dr. Dog, a band who's probably sick of all the comparisons.

Dr. Dog's latest release "We All Belong" squeezes juice from the fruits of '60s pop-rock labor and delivers a refreshing new blend of music. While the band's latest piano-driven single "My Old Ways" is best suited for careless car rides on sunny summer days, the track seamlessly fits into the album without outshining its companions.

The album's opener "Old News" sounds like a Supremes-Queen collision worth slowing down to look at, while "Weekend" is a humid bus ride towards Hotel California. "The Girl" is a gritty high-school brawl in the bleachers with cold-blooded Neil Young verses sucker-punching baby-faced Paul McCartney choruses.

The album's body continuously heads to soul, most visibly with the Smokey Robinson-like "Alaska" which bursts with organ, piano and over-the-top choruses like firecrackers clenched in a fist. The album's finest track is the youthful "Ain't It Strange" which insists "we're only getting old/'cause that's what we are told to do."

With a continuous stream of critically acclaimed albums surging through record stores this year, Dr. Dog will have to race for the higher grounds of stardom before their vibrantly stellar album drowns in the undertow of neglect. For more information on Dr. Dog visit www.drdogmusic.com.

Suggested tracks: "My Old Ways", "The Girl", "Ain't It Strange"

Overall Rating: A

Tracklisting

1. Old News
2. My Old Ways
3. Keep a Friend
4. The Girl
5. Alaska
6. Weekend
7. Ain't It Strange
8. Worst Trip
9. The Way the Lazy Do
10. Die, Die, Die
11. We All Belong
12. I Hope There's Love

Prior to any needed rescuing, I was able to ask the band's singer and guitarist Scott McMicken a few questions:

When was the last time you wrote a song?

McMicken: I'm working on a song at the moment called "Environmentally Friendly Saturn." My hope with this one is that it completely changes reality as we know it - just kidding. On the road it's hard to find a place to consider home, therefore it's hard to write. Before I split for tour I found a song in my living room hidden in a purple piano. As of late the songs seems sort of unrecognizable. I'm sure this has a lot to do with factors entirely unmusical.

Is there any place you feel more productive as a musician?

McMicken: I really like the night time and a piano seems to have an overwhelming effect on my time. When it comes down to it, any place that I can justify calling home becomes so comfortable that I can forget all the things I need to forget in order to be productive. Those places are, sadly, few and far between.

Both lyrically and musically, how do you think your music compares to your earlier work?

McMicken: From where I stand, the old days and the new are virtually identical. Lyrically I'm still trying to say the same thing I've always tried to say and musically I seem to want things to become more and more simple. The more obvious variations in our music have a lot to do with whatever contraption happens to present itself at any given moment.

What album or song do you think you've made that turned out to be most personal?

McMicken: By virtue of the fact that I once wrote a song about and for a person that I immediately knew should not be heard by the very subject of the song makes me think that on that one I got dangerously

personal. That song is called "I Hope There's Love".

Describe a time you heard your music played in an unexpected place.

McMicken: Hearing yourself in foreign settings - meaning public domain - feels a lot like walking around with food on your teeth and not realizing it.

What artists and albums have you been listening to lately?

McMicken: The Teeth. That's about it. And Joanna Newsom. As with most things I like, I have absolutely no idea what it is that makes it appealing. In general, I have observed that the things I have found to be of quality display a certain amount of commitment, a built in permanence. Was it Madonna or Jim James who said "you must express yourself"? I can't remember. What seems to matter most is whether or not a person actually enjoys what it is they choose to make.



Photo courtesy of Ryan Collier, Park the Van Records
Dr. Dog members, Zach Miller, Toby Leaman, Scott McMicken, Joston Stens, and Frank McElroy. For more information visit www.myspace.com/drdog.

The social ramifications of '300:'



Matt CLICK

Snyder's Spartan-epic a simple action flick? Or something more?

Several weeks ago, shortly before the Easter holiday, I reviewed "300," Zack Snyder's innovative retelling of the ancient Battle of Thermopylae. I praised the film for its stylistic visuals, carefully choreographed action and larger-than-life characters. It was an immensely enjoyable film, one that I had been anticipating for quite some time. I walked out guilt-free and completely satisfied, thinking only of how awesome it all was.

But I opened *The Mast* last Friday morning to find a letter from professor Brenda Ihssen regarding my review. Ihssen made an exceedingly valid and enlightening point concerning the subversive effects of the film. "What the reviewer does not understand - or perhaps does not want to address - is that there are social ramifications for depicting 'spears skewering Persian after Persian, their swords removing legs, arms and heads by the dozens,'" Ihssen wrote, calling to my attention to the fact that, indeed, in this time of conflict and strife in the Middle East, there are definite and irrefutable consequences.

I pondered the letter over the course of the week, at first tending to my injured ego ("homoerotic tone" - come on, really?) and then seriously considering the reactions such a film might warrant. Can a movie depicting Greeks slaughtering Persians really be apolitical at a time when America is at war in the Middle East? Could Snyder really have crafted a completely neutral action film? For one, wild moment, I almost agreed with you, professor Ihssen.

But Snyder has persisted that he absolutely did not intend the film as a social statement. Come on, we're talking about the guy who somehow managed to remake George A. Romero's "Dawn of the Dead," - a film ripe with critical allusions to American commercialism - free of any and all social commentary. "300," from its days on Frank Miller's drawing pad to its final hours in the editing room, was always meant to be a simple tale of 300 men facing unfathomable odds. It's a pseudo-historical, somewhat mythological story of passion and perseverance, a legend many have come to know over the centuries as a hallmark

example of standing up for what you believe in.

You see, professor Ihssen, it's not that I didn't understand the social ramifications of such a film, and it's certainly not that I wished to overlook them - it's that "300" is a simple action movie, an adaptation of a hyper-stylized and gratuitously violent graphic novel. For me, "300" was merely a kickass action movie. That's what I went in expecting, and that's exactly what I received in return.

Would you find subversive social commentary in films like "Die Hard" and "Predator?" Like all art, what you take from the film is a direct result what you bring into it; our reactions depend heavily on our own personal preconceptions.

You may have found these social facets of the film severely prominent, and I can most assuredly respect that. I cannot deny the parallels between the film's theme and our own troubled times. In return, however, you must be content with the fact that I'm a simple guy who enjoys well-made action flicks. You might call this naivety, or blissful ignorance. Call it what you will, I am but a humble film commentator who knows naught but cinema.

And in the end, why can't a movie about a bunch of guys kicking the crap out of each other simply be a movie about a bunch of guys kicking the crap out of each other?

Before I close this week's column, I'd like to inform you that the Seattle Cinerama Theater will soon be hosting several screenings of David Lean's epic masterpiece, "Lawrence of Arabia." Shows are being held April 22, 24 and 29, and also May 1. If you're at all interested, head over to www.cinerama.com for details. You shouldn't miss out on seeing the 70mm print of one of cinema's finest films.

Read Matt Click online at rocketnumber09.blogspot.com!

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Mon-Wed: 4:15, 6:30, 9:00 Thurs: 6:40, 8:50

THE NAMESAKE (PG-13)
Fri: 2:15, 5:00, 7:30
Sat/Sun: 11:45, 2:15, 5:00, 7:30
Mon-Wed: 5:00, 7:30 Thurs: 2:00, 4:20

AVENUE MONTAIGNE (PG-13)
Fri: 2:30, 4:45, 7:00
Sat/Sun: 12:00, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00
Mon-Wed: 4:45, 7:00 Thurs: 2:30, 4:45, 7:10

THE HOST (R) Fri-Thurs: 9:00 pm only

The Child (L'Enfant) (NR) Part of the *Tournées Festival*
Thursday ONLY at 2:15, 4:30, 7:00, 9:00

Cabaret: Week two: costumes are assembled in PLU's very own "sweat shop"

KRISTINA CORBITT
Mast intern

Beneath the main stage in the bowels of Eastvold, five students, supervised by costumer Kathy Anderson, assemble costumes for PLU theater. The team is now in its second week of costume production for "Cabaret".

"We're like the trolls under the bridge, or (for us) the stage," Anderson said. Anderson designed the costumes for "Cabaret" as well as for most other mainstage productions this season.

The workspace is cleverly titled "The Sweatshop." Given the team's tireless dedication in a room next to the boiler (which keeps the temperature at a seemingly 75 degree minimum), this nickname is very appropriate. All six main seamstresses, who are compensated for their time, dedicate countless hours to the production of "Cabaret" which requires more than 50 costumes.

Senior Kimberly Henry enjoys the work, although sometimes it can be tedious.

"Right now we're spending a lot of time on costumes that won't be on stage for very long," Henry said. "I'm excited to move onto the next ones."

The process Henry is referring to includes hours of painting fabric. Kathy Anderson searched high and low for the correct pattern, but was unsuccessful. Instead, the seamstresses are turning to the next viable solution — paint.

"Cabaret" is set in Berlin in the 1930s. During this time in Berlin, cabarets were very decadent. At the same time in Paris, the cabarets were wild. Costume designer Kathy Anderson has taken such information as inspiration for "Cabaret" costumes.

Anderson started her research for "Cabaret" right around spring break, watching films, reading books and looking at pictures from previous productions.

"Whenever I design costumes, I think it's important to look at the art from that time," Anderson said. "The art gives me a feel for the time and also a color palette to work with in the costumes."

Interestingly enough, cabarets in Berlin often featured nude performers. For PLU, however, everyone will be clothed.

Previous productions of "Cabaret" include the original production starring Liza Minnelli and the 1998 revival. These productions demonstrate two interpretations of "Cabaret" in all respects, including costuming. Anderson is using both productions as influences in her costume design.

Everyone, including dancers, band ensemble, en-

semble and principal characters, has a main costume. For those in the Kit Kat Klub, the costumes will have a black motif but a variety of colors will stand out. To create a realistic effect, Anderson wants to "mish-mash" the costumes.

"I want it to look like the dancers pulled clothes out of their own closets," Anderson is using jewel tones, colors and black.

Some costumes are very specific, including two sailor outfits. As for the emcee, Anderson designed his costume — a tux vest with tails to be worn without a shirt.

Costumes are pulled from several locations. Some are found in PLU's costume storage, others in thrift stores. When neither venue works for a costume, a costume is made. To a seamstress this process is called building a costume.

There are two weeks left to find and build all the costumes before tech week. During tech week, all the production elements come together in several test runs of the show. The week ends with the opening performance.

Especially for "Cabaret," costuming is very important.

"Costumes give a feel for the character and the characters' relationships to each other," Anderson said. "And they give a feel to the atmosphere of the cabaret."

Given that "Cabaret" is the biggest production of the year, everything is taking a little longer to assemble.

"It's not very often that I get the opportunity to do a 'costume-y' show," Anderson said, "Most of the productions we do feature everyday people. But this is a costume designer's dream."

Kimberly Henry and her fellow seamstresses are essential to the production of "Cabaret."

"Most people don't think about the costumes unless they're really incredible or really awful," Henry said. But without them, the production would be missing a key element.

As we head into week three, other production elements are also coming together. Set design is assembling set pieces, the band is rehearsing and coordinating music, and blocking (staging) is almost complete. As the building blocks come together, everyone is looking forward to the heart of the production to come through.

Cabaret opens May 11 with a student preview May 10. For tickets, visit Campus Concierge.

Late hip hop artist's re-released album

A sound that influenced many is back on the shelves

CHASE CARNOT
Mast intern

Dewitt Yancey died Feb. 10, 2006 of cardiac arrest after suffering for years from lupus. The work he left behind as J Dilla (and before that as Jay Dee) embodies the potential of hip hop beat-making. You may not be familiar with his name but you are probably familiar with his work. Dilla co-founded Slum Village and produced songs for the likes of Q-Tip, Erykah Badu, Ghostface, Pharcyde, Proof of D-12 and Common.

This March, hip hop label Stones Throw remastered and re-released Dilla's out-of-print landmark Ruff Draft. The re-release features four bonus tracks and instrumentals. The album arguably garnered the most anticipation among fans promised a number of posthumous releases. In the "Intro," Dilla outlines his intent to craft a lo-fidelity sound as if it were "straight from the cassette."

On "Make'em NV," Dilla samples M.O.P.'s "Ante Up." Dilla's lyrics, however, contradict the now classic anti-bling anthem. Dilla defends his sense of style suggesting his chains act as "extra percussion" in the booth. The beat stays true to the "ruff" formula but compliments his lyrics with an appropriately "icy" xylophone.

Dilla's processed vocals intone a simple love song that pulses on "Nothing Like This." Over a wave of dueling musical textures he sings: "Incomplete when you're away/You turn my nights into day/You showed me the light, uh-huh."

"Crushin' (Yeaaaaah!)" contrasts to "Nothing Like This" in terms of lyrical tone but Dilla remembers to "clean it up" for most of the refrains. As such, Dilla tries to keep it basic as he delivers a layered club track that is anything but standard. The island rhythms make it impossible not to at least nod your head. The lyrics also reference the cult classic "Half Baked."

Dilla mostly ad libs and shouts out friends on "Let's Take it Back," but delivers a solid verse of hip hop swagger, rhyming "I'm letting ya know/I'm like the professional/Makin' my hits/Collectin' my dough." He also reminds us just how to "keep it ghet-to" over turntable scratches and space-age strings.

On the bonus track "Wild," Dilla cleverly samples a cover version of "Come on Feel the Noise" sung by an English child. Not only is the sample funny but Dilla draws out the quirks of the raspy, little voice creating strange sirens to polish the overall sound. Complicated sampling laws possibly kept this song off the original release.

While Dilla's lyrics focus on hip hop standards like women and wealth, his prowess as an emcee is unscathed. His occasional multisyllabic rhymes glide effortlessly over his entire soundscape. Contrast this with rappers who can barely stay on top of a well-timed snare drum. Dilla's main strength, however, is his ability to string seemingly disparate musical elements into a cohesive and layered whole over offbeat rhythms. The timbre of all these elements is maintained even among the scratches and static of Dilla's lo-fidelity concept.

It is no wonder Busta Rhymes, the Roots and others have composed tributes for their late friend. Dave Chappelle's Block Party is also dedicated to the man taken just days after his 32nd birthday.

Overall
Rating: **A-**

Calendar of Events

April 20

Game Night: History Club Game Night

Time: 6:30 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.

Location: Xavier 250

PLU Relay For Life

Time: 7 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.

Location: PLU Track

April 21

PLU Relay For Life

Time: 12 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Location: PLU Track

Kayaking at Kopachuck State Park

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Location: Kopachuck State Park

Cost: \$30. Email outdoor@plu.edu or stop by the table

outside the Columbia Center

Student Series: John Carlsen and Erin Parr Vocal Recital

Time: 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Location: Lagerquist Concert Hall

Shalom-Salaam Dance

Time: 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Location: East Campus Gym

Student Series: Alexandra Giesbers Vocal Recital

Time: 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Location: Lagerquist Concert Hall

April 22

Student Series: Michelle Mason and Amy VanMechelen Vocal Recital

Time: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Location: Lagerquist Concert Hall

April 24

Student Piano Ensembles

Time: 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Location: Lagerquist Concert Hall

Artist Series: Concert of New Music from the Sichuan China Conservatory and PLU

Time: 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Location: Lagerquist Concert Hall

Cost: Free to PLU students, \$8 general public

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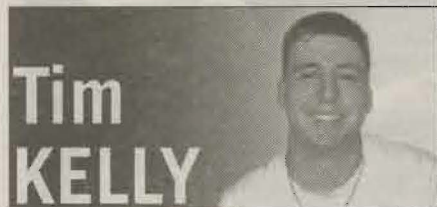
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Cold weather, hot tempers

MLB drops the ball by scheduling April games in cities with snowy forecasts



I have a lot of beef with the different sports organizations so I decided to use this week to get a few things off my chest. Without further ado:

Scheduling is something that would seem like a hard task to screw up. You just figure out when the venues do not have a conflict and schedule a game.

It is even easier in baseball and football where the venues are used for primarily for that event and boat shows, unlike basketball arenas that house concerts and the Ice Capades. Still, both the MLB and NFL have failed at this.

The MLB's problem is the fact that they schedule early April games at outdoor stadiums in the northern part of the country and on the east coast.

As we all have seen, the Mariners had five of seven games postponed on their opening road trip. This is ridiculous. Have teams with covered stadiums like Seattle and Minnesota, as well as teams in the south with nice weather host the games until at least late April.

The Cincinnati Reds had a home game last week that had a colder temperature than any home Bengals football game all sea-

son and the Bengals played four home games November and December.

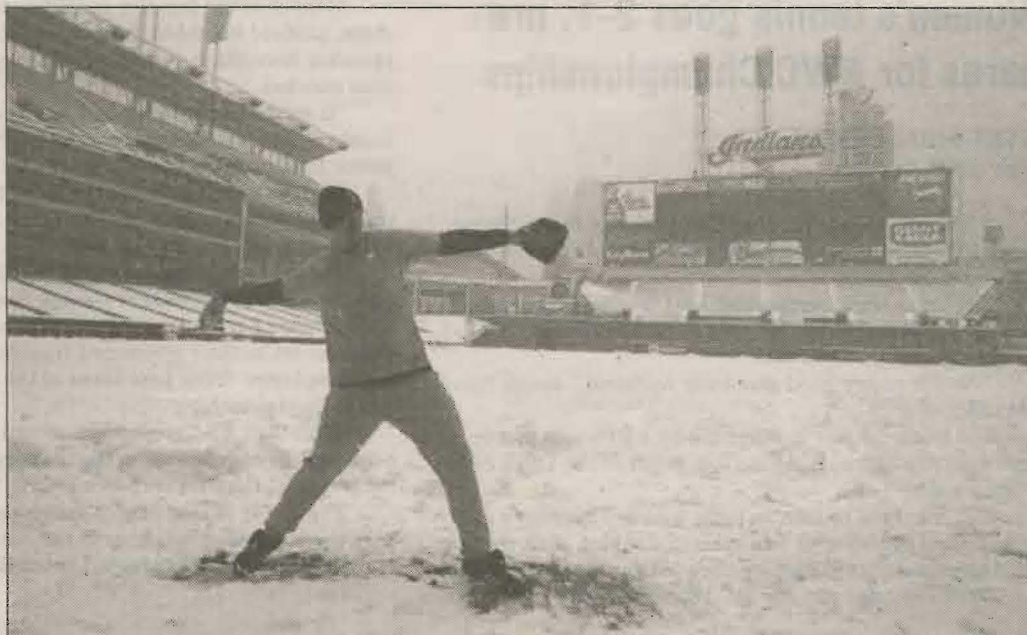
Speaking of NFL, unlike baseball, you can play in the rain and snow but they still find a way to screw up the schedule.

Last season the Seahawks were the defending NFC Champions and you would think the NFL would want to showcase their best to start off the season.

The NFL, however, did not have the defending conference champs on national television that first week. The league has repeated the stunt again by not having the NFC Champion Chicago Bears open the season in the national spotlight.

What bothers me the most is that the Seahawks – the same team who won nine games in the regular season, one playoff game, and took the Bears down to the wire – are found on national television three times this season with only two of them being guaranteed.

The Dallas Cowboys, the same team that has not won a playoff game in over 10 years, can be found seven times this upcoming season on national television. They are called "America's Team" but are they really loved all across the country as much as the networks think? Super Bowl XL, featuring the Seahawks and the Steelers, was the second-most watched program in history just behind the series final of "M*A*S*H." Was it the fact that it was the Super Bowl or did the teams play a little part in that? I would say a little bit of both and I just wish



Mariners closer JJ Putz waiting out a snow delay in Cleveland. All four games in the series were canceled due to the snow. AP Photo by Tony Dejak

that more respect was given to us here in the Northwest.

Speaking of respect, the NBA is losing a lot of it. There are many critics who claim the league is filled with uninspired play and teams out of the playoff hunt are shutting down players with injuries like knee pain (Michael Redd).

The Celtics could not think of something good for Paul Pierce when they said he had injuries so they went with "no comment." Even Ray Allen was shut down for the season by our hometown heroes.

At this point in the season every player has hit some sort of wall.

I understand not wanting to risk harm

to the players but this is still entertainment. People are still spending their hard-earned dollars to see Ray Allen light up the scoreboard but instead get the pleasure of now seeing Randy Livingston continue to bounce around the league.

To add more credibility to a league that seems to be lacking, players need to continue to play even if the season's prospects look bleak.

I aired my grievances with the college game last week so I do not have anything left for them at the present time. On the plus side, as I'm writing this, the Mariners are in first place. I guess all those delays and rainouts did help after all.

Lutes win nail biter

Men's tennis looks towards conference

COLLIN GUILDNER
Mast sports editor

All that is left on the schedule for the PLU Men's tennis squad are the big meets that will make or break the season.

The Lutes were able to finish off their regular season with victories in matches against Linfield and George Fox in Oregon last weekend. The only matches that remain now are Conference this weekend along with an invitational tournament in California. The possibility of the Division III National Championships also lies ahead.

One of the matches this weekend did not go as smoothly as the team may have hoped.

The Wildcats of Linfield pushed the Lutes in their final match of the year. "There was a point during the day that all of the matches were really close, but we were able to step it up in the end and get the win," first-year Kevin Floyd said. "It was a good way to finish out our regular season."

This match also marked the end of the road for some of the PLU players who will not compete in the tournaments that remain.

One of these players was sophomore James Odan



Kevin Floyd

who finished very proud of his season.

"I was really glad that I came out," Odan said. "Being on the team helped me grow spiritually, mentally, physically and religiously."

Looking towards the conference championships the Lutes plan to defend their title of a year ago without some of the main players that made up the team that won the NWC Championship.

"It was a good way to finish out our regular season."
Kevin Floyd
first-year

The Lutes lost three seniors that saw significant playing time that season

PLU will receive a bye in the first round of the tournament but will likely end up facing Whitman in the final for the chance to go to the national championship tournament.

Whitman has been the main rival for the Lutes for the last few years and has had the upper hand this year, taking both of matches between the two teams.

The Lutes are optimistic about their outside shot at beating Whitman and being conference champions once again.

"It will just depend on whether or not everyone shows up to play, and it will take everyone," first-year Justin Peterson said. "I would love to go to nationals in my first year though."

The conference meet will take place in Yakima Wash. this weekend with the winning team going to the national championships.

Softball hits wall

TYLER SCOTT
Mast sports reporter

Continuing offensive struggles cost the Lutes in three of their four games against Pacific and Willamette last weekend. After dropping both games of the doubleheader at Pacific 4-1 and 2-0 Saturday, the Lutes split the Sunday doubleheader at Willamette, with a 2-0 loss in the first game and a 3-0 win in the second.

Home runs and strikeouts crippled the Lutes in the first game against Pacific, with the Boxers hitting two key long balls in the fifth inning and the Lutes striking out 12 times.

First-year pitchers Hadley Schmitt and Cassie Canales both pitched outstanding games, but six hits and one run over two games for the Lutes prevented them from taking a win.

"We are striking out too many times, and also not executing when the time comes," Coach Rick Noren said. "If we can limit our strikeouts and begin to execute a little better we will have a better chance of winning some games."

Sunday featured two more pitching gems from Schmitt and Canales. In her six-inning complete game, Schmitt only gave up three hits and one walk to accompany 10 strikeouts.

Unfortunately, the Lutes also struck out 10 times and were un-

able to combine any of their five hits to score a run as they lost 2-0.

In the second game, the team took advantage of seven hits, three walks and a couple of costly Willamette errors to win 3-0.

Canales pitched a complete game shutout, giving up only four hits with four strikeouts.

Senior infielder Beth Kenck led the Lutes in the second game with three hits and two runs batted in to help end the team's seven-game losing streak.

"We experienced the three hard losses earlier in the weekend, and finally decided to buckle down and have better communication, more focus at the plate, and intensity and drive all around," Kenck said.

Sunday featured back-to-back errorless games for the Lutes, after a string of six straight games where errors cost the team dearly. PLU looks to continue its solid pitching and defense and improve its hitting this weekend as the Lutes take their last trip of the season to Oregon to face George Fox and Lewis & Clark – two teams that have struggled all season.

"It all comes down to our attitudes and our mental toughness," Kenck said. "We have always had the skills and the tools to play great softball; it's the mental game we haven't mastered."

AMA Golf Tournament

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Why: Support PLU chapter of American Marketing Association

How: Show up with a team of four friends and tee off!

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Today vs. Pacific, 2 p.m. at PLU.

Did you know?

First-year Cassie Canales leads the Lutes with at 2.30 ERA.

Lutes clear-cut Loggers

Women's tennis goes 2-1, prepares for NWC Championships

STEPHEN ODELL
Mast sports reporter

A 5-4 upset win over rival University of Puget Sound at the UPS tennis pavilion highlights the end of the regular season for the Lutes.

The Lutes were overpowered 8-1 by the reigning NWC Linfield Wildcats Friday but recovered Saturday with a 9-0 victory against George Fox.

"We felt pretty good about the weekend," senior Nicole Petrzelka said.

The weekend was highlighted by a UPS win that repays the cross-town rival for a 6-3 defeat of the Lutes earlier in the season.

PLU managed to take an early lead in Thursday's match against the Loggers with two wins in doubles, then split the six singles matches to capture the victory.

"UPS is a huge win for us," Petrzelka said.

Winner of the last five conference championships, Linfield humbled the Lutes Friday at the Sprinker Recreation Center winning eight of the nine matches.

"It seems like a pretty bad loss because of the numbers, but we put up a pretty tough guard," junior Liz Currey said.

Currey captured the lone win for PLU in her three set triumph over Linfield's Sallie Katter (2-6, 6-4, 10-7).

The following day the Lutes released their aggression against the weaker George Fox Bruins at the Sprinker Recreation Center. PLU surrendered only one set to their opponents from Newberg.

The Lutes' focus now turns to the upcoming NWC Championships.

With their 11-5 conference record, PLU acquired the fourth seed in the tourney, pitting them against the fifth seed Whitworth Pirates.

The victor of that Friday match-up is set to play the No. 1 seed Wildcats in the second round.

"They're not unbeatable," Petrzelka said.



Photo by Chris Hunt
First-year Ashley Coats hits a forehand against UPS Thursday. The Lutes won 5-4.

Unstoppable Lutes demolish Whitman

Men's baseball breaks records, eyes conference title

SEAN MCILRAITH
Mast sports reporter

It was a different opponent this weekend for the PLU baseball team but the verdict was familiar as the Lutes swept the Whitman Missionaries in three games on the PLU diamond. With the three wins, the Lutes are now 27-6 (16-2 Northwest Conference) and sit three games ahead of George Fox in the NWC standings.

The fourteenth ranked Lutes also set several records over the weekend including the all-time win record for a PLU baseball team, which was 26 set back in 1994.

The question now is how many wins the Lutes will eclipse the old wins record by, especially since the team still has six regular season games to play.

PLU defeated the Missionaries in a double-header last Saturday by scores of 4-2 and 11-4 and concluded the series and set the wins record on Sunday with a thrilling 4-3 extra inning victory.

"Good teams find a way to win when things aren't going well and that was the difference this weekend," head-coach Geoff Loomis said. "Maybe didn't deserve to win, but we found a way to win."

The defending Northwest Conference pitcher of the week, senior Joe DiPietro, was on the mound for PLU in game one.

DiPietro went nine innings for the Lutes, allowing two early runs, just two hits and one walk, striking out nine Whitman batters and improving his record to 9-1.

With the win DiPietro ties Brian Farman (1999) for most wins in season. Both teams went scoreless for the first three innings until Whitman put two on the board in the fourth. DiPietro struggled a bit, but gave up his only two runs and two hits in the third inning.

"To be honest, I felt out of rhythm all game," DiPietro said. "It was a struggle battling myself the whole game. I was disappointed with how I played but we did get the win."

The Lutes responded in the bottom half of the fourth when sophomore first baseman Jordan Post scored on a Missionary error. PLU also scored two in the fifth on left fielder Tyler Green's sacrifice fly and another Whitman error.

DiPietro settled down and the Lutes added an insurance run in the seventh when senior second baseman Roger Guzman scored on another Green sac fly.

Senior center fielder Ryan Thorne also stole third base in the seventh giving him 30 for the season and a spot in the records book for most stolen bases in a season, passing David Sandberg who had 29 in 1994.

Guzman had two hits and scored two runs in the Lute win.

PLU broke it wide open in game two of the doubleheader when they scored five runs in the second inning and six in the fifth. The Lutes scored on an RBI single from right fielder Justin Whitehall and a grand slam homerun over the left-field fence from senior third baseman Jared Simon, giving him four dingers for the season.

"He got a strike on me first, then threw three balls so I was looking for a fastball on the next pitch," Simon said. "I knew it had a good chance once I hit it."

Whitehall also entered the record books as the all-time career leader in RBI's, passing Jason Chennault who had 104 RBI's between 1997 and 2000.

A wild pitch scored Thorne, Whitehall's double to left-center scored Green and Post and senior shortstop Logan Andrew's RBI single put PLU up 9-0. PLU scored twice more in the inning on sophomore catcher

Brandon Sales' RBI single and Thorne's fielder's choice.

The Missionaries would plate four runs in the top of the seventh but that is all they would get as sophomore relief pitcher Hunter Simpson came in and kept Whitman at bay. Senior Kael Fisher earned his third victory of the season. Whitehall went 3-5 with three RBI's, Simon had four RBI's on one hit and Andrews, Sales and sophomore

designated hitter Kris Hansen each had a pair of hits.

"There are a lot of seniors here who have played all four years and I think that is really a tribute to Justin and all these senior guys when they start breaking career records because it means that when they came here they started contributing right away," Loomis said. "It's really a credit to Justin in what type of a player he is and I was really happy to see him get that record."

The series finale against Whitman proved to be a test of resilience for the PLU baseball club. The contest went into the tenth inning before the Lutes pulled out a 4-3 win. PLU took an early 3-0 in the first inning. Back-to-back doubles from Guzman and Thorne brought Guzman in to score.

Two batters later Green hit a two-run homerun over the right field fence for a 3-0 Lute lead. Whitman made a late rally, scoring two in the seventh and one more in the eighth to tie the game. With the bases loaded in the bottom of the tenth, sophomore Chris Bowen was hit by a pitch, bringing in Thorne to score the winning run.

"We hadn't had to deal with adversity in awhile so it was a good challenge for us," Simon said.

Tomorrow the Lutes travel to Spokane for a three-game series against the 12-19 (8-10 NWC) Whitworth Pirates.

"Whitworth is very talented and it's a tough place to play," Loomis said. "They probably have the second best pitching staff in the league, so the games are probably going to be close and quick."

"Good teams find a way to win when things aren't going well... maybe didn't deserve to win, but we found a way to win."
Geoff Loomis, head coach

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Wochnick Watch:

Senior Megan Wochnick
-Second all-time at PLU in the hammer
-Third all-time in NWC history in the hammer
-All-American 2004-2005
-Three-time NCAA championship qualifier

Past meets:
3/17 PLU Invitational - 153-2 (1st)
3/23 UPS Open - 161-5 (1st)
Conference record
4/7 Shotwell Invitational - 158-0 (1st)
4/14 Spike Arlt Invitational - 158-0 (1st)

Upcoming meets:
4/20-21 Northwest Conference Championships
5/12 Ken Foreman Invitational
5/18 or 19 Last Chance Meet
5/24-26 NCAA Division III Championships

	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
THIS WEEK IN SPORTS	• Softball vs Pacific, 2 p.m. • Mariners baseball: Seattle vs. Anaheim, 7:05 p.m. on FSN.	• Track & Field at NWC Championships, Tacoma (UPS), 2 p.m. • Crew at Cascade Sprints/NCRC Championships, Lake Stevens, TBA	• Baseball at Whitworth, Noon • Softball at Lewis & Clark (2), Noon • Men's Golf at NWC Championships.	• Men's Golf at NWC Championships, Blue River, Ore. (Tokatee GC), TBA.	• Down in the heart of Texas: Seattle Mariners vs. Texas Rangers, 11:35 a.m.	AL Central battle: Chicago White Sox vs. Detroit Tigers, 5:11 p.m. on ESPN.	• Baseball: Seattle Mariners vs. Oakland Athletics, 12:35 p.m. on FSN.

Here's to you, Mr. Robinson

Robinson changed baseball and more importantly, society



Nate HULINGS

Watching the Dodgers last Sunday, one would think the team had successfully cloned one player, all of whom were wearing the No. 42.

Cloning wasn't the reason these Dodgers and over 200 other players around the league wore the same number, however.

The reason was much more logical and a reflection of our past.

Last Sunday the MLB celebrated the 60th anniversary of Jackie Robinson breaking the color barrier in baseball and beginning a trend of racial integration in a society that at the time still forced blacks to go to different schools and drink at segregated water fountains.

Being the first person to do something is hard enough, let alone when you are not seen as an equal. But Robinson proved with his calm demeanor and amazing athleticism that times were changing and that baseball and America would never be the same.

Heroes are generally people who are seen by others as going beyond the social norms and doing more than one must.

Without gripes or complaints, a hero does his or her job despite the discomfort they are facing. Heroes are selfless.

But imagine a hero who was initially

hated. A hero who went out and did his job despite being called derogatory names, spit on and physically abused.

Some people would argue that a sports figure shouldn't be someone deemed a hero.

All they do is play a sport, they aren't saving the world or anything, right? But if a man isn't a hero for standing up and performing despite the struggle of being a minority in a country that was anything but color blind, then who is?

Living in a generation that doesn't see legal racism, it's hard to grasp what Jackie Robinson accomplished.

He may not have changed the world with a speech at the Washington Monument but what he did was just as powerful in the fight for equality in all spectrums of society.

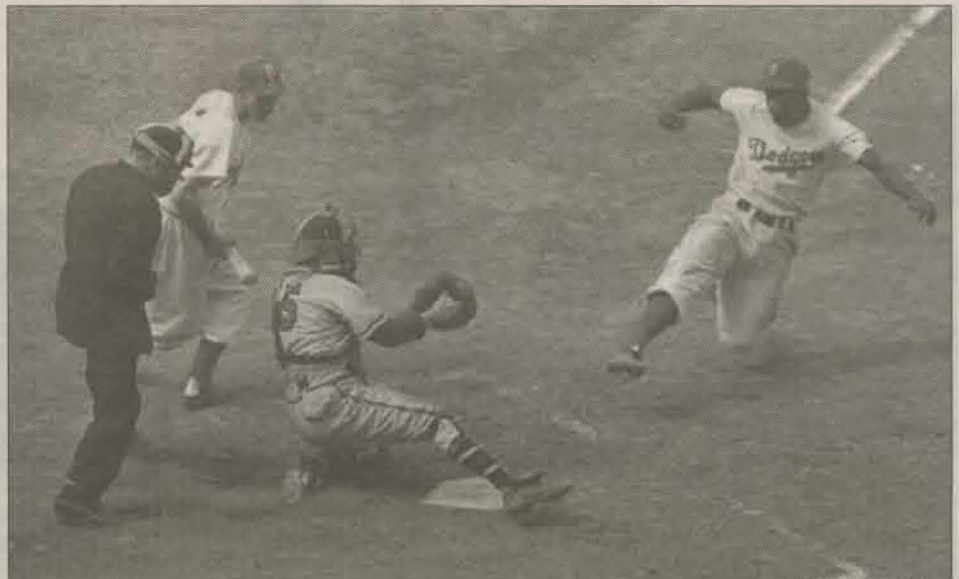
As many young men did during times of war, Robinson served our country in the Army from 1942-1944 as a second lieutenant. Much like his time in baseball, Robinson served at a time when the armed forces were segregated.

A man who serves a country is already a hero, but a man who serves a country that doesn't even accept him as an equal is in an echelon all his own.

Robinson's groundbreaking achievement not only changed the world of sports for African Americans, but for every race that deserved a shot at the major league level. Besides Latin players who have been in the major leagues since the early 20th century, the increase in diversity of players in baseball has really only occurred in the past 40 years.

The first Japanese-born player Masanori Murakami broke into the big leagues in 1964, a mere 20 years after Japanese-Americans were forced into internment camps during World War II.

Players from countries all around the world continue to break into the big leagues at a break-neck pace.



Jackie Robinson safely slides into home plate against the Boston Braves in 1948. Robinson played 10 seasons. AP Photo by Jack Harris

In my opinion, Robinson's career would have been complete if he would have suited up and been an average player, but No. 42 did much more than that for baseball. For 10 seasons Robinson was as consistent as any manager would hope for coming from an everyday player.

Winning Rookie of the Year and earning six consecutive All-Star appearances, Robinson took adversity and turned it into opportunity and prosperity. His greatest season came in 1949 when he won the MVP after hitting an amazing .342 with 128 RBI's.

After his career ended in Brooklyn, Robinson continued to work for change in America by serving on the board of the NAACP. He was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1962 as the first of soon to be many African American players. After his death, he was also awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1984 by Ronald Reagan, the

second highest civilian award.

However one chooses to celebrate and remember the life of Jackie Robinson, the impact he had not only on the game of baseball but to our society can't be disputed.

Without the emergence of a figure like Jackie Robinson, perhaps Hank Aaron never would have entered the game and Babe Ruth would still be the homerun champion.

The people who saw Robinson play baseball and were inspired to believe in their dreams and aspirations have a totally different view of him as someone currently in their 20s looking back. We can all take something out of what Robinson did for our country, but all he wanted to be was respected as a human being.

Here's to you, Mr. Robinson. America wouldn't be the same without you. Players may have worn your number last week but there will never be another No. 42.

Scorecard

Tennis

Standings - Men

Team	NWC	%	All	%
Whitman	16-0	1.000	22-6	.786
PLU	14-2	.875	14-9	.609
Linfield	12-4	.750	14-11	.560
UPS	9-7	.563	9-8	.529
Willamette	8-8	.500	9-10	.474
Whitworth	6-10	.375	6-15	.286
George Fox	4-12	.250	4-12	.250
L&C	3-13	.188	3-13	.188
Pacific	0-16	.000	0-16	.000

Standings - Women

Team	NWC	%	All	%
Linfield	16-0	1.000	16-5	.762
UPS	12-4	.750	13-4	.765
Whitman	12-4	.750	16-6	.727
PLU	11-5	.688	13-5	.722
Whitworth	8-8	.500	9-11	.450
Willamette	6-10	.375	7-13	.350
L&C	5-11	.313	7-13	.350
George Fox	1-15	.063	1-16	.059
Pacific	1-15	.063	1-17	.056

Last Two Matches - Men

4/14 vs Linfield - Won 7-2
4/14 vs George Fox - Won 8-1

Next Two Matches - Men

4/20-21 NWC Championships in Yakima - 12:30 p.m.
4/26-29 Ojai Tournament in Calif.-TBA

Last Two Matches - Women

4/13 vs Linfield - Lost 8-1
4/14 vs George Fox - Won 9-0

Next Match - Women

4/20-21 NWC Championship-8:00 a.m.

Baseball

Standings

Team	NWC	%	All	%
PLU	16-2-0	.889	27-6-0	.818
George Fox	16-5-0	.762	25-5-0	.833
UPS	13-8-0	.619	14-17-1	.453
Linfield	11-7-0	.611	16-14-0	.533
Whitworth	8-10-0	.444	12-19-0	.387
L&C	8-12-0	.400	12-17-0	.414
Willamette	7-13-0	.350	15-18-0	.455
Pacific	4-14-0	.222	11-22-0	.333
Whitman	3-15-0	.167	5-24-0	.172

(Stats as of 4/16)

Batting AVG:

1. Brandon Sales - .387
2. Jordan Post - .336
3. Four tied with - .333

Hits:

1. Ryan Thorne - 39
2. Jordan Post - 37
3. Jared Simon - 36
4. Roger Guzman - 35

RBIs:

1. Justin Whitehall - 35
2. Jared Simon - 33
3. Tyler Green - 27

Last Three Games:

4/14 vs Whitman - Won 4-2
4/14 vs Whitman - Won 11-4
4/15 vs Whitman - Won 4-3

Next Two Games:

4/21 at Whitworth - 12 p.m.
4/22 at Whitworth - 12 p.m.

Softball

Standings

Team	NWC	%	All	%
Whitworth	20-0-0	1.000	25-3-0	.893
Linfield	19-1-0	.950	28-4-0	.875
Pacific	12-4-0	.750	20-6-0	.769
Willamette	10-9-0	.526	16-12-0	.571
PLU	6-12-0	.333	12-13-0	.480
UPS	6-14-0	.300	17-15-0	.531
George Fox	4-19-0	.174	6-25-0	.194
L&C	2-20-0	.091	4-28-0	.125

(Stats as of 4/16)

Batting AVG:

1. Vanessa Bryant - .400
2. Cassie Hopkins - .400
3. Theresa Tauscher - .390

Hits:

1. Theresa Tauscher - 23
2. Beth Kenck - 22
3. Carly Starke - 19
4. Heather Walling - 18

RBIs:

1. Theresa Tauscher - 19
2. Beth Kenck - 15
3. Alana Schutt - 14

Last Two Games:

4/15 at Willamette - Lost 2-0
4/15 at Willamette - Lost 3-0

Next Two Games:

4/21 at George Fox - 2 p.m.
4/22 at Lewis & Clark - 12 p.m.

Golf

Last Two Events - Men

3/19 at Willamette Invitational - 3rd
4/1-2 vs NWC Spring Classic - 5th

Next Event - Men

4/22-23 at Northwest Conference Tournament in Blue River, Ore. - TBA

Last Two Events - Women

3/8-9 at UPS Invitational - 4th
3/17-18 at Willamette Invitational - 6th
4/15-16 at Northwest Conference Tournament - 6th

Track & Field

4/14 Spike Arlt Invitational-

Women: Placed sixth with 51.5 points

Men: Placed tenth with 16 points

100-m hurdles: Faven Araya - 16.34 (4th)

400-m hurdles: Faven Araya - 1:06.46 (2nd)

100-m: James Burnett - 11.11 (5th)

400-m men's relay - 44.32 (5th)

Hammer: Megan Wochnick - 158-0 (1st)

Hammer: Taylor Hacker - 152-10 (2nd)

Upcoming meets:

4/20-21 at Northwest Conference

Championships - 2 p.m./10:30 a.m.

5/12 Ken Foreman Invitational - 9 a.m.

5/18 or 19 Last Chance Meet - 11 a.m.

5/24-26 NCAA Division III Championships in Oshkosh, Wis. - 10 a.m.

Lutes swing into record books

KARIN HULTKVIST
Mast sports intern

The PLU baseball team played three games against the Whitman Missionaries and went 3-0 last weekend. The Lutes won the doubleheader Saturday with a combined score of 24-5.

PLU was also victorious Sunday after an extra inning outing with a final score of 4-3. The victory was historical as the Lutes broke the record for the amount of wins in a season. The previous record was 26 wins, set in 1994.

The Lutes already have 27 wins with more games to go. Saturday, the smell of coffee, hot dogs

and hamburgers, spread among the audience as they tried to stay warm wrapped in blankets. Sunday the atmosphere was merrier. The sun stood high in the sky, and for those who stayed for the whole game, they could now say they witnessed history.



Sophomore outfielder Matt Wolford walks in from right field and checks out his glove.

For a complete recap of the team's historic weekend, check out page 14.



Sophomore first baseman Jordan Post and fellow Lutes congregate during the game.



The Lutes won both games Saturday, outscoring the Whitman Missionaries 24-5. The weekend victories give the Lutes 27 wins on the year.



Sophomore catcher Brandon Sales working on his swing in the on deck circle.



A bucket of balls and a bucket of wins.



Senior second basemen Roger Guzman looks on as the Lutes play Whitman. Guzman is hitting .269 on the season.

Photos by Karin Hultkvist



The players were blessed Sunday with good weather and the fans got to see some marvelous baseball.



The PLU baseball team shows tribute to the American flag before their game last weekend.

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