

# THE MAST



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MARCH 31, 2006

PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

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## Students experience 'alternative' spring break, help those outside PLU

### Participants plan to spread word of destruction

ASHLEE PARNELL  
Mast news intern

While some students lost brain cells and self-respect on a beach in Mexico this spring break, 16 PLU students and four staff members traveled to New Orleans, La. to help Hurricane Katrina victims.

An alternative to the typical spring break isn't something a college student would normally consider, sophomore Micah Pearson said. But he said he knew he wanted to go on one.

Pearson said he was tired of seeing everyone go home for break, and he wanted the student body to band together and make a difference. He heard of other schools doing alternative spring breaks and wanted the PLU campus to participate in one as well.

"We have an opportunity in college to do things like this, and why not take the opportunity?" Pearson said.

Pearson was able to implement his spring break idea by collaborating with Student Involvement and Leadership programs specialist Joel Zylstra.

Through an application process, 16 students out of 78 applicants were chosen to go.

Staff members said they wished more students could have went, but being the first trip of its kind and for funding reasons, they had to keep participants to a minimum.

Zylstra said he looked for students who had an interest in spreading what they would learn in New Orleans with students back at PLU. He wanted this to be more than a vacation.

Funding for the trip came



Photo by Andrea Wold

Senior Amber Plambeck shovels house debris into a garbage bin last week while volunteering in New Orleans during spring break. The situation there still isn't better, students said.

from the PLU University Congregation and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Participants and businesses such as McClendon's Hardware donated tarps, gloves and other materials.

Many things motivated students to go to New Orleans to work over spring break.

"PLU puts such an emphasis

**Please see Spring Break**  
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### Ignite aids low-income residents

AMBER SCHLENKER  
Mast news reporter

Fifteen members of Ignite, a campus ministry club, spent spring break reaching out to low-income individuals at the Los Angeles Dream Center, an organization that seeks to restore broken parts of the

city.

The students helped out in a number of ways including talking with people in low-income neighborhoods playing with inner-city children and doing needed service projects around the facility.

"We wanted the people... to know that they have worth and we see them as God does," group leader junior Emily Stratton said.

Stratton and her co-volunteers worked to form a sense of unity in the group, she said. She hopes to bring the same compassion for oth-

er people back to PLU.

Group co-leader James Schafer, 26, said he also hopes the group can apply what was learned in Los Angeles to similar situations in Tacoma.

"The best part of the trip was getting to serve with a heart of compassion," Schafer said.

The 15 members of the group will share their LA Dream Center stories Monday at 9 p.m. in The Cave.

*Please see a picture of the spring break Ignite trip on Page 5.*

## Love it or hate it: Core II changes

### International program might be only core

INGRID STEGEMOELLER  
Mast news reporter

A unique PLU academic structure might be in jeopardy in upcoming years as the university's core curriculum undergoes restructuring.

The International Core, or Core II, is a group of classes that encourages students to study local and international issues from multiple disciplines and perspectives. Many on campus know little about the international core, and it is a one-of-a-kind curricula across the country.

Different from Core I, in which students take a variety of courses across a number of

subjects, Core II promotes deep understanding of a complex world through building knowledge as students progress.

"Core II enables students to become richly informed global citizens," International Core chair and French professor Roberta Brown said.

The integrated nature of the core's classes, along with the global focus, attracts 120 to 150 first-year students to the core each year. It has about a 90 percent retention rate, Brown said.

"I really liked the integrated concept; we wouldn't just be studying one discipline," junior Core II student Whittaker Harpel said. "It's an interesting way to look at the world and its issues."

The international focus of the core is

**Please see Core II**  
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## Several clubs address majority

### Diversity coalition revamps programming

STEPHANIE MATHIEU  
Mast news editor

Diversity advocates from a number of campus organizations are uniting to organize a bigger and better Diversity Week.

The Diversity Coalition is comprised of representatives from diversity-related clubs. It organized the week of activities April 2 through April 8 to celebrate differences and confront students with diversity issues, said Lisa Doyle, programs coordinator for the Diversity Center.

"All clubs that do anything related to diversity get together once a month," Doyle said.

This year's Diversity Week includes more programs and speakers than previous years, said Alex Montances, the director of diversity for ASPLU.

One of the events, titled "Carmen Lute Diego," takes place April 3 at 3:40 p.m. in University Center room 206/210. Students will play a geography game similar to "Where in the World is Carmen San Diego?" Prizes for the winners include two free tickets to Saturday's Hawaii Club Lu'au, and a \$20 gift card to the PLU bookstore.

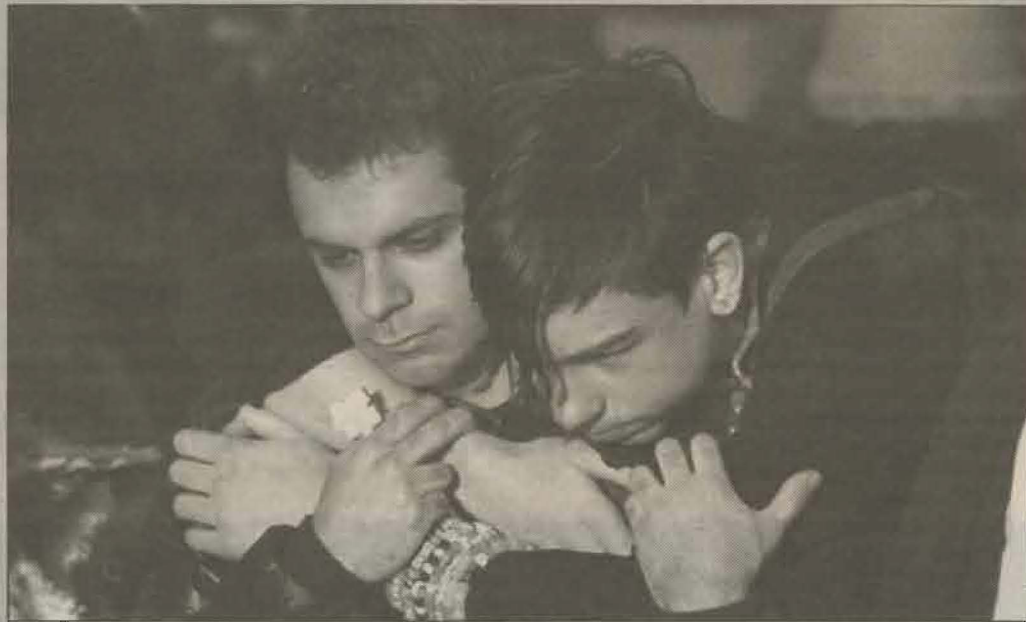
Montances said this particular event allows students to "play the game we loved when we were kids."

Singers from Choir of the West will play the part of Rockapella, the group that sings the theme song for the original televi-

**Please see Diversity Week**  
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STATE, NATION, WORLD BRIEFINGS

# Local to Global news



AP photo/Elaine Thompson

Capitol Hill shootings one of the largest crime scenes city has seen: Six young people were shot to death early Saturday at a Seattle home during a rave afterparty. The alleged gunman committed suicide when confronted by police, authorities said. Three other victims were taken to a hospital after the shootings in the Capitol Hill neighborhood east of downtown, said police spokesman Rich Pruitt. Two of the three were in critical condition, he said. "It's one of the largest crime scenes the city has ever had," said Police Chief Gil Kerlikowske. He said the victims' bodies were found in several places in the house. The victims were all in their early 20s, authorities said. Police believe the shooting happened at the party and that at least a dozen other people were in the house at the time. Kerlikowske said an officer in the neighborhood heard shots fired just after 7 a.m. When officer Steve Leonard reached the scene, he found one person staggering out of the house with a gunshot wound. The officer confronted another man who emerged with a shotgun, telling him several times to put the weapon down, Kerlikowske said. The man turned the gun on himself and fired a fatal shot. Officers then found the other victims inside the home.

**Bolten to replace Card as chief of staff:** Struggling to revive his troubled presidency, President Bush replaced long-time chief of staff Andy Card with budget director Joshua Bolten Tuesday and gave Bolten authority to make further changes in a White House staff that even Republicans have complained is tired, insular and lacking fresh ideas. Appearing with Bush in the Oval Office, Bolten gave no hint about what, if any, shake-up he might order. But White House officials said no one should doubt his ability to replace Bush aides. "He'll have all the authority he needs...to make the decisions that he feels best, working with the president," White House spokesman Scott McClellan said.

**Moussaoui wanted to testify against himself:** Al-Qaida conspirator Zacarias Moussaoui offered last month to testify for prosecutors against himself at his death penalty trial in Alexandria, Va., and told agents that he did not want to die in prison, according to a last-minute testimony Tuesday. The bizarre testimony capped a trial that has seen more than its share of the unusual over three tumultuous weeks. Introduced as part of a brief government rebuttal case, this testimony may be the firmest evidence that the 37-year-old Frenchman of Moroccan descent hopes for martyrdom through execution and could provide fodder for the closing arguments of both prosecutors and Moussaoui's court-appointed defense attorneys.

**Democrats pledge to 'eliminate' Osama:** Congressional Democrats promise to "eliminate" Osama bin Laden and ensure a "responsible redeployment of U.S. forces" from Iraq in 2006 in an election-year national security policy statement. In the position paper to be announced Wednesday, Democrats say they will double the number of special forces and add more spies, which they suggest will

increase the chances of finding al-Qaida's elusive leader. They do not set a deadline for when all of the 132,000 American troops now in Iraq should be withdrawn.

**More than a million French protest law:** More than 1 million people poured into the streets across France disrupting air, rail and bus travel Tuesday and shutting down the Eiffel Tower in the largest nationwide protest over a youth labor law. Scattered violence erupted in Paris, and riot police used water cannons and tear gas to disperse several thousand youths who pelted them with stones and bottles after an otherwise peaceful march. More than 240 people were arrested.

**U.N. demands Iran suspend nuke enrichment:** The U.N. Security Council demanded Wednesday that Iran suspend uranium enrichment, the first time the powerful body has directly urged Tehran to clear up suspicions that it is seeking nuclear weapons. Iran remained defiant, maintaining its right to nuclear power but insisting that it was committed to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and had no intention of seeking weapons of mass destruction.

*Briefs gleaned from the Associated Press wire service.*

## Business update

Amid increasing concern over the state of the U.S. economy, investors are hearing positive news. A Feb. 10 report by the U.S. Department of Labor heralded that businesses in the United States produced new employment positions at a rapid rate during the month of February. As payrolls increase, it is probable that consumer spending will increase as well.

According to the Labor Department's report, payrolls rose by 243,000 employees during February. The recent increase is likely spurred by the 170,000 jobs created in January. Over the last 12 months, there have been a total of 21.2 million employment positions created in the United States. However, the unemployment rate

has increased to 4.8 percent, up from its mark of 4.7 percent during January.

Some economists see this as an indication that the economy is beginning to heat up. Economist Stephen Gallagher said he believed U.S. businesses have finally "shaken off the fears" of the war in Iraq, the hurricane season and rising energy prices. Further, he predicts employment will increase by an average of 200,000 jobs per month this year as a result of increased profit.

The Labor Department also announced that average hourly wages increased to more than \$16 in February.

This combination of positive statistics is likely to allow many households to remain active spenders, economists said. As a whole, consumer spending is vital to the success of a healthy economy. Consumer spending represents roughly 70 percent of all economic activity. Consequently, it is likely that the Federal Reserve will increase short-term interest rates by a quarter of a percentage point the next time it meets. According to the *Wall Street Journal*, such a move would shift its short-term rate target to 5 percent.

The report showed significant improvement in other U.S. industries as well. The government increased employment by approximately 36,000 people. Forty-seven thousand employment positions were added in educational and health services. The professional and business services sector also increased its work force by about 39,000 employees. The construction industry labor force increased by about 41,000 workers.

Gallagher and other experts are not alone in their assertion that the statistics within the Labor Department's report indicate a positive future for the U.S. economy. Members of the Federal Reserve board also seem to concur that the U.S. economy is likely to improve in the near future.

*Business update compiled by Allen Unzelman.*

# SAFETY BEAT

March 6:

A student called Campus Safety and Information (CSIN) concerning a fall she had earlier in the day. The student believed she had a concussion. The student was transported to the hospital by Central Pierce Fire and Rescue.

March 7:

CSIN was contacted by a student about two males watching her residence and/or taking pictures. No contact was made with the suspect as this was reported after the occurrence.

March 8:

CSIN was contacted by a dance instructor about a man watching the women dance. After a search of the building, CSIN did not locate the individual.

CSIN and CPFR were contacted about a student who thought he had broken his nose while playing basketball. CPFR determined he had not; CSIN gave the student an ice pack.

March 10:

CSIN was contacted regarding a student who was transported to St. Clare Hospital because of an overdose of an unknown amount and type of pills.

CPFR was dispatched for a child with a blocked airway at the day-care center.

March 11:

CSIN contacted a student about a suspected alcohol violation in a residence hall.

CSIN discovered extensive damage to the Lute Lounge, and contacted several juveniles concerning the damage.

March 12:

CSIN was contacted concerning a suspicious individual looking into windows at Ingram Hall. No suspect contact was made.

March 13:

CSIN restricted four youth from campus for stealing drinks from a vending machine in the University Center.

March 14:

A student reported she interrupted someone attempting to steal her laptop from her room. The suspect fled on contact.

An alumnus reported that she had been receiving hang-up calls from PLU for the duration of a week. The matter is under investigation.

March 15:

A student reported that his unlocked bicycle had been stolen while in front of the Administration Building.

March 17:

CSIN observed a vehicle strike another on the south side of Tingelstad, then continue. The driver got out and ran off, leaving his car, which turned out to be stolen.

March 18:

A local resident left a couple of messages with Student Services that were somewhat threatening. PCSD contacted the caller and advised them not to contact PLU again.

March 19:

A staff member reported that several individuals had been kicked off the golf course and had threatened him with a golf club. Contact was made with the unidentified individuals, who were asked to leave.

## CAMPUS SAFETY TIP OF THE WEEK

Secure your room and your personal property. Be sure to remove any/all items from your car and lock it up.

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GARFIELD STREET GROUNDBREAKING

Put a shovel in it, it's on the way to being done



Photo by Kyle Duba

A group of Garfield Street groundbreaking administrators, including Pacific Lutheran University President Loren Anderson, gather around their gold shovels after the March 15 ceremony. Anderson and others in charge of Garfield Street development spoke to about 80 people about the benefit the expansion will have on the PLU and Parkland communities. They also thanked those who donated money to the multi-million-dollar project. The Garfield Commons, featuring a pedestrian-friendly mix of services and retail, will soon be available to the Parkland community. This building, at the corner of Pacific Avenue and Garfield Street will be home to an expanded PLU bookstore, as well as a host of community shops and eateries. The bookstore will double its present square footage and add the PLU Northwest shop already located on Garfield Street. This new entrance to the Garfield corridor will bring new life and opportunities to the Parkland area.

Cheater, cheater, professor defeater

Consequences high at PLU for dishonesty

ALLISON CALDWELL  
Mast news intern

Students who think cheating on a test or copying from the Internet will save time need to think again, professors say.

While the Internet makes it easier to cheat, it also makes it easier to get caught.

Educators say they want to spend their time teaching students rather than policing them, but when work doesn't seem to come from the student, it is the professor's job to figure it out.

"All I did was type a phrase in Google and the whole essay came up," said Rona Kaufman, assistant professor of English and director of the Writing Center.

In her three and one-half years at PLU, she has caught three students cheating. Each time she searched Google with their work, she said she hoped they were innocent.

**"It feels like a betrayal, an undermining of education as well as an undermining of my relationship with the student."**

Rona Kaufman  
English professor

"Cheating is emotional," Kaufman said. "It feels like a betrayal, an undermining of education as well as an undermining of my relationship with the student."

With cheating, there is no legwork involved, Kaufman said. Students can coast through college and take the easy way out.

In fact, 21 percent of 40,000 undergraduates surveyed from 68 campuses in the United States and Canada said they cheated at least once on an exam, and 51 percent have cheated at least once on written work, according to an Association of American Colleges and Universities poll.

"I'm sure people do it," junior Luke Lysksell said. "But overall, a majority of campus is honest."

At PLU, there are consequences for cheating.

"The minimum penalty grade for dishonesty in coursework that constitutes 30 percent or more of a course grade shall be a failing grade for the course," according to PLU's student handbook. "Dishonesty in other required course work shall result in a minimum penalty grade of zero for that work."

Severe cases of academic dishonesty are forwarded to the Academic Dishonesty Hearing Panel, which may lead to suspension or expulsion from the university.

"It's not worth it to get caught," sophomore Shari Sasaki said. "Why come to college if you're going to cheat?"

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Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department is seeking volunteers of all ages for the Tahoma Resilience Exercise (a mock biologic terrorist attack).

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## Students learn to fight back

LAURA ZAICHKIN  
Mast assistant news editor

Five students learned a very important word Tuesday evening.

"No, no, no, no," first-year Kasey Zink said, as she performed the striking motions she had learned toward Lakewood Police Sgt. Steve Mauer during the first of four free self-defense classes.

"That was the hardest part — yelling," she added.

Mauer instructed the class from 6 to 9 p.m. in the Scandinavian Cultural Center Tuesday, and will teach three more classes between April 6 and April 12. The classes are in response to the two recent campus safety forums that occurred after three attempted robberies in as many weeks near campus.

"It's one of the things that students brought up that they would appreciate," said Laura Majovski, vice president for Admissions and Student Life.

The first half of the three-hour class is devoted to victim awareness and crime prevention. Mauer said he walked on and near campus during the day and at night to get an idea of what students should be aware of and places to watch out for.

PLU's campus is well lit and has wide pathways, features that prevent crime, Mauer said.

"Somebody was thinking when they did this place," Mauer said. "In the same token, once you step off campus it's a completely different world."

Mauer said the streets off campus are far too dark, and showed photographs of the lighting differences between campus and off-campus areas to the students.

He said it shows that there is raised awareness even now. While he was taking photos off campus, he said students walking were obviously aware of where he was and what he was doing. At one point Mauer stopped his vehicle on Yakima Avenue and turned his headlights off to gage the level of darkness. A student walking toward his vehicle completely stopped walking to check what Mauer was doing before proceeding.

"They're thinking and that's what they needed to do," Mauer said.

The second half of the class is dedicated to self-defense techniques.

"If they have no other way around it and have to defend themselves, I'm going to teach them different techniques they can use to defend themselves," Mauer said.

Attendees learned skills such as knee strikes, kicks, strikes with hands and palms, as well as other self-defense techniques.

"The goal is not to make them martial arts experts," Mauer said. "Your primary goal in that situation is to get the bad guy and get away."

Junior Tashi Rinzing said she attended Tuesday evening's class because she lives off campus and walks home often from her night classes.

"I liked everything about it — all the kicks and stuff," Rinzing said. "They're things I'll be able to use."

Assistant Director of Orientation and Student Involvement Allison Stephens, who put the classes together, said there has been a good response to the classes so far.

"I think it's a life skill to send our students off with before they leave," she said.

Mauer said the most important thing to do if faced with violence is to stay strong and give 100 percent.

"No matter what situation you're in, no matter how bad it might be, most people survive," Mauer said. "The case with some people is that they give up. You cannot do that. In your mind, no matter what situation you're in, you win. That's the only way you can think about it. You have to win."

## CAMPUS SAFETY UPDATE

Since the three attempted robberies near campus in February, numerous safety initiatives have been set in motion. There have not been any attempted robberies or assaults since Feb. 23.

PLU's escort service boundaries have been expanded to:

-The north perimeter of 112th Street

-The south perimeter of Tule Lake Road

-The east perimeter of Pacific Avenue

-The west perimeter of Spanaway Loop Road

Also, an additional vehicle has been obtained to use only for escorts, and the escort drivers are now dedicated only to that job and do not have any other Campus Safety duties.

The first Safe Streets meeting was March 2 and was attended by 50 to 60 people. All students and community members living north of campus were invited.

Pierce County Sheriff's deputies are patrolling neighborhoods and surrounding campus on a 24-hour-per-day, seven-day-per-week basis.

Source: Safety at PLU, Campus Forum, March 14, 2006

## WANT TO GO?

Three-hour, free self-defense classes:

Thursday, April 6, 6 to 9 p.m. in the Lute Lounge

Tuesday, April 11, 6 to 9 p.m. in the Regency Room

Wednesday, April 12, 6 to 9 p.m. in the Regency Room

To sign up, stop by Student Involvement and Leadership in the bottom floor of the University Center, e-mail [wellness@plu.edu](mailto:wellness@plu.edu) or call ext. 7195.

## The happiest internship on earth

### Students can wish upon a star to obtain a magical Disney opportunity

KAYLEE M. DAVIS  
Mast news intern

Pacific Lutheran University students will have the opportunity Thursday to apply for an internship at the most magical place on earth.

Elaine Bolivar, recruiter for Walt Disney World-Florida, will be on campus April 6 to discuss the Disney College Program internship, including the Disney philosophy of "Living, Learning and Earning," Bolivar said. The presentation will take place at 4 p.m. in room 103 of the Morken Center.

"We are recruiting for the extended fall program and the fall program," Bolivar said. The extended fall program, Fall Advantage, begins mid-June and runs through the first week of January, while the regular fall program begins in August and runs through the first week of January.

"Academic courses are included in these programs and students are back in time for J-term," Bolivar said.

For students who are unable to commit to long-term internships, Disney offers limited summer internships, though academics are not included in the summer program.

"Summer internships usually work well for students who may have families to take care of," Bolivar said.

Disney internships are paid work experience combined with academics, said Maxine Herbert-Hill, academic internship director.

"It's an experience that is hard to equal, let alone beat," Herbert-Hill said. Students should, "bring their dreams and know what they want to gain from the experience."

Tiffany Clark, a Clark College transfer student, experienced the internship program in 2003.

"The work is fun and you get paid for it," Clark said. "You get paid to play with kids, watch fireworks and dance in parades."

There are benefits to interning for Disney, Bolivar said.

"Disney is a Fortune 100 company and is in the top 10 of most recognizable brands in the world," Bolivar said. "Disney offers transferable skills and the internship/work experience on your resume gives students a competitive edge."

Bolivar said academic classes are a component of the fall and fall advantage internship experience. Disney offers seven educational experiences in areas such as human resources, world leadership, organizational leadership, marketing and others. All courses are three credits and are accredited by the American Council of Education.

PLU student and northwest campus representative Jenna Brasch said having Disney on your resume can be a plus for getting jobs, but because Disney has such high standards, working for another company can prove difficult.

"I was hired by a local company based on my Disney experience, but because their customer service didn't live up to my expectations, I quit," Brasch said. "It's our job at Disney to make sure that each and every guest has the best time of their life."

When students are accepted to participate in the Disney internship program, they "gain real life experience, they are away from home, but it's the best learning experience," Bolivar said. "We also provide lots of support and opportunities for

networking."

Additionally, the Disney experience is a huge opportunity to learn about different cultures and diversity, Bolivar said.

Both Clark and Brasch agree the internship is not easy.

"You work 35 hours per week, take a class which includes two to three hours of homework, and you have one day off," Brasch said.

Brasch also said the classes are unique because they are taught by actual Disney executives as well as local Florida university professors.

"They have first-hand experience," Brasch said. "Even Al Weiss, President of Walt Disney World Resort, will spend the day teaching and walking around with you."

Living accommodations are provided on the Disney campus in three apartment complexes. The residential community consists of about 3,000 to 4,000 interns from around the world.

"Rent isn't something you have to worry about," Clark said, "It comes directly out of your pay. I lived with five other girls from around the country and we became very good friends."

Shuttle service to and from the worksite is also available.

Internship perks include programs such as a shamrock party for St. Patrick's Day, pool parties, movie nights, free admission to all four theme parks and tickets for family members, discounts on merchandise at Disney as well as many local retailers, discounts on food and beverages, and sneak previews of upcoming rides, events and other entertainment.

A career with Disney could also include employment perks such as 401k, medical, dental and vision coverage and even better discounts on other services from cruises to iPods.

"This is the Disney difference," Bolivar said. Clark has done two Disney internships.

"I would recommend the Disney internship to anyone," Clark said.

Brasch is waiting to hear if she has been accepted for her second internship. "Even my sister wants to do a Disney internship now," Brasch said.

Disney also offers many volunteer opportunities including "Give the Kids the World," which is dedicated to granting the wishes of terminally-ill children and their families, holding benefits that raise money for children's charities and volunteering in local food banks.

The Disney internship is not complete until the Group Program is held at the Epcot Center. The Group Program is similar to a graduation ceremony and is held at the end of each internship session.

"I was chosen to be the student speaker, and I thought that was kind of cool," Clark said.

Planning for any student internship should be done in advance to better coordinate student schedules with internship openings, Herbert-Hill said.

When applying for internships, "Students should have strong written and verbal communication skills, positive attitudes, and strong interpersonal and customer service skills," Herbert-Hill said.

And, for the Disney internship, "students need to possess those skills and must believe in the Disney concept," Herbert-Hill said.

Bolivar, Clark and Brasch will be available at the April 6 presentation to discuss and share their experiences with interested students.

Before attending the one-hour presentation, students must first complete the online application at [www.disneycollegeprogram.com](http://www.disneycollegeprogram.com), print the application and bring the completed application to the presentation. For students interested in participating in a Disney internship, attendance at the presentation is required.

The Mast always wants writers, experienced or not.  
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**Spring Break**

Continued from Page 5

on service learning and as a senior I felt like I hadn't gotten that," senior Sam Lessard said.

Many students who went on the trip felt the need to help because donating clothes and money just wouldn't cut it. Others said they wondered about the human spirit.

"From a non-American perspective, I thought it'd be back to normal in three days, and you wait and it's not fine," said first-year Kevin Fortune, a native of Fyzabad, Trinidad. "How in the midst of all that, can they still be having fun?"

Fortune said he discovered the human spirit is an amazing thing.

The group was eating lunch one day with some of the victims and a band came from nowhere and started to play, Fortune said. Everything was so alive and the music struck a chord with everyone there, he said. Those who had nothing got up and danced.

They found the rhythm within them despite their hardship, Fortune said.

The students prepared themselves for the worst, but participants said it was even worse than expected.

"From an uninformed observer, it really appeared to me as though nothing has been done since the hurricane," said Rick Eastman, SIL associate director. He said he was "dumbfounded" that what appears to be simple decision making is at a snail's pace.

Zylstra, who saw the area two weeks after the hurricane hit, agreed. He was shocked and said it hadn't changed since September.

The biggest challenge for the group was overcoming their feelings of hopelessness.

While in New Orleans, sophomore Maggie Hargrave said she wondered how the group would make a difference in just one week.

"It was hard leaving when there was still so much to be done," Hargrave said.

Group members worked with organizations such as the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN), which deals with demolition, and the Made With Love Café, where they served food, washed dishes and cleaned.

The demolition was especially hard because group members said they realized they were not just gutting a house, but a home. Someone's life was being destroyed, a child's room ruined. Doing this helped the students and staff realize how lucky they are, some said.

The highlight of the trip was hearing personal stories from residents, group members said. Talking to them and hearing about their hardships helped the students to better understand the degree of destruction.

"Everyone had a miracle to share," Pearson said.

The people were starved for someone to listen, participants said. Residents want the country to know and understand what is happening.

The group intends to do just that. They said they want to share their stories and spread them across campus and with the community.

Those in New Orleans are still coping and trying to rebuild, group members said. Just because PLU doesn't hear about Hurricane Katrina on a daily basis doesn't mean it's gone.

"Don't overlook the situation and say, 'Thank God it didn't happen here,'" Lessard said. "We need to realize that something of this magnitude could happen here."

**PUBLIC SERVICE IN LOS ANGELES**

Photo by Katie Bryson

First-year David Marshall plays football with children for the Los Angeles Dream Center. A group of 15 students involved in Ignite, a Christian fellowship group, traveled to Los Angeles during spring break to reach out to low-income individuals and perform restoration projects.

**Core II**

Continued from Page 5

at the heart of the PLU mission, Brown said. But not many people on campus know about it. Brown expressed her surprise regarding the number of students who knew little about the International Core.

The core is unique in its structure as compared to other similar cores across colleges and universities in the United States.

Faculty chair Chuck Bergman said he admires Core II because of its thematic nature.

"Other cores have elements of themes, but ours is the only one that is thoroughly thematic," Bergman said.

But despite its unique nature, the Core II program still faces evaluation. The PLU general curriculum will undergo a revision in a few years and in preparation, a committee of PLU faculty has been

researching possibilities for the future of both Core I and Core II.

As it stands, PLU has two centers of curriculum, and the main question is whether to keep two cores or to move to one, Bergman said. Faculty members have been surveyed about their opinions and a student survey is underway. A new steering group of faculty will form in May to do more research and design a revision proposal to bring forward for a faculty vote during the 2007-2008 school year.

Two possibilities include making Core II into an honors program, or turning it into the only program, Bergman said. He also stressed that these are only prospective ideas, and "we are in the pure realm of figuring out possibilities." Other options could be pursued as well.

The core has played a central role in PLU curriculum since its inception in 1975, thanks to a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Though it has

changed some since then, it still fits well with the PLU mission.

"It aims to meet the PLU mission and it is absolutely essential to PLU's future and uniqueness," Brown said.

Some Core II students see much of the same value in the internationally focused curriculum.

"I think it is very essential because it is international and PLU has such a strong emphasis on international experience and study abroad," junior Core II student Angella Wehry said.

Some students found difficulties with Core II. A few times, professors who were highly regarded within their own fields did not excel as Core II professors, Wehry said.

Also, when students study abroad, only one class can be used for Core II credit. This goes against the purpose of the core, senior Adrienne Yoder said.

**"I thought it'd be back to normal in three days, and you wait and it's not fine. How in the midst of all that, can they still be having fun?"**

Kevin Fortune  
First-year

**Diversity Week**

Continued from Page 5

sion show.

The two major events of the week are the Diversity Week Fair and Cultural Fair Celebration noon to 4 p.m. Friday in Red Square and the Hawaii Club Lu'au beginning at 5:30 p.m. Saturday in the Olson Auditorium.

"It's one of those events people don't know about," Montances said about the lu'au.

The cultural fair will feature food from different ethnicities and dancers from youth groups such as the Filipino Dance Troup, the Lincoln High Step Team, and the Samoan Youth Performers.

Last year, the Diversity Center along with a few other groups worked on Diversity Week, Montances said. Now groups working with the event include the Women's Center, the Wang Center, ASPLU, Hawaii Club, the Residence Hall Association, Harmony, Asian Pacific Islanders, Montana Club and international students, among others.

"It's just a huge growth of people," Montances said.

He said planning for the week took several months. The coalition has been around since the early 1990s, but died down a year or two ago, he said.

Historically, diversity in American culture has focused on race, ethnicity and culture, but now people grouped by religion, sexual orientation, physical ability, class and others have entered the diversity discussion.

"PLU has evolved to include a whole bunch of different things," Doyle said, adding that PLU has had a diversity week off and on for about 15 years.

"We make a lot more progress working together," she said.

Doyle said the Diversity Center aims to reach out to two types of students. One is any student who feels like a part of a minority.

In the Diversity Center, "their ideas will be respected and who they are will be respected," Doyle said. "They don't have to be on show."

The second group the center targets is made of students who don't feel like "the other," Doyle said, or in other words, anyone who feels like part of the majority.

"They have something to offer," Doyle said. "They also have something to learn."

Doyle said she hopes Diversity Week will reach out to both groups.

"If we tap into a small community of folks on campus who are ready to learn something new, I think that would be pretty phenomenal," she said. "The assump-

tions people make about the people who come in here are probably wrong."

First-year student Skylar Cole said she thinks PLU does a good job of promoting diversity.

"The open-mindedness seems to be there," she said.

However, Cole said students who don't want to open their minds to the idea of diversity don't always gain exposure to new ideas.

"It appears to be pretty avoidable if you wanted to," Cole said.

First-year Zach Alger said he also thinks PLU does a good job of promoting diversity.

"I think a lot of people at PLU are interested in expanding their ideas, opinions and views," he said.

Emily Schoenheit, a 16-year-old prospective student from Lakeridge High School in Lake Oswego, Ore., said diversity is something she is looking for in a college.

"I think it would be cool if I went somewhere where there's a lot of diversity," she said. So far, PLU seems "more diverse than where I'm from," she added.

Alger said a lot of the Diversity Week events look interesting, especially the ones that involve dancing and the "Celebration of Equality" event, which will discuss new Washington state anti-discrimination legislation.

**Diversity Week schedule****April 2**

-Family Dinner 3:30 to 5 p.m. in the South Hall main lounge

**April 3**

-Diversity Week keynote speaker Spanish professor Emily Davidson 3:30 p.m. in UC 206

-Carmen Lute Diego 3:40 p.m. in UC 206/210

-Hawaiian cultural workshop 5 to 7 p.m. in the Regency Room

**April 4**

-Lute Explosion dance workshop 2 p.m. in UC 210

-Fishing for Diversity talk 7 p.m. in the Lute Lounge

**April 5**

-Japanese crafts 5 p.m. in the UC grey area

-Celebration of Equality 6 to 9 p.m. in the Scandinavian Cultural Center

-Diversity Open Mic H.U.M.P. 9 to 11 p.m. in The Cave

**April 6**

-Women's Center Discussion Panel 12:30 p.m. in UC 208

-Introduction to GLBT community 4 p.m. in UC 210

-Salsa Workshop 5 to 7 p.m. in Red Square

-Anime film showing and discussion 7 p.m. in the UC grey area

**April 7**

-Diversity Week Fair and Cultural Celebration noon to 4 p.m. in Red Square

-Taste of Tacoma at Café Hawaii at 6 p.m.

**April 8**

-Hawaii Club Lu'au 5:30 to 9 p.m. in Olson Auditorium

From the editor

### The best investment we can make: education

Education in the United States is in trouble.

In case you haven't been watching the news or checking your PLU inbox, the U.S. Congress has been considering a bill that will cut financial aid funding by \$12.7 billion. ASPLU e-mailed an impassioned plea for action Monday, encouraging all students to contact their congressperson and ask for their vote against this bill. A vote in the House of Representatives was scheduled for Wednesday, but at press time, the results of the vote were not yet available.

If the bill passes, increases in funding for Pell Grants and the Federal Work Study program will be frozen. Students will be forced to pay higher interest rates on student loans. If the bill passes, essential protections against student aid fraud and abuse will be removed.

But that isn't all—state educational systems are facing challenges, as well.

In Washington, for example, state leaders are questioning the effectiveness of the Washington Assessment of Student Learning exam, which all students are required to pass in order to graduate from high school. In spite of policymakers' claims that the exam is "comprehensive," students are allowed to take the exam multiple times. If a student fails the exam, he or she may be given four alternative options to prove they meet minimum graduation requirements.

Additionally, a levy for the Tacoma School District is scheduled for April 25. If it fails, more than 900 full-time positions would be cut—which, according to The News Tribune, would be the equivalent of 10 elementary schools. Nearly half of those 900 job cuts would be teaching positions, and almost all of the district's counselors would be let go. Class sizes would increase by an average of 10 students.

In this state, public school districts spent an average of \$4,101 per student in 2004-2005. Based on a 180-day school year, that comes out to about \$23 per day per student. Considering the institutional costs of free and reduced-price lunches, science and math equipment, art supplies, and computers, that \$23 per student is wildly inadequate.

Furthermore, these numbers only represent the costs of students falling into the "basic education" category. The state spends an average of \$755 per student per year in special education programs, which comes to about \$4.19 per day. That's about the cost of a Big Mac meal at McDonald's.

And remember, these are average numbers. Many school districts in the state have even less funding than reported by averages.

Don't believe me? Visit the Web site for the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The Washington State Report Card is accessible to the public.

Compare these dollar amounts to the typical salary of a public school administrator in the Tacoma area. Annual pay for a school superintendent or principal hovers between \$90,000 and \$130,000 per year. (This information is also easily accessible on the Internet.) This means a public school superintendent or principal makes anywhere from \$500 to \$722 per day, based again on a 180-day school year. Doing the math, a principal on the low end of the salary range earns a yearly paycheck equivalent to the cost of educating 22 students in the "basic education" category, or 119 special education students.

For years, the United States has complained that students in other countries are more advanced than students in our own. Yet, as a nation, we continually fail to meet the needs of our students—adequate funding for higher education, rigorous curricula, and governmental support for public schools.

Our government spouts "No Child Left Behind" rhetoric, but drives off in a school bus full of taxpayer money, headed for Iraq and Afghanistan, while our students wait at the bus stop.

I am frustrated by the state of education in the United States. As an alumna of the public school system, the daughter of two highly talented teachers, and a citizen of this country, I am deeply disappointed that public schools receive such dismal support from the government.

However, we are not powerless to change the system. The most important way we can—and must—instigate change is by voting. Vote in favor of public school levies. Vote against measures that decrease funding and educational standards.

In addition, write to your local and national congressperson and tell him or her that education must be a priority. Write several times. Write every week. Write now.

We owe it to ourselves and future generations to fix the educational system in the United States. Our students must be equipped with the knowledge and skills to survive in a world that is increasingly driven by technology and globalization.

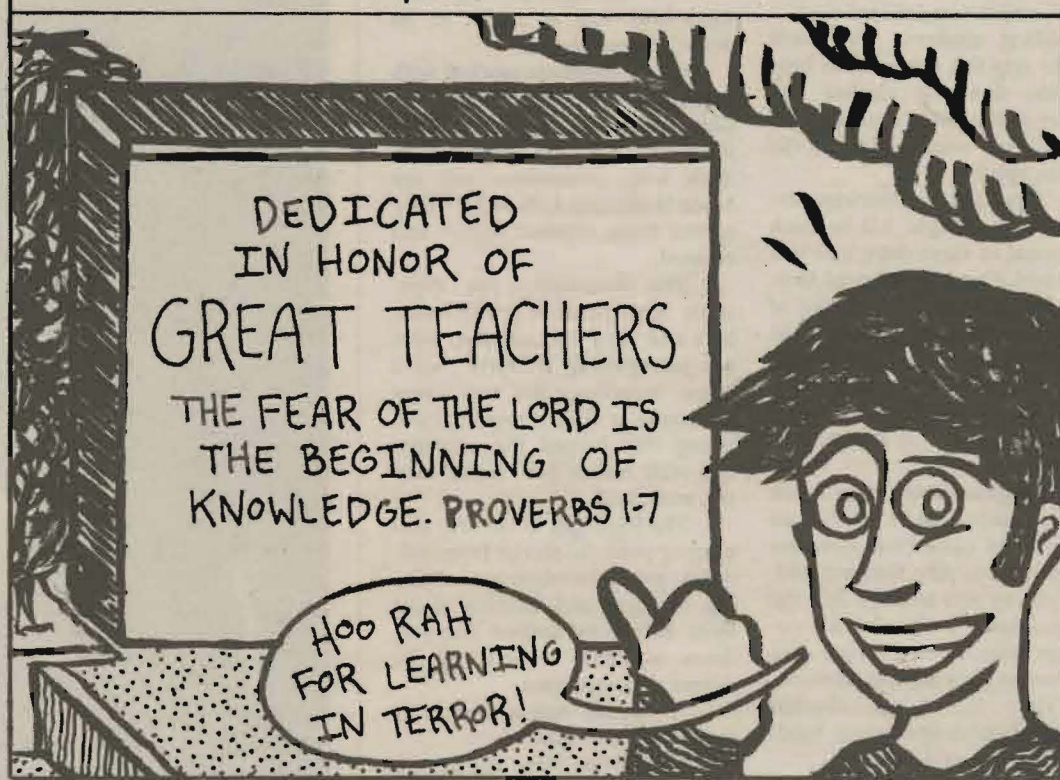
Don't leave our country's students waiting at the bus stop. Take action today.

### Web links

[www.studentaidalliance.org](http://www.studentaidalliance.org)

[www.reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us](http://www.reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us)

There are few things that gear me up for learning so much as the plaque outside of Admin:



Cartoon by Calvin Moore

## And the Oscar goes to an empty theatre

### Awards, box office prove moviegoers not interested in thought-provoking films



### Having My Cake and Eating Yours, Too

I watched the Oscars a few weeks ago, and I got a little depressed. Not because I wanted "Capote" to beat "Crash," or because I was disappointed that Paul Giamatti didn't win Best Supporting Actor, but because I had the sudden realization that most of America hadn't even seen these movies and acting performances. Most of America had been too busy watching The Rock star in "The Pacifier."

Of the five movies nominated for best picture this year, "Brokeback Mountain" took in the most at the box office, but finished only 25th overall, sandwiched between "Cheaper By the Dozen 2" and "The Dukes of Hazzard." "Crash," the Best Picture of the Year, finished 49th, getting its ass kicked by "Herbie: Fully Loaded." "Munich" was 63rd, "Good Night and Good Luck" 89th, and "Capote," at 95th, barely made it into the top two-thirds of all movies released in 2005.

These statistics beg the question, why are the movies that we recognize as great and the movies that we shell out money to see rarely the same movies? I think that one reason is that good movies often tackle controversial topics, things that moviegoers don't want to deal with. This year's Oscar crop was a great example. The best movies dealt with homosexuality, tolerance and diversity, McCarthyism, and massacre. Thought-provoking, yes, but not

what many would consider entertaining.

Similarly, the movies that are nominated for best picture are rarely comedies. None of this year's nominees were consistently funny, which may have helped explain their box office defeats by far inferior movies equipped with the secret weapon of fart jokes. I love a good comedy, but it does disturb me that lately it seems as if people won't even consider seeing a movie that doesn't promise laughs.

The excuses I heard recently when recommending "Brokeback Mountain" to people were a good example of the box office trend. Some refused to see it simply because they were homophobic. Some had heard from friends that it was terrible and they wouldn't like it. Some claimed that it was the same old story of forbidden love that had been told a thousand times. Everyone who refused had a different reason for writing it off and deciding they didn't like it without even giving it a chance.

The bottom line is that so many people equate serious or depressing with bad. I can't even begin to count the times I've heard people finish a movie and say it was terrible, offering as their only explanation, "It was so depressing and miserable." To me, feeling a strong emotion at the end of a movie is a good thing, even if that emotion is sadness. But many people seem to be unsatisfied if

they leave a movie theatre with anything besides a feeling of giddy, mindless satisfaction.

I guess it makes sense, in a sad way. A movie can't really be great without being somewhat deep, and a deep movie doesn't slide down the throat with the buttered popcorn and gallon of soda as easily as something that attempts no more than to distract us. A good movie requires that we chew it a little bit, and participate, too. And that's not what many people go to the movies to do.

While it makes sense, the fact that the directors, writers and actors were accepting their Oscars for movies that literally made one-eighth of the money of Adam Sandler's "The Longest Yard" seemed a little dreary to me.

What can we do about it? Not much, I guess. People will go to the theatre to see what they want to see, and studios will produce what sells. I guess it's nice that we have the Oscars to acknowledge the people who put their hearts into their movies, and the movies that meant something to those of us that watched them. I just wish there were a few more of us who did.

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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 and columns reflect the opinions of the writers, and 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.

## Letters to the editor

After reading the recent *Mast* article regarding the new soap, toilet paper, and paper towel dispensers on campus, I was simultaneously amazed and appalled at the suggestion that Facilities Management ought to have officially informed students about the change. Anyone using the restrooms would obviously see the change in dispensers, thus there would not be any point in putting notifications up in the bathrooms. Additionally, given that this change is to promote sustainability, it would be counterproductive to use mass amounts

of paper in order to notify people. The idea of e-mail notification is equally problematic in that many, if not most, students choose not to read university e-mail alerts, an issue which sending point-less notifications about things such as dispenser changes would only exasperate. Instead of being so critical, we ought to be more grateful to the folks who keep our buildings and grounds clean and in repair, as the university could not run without them.

Mackenzie Gray  
Senior

As a student at PLU and as a citizen of the United States, I am deeply disappointed in the decision not to publish the Danish cartoons, and I'd like to explain why.

The reason I feel this way is because I don't subscribe to any particular religion, and the thought of being ruled by a religious theocracy scares me.

In a recent letter to the editor, Alison Caldwell used the phrase "Islamic law" and praised *The Mast* in its decision not to print the cartoons. It frightens me that we would think to live our lives and make our decisions based on another people's religious doctrines. It's also against Islamic law to eat pork, but as far as I can tell no one has suggested we stop eating pork as a means to better get along with Islamic nations.

It also frightens me because of the current political situation in our own country. The attacks on our freedoms from outside are not nearly as dangerous as those from within, yet they have much in common. The would-be religious theocracy in our country would take away a woman's right to choose, a university newspaper's right to free speech, and hasn't

even seen fit to grant homosexuals the same rights as anyone else.

I would ask those in favor of bending to the wishes of Islam why they are so willing to do so, when they fight so ardently for rights that Christianity wants to take away from them. Is it perhaps simply because to agree with a different religion is to give the finger to the one that has a hold over our nation?

I am not anti-religion. I am someone who lacks the arrogance and chutzpah necessary to claim that I know one absolute truth greater than all others. And I feel that those who choose not to believe in one all-powerful deity shouldn't be subject to the laws created by that deity's followers.

That's why I feel the cartoons should have been published in *The Mast*. After all, if "liberal" college students at an institution of higher learning won't fight for our freedoms, who will? It certainly won't be our government.

After all, they're already trying to take more of our freedoms away.

Dan Nutt  
Junior

## Soul-searching and soundtracks

### Connecting music to memories can be therapeutic

I propose, dear readers, that this week we all figure out the soundtrack to our lives. Take an hour or so and ponder which songs have had meaning during moments of your existence and why. These moments don't have to be the typical milestone moments, and the songs don't actually have to have been playing at the time. Just pick moments or times that mean something to you and music that captures the mood. Be as honest as possible. This is your life you're talking about. Don't sugarcoat it. To get you started, I'll share some of mine.

#### Track One: "Kicks"

by Paul Revere and the Raiders

The oldies station on the radio in whatever town we lived in at the time was the constant background noise of my childhood. Paul Revere and the Raiders, being from Washington, were naturally on quite a bit in the Northwest, so I grew up with the music. I chose this song in particular because of its subject matter. Throughout my life, my mother has had a problem with controlled substances, particularly alcohol. This song is about a woman who has the same issue, and why she should get help. Every time I was in the car with my mother and this song came on, I would turn up the volume hoping that she would get the message. She never did.

#### Track Two: "If I Had A Million Dollars"

by Barenaked Ladies

This is a sweet and silly song. I chose it because of a particular evening I spent with my best friend at her house. We were spread out on the floor in her living room doing a jigsaw puzzle of Noah's ark. I started singing this song because I was putting the monkeys together and there's a line in the song where the singer says that if he had a million dollars, he'd buy someone a monkey. This was during Christmas break, a few days before I would leave for China and about a week before she would leave for Italy, both of us studying abroad for college. I started thinking about how we both were getting older and more responsible and going to different continents to learn things and it struck me how nice it was just to lay on the living room floor do a puzzle with her. This song reminds me of that



All in All

day and also that I shouldn't get so "grown up" that I forget how to put the monkeys together.

#### Track Three: "Kathy's Song"

by Simon and Garfunkel

The first concert I ever went to was Simon and Garfunkel during their Old Friends tour. I went with two of my friends, one of their families and my father. I was seventeen and during high school, my father and I fought about everything. My parents were divorced by then and so he was the only one around to deal with my teenage rebellion stage, which made things worse. We had had a pretty terrible argument right before we left to go to this concert and I wasn't speaking to him. When they played this song, however, I started thinking. It's a really romantic song and I was wondering how my father felt listening to it, having been divorced twice. I began to see objectively how difficult it must be for him to raise my younger brother and myself alone and how that must be nothing like how he planned his life to be. It was one of those moments where you see your parents as actual people for the first time. I felt really childish and stupid for having all of those fights with him. That marked the beginning of the end my adolescent envelope-pushing and made me realize that other people have feelings too, even your parents, and you shouldn't forget this even when you're seventeen and the most important person in the universe.

That's about all my word limit will allow. Hopefully you all were inspired to do your own.

No Sidewalk Talk this week! Have no fear, it'll be back next week.

apply **NOW**. Student  
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Put application materials in the manila folder posted on the door of The Mast office.

Applicants should contact Jamie Forslund (forslujc@plu.edu, 548-2979) with questions.

Deadline April 5



PLU has maintained a long-standing commitment to compassion and social justice. Students come together for discussion around the bell in red square. Photo illustration by Andrew Lucchesi

## Are we a queer-friendly campus?

ANDREW LUCCHESI  
Mast intern

I recently started a personal mission to better understand the background of the PLU gay community, and the history of support on campus, including two gay and lesbian centered groups, Crossroads and Harmony. I found more than I expected.

The story begins before some students were born. Very few people can accurately tell the tale of Crossroads, the first of the two groups.

I met with Professor Beth Kraig, who said, "In 1984 a member of the PLU administration was heard saying, 'If I knew we had a homosexual on campus, I would can his ass.' This was at a point when there were no openly queer faculty on campus."

In the mid 80s there were three pastors on campus, Martin Wells, Dan Urlander and Susan Briehl. Students came to these three for pastoral counseling with all sorts of questions about faith, family, career and sexuality.

As the years went on, more students started coming to counseling with problems related to sexual orientation. It became obvious that while this one-on-one method was effective for helping people cope with their identity, something else was needed. For whatever reason, Briehl had a close relationship with most gay and lesbian students.

David Hanson, or "Beak," as he was known, was a gay student who was seeing Pastor Briehl. It was he and Briehl who decided there needed to be a group where gay, lesbian, and bisexual students could meet. They observed that there was no safe place on campus that allowed the gay students to be themselves without fear.

Hanson named the group "Crossroads." The name has two meanings. Campus Ministry sponsored the group for the first few years of its history, and it dealt heavily with issues of faith and sexuality, so the name was meant to evoke images of the Christian background of the group, namely the road of the cross. The other meaning is that of an intersection in one's life, where one must choose one path or another.

Crossroads was called a "confidential conversation group," the key word being confidential. Meeting time and location was never published anywhere, and was only given out to people who called a special number and requested it. This was a measure to ensure as much safety for the members as possible.

The group consisted of gay, lesbian and bisexual students and their advocates. Often brothers and sisters of the queer student would come along to support and better understand their siblings. Briehl attended every meeting, and oversaw the conversations. She did this from the 1988-89 school year, when Crossroads was formed, until 1994 when she left the school.

This is where my information dried up. Gary Menzetti, former head of Counseling and Testing, filled me in on all he knew, and pointed me towards Pastor Briehl, who is presently teaching at a seminary in Iowa. To find the rest of the story, I turned to Professor Kraig, the current faculty

advisor of the Harmony Club.

There had always been a desire by many of the Crossroads members in the early years to become more public. Many students didn't like the fact that the group was so secretive, and wanted to act publicly on the PLU campus. Students wanted activism, but there was, once again, no group to do this. When Susan left the school, a new group was formed: Harmony.

In the last years of Briehl's Crossroads, Kraig and Professor Tom Campbell started forming a plan for the group. They brought Crossroads under the new Harmony club and away from its campus ministry beginnings. In this way they retained many of its original qualities of anonymity and confidentiality, while secularizing the group and creating a new, public face for it.

Harmony is a group focused on activism and action. It is open to all PLU students, faculty and staff—gay, straight or otherwise. It has an official member list, officers, and a budget. In essence, it serves purposes that Crossroads could not.

Attendance boomed for the discussion-focused group and more students and faculty were becoming comfortable being out of the closet. For the next five years, Professors Campbell and Kraig were the leaders of the new group.

As time passed, Campbell and Kraig both had to stop attending the meetings for health reasons. Divisions arose in the group, and visibility started to dwindle. It was also almost completely unknown to the campus at large, which is how it remains to this day.

Crossroads now exists with two ideas in mind. First, to help gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning students become comfortable with who they are and to love themselves. Secondly, to help them come out of the closet when they are ready to. Its present incarnation is an amalgam of the elements of its past.

The group is still completely confidential. No member's name or information will ever be given out. There is no longer any faculty adviser directly associated with Crossroads, but in their place is a new position, the Crossroads representative. This student attends all the meetings, and works as the public face of the group. It is this person who is in charge of maintaining the confidentiality of the group, and who has access to the Crossroads e-mail list. The representative is the faculty and student's contact person.

So why does this all matter? It matters because gay issues are everyone's issues. How we, as a campus, choose to view sexual minorities shows who we are. The fact that PLU has such a long history of sensitivity to queer issues is a testament to this campus' commitment to social justice and compassion. Harmony is open to any member of the PLU community. It is presently involved in activities like planning for the National Day of Silence and creating a PLU Pride Week. Visit [www.plu.edu/~harmony](http://www.plu.edu/~harmony) for more details.

Crossroads is only open to people who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, intersex or questioning. The meeting time and location are only known to its members, so there is no fear of being "outed" by attending the meetings. For more information, visit [www.plu.edu/~xroads](http://www.plu.edu/~xroads) or e-mail the Crossroads representative at [xroads@plu.edu](mailto:xroads@plu.edu).

## The underlying implications of mixing "The Champagne of Beer" with unsuspecting college girls

DAN NUTT  
Mast copy editor

A few months ago, as an employee of PLU's very own Campus Safety, I faced confronting a couple of girls who were suspected of possessing alcohol on campus. It's never fun to be the bad guy when you're writing up someone you might meet in the UC or share a PE class with next semester.

What happened during this incident was more than the usual awkwardness of dealing with a policy violation, however. It was a crushing reaffirmation of unhealthy gender stereotypes on our college campus.

As the first safety officer on scene, I had to approach the girls and ask them if they were in fact carrying alcohol. As usual, they gave a negative response and started taking the typical anti-establishment attitude that most students do when confronted by an authority figure.

I then asked if I could take a look in their backpack, and they complied. That was when I found the four tall cans of Busch Ice. I began taking their information for my incident report. Since neither of the girls were 21, I asked them where they had obtained the beer.

Of course, the girls replied that the guys they were with bought the alcohol. Seeing no guys anywhere near the girls, I asked them where they might be. One of the girls replied that they had taken off because they were worried about getting in trouble. I said, "So they let you two here to get in trouble knowing that Campus Safety was on their way?"

What really bothered me about the incident were the underlying implications. First, the guys had bought beer for the purpose of getting the girls drunk. You can argue all you want about how much you like beer and how drinking doesn't mean that you just want to get trashed, but when we're talking about tall cans of Busch Ice, I know that you're not drinking for the taste.

Now why in the world would upperclassmen want to get first-year girls drunk on a Friday or Saturday night? I'm no expert, but from what I can tell about party culture at a supposedly upstanding Lutheran school like PLU, guys typically want to get girls drunk so that their inhibitions are lowered and they will be more likely to make decisions they wouldn't make sober.

Not only is this insulting to the girls on a completely highbrow level, but it's also insulting that the best these guys can offer is something like Busch Ice. I mean, if someone wanted to get me drunk so they could take advantage of me, I'd at least like to think I'm worth a Smirnoff Ice or some decent hard liquor.

To top things off, once these guys caught wind that they might get in trouble, they bolted and left the girls with the evidence. Not only has their character and their taste in alcohol been insulted but they've been left to take the fall for these noble fellows.

This incident was definitely an eye-opener for me, but it wasn't the first time I'd seen girls used like this at PLU, and sadly, it won't be my last. On plenty of weekends, both working for Campus Safety and partying as a regular college student, I've seen girl after girl taken advantage of for the lowest common denominator.

I don't expect these observations can make a huge difference at PLU, but the next time you're at a party or breaking policy on campus, take a look around and see if maybe there are some gender issues to take note of. Chances are, if you see someone pulling out "The Silver Bullet" or "The Champagne of Beers" for a female companion, assume they're not in it for the taste.



# SEXUALITY

## "Sex in the Dark" sheds light on gender stereotypes

TIFFANIE CLARK  
Lutelife editor

Licorice, pretzels and a bowl of condoms sat on a round table that had been strategically placed in the center of the dim room. As 7 p.m. grew nearer, approximately thirty students piled into the South Hall Lounge for the Residence Hall Association's "Sex in the Dark," a program focused on breaking down gender stereotypes.

A mish-mash of guys and girls, and upper and lower classmen filled the circle of couches. The night began with a Post-It game. Each person was asked to write something they liked about the opposite sex and then find a person

of that sex and stick it on them. Answers ranged from "the way they cuddle" to "boobs."

There were no taboo subjects and no taboo words. Students were encouraged to ask anything and talk openly in the conversation led by RHA Executives Krystal Anderson and Bethany McNutt.

A battle of the sexes card game revealed that not all girls knew things that are considered "stereotypically feminine" and the same was true for guys regarding the male questions. Questions on cars and fashion left the group with the realization that assumptions can't be made about personal interests based solely on gender.

Later in the evening a startlingly honest group raised their hands if they'd "ever made an attempt to make themselves more appealing to men" or "been called a fag or queer." Students weren't forced to participate but the whole room did so willingly.

"I think the idea of gender exploration is great and I was impressed by the group's openness and different takes on gender," First-year Kimmie Ellis said.

By the end of the night the licorice was almost gone. Topics ranging from pointy shoes to masturbation had bounced around the circle and the stereotypes that might have followed students into the dim room didn't follow them out.



The penises and vaginas compete in a rousing battle of the sexes. Kristi Eisele and RHA executive Krystal Anderson lead on the women.

## Since when is kissing the same as sex?

JAMIE ROBERTS  
Mast intern

Sex is on a lot of people's minds. Unfortunately, it is sometimes assumed to always be on our minds, even when it's not something we have planned at all.

For example, one night, after an evening out with my boyfriend, he decided to drop me off in the parking lot near the residence hall where I live. Saying goodbye is always hard and on this particular night our goodnight kiss led to goodbye making out. It wasn't long before we had a police officer at the car door telling us we needed to stop because it could lead to sex, and then our licenses were taken and our personal information was recorded. I wondered what was wrong with making out with my boyfriend. I didn't think there was anything wrong, but we were told to "go finish in some dark corner in Tacoma, here is not where you should be doing this." I couldn't believe what the officer

had said. Sex was not going to happen, especially in the school parking lot. Does making out with someone automatically mean it's going to lead to sex? The assumption was extremely offensive.

Kissing is a way to show affection. There are people who are bothered by personal displays of affection, but if anything they should just ignore it. Not only does it happen, it happens all the time.

Although kissing can sometimes be a warm up for sex, sex isn't always the end goal. Is the person who is saving their virginity for marriage expected not to kiss because it might lead to sex? We all have different backgrounds, we set up different boundaries and we decide how far we are going to go; it's not up to others to put up those boundaries for us. Making out isn't a crime, it's a natural part of life. Just because we're young and in love doesn't mean we're going all the way. Kissing in a car is harmless and doesn't disturb anyone. It is reasonable to politely ask a couple to take their affection elsewhere if what they are doing is inappropriate. Respecting other people's boundaries is necessary if you expect others to respect your own. When it comes to kissing, let's keep it at that and leave assumptions about other people's boundaries and personal decisions out of it.

## Student Resources

### The Student Health Center ext.7337

Located on 121st & Park  
Open 8-5 Monday through Friday

### The Women's Center ext.7859

Located on 124th  
Open 9-5 Monday through Friday

### The Diversity Center ext.8705

Located in the lower level of the UC  
Open 8-8 Monday through Thursday, 8-5 Fridays

### Counseling and Testing ext.7206

Located in the Ramstad Commons  
Open 8-5 Monday through Friday

### Planned Parenthood- Tacoma

(253)779-3900 or 1-800-230-PLAN  
Located at 813 Martin Luther King Jr. Way  
Open Monday through Friday 9:30-12 & 1:30-4:30,  
Saturdays 9-2:30, closed Thursdays

### Condoms

PLU purchases 10,000 condoms for distribution every year. Free condoms are available for students in the Student Health Center, the Diversity Center, and the Women's Center.

### Birth Control & Birth Control Counseling

The Health Center offers birth control counseling free of charge. Birth control can be prescribed at a very reasonable price, much cheaper than a regular doctor's office. The Planned Parenthood "Take Charge Program" offers qualifying participants free birth control for a year. Planned Parenthood also offers emergency contraception and there is no appointment is required for this service.

### STD Testing, Papsmeres, & Physicals

The health center offers papsmeres and physicals for \$50. STD testing is available and prices range depending on test. Planned parenthood also offers STD testing, HIV/AIDS testing and physical exams. Contact Planned Parenthood for more information.

### Counseling and Talk Visits

Counseling is available free of charge at the Health Center and Counseling and Testing. Great peer support is available at the Diversity Center. The Women's Center offers support for men and women on a variety of issues including sex and sexuality. Harmony is a club on campus for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered students as well as students who support them in their lifestyle. Crossroads is a club for students who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, intersex or questioning by invitation only.

### Anonymous Sex Questions?

Contact [health@plu.edu](mailto:health@plu.edu) or visit Ask Dr. Lute online at <http://www.plu.edu/~health/>



## PLU gets all jazzed up

### Concert showcases variety of art from the Harlem Renaissance

KAT JENKINS  
Mast reporter

A celebration of Black History Month happened a bit late on campus, but it proved to be an event which was varied and interesting.

On Saturday, March 11 a concert was held in Lagerquist Concert Hall, titled "Music from the Age of the Harlem Renaissance." The concert was primarily performed by the University Jazz Ensemble, directed by Dr. David Joyner, but also featured many other performers.

The Harlem Renaissance concert was intended to be a part of Black History Month celebrations on campus during February, but was postponed due to the power outage that occurred February 17.

The focus of the concert was jazz music from the Harlem Renaissance period, the first half of the 20th century. It was a movement of African-American intellectuals attempting to promote social change through the arts, literature, and politics. The movement was centered in the Harlem neighborhood of New York.

In his program notes, Dr. Joyner wrote, "The artists and intellectuals naively thought that art would solve the race problem. Even though the era left us with a legacy of great intellectual work and pioneering political activism, the poverty and social constraints on the Harlem community gradually eroded the façade of progress and prosperity."

Vocalist Nicole Greenidge joined the jazz ensemble on some songs, and members of the Choir of the West performed a song arranged by Hall Johnson. In addition to the performances, six members of the PLU Swing Club danced along to the music during

a few pieces. The group performed works of Duke Ellington, Billie Holiday, Arthur Herzog and James P. Johnson, prominent artists in the period.

On "Yamekraw," the piece by James P. Johnson, orchestra members joined the jazz ensemble as Dr. Richard Farner, a PLU piano professor, took to the piano and Jeffrey Bell-Hanson conducted.

Between each musical performance was a reading of an author of the Harlem Renaissance. These authors included Langston Hughes, Zora Neale Hurston and Roi Ottley. There was also a projector set up showing works done by artists of the time, such as Ernest Crichlow, Sargent Claude Johnson, Aaron Douglas and others.

Erika Dornfeld, a first-year student said, "I really appreciated the integration of the readings and the music because it helped convey a deeper sense of the vision behind the music."

Some of the readings coincided with the works that followed. One of the readings was by Billie Holiday explaining the circumstances surrounding the writing of her song, "God Bless the Child."

The combination of music, readings, art and dance created a concert which was intellectually and artistically pleasing. It gave the audience a real sense of the thoughts and feelings surrounding the Harlem Renaissance, as well as a feel for the history of African-Americans in the United States.

Dr. Joyner wrote, "Today, the Harlem Renaissance leaves us not only with unique and wonderful artistic artifacts, but a lingering spirit of history, pride, and hope within African-American culture. It may seem a bit odd for PLU to be presenting African-American art from New York in the first half of the twentieth century, considering the prevailing cultural and ethnic heritage of our institution... However, it is certainly worth any risk of artifice to respectfully explore, contemplate, and perform art from this significant event in our country's history."

## Portland artist hopes to inspire

### Van Auken blends a variety of influences but tries to stay true to his roots

JON HARTHUN  
Mast reporter

Portland based artist Jaycob Van Auken, accompanied by an entire band of talented musicians rocked The Cave with a seamless blend of classic rock and alternative-country. Several dozen student attendees were served a cocktail of sounds via Tom Petty, Bob Dylan, early Ryan Adams, Van Morrison, The Wallflowers and The Allman Brothers on Friday March 10.

As everyone filed in and quieted down, the Oregon foursome set up, plugged in, and rocked out. Van Auken's ear catching solos jumped straight out of the blues section of a dusky vinyl record store. The bright hum of an electric organ illuminated Van Auken's performance, adding a soulful twist to the songs performed that night. The thud and crack of the drums and the low-toned pluck of a bass created the backbone to the sound.

The band had talent, and it showed in Friday's performance. They were like a mimicking parrot perched next to a phonograph, taking in decades worth of guitar licks and catchy choruses, and spitting out the best of what they had heard.

"Jaycob and his band are definitely some of the more talented musicians I've seen perform at The Cave," junior Phillip James said. "It's nice to see someone like them come and play at PLU."

Although comfortable on stage, Van Auken has struggled in the studio. In 2002, after playing for over a decade, he finally released his first major studio album, "Soundtrak." He described the studio as "a scary place...nothing ever sounded the way I wanted it to."

When recording "Soundtrak," Van Auken was able to make the album his way, using just the right people. He describes the album as being a soundtrack to the five years leading up to the recording of the album.

Over those years Van Auken had played with a full band, toured solo, played as a member in other bands, and even aided a number of musicians in recording their albums. Two members of Van Auken's current band were also members in the Portland band The Carolines, with whom Van



Photo by Roxanne Cooke  
Jaycob Van Auken played with a full band, giving PLU students a taste of his latest album "Soundtrak."

Auken played on numerous occasions.

"Soundtrak" was released on the California-based label True American Records. Also in Van Auken's catalog is a raw but warm acoustic album, which was recorded live in concert in 2004.

In a world of noise littered with countless struggling bands and musicians, it's tough to catch a decent tune. Fortunately, throughout that mess of feedback, crackling, and crashes, the sweet sound of talent beams through. The rich blend of rock produced by Jaycob Van Auken projects melody across a business where people try too hard to sound different. Sticking to your roots is sometimes the most productive and fulfilling process when creating music. If it wasn't for the past, we wouldn't have a future in music. Without The Clash there'd be no Green Day. Without David Bowie, we'd have no Arcade Fire. Without Duran Duran, there'd be no such thing as The Killers. And without the Talking Heads, Franz Ferdinand would be out of the picture. Jaycob Van Auken takes the past, twists it into something new and original, and avoids perverting and squeezing the life out of what has inspired him.

## The Melting Pot: the college way

### Enjoying fondue on a college budget is possible



Katy NELSON-PENLAND

As a well-cultured Tacoma resident, and lover of cheese and chocolate, I have wanted to dine at renowned fondue restaurant The Melting Pot for some time, but had been put off by one fact: It is a very expensive restaurant, and I am a poor college student.

Recently a friend informed me that her housemate had eaten at The Melting Pot for only \$13. I wondered how this feat could be accomplished, and the answer was one that evokes joy in every college student over 21: happy hour. The Melting Pot has happy hour specials, but only in their lounge area, from 4:30-6:30 and 9-11 p.m., seven days a week.

Since it was Friday night, three friends and I chose to head downtown to The Melting Pot for the 9 p.m. happy hour.

When happy hour arrived we ordered a small Wisconsin trio. The 'trio' is Fontina, Butterkase and Buttermilk Bleu Cheese, mixed with white wine, scallions, and a 'hint of sherry.' The alcohol is to keep the cheese from congealing too quickly while eating the fondue. The cheese comes in a pot designed specifically for fondue-type dining. You are giving a spearing utensil, a fork, and a plate to indulge in the etiquette that you wish. With the cheese comes three separate bowls - one is a mix of carrots, celery, and cauliflower, another with green apple pieces. In a larger bowl were pieces of assorted breads.

Now, I am a BIG fan of cheese, so I had high hopes for this 'Wisconsin Trio' and they were met. It

was absolutely delicious, creamy, and fantastic. The fruit, veggies, and bread offered were a perfect match with the great taste of this cheese. Our original plan was to have a small cheese and a large dessert, but after realizing how filling cheese really is we opted for a small milk chocolate pot for dessert.

The chocolate is available in several varieties such as milk, dark, and white and comes with slices of banana, pineapple, whole strawberries, marshmallows, and a piece of cheesecake for dipping. You are also provided with new dipping apparatus so that you do not have to mix any cheese and chocolate tastes. My favorite mixture was the pineapple covered in chocolate, but I must admit the cheesecake was very tasty.

We each had a microbrew for the happy hour price of \$2.50 and three of us got an amazing (ridiculously full-priced drink), figuring that saving on everything else could let us splurge. Two of us enjoyed a Guava-kazi for \$9, and the other got the Yin-Yang for \$11. Happy Hour prices are about half of the regular price for the fondue, so the small Wisconsin Trio put us back \$8 and the small milk chocolate dessert was \$7. Even though the auxiliary service was slow (people that bring out drinks, etc.) our waiter was fun and nice. My total ended up at \$17 before the tip. Not too bad for a restaurant that is usually \$40 or more per person.

Overall I enjoyed The Melting Pot experience. The food exceeded both my expectations and what I had heard from others and the price was more in the 'college-student' range, thanks to the discounts of happy hour. I give The Melting Pot a 4.5. The only thing that could have been better was the service, which keeps it from getting the coveted 5 rating.

**The Melting Pot**  
2121 Pacific Avenue  
Tacoma, WA 98402  
(253) 535-3939

Did you know? The Bible devotes some 500 verses on prayer, less than 500 verses on faith, but over 2000 verses on money and possessions. Source: [www.corsinet.com/](http://www.corsinet.com/)

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Sat/Sun: 12:15, 2:20, 4:30, 7:00, 9:05

Mon-Wed: 4:30, 7:00, 9:15

Thurs: 2:20, 4:30, 7:00, 9:15

# Gender Exploration week brings students, community together

## Miss Lute 2006 proves a success

MARTA LARSEN  
Mast reporter

PLU's Residence Hall Association (RHA) wrapped up their Gender Exploration week with the wildly successful "Miss Lute," an annual event at PLU.

Held in Chris Knutzen Hall, RHA decorated the room with black and gold accents on all four walls, as well as life size black paper cutouts of "James Bond" and the "James Bond girls."

The audience, which quickly filled the CK to the point where it was standing room only in the back, focused their attention on the stage in the center of the room, complete with a long runway and a black curtain that the contestants waited patiently behind.

The audience members themselves were encouraged to participate by coming to the event dressed in drag. By scanning the room you could see men dressed as women, women dressed as men, and everybody having a great time.

Third year Erik Husa played the role of the pageant host. Dressed in elegant drag himself, he did a fantastic job of introducing and interviewing the contestants, as well as cracking jokes to the audience.

There were eight judges placed at the end of the runway, all ladies from Harstad wearing tuxes and suits with their hair pulled back to look like men.

The talent portion of the event started off the night with Miss Tinglestad first to perform. Known as Marcus Thompson on a regular basis, Miss Tinglestad had a good time dancing to the song "Ms. Independent" with a drag name "Tina Masina from the Caribbeena." He went all out with James Bond backup dancers, and also had the guts to get down off the stage to dance on the laps of the judges.

Next up was Miss Pflueger, or Richard Cline, all decked out in women's sportswear to imitate Gwen Stefani while he danced to her song "Hollaback Girl." Known to everyone that night as "Kira Likewood," Cline gave a very energetic performance.

The third contestant for Miss Lute 2006 was Dmitry Mikheyev, who held the title of "Miss Nontraditional Hall." Dancing as "Dominique 'Domino' Derval", Mikheyev danced his heart out in short shorts and a belly shirt to the popular song "My Humps" by The Black Eyed Peas. Just to show their appreciation for "Domino," several James Bond 'boys' rushed up to the stage and tucked dollar bills into Mikheyev's shorts and shirt, and the audience ate it up.

"I laughed so hard I almost fell out of my chair," first year Kelsey Carr said. She described Mikheyev's performance as "immensely entertaining."

Mikheyev said Miss Lute was an event he worked hard to prepare for.

"Miss Lute brought out a woman in me," Mikheyev said. "I was always different, rather feminine for a guy, but a male nonetheless. However, when I'm in drag, I become almost a different person. My mannerisms change, my whole behavior. I really worked hard for this: practicing girly walking, posture, sitting, all these details."

Mike Plotke was Miss Hinderlie, and the fourth contestant to dance in the talent portion. Performing as "Sharon Fournier", Plotke's highlights included strutting around in a little tennis skirt and swinging a tennis racket. At the end of his dance, the audience was in for a surprise when a strong young gentleman wearing a muscle suit jumped up on stage and whisked Miss Hinderlie away in his arms.

Miss Hong, Kolby Harvey, turned the tables a bit when it was his turn, and showed the crowd a very classy performance. Dressed in a simple black dress as the drag queen "Nicolette Bon-Bon,"

he sweetly sang to a song all in French. During his interview with Husa, Harvey explained his interest in cooking. When asked what the recipe for the perfect man was, Harvey replied, "That would be two Cups of trust, a teaspoon of kisses, and some cuddle time. Bake it in the oven, and you've got the perfect man!"

Mitch Jones played the part of Miss Ordal next, with the creative name of "Amanda Hug-gankiss." Sporting a sassy purple boa, Jones danced to the Chicago musical hit "When You're Good to Mama." During his interview, Jones was kind enough to share with everyone his experience with "Sex in the Dark," an event which took place earlier during Gender Exploration Week. From this event, Jones learned all about the differences between men and women, as well as gay, lesbian and transgender people, but also about how much everyone has in common.

Miss Stuen, or Chris Phillips, went by "Calysta Ackart" for the night, and gave us a dramatic show encompassing a break-up. Dancing to a song, which included the lyrics "I quit," Phillips danced around a guy who he had very obviously had enough of.

Miss Foss was last, but definitely not least in this extravagant drag pageant. Austin Goble from Foss hall took up the name of "Ashleigh Sunrise," and danced very enthusiastically to "Hey Mickey" in a peppy cheerleading outfit.

All of the Miss Lute contestants then proceeded to walk the runway one by one in first swimming suit attire, then beautiful formal wear.

"I was very impressed with the turnout and involvement of the competition," Carr expressed. "I think the Miss Lute event spread awareness and acceptance to the transgender, gay, lesbian, and bisexual community. It was a perfect way to conclude the Gender Exploration Week!"

While Max Faulkenberg, Miss Lute of 2004, gave us a passionate dance performance to the song "Coin Operated Boy" by the Dresden Dolls, the judges tallied up the scores of this year's contestants. Second runner up ended up being Mitch Jones (Miss Ordal), while first runner up was Austin Goble (Miss Foss). The winner of the night, who was crowned Miss Lute 2006, was none other than Dmitry Mikheyev (Miss Non-Traditional.) Presented with a bouquet of roses and a tiara, teary-eyed Mikheyev waved and expressed his thanks to the judges and audience at the end of the night.

"My parents and little sister were there, they were so happy and proud of me. My Dad later said that he wanted to shout 'That's my son' but was afraid that I would become embarrassed," Mikheyev said. "It was one of the best moments of my life. It's extremely important to me."

## Audience gives itself over to RHA's Gender Exploration version of a cult classic

ANDREW LUCCHESI  
Mast reporter

On Wednesday, March 15, the cave was ablaze with reds, blacks, feather boas and leather as a few dozen PLU students sat down to their first encounter with a live performance of the Rocky Horror Picture Show. The special H.U.M.P. performance was held for this year's Gender Exploration Week, courtesy of the Terrible Thrills performance troop.

As the cult classic played, it appeared that some audience members were taken aback by the experience. It is not surprising that a show known for including corset-clad men, blatant sexuality and over the top audience participation was a culture shock to the mild-mannered students of our little community. Though it may have been a bit more than many in the audience could handle, the Rocky Horror night was undoubt-

**"We were really trying to push the envelope, to shock. We were worried that it would be a bit of a culture shock, but it looks like people had a lot of fun."**  
Kristi Greenaway,  
RHA executive vice-president

edly a part of the Gender Exploration week that will not soon be forgotten.

The Rocky Horror Picture Show was released in 1975; edgy, sexy, and absurd, it was a tremendous failure. It quickly became a cult classic, however, and eventually began showing at midnight in a New York cinema, thus beginning a decades long tradition. Today the show can still be seen in dozens of movie theaters around the country, including Tacoma's own Blue Mouse Theater.

Along with the lovable, improbable sci-fi horror musical itself, the audience at a Rocky Horror showing is treated to a live rendition of the action on the screen performed right below the projected version. Call lines from the audience, props, and group dancing make the night complete.

The official website for Terrible Thrills ([www.terriblethrills.com](http://www.terriblethrills.com)) discusses Rocky Horror and their contribution to the show. "With addictive songs (try getting 'Time Warp' or 'Hot Patootie' out of your head), amusing raunchiness, and an utterly ridiculous plotline, you've got a movie that is certainly no critical threat... but throw in audience participation, props, and a live cast - Terrible Thrills - performing along with the movie at the midnight showing, and you've got a great show!"

The Terrible Thrills cast brought their show to PLU at the request of RHA for Gender Exploration week, which is intended to focus on gender awareness and exploration. When the subjects of transvestitism, homosexuality, hedonism and extreme fetishism are thrown in your face, as they are in Rocky Horror, people are bound to explore their own ideas of gender and sexuality.

Sadly, the Rocky Horror experience of a few weeks ago was not a complete one. The Terrible Thrills performers didn't act out the show under the screen, as tradition dictates; neither did they get as much audience participation as they are used to. I observed a room full of stone-faced students, with a few die-hard fans in amongst them, getting as into the show as they were comfortable. Some got up and danced, but most were content to observe.

"Such a shock helps for a sheltered campus," Roger Oedewaldt, the secretary for Terrible Thrills, said. "For some, it can be an easy wake-up call."

Many of the well-known "callbacks" were shouted by the cast, though they did so from the side, rather than up in front of their audience. Prop bags were also provided by RHA to help the people new to the show get into the action. For example, we were told that when Dr. Frank N. Furter raises his glass and says "A toast!" we were to throw the piece of bread provided for us.

"We were really trying to push the envelope, to shock," said Kristi Greenaway, RHA executive vice-president. "We were worried that it would be a bit of a culture shock, but it looks like people had a lot of fun. Gender awareness is something everyone needs to know about, and the PLU community seems to be really receptive to it. We've had more people than expected at all of the Gender Exploration events so far."

Terrible Thrills puts on their full show every second and fourth Saturday of the month at the Blue Mouse Theater at midnight. For more information, go to [www.terriblethrills.com](http://www.terriblethrills.com).

The Gender Exploration week is very new, and still growing, so it will almost certainly continue to shock and educate as it firmly cements its place in the hearts of the PLU community.

"We can always improve, and make it better. We will probably do it again next year," Greenaway said.



Gwen Nakano, Michelle Baskett, Julia Clow and Jenuwine Beaute spoke on March 14 in the Scandinavian Cultural Center for the Transgender Panel. The event was a part of RHA's Gender Exploration week, along with "Miss Lute" and a screening of the "Rocky Horror Picture Show."

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**The Haver PUB**

# Verdict: "V" is for victorious

Current affairs play a role both within the film and following the film's release

MATT MCVAY  
Mast columnist

"Remember, remember the fifth of November." These iconic words are spoken by the man known only as "V," a terrorist/freedom fighter in the hit movie "V for Vendetta." The phrase is a reminder of an attempted attack on the Houses of Parliament by Guy Fawkes in 1605. He was found underneath the building with several dozen barrels of gunpowder and was executed for treason. V, played by Hugo Weaving, likewise vows that he will cripple the government.

In a not-too-distant future England, V is the last voice untouched by the government, which has turned into a totalitarian regime ruled by the High Chancellor, played by John Hurt. Evey, played by Natalie Portman, is saved by V, and through her eyes, the character of V is explored. Is he a madman terrorist bent on exacting revenge on the government who ruined his life or is he something more, an embodiment of a revolution long over due? That is for you, the audience, to decide.

"V for Vendetta" is based on the graphic novel of the same name written by Alan Moore whose other works that have been adapted for the screen include "From Hell" and "League of Extraordinary Gentlemen." Not exactly glowing examples, I know, but keep in mind that Alan Moore has never endorsed those film adaptations, nor has he ever seen them because they are changed so much from the original material. This movie was also released without Alan Moore's endorsement, which is a shame because this was probably the best interpretation of his work, and even improved upon it a little.

That wasn't the only problem this film had before it was released. "V for Vendetta" was supposed to come out November 4, the day before that of the climax in the film. However, around August of last year, the studio announced that the film would be pushed back until March, which is never good publicity for a film. A push back usually indicates that the studio is unhappy with the film and wants

more work done. Warner Brothers did make a statement that the film needed more post-production work, while some speculate that the setback was due to the London subway bombings in July, as there are scenes of the subway getting bombed. The studio denies these claims but it seems like a convenient coincidence.

That isn't the only controversy surrounding the film. During its review release, many were equating it to the current government, and making assumptions that this is a Bush-bashing film. Even in current press junkets Natalie Portman was asked how she feels that people will call her an Al Qaida sympathizer. I can see how people are making this assumption, but they are taking it too far, in my opinion. It has political themes, but if you read into the Muppets Take Manhattan, I bet you could find a Cold War, communist, subliminal message if you try hard enough. The fact is, the book was written in 1980. Some things have been modernized, but this story is saying what many have said before: be careful with your government because things could go bad if no one is watching. Even Thomas Jefferson thought that there should be a revolt every few decades just to keep the government on its toes.

Now put all politics and current affairs aside, and you have a great movie. The story draws the audience in to care about the characters and before you know it, 2 hours and 10 minutes has gone by like a flash of lightning. But don't expect just a load of action heaped onto a pile of adventure, because this is a thinking movie. The action scenes are amazing, and V's extremely calculated plan is fascinating, and you'll forget that there isn't as much action as you thought.

This movie was well acted and shot, and just generally well-made. The violence is a bit extreme at times but not overly gory. I feel that its R rating is more about the plot line than the body count. See this movie and just let it all sink in.



Audience members at an IMAX screening of "V for Vendetta" were provided with masks of the character "V" at a theater in New York on Thursday, March 16.

# New ways to see the stars



## Top 10: Ways to meet celebrities

As you've probably noticed from past columns, we in the United States have a mild, harmless obsession with celebrities. It should come as no surprise: beautiful, rich people that are on every newsstand and commercial practically begging for attention. Quite frankly, we don't understand why more people don't share our hobby. Once you get past the restraining orders and legal jargon, meeting celebrities can be a thrilling and rewarding hobby. Whether it's Kristin from *Laguna Beach* or Christopher Walken, there is a celebrity that will appeal to you. The trick is figuring out how to meet them. Fortunately, through trial and error, as well as multiple court appearances in 17 states, we have compiled a beginner's guide to stalking, er, meeting the celeb of your dreams.

10. Fan mail: Oh Keira Knightley, how you haunt our dreams. Let the celeb that you have your eye on know just how much you care with fan mail. Everyone loves a good compliment, especially if it's in the form of 1,183 hand-written letters. If you're lucky, you'll score a photo hand-signed by the actor's assistant.

9. Start small: A rookie can't expect to meet Chuck Norris on their first attempt. We suggest starting with lesser known actors. They are much more accessible and often more receptive to being hugged. Mickey Mouse is a good one to start with. Known worldwide, you know you'll find him in Disneyland, and he always seems so happy to see you. That is, until you attempt to reveal his true identity. Then you'll get escorted off the property by Captain Hook and Nemo, which is an amazingly awkward situation.

8. Visit filming locations: Celebrities work for their money just like the rest of us. The trick is to figure out exactly where that will be. Even if you have to settle for Carmen Electra's latest straight-to-video flop, find the location and sneak

onto the set. Sometimes you might have to pose as a caterer, a mourner at a cemetery, or even dress in drag, but it's always worth it in the end.

7. Sneak onto the red carpet: Similar to the aforementioned, although the stakes are much higher. Find a tux or dress at Value Village, and then sneak past the 17 levels of security. You'll be surrounded by stars, and might even get treated like one yourself. Just don't get caught or you might feel like you're in a bad episode of "24."

6. Locate relatives: For the morally flexible fan. Make friends with Johnny Depp's sister's godson's daughter. Hardcore fans might even want to marry a celebrity's relative. If they don't show up to the wedding, at least you'll be able to say that you're related to someone famous (even if it is about as close a relation as your relation to a monkey).

5. Join the Paparazzi: Chasing celebs and getting paid for it. About as good a job as there is. Not only that, but you'll have major publications bankrolling your court cases, which is a major plus.

4. Go to a Lakers game: Jack Nicholson and a handful of other famous figures are as much a part of Lakers games as the Lakers girls. Not that we have man-crushes on Jack or anything like that.

3. Join the Democratic Party: If there is one truth in this crazy world, it's that dating shows are a universal guilty pleasure. Right behind that, though, is that Hollywood is liberal. Throw a Democratic convention, or better yet, start a campaign, and wait for a call from Ben Affleck. On second thought, maybe we will avoid party affiliations.

2. Become famous yourself: As renowned columnists, we've found that celebrities are naturally attracted to other famous people. Try not to become too imposing of a figure, however, as we seem to be too intimidating for celebrities to approach us.

1. "Happen" to be in the right place at the right time: It worked in that one Julia Roberts movie *Notting Hill* (not that we've seen it), so it must be true. "Happen" to run into a celeb on the street or in a bookstore, and they'll instantly fall in love with you. You might have to follow them around for a while, but eventually destiny will smile on you. If not, we'll have to re-evaluate our dating strategy.

# An ode to women's favorite accessory

Shoes are not just a material object, they can evoke a variety of memories



Jenni Jensen  
Life lessons

I can't help it, but I'm obsessed with shoes. I no longer have any closet space for shoes, and I've purchased eight pairs last week alone (though that was definitely more than usual). In my defense, I was on vacation. I don't know why I love shoes so much. So many colors, shapes, designs heel sizes and types to choose from can make a girl go crazy.

Sitting in a chair at Nordstrom, dangling my feet to view a pair of Jessica Simpson wedges for a willing salesman is true therapy. No matter how much my jean size may grow, my feet always stay at a happily small size six. Shoes can never make me feel fat, no matter how many french fries I've indulged in that day.

Yet shoes are not just a way to make women happy. I believe, and check your closet at home if you don't believe me, that every pair of shoes can tell a story. I would go through every pair in my closet, but as you might guess, it would probably take up the entire issue of *The Mast*.

But there are those certain shoes, and the stories they tell, that stick out in your mind. My suede tan, knee-length boots, I happened to come across at the Powder Room in Seattle, on my way to move in to the dorms this year. They're always an issue of pride for me, as I found the extremely expensive-looking boots for just 20 dollars. I wore my BCBG pointy-toed, chocolate

brown, leather heels on my first date with my boyfriend. I remember my feet killing me as we tried to walk over rocks to look out at the Bellingham bay, but I knew it was worth it when I pulled them off during our game of bowling and he deemed them "hot."

Finally, my Isabella Fiore baby blue flats were my first super designer shoes. They always make me think of where I got them, my favorite place to visit, Austin, Texas—a town where I always feel most like myself.

I encourage you to start reminiscing about the stories you share with your shoes. Look through your closet and dig up the memories. Shoes are the photo albums of your life—the memory of prom night, your first job interview, the day you walk down the aisle. Shoes walk through the best, and the worst moments in life.

Notice how many sexy scenes capture the shoes coming out of the car before anything else? So make sure while you're walking through life, making memories—make them stylish.

## Did you know?

Almonds and pistachios are the only nuts mentioned in the Bible.

Source: [www.corsinet.com/trivia](http://www.corsinet.com/trivia)

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# Suggested candidates to replace Harshman

## Hall of Fame and well-known coaches will make a good fit

NICK PAGE

Mast sports columnist

There are winds of change down in the Athletic Office these days. Dave Harshman resigned as the men's basketball coach the week before Spring Break. Athletic Director, Laurie Turner, has opened a national search to find his replacement and wants to have someone hired by May 1<sup>st</sup>. My colleague and I would like to take the chance to offer a few suggestions for Harshman's successor.

**Cameron Dollar** – Dollar is an assistant coach at the UW and has played an important role in the resurrection of that program.

He also has head coaching experience. He coached at Southern California College in Costa Mesa when he was 22, and at the time was the youngest college head coach in the country. He's only 30 and could stay around for a long time.

**Lenny Wilkens** – Wilkens is an NBA Hall of Famer and has won a NBA title with the Sonics. He's been retired for a few years now, but what a great story if he came out of retirement to coach a small, Lutheran, Division III school back into basketball prominence. The name recognition alone would be worth its weight in gold during recruiting season.

**Mike Bethea** – Bethea is the head coach of Rainier Beach High School in Seattle, which is probably the top High

School program in the state. He consistently has his teams ranked on the national level and has won multiple state championships.

He also knows how to develop athletes. Nate Robinson and Jamal Crawford of the New York Knicks both went to Rainier Beach and played for Bethea. PLU would also be able to recruit of the Seattle school district very well because prospects would be familiar with Bethea.

**Jim Larranaga** – The man responsible for George Mason's amazing Final Four run is my personal favorite. He is a carefree players coach, who is more concerned with the team aspect of the game rather than feeding the ball to a star player. His players love him and you can't argue with his results. The only problem is that he is quickly becoming a hot coaching commodity.

**Quin Snyder** – I know Tim already mentioned him but he would be a decent candidate. He's got local ties and has had some success in the past. He does some a little sleazy to me, but that's nothing a good Lutheran school can't fix.

Any of these candidates would be good hires in my mind. It would be a pretty tall order getting any of them to come here. I have faith in Turner to make the right decision and look forward to next season.



Third and long and we're swinging for the fences

## Former NBA and Division I coaches will bring success

TIM KELLY

Mast sports columnist

After many losing seasons it has come time for PLU to hire a new men's head basketball

coach. I don't know who Athletic Director Laurie Turner is looking at as a replacement, but I have come up with some possible ideas that she could get in contact with before the self-imposed May 1 deadline.

**Quin Snyder** – Here is a coach with an outstanding pedigree. A local product (Mercer Island), Snyder attended Duke where he was an All-American player and later an assistant coach.

He took his first job at Missouri and led the team to an Elite Eight run but struggled late in his tenure.

Maybe he was outmatched by coaching at the Division I level or maybe he just recruited the wrong kind of player to Missouri.

He is young and has a lot of energy and can hopefully learn from his previous coaching mistakes and turn the Lutes around.

**Bob Weiss** – Here is a coach who got a raw deal in Seattle. He is a player's coach and the Sonics players wanted him to lead them after Nate McMillan bolted to Portland.

He has been out of work for a few months now and is probably itching at a chance to get back after a forced early exit.

Weiss brings decades of NBA coaching experience and could help the PLU athletes get to the next level.

**Dick Bennett** – It was only a few weeks ago that Bennett retired and I am sure at this point he is wishing he would not have. Well, then again maybe he did because he was coaching in Pullman.

Though not as peaceful as Pullman, Parkland is close enough to attract the big-city players that would not join Bennett at WSU.

Bennett's coaching style will also bring in defense, something the program has been lacking.

**Gil Rigell** – Sure he already has a job, but why couldn't he coach the men? I am not saying he should leave the women to coach the men but for him to coach both.

Scheduling will not be a problem as the men's team follows the women's games during conference play. What coach wouldn't love to have two games a day?

Practices can be held at the same time with the different teams going against each other.

With Rigell at the helm of the men's team, they could eventually duplicate the success of the women's program the past few years.

It's one in a million that one of these coaches gets hired under the circumstances, but hopefully PLU can find itself a coach that can rival the success of the cross-town Loggers.

# Two Lutes set meet records at Puget Sound Open

## PLU set to compete at Western Oregon Open this weekend

TYLER OCHSNER

Mast sports reporter

Michael Johnson and Megan Wochnick were among nine Lute competitors to record season-best marks in track and field events at the Puget Sound Open last weekend at the University of Puget Sound.

Johnson's toss of 169-5 and Wochnick's distance of 155-3 both established new meet records in the hammer throw and both surpassed the provisional qualifying standard for the NCAA Division III national meet.

"I knew he [Johnson] was capable of throwing that distance, but I didn't think he would be would set that mark this early," sprinter James Burnett said. "I think he should be able to set a higher mark later in the season."

Johnson also competed in five other events and won two others. He won the shot put (446 1/4) and discus (129-4). Additionally, he finished third in the javelin (131-11), sixth in the long jump (15-2) and fifth in the triple jump (34 - 7 3/4).

Wochnick's mark in the hammer throw exceeded the previous Puget Sound Open record, which she had set last year. She also competed in two other events, taking second in the discus (118-4) and third in the shot put (34 - 2 3/4).

"It is no surprise to see her [Wochnick] name at the top," sprinter Danny Hibbard said. "She is a veteran competitor."

Alongside Johnson and Wochnick, other Lutes recorded their personal bests of the season in both track and field events.

Brian Price recorded his best marks of the season in the discus (103-11) and the javelin (157-05). Jordan Bahr won the javelin competition with a throw of 161-6.

In individual running events, Chris Ramirez recorded a season best in the 800 meters with a time of 2 minutes, 15.07 seconds.

As a relay team, Neil Colombini, Luke Weinbrecht, Andrew Albrecht and James Burnett finished first in the 400-meter relay in 44.82.

"After the 4 x 100 relay, hail came down for a couple of minutes," Burnett said. "There was a cold and heavy wind which hindered some of the running events."

However, Hibbard said the Lute competitors did not allow the outside factors to affect their performance.

This tough mental focus may have caused a decrease in time for sprinters and an increase in distance for throwers.

"You can't allow yourself to perform under peak because the weather isn't optimal," Hibbard said. "You can't let the weather play games with your mind."

Similar to the men, female Lutes did not seem to let weather dictate their performances. Julie Richard reached season best marks in the discus (122-7) and hammer (128-1), winning first and placing third respectively at the Puget Sound Open.

Stephanie Lewis placed third in the discus as she recorded her best mark of the season (108-2). Rebecca Lewis also tallied her furthest leap of the year in the triple jump (30-11) and finished in third position as well.

**"We always have fun, play hard, and work hard."**

**James Burnett**  
Sprinter



Photo by Dave Gizzard / PLU Sports Information

Senior Michael Johnson throws the hammer during the Puget Sound Open March 24. Johnson won three events at the meet and was one of two Lutes to set meet records in the hammer throw.

Other outstanding results included Laura Bonino's win in the pole vault (9-0 1/4), Taylor Hacker's second-place finish in the shot put (34-7 3/4) and Loreen Ranjel's second-place performance in the javelin (109-0).

"We always have fun, play hard, and work hard," Burnett said. "Hopefully this will lead to good results."

Following individual heptathlon/decaathlon events held at Linfield this week, the track and field teams return to action on April 1 when they travel to Monmouth, Ore., for the Western Oregon University Open.

# Baseball evens its record over break

SEAN MCILRAITH  
Mast sports reporter

The Lute baseball team had no chance to rest during Spring Break as the team played nine games in nine days.

PLU won three and lost six, putting its overall record at 12-12, 6-6 in conference play.

"We knew it was going to be a tough break," head coach Geoff Loomis said. "We tried to get as much out of our team as we could."

The Lutes opened up with a three-game home series against Lewis & Clark, taking two of three from the Pioneers.

The teams split the double-header, with PLU winning the first game 12-10, and dropping the second 2-1.

PLU took the rubber match with an 11-5 victory. Infielder Eric Stanczyk dropped in six hits, four runs, and three RBIs for the series victory.

The Lutes traveled across the Cascades Tuesday to take on the Central Washington Wildcats, but the Lutes could not muster enough offense.

They fell 11-3 and 12-2.

The following day, the Lutes returned to the West Coast to take on the Saints of St. Martin's.

Timely hitting and great pitching were the keys to the Lutes 8-3 victory over the Saints.

Infielder/pitcher Brett Brunner pitched well for the Lutes, going eight innings, allowing nine hits, and striking out six.

"Brett pitched great for us against St. Martin's," Loomis

said. "We needed to get some energy back after the Central losses."

PLU was initially down 2-0 but rallied to score five runs in the fourth inning to take the lead on infielder Bobby Benes's RBI double.

Offensively, PLU had four players with multiple hits: outfielder/pitcher Justin Whitehall with three, catcher David Fox with two, Stanczyk with three, and catcher Brandon Sales with two.

"It was nice to get back on track at least for one game," Fox said. "We were solid on all sides of the ball."

However, last weekend was a different story for the Lutes as they dropped three games to the UPS Loggers.

PLU had beaten UPS 3-1 to open the season back in February, but the Loggers were ready for the Lutes this time.

UPS struck down PLU with 3-2 and 9-2 victories on Saturday and a 7-2 victory on Sunday.

"They played well and we played awful," Fox said. "They seemed to make all the plays we didn't and catch all the breaks."

We were hitting the ball hard and deep, but they always seemed to be right there to make a play."

The first game between the Lutes and Loggers was a

close 3-2 UPS victory.

PLU had a 2-0 lead going into the sixth, but UPS scored two runs in the sixth and one in the seventh.

Lute pitcher Joe DiPietro went six innings, allowing five hits and two runs while striking out four Loggers.

"We could never get all of the facets of our team to work during the weekend," DiPietro said. "If we were pitching well, we weren't hitting, and if we were hitting well, we weren't pitching well."

The Lutes return to the PLU baseball diamond for the next two weekends. Tomorrow and Sunday, the Menlo Oaks come to town with a 10-11 record.

Since this series is non-conference, it will give the Lutes a chance to relax and reorganize.

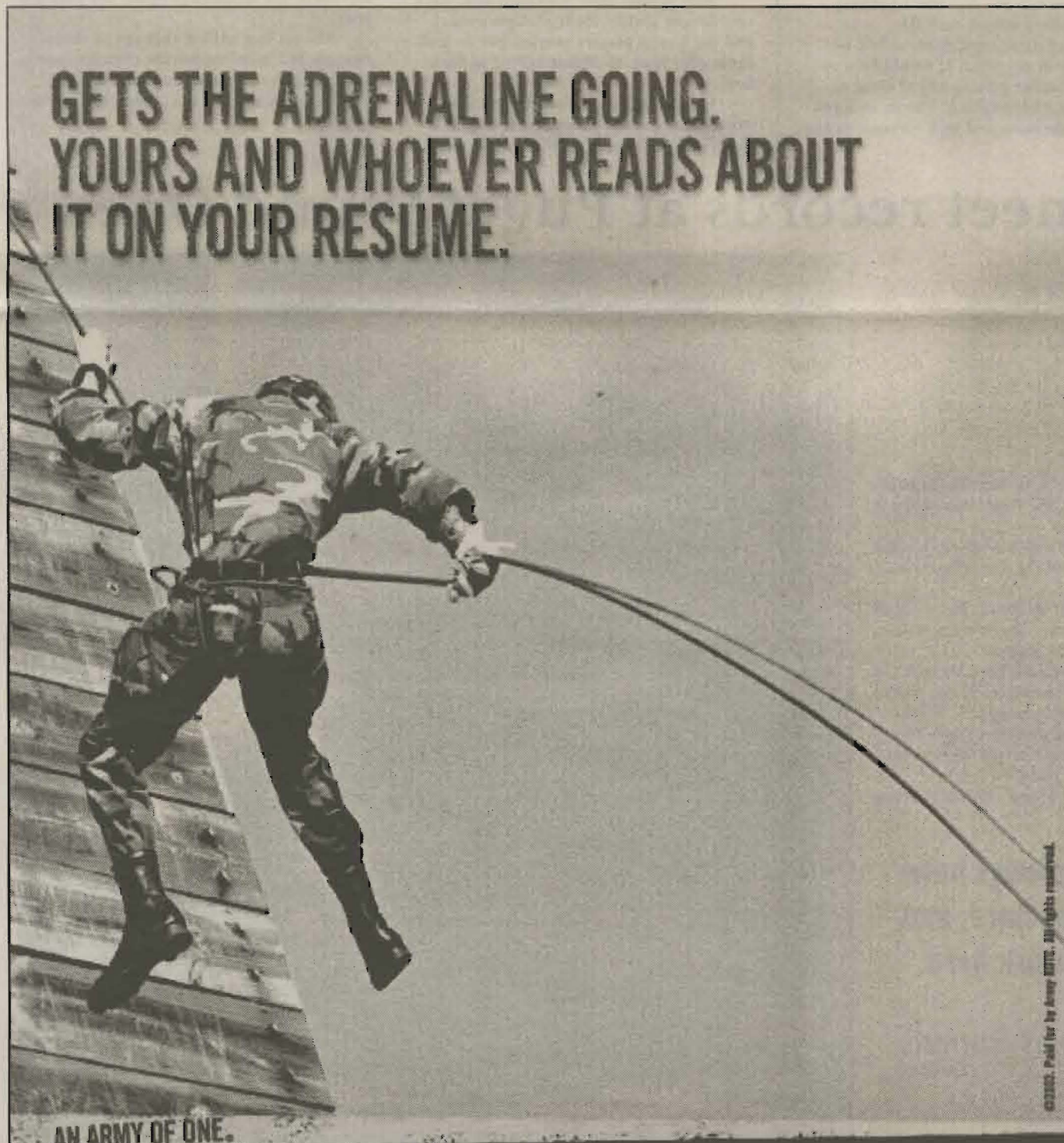
"A lot of the teams in our conference are gearing up and playing better ball against us," Loomis said. "We let our guard down last week and are ready to get back on track."

Last weekend was not a letdown. I know our guys have been putting in the time and I expect us to rebound this weekend against Menlo."

Saturday's home double-header against the Oaks is set to begin with the first pitch at noon. Sunday's single game is set for noon as well.

**"We could never get all of the facets of our team to work during the weekend."**

Joe DiPietro  
Pitcher



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## Head men's basketball coach steps down

Story courtesy of PLU Sports Information

Dave Harshman, men's basketball head coach at Pacific Lutheran University for the past four seasons, has announced his decision to resign.

"It was an honor and privilege to be asked to coach for PLU," Harshman said. "It has been an experience that was rewarding and challenging at the same time."

After his four seasons at PLU, Harshman says it is time for a change.

"It's clear now that the program needs to move in a different direction and that I need to look forward to new professional opportunities," Harshman said. "It's a good decision for me and for PLU."

Harshman has no immediate plans for future employment. He will step down at the end of the month.

"We appreciate Coach Harshman's service to PLU and his dedication to men's basketball here. We wish him well in his future endeavors," said Laurie Turner, director of athletics.

Turner said that Steve Dickerson has been named the interim head coach. Dickerson has served as an assistant coach for the past three seasons, including the last two as associate head coach.

A national search for his replacement has begun and the plan is to have a new head coach selected by May 1.

Harshman's teams compiled a record of 26-74, including 17-47 in the Northwest Conference.

	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
<b>THIS WEEK IN SPORTS</b>	• Women's tennis hosts Lewis & Clark at 3:30 p.m.	• The PLU baseball team plays a doubleheader against Menlo on the PLU Field. First pitch is at noon.	• The men's and women's golf teams compete at the NWC Spring Classic in Pendleton Ore., beginning at 10 a.m.	• The NCAA Division I men's basketball championship will be played. Time TBA.	• The NCAA Division I women's basketball championship will be played. Time TBA.	• The Portland Trail Blazers host the Houston Rockets at the Rose Garden. Tip-off is set for 7 p.m.	• The Mariners host the Oakland Athletics for the first game of a three-game series. First pitch is at 7:05 p.m.

# Swinging away: My picks for 2006 MLB playoffs.

## Cardinals should slide into World Series Championship after some interesting playoffs



**Brent CHANTLER**

April is just around the corner, and that means Major League Baseball's opening day is, too. This year's divisional races are going to be very tight, as free agency has changed the face of many teams in baseball. Storylines are also going to be running rampant, as many players will be providing water cooler talk for the entire season.

I am here to help the faithful fan sort through the mess of teams, players and off-season moves and let you know who will be playing in October and what players will be making an impact this season.

### AL West Champs:

**Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim**  
Even though the Rangers added pitching in Kevin Millwood, and even more offensive production in first baseman Phil Nevin, the Angels are still packed with a solid team.

The Angels have one of the best hitters in baseball in Vladimir Guerrero, and though they lost pitcher Jarrod Washburn to our Mariners, they still have a great starting rotation and a bullpen that is great in the clutch.

It is going to be another wild ride in

the AL West, but in the end, look for the Angels to take the pennant.

### AL Central Champs: Chicago White Sox

I will admit it: I thought this team was a fluke. I was very surprised when the team won the World Series last season, but the more and more I study it, the more impressed I become.

Not only did the Sox add to the inning-eating starting rotation with Javier Vasquez, but they also added more offensive help with speedy infielder Alex Cintron, and hard-hitting first basemen Jim Thome.

What makes this choice even easier is the fact that its biggest division rivals, the Indians and the Twins, did nothing in the off-season that will help them compete. The defending champs will be back in the playoffs.

### AL East Champs: Boston Red Sox

This was a really tough choice. The Toronto Blue Jays added a lot of depth with the likes of Troy Glaus, closer B.J. Ryan, and starting pitcher A.J. Burnett. The Yankees also added some depth to their bullpen—and took part of the heart and soul of the Red Sox—in Johnny Damon.

However, I do not see that adding up to much, and I see the Red Sox coming away with the division come October. They added Josh Beckett, who is going to be a great addition to complement Schilling, Clement and Wakefield. They also added a solid veteran in J.T. Snow and got a solid outfielder in Coco Crisp. This is going to be a fun team to watch. Other teams better watch out for them come playoff time.

### AL Wild-Card Winner: Seattle Mariners

This does not have to do with just being from Seattle. It is going to come down to the wire, but I think the Mariners have the tools to pull it off.

Japanese catcher Kenji Jojima has been

impressive in spring training. Adrian Beltre had a great run in the World Baseball Classic. He is hitting the ball harder than he did all of last season.

Along with new pitcher Jarrod Washburn, I really think these guys have what it takes to get into the post-season. It will not be easy, but come mid-September, do not be surprised if Seattle will "refuse to lose" one more time.

### AL Champion: Boston Red Sox

I just have this feeling that they are going to be hungry to get back to the World Series. This is the year for them to prove they can do more than just break a curse.

The national league is full of some great potential pennant races. Many teams vastly improved their roster and are looking to take home their divisional crown. Here is who I think will still be around for post-season play.

### NL West Champs: Los Angeles Dodgers

This might just be the worst division in baseball. Regardless, somebody has to come out of it, and I think that California will be well represented as the Dodgers take home the NL West crown. Their pitching is going to be a big question mark, but the additions of Furcal, Garciparra and J.D. Drew give them a better defense, a more potent offense and a chance to shine in a meager division.

### NL Central Champs: St. Louis Cardinals

This division might be closer than some people think. If the Cubs' rotation can stay healthy, they are going to be a force to be reckoned with. However, it is hard to beat a team like the Cardinals, which had baseball's best record last season. The Cardinals will win, barely. Look for this race to come down to one of the final weekends of the season.

### NL East Champs: Atlanta Braves

Everybody in baseball is waiting for

the day this team does not win a division title. Well, it will not happen this year, as the Braves will once again take the NL East.

The addition of Carlos Delgado in New York will make it tough, but the Mets really need to work on pitching and team chemistry before they can challenge the Brave dynasty. Chalk up another win for Bobby Cox. He might just be the best manager of all time.

### NL Wild Card Winner: Chicago Cubs

The Red Sox did it in 2004, the White Sox got the monkeys off their backs last season, and this season the Cubs will once again return to post-season play. Their rotation is arguably the best in baseball when it is healthy, and Derek Lee has turned himself into one of the best players in the game. These guys could do some major damage in the National League and will squeak by Houston to take the wild card.

### NL Champion: St. Louis Cardinals

They might just be the new Atlanta Braves: They do a great job in the regular season, and come up just short during the playoffs. It will not happen this year however, as the boys from St. Louis take out the rest of the competition and meet up with the Red Sox in a rematch of the 2004 World Series.

### World Series:

#### Cardinals over Red Sox in six

Albert Pujols is going to be on a mission this year, and the Cardinals will finally get revenge on the Red Sox for their sweep of the series in 2004. Tony LaRussa and company will bring the World Series title back to the national league.

I have only just begun to talk about what is in store for the upcoming season. With so many great players and so many great teams and rivalries, it is going to be an action-packed season from start to finish. Enjoy the 2006 baseball season!

# Scorecard

### Men's Lacrosse

#### Division B - North 2006 Standings

Team	Division Wins	Division Losses
WWU	5	1
Whitman	2	1
PLU	1	1
UPS	1	3
CWU	0	1
L & C	0	3

### Tennis

#### Standings Men

	NWC	All
Whitman	10-0	14-5
PLU	9-1	10-6
Linfield	7-3	8-6
UPS	7-3	7-3
Whitworth	5-3	5-5
Willamette	2-8	2-8
L & C	2-7	2-7
George Fox	2-8	2-8
Pacific	0-11	0-11

### Tennis

#### Standings Women

	NWC	All
Linfield	10-0	13-2
UPS	9-1	9-1
PLU	6-3	8-5
Whitman	6-3	6-9
Whitworth	6-3	7-4
Willamette	3-7	4-8
George Fox	2-8	2-9
L & C	1-9	1-9
Pacific	0-6	0-10

### Baseball

Team	NWC	%	GB	All %
George Fox	9-3	.750	—	15-6 .714
Pacific	8-4	.667	1	12-10 .545
Linfield	6-3	.667	1.5	12-9 .571
UPS	6-3	.667	1.5	9-13 .409
Whitworth	5-4	.556	2.5	
11-11	.500			
Willamette	8-7	.533	2.5	
13-10	.565			
PLU	6-6	.500	3	12-11 .521
L & C	3-9	.250	6	7-17 .292
Whitman	0-12	.000	9	0-20 .000

### Softball

#### Standings

Team	NWC	%	GB	All %
Linfield	6-2	.750	—	12-4 .750
PLU	6-2	.750	—	13-7 .650
UPS	5-3	.625	1	15-5 .750
Pacific	5-3	.625	1	13-7 .650
Whitworth	5-3	.526	1	10-8 .556
Willamette	3-3	.500	2	7-9 .438
L & C	4-8	.333	4	4-15 .210
George Fox	0-10	.000	7	1-15 .063

#### PLU baseball at Puget Sound UPS 12, PLU 7

Player	A	B	R	H	RBI	BB	SO	PO	LOB
Simon, Jared 2b.....	5	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	
Thorne, Ryan cf.....	4	1	3	2	1	0	1	0	
Whitehall, Justin rf.....	4	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	
Stanczyk, Eric 1b.....	4	1	1	0	1	2	9	2	
Fox, David dh.....	5	0	2	2	0	1	0	0	
Benes, Bobby 3b.....	3	2	2	1	0	1	1	0	
Sales, Brandon c.....	5	0	1	0	0	2	1	2	
Andrews, Logan ss.....	5	1	2	1	0	0	5	4	
Bowen, Chris lf.....	2	1	0	0	1	0	3	0	
Fulmer, Aaron p.....	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	
Stanford, Dylan p.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Post, Jordan p.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
Brunner, Brett p.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
Totals.....	37	7	12	7	5	5	24	17	10
Totals.....	37	13	17	13	8	3	27	16	11

### Softball vs. Wisc. - Stevens Point

at Rebel Classic  
Kissimmee, Fla.  
Wisc. Stevens-Point 5, PLU 2

#### Player AB R H RBI BB SO PO A LOB

Hazen, Ericka 3b.....	3	0	0	0	1	0	2	0
Stuhlmiller, Liz cf.....	3	1	2	0	0	1	0	0
Ruecker, Gretchen 1b.....	3	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
Tauscher, Theresa ss.....	3	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Lopez, Ashley dh.....	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	3
Gilbert, Lisa dh.....	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kenck, Beth 2b.....	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Swope, Jennifer c.....	3	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Waldron, Missy rf.....	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Gallant, Katie lf.....	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cornwell, Jackie lf.....	3	1	1	0	2	1	0	1
Howard, Candace p.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Totals.....	27	2	6	2	0	6	21	7

### Softball vs. Western Connecticut

at Rebel Classic  
Kissimmee, Fla.  
PLU 10, WCU 0

Hazen, Ericka 3b.....	4	3	3	1	0	0	2	0
Stuhlmiller, Liz cf.....	4	1	3	1	0	0	3	0
Ruecker, Gretchen 1b.....	3	2	2	3	1	1	3	0
Tauscher, Theresa ss.....	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Gilbert, Lisa dh.....	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kirkevoid, Cathy p.....	2	0	1	2	2	0	0	2
Hymes, Kalia pr.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Swope, Jennifer c.....	2	1	1	0	2	0	1	0
Schutt, Alana dh.....	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Kenck, Beth 2b.....	3	1	2	1	0	4	1	2
Cornwell, Jackie lf.....	3	2	2	2	0	2	1	3
Waldron, Missy rf.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Totals.....	28	10	14	10	5	21	5	8

### This week in Lute Athletics

**Thursday, March 30**  
Men's Tennis vs. Puget Sound, 3 p.m.

**Friday, March 31**  
Men's Tennis at Lewis & Clark, 10 a.m.

Men's Tennis at Lewis & Clark, 2 p.m. (split squad)

Men's Tennis at George Fox, 3 p.m. (split squad)

Women's Tennis vs. Lewis & Clark, 3:30 p.m.

Track at WOU Open, Monmouth, Ore., TBA

**Saturday, April 1**  
Baseball vs. Menlo, 12 p.m. (2)

Softball at Willamette, 1 p.m. (2)

Track at WOU Open, Monmouth, Ore., TBA

M/W Crew at NCRC Invitational, Vancouver, Wash., TBA

Women's Golf at NWC Spring Classic, Pendleton, Ore. (Wildhorse GC), 12 p.m.

**Sunday, April 2**  
Baseball vs. Menlo, 12 p.m.

Softball at Pacific, 12 p.m. (2)

Men's Golf at NWC Spring Classic, Pendleton, Ore. (Wildhorse GC), 12 p.m.

Women's Golf at NWC Spring Classic, Pendleton, Ore. (Wildhorse GC), 10 a.m.

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# Softball catches 4-4 tournament record

ANDREW CARPENTER  
Mast sports reporter

The Lute softball team had the opportunity to travel to Kissimmee, Fla., over Spring Break to play in the Rebel Classic. The tournament consisted of eight games over six days. The Lutes fought to an even 4-4 record in the tournament. Their overall record is now 13-7.

Players were asked if different strategies were going to be used during this series.

"Our strategy playing teams outside the Northwest Conference didn't really change. First baseman Gretchen Ruecker said. "It's always interesting to not be familiar with the other teams' players and strategies. Within the NW Conference, we know the pitchers and hitters on the other teams, so we

have a bit of a heads-up going into the games."

Pitcher Cathy Kirkevold also said there were differences in the games.

"One thing that was really different that we had to change was how much warmup time we had before the game," Kirkevold said. "Usually we have about 2 hours, but for this tournament we had less than an hour."

In the first game on Sunday, the Lutes played New Jersey's Ramapo College Roadrunners and lost 4-2 in extra innings.

The Lutes took an early lead in the fourth inning when Ruecker led off with a single, then stole second base and was able to score on infielder/catcher Beth Kenck's infield hit. Ramapo tied the 1-1 score in the top of the seventh when their leadoff batter walked and then advanced to second on a sacrificial bunt, ran to third on a passed ball, and scored on

a wild pitch. The Roadrunners continued by scoring three more runs in the top of the eighth with a two-run single and a wild pitch and allowed the Lutes to only score one run in the bottom half of the inning.

In the second game of the day, the Lutes played the Illinois Wesleyan University Titans. After taking a two-run lead in the first, they went scoreless for the rest of the game, as IWU rallied back for three runs in the bottom of the first and two more in the sixth en route to a 5-2 win. Erika Hazen had two hits, Alana Schutt and Beth Kenck each drove in a run.

"It was different with the heat and the way the Rebel Classic was ran but I found myself enjoying it," Kirkevold said.

After taking Monday off, the Lutes returned to the tournament and knocked off Baptist Bible College 7-0. After a scoreless five innings for both teams, the Lutes scored two in the sixth and five in the seventh to seal the victory.

Kirkevold went the distance by pitching the entire game to improve her record to 3-2 for the season.

The Big Blue of Millikin University (Ill.) scored nine runs in the first inning of the second game on Tuesday and continued their dominant lead in the second, third, fourth and sixth innings. The Lutes scored three runs in both the third and fourth innings, but it was not enough to overcome the early deficit. The Lutes lost the game 16-6.

The Lutes continued play on Thursday by winning both of their games. The Lutes finished Augsburg College (Minn.) in five innings, winning 8-0. Candace Howard pitched a two-hitter for her fifth win of the season.

In the fourth inning, the Lutes were on the scoreboard with a single run but their bats exploded in the fifth with seven runs. The game was called with only two outs due to the eight-run mercy rule.

The Endicott (Mass.) Gulls played the Lutes for their second game of the day and the Lutes won handily, 7-2. The Lutes scored the first seven runs of the game, capped by a two-run triple by Ruecker and a two-run home run by Kirkevold, both in the fifth inning.

The Lutes wrapped up their Spring Break trip on Friday with a split.

"At times we played amazing softball," Ruecker said. "The games we lost we beat ourselves. We didn't play with passion in the games we lost. For a few moments we forgot how special just playing the game is."

Wisconsin-Stevens Point had a three run lead early in the first game on Friday. The Lutes fought back, but it was not enough to overcome the deficit. Stuhlmiller and Ruecker had two hits each.

Against Western Connecticut State, the Lutes scored in all innings except for the fourth, and finished the game up in the fifth due to the eight-run mercy rule. The Colonials were shut out when the Lutes scored three runs in three separate endings, annihilating the Colonials 10-0.

The Lutes, now 13-7 and 6-2 in the NWC, play a Northwest Conference doubleheader against Willamette in Salem, Ore., at 1 p.m. Saturday.



Photo by Chris Hunt

Infielder Theresa Tauscher swings away at the Lutes' home game against Whitworth March 12. Whitworth defeated the Lutes 1-4. The Lutes then traveled the next day to Florida for the Rebel Classic, which resulted in a 4-4 tournament record for the Lutes.

## Women's basketball slams to a halt

ANDREW CROFT  
Mast sports reporter

Over 1,300 fans crowded into Olson Auditorium last Friday night to watch the Lutes take on the Hardin-Simmons University Cowgirls from Texas in the sweet sixteen round of the NCAA Division III National Tournament.

After a hard fought 45 minutes of basketball, the Lutes left their hearts on the court as they lost to HSU, 72-76 in overtime.

"We couldn't get into a rhythm," said Coach Gil Rigell. "They played solid defense and out played us."

The first half started out very tight, ending in a 29-28 Lutes lead.

"We went into the locker rooms disappointed," said senior Kelly Turner. "We weren't playing as well as we can."

The second half started out with HSU taking their first lead of the game by hitting the opening jumper.

"Our effort was there but they just kept coming back," Rigell said.

The Lutes hit the court down by two with only a few minutes left on the clock as the fans erupted into chants of defense that shot through the gym and echoed throughout the entire campus.

With 12 seconds left, the Cowgirls took the ball down the court. With tenacious defense, junior Kezia Long forced a bad shot by HSU and PLU came down the rebound. With three seconds left, Mann shot up a prayer from half court that fell just short and the teams went into overtime. Overtime began with back to back turnovers by HSU and PLU.

"The first minute or two of overtime was just as sloppy as the first half," Rigell said.

With little time remaining, the Lutes squeezed out everything they had and went on an inspiring run.

Turner came down the court and hit a quick three. On the inbound, the Lutes fouled the Cowgirls, sending them to the line. After another foul on the inbound, HSU only hit one of two from the line. Johnson, who had been unheard of all night, hit another three to bring the Lutes within two with 11 seconds left.

Again the Lutes fouled on the inbound to send the Cowgirls to the line, but this time they sunk both their free throws, securing the four point victory over the Lutes.

"We were just out of sync that night," said Turner. "I feel if we were playing on all cylinders we definitely would have beat them."


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