

THE MAST

Pacific Lutheran University



ROCKY BEGINNING
FOOTBALL TEAM LOSES
OPENER TO ST. OLAF
PAGE 12

**INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIR**
PLU PREPS FOR MORE
GLOBAL INVOLVMENT
PAGE 6-7



SEPTEMBER 18, 2009

www.plu.edu/~mast

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Photo courtesy of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation / Prashant Panjari

William H. Gates, Sr. at the Naz Foundation's Care Home for HIV positive children in New Delhi, India on September 26, 2004. Gates Sr. will headline a question-and-answer session at PLU next Tuesday.

Aging PLU e-mail system upgraded

Christina Huggins
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Pacific Lutheran University kicked off a transfer from the previous Squirrel Mail e-mail system to a Gmail system operated through Google the weekend of July 31. The change, organized mainly by PLU's Information & Technology Service, became a necessity in the past two years due to old or failing software and hardware. The previous e-mail system operated through the PMDF product name was approximately 12 years old and included software that aged up to 15 years.

"It was clear that it wasn't going to last very much longer," said David Allen, director for Systems and Communications.

Although regular maintenance and check ups were performed on the old system, there were still problems, such as the system being unable to handle large loads of users at one time. The search for a new system began last January.

Associate Provost for ITS Chris Ferguson said that both free and commercial systems were weighed and even the rebuilding of the already in place system was briefly considered. In-house systems as well as Google and Microsoft were investigated. Ultimately, Google was chosen due to their extensive features, opportunities and less costly transfer.

ITS considered that the new system needed to be able to support a network of many servers, Ferguson said. Many other schools that use the Gmail system have separated the faculty and staff e-mail from the student e-mail, but when faculty were asked in panel if they wanted it separate or grouped they said that they wanted it to be together.

"We wanted to make it work for the whole campus," said Layne Nordgren, ITS Director for

SEE GMAIL PG. 3

Bill Gates Sr. showing up at PLU

Philanthropist to answer students' questions about service, life

Carrie Draeger
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The way Shannon Stagner, director of donor relations, talks about the book "Showing Up for Life," by Bill Gates Sr., makes it sound like he wrote it about Pacific Lutheran University.

"Anyone who reads his book can see it is so PLU," Stagner said. "[But] you can't wrap that up in a package and mail it to his office."

The book talks about the experiences Gates Sr. gained in his life and the importance of service to others, a theme shared with PLU's mission statement.

"One of the central themes of my book is that it's important to 'show

up' for the people and causes you care about," Gates Sr. wrote on the book's Web site.

Gates Sr. will come to campus Tuesday night to talk about his life, book and ideas and exchange ideas with members of the PLU community.

"He has been a person blessed [with so much]," Stagner said.

SEE GATES PG. 3

Harmony advocates for safe sex

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What started as an idea for a party soon became "an opportunity to educate" the Pacific Lutheran University community about condoms and safe sex, said Dmitry Mikheyev, co-commissioner of Harmony, PLU's queer rights and equity club.

A fundraiser for the Pierce County Aids Walk, "Condoms and Glow Sticks," which took place in the Cave, Sept. 10, celebrated safe sex and promoted Harmony, Mikheyev said.

To accomplish these goals Harmony supplied free condoms, the Women's Center provided educational material and local businesses donated prizes for a raffle.

Harmony, PLU's Women's Center and Health Center, the

Tacoma Health Department, Elizabeth's Holistic Health, Reyna's Mexican Restaurant and Farelli's Pizza sponsored the event.

Pumping music echoed through the room, making its way up to the lower UC where eager volunteers handed out additional condoms.

Harmony members and friends, as well as students, danced and engaged in conversation.

Guests were even treated to a performance by Dominique D'Amour, Mikheyev's drag persona.

The event seemed to resonate with the participants.

"I came to support Harmony and the Aids Walk," sophomore Hannah Katibah said. "It's good to see all these people turn out."

Junior Hilary Scarborough led the group dispersing condoms outside of the Cave to people in

the UC.

"It's a great event for campus. Students need to be prepared to have safe sex," Scarborough said. "I just wish there were more people here."

Mikheyev said he thought the event showed good collaboration between organizations in and around PLU and that, although it could have been more educational, it did give an opportunity to offer condoms and other information to students.

"People seemed to be excited and having fun," he said. "They were dancing and playing with balloons."

The event raised \$44 for the Pierce County Aids Walk and provided an opening for several students to express an interest in joining Harmony, Mikheyev said.

More information about Harmony can be found at <http://www.plu.edu/~harmony>.



Photo by Ted Charles

Junior Hilary Scarborough distributes a bright array of condoms in the UC while cheerfully advertising for the Condoms and Glowsticks Dance that was held in the Cave.

'Nobody's Enemy'

Documentary showcases Iranian culture

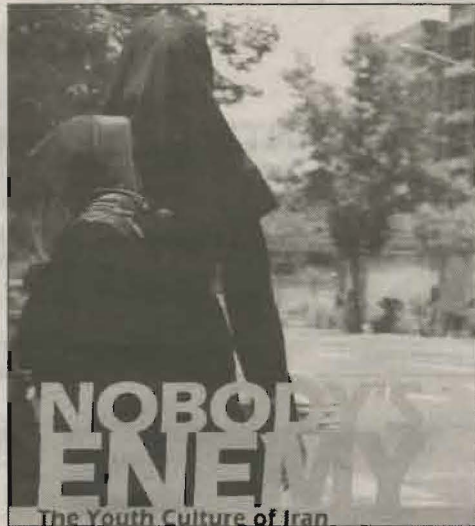
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Misconceptions run deep and inevitably leave scars on a society's collective conscience. Dismaying as this may be, it is also true—it was obvious, therefore, that the first eye-opener of what turned out to be an inspirational and enlightening evening was when Neda Sarmast, director of the documentary "Nobody's Enemy," first took to the stage Tuesday. While many students were certainly not shocked, they were still surprised to see the wonderfully gifted Iranian-born American.

Contrary to many Americans' stereotypes, Sarmast was not wearing a headscarf. She wasn't speaking in a thick (or even noticeable) accent. Most importantly, she did not hate America. Instead she came to Pacific Lutheran University (and many other venues nationwide) to try and encourage the youth to look at Iran and Iranian culture objectively, to cast aside previous judgments and to look at a culture that is comprised of people, just like themselves, rather than enemies or "thems."

Sarmast was born and lived in Iran until she and her family moved to the U.S. When she was in her early teens, her family traveled back to Iran, but what was intended as a summer trip soon became a two year long endeavor. As a result of Iraq's invasion of Iran, (a conflict that lasted from 1980-1988), the borders were closed shortly after Sarmast's arrival and her and her family were trapped. During that period, she saw first-hand the turmoil of a war-torn country in social and political upheavals. She was too young then to join Iranian youth and speak out but the event "planted the seeds" in her that were to grow into her life pursuit, she said. When she returned to the States Sarmast pursued a career in the music production business, working for such well-known bands as Fleetwood Mac, Bon Jovi and Depeche Mode. Her mission to promote cross-cultural understanding eventually would take form in music and production.

Fascinating as it is, Sarmast's life



story is not the enlightening part of her presentation. Her message is the true inspiration; Sarmast's sole purpose is to promote and foster understanding, acceptance and harmony between the West and East. She accomplished this by journeying to back to her home country and engaging in dialogue with the youth of Iran—filming the entire process. What unfolded was a beautiful and insightful documentary focusing on the viewpoints of young Iranian citizens, particularly students, musicians, and political activists.

"I didn't want to turn this into a political story," Sarmast said, "you can turn on the news to see that...I wanted to show the human side of it...[to be] a bridge between two cultures...Beyond think-tanks and policy makers, it's a people-to-people issue."

Depicted in her documentary, the majority of young Iranians are open to the exchange of perspectives, ideas and cultures with the youth of America. They are vibrant and hopeful—sharply contrasting with the challenges they face daily. The only part of the solution that remains is to see whether or not the willingness to exchange and accept is reciprocal. This generation controls the future of Iran, America and the global community.

Medialab to premiere Emmy winning film

By Christine Boire
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Pacific Lutheran University MediaLab students that produced an Emmy award-winning documentary in 2008 will premiere their film on campus next week.

"Illicit Exchanges: Canada, the U.S. and Crime" explores the effects of illegal drugs and guns on communities in Canada and the U.S. The film will be shown in the UC's Regency Room at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 29.

The original documentary, shot primarily during a three-week span of the summer of 2008, examines how law enforcement, judicial systems, social and community activists and concerned citizens cope with the challenges of violent crime.

Melissa Campbell, a senior communication major who served as the project's senior producer, worked alongside alumni Julie Olds and Shannon Schrecengost to make the film. The trio, accompanied by PLU Communication Professor Robert Marshall Wells, traveled the U.S.-Canadian border from coast to coast, shooting footage and conducting interviews in New York, Ottawa, Montréal, Toronto, Detroit, Washington, D.C., Vancouver and elsewhere.

"We quickly learned that this was not an isolated problem," Olds said. "It was connected to a larger, more prominent issue of criminal activity."

The students had rare opportunities to see the criminal justice system operate up close. They visited a Canadian jail, saw an indoor marijuana grow operation and interacted with law enforcement officials on both sides of the border.

"We heard so many amazing stories along the way," Campbell said, "from the grandmother who lost her grandson to a horrific

gang-related murder, to an ex-gang member who now has a Ph.D. and opened his own community center."

The efforts of Campbell, Olds and Schrecengost did not go unnoticed. In June of this year, "Illicit Exchanges" won a College Division Emmy Award in the Long Form News category.

"It feels incredible to be a part of a team that has won an Emmy," Campbell said. "It really shows that our work paid off."

In addition to the Emmy, "Illicit Exchanges" won a National 2009 Honorable Mention Award from the Broadcast Education Association Festival of Media Arts. It also received a First Place Grand Prize Award from the National Broadcasting Society.

"This project is merely the most recent in an ongoing series of research that aims to increase knowledge and awareness about the unique relationships between Canada and the United States," Wells said.

MediaLab is a student-faculty research program that was established five years ago. In addition to filmmaking, students enrolled in MediaLab do freelance, internship and contract work -- including graphic design, public relations, photography, marketing and more -- for many prominent organizations in the Puget Sound Region.

The goal of MediaLab is to establish an environment in which students can acquire pre-professional experience in various aspects of mass communication.

"This experience gave me an opportunity to take the skills I learned in the classroom out into the real world," Campbell said of her work on "Illicit Exchanges."

Campbell will attend the screening of "Illicit Exchanges," and afterward will discuss her experiences as a filmmaker and a member of MediaLab.

*** ATTENTION STUDENTS ***

NON-DISCLOSURE OF "DIRECTORY INFORMATION"

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, popularly known as the "Buckley Amendment" and carrying the acronym "FERPA," governs the University's collection, retention, and dissemination of information about students. (The document appears in the Student Handbook.)

One category of information covered by FERPA is called "directory information." Pacific Lutheran University has designated the following items as directory information: student name, local and permanent addresses and telephone numbers, E-mail address, date and place of birth, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, class standing, previous educational agency or institution(s) attended, major and minor fields of study, anticipated date of graduation (if that has not yet occurred), and degree(s) and award(s) conferred (including dates).

The PLU FERPA policy appears on the Student Handbook website for your review at: <http://www.plu.edu/print/handbook/code-of-conduct/home.html>.

The University may disclose any of those items without prior written consent unless an "eligible student" (18 years or over) or a parent (if the student is under 18 years of age) gives notice in writing to the contrary to the Office of the Vice President for Student Life restricting the disclosure of the directory information, as it pertains to the student, by the last day of registration for any given academic term at this University. **Please be assured that PLU uses discretion when releasing information.** If you participate in activities such as music or drama performances, athletics or represent PLU in other public capacities, University policy is to issue minimal information in press releases.

If it is your wish that PLU NOT disclose "directory information" about you under any circumstance, you must come to the Student Life Office, Hauge Administration Building 105, on or before September 22 to complete the appropriate form and meet with Laree Winer to understand fully the impact of the restriction. This restriction will remain in effect until the 10th day of the fall semester of the next academic year, unless you revoke it in writing.

STATE, NATION and WORLD BRIEFINGS

Local to Global Yale student murdered

Michael Hill & Ray Henry
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITERS

CROMWELL, Conn. (AP) — A Yale graduate student found stuffed in the wall of a research center had been suffocated, the medical examiner reported Wednesday as police awaited DNA tests on evidence taken from a lab technician who worked in the building.

Police call Raymond Clark III a "person of interest" in the slaying of Annie Le. Authorities hoped to compare DNA taken from Clark's hair, fingernails and saliva with more than 250 pieces of evidence collected at the crime scene on the Ivy League campus in New Haven, Conn., and from Clark's Middletown, Conn., apartment.

"It's all up to the lab now," Police Chief James Lewis said at a news conference. "The basis of the investigation now is really on the physical evidence."

Police late Wednesday were watching a hotel room in Cromwell where a "person of interest" in the killing had been staying, Cromwell Police Capt. Roy Nelson said. Broadcast reports said Clark was staying at the hotel.

Investigators said they expect to determine within days whether Clark should be charged in the killing. He was escorted in handcuffs from his apartment and released early Wednesday into the custody of his attorney, police said.

Lewis said police expect to seek an arrest warrant for anyone whose DNA matches evidence at the crime scene.

Officer Joe Avery, a spokesman for New Haven police, told The Associated Press early Thursday that Clark was not in custody and police did not have a warrant for his arrest.

Clark is not talking to police, Lewis said.

"At some point he may be willing to answer questions, but at this point he has invoked his rights," Lewis said. "He has an attorney. We couldn't question him if we wanted to."

Clark's attorney, David Dworski, said his client is "committed to proceeding appropriately with the authorities." He would not elaborate.

A police lab is expediting tests on Clark's DNA. University of Connecticut genetics professor Linda Strausbaugh says testing can be done in days if a case gets top priority.

Le's body was found Sunday stuffed behind the wall of the basement where lab animals are kept.

The Connecticut state medical examiner said Wednesday that Le died of "traumatic asphyxiation."

Authorities released no details on how she died, but traumatic asphyxiation could be consistent with a choke hold or some other form of pressure-induced asphyxiation caused by a hand or an object, such as a pipe.

H1N1 poses threat to students

Students' age bracket makes them more vulnerable to disease

Reno Sorensen
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Flu season approaches and this year Pacific Lutheran University is in store for more than the usual sniffles.

Susana Doll, director and physician's assistant of the Health Center, said that the addition of the H1N1 virus will likely result in a significantly increased number of sick residential students this flu season.

"I think that most students will get H1N1. That's my guess," Doll said. "The vast majority of students will have it because we have just the right population, and this age group really has a target painted on it."

Typically, young children, seniors and people with weakened immune systems are most at risk for the seasonal flu. Healthy, young adults are most likely to skirt the flu in autumn. When they do contract the seasonal flu, the symptoms usually last a relatively short amount of time, Doll said. H1N1 is different.

"The seasonal flu targets a different age group; it's not usual that 20-year-olds are the main targets," Doll said. "H1N1 is much more contagious. In a family, if someone has the flu, the members have a one-in-four chance of getting H1N1 and it's one-in-twelve for the seasonal flu."

Students with H1N1 are usually contagious for 1-3 days before symptoms appear. Symptoms of H1N1 are usually comparable to that of a bad seasonal flu in healthy college-age students. Individuals are contagious until about 24 hours after their fever has ended, Doll said.

Individuals at risk of serious complications from H1N1 include: children under younger than six, pregnant women, diabetics, those with asthma, those with heart disease and those with seizure disorders. Students with these conditions should make themselves known to the Health Center and contact the Health Center if they begin to show

flu-like symptoms.

Doll said that students who contract the flu should not go to class. Instead, they should e-mail their professors and self isolate as much as possible. For a residential student, this means staying in his or her dorm room, avoiding contact with peers or staying off campus entirely.

"I think of it in terms of community and we take care of each other by not sharing our infections," Doll said. "So that means not going to class."

Doll said that despite best efforts, PLU will likely see an upswing in the number of sick students this flu season.

Those who have contracted influenza should not take aspirin or any products that contain aspirin. This can lead to Reyes Syndrome, a rare disease that causes damage to the liver and brain. It is most prominent in small children who have influenza and take aspirin, though it has also been known to appear in college-age adults, Doll said. Ibuprofen and Tylenol are recommended for those who are sick, as are keeping up fluids and bed rest.

"Ibuprofen is really the winner in this," Doll said. "If you take four every eight hours, and you do it by the clock, it's as close to human as you're going to feel while you're sick."

The nearly 300 students that will be studying abroad this January should have H1N1 and seasonal flu vaccinations as a precaution for themselves and people they encounter while away, Doll said.

Health and Human Services (HHS) said that an H1N1 vaccine will be released early in October and will be distributed by priority.

PLU, as a residential campus, has a relatively high priority and should receive the vaccine sometime in mid-October.

The vaccine will then be made available to PLU students and will cost \$15, Doll said.

For more information regarding H1N1 and the flu season, visit the Health Center's website at www.plu.edu/health or www.plu.edu/flu.

Top 8 Ways to Avoid H1N1 (Swine Flu)

- 1) Wash hands often/use hand sanitizer often.
- 2) Do NOT share beverage containers.
- 3) Know the truth: Alcohol does not kill the H1N1 virus.
- 4) Limit contact with people who are sick. "Six feet of Separation"
- 5) Eat healthily and get plenty of sleep.
- 6) Get your seasonal flu shot.
- 7) Do NOT share eating utensils, dishes, toothbrushes, etc.
- 8) Read the plu.edu/flu website for more information about prevention.

If you do get a flu like illness:
Stay in your room: don't go to class or the UC. Drink plenty of fluids, and take Tylenol or ibuprofen if you have a fever. Review the plu.edu/flu website for complete details about care.

Brought to you by: **LUTEFIT**

GATES CONT. FROM PAGE 1

"It's a really great chance [for students] to see what a life filled with all these things can do."

Gates Sr. will answer questions from students in a conversation Tuesday night in Lagerquist.

The question-and-answer session starts at 7 p.m. with a book signing after.

"[The book is] such a reminder that he's an ordinary person doing extraordinary things," said Steve Olson, vice president for Development.

To make sure students are the focus, three students will moderate the session.

The students are seniors Kate Geldaker and Austin Goble and sophomore Angela Pierce. Of the 500 seats available, 300 are reserved for students.

"It was the university's wish that this event be designed for students," Stagner said.

Education is a major focus for Gates Sr. as well, who earned his bachelor's and law degrees from the University of Washington and raised his three children in Seattle.

"Bill Sr. especially loves talking with

university students here in Washington State," said Monica Harrington, a spokesman for Gates Sr. "When he was asked to come to PLU, he made it a priority."

Gates Sr. currently serves as co-chair of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, founded by his son and daughter-in-law, Bill Jr. and Melinda. The foundation promotes the idea that all lives have equal value.

"He wants a chance to talk with the PLU students and faculty about his own life experiences and what he believes

in - including the very central idea that we have a shared responsibility to one another," Harrington said.

The event also gives students a chance to share ideas with Gates Sr.

"We knew we couldn't woo him [with glamour]," Stagner said. "What we can do is be ourselves and show him the best of PLU."

The best that PLU has to offer is its students and their ideas, Stagner said.

"We have 500 seats and I want every single one to be filled, mostly with students," Stagner said.

Sister Helen Prejean
author of
"Dead Man Walking"
scheduled to visit campus
September 30
for student
views regarding the death
penalty, see Op-Ed page 5

GMAIL CONT. FROM PAGE 1

User Services and Instructional Technologies. There is a Google calendar system that is available for all faculty, students and staff as opposed to just faculty and staff as it was for the Oracle Calendar program used on the old system said Nordgren.

"There is no direct cost for Google Applications for Education," Allen said. "However, money was mainly spent on infrastructure of the system for PLU and servers."

"Google enables us to share collaborations tools and also free up staff time and resources that can be used in other areas for the University," Ferguson said.

After the decision to go with Gmail was made, it then had to be introduced and rolled out to the PLU community.

Workshops, open labs and other user services were available over the summer to

faculty, staff, and even students who were around. Emails were sent to all users of the PLU e-mail three weeks to a month in advance of the change and then three other e-mails up to the switch were sent as a way to warn people of the change and to prepare people for it.

"Approximately 7,600 PLU accounts from faculty, staff, students, clubs, organizations, administration were migrated during the switch," Allen said.

Following the switch, there were some questions and concerns with the new system.

One of the questions was of e-mail ownership, but Google clearly stated that the ownership of the e-mail is clearly with the user, Allen said.

"At first I was a little intimidated," senior Ally Livingston said. Livingston's main concern with the system is security - sometimes it does not fully log you off.

"I am more paranoid when using my Gmail account

on public computers now," Livingston said.

Ferguson insists that students must just be sure to log out and fully close that web browser in order to completely log out of the system.

"I think that the move to Gmail was much needed because Gmail is so much more reliable," junior Kaelen Knutson-Lombardo said. "My only concern is that people are rushing to conclusions about it and that they are not fully realizing all of the cool things it has to offer."

Allen said that this system is not perfect, but neither were any of the choices. One recent issue with the system is that students abroad, especially in China, have been having issues using the system due to national policies but Allen insists that this will be ironed out soon.

Questions about Gmail can be answered at the Library's help desk or by e-mailing library@plu.edu.

From the editor



Fuel the passion

Student media has sky rocketed into a new era. As a Media Board, we are taking on new challenges and changing with the times. In a world of convergence and technological advancement, PLU student media is revamping and flourishing. However, our passion is driven to serve this campus, but this campus is not allowing us to serve them. The key aspect lacking in our equation: feedback. Without it, our passion is at a stand-still.

In this section last week, we advertised our first online edition of The Mast using our new content management system, and asked for student feedback regarding the site. It was not a perfect first issue, but the goal was to give PLU a sneak peek at the new product our media students have worked so hard to envision and bring to life. The preview was an attempt to hear from our readers, a group we had yet to hear from and the group that is most important within this progression. Sadly, both The Mast's Facebook and Gmail inboxes remained empty, void of any comments or critiques.

Media Board has adopted this new CMS as a project for our various media outlets. The entire board has shown a great passion and drive in making this project as successful as possible, spending hours drafting mock-up templates for CMS programmers to build from. I believe I speak for all of student media when I say that we are truly dedicated to this progression, no matter how long the process may take—we are in it for the long haul.

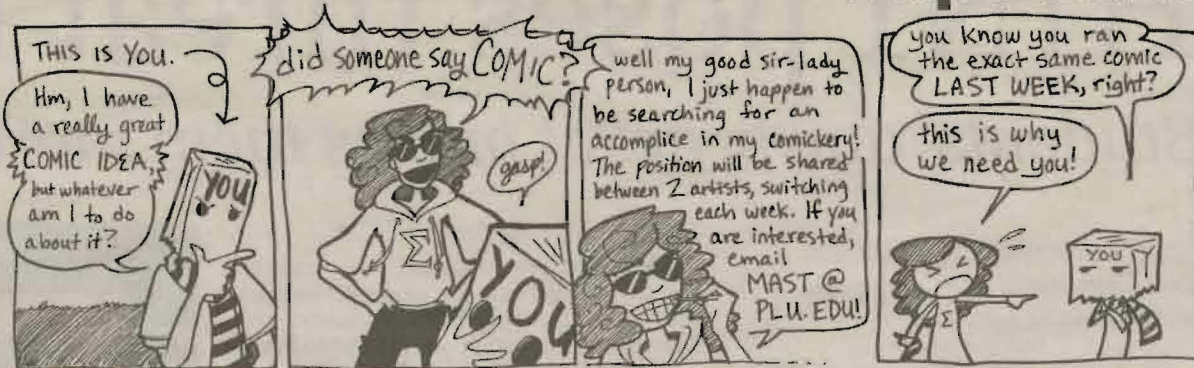
The buck doesn't stop there in terms of dedication and passion. Student media visibility on campus is increasingly prominent. The Mast is seeing a huge increase in participation from the ground up. At the involvement fair, more than 30 new writers expressed interest in getting involved with our publication and that number continues to grow.

The Matrix has big plans for promoting social justice and making a memorable name for itself on campus, already displaying posters for its chosen themes. Saxifrage is preparing to produce online volumes of artistic display leading up to the big unveiling in April. KCNS welcomes a newly appointed general manager and is gearing up for another fabulous line-up of student filmed and produced shows. KCCR sports a new flapjack costume on top of a jam-packed DJ line-up of over 60 students, six-fold the number of last year's roster—now that is better than a buttery stack of flapjacks.

All of this progress within our "media revolution" is adding fuel to the fire of determination that every Media Board member has been burning with since the start of our journey. We are excited and we want everyone on this campus to reap the benefits of our hard work so we can evolve into a more prominent entity at PLU. Unfortunately, our CMS debut did not fully satisfy this vision of progress. We want to hear your voice that went unheard this past issue.

Our passion is for one purpose—to serve each and every reader and viewer. Help us achieve this goal. Give us your input: the good, the bad, and the ugly. All forms lead to a better end result. Keep giving us a reason to be determined to change the face of media on this campus by telling us what you think. Fuel our fire. As long as you do, our passion will burn.

Help Wanted



Comic by Aubrey Lange

Stop wasting your time



The only thing I hate more than wasting money is wasting time. With the inventions of the Wii, YouTube and Facebook, wasting time can be fun and entertaining. However, I'm sure we'd all agree that those and similar inventions were not created for the average classroom. Why is this? Classrooms are intended for learning, and not for wasting time. To make my point: I am astounded by the wastefulness I've seen in this school year and we're only in the second week.

Imagine that you went out and bought a spectacular \$40,000 car. This car will take you literally anywhere you want to go. You had to work hard to get this car by filling out applications, proving your responsibility in class, getting recommendations, applying for financial aid and possibly taking out loans.

Then finally this car is yours to do with whatever you want. So what's the first thing you do with your brand new, \$40,000 car? You park it in a "No Parking Zone," sit on the sidewalk and watch while it is towed. Then, you complain about how unfair it is that your car is being towed but do nothing to prevent it from happening. Sounds pretty stupid, right? Isn't it obvious that no one in his or her right mind would ever do something this crazy? I'm not

so sure.

What absolutely amazes me is that every full-time PLU student accounts for roughly \$40,000 worth of education through grants and scholarships, savings accounts or loans. That's more than a year's salary for many in the United States. A college education is a huge investment that people pay out the wazoo for and yet I still see students sleeping in class, skipping, failing to complete assignments and giving excuses left and right—and it's only the second week. People are sitting by and watching their hard-earned educations get towed away and there's absolutely no reason for it. This campus has so many people to help.

After my first math class, I went to the Academic Advising Center in the library to find a tutor. (It's been two years since a math class. Take it easy on me.) Everyone there was friendly and they answered all of my questions and set me up with a tutor. Later on, I decided I should switch out of math altogether. So I met with my Academic Advisor and spoke with the professor.

They both assisted me in switching out of the course. The issues with my math class took me about an hour to resolve and the experience was completely painless. So now I ask all you students: what's your excuse? Why are you letting your crazy-expensive college education go to waste? It can't be because you can't find a tutor, that your professor won't help you or you don't have time to complete the work.

College is an investment. You will have to work your butt off to see any profit. So if I were you, I'd get used to working hard now because it's not going to get any easier. College is where we become accountable for ourselves and grow up a little, even if we think we're already grown.

Agree or Disagree? We want to hear what YOU HAVE TO SAY!

e-mail us at mast@plu.edu

you could see your response in next week's issue!

HAVE A VOICE...

check out our new CMS in action and give us your feedback!

Find us on Facebook or email us at mast@plu.edu

www.plu.edu/~mast

Mast Staff 2009-2010

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

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

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

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Reporters
Ellen Kanuch
Tyler Scott

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ASPLU: small, but accessible

Why you should care



Miller Musings
Kate Miller
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Student government is much more accessible than the national government. The candidates are not vague entities. The average student can know the candidates, like the candidates, hate the candidates and even live with the candidates. The driving force of Pacific Lutheran University's student government is the Associated Students of PLU, or ASPLU.

ASPLU is small, inconsequential in the larger scheme of things. It is a freckle on the face of the world. However, PLU is small and ASPLU has a far-reaching impact on the PLU community. Students can participate in their government in myriad ways.

They can run for an executive or senate position, apply to be a director, be a member of either a planning or a standard committee, attend senate meetings, e-mail senators at senate@plu.edu or go to ASPLU-sponsored events.

The most important reason for students to care about ASPLU is that students pay for it. The

2009-2010 ASPLU budget is nearly \$243,000—75 percent of which came from student tuition. Students pay for these activities and events and they should reap the benefits. More importantly, they should participate in the planning of at least one event.

A student can appreciate these events better when they understand how they are created. Students will better understand the effort that goes into these events when they take on responsibility for their success. This is direct democracy—students having a say in determining how their money is spent. Every student has a voice, and each should use it. The two easiest ways to find out what ASPLU is doing is to read the weekly column in The Mast or to go to the weekly senate meetings.

If political awareness is ingrained in students by the time they graduate from college, they will be more likely to vote in local, state and national elections. When there is an issue of concern to a voter, they write about it to their representatives, making their voices heard. They will be active about everything they are passionate about.

Students have a responsibility to become informed about and involved in issues that affect them. ASPLU is an excellent resource. Those who participate in ASPLU, on whatever level, involve themselves in a movement to better the PLU community. None of them are in it for the glory—they want to make PLU a better place.



ASPLU informs you about the issues

Megan Buchholz
ASPLU HUMAN RESOURCES
DIRECTOR
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ASPLU senate elections are Monday and Tuesday Sept. 21 and 22. There is one open senate position reserved for a first-year student. Though the elected senator will be a first-year student, he or she will hold an at-large position, meaning

that they will serve as a representative for the entire Pacific Lutheran University student body. This means that all PLU students have the opportunity to vote. The ASPLU senate works for the good of the students. It is important that all students vote so that all voices are heard in the process of elections.

To vote, go to www.plu.edu/aspluvote. You can also view pictures and policy statements from each candidate. No computer access? Stop by the laptops set up in the UC from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. on Sept. 21 and 22 to vote. The winner will be announced the morning of Sept. 23.

Senior's promise to PLU



Frankly, Lutes...
Emily Hoppler Treichler
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Being a senior is a strange experience. In high school, being a senior was all about having choices. You could take it easy because most of your credits were already fulfilled, you could finally audition for a play because you had time for it or you could (and I did) instead pile on more work.

In college, being a senior is all about the capstone and whatever the hell you're going to do afterwards. It's about wondering if you'll ever pay off your loans and credit card debt, how it's possible that you've voluntarily been in school for 17 years (I'm counting kindergarten) and considering whether you might be crazy for contemplating even more.

And yet stepping into senior year reeks of last chances and sentimentality, of realizing all that you've done and all that you haven't. I keep finding myself making mental lists of things I want to do this year; those unique little pieces of Pacific Lutheran University life that I always meant to do but never did. Some are iconic college life, like sports events and formal dances.

I went to a total of one football game and one Homecoming dance (mostly

so I could cover it for the Mast) my freshman year and haven't done anything since.

Others things are pillars of the PLU experience, like our incredible music scene, Black & Gold dances, yearly Egyptology lectures and the Vagina Monologues (which is being co-directed by the incredible Joanne Nguyen this year).

Some are things I have experienced, but want more of: the theatre scene, drag shows, procrastinating in the psych lab, dance ensemble (watching, not participating. I can just see myself being the first domino in a ten-dancer pile-up) and "Grey's Anatomy" parties.

Some of my favorite experiences from my years here aren't replicable, such as interviewing former vice president Walter Mondale, stumbling into my Psi Chi induction five minutes late and completely confused, studying abroad in Brazil and Argentina. But that's just proof that sometimes you only get one chance to participate in something truly remarkable.

There are so many reasons not to participate, to avoid new things. Homework beckons, and there's always another paper to

write. There's always another activity, which for me is often more comfortable, to immerse myself in. But being a senior, faced with the knowledge that if I don't do it this year, I won't get to do it at all, adds urgency to all my decisions. I've always found it so easy to promise to go next time, but when there are only a few - or no - next times remaining...

My mother (AKA Queen of All Wisdom) says that the secret to quitting smoking is to make your intentions public. That way, you have everyone in your life policing your behavior rather than just you.

So my plan for this year is a public promise: I will attend more school events. When I see a poster or a notice in the Daily Flyer for something that is exciting, I will actually write it down rather than making a vague mental note to see if I can fit it in.

When I graduate, I will have more than debt and a tenuous future; I will have a college experience to be proud of, filled with free PLU T-shirts and unfortunate candid pictures on Facebook. I'm counting on you to hold me to it.

E-etiquette 101



So Wise
Sarah Wise
wisese@plu.edu

In our modern computer age, we have become so used to email that we often forget how to send a proper (and, most importantly, functional) message. Read on, dear reader, so that you know all the email faux pas to avoid.

First, the audience:

Remember to whom you are writing. After all, the email is being written for them, not you. Keep the email as accessible and clear as possible for the sake of the end-user. To do this, include a subject. This simple step seems so obvious, and yet it is often skipped.

Once you've gotten a subject out of the way, don't forget a salutation. Addressing your reader is a sign of respect, as well as an indication that they are the intended recipient of your email.

When it comes to adding contacts to an email, beware clogging the "to" line with too many email addresses. The more addresses you add the further your readers will have to scroll to access the actual content of the email.

Also, issues of privacy come in to play here. Addresses in the "to" line are visible to all recipients - and some people may want to keep their address private. To avoid sharing others' personal information, add them to the "bcc" (blind carbon copy) line of the email as opposed to the "to" line. For those of you who are more technically savvy, you should create a mailing list.

Second, the content:

No matter the recipient, be sure to proofread and spell-check your email before sending. Failure to do so makes your email difficult to read and reflects poorly on you.

Once you've gotten these simple rules of email composing down, it's time to focus on the real meat of the email. As a graphic designer, I more than appreciate a good design and attractive graphics. However, email is a text-based medium, not an image-based medium. Do not overwhelm your email with too many graphics for the sake of your audience.

Remember: the email is for the reader, not you:

Lastly, believe it or not, some people are still on dial-up Internet connections and they simply may not have the speed to load an image-heavy email. Remember that graphics are meant to enhance the message of the email.

Finally, do not forward chain emails on to your entire address book. Pass on uplifting or funny emails to the people who will appreciate them and spare everyone else the tedious task of deleting spam.

Follow these basic guidelines, use some common sense, and you are well on your way to composing easily accessible and legible emails. Happy emailing!

Sidewalk Talk

Do you support the death penalty?



"No, it doesn't match up with my religious beliefs."

George Culver
sophomore



"There's a point where rehabilitation becomes inconceivable within a human lifetime."

Melissa Meitle
sophomore



"If the death penalty can't be administered fairly then I can't support it."

Ronni Anderson
senior



"I don't believe in killing people who kill people to justify that killing people is wrong."

Sean Andrascik
sophomore

PLU CONTINUES TO



New global awards come to PLU

Kate Geldaker
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The Paul Simon Award and the Global Scholars Award are two new awards on Pacific Lutheran University's campus this year recognizing the university's commitment to global education. PLU has been awarded the Simon Award in recognition of its internationally-focused campus. The Global Scholar Award helps more students have the opportunity to study away. Both are new steps in the continued walk of this institution's goals for internationalization.

SIMON AWARD

Last week at convocation, PLU was publicly awarded the 2009 Paul Simon Award for Campus Internationalization. The prestigious award recognizes the integration of international and multicultural education across campuses nationwide. The honor of receiving this award acknowledges a goal that PLU has been working toward for years.

The Simon Award validates what staff and faculty within this institution have been working towards for four generations. As President Loren Anderson said at convocation, it was their "vision, tenacity and forbearance that led to this honor."

The late Illinois Senator Paul Simon (R) was an advocate for the idea that the future of this country is based in the education of the American youth.

"Senator Simon believed that the future of America depends on our educating students about other cultures and societies," said Brian Whalen, president and CEO of The Forum on Education Abroad and chair of the Selection Committee.

Institutions that win this award nominate themselves and submit an essay to the National Association for Foreign Students Affairs, now established as NAFSA: Association of International Educators. A

selection committee chooses the recipients of the awards based on the internationalization of the campus across departments, schools, divisions, administrative support and results for students and faculty from the global education curriculum.

"There was no doubt in the minds of the Selection Committee members that PLU was deserving of this prestigious recognition," said Whalen. "One committee member summed up the entire committee's view she wrote in her assessment of Pacific Lutheran, 'PLU is one of the most internationalized institutions I have seen, and has achieved and sustained comprehensive internationalization that can serve as an inspiring model for other institutions that are serious about internationalizing their campuses.'"

The other winners of the 2009 Simon Award are Boston University, Connecticut College, Portland State University and the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. For PLU this is a "great group of institutions to be recognized with," said Neal Sobania, Director of Pacific Lutheran's Wang Center for Global Education. This was the first year that PLU had applied to be a Simon Award recipient and they "were surprised to receive it on the first application."

It is the hope that by being recognized as a Simon Award Winner PLU will see even more development of internationalization. For the PLU faculty-led Gateway programs this could mean more students from other institutions across the country giving a healthy mix of ideas to international programs. It could mean more funding and support from PLU Alumni and friends. Aside from establishing a higher level of facilitation between global-local connections present on campus, the Simon Award increases already high levels of global awareness among students and faculty.

Many people were involved in this process of internationalization across campus but Sobania said, "It is not just the programs you offer, but the way that they are received by the university."

Megan Grover, study away advisor at the

Wang Center for Global Education, said, "The main benefit of this award for students is bringing awareness that PLU really is a globally aware campus. We don't just say it, we practice it."

As President Anderson put it, "It's a big deal."

GLOBAL SCHOLARS AWARD

Another big deal for students on campus is that PLU is implementing a new scholarship award for study away. The Global Scholars Award is a \$2 million fund to provide financial aid for students who have not traditionally felt that study away is an option for them.

The Global Scholars Award is a \$2 million endowment for providing financial aid to lower income students. This is meant to provide opportunities for more students and help reach PLU's global education goals. Sobania said that PLU would still like to see the percentage of students studying away increase. Currently, approximately 43 percent of students study abroad at some point, and when that is expanded to include intra-national study about 52 percent of PLU students study away. PLU would like to see those numbers at 50 percent and 60 percent respectively.

Grover said that the Wang Center is committed to "providing access and would like to streamline the Global Scholars Award." Sobania said that he would like to see more non-traditional students studying away for semesters.

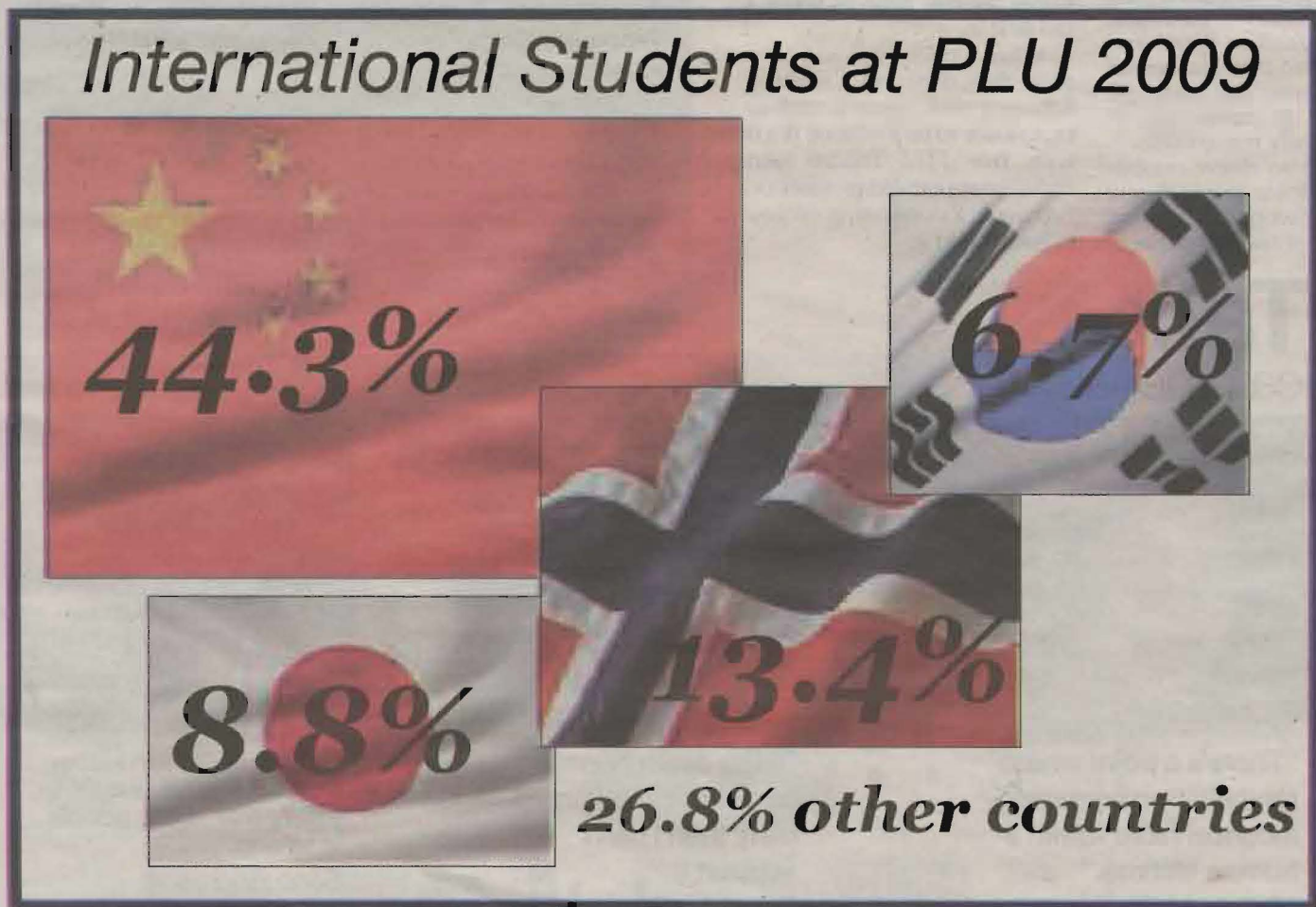
As measured by "Open Doors 2008: Report on International Education Exchange," the demographics of students studying abroad from the U.S. are by class 36.6 percent juniors and 21.3 percent seniors in undergraduate study. Of all U.S. students studying abroad, 65.1



Professor Tamara Williams accepting the Simon Award on Sept. 8 in Olson Auditorium. PLU joined three other internationalization.

percent are female - a statistic that has changed very little over the last 10 years and 81.9 percent are Caucasian.

The Global Scholars Award was funded in part by Bill and Melinda Gates who donated \$1 million to this program. PLU Alumni and friends then matched this donation. The award is meant specifically for students who have been accepted to participate in the PLU Gateway programs in China, Trinidad and Tobago, Norway and Oaxaca, Mexico.



Faces and names Changes at the

Many Pacific Lutheran University community members and friends are familiar with the Wang Center and its long-term focus on study away at PLU. Students may be familiar with the Sojourner Advocates, who offer peer support to students who are thinking about studying away, students who are currently studying away and students who have already returned to campus. This summer the Wang Center got a new name and a number of new student faces.

The Wang Center for International Programs was founded with the mission to:

- Support and strengthen the university's

O GLOBAL

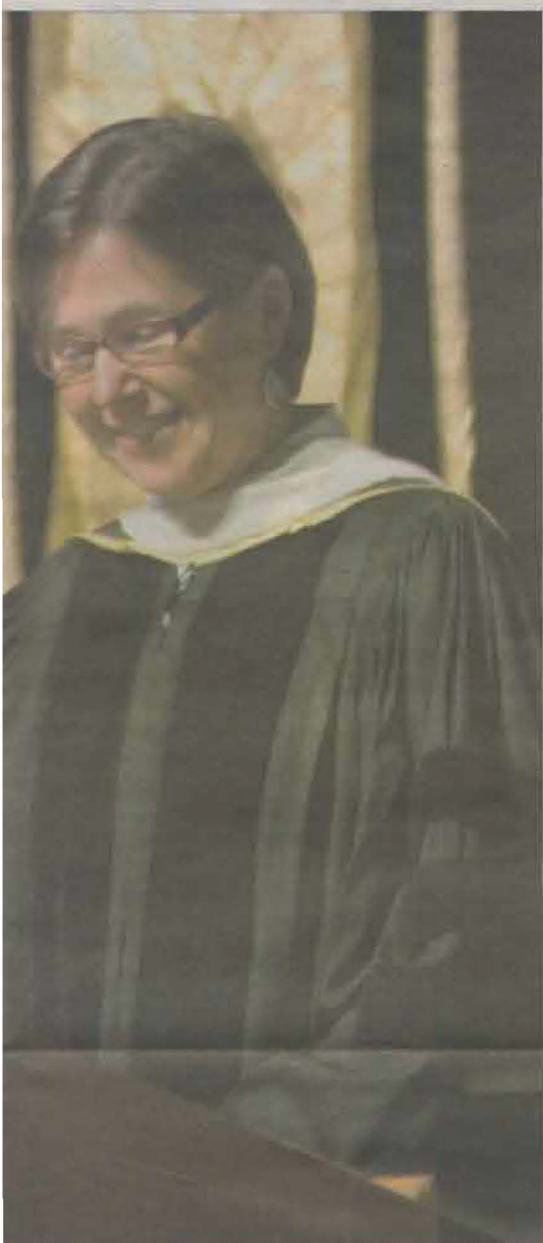


photo by Ted Charles

on behalf of Pacific Lutheran University at Convocation prestigious universities in receiving this honor for campus

PLU embraces 'study away' philosophy

Most people around the U.S. are familiar with the term "study abroad," meaning a student who is studying in another country. However, at Pacific Lutheran University we use term study away.

"Study away" is not a commonly used term but is growing in use to refer to what was traditionally seen as study abroad. The key difference is that study away includes programs that operate within the same country, but also would provide for alternative and cross-cultural experiences as much as traveling to another country.

"We have off-campus courses that are both international and domestic," Neal Sobania, Director of the Wang Center for Global Education said, "but all have goals to advance cross-cultural and global knowledge and understanding."

There are three courses listed for study away opportunities this J-Term that are in the U.S.:

- Natural History of Hawaii in Kilauea, Hawaii (NSCI 210)
- Makah Culture Past and Present in Neah Bay, Washington (ANTH 190/192/491)
- J-Term on the Hill in Tacoma,

Washington (SOCW 175/491).

In addition to domestic courses there are also a number of events in the area that the Wang Center takes part in and sponsors, such as the symposia every February. This year's 2010 Wang Center Symposium topic is "Understanding the World through Sports and Recreation."

This Wednesday, Sept. 23 the Wang Center is hosting their Study Away Fair from 11am-2pm in the UC. There will be representatives from various programs that are offered to PLU students.

Meet the Sojourner Advocates



Photo courtesy of Wang Center

SENIOR BRYANNA PLOG
COMMUNICATION AND GLOBAL STUDIES MAJOR

STUDY AWAY EXPERIENCE:
AUSTRALIA, NORWAY, COSTA RICA, AND TANZANIA

FAVORITE FOOD EATEN WHILE AWAY: NDIZI NA NYAMA, BANANA STEW

SENIOR LIZ PFAFF
MATH AND SPANISH MAJOR

STUDIED AWAY IN HONDURAS AND OAXACA, MEXICO

FAVORITE FOOD EATEN WHILE AWAY: TLAYUDA, A HUGE AND AMAZING BAKED TORTILLA WITH BEANS, QUESILLO AND VEGGIES

SENIOR MIKE ENGH
COMMUNICATION AND GLOBAL STUDIES MAJOR

STUDIED AWAY IN OAXACA, MEXICO AND SOUTH AFRICA

FAVORITE FOOD EATEN WHILE AWAY: BRAAI IN SOUTH AFRICA, HUGE, DELICIOUS PILES OF MEATS AND OTHER FOOD COOKED ON AN OPEN GRILL

SENIOR CHELSEA LINSLEY
ANTHROPOLOGY AND GLOBAL STUDIES MAJOR

STUDIED AWAY IN NORWAY, SOUTH AFRICA AND NAMIBIA

FAVORITE FOOD EATEN WHILE AWAY: BILTONG, A TYPE OF BEEF JERKEY

Global education is stressed as being central to the curriculum on this campus. These awards are not only big deals and steps to a new level of cross-cultural enlightenment in a globalized world; they are important to the future.

"We can't afford not to participate," said Neal Sobania. "We have an obligation to do things on campus as well as off, to bring the world here as well."

Wang Center

ernationally focused academic programs
 •Coordinate and advance the university's study away offerings, expanding student opportunities and participation
 •Offer public education including symposia and publications
 •Promote and leverage the university's global and intercultural distinctions through partnerships, community outreach, symposia, and grant activities
 •Grow into a dynamic research institute bringing faculty and students together for the exploration of global issues and decisionmaking

However, as of this summer the center has formally changed its name to the Wang Center for Global Education.

"The name change reflects better what the Wang Center in fact does, and the name change does not change our charge," said Neal Sobania, Director of the Wang Center.

Megan Grover said the new name "shows that we are committed to this [global education] on campus and off; we're not just exporting students."

Sobania said that the reason for the change is that "we do more than just international programs - from domestic

study away courses to the symposiums and other community activities, which we plan to extend."

Each year brings new students to the Sojourner Advocate position, and with each new group comes new initiatives. This year the Sojourner Advocates would like to work more on establishing connections between students who are leaving or returning and international students here on campus. They would also like to more actively partner with other departments.

The four Sojourner Advocates this year come from various backgrounds, disciplines

and have experience in global education as participants and advocates. On Tuesday, Sept. 15 they welcomed back students who had recently returned from study away experiences and let them know about various opportunities to reflect on their experiences and stay involved in PLU's global campus.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE WANG CENTER CONTACT:

email: wangctr@plu.edu
 phone: (253) 535-7577
 Sojourner Advocates at sojourn@plu.edu

Swayze loses battle with cancer

Fans remember the late actor and his performances



Queerfully Yours
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Paikai

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Actor Patrick Swayze died of pancreatic cancer Sunday, Sept. 14. He was 57 years old. Diagnosed in March, Swayze spent his last months as an advocate for more funding granted to cancer research.

I didn't find out about his death until late Monday evening, when a Facebook friend's profile tipped me off. After a full day of classes, my reaction was visibly small. Later, as I lay in bed, thinking about his death, something strange came over me, and I started to cry.

Now, I'm not going to put on airs about Swayze being "the greatest actor of our time," or "a man that defined a generation." But what I didn't realize about Swayze was that his connection to me was deeper than I had thought. The films he acted in were like one of those constants, one of the ephemeral pieces of my childhood and teenage years that I could count on to rekindle certain memories and feelings.

And no, Swayze was not the writer, nor the director of these special films ("Ghost," "Dirty Dancing," and "To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything! Julie Newmar" in particular), but it's his face that connected with me — his voice, his eyes and his smile. When I was bored on a Saturday afternoon, a re-run of one of his movies would come on and remind me of not only which part of the movie made me laugh or cry but also

what I was going through when I first saw them.

With "Ghost," I had my first existential crisis. The black figures in the night that flew out at evil souls to take them to their awaited afterlife scared me to death. Psychics talked to the dead. Even the thought of someone dying freaked me out. But, as I remember in that last scene, there was warmth, and light, and someone to welcome you (and me) home.

With "Dirty Dancing," I remember understanding what made 17-year-old Baby, (Jennifer Grey), get rebellious. I remember arms, and legs, and that part where she runs and he lifts her into the air with his strong arms.

With "To Wong Foo," I remember thinking that I, the eight-year-old that sat in the dark with his mother's heels on, wasn't broken — that I wasn't alone.

Not all of you may feel the loss of this great actor, dancer, and person. But I think you can all agree that movies and actors, they don't just entertain us. Sometimes they touch our lives. And when the reels stop, the music fades, and the lights go out, surely even you can feel the fading warmth, the dissipating heat of those that have moved on.

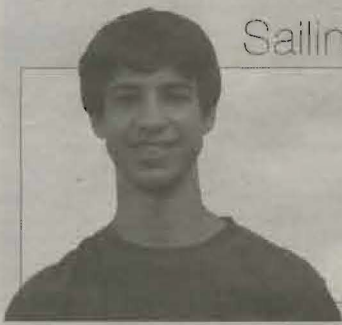
Dear Sir, with love: I miss you, now that you're gone.



AP Photo

Patrick Swayze at an event in 2008. The actor was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in March. Over his career, he starred in dozens of films, stage plays and musicals.

Pacific Northwest sports eclectic music scene



Sailing into the Abyss

Ben
Tully

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I hope that everyone had fantastic summers and that you are all now quite attuned to the grind of academia. I know I am. For many reasons, I feel like this year is going to be excellent.

Let's cut right to the chase. This is a music column. Yes, this is where you can come to read a few hundred words on a subject that some spend lifetimes studying. Hopefully this is a place where you will learn something unique about this vast topic.

Over the next four months I'll be writing about music in our own backyard, and by that I mean anything from the greater Northwest region to this very campus. It's a big backyard, after all. I've come to realize that there's no reason to write in the newspaper about how great the Beatles are when anyone can Google them and get 54 million hits.

But this begs a more interesting question: what really is newsworthy? People never agree about this, which leads us all to roll up our snowballs of cynicism. Ah yes, cynicism, the prevailing ideal of our age. Seriously, how many of us (including myself) can make it through an entire commercial break on TV without a snide remark?

Don't be ashamed — it's pretty much the standard for our generation. But this attitude isn't only for advertisements or news stories; it's the same, if not more so, for music. We're more divided musically than ever. The "popular" world, the "indie" world and the "classical" world are steadily distancing themselves from each other, each becoming more distinct in their own right.

Well, I personally am tired of cynicism. At some point, we must realize that there is no point. Constructive criticism is getting less constructive every day and this is why I've made it my goal this semester to write about musicians and musical groups who can remind us why music is a universal language, not a language that changes depending on your age, location or demographic.

Let's just say I don't think I'll have to dig very deep to find some musical jewels in this neighborhood of, as President Loren Anderson called it at convocation, "the global village."

When good actors get better



The Cuddly Inferno

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Leddy

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What's the first thing you, as an average movie fanatic, think of when you hear a certain actor's name? Adam Sandler? Comedy. Bruce Willis? Action. Many actors specialize in only one type of role and any variations therein are so slight they can hardly be separated from their overall classification.

But what happens when a regularly typecast actor moves out of his or her genre? What would happen if Bruce Willis played a terminally ill widower, desperately trying to reclaim his youth? (He did in fact try to recapture his youth quite literally in 2000's "The Kid", but the reception of that film was trivial at best.) How well would a movie perform in the box office if Adam Sandler tried to take over the world, commanding hordes of Nazi zombies in a gruesome bid for power?

The real question is, why have they not attempted this already?

The answer is simple: They are already good at what they do and they don't want to risk bombing a role to branch out, however good they might be at it. Acting is, first and foremost, a profession, and if you aren't good at your job, then you aren't going to make money.

In my opinion, Bruce Willis probably one of the best action stars to hit Hollywood, he just does not perform well outside of his element. Take into account his number of action movies: The "Die Hard" franchise, "The Whole Nine Yards," "Armageddon," "The Fifth Element," "Pulp Fiction," "Sin City," "12 Monkeys" and

easily a dozen more. Now compare them to his best-known non-action roles: "The Sixth Sense" and Disney's "The Kid." I don't know about you, but I see a fair bit of one-sidedness in his filmography. As much as I love Willis, movies in which he does not shoot a gun, fly a plane or punch someone in the face at least twice did not do nearly as well as movies in which he did.

It's the same with Adam Sandler; His comedies far outweigh his serious roles. Whether or not Adam and Bruce particularly enjoy being typecast as the comedian and the action hero is, at this point, irrelevant. They are who they have made themselves out to be and it would take an act of God to change how the public sees them. Thus is the double-edged sword of role specialization.



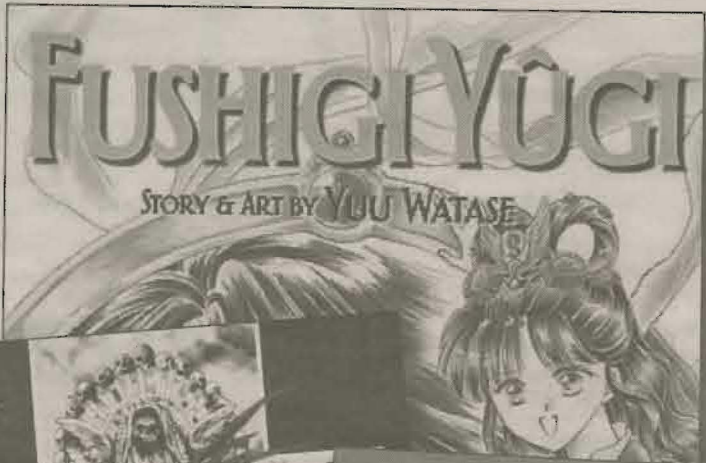
On the other hand, Hollywood has mediocre actors: the jacks-of-all-trades but the masters-of-none. These are the actors who play every role under sun. Perhaps the best example is Jack Nicholson, from his extremely frightening performance in Stanley Kubrick's "The Shining" to his genuinely hilarious role in "Anger Management" alongside none other than the aforementioned Adam Sandler. Also, I feel that Johnny Depp deserves honorable mention, as he plays many diverse roles in radically different movies. (Imagine "Benny & Joon" with "Pirates of the Caribbean." You

can't do it, can you?) But he has only a limited number of actual characters: his blustery, almost effeminate "Pirates" persona and the downright weird eccentric as seen in "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory."

Maybe actors should branch out more or maybe they should stick to what they do best. As a film columnist, I don't have the amount of experience that actors possess about the way the industry works. Still, I do know one thing: versatility is a precious commodity in movies today.

Analyzing Manga

Wherein we take Japanese comics seriously



Ransacking the Stacks



Jessica Ritchie

ritchijn@plu.edu

If you're not familiar with manga, chances are it's because you associate it with something negative, like sweaty, uncultured high-schoolers wearing cat ears. Also, the graphic novel style paired with the right-to-left reading format can alienate readers comfortable with the left-to-right, text-only novels of the West.

I'll admit I had my own assumptions about manga. Certain titles seemed entirely romance-driven (in the "I need a man to be happy" way). Others just seemed so barren of text. I was skeptical. And I wasn't alone. I asked my co-worker, Nick, whether he could recommend one.

"No. But I could recommend you a ton of graphic novels that are actually good," he said. Evidently, the aversion to manga runs deep among the literati. Graphic novels (which were also scorned by scholars until very recently) equal intellectual stimulation and social acceptance. Manga might as well be "Uncle John's Bathroom Reader."

I was curious. Where is the appeal? And so I began my descent into the seedy underbelly of literature: manga.

Manga 101

A few notes: Manga is read right-to-left, top-to-bottom and in columns. This means that the book should open on the left, spine on the right. Several English prints have a page in the back (the West's front) that say something to the effect of "Stop! You're reading in the wrong direction!" to guide the manga-challenged.

For my first foray into manga, I chose three titles: "Deathnote" by Tsugumi Ohba (art by Takeshi Obata), "Fushigi Yûgi" with story and art done by Yuu Watase, and "Clover" with story and art by the organization of female manga artists and writers known as CLAMP.

Boredom kills

"Deathnote" is the story of Light Yagami, an all-star student bored with life, and Ryuk, a Shinigami (death god) equally bored with his existence. Ryuk decides to stir things up by leaving his deathnote—a Shinigami's tool of the trade—on Earth. If the wielder of the notebook writes a name in it, that person will die in 40 seconds unless a time and cause of death are specified. A human finds the deathnote (enter Light) and Ryuk watches the madness unfold. And as a reader, the journey is equally captivating.

"Deathnote" is wonderful as both a character study and an analysis of right and wrong. Light sets out to create a utopia devoid of any sort of deviant behavior. But what is deviant? What is permissible in Light's utopia and what is not?

"Deathnote" was the first manga I chose, and the first manga I have ever read. I highly recommend it to someone less-than-comfortable with the right-to-left reading format as there isn't too much jumping around of word-bubbles and the like. The art is compelling, the characters vividly displayed for our scrutiny as we judge and sometimes relate to their life and death actions.

"Deathnote" will appeal to fans of dystopian literature (e.g., "A Clockwork Orange") and readers who prefer to think while they read. However, if you've already read and are through with the dystopian kick, "Deathnote" is unique in its portrayal of a righteous vigilante gone awry. Often, instead of a megalomaniacal stereotype, we find ourselves relating to and even liking the forefather of what will be (if the plot continues on its current course) a world-wide dictatorship.

A love less ordinary

"Fushigi Yûgi" follows Miaka Yûki, a stressed-out middle school student desperate to please her mother who has some high expectations. While in the library studying, Miaka finds a book called "The Universe of the Four Gods" and is transported to ancient China. There she's told she's part of a prophecy and suddenly life is more than exams and pleasing her mother. She also falls in love with one of the celestial warriors, Tamahome.

The manga mixes fantasy with romance and adventure, but I never felt it was dominated by any one genre, which is nice for anyone who tends to stay clear of any of these genres independently. Also, while this isn't unusual in manga in general, I appreciated the willingness to have gender-bending as a norm in Fushigi Yûgi. And while the love story between Miaka and Tamahome is occasionally cliché, it is never easy, nor is it simply about the romance.

Miaka grows from a girl concerned with the trivialities of life and boys to a self-sacrificing and loving leader — a powerful, independent girl. The manga isn't overly thought-laden (don't expect a philosophical question along the lines of "Deathnote"), but it is a well-written escape from the here and now accompanied by some excellent art.

The lonely clover

"Clover," a sci-fi manga, intrigued me because of its wonderful art.

Set in a futuristic Japan with psychics and sorcerers, Kazuhiko is a retired black-ops agent pulled from his retirement by the government for a special mission: deliver Sue to Fairy Park. Sue is a sorcerer chosen by "The Clover Leaf Project," a government campaign to mine Japan of its sorcerers and then control their actions. The children are called clovers, and are ranked by their power. One-leaf clovers are harmless, and sometimes have just one power. Three- and four-leaf clovers are under strict surveillance. Sue is the only four-leaf. She has always lived alone for fear of what she could do if left free. Kazuhiko and Sue run into trouble because of Sue's value as a military instrument for anyone who captures her.

Do not read "Clover" as your first manga. It was the third I read and I still had occasional difficulty with who said what and in which order. The manga leans heavily on the art and the plot tends to take the back seat. Eventually, Kazuhiko and Sue are revealed to be interesting characters, but it didn't happen quickly enough for me. Halfway through the manga, the story reverses chronology and we're suddenly in a prequel of the first half, leaving the end of the first half for, presumably, the next volume.

Despite the love song that recurs throughout the manga, "Clover" seems to explore loneliness and loss as much as it does true love. There are two songs that Sue sings and about which she obsesses. It eventually feels like a mantra, and I felt my appreciation of the manga's heightened attention to art waning. Then I found myself skipping pages, searching for that ever-elusive plot.

Art-lovers may find a lot to value in "Clover." Readers wary of manga because of its lack of words: don't read "Clover." Seasoned manga-readers may enjoy "Clover" for the risks it takes as a genre-bending work that explores the boundaries of what is and isn't manga.

Manga prevails

Despite my elitist English major sensibilities, I see myself returning to manga in the future. And, in spite of my qualms with "Clover," I'm just intrigued enough by the first half's plot to get volume two. My one lesson from this experiment: Do not judge manga based on the majority of its readership. It is a valid genre of literature that keeps raising the bar and will eventually stand alongside its loftier brethren.



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Mon-Thurs: 2:35, 4:50, 7:00, 9:10

Save the date!

Tacoma Film Festival October 1-8, 2009

Lutes SPORTS SCHEDULE

Men and Women's Soccer

Men at Willamette Sept 19, at Linfield Sept 20
Women at Lewis & Clark Sept. 19, at Linfield Sept. 20

Volleyball

PLU vs. George Fox* Sept. 18, 7 p.m., PLU vs. Pacific* Sept. 19, 7 p.m.

Football

PLU at Cal Lutheran Sept. 19

Cross Country

Sundodger Invitational @ Woodland Park, Seattle, Sept 19, 10 a.m.



AN ASTERISK REPRESENTS A PLU HOME GAME

Women wrap up preseason play

Brendan Abshier
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One goal proved enough as the Pacific Lutheran Women's Soccer team lost 1-0 Sunday to visiting Pomona-Pitzer wrapping up the Lutes' preseason.

"We saw a lot of the youth, the young players developing and building up," head coach Lynnette Buffington said at practice Wednesday, "We also saw a lot of promise for the future of the season in a long range."

The goal came from a header in the 57th minute by Pomona-Pitzer first-year Katy Metcalf after junior Erin Platter sent a long cross to the far post setting up Metcalf for her first goal of the season.

PLU took five shots in the first half but was held to only two in the second half.

"We still need to continue to



Photo by Ted Charles

Sophomore Karli Hurlbut fights an opponent for pursuit of a loose ball against Pomona-Pitzer Sunday. PLU lost the match 1-0.

work on how we attack and how we develop play," Buffington said, "That will be a constant theme throughout

the season."

Pomona-Pitzer sent 11 balls at PLU Goalkeeper Ivory Harvey in each half

totaling 22 shots.

Harvey made four saves.

Junior Brittney Bronson took three shots and senior Monica Beard attempted one putting it on target while juniors Megan O'Rourke and Courtney Walker each put one shot on goal for PLU.

In four games so far this season, PLU has scored one goal and has been shut out three times.

However, the Lutes haven't lost a shutout game by more than two goals.

Although the preseason may not have finished the way the Lutes had hoped, a large step in maturing the team to be top competitors was taken.

"We also have been able to tap into the versatility of several players to play multiple positions for us on the field," Buffington said.

The Lutes (1-3 overall) open Northwest Conference season play on Lewis & Clark in Portland at noon Saturday and Linfield in McMinnville at noon Sunday.

'Showing Up for Life'

Tuesday, Sept. 22
7 p.m.

Lagerquist Concert Hall
Mary Baker Music Center

What does it mean to be a global citizen and work together for a more just and fair society?

A conversation with Bill Gates Sr. based on his new book "Showing Up for Life: Thoughts on the Gifts of a Lifetime." He brings a distinguished career in law and many years of public service to his role as co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Book signing to follow. For more information and reserved seating visit www.plu.edu/gates.

"Dad, the next time somebody asks you if you're the real Bill Gates, I hope you say, 'Yes.' I hope you tell them that you're all the things the other one strives to be." — Bill Gates



Bill Gates Sr.

PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

A minor setback Volleyball loses four at invite, drops to No. 19

Erica Ellersick

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The Lutes played volleyball matches in St. Louis, Missouri on

Friday and Saturday for the Washington University / ASICS Invitational.

PLU faced No. 17 Wisconsin-Whitewater Friday and lost 22-25, 25-23, 25-21, 25-14.

In the next game, PLU lost to the tournament's host, No. 8 Washington University 22-25, 25-22, 25-18, 25-12.

Middle blocker Kelcy Joynt had an electrifying performance, adding 10 kills against Whitewater and another 12 kills against Washington University.

Joynt's attacking percentage was a scorching .327 on Friday.

In Saturday's matches, the Lutes team lost to No. 10-ranked Concordia (Minn.), 25-16, 25-19, 25-23.

Next, PLU squared off against No. 4-ranked Ohio Northern and was beat 25-19, 25-23, 25-19.

PLU's volleyball team is currently 4-5 for the season.

Senior captain Joynt made the all-tournament team for the ASICS Invitational.

This was Joynt's second weekend in a row earning honors in tournament play.

"It was a big learning opportunity, playing this weekend," junior captain Beth Hanna said, "We had spurts when we were at our best and played competitively."

In the American Volleyball Coaches

Association Division III national poll, the Lutes were ranked No. 10 coming into tournament play.

Unfortunately, PLU's volleyball team's ranking will drop to No. 19 after four consecutive losses to tough, nationally ranked teams.

It is still early in the Lutes season and the team hopes to learn from these early losses.

The team has the mentality that how a season ends is more important than how a season begins.

"Everyone is ready for conference play since we know we can do great this year," Hanna said.

Head coach Kevin Aoki and the other PLU volleyball coaches stress team building to strengthen the Lutes volleyball squad.

"The focus of our program is different than other programs; we focus on team chemistry," senior Brenna Archibald said. "On and off the court, we play with our best friends. We play with people we love and people that love the game."

The Lutes hit the court today in their first home match of conference play against George Fox University at 7 p.m. in Olson Gym.



Joynt

Men's soccer clocking-in extra hours

PLU plays three overtime games in preseason play

Ellen Kanuch
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MAST SPORTS REPORTER

The Pacific Lutheran men's soccer team completed its non-conference pre-season with a solid 3-2 record after a few persistent matches resulting in overtime.

The Lutes' first match against UC Santa Cruz went into overtime but ended with a 1-0 loss for the Lutes.

The Lutes had a strong showing, winning the next three consecutive games against St. Thomas (Minn.) 3-2 in overtime and 2-0 and Capital 3-2 in overtime.

For the last game Saint Martin's took a victory of 3-1 over the Lutes.

"Our game win against Capital was a big win for us," senior Captain Andy Hyres said.

"We know what it takes to win in overtime, so we were ready for it," senior Defender Stephen Odell said.

The Lutes made the trip to Spokane last week Sept. 11 and 12 to compete against Capital and St. Martin.

"We had some tough components, but overall had good results," Odell said.

Friday the Lutes took their victory in the 8th minute of overtime with a goal by Sophomore Forward Chad Kearns.

Kearns scored on a cross from Hyres for the win in the opening game of the Whitworth Invitational.

The close match allowed both teams to take 17 shots. The Lutes put 12 on frame and Capital had 10 on goal.

"We were really focused and it was a hard fought battle," Odell said.

Odell added that it was exciting to beat a team of that caliber.

Sophomore Midfielder Surafel Wodajo had his first goal of the season in the first five minutes of the game with a short crossing assist from Jason Bjorgo.

In return, Capital's Steven McCarthy scored one of his two goals.

To break the 1-1 tie, Spencer Augustin scored his second goal of the season, with another assist from Bjorgo.

McCarthy responded with another goal to tie up the game once again.

PLU's junior goalkeeper Brian Kostol prevented McCarthy from scoring in overtime and finished out the contest with eight saves.

Finally, Kearns ended overtime with his second goal of the season.

On Saturday, the Lutes were defeated 3-1, unable to achieve the same outcome as the match against Saint Martin's.

This game dropped PLU to its 3-2 record as the Saints took a 2-0 lead after 49 minutes.

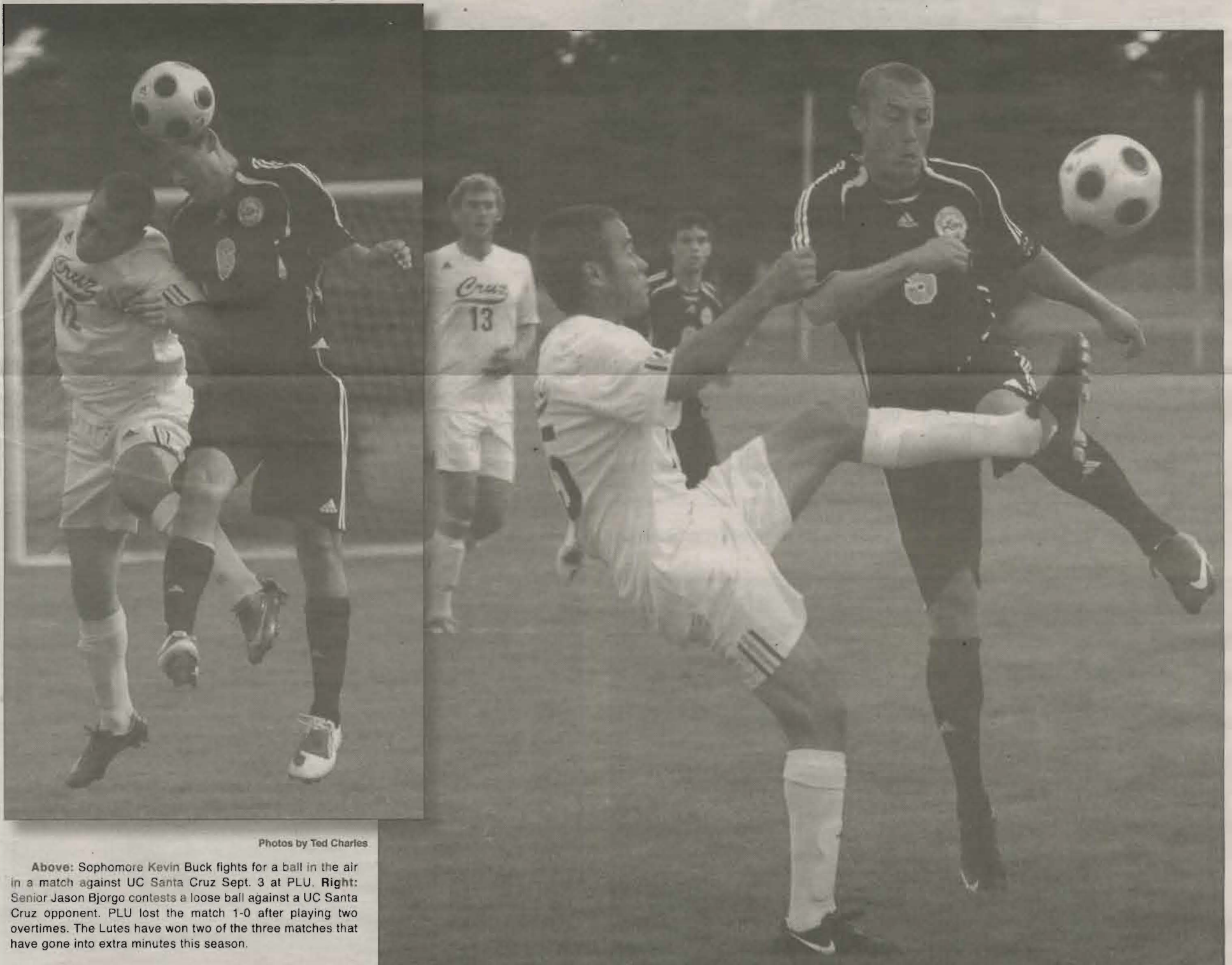
Augustin continued his streak and scored his third goal of the season at 59:26 with an assist from Hyres. Both teams finished with 15 shots.

Kostol gave up two goals but made two saves in his 54 minute play in goal.

Junior Kit Deming allowed one goal and had two saves in the last 36 minutes of play.

"We are going to take one game at a time, teams are tough and we are not going to underestimate them," Hyres said, "We aren't going to treat any game lightly."

Come see PLU step into Northwest Conference action this Saturday in Salem, Ore. for its match against the Willamette Bearcats at 2:30 p.m.



Photos by Ted Charles

Above: Sophomore Kevin Buck fights for a ball in the air in a match against UC Santa Cruz Sept. 3 at PLU. Right: Senior Jason Bjorgo contests a loose ball against a UC Santa Cruz opponent. PLU lost the match 1-0 after playing two overtimes. The Lutes have won two of the three matches that have gone into extra minutes this season.

Striding strong: Cross country places 6th and 7th

Mitchel Brown
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Fall is upon us and sports are in full swing. Lutes football kicked off last Saturday, Crew practice is underway and both the men and women's soccer teams are two games deep into their seasons.

Cross-country is no exception. Following first and second

place finishes by the women and men respectively in their first meet, the Lutes traveled to Estacada, Ore. to compete in the Lewis & Clark Invitational Friday Sept. 11. The Lutes again made a strong showing.

The men were led by junior John Phillips who tore up the 8,000-meter course, posting a final time of 26:55.1-- good enough for 22nd place overall in the 117-runner field.

The top five times for the men were rounded off by

Orion Bras 28th in 27:07.7 Sean Andrascik 30th in 27:09.4, Alex Martin 66th in 28:39.8, and Kolter Grigsby 71st in 28:48.4.

The men ran their way to 6th place out of the 12 schools competing with 175 points.

The men's side was won by Western Oregon University with 51 points followed by Linfield with 71, Concordia with 77, Whitman with 118 and Lewis & Clark with 120.

On the women's side, the Lutes' best time was posted

by the top finisher of the St. Martins meet - Suzy Olsen at 23:49.10 in 14th place out of 110 runners.

Mary Wuest 33rd in 24:54.1; Katie Gebert 34th in 24:75.3; Erica Johnson 47th in 25:39.7 and Chiara Rose-



Phillips

Witt 54th in 25:58.3 made up the rest of the top five for the women, who placed 7th of 11 teams.

Whitworth garnered top honors at the event with 35 points followed by Lewis & Clark with 60, Linfield with 88, Northwest Christian with 113, Concordia with 120, Western Oregon with 127 and PLU with 151.

The team runs back into action Saturday, Sept. 19 at noon for the the Sundodger Invitational in Seattle.

An ill start to the 2009-10 season

PLU football loses to St. Olaf Saturday, begin year on wrong foot

Carrie Draeger
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Injuries, illness, four turnovers and a powerful running game by St. Olaf proved too much for the Pacific Lutheran men's football team Saturday.

The Lutes lost 46-7, the most points the Lutes have ever given up in a season opener, in their season opener against rival St. Olaf College.

"We were playing our first game," head coach Scott Westering said, "and, obviously, it showed."

PLU was missing four starters and lost junior offensive back Colby Davies and senior Guistin Jenkins to heat stroke and starting quarterback A.J. Palazzolo to a sprained medial collateral ligament (MCL) in the fourth quarter.

Junior reserve quarterback Jordan Rasmussen came into the game in the fourth when Palazzolo was hit in the knee. Due to the injury, Palazzolo will likely miss PLU's next game at California Lutheran University in Thousand Oaks, CA.

Westering said that although the Lutes struggled at times, it was important that they try to work through it.

"[We are using this game] to get ourselves in the best position to grow," Westering said. "We're veteran in a few places, but we're still young."

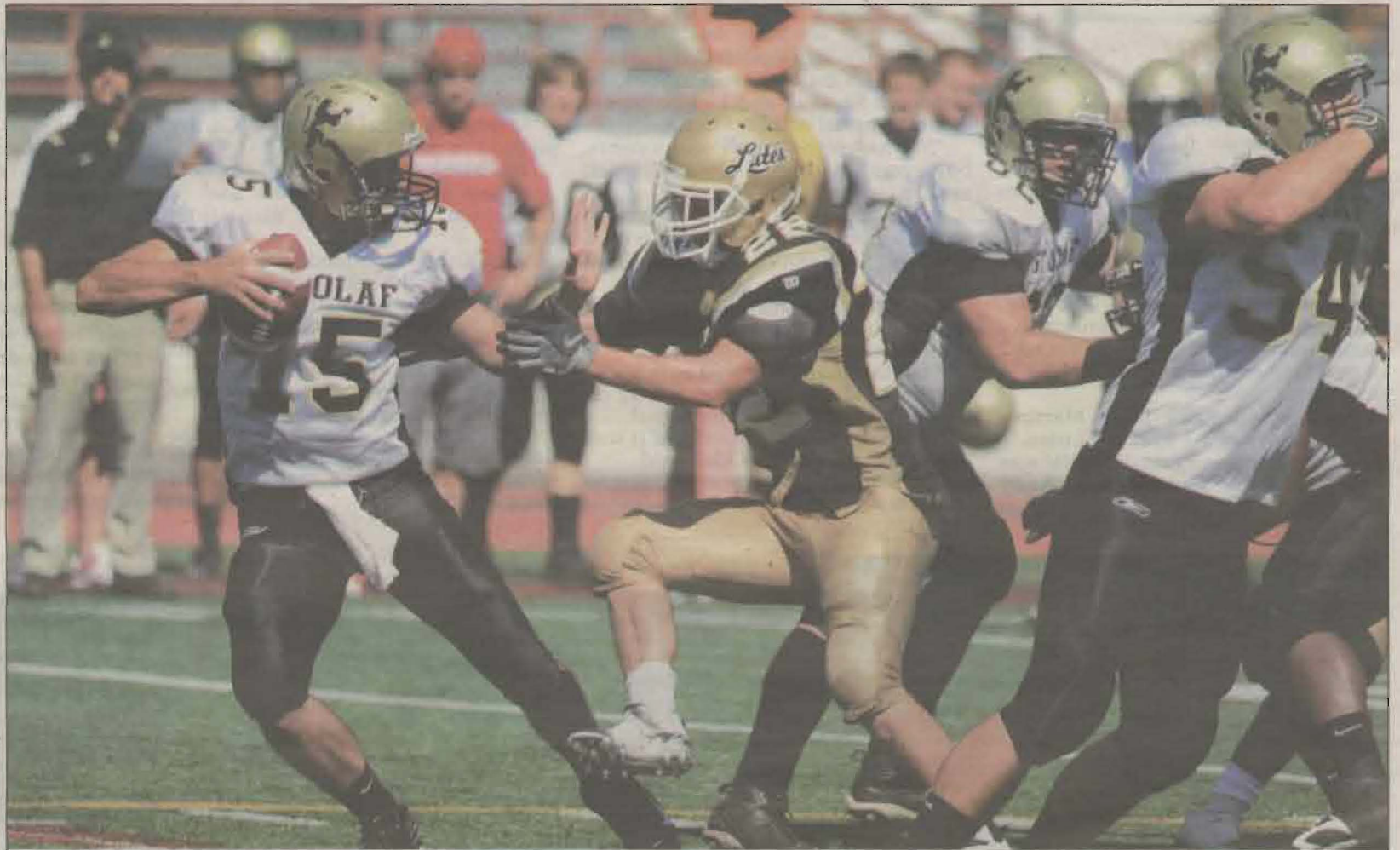


Photo by Ted Charles

Sophomore linebacker Michael Warsaw reaches for St. Olaf senior quarterback John Haberman in the Sept. 12 contest. Haberman completed 17 of 27 attempted with four touchdowns and one interception.

PLU's defense struggled to contain the Oles' sophomore running back Leon Clark who ran for 166 yards and a touchdown.

"As a football fan, he's a joy to watch," Westering said about Clark, "Not being the team that's giving up the yards."

Westering said the Lutes have only been able to practice their first string defense together once this year because of injuries and illness. This hurt their ability to stop a solid team like St. Olaf, he said.

"We've got to be better on defense," Westering said.

The Lutes were led offensively by junior wide receiver Greg Ford, who scored the Lutes' only touchdown on a 63-yard catch-and-run pass from Palazzolo.

The Oles racked up 463 offensive yards to PLU's 104. The Lutes rushed for negative 79 yards, including lost yardage on two snaps over Rasmussen's and

Palazzolo's head.

"We can't be defeated by whatever that scoreboard said," Westering said. "A good whipping never hurt a good athlete."

The Lutes take on California Lutheran tomorrow at 1 p.m. The Kingsmen lost to Willamette University in their season opener last week, 20-13.



Photo by Ted Charles

Junior quarterback Jordan Rasmussen takes a hit from a St. Olaf defender during Saturday's game. Rasmussen completed two of four passes after replacing sophomore AJ Palazzolo in the fourth quarter.

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