

THE MAST

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Parkland Dreams Reyna's owner feels weight of financial distress

WHAT'S INSIDE



PHOTO COURTESY OF REYNA GUZMAN

Reyna's owner Felix Guzman poses outside his restaurant with his guitar. Guzman has been singing and playing around his restaurant as patrons dine.

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"I've been knocked down before," says Felix Guzman. "But this time feels as though I've been hit when I was still getting back up. If something happens, then I don't know if I can get back up again. I might be down for good this time."

Guzman, who owns Reyna's - a Mexican restaurant just blocks from PLU - says he has dealt with more worries in the past couple months than any other time he can recall. He's lived here for more than 20 years and started Reyna's from nothing, hand-painting the building and crafting the menu. He doesn't know if his livelihood, the restaurant, which feeds his children and constitutes a huge part of his identity, will make it to see next spring. All he can do currently is work tireless hours, hoping the tides of his misfortune will cease to rise.

Guzman is usually an animated man, constantly weaving throughout his restaurant to chat with his customers. Tonight, the emptiness of the restaurant makes him seem especially weary. His hands, still scented with tomatoes and diced onions, have fresh pink burn scars on them. He can't afford any new hires, he explains, and must fry the rice dishes himself.

Guzman traces the beginnings of his financial shakiness back to the 2008 recession, when the United States experienced high unemployment rates. Parkland was hit disproportionately hard

- the unemployment rate is about ten percent above the national average, even eight years later. He and his wife have sunk almost 20,000 dollars into renovation and menu revamps, but his efforts to rejuvenate business remain fruitless. Changes with student parking and a lack of advertising and name recognition have cut into his customer base have cut into the restaurant. It physically shows. One of the first things you notice walking into the restaurant is an unlit and institutional room sectioned off by a purple curtain. Reyna's sold the space just to barely keep afloat.

When asked about the future of his restaurant, Guzman says he genuinely doesn't know how

"I've been knocked down before, but this time feels as though I've been hit when I was still getting back up. If something happens, then I don't know if I can get back up again. I might be down for good this time."

Felix Guzman
Owner, Reyna's

things will play out. He's trying to find if there's anything he can do to put the fate of the restaurant back into his own hands. Felix is far too busy during the day to sit and think about the questions that loop through his mind. But now, with the place shuttering closed for the night, his worries unspool. He shares them, in a soft voice colored with a lilting north Mexican accent, over the sounds of Univision and dishwashers chattering in the background. No murmurs of conversation from customers can be overheard.

When Guzman was a teenager working at a tourist shop in Tijuana, it was his skill for conversing with customers that got him ahead. He still catches himself reminiscing about Mexico - about the family that has there, the welcoming bars and vast expanse and desert warmth of the Sonoran night sky. This restaurant connects him and his kids to his heritage there.

Here in Parkland, however, is where he's

planted his roots. His whole family is built around the cornerstone of his restaurant. His wife, the restaurant's namesake, is much more reserved than her husband, though Reyna gives off more of a dignified calm than reticence. She sits in the corner, letting her legs rest from a 12-hour day and watches their 6-year-old son play. Felix says customers sometimes complain about his kid prancing throughout the restaurant, but trying to raise him while working fulltime means keeping him around. He has an 11-year-old daughter who helps out occasionally, though she's more interested in her studies, notes Mrs. Guzman with pride. It's the uncertainty about their future that Mr. and Mrs. Guzman feel most acutely.

Guzman says the grime and grit of the neighborhood (a shop next door was recently busted as a drug front, according to local police) is a contributing factor to his financial slump. Felix says that the business side of PLU was good about helping him for the last four years, but things changed last March. There's been multiple problems with the PLU contractor, who oversees the business on Garfield Street, and Guzman has difficulty contacting the administration for the assistance he needs to stay. He's had his advertising torn down from the walls of PLU and has had trouble buying ads in the local paper. He doesn't know how effective print advertisement would be in a digitized age, either.

Internet apps like Yelp may help consumers, but these digital reviewing apps are just another wellspring of anxiety for restaurant owners like Guzman. More than once he brings up a story of a customer being unsatisfied with the wait staff and burning him on the social media. He holds a respectable 3 1/2 star rating on the website, but this incident in particular still seems to haunt him. He brings it up twice during our interview.

Yet Guzman doesn't seem angry or disappointed at any of this. He doesn't harbor ill will towards anyone. He just wants to know if there's anything he can do, what would be effective. "My motto is this: your customers are family. You invite them in for a family meal, and they will come back." Guzman believes that his new adjustments to his menu, including a happy hour with a steep student discount, will be the catalyst that the slogging business waits for.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF FELIX GUZMAN

A twenty-something Guzman with his truck in easier times.

PLU joins national prestigious honor society

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Pacific Lutheran University students may soon see their professors, dressed in commencement regalia, coming to classes with a special invitation to join one of the most prestigious honor societies in the nation.

This week, PLU joined the ranks of schools with a Phi Kappa Phi chapter, bringing students scholarships and opportunities beyond the classroom. In other chapters, Phi Kappa Phi members have been able to connect with each other across the nation and network.

More than having a successful network of members, Phi Kappa Phi also provides volunteer opportunities for students who want to advocate for literacy in younger classrooms.

Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest all-discipline honor society in the United States, and students from each of PLU's major fields will be invited to join. The group centers around students' academic achievements.

"The biggest draw for students will be the scholarships," said Hal DeLaRosby, director of Academic Advising and Phi Kappa Phi member.

PLU was officially established as the 333rd chapter of Phi Kappa Phi on Friday, Feb. 19, with a ceremonial installation. At the installation, national board members for Phi Kappa Phi swore in PLU members and signed the chapter's charter, making PLU an official new hub for Phi Kappa Phi.

Phi Kappa Phi members will invite juniors, seniors and

graduates from all academic disciplines. The top 10 percent of seniors and 7 percent of juniors will be inducted into the society this spring. Faculty will hand-select the students, who will participate in an initiation ceremony this May.

Students may propose and petition Phi Kappa Phi for scholarships to fund scholastic projects. DeLaRosby said students have control over how much work they invest in their membership with Phi Kappa Phi.

"When I joined I never thought I'd use it for anything other than just being a member," DeLaRosby said.

But several years after joining, DeLaRosby reached out to Phi Kappa Phi to help fund his dissertation research. The scholarship DeLaRosby received was the Love of Learning award in 2013 for a pilot study investigating characteristics of successful college students who were persisting to graduate. The award helped DeLaRosby cover expenses as he traveled the West Coast, meeting with students. It also paid for a transcription service to help transcribe the interviews.

In need of funding, he turned to Phi Kappa Phi and he was able to finish his project with the society's help, after proposing his research and getting it approved.

"Being a part of this is really a recognition and an honor," DeLaRosby said. "Even if you don't think you'll use it, you never know."

Board members for the new PLU chapter include DeLaRosby, School of Business Dean Nancy Albers, Vice President of Student Life Joanna Royce-Davis and Provost Steven Starkovich.



PHOTO BY JOHN FROSCHAUER

Hal DeLaRosby, director of Academic Advising and Phi Kappa Phi member. He joined other Phi Kappa Phi board members on-stage on Friday, Feb. 19 at a ceremonial installation.

"I joined because of the opportunities that the organization provides for networking across and within disciplines – and the learning that I have experienced as a result," Royce-Davis said.

She also noted her excitement that Phi Kappa Phi will expand opportunities and celebrate talented students, faculty and staff on campus.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PHIKAPPAPHI.ORG

Continued from page one

"Students are my main livelihood. The best part of my day is going up to tables, talking to my customers, talking to students," says Mr. Guzman, stroking his mustache pensively.

His website is full of pictures of past and present Lutes, but there are fewer and fewer students these days, which he believes are related to meal plans and changes in student parking. He's tried advertising in the student paper, or on KPLU, but he received no response. He needed KPLU to cut a deal with him so he could

afford the rates, but things fell apart in the last minute. The posters he puts up around campus are soon torn down, perhaps because of difficulty reaching the right channels. It's impossible to forecast if his livelihood will be torn down as well.

When pressure piles up in Guzman's life, he tells me, he feels stress manifest in an unusual place. "By the end of the day," Guzman said, "I can barely read. I'm on my feet all day and have a bad back, but I feel it in my eyes."



Photos courtesy of Felix Guzman

Delicious Dishes prepared with NOPALES, Babies Cactus Leaves with our delicious sauce, Pico De Gallo, & much more...

Monterrey and Apodaca NL	\$13.95
Felix el Cateco	\$13.95
Torreon Coah Gomez Palacios Lardo Durazno	\$13.95
Salinas Hidalgo Aguas Calientes Zacatecas	\$13.95
Milpa Buena Rancho El Toro Santa Maria	\$13.95
San Luis Potosi Charcas Cruces Moctezuma	\$13.95



Reyna's dishes feature Nopales, or baby cactus leaves. Guzman and his family prepare all of the dishes themselves.

Reyna's specialty

Reyna's owner Felix Guzman says the pride of his menu is Nopales, a traditional folk-cure dish which uses baby cactus leaves as a primary ingredient. He prepares them in a homemade sauce with a smokiness indicative of Tejano (Texan/Hispanic) culture. He thinks the most popular dish at the restaurant is Carne Asada, which he prepares himself almost every day. Almost all of the recipes are from family or friends - and he's already passed them down to his kids. His 11-year-old daughter is apparently the best rice cook in the family.

What to do at PLU:

Friday, March 4

Keep Calm & Carry A Song; 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Scandinavian Cultural Center

Visiting Lecture on Margery Kemp; 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Anderson University Center 201

Regency Series: Modern Voices; 8-9:30 p.m., Lagerquist Concert Hall

Saturday, March 5

Ultimate Frisbee Tourney; 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Football Field, South Campus West, Foss Field, Soccer Field, Synthetic Turf Field

Gamerati Game Day; 10 a.m.-12 a.m. (midnight), Anderson University Center 201, 213, 212, 214a and 214b.

Baseball & Softball vs Willamette; 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., Baseball Diamond

Sunday, March 6

Organ Series: Christopher Mantoux; 3-4:30 p.m., Lagerquist Concert Hall, MBR

Baseball vs Willamette; 12 p.m., Baseball Diamond

Softball vs Lewis & Clark; 12 p.m., Softball Diamond

PLU unveils 253 scholarship

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Lutes entering the Pacific Lutheran University Community in Fall 2016 will be the first students eligible to apply for the 253 PLU Bound Scholarship - a form of financial aid given exclusively to students from the 253 area code.

The 253 PLU Bound Scholarship is made possible by federal, state and PLU grant money. Students who attend high school in the 253 area are College Bound Scholarship eligible and have a grade point average of at least 3.70 can be awarded with this scholarship.

The scholarship ensures awarded students four years of full tuition paid, and the amount of students who can receive this aid is unlimited.

According to PLU's Division of Marketing and Communications, Matt Burns - a counselor at Wilson High School - says that this scholarship will give kids from the 253 the money they need to attend college. He says he can "use it to encourage and motivate some students who are on the fence" between being good students and great students.

Solidifying PLU as an option for college-bound students in the 253 is the heart of why PLU has created the 253 PLU Bound Scholarship.

According to PLU's MarCom, Director of

Admissions Melody Ferguson says that PLU has awarded scholarships to local students "for decades." However, none of the similar scholarships have mimicked the way that the 253 PLU Bound Scholarship awards full four year tuition to students from a specific area.

The fact that this scholarship is a new development has some students on campus feeling neglected - as if they've been cheated out of an opportunity.

"I'm more bummed than angry," Junior Eric Zayas said. "I've been looking into scholarships, but only first-years can apply [for this]. I'm a junior [so I can't]."



PHOTO COURTESY OF 253HEART.COM

Students who are College Bound, have at least a 3.70 GPA and who attend school in the 253 area are eligible to apply for the scholarship. The scholarship covers all four years of tuition at PLU.

ASPLU Elections on the Horizon

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Amidst the craziness that is Super Tuesday and the upcoming election for the next President of the United States, Lutes are faced with a similar decision here on campus.

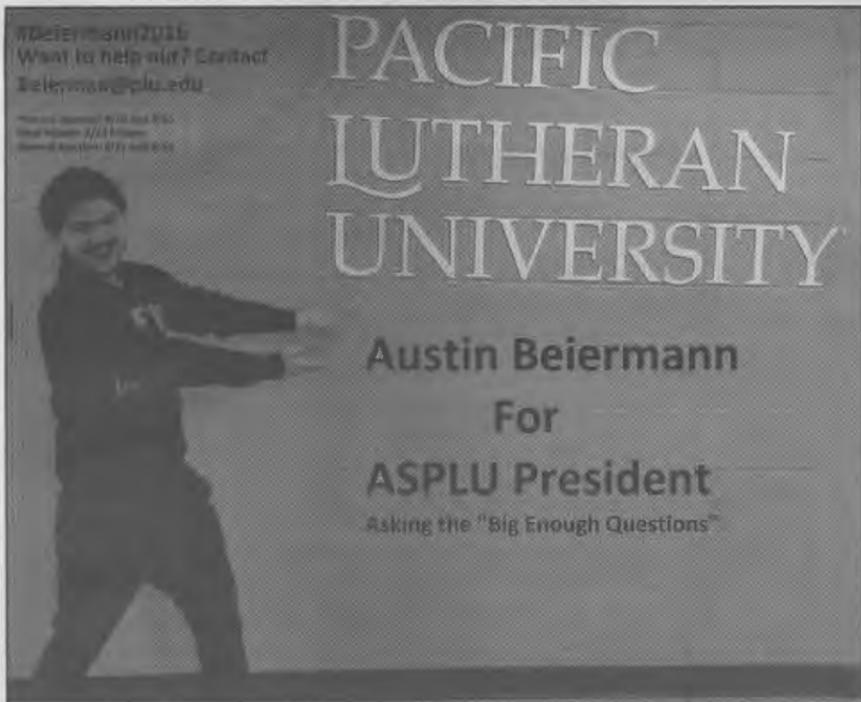
Between February 22 and 26, students were invited to register for ASPLU Executive Elections. So far, there are two candidates currently confirmed as running for next year's open ASPLU Student Body President position. Candidates include current Vice President of ASPLU junior Ellie Lapp and sophomore Austin Beiermann. Lapp has already announced her running mate for next year's Vice President, junior Taylor Bozich.

Both presidential candidates have been busy campaigning via the internet and around campus. Lapp and Bozich's slogan

campaign is, "Experienced. Passionate. Thoughtful." On the other side, Beiermann's campaign includes the slogan, "asking the 'Big Enough Questions,'" and his micro-sized posters can be found around campus in locations such as OMM. Lapp is currently experience more online support through social media, with 250 more supporters on her Facebook campaign page than Beiermann. Both candidates, however, have plenty of time to gain more support from their fellow Lutes before the primary elections.

Lapp and Beiermann are both expected to release more information about their policies as the final debate and elections draw closer.

The primary elections will be held on March 10 and 11, and the final debate will occur on March 14 in AUC 133 at 6pm. The general elections will be held on March 17 and 18. All voting is to occur online at plu.edu/asplu/vote.



Sophomore Austin Beiermann and junior Ellie Lapp are both running for the ASPLU President leadership position. Be sure to vote on March 10 and 11 in the primaries and March 17 and 18 in the general elections.

Thoughtful.

Ellie Lapp & Taylor Bozich

ASPLU President & Vice President

Debate:
March 14 @ 6pm, AUC 174
General Election:
March 17-18

Just chillin'

Several Lutes met downstairs in the University Center Tuesday night and set up TVs, video games and a pong table. Throughout the night, the crowd of Lutes relaxing varied in size from fifteen to twenty.

Sophomores Quenessa Long, Tono Sablan, and Austin Beiermann organized the event.

"We wanted to create a space for students. Right now, if you live in Stuen and want to hang out with someone in T-Stad, you had to go to one of the Residence Halls, there's no place for every student to come together," Beiermann said. "We wanted to make that happen."

Though all of the Lutes involved in organizing the hangout plan to run for student leadership positions next semester, that wasn't the main idea of the event.

"I'm running for RHA VP, Miranda's running for RHA President, Austin is running for ASPLU President," Sablan said. "This is a change we wanted to see happen, but we didn't want to wait for it to happen. You don't need to have a gold name tag position to make something like this happen. This is just a couple of T.V.s, we got some games, we got a pong table."

Lutes played Guitar Hero, Smash Bros., and Water Pong until 10 p.m.



PHOTO BY COURTNEY MIRANDA
Lutes assembled in the basement of the UC Tuesday night to play pong and video games, listen to music, and hang out.



CSI: Campus Safety Investigations Taken from weekly Campus Safety reports

Medical Aid near Hinderlie

CSAF contacted a Washington HS student for a medical aid. The student had sustained a minor muscle injury while playing football at Washington HS. While walking across the PLU campus his leg gave out. A PLU student witnessed him fall and called CSAF for assistance on his behalf. CSAF provided an ice pack and an escort to his house.

Suspicious Activity near 121st

CSAF Video Officers observed a male parked in a Jeep near the Health Center acting suspiciously. The male, a non-student, exited his vehicle and began looking in cars and trying door handles. He was contacted by a CSAF field officer, and PCSD was called as well. He was argumentative and uncooperative, and left the area in his vehicle. Attempts to locate by CSAF and PCSD were unsuccessful. No damage to any vehicles has been reported.

Student struck in head by branch

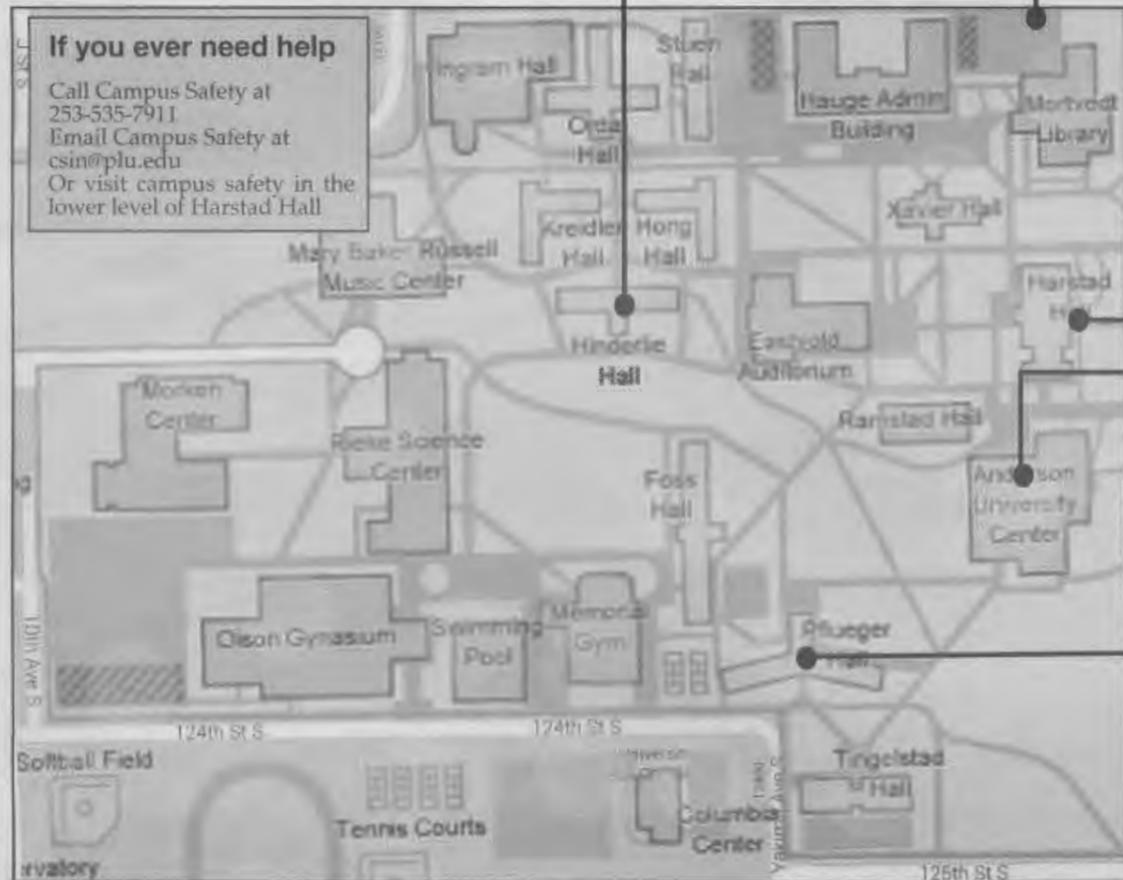
A student reported to CSAF that he was struck in the head by a falling branch near Harstad on Feb. 19. He was transported to the ER by a friend. Neither FAMA nor CSAF were notified until Feb. 22. The Risk Manager has been notified of the incident.

Property Damage

CSAF received a report of disruption off the campus community from staff in the AUC. Local school students fled from CSAF upon arrival and possibly damaged an exit door to the AUC while running from the building. CSAF contacted the students near Foss Hall. The students were RFC'd. This incident has been forwarded to Washington HS and Keithly MS for their information and follow up.

Drug Policy Violation in Pflueger

During a fire alarm response CSAF discovered a plastic bag covering the fire detector in a resident's room. Also in plain view were two water bong. CSAF contacted the resident for a room search. Two empty containers smelling of marijuana were discovered along with several small plastic baggies and rolling paper. This incident has been forwarded to SRR for review.



If you ever need help

Call Campus Safety at 253-535-7911
Email Campus Safety at csin@plu.edu
Or visit campus safety in the lower level of Harstad Hall

The Life of Pablo: A Kanye West Story

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Kanye West cannot seem to stay out of the media these days. West has been quite vocal on Twitter lately with rants about money, society and fellow rappers - and amidst all that, he just released his newest album titled "The Life of Pablo" (known as TLOP).

The release was announced on the NBC show "Saturday Night Live," on which he performed new tracks "Highlights" and "Ultralight Beam." West also sampled one of the tracks on TLOP, "I Love Kanye" in a sketch with SNL cast member Kyle Mooney.

TLOP was released only on Tidal, a music streaming service created by Jay-Z. Controversially, this album was not released on the more popular outlets like iTunes or Spotify, making it nearly impossible for fans to listen without paying for it.

TMZ reported that Tidal subscriptions doubled following the release of TLOP, and it also set the record number of streams on Tidal.

By releasing this album exclusively, West puts his fans in a tough spot as they are forced to decide just how badly they want to experience his new album. While it is illegal to Torrent (illegally download) music, many fans found this the most viable option.

Ironically, Pacific Lutheran University students received an email last week about music piracy. Some Lutes said they had downloaded it using software other than Tidal.

The lack of availability may have led to "The Life of Pablo" failing to even break the top 200 on the Billboard Charts. Tidal also does not release the number of streams per artist to Billboard, so his album could have done very well, but unfortunately those numbers do not factor into the Billboard charts.

A widespread release of this album is set to come in the near future and will feature even more tracks than the original 18 on the Tidal release. It has the potential to do very well in the weeks to come.

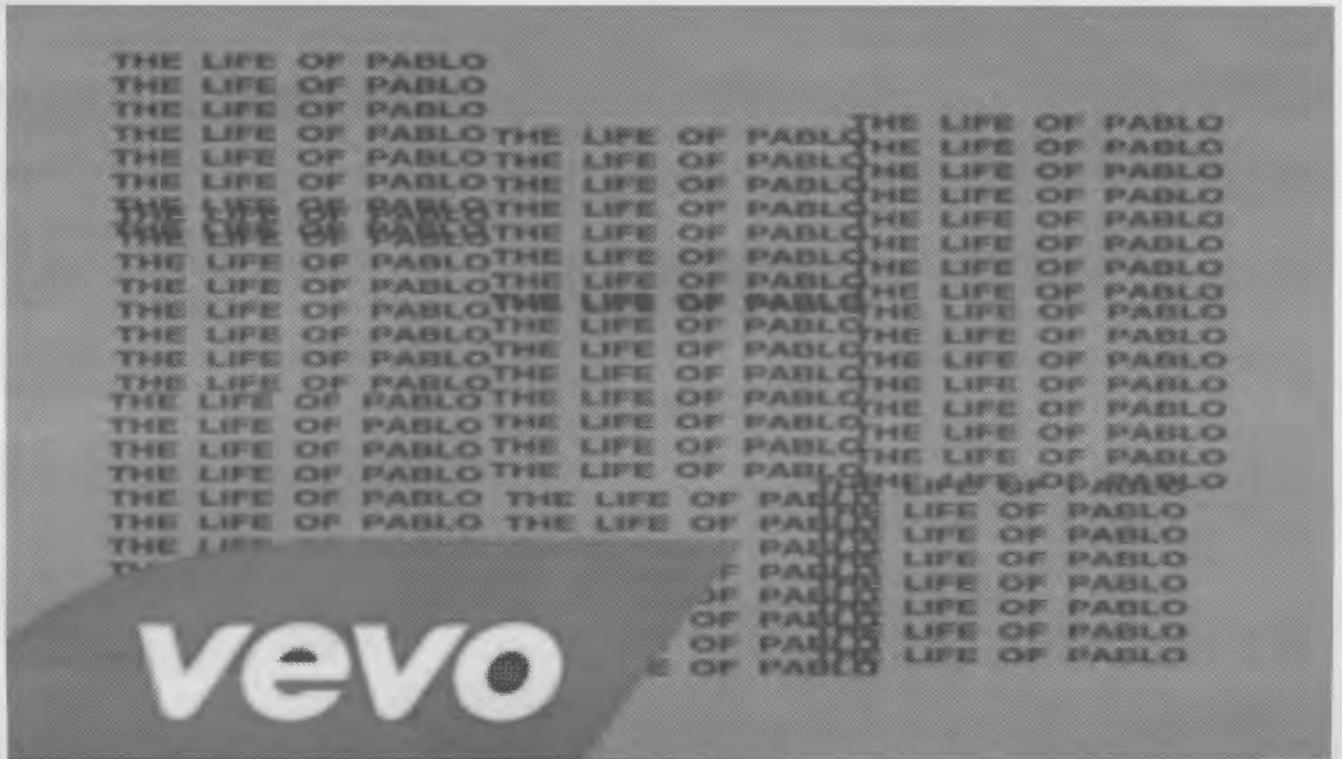


PHOTO COURTESY OF YOUTUBE.COM

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The dust has settled around Kanye West as the juggernaut of events that was "The Life Of Pablo" release comes to a close. The album, released Valentine's Day exclusively via Tidal, comes with a resurgence of communication from Kanye via Twitter - for better or worse depending on your view.

"This is a gospel album," he announced during Yeezy Season 3, the part-fashion show, part-album release and listening party befitting Kanye's maximalist style. The album opens with the heavenly "Ultralight Beam," immediately establishing the Christian influences Kanye wove into the album.

Both his and Chance's verse read more like gospel than hip hop, and the full choir mixed with horns and organs takes us

home to that sweet spot between genres.

The intense megalomania that comes with super-celebrity will consume and destroy those of us who cannot fathom it. Kanye West is not, however, incapable of fathoming it.

Kanye's ego explodes across the tracks, taking him to new highs of vanity and new lows of self-deprecation. Even so, he presents himself as the narcissistic anti-hero we know and love - though he's cracked a bit under the pressure of being a social icon, and we can see his anxieties are peaking through the cracks in TLOP.

See: "Silver Surfer Intermission," a track that holds no value except to prove that the temporary album title "Waves" was meant as "love and support" for rapper Max B (cited by Wiz Khalifa as the originator of the "wave").

The album progresses in a much different style than previous Ye releases. Average track time is about three minutes, outliers being "Real Friends," "No More Parties in L.A." and "30 Hours."

Each track is different from the rest of his discography, but it all still manages to fit together like a piece from one of the album's namesakes, Pablo Picasso (though music reviewer Anthony Fantano would argue the tracks are "more Jackson Pollock than Pablo Picasso").

Despite making each track feel different from the others, there are still elements from old jams. "Waves" is reminiscent of the golden choruses on "We Major" and "Devil in a New Dress." "Freestyle 4" and "Fade" pull from the loud, angry Kanye that made Yeezus. The

beat-chopping throughout the album solidifies Ye as the best at what he does.

Kanye draws parallels between himself and the three Pablos (St. Paul the Apostle, artist Pablo Picasso, and drug lord Pablo Escobar) throughout the album. In "No More Parties in L.A." Kanye sees himself as a messenger from God, as an artist pushing his limits and as the enemy of the media ("I feel like Pablo when I'm workin' on my shoes / I feel like Pablo when I see me on the news / I feel like Pablo when workin' on my house").

It's impossible to analyze his music in a vacuum. While it's true that a separation of art and artist is possible on a smaller scale, Kanye's case is different.

He's an immensely influential artist, with seven full-length albums under his belt since 2003. He's been in the pop culture spotlight at least since then. He knows the things he says have far-reaching effects. Kanye should know better; Kanye definitely thinks women are objects, definitely thinks he can run for President of the U.S. in 2020, and Kanye thinks Bill Cosby's innocence is something he can joke about.

Some would argue that TLOP is more spectacle than art. If that were true, wouldn't that mean that all the preceding rants and tweets and freakouts were all part of this spectacle? Can we reduce Kanye to nothing more than a symbol in the media? Isn't this exactly what he's upset about?

All things considered, Kanye is nothing more than a man. A man that has created his magna opus, a piece of work that serves as both a reflection on where he's been, an intimate peek into his daily life, and a glimpse at what could possibly lie ahead.



PHOTO COURTESY OF YOUTUBE.COM

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Thursday: After Hours with Ramy Carter and Kyle Parsons, 7 p.m.

Friday: Sports Talk with Christian Bond, Kellen Westering and Drew Ardissona, 12 p.m.

Listen live on plu.edu/lmr or podcast the stories from mastmedia.plu.edu



Wang Symposium talks food security, sovereignty

Editor's Note: As part of COMA 427, students are encouraged to write and submit articles of interest to the Mast in order to flex their journalism muscles.

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Last week, Dr. Charlotte Cote, an Associate Professor of American Indian Studies at the University of Washington, gave a lecture on food security and cultural revitalization. Dr. Cote began her lecture by greeting the roughly 100 people in attendance in her native southern Wakashan language. In her first slide, she talked about an event described in her book, "Spirits of our Whaling Ancestors," when she first heard the news that members of the Makah Nation had succeeded in a 1999 whale hunt. To Cote, a relative of the Makah, this was an event of immense significance. The way the Makah treated (or revered)

the whale was the way she believes we should treat all food.

The central theme of "food sovereignty" discussed by Cote came from traditionalist movements among rural peoples in the US and Mexico pushing for more economically stable food sources that won't punish the land.

One thing that struck me was the amount of poetry and non-academia Cote cited in her lecture. The types of sources cited suggests Cote's cause is one that affects the passions of many.

Cote's first book was available for purchase in the University Center's Gray Area, as well as work from the other speakers and keynotes at the symposium.

Cote's new book, which she said she wished she had finished by now, deals with the topic of food sovereignty in more detail.



Senior Yannet Gudeta helps man the book table during the Wang Center Symposium.
PHOTO COURTESY OF RESIDENTIAL LIFE



PHOTO BY PARIS FRANKLIN

Molly's Music Reviews: **MOTHXR**

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Remember Dan Humphrey from Gossip Girl? While stalking him a few weeks ago, I discovered he's actually quite the talented musician.

Penn Badgley is one of four members of the band MOTHXR who started recording their album last April. It's coming out this Friday, and I can't wait.

Even before they managed to secure a record deal, they sold out gigs in Europe. Their music

is a blend of electronica and indie rock. Their tour in the U.S. is starting in April.

According to Badgley, the band is not making any money - at least not enough - but they all do it because they are so passionate about music.

They have released some singles already. "She Can't Tell" is my favorite of the songs I have heard. The song was in first place on Irish DJ Annie Mac's Power Down Playlist.

MOTHXR debut album, "Centerfold," is on Spotify and Apple Music.

You can hear MOTHXR on Monday Mornings with Molly on MAST radio.

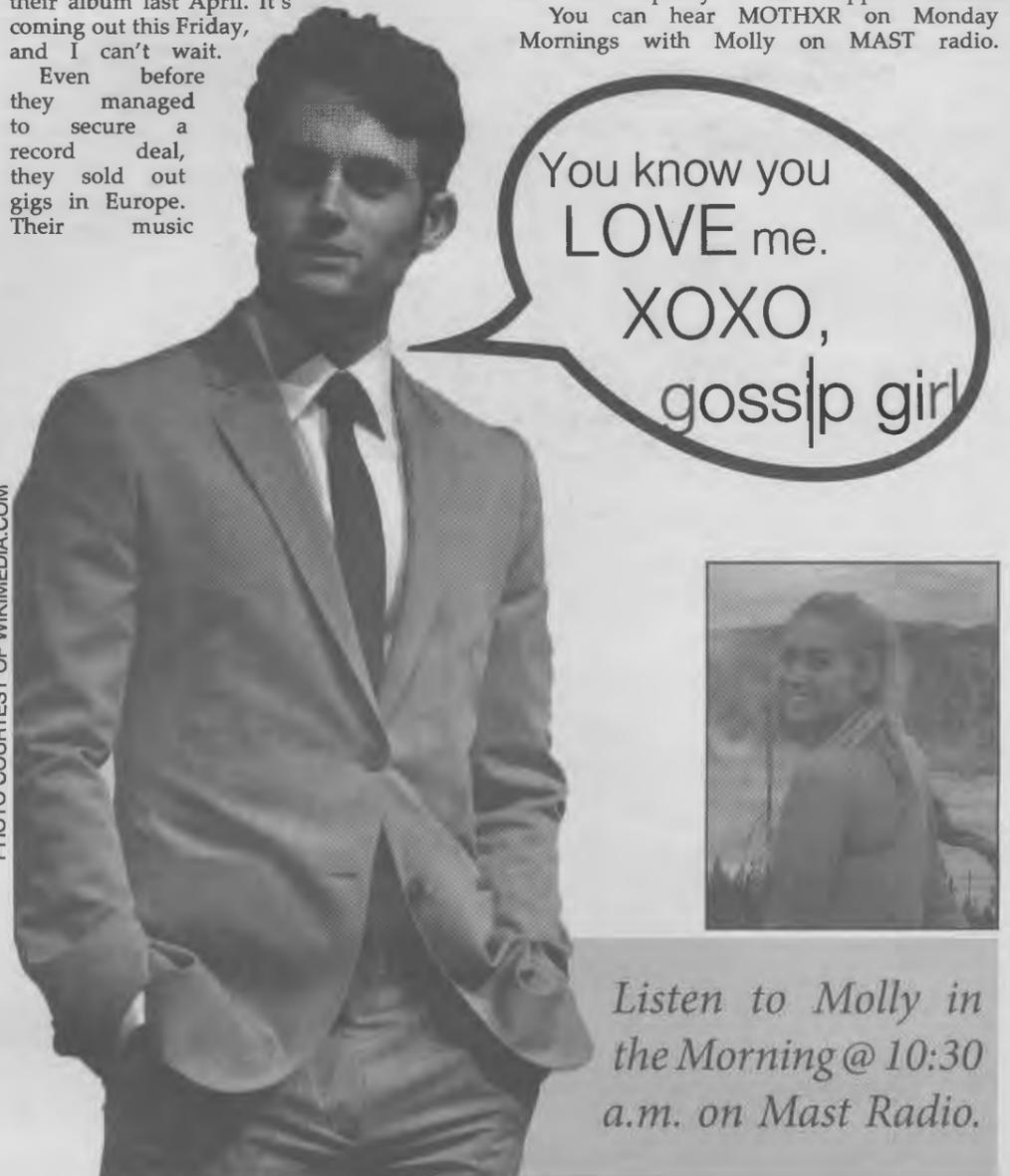


PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA.COM

Listen to Molly in the Morning @ 10:30 a.m. on Mast Radio.

MAST MEDIA SHOW

LATE KNIGHT

With Sam Ellefson

Mast Media
mast@plu.edu

March 3rd
8:30 PM in The CAVE

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY MCKENNA & COLTON

If you missed this week's episode of **Late Knight** check it out here:

<http://mastmedia.plu.edu/mast-tv/lateknight/>

“And the Oscar goes to...”

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Another year of the Oscars has come and gone, but the highlights of the three-hour television event still linger. Notable moments of the night included the triumphant end to Leonardo DiCaprio’s agonizing wait for that little gold man, and Chris Rock’s hilarious and highly controversial opening monologue. Let’s break down some of his more genius jokes:

1. “I’m here at the Academy Awards, otherwise known as the White People’s Choice Awards.”

Right out of the gate, Rock calls out the Academy on the #OscarsSoWhite that trended on Twitter when it was revealed that zero African-American actors/actresses were nominated for Academy Awards. It was a bold way to start, and it didn’t get any tamer from there.

2. “It’s the 88th Academy Awards, which means this whole no black nominees thing has happened at least 71 other times. O.K.?”

This one made me straight out LOL. On the surface it would seem that Rock is trivializing the lack of black nominees at the 2016 Oscars. In truth he’s really highlighting the fact that critics - especially the Academy - have neglected the talents of African-Americans throughout the history of film. It’s nothing new, but in 2016 many feel that it’s getting *really* old.

3. “Jada boycotting the Oscars is like me boycotting Rihanna’s panties. I wasn’t invited.”

Jabbing at Jada Pinket Smith for asking black actors to boycott the Oscars altogether was witty and funny. Comparing it to boycotting Rihanna’s underwear made the remark just shy of priceless.

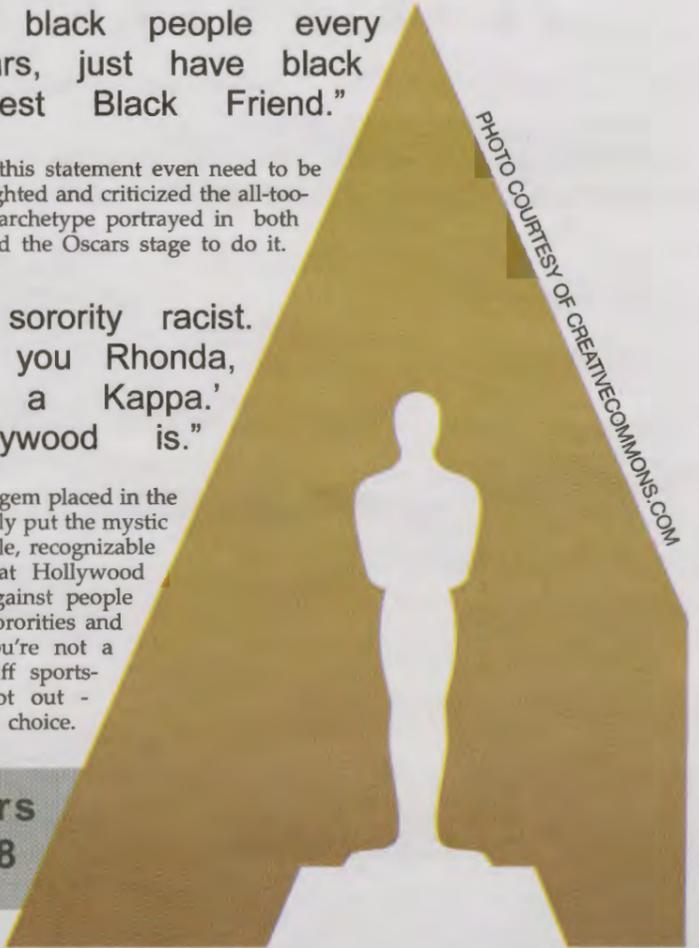
4. “If you want black people every year at the Oscars, just have black categories like Best Black Friend.”

Does the perfection of this statement even need to be explained? Rock blatantly highlighted and criticized the all-too-common “Token Black Friend” archetype portrayed in both television and film. And he used the Oscars stage to do it.

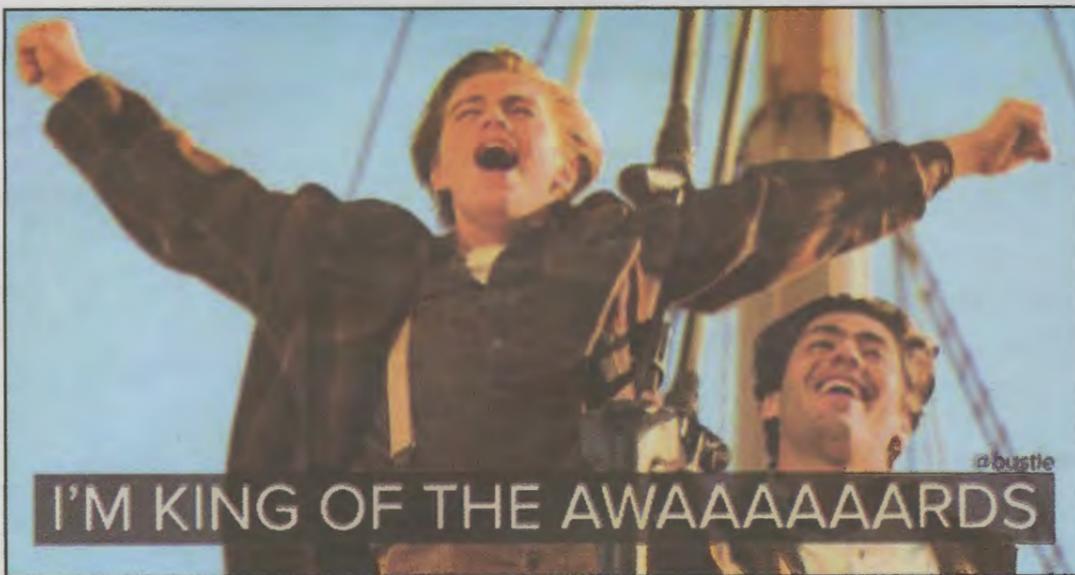
5. “Hollywood is sorority racist. It’s like, ‘We like you Rhonda, but you’re not a Kappa.’ That’s how Hollywood is.”

Last but not least, this gem placed in the second half of Rock’s speech really put the mystic racism of Hollywood in a simple, recognizable collegiate example. It’s not that Hollywood practices outright prejudice against people of color, but it’s selective like sororities and fraternities are selective. If you’re not a skinny, white blonde girl or a buff sports-obsessed party boy, you’re not out - you’re just way below second choice.

For more Oscars fun, turn to pg. 8



R.I.P Leonardo DiCaprio Memes



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CREATIVECOMMONS.COM

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Much of the world breathed a collective “Finally” when Leonardo DiCaprio’s performance in “The Revenant” won him an Oscar for Best Actor.

Likewise, the internet echoed a collective disgruntled groan at the fact that the long-running joke about Leo’s lack of an Oscar must come to an end. More heartbreaking is that the funny memes the internet has produced must be laid to rest.

Some have already jumped on creating new memes commemorating the 41-year-old actor’s accomplishment.

Here are a few of my personal favorites.



BREAKING:

LOS ANGELES, CA - Leonardo DiCaprio finally takes home a Krise and it's "Everything he's ever hoped it would be." The actor left the venue with tears in his eyes, and when asked what's next for the 41-year-old, he said "Dine at the Gonyea house, of course."





Illustration by Colton Walter

OPINION

FBI vs. Apple showdown

A nationwide fight for privacy rights

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The big news in the tech industry this week has to do with Apple once again. However, it's not the iPhone 7 that's making waves, unfortunately. The FBI is taking Apple to court for trying to get information from one of the San Bernardino shooters' iPhones.

The FBI fears that the iPhone in question has a privacy feature that deletes all of the information off of the iPhone after too many failed passcode attempts. To avoid deleting information that may help the FBI, they asked Apple to provide a way to get the information off, bypassing the privacy feature.

This is where all the controversy lies, Apple and many of their customers fear this will blow the hinges off all of Apple's privacy features, which is a big selling point for the company. Apple doesn't even currently possess the technology to do such a thing, according to the company itself. Many feel that taking the time to develop such a thing would damage the sanctity of iPhone privacy. However, I happen to think that there are much bigger things at stake.

I'll admit it. I think that breaking into the iPhone is the right thing to do. Those opposed

to breaking into the iPhone make it seem like this is an assault on the privacy of the Average Joe, but I have an issue with the idea.

After Apple creates this backdoor into iPhones, then

because of this one situation seems way too self important. I have an iPhone, and I'm not afraid that after the FBI is able to access this one phone they'll show up on my doorstep, seize my phone

to hide because nobody is going to come looking.

Apple's attitude about this situation is also something that I can't get behind. The current Apple CEO, Tim Cook,

beginning of the realization of George Orwell's police state in "1984."

Apple is blowing the cost of breaking into a single iPhone way out of proportion and hardly paying attention to the benefit. An assumption that Apple seems to be holding on to and basing their decisions off of is that measures like this don't come with any sort standard.

Although there's no official rules declaring when not to break into previously unbreakable private stores of information in a federal investigation, I think it's safe to assume that in this case of a terrorist attack, one which killed 14 people, figuring out how this happened is good enough reason to start looking for answers in new places, like a locked iPhone.

It's also not safe to assume that a situation like this won't come up again. Terrorists aren't going to wait until the government and the technology industry have come up with policies to deal with situations like this before they storing their information and contacting people in ways which haven't been done before, creating more situations like this one.

This is just one issue of the many that are sure to come out of the hyper-evolving world of technology, and both sides need to find ways to compromise.

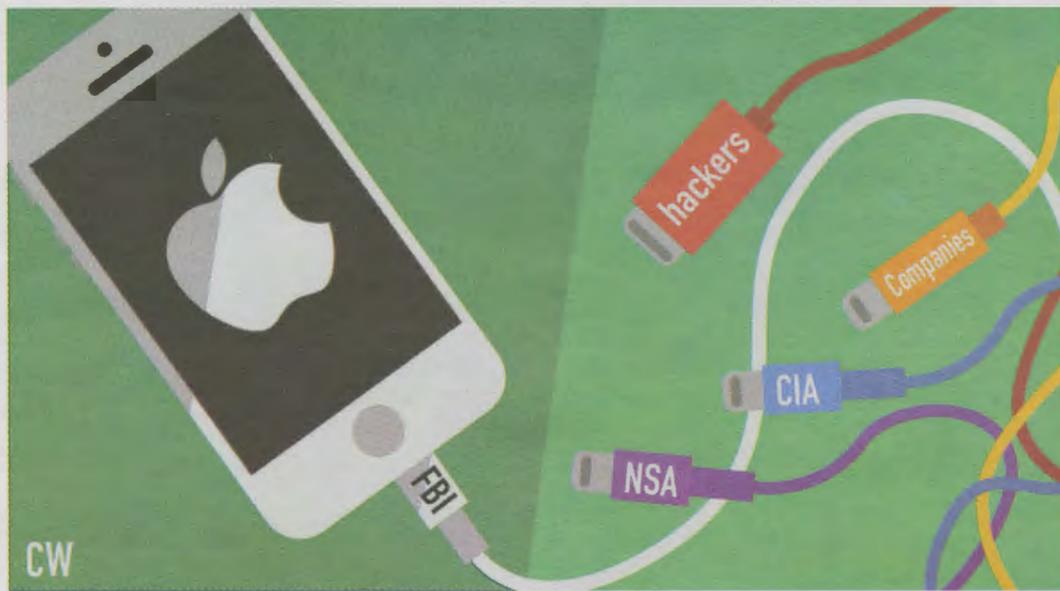


Illustration by Colton Walter

it will be used to steal all the information of the iPhone wielding population. It's too much of a slippery slope to go from getting a former terrorist's information to hacking into a random person's iPhone to take a peek at their high score on Angry Birds.

The idea that all the information stored on iPhones is put at risk

and go through the secret stash of memes that I have saved.

I would say that there's nothing to worry about if people don't have anything to hide, but I don't think hiding is what this is about either. I just don't agree with the idea that after this one iPhone is broken into one time, it will be a field day on all iPhone users' information. No one has anything

said the FBI's request would set a "dangerous precedent that threatens everyone's civil liberties," according to the *FinancialTimes.com*. It would be interesting for him to describe exactly what precedent he is expecting this event to set because it sounds like he assumes the iPhone is the last thing between the general population and the

Warning: Satire at play

TEDxTacoma

Rejected topics revealed

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TEDxTacoma is coming to the Karen Hille Phillips Center at Pacific Lutheran University on Friday, April 22 from 7-9 p.m.. The topic for 2016 will be "Healthy Future," and tickets are on sale now.

In the meantime, here are some topics for TED Talks that didn't quite make the cut: "Love Yourself and Like My Selfie" by theatre major sophomore Jennifer Elchman insists she has discovered the key to complete happiness, and the first step is following her on Instagram.

"My theory is, the reason everyone can't find joy in life is because they haven't faved and tweeted all of my selfies, and deep down they know that makes them a bad person," Elchman said.

Supposedly Elchman claims that even though she has been rejected from an official time slot, she will be showing up to the event and promoting her "Instabrand" to all the

attendants in the audience.

"Martin Shkreli; Harbinger of the Apocalypse?" Not very many people are fond of the man who bought out a life saving AIDs medication only to drastically inflate the price. But Earl Pimley, who is a guy who sort of just hangs around campus a lot, believes there's more to this raging social media antagonist than meets the eye. Apparently, Pimley discovered that Martin Shkreli is an anagram for

"Limn Earth Risk."

"Limn is a weird word that means to depict or illuminate, so that actually means something—that Marin's place in the limelight means we're all in trouble," Pimley said.

"College is Stupid" by former student Colter Barques reportedly proposed this topic after he failed all of his classes in Fall Term and his merit based scholarship was taken away. The contents of the

talk are unknown because he never submitted a manuscript and his audition tape was footage of him looking at his phone for 20 minutes.

"Don't Go Green, Hippies" It is a common theme for Ted Talks to focus on sustainability. However, business professor Wilson Druff has a message in the exact opposite direction. He doesn't believe that depleting resources and climate change are not problems, but he thinks that trying to solve them in the present is not the most strategic choice.

"People keep telling me we've got to keep the environment healthy for future generations, but I mean, have you seen future generations? These Gen Z's and Millennials have it way too easy! They don't know how to do anything for themselves. The only way to ensure the environment gets fixed is to make things so bad that these kids have to get off their butts and iPhones and actually do some work," Druff said.

He then spends the majority of the talk listing easy ways to waste energy and resources.

Illustration by Julia Grosvenor



Need for change

Unconstitutional ag-gag laws threaten animal welfare and food safety

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Ag-gag laws first saw the light in the 1990s when state legislators made it a crime to take pictures or shoot videos in farms and slaughterhouses without the owner's consent. Legislation has since become more punitive, and in addition to criminalizing people who report animal cruelty, it also makes it illegal to report environmental and labor violations. People supporting these laws are usually big agricultural groups that don't want anyone to meddle in their affairs.

To detect violations, animal rights activists go undercover, seeking temporary employment with the prospect of documenting any type of abuse. Once they have obtained evidence, they quit the job and bring the evidence to the authorities. Most go undercover in the meat industry—at farms and slaughterhouses—but also in research labs, puppy mills, zoos and circuses.

January of last year in Washington, Rep. Joe Schmick, presented and introduced House Bill 1104, commonly known as an "ag-gag" bill, for a hearing before the Public Safety Committee. To the joy of animal rights activists, it failed to pass the committee.

Had the law gone into effect, it would criminalize investigators who expose violations on animal facilities.

The interesting part with these laws is that they do not only make it easier for animal cruelty to pass by unnoticed, but also block exposure of food safety threats, unsafe labor conditions and environmental violations. In 2007, an investigator from the Humane Society went undercover at the Hallmark/Westland slaughterhouse in California, where he filmed cows too sick or injured to stand up being kicked, stabbed and lifted with forklifts, all in the effort of forcing the cows into the slaughter room. The slaughter

plant was a meat supplier to the National School Lunch Program, delivering beef to schools in 36 states. The videos obtained there prompted the largest meat recall in U.S. history.

The worst part is not only the pain these cows suffered, but that this slaughter plant was federally inspected. Had ag-gag laws been enacted, this would most likely go undetected. If the meat we eat comes from sick animals, should we not know about it? Proponents of ag-gag laws clearly doesn't want people to know. All the laws suggest to the public is that animal industries, in particular the agricultural industry, has something to hide.

Luckily, more ag-gag laws have failed than have passed, as many states have declared them unconstitutional—prosecuting people who expose animal cruelty clearly violates free speech rights. However, nine states practice ag-gag laws. This is extremely sad.

Not only are these laws unconstitutional, but they also seek to silence the debate of animal welfare and food safety, which I think violates basic democratic rights. It creates an environment that discourages people from reporting illegal activities. A country that values freedom should punish the people who commit cruelty, not the people who expose it.



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Carly's Corner



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My name is Carly and I'm a Physics major here at PLU. I'm a total nerd, in love with Olympic National Park and enjoy singing in University Chorale, writing, learning, acting and spending time with family (and Jesus!). While I somehow manage to look as though I've got my life pretty under control, I generally feel like I'm awkwardly stumbling around, trying to figure out life... just like Little Carly. Enjoy!

Doesn't get better than this

Why we're doomed and there's no way out, and why I'm perfectly okay with that.

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I recently read an opinion editorial by Leif Wenar in the New York Times entitled "Is Humanity Getting Better?" The article took me on a stroll through the world's colossally-depressing history—from the Black

Death to World War II to the Rwandan Genocide—exploring the tragedies of a supposedly-less-civilized, barbaric past and the calamities of an apparently more sophisticated-yet-still-totally-terrible-and-also-barbaric present.

Overall, Wenar came to the conclusion that, just as it was before, the world is still abundantly ridden with problems, but these problems have changed as technology has made its impact on the world and, in general, raised the standard concerning what a good life looks like.

"The world now is a thoroughly awful place—compared with what it should be," Wenar writes, "But not compared with what it was."

Wenar acknowledges that, yes, we have violence and war and disease, but we also have organized groups to protect citizens, means to defend ourselves and advanced medical treatment to battle the gnarliest of germs. Though technology brings both progress and problems of its own—you might not stay awake at night wondering if you'll contract polio, but global warming sure is a buzzkill—I'd still argue that the quality of life for the average citizen has

greatly increased. And yet, I don't think this means humanity is getting better. Because really, it's not.

If humanity didn't genuinely stink at being good, then we wouldn't hear things like, "My faith in humanity has been restored," or "I'd almost lost my hope in humanity." The truth is that the goodness of humanity is not reliable: people are capable of being loving and also of being terrible. When even just one person chooses the latter, the entire human-race can be affected, in the way that one single stone dropped into water causes ripples to

"While life has undoubtedly become more comfortable for most, the state of humanity is still at a solid F minus."

spread throughout an entire lake.

My goal this week, however, was not to write a pessimistic article illustrating the depth of our world's problems, and our overall lack of capability to ever solve them. Rather, Wenar's article compelled me to examine my own personal paradox: I acknowledge the brokenness of the world and I believe that such brokenness will never go away no matter the great effort of good-hearted humans. Yet, I still define myself by a fierce hope and an unwavering faith in an ultimate happy ending. It may sound like the philosophy of a loonie, but it provides one with unshakable resilience.

It is my firm belief that humanity has always been in the same state of doom ever since a bite was taken from an apple

(or an orange or a peach or a banana or whatever fruit it was) and humans chose themselves over God, chose selfishness over selflessness, chose evil over good. The earth has had the same sickness ever since then, never better, never worse, just manifested differently throughout history. We've had the flu of the fallen for thousands of years, and the fever isn't going away.

While life has undoubtedly become more comfortable for most, the state of humanity is still at a solid F minus. You can read a history book and shudder at the beheadings of citizens and the tossing of criminals into a lion's den. Or you can turn on the news and mourn the most recent school shooting or act of terror by ISIS. In comparing the cruelty of the past to the brutality of the present, you find that, when it comes to the presence of evil in the world, absolutely nothing has changed. We're not getting better. We're not getting worse. We're just kind of perpetually doomed.

Articles such as Lenar's resonate with our optimistic nature that yearns to point out progress and takes solace in the illusion of improvement. We see how messed up the world is, and we like to think that we are the generation that is better, that we can fix it. Allow me to be frank: we can't.

If this evil-ridden world is all there is, our prognosis isn't exactly rosy. And so, for the sake of our own happiness we humans are compelled to ignore the bad news, distract ourselves with our busy lives, self-medicate with happy quotes and good food and trips to the beach and yoga. And for a while, it kind of works.

But then, sooner or later, we are reminded again and again that we're only closing our eyes to the problems. We'll turn on the news, and the tragic stories and barbaric tales will be told. And they always

will be.

It makes me wonder, how does one bare this diseased earth and this problem-filled life if he believes that this is really all there is?

I understand that not everyone believes in life after death. But what I do not understand is how one could truly make it

"I still define myself by a fierce hope and an unwavering faith in an ultimate happy ending."

through this life without some sort of wish that the pain must alleviate on the other side, that there's a "better" somewhere out there. Because if this world is all there is... Well, yikes.

I'm not saying I don't believe in the possibility of people doing good—human beings have both the capability and the responsibility to bring light into the world. We surely can't drive out the dark, but we can at least light a candle.

What I am saying is this: I see the evil of our world with a realistic eye and hold firm the belief that mankind can't fix it. And when asked if humanity is getting better, I say, "No. Freaking. Way."

But if you're like me, you're a little bit loony in the eyes of the world. You have this outrageous hope that gives you reason to be eternally optimistic and incomparably joyful. You see a fight that we're losing on all sides and know that it's okay, because the battle has already been won. Some might call that crazy, but I call it Christianity.

Progressive or petrifying:

Should transgender people be allowed to use whatever restroom they choose regardless of their genitalia?

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The debate over transgender people's rights to use the bathrooms of the gender that they identify with is an old one. Yet on February 15, 2016, there was a fairly substantial protest here Washington over that same right—the right for transgender people to use the restroom without being ostracized or harassed—because of recent modification to a state law that allows transgender people to use the bathrooms of the gender they identify with, regardless of their sex.

At first glance, this seems like a very

good thing. When I first heard about it, I thought it was wonderful. Transgender people were finally being treated as human beings who can use the bathroom in peace! But then I heard the protesters' main argument. According to the News Tribune, they weren't holding up signs saying that being transgender is "unnatural," and they weren't insisting that God would send transgender people to hell for their actions. Instead, people from organizations like Washington Women's Network were calling attention to another aspect of this issue, bringing up some very valid and concerning ideas.

These women were concerned about losing their safety. To be clear, these women were concerned about losing their

safety in the presence of men entering their restrooms. I do not mean to say "men" in the way transphobic people call transgender women "men." No, I am talking about men, who identify as men and who can now pose as transgender women and enter women's bathrooms to sexually harass and assault them.

Now I understand the arguments against the validity of this concern. I agreed with them myself before I did some research. But trust me, it's really hard to declare the protesters unnecessarily worried when you read about people like Jason Pomares, a cis-male who pretended to be a woman to secretly record women as they used the restroom, or Christopher Hambrook, another cis-male who pretended to be a

woman to enter a women's shelter and was later discovered raping a woman who had been sleeping there.

So a different solution needs to be found. Perhaps the amount of single person bathrooms in public places needs to increase. Perhaps in public places, gender neutral bathrooms could be offered alongside male and female bathrooms (with those with male genitalia using male bathrooms, those with female genitalia using female bathrooms and those who have either, or identify as either and haven't chosen to transition, using gender neutral bathrooms). There are any number of solutions, but I cannot say the one chosen by this state is the best one.



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SPORTS

Stephanie's Stance : Why Do We Hate Refs?

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Referees are the single most hated people in sports. No matter what they do, no one is happy with their performance, and the best thing anyone can say is that they helped their team win.

But why such hatred for the men and women who are just trying to keep our beloved sports fair and safe? Referees are incredibly important to sports, especially at the collegiate and professional levels. Without them, rules would be broken, and games would be horrible to watch.

Without referees, fights and arguments would happen constantly. They are single-handedly the reason for sportsmanship. When it comes down to winning and losing, athletes would do anything if it weren't for referees.

Referees also do their thankless job for almost no monetary gain. Unless you are a referee for the NFL, NHL, MLB, etc., you barely make enough money to live on. Nowadays MLB and NFL refs make \$120,000 right off the bat, but it takes them decades of being refs to get there.

Every MLB umpire has to have at least eight years of experience in the minor leagues before applying.

The most an umpire can make in the minor leagues is about \$3,000 a month; over a nine month season. That's only about \$27,000, often without travel and gear expenses covered. The bottom line is, it doesn't pay to be a referee.

Like I mentioned before, they are also the most hated people in sports. Who would want to be a referee when all you get is booed and yelled at while doing your job? It doesn't matter which side they call against because there will always be the other team to be mad at them.

And in very rare and extreme cases, refs can be killed for making bad calls. Just a few weeks ago, an Argentinian soccer referee was shot and killed after he served a red card to a player. The player that he red carded then retrieved a handgun from his bag and came back onto the field and killed the referee. Oh yeah, this was an amateur league. This was not a professional league where players and teams make millions of dollars off of one game. It was an amateur soccer match. The murdered referee was also a volunteer.

So when players decide that it is ok to scream and yell into a referee or an umpire's face, maybe they should think about the hard work and sacrifices referees make to help the athletes play the games they love.



Photo Courtesy of Flickr
NFL Football Referee calls a field goal good

Saturday Night Lights

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Just under 10 miles and 15 minutes away, along the WA-512 highway in the heart of Puyallup, Wash., lies Sparks Stadium, the home field for the Pacific Lutheran University football team. Sparks Stadium doesn't just serve as PLU's home field but also serves as the home field for the Puyallup school district athletics like soccer and football.

Two brothers, Brady Winter, a first-year, and DJ Winter, a sophomore, played football for Puyallup High School and currently play for PLU. They both have spent the majority of their high school and collegiate football careers in the wake of Sparks Stadium. However, playing at Sparks in high school was a much different experience than playing there at the collegiate level.

"In high school, under the lights, there was a huge student section...the band was bigger than PLU's," DJ recalled. "It's hard to beat that Friday Night Lights."

Brady remembered running out on the field through the tunnel on a Friday night through a shroud of smoke while hearing the roar of a home crowd as a Puyallup Viking. His first experience as a Lute though, was much different than how he remembered high school games.

"The first time I ran out the tunnel, it was just weird because it was during the day," Brady said. "The band isn't as prevalent, and there wasn't students going nuts."

In the eyes of football players, coaches, recruits, fans and the athletic director, a football stadium is what the school needs. PLU is the only team in the conference without their own football stadium with the exception of Whitman, who doesn't have a football team. Other schools like Pacific, George Fox and their rival Linfield have state-of-the-art, on-campus stadiums that satisfy a football player's and a fan's desire for a game day atmosphere.

Even Brady admits to preferring his opponents' fields over Sparks.

"I love playing at other people's places," Brady said. "They have great atmosphere, great tailgating, a huge screen that they play video on before they go out."

The issue of building a stadium for PLU is not anything new. The late, great coach Frosty Westering, who died in 2013, spent the latter years of his life trying to figure out ways to raise money and support to build a stadium. Current head coach and son of Frosty, Scott Westering, has also pressed the issue of building a stadium or at least a football building, with their own locker room and individual coaching offices.

"I feel athletics at this school are sometimes dismissed," DJ sounded. "To be a relevant program we are going to have to at some point make that football building happen

or the stadium."

As a historically successful football team, the idea of building a stadium is not a priority in the eyes of higher administration. Meanwhile, interest in football is lower compared to other schools with on-campus stadiums.

"It's less personal, the campus doesn't know about it as much," Brady said. "If you get more people, you're more excited to play, and it would be a better atmosphere."

The Winter brothers have played most of their football careers with each other and are happy with their decision to play at PLU. For Brady, the absence of a stadium doesn't deter from the experience of playing Division III football although it would certainly be an added bonus.

For DJ, a stadium would help push PLU football to greater heights in terms of fan interaction with the team to create a bigger spectacle because he enjoys the "glitz and glamour" of the game.

As for the reality of actually having an on-campus stadium in the near future, the probability looks bleak. For now, the team will continue to pile into their own cars and drive themselves to their own home games.

"We were driving, we were laughing and joking around and then we turned the music off," Brady remembered.

"We realized we were driving to our first college home game."



Photo Courtesy of Kiley/Free Images
Nebraska Football-Memorial Stadium

MAST MEDIA

SPORTS TALK

Illustration by Colton Walter

Searching for opinions about contemporary sports stories? They can be found on Lute Air Student Radio (LASR), as Christian Bond and Kellen Westering present Mast Sports Radio, Fridays from 12-2 p.m.

Christian and Kellen will provide insight on all things sports. The duo will recap all local Lute action, as well as preview what is in store for Pacific Lutheran Athletics.

Lute athletes will be in studio for live interviews. Hear the perspectives of NCAA Division III athletes on issues in their own university, as well as national sports news.

Professional sports receive attention as well. Mariners baseball is right around the corner, and the Seattle Seahawks are facing several tough financial decisions as they move into the 2016 season.

Zach Lavine: All-Star Weekend Highlights

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Photo Courtesy of HoopXpress
Zach Lavine holds his All Star Dunk trophy during the awards ceremony

Two weeks ago, in Toronto, we saw a celebrity all-star game featuring an ugly display of basketball including the antics of player/coach/comedian, Kevin Hart.

We saw a three point shootout featuring two of the best shooters in the world, Klay Thompson of the Golden State Warriors and Stephen Curry who also plays for the Warriors. We saw an actual all-star game that featured everything awesome about basketball except for a small facet of the game: defense.

This all was child's play to the real spectacle of the

weekend: the dunk contest.

This year featured a showdown between two high fliers who have proved they can soar above the rim and make fantastical, athletic plays that make fans jump out of their seats.

The first was Aaron Gordon from the Orlando Magic. Gordon proved many people wrong showing that indeed, tall people can perform awe-inspiring dunks as he executed a behind the legs dunk over the top of his team's mascot. However, it would not be enough to beat eventual back-to-back winner of the dunk contest, Zach Lavine.

Lavine's free throw line through-the-legs dunk would seal the defense of his title as dunk contest champion.

Lavine, a former Bothell High School standout, played basketball in the Seattle area growing up. It was common for Lavine to score 40 or more points in a given contest and display his great leaping ability even in high school against his opponents.

Two of the men's basketball players had the misfortune of playing Bothell in the Kingco 4A conference. Juniors Brandon Lester and Kyle Sawtell recall Lavine's insane basketball and athletic ability.

"Zach was the best player I've ever played with and against," Lester said. "He dropped 40 on me and it didn't even look like he was trying."

Lester played at Eastlake High School and Sawtell at Redmond High School and were subjected to Bothell's incredibly talented team, including current Division I college players Josh Martin (Cal Poly) and Perrion Callendret (Idaho). Lavine was the spearhead of the trio and together, they crushed teams by upwards of 40-50 points.

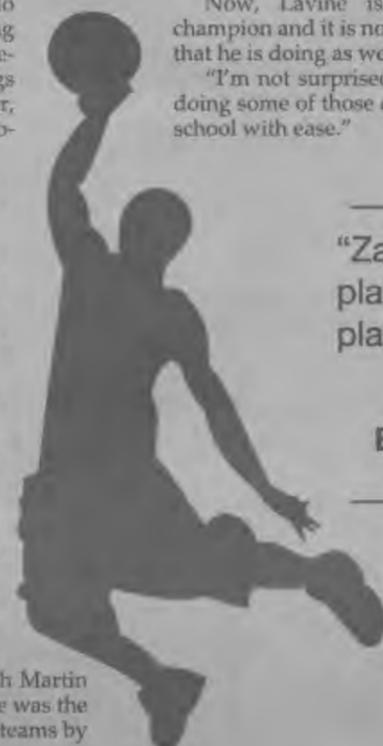
"He was always the guy making incredible dunks and doing them in games and on people," Sawtell recalled. "He was a constant highlight reel whenever I played

against or watched him play."

After high school, Lavine played at the University of California Los Angeles where he played only year before entering the NBA draft. Right away Lavine established himself as one of the elite athletes in the league.

Now, Lavine is a two-time dunk contest champion and it is no surprise to Lester and Sawtell that he is doing as well as he is.

"I'm not surprised at all," Lester said. "He was doing some of those dunks at AAU practice in high school with ease."



"Zach was the best player I've ever played with and against."

Brandon Lester
Junior Guard



Illustration by: Colton Walter

“Never Count the Bricks”

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In the early hours on a bright and sunny spring day, Tevon Stephens-Brown prepares for what could be his last collegiate event. He steps into the shot put ring ready to put everything on the line. He can hear the slow clap from his teammates in the background that has given him an extra burst so many times before. No words can describe the raw emotions of an athlete completely indulged in moments of pure passion.

Tevon Stephens-Brown, a two sport athlete turned recruiter at Pacific Lutheran University, graduated in the spring of 2015. Tevon was an All-Conference lineman for the Lutes on the football team and also an All-Conference thrower for the track and field team. Without knowing him personally, he may seem like the most intimidating person on the planet. On the football field, he threw people around like the Hulk did to Loki in “The Avengers.” In the shot put ring, he made a 16 pound shot put fly like he was throwing a baseball. On this planet, there is not a person more genuinely nice or humble than Tevon.

“I hope to be remembered as kind and just an enjoyable person to be around,” Tevon stated. “That would make me happy.”

Every athlete at some point must come to grips with the fact that their athletic careers do not last forever. Like Tevon, many have experienced all sorts of adrenaline filled moments that make for some great memories. For some, it is a challenge to transition away from a competitive lifestyle.

According to the NCAA, fewer than one percent of collegiate athletes go

on to play professionally. This leaves more than 99 percent of student-athletes that must face retirement from their sport upon graduation.

Athletics provides a way for people to experience once in a lifetime opportunities and it can be a big shock for some the instant their time is up. This shock can also have a negative impact on athletes if it isn’t handled in the correct way. Based on a survey from Sports Health, college athletes are found to have increased levels of depression compared

day no matter what,” Tevon said.

Tevon’s down to earth mentality and care for others is what makes him special. There is a reason why he was voted as a football team captain and that is because he is such a giving individual. His teammates always knew what Tevon was going to give for the team day in and day out. A teammate of Tevon, Kellen Westering, talked about his consistent leadership.

“What makes Tevon a good leader is he leads by his actions. A lot of people voted for him for captain because he always made the right decisions,” Westering said.

His leadership and willingness to put others before himself are rare traits for someone to have in today’s “me first” society. With his athletic mindset and selfless spirit, Tevon hopes to use his life as an athlete to make a difference in the community through teaching. He hopes to one day become a principal or superintendent.



Photo Courtesy of Emalie Gauntz
Tevon Stephens-Brown

to those who did not participate in athletics.

However, Tevon has taken his transition out of athletics smoothly and has avoided what other athletes have experienced.

His way to cope with his sports retirement is to use his experiences as a way to help young students achieve their goals. He still uses advice from his old football coach on a daily basis to help give him perspective on life and its true meaning. One piece of advice that has stuck with him from his coach, Scott Westering, is a reminder to never look down or “count the bricks” while going through life. He learned to keep his head up and smile to everyone he walks by.

“Scott would always tell us to never count the bricks and always make it a great

“Being from Tacoma, I just really think there are a lot of flaws in the school system,” Tevon explained. “Looking at it now from an admissions counselor prospective, I feel bad because kids don’t know what they should know.”

The slow clap continues to build as Tevon recounts upon his last moment in that shot put ring. It is not just the end of his athletic career, but it is the beginning of something greater than himself. This is a new beginning for a selfless man whose greatest hope is to create opportunities for young people to pursue college, while helping chase their life goals. Athletics may come and go, but the mark you leave on others will last forever.



Photo Courtesy of GoLutes

THE LUTES SET LIST

Men's Tennis:
at George Fox, Lost 9-0

Women's Tennis:
at Home, Lost 7-2

Up Next: at Puget Sound, Saturday, 12 p.m.

Up Next: at Home, Saturday, 1 p.m.

Baseball:
at Pacific, Lost 5-3

Softball:
at Pacific, Lost 6-4

Up Next: at Home, Saturday, 11:00 a.m.

Up Next: at Home, Saturday, 12 p.m.

NORTHWEST CONFERENCE STANDINGS

Men's Tennis

TEAM	WINS	LOSSES	TIES	CONFERENCE	STREAK
Pacific	6	1	0	4-0	Won 6
Whitman	4	3	0	4-0	Won 1
Lewis & Clark	3	2	0	3-1	Won 2
Whitworth	3	4	0	3-2	Won 2
George Fox	2	4	0	1-2	Won 1
Willamette	1	3	0	1-2	Lost 2
Linfield	2	6	0	1-3	Lost 3
LUTES	0	4	0	0-4	Lost 4
Puget Sound	0	3	0	0-3	Lost 3

Women's Tennis

TEAM	WINS	LOSSES	TIES	CONFERENCE	STREAK
Lewis & Clark	6	0	0	4-0	Won 6
Linfield	6	3	0	3-1	Won 2
Whitman	4	5	0	3-1	Won 2
George Fox	2	1	0	2-1	Won 2
LUTES	2	3	0	2-2	Lost 2
Pacific	1	2	0	1-2	Won 1
Whitworth	1	3	0	1-5	Won 1
Willamette	0	3	0	0-3	Lost 3



PHOTO BY JOHN FROSCHAUER: (12) Junior Ben Welch attempts a tag on Puget Sound.



PHOTO BY ANGELO MEJIA: Senior Samantha Lund competes against Lewis & Clark at Sprinker Recreation Center

Baseball

TEAM	WINS	LOSSES	TIES	CONFERENCE	STREAK
Whitworth	11	0	0	3-0	Won 11
George Fox	8	2	0	4-2	Lost 2
Lewis & Clark	6	7	0	2-1	Lost 3
Linfield	9	5	0	3-3	Won 2
Willamette	8	7	0	3-3	Won 2
Pacific	7	7	0	3-3	Won 3
LUTES	6	8	0	2-4	Won 1
Puget Sound	4	9	0	2-4	Lost 2
Whitman	3	12	0	2-4	Lost 4

Softball

TEAM	WINS	LOSSES	TIES	CONFERENCE	STREAK
Willamette	4	0	0	4-0	Won 4
Whitworth	7	1	0	4-0	Won 5
PACIFIC	11	1	4	3-1	Won 3
George Fox	5	3	0	2-2	Lost 1
Linfield	5	3	0	2-2	Won 1
LUTES	9	5	0	1-3	Lost 3
Lewis & Clark	5	7	0	0-4	Lost 4
Puget Sound	0	8	0	0-4	Lost 8