



# THE MOST

pacific lutheran uni

**HOLDING ON**  
LUTES HOLD THEIR  
OWN IN FIRST  
GAMES OF  
SEASON  
PAGE 13

**ILLUSIONS**  
PLU THEATER  
OFFERS  
INTELLECTUAL  
COMEDY  
PAGE 10

MARCH 7, 2008

www.plu.edu/~mast

VOLUME LXXXV, NO. 15

# Mama Dis is Mas

*2008 Campus Carnival  
and Black and Gold Dance*



Photo by Anna Holzman  
Junior April Nyquist demonstrates a traditional dance style while junior Salome Valencia looks on. Mama Dis is Mas was the 2008 celebration of Pacific Lutheran University's Campus Carnival Feb. 29. Hosted by the International Club, the evening featured a steel drum band, storytelling and short enactments about some of the characters from the folklore of Trinidad and Tobago. The evening was wrapped up with a well-known PLU tradition: a Black and Gold dance.

# Students explore study away

*Yearly fair showcases opportunities for study away J-term 2009*

Heather Dunning  
MAST NEWS REPORTER

The Study Away Fair held Tuesday in CK Hall offered students a closer look at the off-campus courses for J-term 2009.

PLU students and faculty will travel to countries such as Korea, India, Norway and Brazil. There are 25 trips to choose from, with domestic and international destinations.

"We hold the fair to raise awareness for all our short-term programs, as well as remind students of approaching deadlines," said Kristin Labs, Wang Center study away adviser.

The application deadline for studying away in fall 2008 is March 10, and the deadline for J-term 2009 is Friday, April 18.

For sophomore Alayna Linde, the question isn't if she should take part in a J-term trip, but rather which J-term trip to select.

"I'm an environmental studies minor, so I'd like to go to Ecuador for the credit," Linde said. "But I also want to use my French language skills, so I'm thinking maybe Martinique."

The fair provided a way for students to learn more about the choices available and talk to the professors leading the trips.

"I'm kind of exploring all my options for J-term—Egypt and Greece really interest me," first-year Emily Cranny said.

New for J-term 2009 is a course in Egypt, exploring the ancient world of the pharaohs, pyramids and Nile River.

"There's been a big interest in studying Egypt off campus," said Donald Ryan, one of two professors in charge of the trip. The other is professor Rochelle Snee, and together they have complementary knowledge of ancient Egyptian culture, Ryan said.

Tables set up for each study away course gave students a chance to browse the course selection, pick up information and sign up to receive emails.

"So many students come through, it helps us know who is interested," said professor Chuck Bergman, who is leading an English class to Ecuador. "The fair is partly a celebration of all the trips in one place—you can really see the global reach of J-term abroad."

If students missed the Study Away Fair, they can visit the Wang Center's Web site at [www.plu.edu/wangcenter](http://www.plu.edu/wangcenter) for a full list of locations, courses, professors and costs.

"All the updated information for J-term courses can be found online," Labs said. "Students can also make individual appointments with staff at the Wang Center."

A new option this semester is a weekly opportunity for conversation with the



See Fair  
page 4

Photo by Caron Anderson  
First-years Raeder Smith and Matt Mueller visit the Oaxaca study away table Tuesday to get information about the trip.

STATE, NATION and WORLD BRIEFINGS

# Local to Global news

## Hugo Chavez deploys military force



Photo by Howard Yonas, AP Wire

Venezuelan National Guard soldiers inspect a car at a checkpoint in Paraguanichon, on the Venezuelan border with Colombia March 5, 2008.

Ian James  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez portrayed himself as a man of peace Wednesday, even as he moved tanks and soldiers to the Colombian border in a growing crisis set off by Colombia's weekend attack on leftist rebels hiding in Ecuadorian territory.

Most of the 9,000 soldiers mobilized by Chavez have reached the border and are "ready to defend the sacred sovereignty of the homeland" against Colombia's U.S.-supported military, the defense minister said. Ecuador said it sent 3,200 soldiers to its border with Colombia Monday.

Chavez blamed the crisis on the U.S. "empire and its lackeys"

Colombia's conservative government — saying they pose a constant threat of war in the region. "We are peace. We are the path to peace," the leftist leader said in a televised speech.

Chavez and his ally, Ecuadorian President Rafael Correa, have been seeking international condemnation of Colombia for the commando raid on Ecuadorean soil that killed a key Colombian rebel leader and 22 other guerrilla rebels Saturday.

They scored a victory of sorts Wednesday in Washington, where the Organization of American States approved a watered-down resolution declaring the attack a violation of Ecuador's sovereignty. The resolution also called for OAS Secretary-General Jose Miguel

Insulza to lead a delegation to both countries to ease tensions, but did not explicitly condemn the assault.

The United States was the only OAS nation offering Colombia unqualified support. Many other countries worried openly about the attack inside Ecuador, which along with Venezuela has been accused by Colombian officials of providing refuge to leftist Colombian guerrillas.

Correa called Colombian President Alvaro Uribe a liar who "wanted war," and warned that if the attack goes unpunished, "the region will be in danger, because the next victim could be Peru, it could be Brazil, Venezuela, Bolivia, any one of our countries."

## Model luxury homes go up in flame

Elizabeth M. Gillespie  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

Three seven-figure dream homes went up in flames early Monday in a Seattle suburb, apparently set by eco-terrorists who left a sign mocking the builders' claims that the 4,000-plus-square-foot houses were environmentally friendly.

The sign — a sheet marked with spray paint — was marked with the initials ELF, for Earth Liberation Front, a loose collection of radical environmentalists that has claimed responsibility for dozens of attacks since the 1990s.

The sheriff's office estimated that Monday's pre-dawn fires did \$7 million in damage to the "Street of Dreams," a row of unoccupied, furnished luxury model homes where tens of thousands of visitors last

summer eyed the latest in high-end housing, interior design and landscaping. Three homes were destroyed and two had minor fire or smoke damage.

Crews removed incendiary devices found in the homes, Snohomish County District 7 Fire Chief Rick Eastman said. Later, however, Kelvin Crenshaw, special agent in charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms in Seattle, said there was no evidence such devices had been used.

The FBI was investigating the fires as a potential domestic terrorism act, said FBI spokesman Rich Kolko in Washington, D.C.

No injuries were reported in the fires, which began before dawn in the wooded subdivision and were still smoldering by midmorning.

The sign left behind said in red letters, "Built Green? Nope black!" and "McMansions in RCDs r not green," in reference to rural cluster developments.

## FBI improperly accesses U.S. citizens' information for 4th year

Lara Jakes Jordan  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

The FBI acknowledged Wednesday it improperly accessed Americans' telephone records, credit reports and Internet traffic in 2006, the fourth straight year of privacy abuses resulting from investigations aimed at tracking terrorists and spies.

The breach occurred before the FBI enacted broad new reforms in March 2007 to prevent future lapses, FBI Director Robert Mueller said. And it was caused, in part, by banks, telecommunication companies and other private businesses giving the FBI more

personal client data than was requested.

Testifying at a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing, Mueller raised the issue of the FBI's controversial use of so-called national security letters in reference to an upcoming report on the topic by the Justice Department's inspector general.

An audit by the inspector general last year found the FBI demanded personal records without official authorization or otherwise collected more data than allowed in dozens of cases between 2003 and 2005. Also, last year's audit found the FBI had underreported to Congress how many national security letters were requested by more than

4,600.

The new audit, which examines use of national security letters issued in 2006, "will identify issues similar to those in the report issued last March," Mueller said. The privacy abuse "predates the reforms we now have in place," he said.

Last year's audit by Justice Department Inspector General Glenn A. Fine, issued March 9, 2007, blamed agent error and shoddy record-keeping for the bulk of the problems and did not find any indication of criminal misconduct. Fine's latest report is expected to be released as early as next week.

## Lute wins Miss Pierce County



Lamb-Ferro

PLU alumna Elizabeth Lamb-Ferro was crowned Miss Pierce County March 1. She will take the crown to the Pantages Theater this summer for the Miss Washington America pageant. Her platform was the American Cancer Society's annual Relay for Life and her talent was classical piano.

PLU senior Jacqueline Mendez clinched second place. Her talent was violin and her platform was cancer research.

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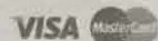
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# ASPLU Election 2008

Candidates speak out on their positions



**Buchholz,  
President**



**Comstock,  
VP**

### Why are you running?

*"We know and are passionate about ASPLU and can bring ASPLU to the student's level and make it the most effective student organization it can be."*

### What specifically do you want to improve at PLU?

*"We plan on having more publicized forums that students can attend to speak their mind about issues that affect our community."*

### ASPLU hopefuls discuss their plans for the election

Bryanna Plog  
MAST NEWS REPORTER

In today's political season with the 24-hour coverage of the U.S. presidential candidates, PLU will be holding its own elections this upcoming week for ASPLU president and vice president.

The ASPLU president and vice president are representatives of the student body to the faculty and staff of PLU as well as the community outside. The president is the chair of the senate and both the president and the vice president become the spokespeople for the student voice on campus.

The final pairs of candidates will have a public debate Tuesday, March 11 at 6:30. Check back at the ASPLU Web site for the location.

This will be a unique opportunity for the candidates to take questions from the students and to discuss the issues important

to them.

The current ASPLU president is Carl Pierce who commented on the upcoming ASPLU elections.

"I think it is important that next year's president is approachable, reliable and flexible. They serve as the representative for students and so it is vital that students recognize and feel comfortable talking to them," Pierce said. "Additionally, they oversee many of their peers and must have a strong work ethic and a history of reliable and consistent commitment to past areas of involvement."

Pierce continued about the challenges that will be faced.

"Finally, they must be ready and able to meet the continually challenges and opportunities that will push them to grow beyond any experience they have had before."

PLU students can cast their vote Wednesday March 12 or Thursday March 13. Voting is online at [www.plu.edu/aspluvote](http://www.plu.edu/aspluvote) or at the ASPLU voting station located in the UC gray area. Voting will conclude at 5 p.m. both days.

To learn more about the candidates and their positions, visit <http://chili.plu.edu/voting/asplu2008>.



**De Mars,  
President**



**Spieker,  
VP**

### Why are you running?

*"We have the experience, vision and passion to lead ASPLU in a positive direction."*

### What specifically do you want to improve at PLU?

*"Open communication between students and ASPLU."*



**Zimmerman,  
President**



**Vandewt,  
VP**

### Why are you running?

*"We both enjoy leading, learning and working with people; running for ASPLU executive positions gives us the opportunity to share these passions with the PLU community."*

### What specifically do you want to improve at PLU?

*"In particular, we want to ensure a grass-roots infrastructure such that a single student's idea for development can be realized with greater facility."*

## Gender Exploration Week Calendar

### March 10: Gender Abroad

Scandinavian Cultural Center, 8-9 p.m.: Students discuss ideas surrounding gender identity abroad

### March 11: Transgender Panel

UC Regency Room, 7-8 p.m.: A panel on gender issues and members of the local transgender community will have an open discussion

### March 12-13: Film - TransAmerica

Ingram 100, 8 p.m.: A movie night as part of Gender Exploration Week

## Notice

more white

space

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usual The

?

Write for us!

news section is looking for reliable writers willing to work, learn and otherwise generally rock.

in your news

**Fair**  
Cont. from page one

Sojourner Advocates, students who have previously studied away and provide support for students considering studying away.

"We have coffee hours every Wednesday from 3 to 4 p.m. in the Wang Center conference room," Labs said.

The Study Away Fair also displayed the winning photographs from the annual photo contest. In each of four categories, first place winners received \$50 gift cards, second place received \$30 gift cards and third place received \$20 gift cards.

In the Cityscape category, senior Kelsey Beaman won first place for a photograph taken in Sevilla, Spain in spring of 2007. Titled "Spanish Reflections," the photograph

is of a Spanish building bathed in afternoon light, with a waterway and a bridge in the foreground.

"It was just a really gorgeous setting and very peaceful there," Beaman said. "This photo represents Spain for me."

Brian Wehmhoefer took first place in the People category with "Morning Chores," photographed in Bwejuu, Zanzibar, Tanzania. In the Landscape category, senior Angela Grossklaus won first place with "Sunset on the Beach," from the West Coast of New Zealand.

A new category added to the contest this year is Lutes Away. Senior Alisha Harvey won first place with a photograph called "Artisan

in Training," taken near Otavalo, Ecuador.

All winning photographs can be viewed on the Wang Center's Web site. The judging process was challenging, as there were between 50 and 60 entries per category, said Labs.

"We had three judges for each category, and it went pretty smoothly," Labs said. For diversity and balance, those three judges were one student, one staff member and one faculty-member.

Students attending the Study Away Fair faced the tough decision of selecting which trip to participate in. For some, cost was an important factor.

"I'm thinking about doing a semester program, because J-term programs are so expensive," sophomore Tony Horton said.

Twelve \$1,000 scholarships are available for students

going on J-term trips, of which some are need-based and some are merit-based scholarships.

"Scholarship applications are on the Wang Center's Web site," Labs said. They are due the same date as the program applications, Friday, April 18.

For others, the location is a determining factor.

"I want to go to Egypt and see one of the Seven Wonders of the World," sophomore Barrett Stamps said. "I think it would be the experience of a lifetime."

For first-year Sara Main, part of the decision revolves around the weather: She simply wants to "go someplace warm." In Janu-

ary, the Southern Hemisphere is experiencing summer, meaning students who go to places such as Martinique, South Africa or New Zealand will have a break from the rainy Northwest for a month.

Talking to friends and family is another way students made their choice.

"I came to PLU knowing I wanted to study abroad," first-year Sarah Wise said. "I'll talk to my parents to help me decide where to go."

For junior Sara Strueby, it's all about what course fits with her academic schedule.

"I want to go on the econ. [economy] trip to Italy, and since I'm an econ. minor and business major, I need it anyway," Strueby said.

If studying away during J-term doesn't fit into a student's schedule, there are several short-term options during the summer. These include a course at the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, an archaeology course at Mount Rainier, and a course on the economics of wine in Italy.

"New for this summer is a service learning program in China," Labs said. "It costs about the same as a J-term course because it's funded in part by the Wang Foundation."

Students on this trip would be paired with Chinese university students to teach English in rural, low-income parts of China.

For those who are considering a study away trip, whether for J-term, summer or a semester, Labs recommends starting to plan about a year in advance. That way, students can make sure the trip fits into their academic requirements and financial needs.

## Economy in the U.S.

### Noted Reagan advisor speaks to students

Nick Werts  
MAST NEWS CO-EDITOR

The current tax stimulus package, climate recession, and deficits will be some of the topics of the upcoming questions and answer lecture by Arthur Laffer March 13 in the Chris Knutzen Hall at 6 p.m.

Laffer served as a member on President Reagan's Economic Policy Advisory Board and helped guide the economic policy in the 1980s. Laffer is known for his ideas on tax cuts and reductions that are meant to lead to economic growth and increased government revenue.

Laffer was the founding chair of Laffer Associates, an economic research and consulting firm. The firm has researched the interconnecting

political and demographic changes in the global markets since 1979.

One of his earliest successes in shaping public policy was his involvement in Proposition 13, the groundbreaking California initiative that drastically cut property taxes in the state in 1978.

Laffer has been widely acknowledged for his economic achievements. He was noted in Time Magazine's March 29, 1999, cover story "The Century's Greatest Minds" for inventing the Laffer Curve, which it deemed one of a few of the advances that powered this century. The Laffer Curve is the way that tax revenue and tax collections relate and how to balance the economic factors in order to achieve economic growth.

The lecture will begin with an informal reception at 6 p.m. followed by a lecture.

The PLU community is invited to come and participate. Laffer will be responding to questions after his lecture.



Dr. Arthur Laffer

# PLU MEDIA BOARD

applications must include:

- 1: a cover letter about yourself and why you want the position
- 2: a resume
- 3: samples of work i.e. art, layout, aircheck, tape
- 4: a management plan for next year's organization

## is hiring!

open positions:

- {General Manager, KCCR
- {Editor-in-Chief, The Mast
- {General Manager, KCCR
- {Co-editors, Saxifrage

these positions are paid!

**APPS. DUE APRIL 1, 2008 AT 11:59 PM**

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the Matrix, PLU's quarterly advocacy magazine, operates as a grassroots organization with an egalitarian decision-making process. It is looking for new writers, editors, designers, and artists for any level of involvement. To get involved with the Matrix, email [matrix@plu.edu](mailto:matrix@plu.edu).

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# CATCHING UP WITH THE PAST

## Renovated Mast Web site provides easier access to content, student voices

April Reiter  
MAST EDITOR IN CHIEF

With the advent of the Internet, it seemed the age of paper had drawn to a close. Books, magazines, newspapers, periodicals and journals would soon

be obsolete, replaced by their sleeker, sexier, more user-friendly online versions.

Yet, though there were casualties and consolidations galore, there was no mass paper extinction. The paper-based media lived on, and, rather than being replaced, was enhanced.

Newspapers, because of their emphasis on reader engagement and input, especially benefited from the update.

For example, readers can still send letters to the editor, but with online news sources they can also often comment directly on an article and peruse the comments of other readers.

We, at The Mast, have been particularly behind the curve when it comes to technology updates. The blame does not rest on one set of shoulders, as money, motivation, logistics, expertise and timing were all to blame.

But we cannot wait any longer. The worldwide media observed and acted upon the ubiquity of the Internet and began to interweave the two platforms. As students in an institution of learning, it's almost laughable that we haven't been preparing ourselves to enter the realistic, technology-centered work landscape.

What's more, we don't all plan to pursue journalism careers. But we can still pursue technology as a means to enliven dialog, increase reader participation, and widen the reach and accessibility of our publication.

So, this year, The Mast joined with the other limbs of Student Media (including KCCR, KCNS, Saxifrage and The Matrix) to begin the process of establishing a unified Web site.

This site will be a hub for student news and will provide daily updated information, including streaming audio and video content, staff bloggers, and spaces for reader commentary.

But like most big dreams, this one will take time and incremental work to fulfill. The Media Board began work last semester and will continue this semester and on into next year to bring Student Media online in a unified front.

Since this process is slow by nature, we at The Mast have not tarried to do what we can in the present. Webmaster Jake Paikai has renovated and rejuvenated our old Web presence. His redesign provides easier access to articles and interconnected linking between them, as well as a more pleasing aesthetic.

Additionally, we are working toward not only mirroring our print edition online, but supplementing it with online only content. To begin this process, we've added online-only content for sidewalk talk and additional online-only pictures for most stories.

In the future, we hope online-only content will also include editorial blogs, daily online content updates and more reader-newspaper interaction.

All of these additions will make it easier for students, staff and faculty to use, enjoy and interact with The Mast's content.

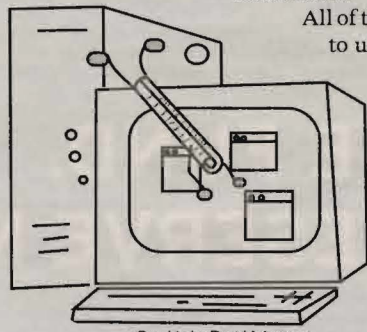
Never before has it been easier or more convenient to see pictures of your friends, read about the latest events and happenings on campus, or examine the stats of a favorite PLU team.

The Web site also has the potential to increase the range of our publication and make it easier for alumni, relatives and the interested public to access our content.

But all of this, of course, depends on students, faculty and staff getting the word out about our new online presence. The Mast represents the student's voice—their opinions, their perspectives and the stories that matter to them.

With the Web site, students now have the option of sharing this voice more quickly and easily than with newsprint. Students can use The Mast Web site to tell others about PLU or offer them a glimpse of life here.

We hope students will take advantage of this opportunity and not only use the Web site, but interact with it, participate in it, and make their voices heard, if even in a small way.



Graphic by David Johnston

# Russia's election reveals American ignorance



**Ethan JENNINGS**  
CRABBING AROUND  
jennined@plu.edu

Can you name the president-elect of Russia, the successor to President Vladimir Putin?

I ask because, during the Feb. 26 Democratic Party presidential debate, neither Hillary Clinton nor Barack Obama could come up with the name of Dmitry Medvedev, who will succeed Putin as president of the Russian Federation May 7, 2008. In fact, all they could tell the moderators was that Medvedev is a hand-picked successor chosen by Putin, who is constitutionally barred from serving a third consecutive term as president, to be a puppet.

It quickly became glaringly obvious that neither candidate, like much of the U.S. public, knows much, if anything, about Dmitry Medvedev. Few know that he sits at the head of the board of directors of Gazprom, Russia's largest producer of oil and natural gas. Like Putin, he hails from St. Petersburg and has served in the president's cadre since 1991 after receiving his Ph.D. in private law from Leningrad State University in 1990. He was Putin's presidential chief of staff from 2003 to 2005 and has served as first deputy prime minister since 2005. From the looks of things, he has led a promising and capable career in public administration.

But all most people can seem to do is parrot the line that he will be a figurehead, a puppet for Putin, who is expected to serve as Medvedev's

prime minister, and to assume his position at Gazprom.

The complete lack of knowledge displayed by two of the frontrunners in the U.S. presidential campaign is troubling at minimum. But then, it is completely in keeping with the United States' stance toward Russia since the end of the Cold War. Now that the "Red" has been replaced by the "Islamofascist" in America's terror, we can safely ignore this massive country with the ninth largest population, the seventh largest gross domestic product, and a technologically advanced and skilled military with one of the largest nuclear arsenals in the world.

A fact that America doesn't like to admit is that Russia has pulled itself from the ashes of the Soviet Union, owing in no small part to the leadership of Vladimir Putin, for better or worse. Russia, the world's leading exporter of natural gas and second largest exporter of oil, has rebuilt its economy and its shattered pride, fueled by record oil prices and a nationalistic fervor with Putin at the center.

The March 2nd Russian presidential election underscored American leaders' misunderstanding of Russia—or their willingness to parrot propaganda and rhetoric. Medvedev carried 70 percent of the vote, according to official results. For months, Western news agencies and leaders have been predicting that the election would hardly be a fair reflection of the will of the Russian people, pointing out efforts by Putin's government

to restrict opposition parties and opinions, sometimes violently. Senator McCain joined many in condemning the elections after they occurred, saying the election "would not pass the smell test in any functioning democracy," according to NBC.

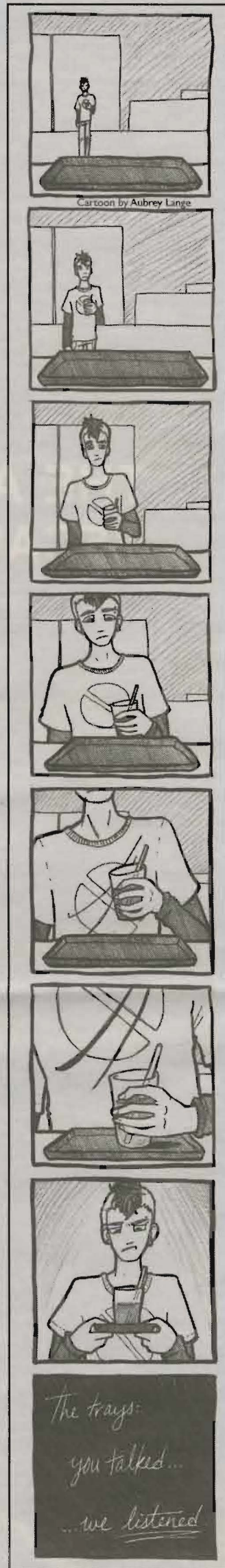
However, international election monitors, including members of the European Parliament, have called the election fair and claimed that it reflects the will of the Russian people. Despite his undemocratic reforms, which have concentrated great power in the presidency, Putin is hugely popular with Russian citizens, many of whom would love to see him, rather than Medvedev, serve the next term.

Putin is no saint, and Russia no paradise. Putin has severely restricted freedom of speech, cracked down on opposition groups, prosecuted a brutal war of occupation in Chechnya and overseen and possibly encouraged corruption and nepotism unparalleled in even the U.S. government. A number of the most vocal and influential critics of Putin's regime have been murdered in the past few years, their cases left unsolved.

However, Russia's star is on the rise while the U.S. is struggling to hold on to what it has. Our colonial war is failing and our economy is sinking. We will have to start dealing with Russia one way or another—and it would behoove us to start taking them seriously before we've lost all our bargaining position, and to stop antagonizing them with undereducated rhetoric and positioning.



AP photo by Mikhael Klimentsyev  
Russian President Vladimir Putin, right, and current president-elect Dmitry Medvedev watch a skiing event in Moscow, Saturday, March 1, 2008, days before Medvedev won the presidential election with 70 percent of the popular vote.



Cartoon by Aubrey Lange

*The trays:  
you talked...  
...we listened*

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## POLICIES

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. Letters are printed in the order they are received.

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

# Sidewalk Talk

Which on-campus building deserves a renovation and why?

This week's Sidewalk Talk asked in the UC in front of Old Main Market.



Administration, because I think especially the classrooms could be updated. I feel like I'm stuck in the 70s when I go in there.

*Matt Anderson, first-year*



Harstad. It's the oldest building on campus and it deserves some love

*Kelly Beeber, first-year*



Names Fitness Center. It needs to be a little bit bigger. It's really crowded in there. You're always dodging someone and the equipment is close together.

*Jacob Hirst, first-year*



Harstad, because of the whole thing with the pipes breaking earlier in the year. And you have to go all the way around to Campus Safety to get to the elevator without going up stairs.

*Catherine Stout, senior*



Harstad. They had a massive sprinkler system meltdown thing, and when we were moving the girls in, it smelled funny. They need to do something about it.

*Blake Gorle, first-year*

Do YOU have an answer for this week's **Sidewalk Talk**? Do you have a response to the answers here?

E-mail [mast@plu.edu](mailto:mast@plu.edu) with your thoughts and/or your picture and it will appear on our Web site next week.

# Never too cool for school

Hollywood's high school formula exposes our own obsession



**Jono COWGILL**  
TRENDS AND TRIBULATIONS  
[cowgiljm@plu.edu](mailto:cowgiljm@plu.edu)

"J.D. Salinger" Norman Mailer once wrote, "is the best writer never to leave prep school." True up to a point. But what Mailer did not realize is that the public has never left high school either. Hollywood saw this and utilized the groundwork essayed by Salinger to make a slew of films on the subject over the next 50 years. "Juno" and "Superbad" are the newest concoctions that sift in the ingredient of the sensitive high school student.

Salinger treated this theme of the sensitive outsider with nuance and brilliant energy. But the best one can say for "Juno," along with "Superbad," is that there are the most culminating contemporary permutations of the sterilized Hollywood high school coming-of-age-or-my-own-terms formula.

Juno is a girl who is presented as a rebellious teenager who defies the adult establishment and is thoughtful and edgy. But her story paints an opposite picture. She is an immature teen with undulating emotions, and no principles that stick save the two maxims: Love your family and Love the boy who knocked you up.

She can't get an abortion because she knows her baby already has nails; but when the baby is born, she takes no issue with giving it up. In fact, she seems emotionally unaffected, save her two realizations that she's in love with the kid by whom she was impregnated, and her dog-obsessed stepmother isn't so bad.

"Superbad" is much more crass but similarly tepid. The main characters are obsessed with getting laid at the ultimate high school party. They experience a night of quintessential American youthful rebellion, but this rebellion is repudiated by an especially heavy-handed moral.

The keys to getting laid are not illegal things such as drinking or crazy drugs. Go to the mall, buy that girl you like some stuff, and that will get things rolling. After all is said and done, drugs, drinking

and blowing up cop cars are only things to be laughed at—but all-holy consumerism, experienced at the all-mighty mall, is something at which one may smile warmly and sincerely.

It is too evident that both films end with more or less conservative messages. What explains this rift between behavior and ideology? Is it something malignant in the American mindset? Is America so confused about what it should take seriously that it has become numb to everything but lewdness and rude one-liners?

In the South Park era, can conservative filmmaking only flourish under the guise of tasteless jokes? Or are filmmakers so confused by the overload of pastiche and remakes and parody that they aren't even aware of what type of message they are making?

It is doubtful that we can answer these questions with good faith in today's ruckus cultural climate. But we may always follow hints.

Besides the earthquake that has split discourse and decision, why is America still obsessed with this doubtfully edgy high school ethos? It is the most hackneyed in American filmmaking. Just to name a few: "Grease," "The Outsiders," "Breakfast Club," "Ferris Bueller," "Cruel Intentions," "10 Things I Hate About You," "American Pie," "Hair Spray," and "Ghost World."

It is possible the answer comes from America's conception of what is cool. High school is the genesis of hip. It is not ridiculous to say that a large portion of the American population is stuck, to some degree, in high school.

It also isn't too far from the truth to claim that high school is a fantastic corporate consumer catalyst, from clothing (Abercrombie, Urban Outfitters) to movies (as listed above). America's largest cultural gross comes from the many ways high school has been used in the marketplace.

It is true then, in part, that America's obsession is a conditioned one. Maybe we aren't so interested, but we are continually being marketed the formula and so we accept it.

Movies, more than anything, are entertainment, but this entertainment is codified to reflect trends within our culture. When social phenomena occur, they are reflected in the art and entertainment of the day. This is to be expected.

But when these things are made into formulas, we should be wary. We can only hope to question these formulas now and change them in the future.



Graphic by David Johnson

## In memory of William F. Buckley, Jr.

Geoff Smock  
GUEST COLUMNIST

The Pacific Lutheran College Republicans mark with sadness the passing of William F. Buckley, Jr. last week. More than 50 years ago, Buckley founded what has become the nation's preeminent conservative periodical, "National Review," and in so doing helped begin the modern conservative movement. At that time, he took it upon himself to "stand athwart history [and yell], 'Stop!'" as he said in the inaugural 1955

"National Review." Because of that, our republic is stronger and more prosperous than it would have otherwise been.

As the editors of his magazine wrote in his honor yesterday, "He created modern conservatism as an intellectual and then a political movement. He kept it from drifting into the fever swamps. And he gave it a wit, style and intelligence that earned the respect and friendship even of his adversaries."

Thanks in no small part to his efforts and intellect, conservatism has become, and will be for sometime, a powerful

and credible political, social and economic creed working for the benefit of the U.S.

Conservatism has lost one of its ablest voices, but more importantly the U.S. has lost one of its greatest patriots. We honor his memory this day and give him our highest and most sincere gratitude for the lifetime of service he provided. He will not soon be forgotten, and his legacy will continue to inspire and inform us for years to come.

You can reach Geoff Smock at [smockgm@plu.edu](mailto:smockgm@plu.edu)

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"Four score and seven years ago..."

# Back to the PLU future

Celebrating the black, white and technicolor days of

## Examining our past equates more progressive future

Maren Anderson  
MAST INTERNATIONAL EDITOR

The motto "Proud past, bright future" adorns the Student Alumni Association's office in the Nesvig Alumni Center. Amidst the yellow walls, pictures hang of past Lutes who have been instrumental in the establishment of this organization that strives to instill a commitment within current PLU students to a lifelong relationship with the institution.

To celebrate PLU's proud past, the SAA will host History Week, March 10-14. While one may fear that a celebration of history will only highlight the dead, white Lutheran, Norwegian men who founded this institute of higher learning, the week's program promises to provide entertaining activities to highlight the past, present and prepare Lutes for the future.

The SAA History Chair, senior Emily Dooley, says she believes that understanding PLU's history helps students grasp the significance of their citizenship with PLU.

"We students spend four years of our lives in this community, and it is important to understand the history of

what makes this university great, and how we are contributing to it," Dooley said.

Each day, the SAA will host a different event to explore the different aspects of Lute history and pride.

"Some of the events are also about celebrating the history that we as current students are creating at PLU," Dooley said.

"History week is important because it is a reminder to students that once a Lute, always a Lute. From day one, when students step onto campus they become apart of a unique community, known as the Lute Dome. It is in this special place that students have a freshman roommate, decide their major, try new things, become deeply involved in their passions, explore questions about their vocational calling, and eventually receive a diploma, all the while enriching PLU for the better. Long after students step off campus into a new world of inquiry, fellow Lutes will always be apart of PLU, leaving an important legacy behind them as they engage the world. History week is not only about connecting our past with our future through programs but having students feel that they are always welcome on campus, and can forever continue their involvement with the University," said Courtney Stringer, SAA Executive Director.

Many famous historians argue that the past can provide a clear window to the future. Therefore, the SAA's History Week will potentially provide a panoramic view for many current Lutes to their futures.

you can reach Maren Anderson at andersmi@plu.edu

## History & Calendar of March 10-14

March 10: Tuition Free Day PLU  
Marken 103, 6 p.m.

March 11: Film, "Accepted" with Ringdahl, university historian  
Ingram 109, 7 p.m.

March 12: Retro H.L.M.P.  
Cave, 8 p.m.

March 13: Legacy Student Dessert  
Ingram Art Gallery and Foyer, 9 p.m.

March 14: Tables for Eight  
5 p.m. Scandinavian Cultural Center  
6-8 p.m. Chris Knutson Room  
& \$5 Registration fee for students  
<http://www.plu.edu/~77Earel/getting>

## Spotlight ON: SAA



The Student Alumni Association is a group of students who promote PLU through creating connections between current, past and future Lutes. One of its main goals is to instill students with the idea that their involvement with PLU should be a lifelong commitment.

The SAA is one of the few on-campus clubs and organizations that does all of its own fundraising. One of the SAA positions is that of the Fundraising Chair. The responsibility of the Fundraising Chair is to ensure that the SAA has enough funds to put on various activities throughout the year. The main fundraiser for the SAA is an auction that is put on every year during Family Weekend. Auction items usually consist of gift baskets from various companies around the PLU campus. This year the auction will be held Saturday, Nov. 3.



Above: Former PLU students stand from Lakeland and Library row stands at the present day, 2008. Right: An aerial view of PLU when it first had



ture

our history

Week  
Events

2008

Anthropy Panel

presentation by Kris

at Soiree  
m.

et  
ddents, to register visit:  
olved/saa-history.html

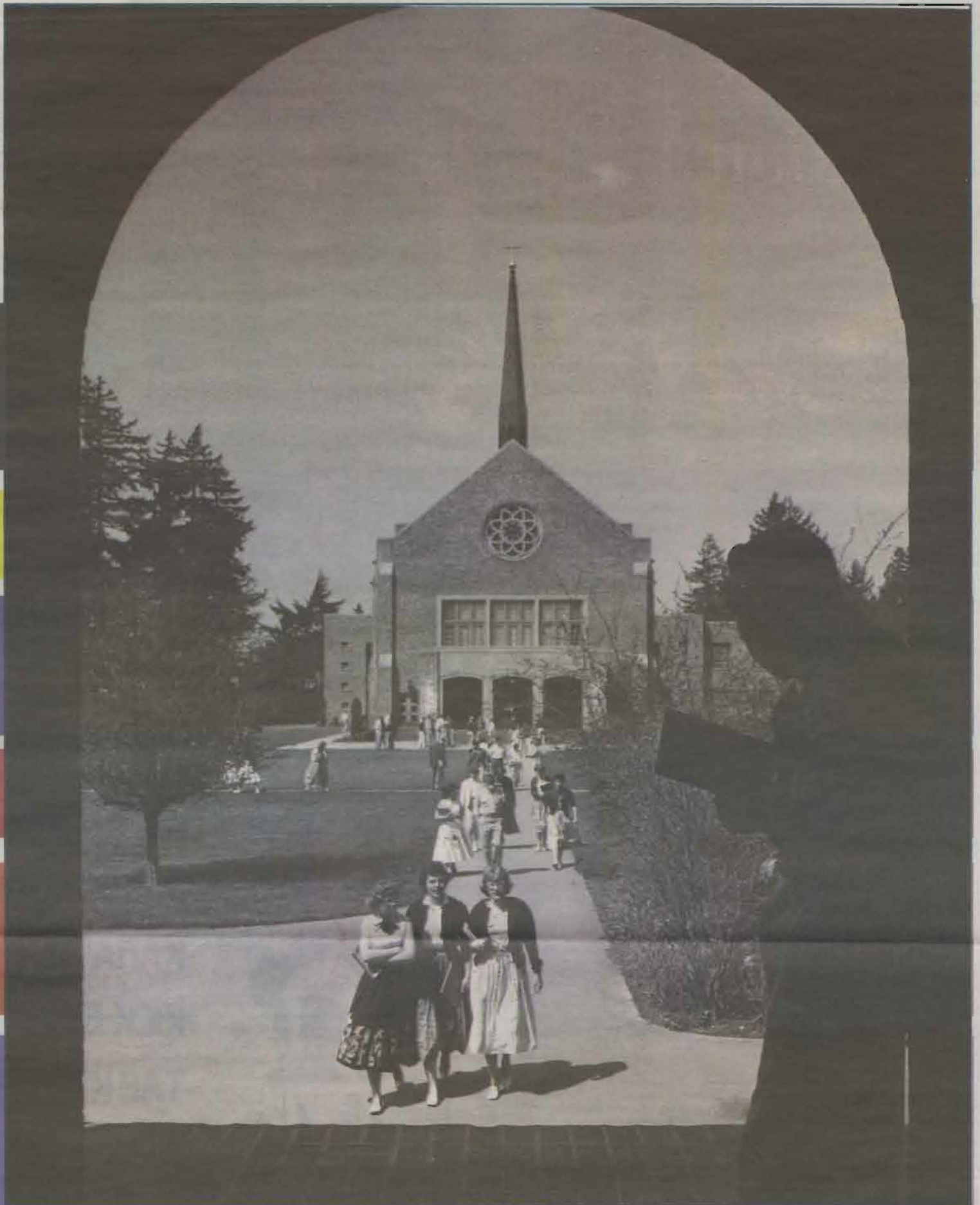
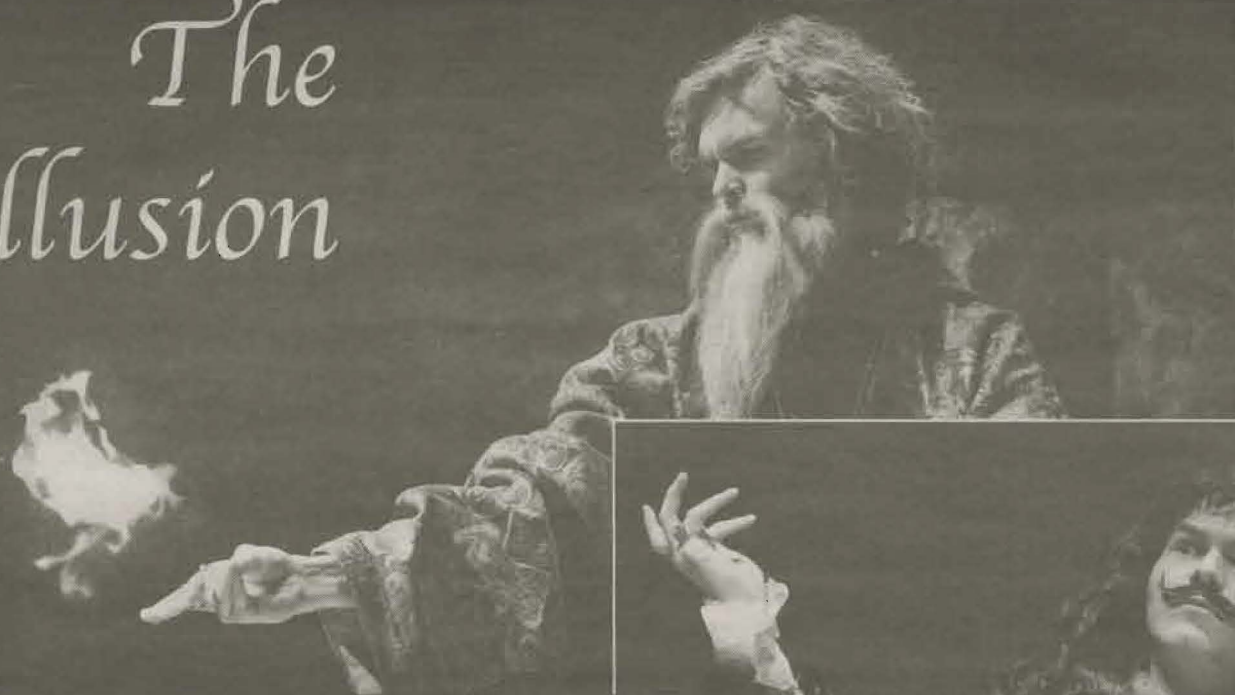


Photo courtesy of SAA

through what is now known as Fred Square. Left: A ceremony is held where Mori-  
grant will be giving a presentation on the history of PSU with archival photos March  
buildings on its grounds.



# The Illusion



Photos by Chris Hunt

Christopher Staudinger conjures fire in his role as the magician (far above and right), while Travis Tingvall dons and extravagant mustache and costume for his part (above).

Magicians, sword fights, adventure and laughs abound in 'The Illusion.'

## SHOWTIMES

Performances are March 7 and 8 at 8 p.m., March 14 and 15 at 8 p.m. and March 16 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for students and faculty and \$8 for general admission. Tickets can be purchased at the Campus Concierge.



Photo by Nate Hulings

Horn performance major Andrew Floodeen practices in Lagerquist Concert Hall at Pacific Lutheran University's Mary Baker Russell Music Center. Floodeen will get his chance in the spotlight March 18 as a student soloist performing "Horn Concerto" by Reinhold Gliere accompanied by the University Symphony Orchestra of which he is a member and section leader. The other three PLU students chosen to perform are Natasha Gilman (flute), Amy Van Mechelen (voice) and Leann Conley (voice).



**進化**

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# 'Rewind' reminds us why we love movies

Director Michel Gondry crafts a charming tale of making, watching movies

Kolby Harvey  
MAST A&E REPORTER

Just knowing that "Be Kind Rewind" is the product of French writer/director Michel Gondry makes one anticipate a strange movie-going experience. His latest film, however, is still a surprise, defying the expectations of even his most faithful followers.

More conventional in its narrative than either 2004's "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind" or 2006's "La Science des rêves," Gondry's latest product is an exploration of why we love movies. The dreamy existentialism of his previous films is pushed to the back burner in favor of

FILM REVIEW  
"Be Kind Rewind"  
Written and Directed by Michel Gondry  
Starring Jack Black, Mos Def  
PG-13 101 mins  
★★★★★

an analysis of the gleeful innocence that accompanies both making and watching movies.

The premise is simple (and true to Gondry's form— simply bizarre). After an accident at a nearby power plant, Jerry (played by a properly reigned-in Jack Black) becomes electro magnetized and accidentally erases all of the VHS tapes at a failing video rental store.

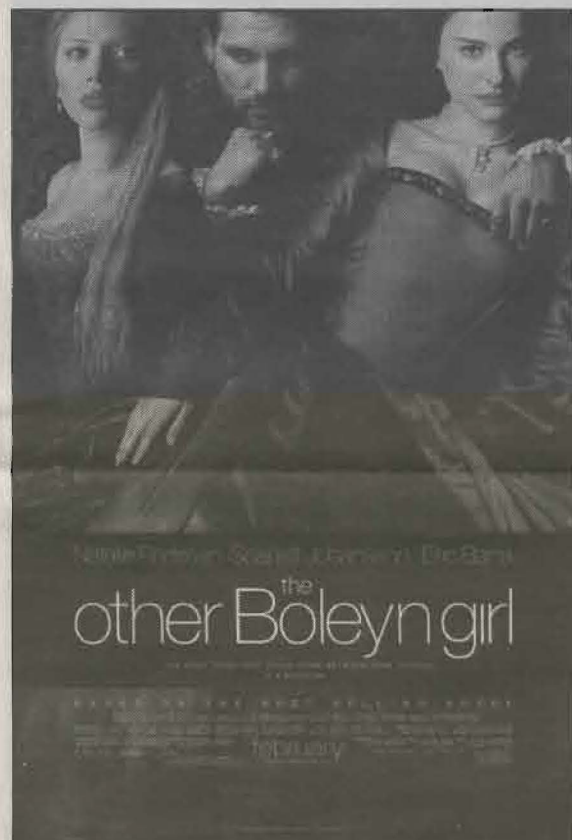
Distraught and eager to save the store before his boss returns from a business trip, the store's only employee, Mike (a surprisingly understated Mos Def), decides

that, with the help of Jerry and neighbor Alma, he can re-create all of the lost VHS tapes himself through creative, low-budget means, a process that he and Jerry come to refer to as "sweding." Yes, like the country.

The result is hilarious, infectious and charming from beginning to end. The film's conventional structure is not a result of Gondry going mainstream, but rather the film being true to its subject matter. Mike and Jerry begin to "swede" films for the surrounding neighborhood, not an audience at Sundance.

Through their amateur fumbling and the palpable innocence included therein, the audience suddenly remembers why it came to the cinemas in the first place. We are simultaneously re-connected with our most cherished childhood films as well as our recent favorites. Through its jovial, youthful simplicity, "Be Kind Rewind" rekindles the magic of an increasingly corporate industry.

You can reach Kolby Harvey at [harveykb@plu.edu](mailto:harveykb@plu.edu)



# Film adaptation strays from book, history

Faux-British accents, tepid acting make 'The Other Boleyn Girl' a chore to sit through

Katie Blatman  
MAST A&E REPORTER

After reviewing "The Other Boleyn Girl" by Philippa Gregory a few weeks ago, I was thrilled to see how it would be adapted to the big screen. I have to say that I was less than pleased.

For starters, the fake British accents by some of the lead cast were horrible. The costumes looked cheap, and Anne's infamous green frock looks like a bad prom dress. The movie was almost nothing like the book in parts, and much less loyal to the actual history itself. I found that throughout the movie, had I not read the book, I would be completely lost.

The main parts of the book were nailed. The movie portrayed correctly the outcomes of situations. However, the finer details were grossly altered or ignored, such as how the outcomes of said situations came to be. The finer details, which made the story actually make sense, were ignored. Some parts were even added to the movie, which I found confusing. It all

FILM REVIEW  
"The Other Boleyn Girl"  
Directed by Justin Chadwick  
Starring Natalie Portman, Scarlett Johansson, Eric Bana  
★★★★★

just seemed like a good excuse for the actors to practice their sex scenes.

However disappointing this movie was to me, the acting by Natalie Portman and Jim Sturgess (who plays her brother, George Boleyn) was heartfelt. The bond that the characters share, though watered down from the novel, was the only genuine acting I witnessed throughout the film. Portman's acting seems to suggest that she actually read the book and did research on the character of Anne Boleyn.

When Portman graced us with her presence, I felt as if she were transporting her emotions to me. That, I feel, is the mark of a great actor, being able to create a connection between the character and the audience. I hope that "The Other Boleyn Girl" will not tarnish Portman's otherwise good reputation in acting.

You can reach Katie Blatman at [blatmaka@plu.edu](mailto:blatmaka@plu.edu)

# Oscar-winning film worthy of praise

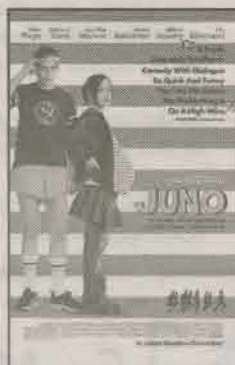
Smart dialogue of 'Juno' stands up to Oscar-hype

Megan Charles  
MAST A&E REPORTER

"Juno" first premiered at the Toronto Film Festival last September.

Certainly no one could have predicted then that the little indie gem by writer Diablo Cody would be referred to as this year's "Little Miss Sunshine," go on to earn over \$100 million at the box office, and not to mention several Oscar nominations, including Best Picture.

This drama/comedy is about a wise cracking teen named Juno (Ellen Page) who gets pregnant by her best



friend Bleeker (Michael Cera), and eventually decides to give the baby up for adoption to someone who, in the words of Juno, "like, totally needs it." This leads her to what would seem like the perfect young couple, Vanessa and Mark Loring (Jennifer Garner and Jason Bateman).

I think it's safe to say that "Juno" would never have garnered the attention it has without Diablo Cody. Obviously, the script is a huge part of any film, but for "Juno" in particular, what's written on page is the defining element. Page, who is arguably even

better playing a sadistic teen in David Slade's "Hard Candy," is a fantastic up-and-coming young actress, no doubts there. But without the catchy and memorable dialogue offered up by Cody, what could Page have possibly done to make the character Juno so endearing, so familiar?

Some critics have remarked that the dialogue isn't exactly realistic. But as I sat there watching "Juno," I thought about the way my friends and I usually talk to each other, especially back in high school. I couldn't help but find similarities, particularly in Juno's sarcasm, a trait that I think is common in most young people.

All this being said, "Juno" is worthy of the praise it's been getting, and the same can be said of Cody's Oscar win for Best Original Screenplay. Director Jason Reitman ("Thank You For Smoking") has successfully made another great indie film with "Juno."

One thing is certain, if you haven't seen "Juno" yet, you definitely should.

You can reach Megan Charles at [charlemr@plu.edu](mailto:charlemr@plu.edu)

Page, who is arguably even

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\*a discussion will follow Saturday's 4:30 show

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Mon-Wed: 6:10, 8:35  
Thurs: 3:40, 6:10, 8:35

JUNO (PG-13)  
Fri: 2:35, 4:45, 6:55, 9:00  
Sat/Sun: 12:30, 2:35, 4:45, 6:55, 9:00  
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# Father of role-playing games dies at 69

*Nerds shouldn't be the only ones mourning the loss of Gary Gygax*

There are a lot of things associated with Dungeons and Dragons, the immensely popular pen-and-paper tabletop role-playing game: basements, overweight geeks with bad body odor, the occult, etc. The fact of the matter is that most of the myths and stereotypes surrounding D & D (and tabletop gaming in general) just aren't grounded in any kind of reality.

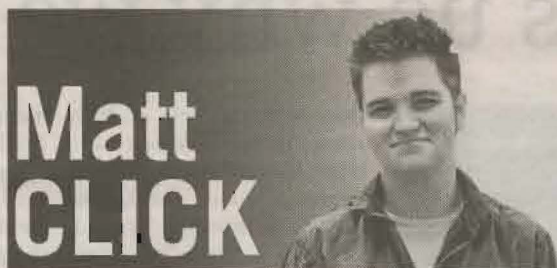
Dungeons and Dragons, first introduced in 1974, paved the way for role-playing games—on the table, computer and gaming consoles—and introduced the concept of “leveling up,” that is to say, progressing a character forward in skill and power.

And that is why gamers young and old, of the tabletop and digital persuasion, owe a great debt of gratitude to Gary Gygax, who passed away Tuesday at 69.

Gygax founded Tactical Studies Rules (later known as TSR) with fellow wargamer Don Kaye. Along with Dave Arneson, they developed the idea of a character-driven role-playing game. Their model entailed a player creating and running a single character through adventures, advancing in prowess, battling bigger monsters and solving more difficult puzzles as the campaign progressed. At the time, this was unheard of.

Their first incarnation of this concept was known as Chainmail, a wargame that centered the action on specific characters, rather than entire armies. Dungeons and Dragons followed soon after and the role-playing game was born.

Without Gygax's influence, I doubt the modern role-playing game would enjoy the same success it does



**Matt  
CLICK**

**CINEMATIC EXCURSIONS**

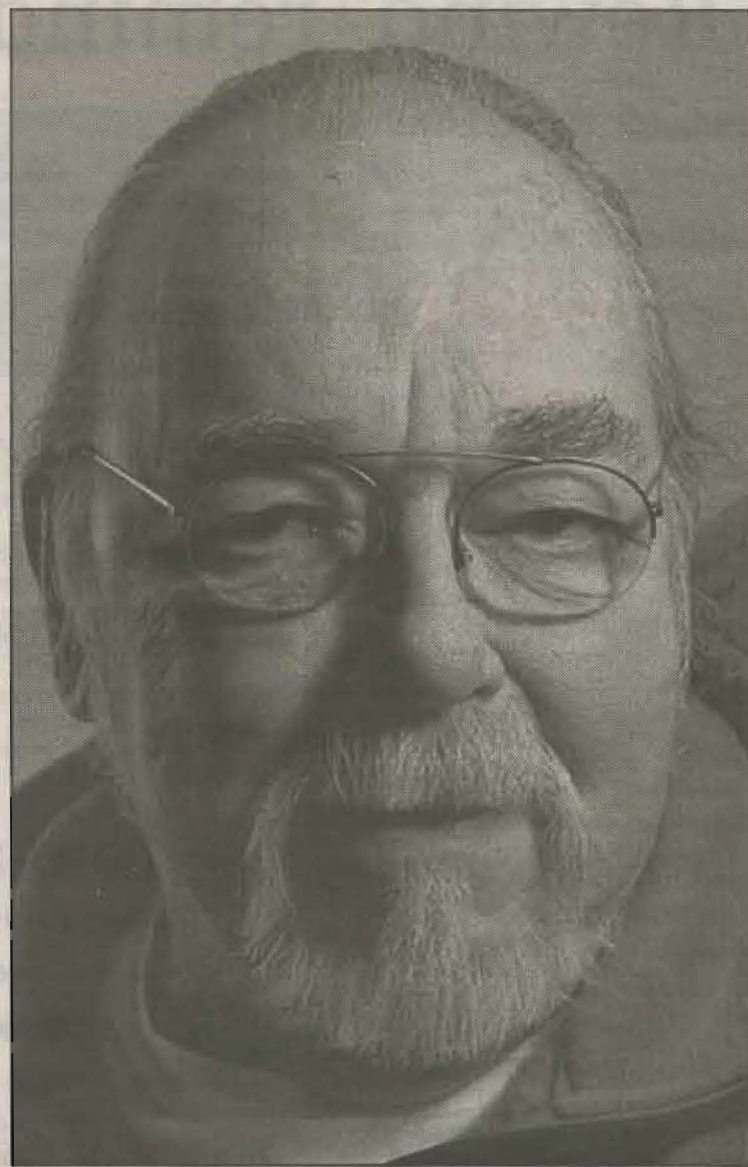
now. Games like the “Elder Scrolls” series or the “Final Fantasy” franchise or more recent successes like “Mass Effect” would be nowhere without the foundation laid out by Gygax and his colleagues.

Several editions and 30 years later, D & D is still the most beloved tabletop game of all time, attracting nerds and non-nerds alike with its siren call of fun, creativity and a respite from television and video games.

I was probably 12 years old when I threw my first fistful of die across the tabletop. D & D was a playground for my imagination—anything was possible, if only a die roll away.

I crafted characters with rich histories and vibrant personalities and saw them develop across fantastic backdrops; spent time playing with my family and friends and developed bonds both in and out of the game; played the paragon, the villain, the renegade and everything in between; honed my skills in writing and storytelling; instilled in myself the willingness to create, craft and imagine to my heart's content. My interest in D & D carried on, and I am now an avid tabletop gamer.

For me, the loss of Gygax—who remained active in the gaming community to his dying day—is a tragic one. He was a brilliant man and a visionary, someone who saw the potential for something great in the stagnant realm of tabletop gaming and gave way to Dungeons and Dragons, the always exciting, often misunderstood hell-of-a-good-time.



Gary Gygax, co-creator of the beloved Dungeons and Dragons tabletop game, was considered by many to be the leading pioneer of role-playing games. He remained actively involved with the gaming community until his death Tuesday.

AP Photo

## The **K** Federalist Papers weekly pop culture commentary

### Finally, cinemas become more adult-friendly

*With the advent of 21-and-over nights and help buttons, theater-going just got better*

Jessica Baldwin  
MAST A&E REPORTER

I walk into the cinema, tickets and favorite snacks in hand. I find a good seat and prepare myself to be taken away, if only for a little while, from the outside world. A few minutes later, a group of high school-aged youth come in and sit behind me. They're talking loudly and kicking the back of my seat. I figure it's only the previews and they're simply trying to get situated. They'll stop when the movie starts.

Now it's 20 minutes into the movie and not only have they failed to stop talking or kicking, they've gotten worse. They just won't shut up. They're adding

their own commentary, while kicking the back of my seat ceaselessly. No matter how many times I try to address this problem with them they won't stop, in fact they increase their behavior to spite me.

As a movie reviewer and chronic movie buff, I go to the theater quite often. On average I'm in the cinema three times a month. I run into this problem more often than I'd like. I've had people talking in my ear, kicking my seat, yelling and just generally making nuisances of themselves.

As a child, my mother taught me the simple rules of going

to the cinema: Don't talk, stay seated, and don't kick the person in front of you.

Three simple rules to live by. In recent years, these rules of cinematic etiquette seem to have been forgotten. So much so that Regal Cinemas is working to install help buttons on the seats of each theater.

In 2007, Regal announced this step to help clear their theaters of interruption, so that everyone may enjoy their movie-going experience. These help buttons will feature little buttons that say, “talking,” “kicking,” and “movie problems.”

Simply press the button and someone will be there to fix

the problem. If the problem is not fixed within five minutes your next movie will be free. This is not the only step being taken to rid theatres of this problem.

Galaxy Theatres in Gig Harbor will open March 7. Every Saturday night, movies will be 21 and over. Not only will responsible, well-behaved adults be allowed to enjoy alcohol with their movie, they can do so in a theater free of screaming kids and rowdy teenagers.

These are all extreme and expensive ways to solve a big problem. They're both solid solutions, but why did it have to come to this? We all pay the same amount to see the same movie, why do certain people think that they are above having to respect others? No one has the right to interrupt someone's cinematic experience with noise and distraction.

There are three simple rules to remember when going to a movie: don't get up unless you absolutely need to use the bathroom, don't ever put your feet up on the seat in front of you, and please, for all that it good in this world, do not talk.

You can reach Jessica Baldwin at [baldwije@plu.edu](mailto:baldwije@plu.edu)



Graphic by David Johnston

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Photo by Chris Hunt

Sophomore pitcher Rob Bleeker prepares to deliver to a Linfield batter in a game this past weekend. The Lutes were able to go 2-2 against the Wildcats, who are favored to win the conferences this season.

## Lutes make early statement

*Split with NWC favorite proves Lutes are still a force*

Tyler Scott  
MAST SPORTS REPORTER

Bret Handy admits to being nervous before his first collegiate start.

"They're the No. 1 team in the conference, so naturally I was pretty nervous," the first-year from Nooksack Valley said. "But my arm felt good and we had a good scouting report on them, so I had a good idea of what I wanted to pitch to every single guy."

Saturday. After 8 2/3 innings and 129 pitches, the performance took its toll on Handy, and he allowed the Wildcat's first run of the game.

As outstanding as his performance was, that one final elusive out cost Handy among his teammates.

"My arm just couldn't handle it anymore," Handy said. "I was pretty disappointed and the guys were making fun of me that I couldn't get the last out."

Sophomore Trey Watt came in to finish off the final batter, and Handy's gem earned his first collegiate win and a 8-1 PLU victory to finish off the first day of 2008 Northwest Conference competition.

Entering the series, the Lutes were looking for respect. After winning the 2007 Northwest Conference championship, the conference coaches predicted them to finish third this season. Naturally, the first Conference series would offer a match-up with the Linfield squad nearly unanimously chosen to finish first.

In the first game, the Wildcats jumped out to a quick 6-0 lead after three innings. To start the fourth inning, head coach Geoff Loomis brought in pitcher Hunter Simpson, a first-team All-Conference selection last season, to cool the Linfield bats. Simpson succeeded, pitching six hitless innings to complete the first game.

Unfortunately for the Lutes, a couple of base-running miscues stalled a few rallies and their comeback bid fell short at 6-4.

Sunday's seven-inning games proved to

be memorable affairs, as each team earned a 5-4 victory to close out the opening weekend with a 2-2 conference record.

The first game was an ugly affair as the teams combined for seven errors, 10 walks, five hit batsmen and five unearned runs.

Van Cleave came through in the clutch for the Wildcats in the top of the seventh inning of the second game, singling home Chung for what proved to be the winning run. Linfield retired the Lutes in order in the bottom of the seventh to preserve the split.

"I expected all of the games to be close, and they were," Loomis said. "We are a young team and we hope to show improvement every week."

Loomis was quick to praise his pitching staff, pointing out that "Bret [Handy] and Hunter [Simpson] threw exceptionally well on Saturday, and we had two great pitching performances on Sunday as well by Rob Bleeker and Trey Watt."

Bleeker went 5 1/3 innings in Sunday's opener, allowing only one earned run on three hits. Watt came out of the bullpen in the second game to give up only one earned run on five hits in 5 1/3.

For a conference-opening weekend that had its highs and lows, the Lutes walked away with a couple wins and some fire.

"As a team, we felt that we were underrated going in against Linfield," Handy said. "We felt that we had a couple chances in the fourth game to win the series, which we wanted to do. We're really young as a team, so as we play on and on and get more experience the mistakes will clean themselves up."

Loomis also expressed the need for better defensive play, saying that "if we do that, we will have a chance to win every game." The Lutes have a good track record in that department, having finished last season as the top defensive team in Division III.

Pacific Lutheran returns to action next weekend with a pair of doubleheaders at Pacific University, starting at 11:00 a.m. on both Saturday and Sunday.

You can reach Tyler Scott at [scotttj@plu.edu](mailto:scotttj@plu.edu)



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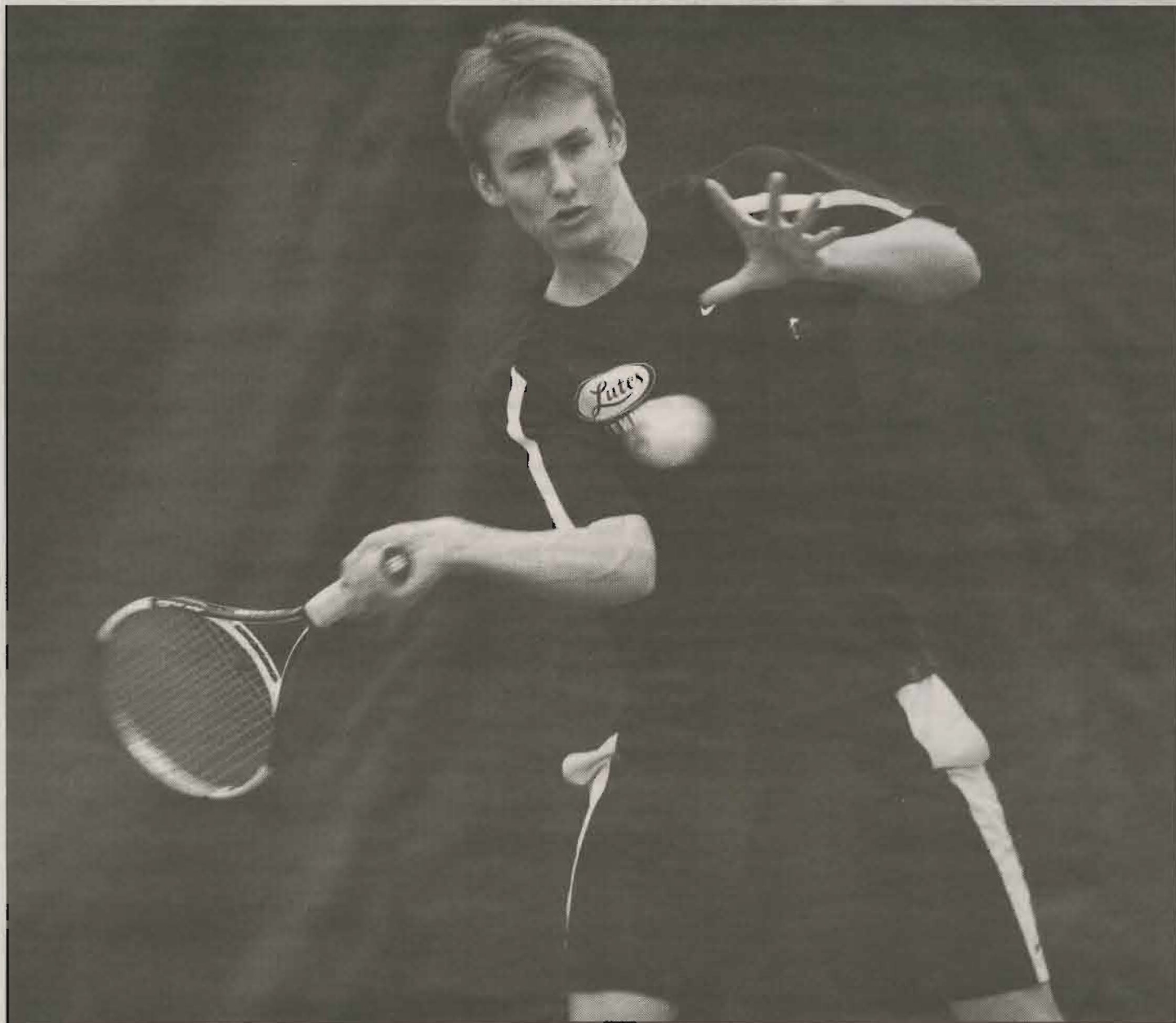
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# Men's tennis wins big, loses bigger

# Tough trip for Lutes

## Women's tennis challenges Pirates, gets crushed by Missionaries



Sophomore Justin Peterson hits a forehand against a Whitman College player March 1. The Lutes lost to the Missionaries 9-0, but beat Whitworth later that same day 8-1. Photo by Chris Hunt

## Lutes wipe up Whitworth, fail to take down Whitman

Ellen Kanuch  
MAST SPORTS REPORTER

It was a bittersweet weekend for PLU men's tennis team. The team had a victory over Whitworth 8-1 and a loss to Whitman 9-0 last Saturday at the Northwest Conference tennis matches held at PLU and UPS.

The Whitman matches were played at the UPS tennis pavilion in the morning and Whitman was on their game once again as they swept PLU, getting their second win of the season against the Lutes. PLU was beaten by the Missionaries 6-3 three weeks ago. Their opponents came out strong in singles, needing three sets in just two of the six matches. Matt Solomon topped sophomore Kevin Floyd, 4-6, 6-3, 7-6 (7-3) at No. 1 singles, while Daniel Solomon defeated senior Justin Larimore, 6-4, 6-0 at No. 2 singles, then Jake Cappel beat sophomore Justin Peterson, 2-6, 6-4, 6-2 at No. 3 singles.

"We got rocked, but the score isn't a good representation of our performance," junior James Odan said.

PLU came prepared for the Whitworth match. They didn't lose a single set during singles play. Whitworth came away with its only team point at No. 3 doubles where Scott Donnell and Colin Zalewski beat seniors Jared Vidano and James Crosetto, 8-6. Floyd and sophomore Michael Manser, the duo who usually play the No. 2 doubles for PLU, played at No. 1. The Floyd/Manser combination defeated Ed Anegon and Joe Wales, 8-5. Peterson and first-year Scott Sheldon defeated their opponents Josh Steele and Henry Williams at No. 2, 8-4.

"Individually, I think I played well on the second set. As a team we competed hard, and it would've been nice to come away with a win," Sheldon said. "Hopefully next time we'll play a little stronger and if we get a chance to play Whitman again, we can come away with a victory."

Floyd creamed Steele, 6-0, 6-2, to win at No.1 singles. Larimore, who normally plays at No.2, didn't play against Whitworth. The rest of the team had a good performance as they played up one spot. Peterson was at No. 2 and defeated Anegon, 6-4, 6-2, Manser at No. 3 defeated Wales, 6-3, 6-4, while Vidano in his No. 4 spot against Donnell won 6-3, 6-2. Scott Sheldon outdid Williams at No. 5, 6-1, 6-4, and John deMars defeated Zalewski at No. 6, 7-6, 6-1.

Follow the Lutes this weekend when they compete against Portland State and Pacific in Portland and Forest Grove, Ore. Matches will be held at 9 a.m., 10 a.m., and 2 p.m.

You can reach Ellen Kanuch at [kanuches@plu.edu](mailto:kanuches@plu.edu)

Casey Bloom  
MAST SPORTS REPORTER

It was an unsuccessful trip east of the mountains for the PLU women's tennis team last weekend, as they dropped to 3-3 with losses to Whitworth on Saturday and Whitman on Sunday.

Saturday's loss was the closest competition of the season, as the Lutes went down 5-4. The Lutes seemed to be off to a good start as they took two out of three doubles matches with wins by senior Erika Feltus and sophomore Ashley Coats at No. 1 and senior Liz Currey and first-year Emily Starr at No. 2. But in the singles portion the Lutes could only take two of six matches with wins by Currey at No. 2 and Starr at No. 5.

Feltus battled in the No. 1 singles match but lost in three sets to Whitworth's Rachel Burns.



The Lutes carried their struggles into Sunday as they faced Whitman, losing by the score of 8-1. The lone win came from Ashley Coats at No. 3 singles. Coats overcame illness to defeat Margo Lantz in two sets. Feltus and Currey battled through three sets in their singles matches but both came out on the losing end.

"I feel good about the way the girls played," coach Lorrie Wood said of the weekend's matches, "[They] fought hard, we had some bad breaks."

The competition does not get any easier as the Lutes return home to face six-time defending conference champion Linfield on Friday.

"Linfield is one of our biggest competitors," said Wood. "We are still dealing with some sickness, I think that healthy we can give them a good fight."

The Lutes then are scheduled to host a doubleheader with Pacific, with two matches against the Boxers on Saturday.

You can reach Casey Bloom at [bloomcr@plu.edu](mailto:bloomcr@plu.edu)

### The upcoming week in PLU sports:

#### Track and Field:

» March 8, PLU at UPS/Joe Peyton Invitational, 11 a.m.

#### Golf:

» March 8, PLU at Logger Invitational, Fircrest GC, 8 a.m.

#### Baseball:

» March 8, PLU at Pacific 11 a.m.

» March 9, PLU at Pacific, 12 p.m.

#### Men's Tennis:

» March 8, PLU at Portland State, 9 a.m.

» March 8, PLU Pacific, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

#### Women's Tennis:

» March 7, Linfield at PLU, 3:30 p.m.

» March 8, Pacific at PLU, 11:30 a.m. and 3 p.m.

#### Softball:

» March 8, Whitworth at PLU, 12 p.m.

» March 9, Whitworth at PLU, 12 p.m.

# Lutes spring into action: a look at PLU sports

Collin Guildner  
MAST CO-SPORTS EDITOR

## Baseball:

### Last Season - 35-9, 1st NWC

The Lutes baseball team will attempt to defend its Northwest Conference title of last year and look to go deeper into the national tournament. The Lutes won 20 of their last 21 games last season to win their first conference championship since 1954. It will be a tough defense for the Lutes, who will have a target on their backs going into this season as the defending champions. Six of the eight starting position players and two of the top three starting pitchers from last year will be missing off this year's squad. But the future is still bright for this group. Coach Geoff Loomis has built a squad that intends to keep its Northwest Conference title and battle for a national championship. First-team All-Conference performers Jordan Post and Brandon Sales will lead a Lute attack that is already making noise as the season begins. The rotation is anchored by another first team all NWC performer Brett Brunner. The Lutes are picked to finish third in the Northwest Conference preseason coaches poll.



Loomis

## Women's Tennis:

### Last Season 14-7, 4th NWC

The Lutes' women's tennis team will look to improve on its fourth place finish in the Northwest Conference last season. A good mixture of returnees and newcomers will look to remain competitive while welcoming in new coach Lori Wood. The four returnees that will provide some veteran leadership to the team include seniors Erika Feltus and Liz Curry, and sophomores Ashley Coats and Ashley Brooks. Feltus will play at No. 1 singles after compiling a 17-3 singles record for the Lutes last season and receiving NWC first team honors. Curry and Coats will look to round out the top three for PLU. First-year Emily Starr from Snohomish, Wash. will bring some new blood to the team and looks to jump into the top six starting lineup right away. In doubles, teams of Feltus and Coats at No. 1 and Curry and Brooks at No. 2 will look to give the Lutes leads heading into the singles matches. The conference looks to be difficult this season, with some of the bottom teams gaining new players and six-time defending conference champion Linfield remaining strong at the top.



Wood

## Softball:

### Last Season - 17-18, 6th NWC

This year's Lutes will look to improve on an uncharacteristic losing season last year. PLU went 17-18 last season but figure to be moving back to their winning ways this season as they keep many of their players and have a good crop of youngsters coming in to compete for jobs in the starting lineup. In the pitching rotation, sophomore Hadley Schmitt will return after compiling a record of 10-9 last season with a 2.43 earned run average. She will anchor a staff that will also include Texas Tech transfer Rachel Wheeler-Hoyt. The Lutes will have a lineup packed with talent that includes returnees Vanessa Brayt at catcher, Lisa Gilbert in the infield, and Missy Waldron in the outfield. PLU will also welcome another transfer; sophomore Sheila Reiter played for the University of Washington last year. The Lutes will look to compete for the Northwest Conference title this year and return to the national tournament, where coach Rick Noreen has taken his team during eight of his thirteen seasons as the Lutes' head coach.



Noreen

## Men's Tennis:

### Last Season - 16-10, 1st NWC

The Lutes' men's tennis team will look to continue the dominance that it has experienced in the Northwest Conference over the past several decades. The Lutes won the Northwest Conference last season and have been a dominant force in their conference the past 30 years. Two of the top three singles players from last year are no longer with the team and PLU will have to replace No. 1 player and All-American doubles player David Miller, who graduated after last season. Sophomore Kevin Floyd will attempt to fill the large shoes left by Miller. Floyd played in the No. 2 slot last year and will battle for the conference championship this year. Other key returnees include senior Justin Larimore and sophomore Justin Peterson, who play No. 2 and 3 respectively. They will also welcome newcomer Michael Manser, who transferred from Idaho and will play at No. 4. On the doubles side, Larimore and Peterson play as the No. 1 doubles team and Floyd and Manser team up as No. 2. Coach Craig Hamilton will look to guide his team to another conference championship and go deeper into the national tournament that they were bounced from in the first round last season.



Hamilton

## Track and Field:

### Last season - Men 7th NWC, Women 6th NWC

Fourth-year head coach Heather Krier will look to move the Lutes back into the top half of the conference this year as PLU begins another season of outdoor track and field. The women's team will be headed by a core of returning sprinters and throwers, three who are coming off appearances at the national meet. Sophomore Karin Hatch and junior Taylor Hacker return as the women's top throwers. Junior Faven Araya returns to the Lutes after qualifying for nationals and posting the fifth fastest time in PLU history last season in the 400-meter hurdles. On the men's side, there are no returning national meet performers and the Lutes will have to look to improvements from their returnees and breakout performances from some newcomers to take steps forward as a team. The top returnee for the PLU men will be Luke Weinbrecht, who placed third in the 400-meter hurdles at conference last season. First-year Nate Jackson will also look to break onto the Northwest Conference scene as the top Lute sprinter after some impressive performances in high school at Clover Park. It looks to be one of the brightest seasons the Lute runners, throwers, and jumpers have seen in awhile.



Krier

## Golf:

### Last Season - Men 3rd NWC, Women 6th NWC

Both the men's and women's golf teams will be looking to compete for Northwest Conference crowns this season. The Lute men have been the cream of the crop in the conference the last 20 years, winning a total of 10 championships. Head coach Gary Cinotto returns many key players for the Lutes including senior Brian Misterek and juniors Chris Packard and John Snyder. Misterek was the Northwest Conference medalist in 2004. Packard won the NWC fall classic last year and Snyder returns after receiving All-Northwest Conference honors last season. First-year Nick Jorgensen joins the team after winning three state championships in high school. On the women's side, they will have a much larger team than the past few years, with 12 members compared to the five that turned out last season. Junior Angela Grossklaus will be the top returnee, finishing second at the NWC Championships. Sophomore Kayla Madsen joins the team after earning four high school varsity letters. Look for both golf teams to finish in the top half of the NWC this season.



Cinotto

# Scorecard

## Men's Tennis

Team	NWC	%	All	%
Whitman	7-0	1.000	7-6	.538
Whitworth	7-2	.778	7-4	.636
PLU	6-2	.750	6-4	.600
Linfield	4-3	.571	4-6	.400
Willamette	3-3	.500	3-4	.429
UPS	2-4	.333	2-4	.333
L&C	2-5	.286	2-5	.286
George Fox	1-6	.143	1-6	.143
Pacific	0-7	.000	0-7	.000

(Individual Records as of 3/5)

### Singles:

Kevin Floyd - 3-3 (2-1)

Justin Larimore - 4-3 (3-1)

Justin Peterson - 3-4 (3-1)

Michael Manser - 3-3 (2-1)

Jared Vidano - 5-2 (4-0)

Scott Sheldon - 3-4 (3-1)

### Doubles:

Justin Peterson/Justin Larimore: 4-3 (3-1)

Kevin Floyd/Michel Manser: 4-3 (3-1)

Jared Vidano/James Crosetto: 3-4 (3-1)

## Women's Tennis

Team	NWC	%	All	%
Linfield	6-0	1.000	6-3	.667
Whitworth	6-1	.857	6-2	.750
L&C	5-1	.833	5-3	.625
Whitman	5-2	.714	5-3	.625
PLU	3-3	.500	3-3	.500
UPS	1-5	.167	1-5	.167
George Fox	1-5	.167	1-6	.143
Willamette	1-5	.167	1-6	.143
Pacific	0-6	.000	0-7	.000

(Individual records as of 3/5)

### Singles:

Erika Feltus - 2-1 (2-1)

Liz Currey - 2-1 (2-1)

Ashley Coats - 2-1 (2-1)

Ashley Brooks - 3-0 (3-0)

Deanna Ellmer - 0-2 (0-2)

Emily Starr - 1-0 (1-0)

### Doubles:

Erika Feltus/Ashley Coats: 2-1 (2-1)

Liz Currey/Ashley Brooks: 0-2 (0-2)

Eather Ham/Deanna Ellmer: 2-0 (2-0)

## Baseball

Team	NWC	%	All	%
George Fox	3-1	.750	6-3	.667
Willamette	3-1	.750	6-4	.600
Linfield	2-2	.500	6-3	.667
UPS	2-2	.500	4-3	.571
PLU	2-2	.500	4-3-2	.556
Whitworth	2-2	.500	3-7	.300
L&C	1-3	.250	3-5	.375
Pacific	1-3	.250	2-6	.250
Whitman	0-0	.000	2-6	.250

(Stats as of 3/5)

### Team Batting Average Leaders: Min. 20 AB

Brandon Sales - .405

Ben Shively - .381

Jordan Post - .333

### Team Home Run Leaders:

Brandon Sales - 1

Kris Hansen - 1

### Team RBI Leaders:

Brandon Sales - 14

Jordan Post - 10

### Team ERA Leaders: Min. 10 IP

Hunter Simpson - 0.82

Bret Handy - 1.42

### Team Wins Leaders:

Four tied with 1

### Team Strikeout Leaders:

Hunter Simpson - 9

Rob Blescker - 9

## Softball

Team	NWC	%	All	%
Linfield	4-0	1.000	6-0	1.000
PLU	4-0	1.000	6-4	.600
Pacific	2-0	1.000	8-0	1.000
UPS	3-1	.750	5-3	.625
L&C	1-3	.250	1-6	.143
Willamette	0-2	.000	2-2	.500
Whitworth	0-4	.000	1-7	.125
George Fox	0-4	.000	0-10-1	.046

(Stats as of 3/5)

### Team Batting Average Leaders: Min. 20 AB

Sheila Reiten - .444

Rachel Wheeler-Hoyt - .393

Stephanie Mullen - .385

### Team Home Run Leaders:

Vanessa Bryant - 2

### Team RBI Leaders:

Rachel Wheeler-Hoyt - 8

Vanessa Bryant - 7

Carly Starke - 5

### Team ERA Leaders: Min. 20 IP

Hadley Schmitt - 1.26

Rachel Wheeler-Hoyt - 3.72

### Team Wins Leaders:

Hadley Schmitt - 4

### Team Strikeout Leaders:

Hadley Schmitt - 28

Rachel Wheeler-Hoyt - 9

# Lutes double-sweep doubleheaders



Sophomore Dena Harkovitch swings at a pitch during one of the Lutes' four victories this season. Harkovitch got her first collegiate hit in her first at bat this season. The Lutes play their first games at home this weekend Saturday and Sunday. Photo courtesy of Lisa Gilbert

## PLU softball starts conference play loss-free

Brendan Abshier  
MAST SPORTS INTERN

The Pacific Lutheran softball team started Northwest Conference play undefeated after sweeping George Fox and Lewis & Clark last Saturday and Sunday.

The first matchup of the weekend showed that the fearless hitters of PLU (4-4, 2-0 NWC) could outslug the Bruins of George Fox (0-8-1, 0-2 NWC), winning the games 4-1 and 11-1 respectively.

The Lutes, combined in both games, generated 26 hits, 12 of them being extra base hits.

Sophomore Vanessa Bryant helped lead the Lutes' offense, generating two homeruns and two doubles. She ended her Saturday going four for seven with 6 RBI's.

"We had a lot of excitement being able to build off of each other's hits," Bryant said.

Lutes' pitchers Hadley Schmitt (4-2) and Rachel Wheeler-Hoyt (2-2) may have fed off of the hot bats of their teammates. They combined to allow only two runs on eight hits. Schmitt added 10 strikeouts to her belt and Wheeler-Hoyt fanned three batters, allowing six walks between them.

The Bruins' only two runs of the weekend came off a walk by Shelby Briske, scoring Amber Philliber and a double to right field by Ashley Olson driving in Ashley Peterson.

Schmitt and Wheeler-Hoyt were at it again Sunday, both throwing complete games to help the Lutes defeat the Lewis & Clark Pioneers (1-5, 10 NWC).

The Lutes won the first game 5-1 and finished up with an 8-2 victory in the nightcap.

Schmitt allowed one unearned run on four hits while walking only one batter and fanning three.

The Lutes totaled 10 hits in the game including three by Carly Starke and two apiece by Heather Walling and Missy Waldron.

PLU's Sheila Reiten and Stephanie Mullen added to the hit count with a triple and double respectively.

Wheeler-Hoyt gave up only two runs on seven hits while walking just one and striking out three in the second game.

The Lutes' bats stayed hot, adding up 10 more hits including two each by Reiten and Bryant. Wheeler-Hoyt decided to hop on the bandwagon helping herself with two hits, a walk and an RBI.

"We're starting to get back in the groove of things," Wheeler-Hoyt said. "It feels amazing."

PLU wasn't afraid to pounce on Pioneer mistakes. Only one of the eight runs put up by the Lutes in the nightcap was earned.

Only one of the Pioneer's three runs on Sunday was earned.

The Lutes come home to kick off a four-game Northwest Conference series matchup, hosting the Whitworth Pirates Saturday and Sunday.

You can reach Brendan Abshier at [abshieb@plu.edu](mailto:abshieb@plu.edu)

Chuck Close, Self-Portrait, 2006. Digital pigment print with poem by Bob Holman, made in collaboration with David Adamson. Adamson Editions.



Washington, D.C., 35 1/4 x 47 1/4 inches. Courtesy of Pace/MacGill, New York, and the artist. © Chuck Close, courtesy the Aperture Foundation.

A Couple of Ways of Doing Something:  
Photographs by Chuck Close,  
Poems by Bob Holman

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## Track and Field Winners: Linfield Icebreaker

400-meter dash:  
Faven Araya (58.88 seconds)

4x100-meter relay:  
Faven Araya  
Lakia Arceneaux  
Amy Lebrun  
Lynette Millard (50.09 seconds)

Hammer throw:  
Dan Haakenson (56.2m)