

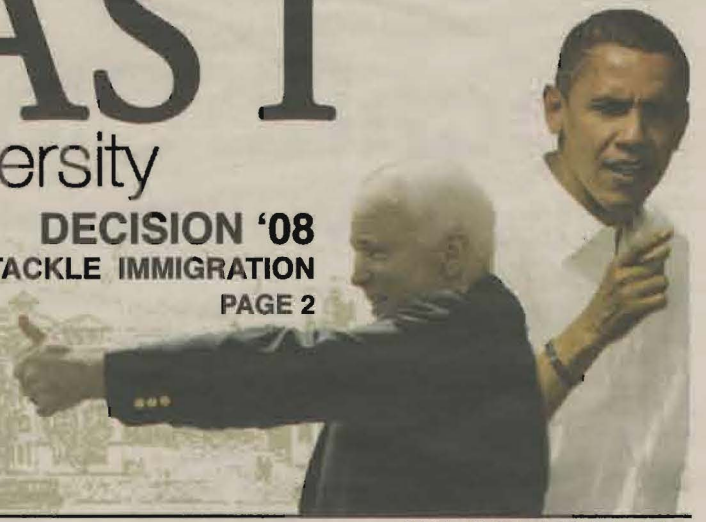
THE MAST

Pacific Lutheran University



**ATTACK
WOMEN'S
VOLLEYBALL
TEAM SETS UP A
WIN
PAGE 12**

**DECISION '08
HOW THEY TACKLE IMMIGRATION
PAGE 2**



SEPTEMBER 19, 2008

www.plu.edu/~mast

VOLUME LXXXVI NO.2

Let's talk about sex, PLU tackles taboo topics

Over 100 students crowd into the Chris Knutson Hall in the University Center to think and talk about sex

Amanda Clancy
MAST NEWS REPORTER
clancyag@plu.edu

In a bright red "I Love Sex" t-shirt, Event Coordinator Tara Fouts stood on stage full of excitement and ready to engage students about issues of sex.

Several skits brought laughter and jokes among groups of students as they addressed issues they might otherwise not address.

"The skits made it easier to talk about and good to have at the beginning of the year," first-year Teresa Brna said.

This annual event is sponsored by the Women's Center, LuteFit, and the Sexual Assault Peer Education Team (SAPET).

"It's pretty dense content so adding comedy makes it more fun, but still keeping it serious at the same time," said Event Facilitator and Director of Men Against Violence Jonathan Grove.

The main topic of the event was consent. A short video clip was shown at the beginning of the event to give a comical idea of what consent means.

"I didn't really know what it means when alcohol is involved so it was helpful to learn about that and I had no idea about all our resources," first-year Jill Kuschel said.

Students sat around a table in groups of 10 led by either one or

two professors, staff members, residence hall directors or students.

"People are curious with our postings of 'Campus Sex' around campus, and it's definitely the event we have with the most collaboration from all the departments," said Women's Center Victim's Advocate Jennifer Warwick.

Statistics presented at the event indicate that women ages 16 to 24 have four times the risk of being raped than any other age group.

"That's why this is so important," Grove said, "Kids come from high school where they only see what college is like on T.V. and they come to college unaware and vulnerable."

As members of the club Men Against Violence, Grove and several others find it necessary to help educate students about the resources available on campus.

"They might come for ice-cream or because of a class, but I hope they leave with a better understanding," said senior and Event Facilitator Austin Goble.

"A majority of issues aren't reported. It's a silent crime so we do these events to give people a

voice," Fouts said.

Fouts recalls that the Women's Center dealt with 27 cases of sexual assault within the past year from students previous or current situations.

"You hear about it in high school and from your parents, but it's always helpful to reiterate it," first-year Abby Crisafulli said.

To get involved with SAPET, a J-term class will be held by Jonathan Grove and former PLU student and current professor, Kate Luther. The class will include academic work, but also training in gender and violence issues and how to educate others.

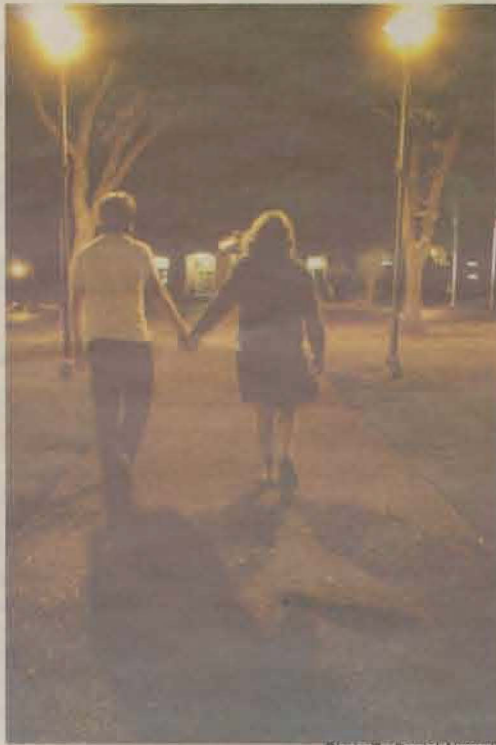


Photo By Daniel Ahrendt

President Anderson signs Amethyst Initiative addressing binge drinking

President Anderson joins a national effort to generate a conversation about the problem of binge drinking on college campuses

Kari Plog
MAST NEWS EDITOR
plogkr@plu.edu

This past July, many students were in the midst of enjoying the peak of their summer vacation. For a number of university and college presidents, however, July marked the beginning of an effort to launch a discussion about issues that hit close to campus. In mid-August, the Amethyst Initiative was introduced to the public, and its mission to promote a discussion about the problem of binge drinking has created quite a stir in the media and within larger organizations across the nation.

"I signed the initiative because I am aware, as is everyone, that there is significant use—and misuse—of alcohol in our society, and that it impacts people of all ages, including those under 21. So it is an important issue on every college and university campus," said PLU President Loren Anderson. "Alcohol abuse is dangerous and, indeed, when I lay awake at night and hear the sirens

I just hope and pray that no one has fallen into harms' way due to alcohol."

The Amethyst Initiative, which has a current signatory count of 130, was an initiative launched to open up a public discussion about the current national drinking age, and to make the public aware of the problem of under-aged binge drinking on college campuses in the US. The use and misuse of alcohol was originally the focus of this cause, and the initiative was a collaborative effort by these institutions to re-evaluate the effectiveness of alcohol education on campuses nationwide.

"I am very motivated to see colleges and universities work together and to pool the best programs and practices that encourage responsible alcohol use," President Anderson said.

This effort was originally introduced by John McCardell, President Emeritus of Middlebury College and founder of the organization Choose Responsibility. After extending the idea to multiple college and university

**SEE DRINKING
pg. 3**

Resident Hall Congress meets for the first time to discuss on campus issues, emphasize safety concerns

Resident Hall Congress meets, for the first time in PLU history, to discuss the issues that concern students that reside on campus and how to improve safety

Gretchen Romerdahl
MAST NEWS INTERN
romerdge@plu.edu

Resident Hall Congress (RHC) held their first meeting in the CK East on Monday. RHC is a monthly open meeting with the goal of voicing and addressing issues that are of concern to students. Resident Hall Association President Ruth Tollefson expressed that the association wanted to form RHC as "part of vision of connecting communities and joining together all reaches of campus." The goal of Resident Hall Congress is to be a venue where all students can voice their opinions on issues and understand why certain things are happening around campus.

"All issues really having anything to do with being a student are welcome [to be addressed during the meetings]," Tollefson said.

Issues brought up during congress will be addressed in different ways. A representative from the administration will

always be present at congress meetings to address issues that are brought to attention.

This week's meeting involved discussion about the safety hazards imposed by the benches on lower campus. Resident Directors that were present were able to tackle this concern by relaying the message that new benches had been ordered, but not yet delivered.

Another way that issues will be addressed, while bringing students together, is by creating committees.

"Committees composed of students allows everyone to feel as if they are a part of the decision making process," explained First Year Student Ella Petrosova. These committees will tackle some of the tougher issues brought up by students that may not necessarily have just a straightforward answer. These committees will research their topic, seek out much wanted answers, and then report their findings at the next meeting.

One thing that sets RHC apart from past attempts made at unifying the university, while voicing areas of campus concern, is that, with monthly meetings and a large

student base, RHC will be able to make sure that all issues are followed up and that no matter is left untouched. The goal is for everyone to be both heard and answered. Sophomore Chelsea Travers says she feels that it "will be effective because it gives all students a chance to voice their opinions."

RHC meets every third Monday of the month, and is lead by the Resident Hall Association, which is advised by Jeff Olsen Krengel and Nikki Overway. Their next meeting will be October 20th at 7 p.m. in the University Center.

The next Residence Hall Congress will be October 20th at 7 p.m. in the University Center.



Photo By Gretchen Romerdahl

Senior President of Resident Hall Association (RHA) Ruth Tollefson stands at the podium in front of the first Resident Hall Congress. Students assembled to discuss safety concerns across campus.

STATE, NATION and WORLD BRIEFINGS

Local to Global

Battered Wall Street gives to Obama, McCain

Pete Yost
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP) — Some of John McCain's and Barack Obama's biggest fundraisers are executives from the stricken financial services industry, which will need all the help it can get from whoever wins the White House.

Merrill Lynch & Co.'s chief executive, for example, has raised more than \$500,000 for McCain's campaign. Obama has received at least \$1.5 million collected by three senior executives at Lehman Brothers.

McCain and Obama each are considering how to avoid future collapses and the need for further costly government bailouts, steps that may include tougher banking and investment regulations. But executives from the same companies in the crosshairs of such decisions are helping these candidates get elected.

Obama is promising more regulation, as is McCain, and if the winner of the November election acts on the tough talk, a battle with banks, securities and investment firms and insurance companies could follow.

The tough talk is coming from candidates who have fueled their campaigns with Wall Street money, among the most active at "bundling" contributions for the two candidates.



AP Photo
Democratic presidential candidate, Sen. Barack Obama, Cindy McCain, and Republican presidential candidate Sen. John McCain descend up a ramp from ground zero during a commemoration ceremony in New York, Thursday, Sept. 11.

Three executives from Goldman Sachs Group Inc. have raised at least half a million dollars for Obama. That firm is Obama's top source of campaign money overall; its employees have contributed more than \$690,000 to his campaign, according to the center.

Merrill Lynch's chief executive, John Thain, has raised more than \$500,000 for McCain. Merrill's workforce likewise is McCain's top donor, giving nearly \$300,000.

Separately, employees from the commercial bank and insurance sectors gave McCain's campaign \$3.6 million and Obama's campaign \$3.4 million.

So, how can candidates who accept money from

Wall Street be expected to crack down on it?

"Industries sink their tentacles into these candidates," said Taylor Lincoln, a research director at Public Citizen, a non-partisan watchdog group.

The industry's contributions to all federal candidates and political parties: \$101 million so far in this two-year election cycle.

Following a weekend that reshaped Wall Street, Goldman Sachs is the largest of the nation's two remaining major independent investment banks. The other is Morgan Stanley, where employees have contributed \$300,000 to Obama and \$217,000 to McCain.

'Post-Olympic era' off to a rocky start in China, problems persist

Christopher Bodeen
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

BEIJING (AP) — The Olympic flame is out, the smog is back, and traffic again clogs the roads.

Welcome to what commentators are calling China's "post-Olympic era," in which euphoria over the Beijing Games is slowly giving way to economic worries, new safety crises and a future both brimming with confidence and tinged with uncertainty.

So far, it's off to a rocky start.

Reality reasserted itself with the collapse earlier this month at an illegal mine waste dump that killed at least 259 people and forced the resignation of a provincial governor. Since then, a product safety scandal has roiled the nation, with contaminated milk powder causing the death of three infants and sickening more than 6,200 others.

Both crises point to underlying systemic weaknesses that the Olympics did little to eliminate. China's mines remain the world's deadliest and creaky infrastructure a constant threat, while an overhaul of the product safety system has proved only partially effective.

A further post-Olympics worry is the state of the weakening economy, raising the prospect of unemployment and higher inflation in what remains a poor nation. Chinese shares fell Wednesday to a 22-month low and the communist leadership, ever mindful of threats to its authority, is on alert for possible unrest.

"The top priority will be responding to the grievances generated by economic problems," said Joseph Cheng, chairman of

the Contemporary China Research Center at City University of Hong Kong.

"The broad direction of enhanced international status remains, but most people are more concerned with immediate problems," he said.

The games' most tangible impact was the new subways and ultramodern venues built at a cost of more than \$40 billion. That legacy will continue to provide an economic driver. Developers envision a major entertainment district rising around the Olympic basketball arena in the city's underdeveloped west, with shops, restaurants and apartments sprouting where temporary sports fields stand.

The games were mainly, however, about embodying China's craving for acceptance and international respect. Some too saw them as a potential catalyst for political and social change, as a confident regime grows more accepting of criticism.

There's little sign of that happening. Authorities tightly controlled dissent during the games, refusing protest permits and deporting foreign pro-Tibet activists who staged brief demonstrations. Chinese press restrictions are as tight as ever, sensitive Internet sites remain blocked, and Web editors reportedly were told to delete worrisome comments about the state of the economy.

Officials have cast the games as a triumph for understanding between China and the outside world, whereas others have suggested the praise China won for hosting the games could allow it to begin abandoning a deep-seated national resentment against the West and Japan for past indignities.

Election 08

McCain and Obama challenge the ideas of national security

McCain releases a controversial ad regarding immigration laws, Obama responds with backlash

Audra Wheatly
MAST NEWS INTERN
wheatlaj@plu.edu

As the presidential campaign continues this week, the candidates are setting their sights on the battleground states. Iowa, Minnesota, Michigan, New Hampshire, Virginia, and Missouri are suspected to be the tightest races and will likely be the deciding factors on election night.

This week in Iowa, the polls show that Sen. Barack Obama has taken a 15-point lead over Sen. John McCain. But in Minnesota, the latest polls show that Sen. McCain has taken a 12-point lead, since accepting the GOP nomination.

This week the candidates released their fundraising totals for the month of August. Sen. Obama's campaign raised \$66 million, much of which was contributed by the half a million dollars new donors who donated after the senator accepted the nomination at the Democratic National convention earlier in the month.

Sen. McCain raised \$47 million, which was record for monthly donations to the McCain camp. Sen. McCain is also receiving federal matching for his funds, which brings his total up to approximately \$84 million to spend in November. Sen. Obama isn't taking the federal matching route because he doesn't agree with public financing.

Sen. McCain released an ad this week, which accuses Sen. Obama and the rest of the democratic party of not dealing with the immigration laws. Even though both of the senators voted the same way last year during the immigration debates. The Spanish language ad will run in states with high numbers of Hispanic voters, such as Colorado and Arizona.

There has been a bit of backlash from this most recent ad. Sen. Obama was quoted by CNN as saying in a New Hampshire speech, "John McCain wants to have a debate about national security;

let's have that debate. I warned that going into Iraq would distract us from Afghanistan. John McCain cheer-led for it. John McCain was wrong, and I was right."

With the immigration issue coming to the forefront again, students at PLU weigh in on the situation.

"I feel like the immigration laws need to be way more strict. I am not against people coming here, I just think they should do it the right way," says sophomore Britney Weissenbuehler. "I agree with the Senators, national security is a huge issue not just because of our safety but for job security."

The increase in illegal immigrants has become an increasing issue in the last few years especially with the economy in a down turn. Jobs are becoming increasingly difficult to come by and more and more American citizens are having trouble obtaining them because the employer are able to hire immigrants workers because they are willing to accept lower wages.

But, the immigration issue is not the only place where the senators are taking shots at one another. Sen. McCain is also being accused of taking Sen. Obama's words out of context and using them against him. It is a well known fact the McCain-Palin ticket are against sex education in schools, so to promote their issues they are using Sen. Obama's pro-sex education stance as an attack tactic.

The campaign ran an ad recently that claimed that Sen. Obama was pushing for a "comprehensive sex education for kindergartners" While the Obama camp denies this claim they are not above returning the accusations. The Obama camp stated that Sen. McCain was for a prolonged war in Iraq which didn't deserve to be president.

With the remaining days until the election voters need to be diligent about discerning the information they are receiving about the candidates. Most of the fluff they are spitting out is just to deceive the voters by creating false ideas about the opposition.

Love Carefully



The CDC reports
1 in 4 Teens has a
Sexually Transmitted
Infection (STI).

Don't be a statistic.

In Washington State, Chlamydia is at a ten year high and Gonorrhea rates are up 47% since Y2K. Most STIs show no symptoms.

Planned Parenthood now offers walk-in STI tests of Chlamydia and Gonorrhea for patients without symptoms. No appointment necessary*.

Condoms reduce the risk.

*Appointments required for those with known exposure or symptoms of infection.

Planned Parenthood
of Western Washington
www.ppww.org 1.800.230.PLAN

Planned Parenthood® is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. © 2008 Planned Parenthood® of Western Washington. VISA We'll meet your insurance company.

PLU experiences growth and change

Renovation on campus pave the way for students' success on campus

Dannielle Hanson
MAST NEWS INTERN
dlh@plu.edu

Students returning to campus this fall will notice a few changes. Throughout the past few summers, PLU has been renovating and updating buildings across campus. In past summers, renovations have been made to the University Center and Tingelstad, (2007), Foss Hall (2005), and Pflueger (2006). This summer, renovations were made to Hinderlie Hall and Olson Auditorium. In addition to renovations, the Martin Neeb Center is under construction.

Hinderlie Hall has received an extensive makeover in time to welcome new residents for the fall semester. Many cosmetic and structural changes have occurred in addition to the replacement of the front desk. There is new carpet throughout the building, and the interior and exterior have both been completely repainted. All bathrooms have been remodeled and include new, larger showers, changing areas, toilets, urinals, lights and heated flooring. To improve energy efficiency, bathroom windows were removed.

Students have two Ethernet ports, wi-fi capabilities, new mattresses, paint, deadbolts, and a dry-erase board in the hallway. Residence rooms have also been renumbered. There are now study rooms available to students and the lounges have been repainted and cleaned as well. The roof has been replaced and is now pitched to protect it more from adverse weather conditions. The sundeck on the second floor has also been repaired.

Stephanie Serventi, operations manager for Residential Life, has heard positive feedback on Hinderlie's new look.

"Overall, we have heard that the students are pleased with the renovations and excited about the way it looks and feels," stated Serventi.

Olson Auditorium has also been updated. The floor in the auditorium has been sanded and resurfaced and the three-point line was redrawn to comply with new regulations for the 3-point shots for basketball, as determined by the National Collegiate Athletic Association. The newer PLU logo was also inserted during the floor's refinishing. A new ramp has been added to the stage, making it more handicapped accessible.

Renovations to the locker rooms are being made and are expected to be completed by Homecoming in October. Changes occurring in the locker rooms include private showers, new plumbing, and new tiles as well as new lockers and team rooms. The total cost of these changes will total approximately \$217,000. The funds



Photo By Daniel Ahrendt

Rick Heath from Laser Electric reviews plans for continued construction on the future home of KPLU. The Martin Neeb Center is currently under construction on the corner of Park Ave. and 125th street.

were raised through alumni contributions and the Names family.

The Martin J. Neeb Center is in the process of construction, and is scheduled for completion by February 2009. The Neeb Center, an \$8.9 million investment, will house KPLU and the Office of Development, and will include new on-air studios, production rooms, small performance space, and offices for KPLU and Development Office employees.

The lower floor of the building will be comprised of brick, and the second floor above the studios will be steel siding. Construction preparations have been made in tandem with KPLU, ensuring that broadcasting needs for the station are being met.

To prepare for move-in, members of the KPLU staff are assessing what furniture will move to the Neeb Center with them. They will also decide the colors for the walls and analysis of design.

The building will feature new broadcasting equipment with the latest technology. The equipment takes approximately three months to install. This means that it will take the radio station a bit longer to completely relocate, although the building will be prepared for KPLU and its employees by February.

The new space will enable KPLU to move

DRINKING continued from pg. 3

presidents, PLU was one of the schools that joined the effort. President Anderson received and reviewed the document, before signing on as an additional signatory.

"My interest in signing the initiative was reflected," President Anderson said. "My hope [was] that it would encourage a national conversation on issues around alcohol use and misuse. It is a complex issue, how do we encourage responsible use? How do we educate? What do we do about drinking and driving? What is the right age for legal use?"

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), an organization that has openly supported the national drinking age, quickly reacted to the initiative.

"Mothers Against Drunk Driving is open to a discussion about solving the problems of underage and binge drinking. But the discussion must be based on facts, and, in this case, the facts are clear: 21 saves lives," said Laura Dean-Mooney, in an article released Sept. 8 on the MADD official website.

This article stated that these presidents "have chosen to address the issue [of binge drinking on campus] by signing on to a misguided initiative that ostensibly favors a debate but is supported by a group, Choose Responsibility, whose sole aim is lowering the drinking age from 21 to 18 years old." Other scientific, medical, and public health organizations have joined MADD to form the Support 21 Coalition, whose mission is "basing public health policy on sound medical research and [being] committed to highlighting the lifesaving impact of the 21 drinking age."

MADD, according to the Associated Press, stated that college presidents are looking for "a way out of an

inconvenient problem."

"I strongly disagree. If you look at the list of Presidents who signed the initiative, and the schools they represent, you will see that it is a diverse and quite remarkable group. And, it includes many presidents from smaller colleges and universities, where, like here at PLU, staff and students are deeply concerned and working hard on these issues," President Anderson said in response to this statement.

"The initiative has been cast as simply a debate on 21 vs. 18 as the legal age for alcohol use. I believe the issue is much more complex—the legal age issue is only one part of what needs to be a much larger conversation," Anderson said.

The list of signatories has grown since the document was introduced. It started as a list of 100 signatures, and has since grown to 130. Some of the names include larger universities such as President Richard Brodhead from Duke University and that of smaller, religious institutions such as President John M. Stamm from Trinity Lutheran College.

"The list is interesting. It is interesting to see the diversity of signatories that have signed this initiative," Anderson said. "There are a number of small religious institutions that are very community based and really care about the students and the problems."

The future of the initiative, at this point, is unclear, according to President Anderson.

"I don't think the originators exactly know where it's going to go next," President Anderson said. "I think the initiative isn't dead, but it is badly wounded. It is going to need to be reshaped and will need a new game plan in order to move forward. I think the story broke too early, and was sound-bited and miscast to the public."

For more information regarding the Amethyst Initiative, and the ongoing conversation visit the official website at www.amethystinitiative.org.

Opportunities abound for students searching for on campus employment

1,590 jobs currently offered on campus to PLU students

Emily Nelson
MAST NEWS INTERN
nelsona@plu.edu

Students concerned about rising unemployment rates and a poor economy may rest assured that jobs are available on the PLU campus; with approximately 3,600 students attending in the 2008-2009 school year, Student Employment now offers 1,590 jobs on campus.

Off campus, the job market is becoming more competitive for entry level positions. According to the United States Bureau of Labor (U.S. BL), Washington's unemployment rate was 5.7 percent (Washington's highest unemployment rate spiked to 12.2 percent in 1982), before rising in Aug. from 5.7 percent to 6.1 percent.

At PLU, however, there are currently 902 students employed. On campus employment provides a more stable job market for busy students. There are also an additional 125 students working off

campus with work study at this time, and the number is expected to rise to approximately 300 by the end of the year.

Some of the more competitive positions – such as for lab assistants and Resident Assistant (RA) – may possess extra challenges in the application process, but students who got the position agreed it was worth the effort.

"I do love both," said junior Komal Pateo, who works both as an RA and desk worker in Hinderlie Hall. "Because I can interact with the people...it was really competitive, but I think I did great and I got it."

Jobs at PLU are also available to students without work study, excluding jobs for public services, such as America Reads. Students with federal work study can look for employment on campus while those with state work study are required to work off campus.

"I think the biggest reason for people liking to work on campus is it is close," said Student Employment Manager Pam Martin. Dining Services, Campus Safety

and Residential Life act as the top three employers, and being directly on campus, allows for little or no commute.

The student employment office is also implementing changes in the work place.

"We are also putting out our first Employee Student of the Month," said Martin.

Monthly winners are given ten lutebucks, recognition in The Mast, and are entered to win Student Employee of the Year. The winner receives a \$50 Visa gift card. Winners are also nominated for the statewide Student Employee of the Year, sponsored by the Washington State Association for Student Employee Administrators (WSASEA). Supervisors can nominate students. Forms are

into new media bases, such as podcasting through their new content management system Public Interactive.

"The old space is small, and although it has served us well, the new space will enable us to develop more services for the public," stated KPLU General Manager Paul Stankavich.

To stay aware of campus building projects and for more information about renovation projects on campus, please visit <http://www.plu.edu/~newbuild>.



Photo By Daniel Ahrendt

Sophomore Alex Smock serves students behind the counter at the Old Main Market. Dining Services is one of the many departments that offer student employment on campus.

available in Ramstad 112 and online.

"We are trying to show our students how much we appreciate them and show our supervisors how much we need to appreciate them," said Martin.

"We have created a video for employment orientation," said Martin "It is helpful information on work ethic and that kind of thing."

Students looking for more information on job opportunities can find it at the student employment website: <http://www.plu.edu/~stuemp>.

One in a hundred

Maren Anderson
Co-editor-in-chief
mast@plu.edu

If the world shrank down to 100 people, it is alleged that only one of those 100 would have a college degree. 99 people would not even have access or the opportunity to go to college.

The first week of classes at PLU always inspires a sense of panic for all of the tasks, activities and homework that lies ahead. Amidst the struggle of figuring out where classes are, school work and involvements, the quintessential "fun" American college experience seems to evaporate, leaving a feeling of loss.

By now seemingly hundreds of emails have clogged inboxes around campus inviting you to involvement meetings or interest sessions and the pages of your planner have transformed from white to black with the ink of your favorite scheduling pen. The opportunities seem overwhelming and the looming question of, "will this help me and my resume?" seems to inspire the decisions of how to be a part of the "Lute dome".

We are so consumed by our busy schedules, building our resumes and trying to fit in the occasional coffee date or lunch that we forget the significance of a four-year degree, of the chance to listen to professors who are the best in their fields, or the opportunity to attend classes free of oppression or prejudice.

When the United States was founded, one of the main cultural values established was education. Today, the United States has the most colleges and universities of any country in the world offering different academic programs, academic schedules, financial aid packages; the number of choices is overwhelming. Over the generations, Americans including our grandparents and parents have set the standard that it is "normal" to have a four-year degree.

Article 26 of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights explicitly states that "everyone has the equal right to education". However clear this statement may be, the implementation of this right is not universal.

Not everyone has the access or resources to attend a four-year university where one can sit in Mortvedt Library surrounded by stacks of books, engage in intellectual debates amongst friends and classmates, or get (or have, depending on your perspective) to write a paper. Many people around the world struggle to have enough food or water to survive. Many people will risk their lives to cross borders to escape racial, gender, religious or political persecution.

Your choice to attend a four-year liberal arts institution and your presence at PLU has implications. Being one in 100 in the world with the opportunity for a college education means that we have a responsibility to this world that extends beyond PLU, Parkland, and even Tacoma.

Time at PLU can strengthen and tone the muscles that each of us has to be agents of change and service to the world. The world needs people who are college educated, who are able to think and learn, to see the larger picture and propose thoughtful solutions to the daunting problems of our world today. Until the resources become available to expand the breath of people who can be college educated, we have to carry the torch.

It will always be easier to become consumed by a planner, by the missed meeting, by the way we want our resumes to look when we graduate or by the latest wing drama in the residence halls. Yet, if we think about our experience as one in 100, it might alter the perspective by which we approach our daily activities and choices.

Our knowledge, our power, our position and our education distinguish us from the majority of the world. It is important to maintain a perspective on education. It is a rare commodity and the sacred four or five years spent exercising the brain must be, in their own sleep-deprived way, cherished.

The responsibility we carry as educated citizens is one that calls us to be of service to this world in some capacity for we are one in

Walking the line:

PLU maintains its razor edge, but at what cost?

A Cheer for trends



This year, Pacific Lutheran University's music department has invested in a software program that allows students to play along with intelligent synthesized accompaniment on their computers. This more developed, less entertaining permutation on the video game *Rock Band*, is the latest way in which PLU has compromised its essential mission as a liberal arts university.

PLU professes to embrace "the development of knowledgeable persons equipped with an understanding of the human condition, a critical awareness of humane and spiritual values, and a capacity for clear and effective self-expression." The music department's new software isolates students and is antithetical to constructing "a critical awareness of humane and spiritual values." Also, the palavers in which students are obliged to engage in via Sakai do not help develop "an understanding of the human condition." Finally, the general embrace of "online resources" does most anything but bloom in students "a capacity for...effective self-expression."

The reasoning is simple: any activity that isolates students and professors from the face-to-face communication and deep analysis that is the paramount allure of this school ultimately

compromises any mission to "develop" knowledgeable people who understand others. Students already have the mental and physical faculties to use the internet: they can click, they can track down information, they can fill out boxes. But if they wanted that in their curriculum, they could have enrolled at University of Phoenix online.

This University's movement towards an online syndication of learning tools has decreased accurate communication, alienated students, and increased confusion. Sakai is the best example. In three of my classes this fall there has, for one reason or another, been a glitch in the system that prevents students from completing whatever online exercise they were assigned.

There is a razor's edge that PLU is straddling in this age of technological orgy and hyper-vivid gluttony of information. On one hand it fights a losing battle to keep text, communication and deep analysis as the core structure of the liberal arts education. On the other hand there is the wine stain of the internet that promotes instant communication, instant knowledge, instant gratification, and threatens to stain the whole carpet of the higher education system.

Only the Christian man of aphorisms, G.K. Chesterton, could shed light on this dilemma. In his words: "a dead thing can go with the stream, but only a living thing can go against it."

There is no doubt that 21st century institutions must utilize the infrastructure of the age in their teaching in order to prepare their students for the modern work world. But at what point does PLU's attempt to assimilate leave it complacent with an era that is ultimately at war with the basic tenants of the University's mission?

Looking for
Jessica Ritchie's column?
Check out the Mast online:
<http://www.plu.edu/~mast>



Comic by Aubrey Lange

The Mast Staff 2008-2009

Editors-in-chief
Alisyn Franetich
Maren Anderson
mast@plu.edu

LuteLife editor
Sarah Kehoe
kehoesm@plu.edu

Online Editor
Brendan Abshier
abshiebk@plu.edu

Cartoonist
Aubrey Lange

Carrie Draeger
Kaitlin Hansen
Dannielle Hanson
Emily Nelson
Audra Wheatly

News editor
Kari Plog
mastnews@plu.edu

Photo editor
Daniel Ahrendt
mastpics@plu.edu

Copy editors
Jada Lee
leejd@plu.edu
Jessie Backer
backerjm@plu.edu

Webmaster
Brad Ballinger
ballinbj@plu.edu

House Illustrator
Sam Glover

Sports editor
Collin Guildner
mastsprt@plu.edu

Design editor
Jake K.M. Paikai
paikaijk@plu.edu

Kristi Bruner
brunerkm@plu.edu
Andrew Croft
croftag@plu.edu

Reporters
Ellen Kanuch
Cafe Zimmermann
Tyler Scott
Jessica Baldwin
Megan Charles
Christina Montilla
Amanda Clancy

Adviser
Joanne M. Lisosky

A&E editor
Matt Click
mastarts@plu.edu

Ad manager
Josh Goodell
mastads@plu.edu

Stacey Barber
barbersj@plu.edu

Circulation
Collin Guildner
Ashley Coats

International editor
Nic Tkachuk
tkachunh@plu.edu

Business manager
Michael McNany
mcnanyma@plu.edu

Op-Ed columnists
Jessica Ritchie
ritchiejn@plu.edu

Interns
Lorna Rodriguez
Gretchen Romerdahl
Alexis Ballinger

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.

A-S-P-L U should know

ASPLU informs you about the issues

Register to vote and change history

Lauren Buchholz
ASPLU PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR
buchholz@plu.edu

Voting, candidates and elections have been the talk of the nation for the past six months. As November 4 rapidly approaches, we are reminded of our right to vote. For many of us, this is our first presidential election we can vote in. This Saturday, ASPLU is bringing Sam Reed, Secretary of State for Washington State, to the PLU football game at Sparks Stadium. At the game, there will be an opportunity to register to vote as well as learn more about the presidential election.

ASPLU, SIL and many other on-campus organizations are planning several events to raise awareness of the issues surrounding this election. Young voters have the potential to make a huge difference in the next election, make sure you're registered by October 4.

Next week also presents an opportunity to be an active participant in our on-campus government. ASPLU is holding senate elections September 24 and 25. Cast your vote online from the comfort of your bedroom at plu.edu/~aspluvote.

Shifting from government politics, PLU will have an opportunity to learn a little about dysfunctional office politics when ASPLU sponsors The Office Season Premier Thursday night in the Cave. Come to the Cave at 8:30 to reconnect with Dwight, Jim, Pam and of course, Michael. Events include a *Dress Like Dwight* costume contest, and *Best Office Supply Jello Mold*.

Next week we'll also H.U.M.P. with Outdoor Rec on Wednesday Night at 9 pm. Outdoor Rec will be lighting up the Pflueger volleyball pit with their yearly bonfire and treats.

This year as young voters we have the opportunity to make history with our vote. Make sure to take the opportunity to register to vote before October 1 and vote in ASPLU Senate Elections September 24 and 25.

Sam Reed speaks at Sparks Secretary of state visits football game

Lauren Buchholz
ASPLU PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR
buchholz@plu.edu

The gridiron isn't the only battle going on this fall. The presidential race has heated up in the last weeks, and the voter registration deadline is only two

weeks away. This Saturday, Secretary of State Sam Reed will make a special appearance at the Lute football game at Sparks Stadium. Secretary of State Reed is hailed as the most accomplished Secretary of State in the country. He has made strides at protecting Washington State's right to vote for all candidates.

Reed will speak during halftime on the importance of young voters during this upcoming election. Immediately following Sam Reed's speech, a surprise PLU celebrity will speak. The Saturday football game will also give spectators an opportunity to register to vote immediately following half-time.

This event is sponsored by ASPLU.

Letter to the editor...

Emertius commends sustainable practice, encourages students to be aware and live responsibly

A lasting thrill came to this long-retired Professor Emeritus on Sept. 3 at PLU Faculty Fall Conference. President Loren Anderson's opening address first told an inspiring plethora of evidences that PLU had a great past year. Then he showed how PLU is well-begun on the way of educational success in what he called the "post-America

world" - a world of the rising roles of countries formerly largely ignored in the drama of history. Our readiness is well shown in our emphasis on multi-cultural education, highlighted by our seldom-surpassed percentage of graduates who have studied abroad.

But it was the second half of the morning that bought me even greater pride in PLU: The evidences of University-wide emphasis on a lifestyle of environmentalism and sustainability on our planet.

My own earliest lesson on it came when I was an eight-year-old farm boy, over seven decades ago. Dad picked up a handful of freshly plowed black, damp soil, crumbled it lovingly from one hand to another, and said, "Ken, we are responsible, under God, to pass this life-giving earth on to our children as good or better than God first gave it to us." Soon a reverse lesson: Dad tried to convince his brother to plant corn on the contour (rather than straight rows on rolling land, causing erosion.) His brother answered, "Why do that extra work? This soil is going to last as long as I am here." What dismaying disregard to the future!

All that second half of Fall Conference morning was devoted to showing how environmentalism and sustainability are being dispersed into all the ways our campus is being developed and cared for, and throughout the academic departments' teaching.

But some students display disheartening evidences of "not getting it" yet: Campus littering thrives. My wife and I use our beautiful campus for 2.5 miles of health walking, all through and around campus each day. Shamed by the visual eye-sore, we pick up, and deposit into trash cans, the litter along our walk: mainly paper, beverage bottles and cans- averaging over three items each day. It has to be almost only students' litter, for during longer holidays, when students are gone there is no litter. If they fail to outgrow it, they go out from PLU and become litterers and worse in the outside world. In our travels we have seen that "third world" countries are usually drowning in litter. Socially they are very literally undeveloped. We have noticed that countries with a high sense of social responsibility also have the least litter. When the Winter Olympics were held in Norway some years ago, American visitors were astounded to see that along the long routes of cross-country ski races, with 10 to 20 thousand spectators along a race course (Norway has huge crowds for great cross-country races) not one bit of litter was left—no candy wrappers, empty bottles, etc.

Our American social development is still quite immature. Face it: If you discard paper, bottles and cans, cigarette butts or empty cigarette packs, wherever you are, you are part of our society's problem! Even if you only walk past litter, noticing but leaving it there you're still part of the problem, for you are encouraging litter. Tests show that litter prompts potential litterers to add to it. Only if you pick up such litter beside you and deposit it in a wayside trash can, are you helping solve the problem.

My wife and I love PLU, have stayed here fifty years, and will stay as long as health allows. We look forward to PLU's already commendable growth in environmental and sustainability sense developing to such intensity that socially irresponsible people in our PLU community mature into a litter-free campus.

-Dr. Ken Christopherson, Professor Emeritus of Religion

Submit your letter to the editor to
mast@plu.edu

Sidewalk Talk

What is your favorite place to study on campus?



Depends on the time of day! Evening time? Second floor of Morken. Day time? Outside especially if it's nice!
Alice Stewart
Junior



Basement of the University Center across from the Scan Center. No one ever thinks of going there.
Loren Liden
Transfer



Morken because they've got great brownies!
Chris Grouse
Sophomore



Sitting at my desk in my room because it's relaxing and familiar.
Alex Smock
Sophomore



Your Answer here.
Your name here
Your year here

E-mail your question and answer to mast@plu.edu to see yourself in Sidewalk Talk.

Pacific Lutheran University

CLUBS

na hoaloha o' hawaii

Shayna Doi
HAWAII CLUB PRESIDENT
Doisn@plu.edu

If you've ever been to Hawaii, chances are that you know a little something about the aloha spirit. This idea of embracing others in friendliness coupled with a relaxed happiness about life is deeply rooted in the culture of the 50th state, and is exactly what the PLU Hawaii Club hopes to bring to this campus.

The club welcomes everyone to join including faculty, staff and community members. You don't have to be from Hawaii to join; an interest is all that is required. Members of the Hawaii Club share a special bond that is evident whether they're at an event or just hanging around. In fact, many Hawaii Club members often credit their positive experience at PLU to being able to find their second family, or ohana, within the club. Senior Katelyn Umetsu calls it her "family away from home."

As the population of students from Hawaii increases each year, one of the main priorities of the club is to help new students from the islands that have chosen to attend PLU (2,500 miles away from home) get oriented to campus. Being involved with the Hawaii Club is a way that they can experience the aloha spirit away from home and share it with their new friends and community.

About 20-30 members of this unique club regularly participate in club activities in the fall,



Hawaii club members sophomore Kainoa Carlson, junior Kalele Perrira, junior Shane Shinanuki and junior Sydney Yanof share their traditional Hawaiian dances at the annual Luau last April. Each year the club uses native Hawaiians and mainlanders in their annual showcase of Hawaiian culture.

Photo by Shayna Doi

which range from community service projects to outings around the Seattle-Tacoma area. The club also works throughout the year in conjunction with various campus organizations, including the Diversity Center, Campus Ministry and SIL.

Past events have included outreach, hula performances

at local schools and churches, charity banquets, volunteering time at senior citizens' homes and at the Tacoma Toy Rescue Mission. Last fall, the club took a trip to Crystal Mountain for a ski and snowboarding trip, which was the first time many members had seen snow.

Spring semester is a busy

time for the members as luau season rolls around. The club rigorously prepares for its annual fundraiser, held in Olson Auditorium, for a crowd of hundreds. A ticket to the annual luau entitles one to an evening of Hawaiian food, music, dance and décor (put on by the members of the Hawaii Club.)

The luau is the reason many students and faculty, from all backgrounds and skill levels, jump at the chance to participate in this club.

For more information, contact the members at hawaii@plu.edu.



Photo by Emily Nevels

Students for Peace club members gather together on a sunny afternoon to create the classic peace symbol they adapted to represent their stance on non-violence. They work hard to send their message across campus and encourage action among students.

students for Peace

Emily Nevels
STUDENTS FOR PEACE CO-LEADER
nevelsej@plu.edu

Students for Peace offers students a place to come and put action behind

the concepts of peacekeeping and social justice, which are discussed in classes.

Sometimes when the state of the world seems bleak it's hard to know where to go to make a difference. Students for Peace is an organization that offers hope.

This club is a student lead group which addresses and promotes issues of peace and non-violence.

"The worst mistake you can make is to think you're alive when really you're asleep in life's waiting room."

Junior and co-leader, Eric Buley, says this quote from the film "Waking Life" to his group for inspiration.

The club keeps this philosophy in mind as a reminder to take action as the group discusses social justice, political activism, volunteer involvement and global awareness.

One of their main goals this semester is to support the establishment of a

Peace and Justice Minor. The club plans to be partaking in PLU's annual events, such as hosting a Halloween party for local youth, working in collaboration with other groups for the Homeless and Hungry week in November, monthly volunteer projects at the community garden, REACH ministries, Trinity Lutheran church and more.

Sept. 21 marks the first event of the semester where Students for Peace will be celebrating the International Day of Peace. The following day will consist of making prayer flags in red square and holding a candlelight vigil.

For information on getting involved or to share ideas please contact plupeace@plu.edu or come to meetings held Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. in the Multi-Resource Room.

is a ... HOUSE



Miss Coco Puff (Jake K.M. Paikai) entertains the audience with an exhilarating performance to *One Night Only* from the *Queen of Hearts* soundtrack as a part of the drag show. The Drag Show is a part of Pride Week and full members of the club dress in drag and dance to their favorite song. Photo by Dmitry Mikhayev.

clubs and orgs

Sarah Kehoe
MAST LUTELIFE EDITOR
kehoesm@plu.edu

Clubs and Organizations has changed internally as a result of the external creation of the website that took place over the summer.

The website layout designed by Jake Paikai, Lace Smith and Phuong Lien Nguyen, is a place for club members to come to manage their accounts, get advice on how to advertise for their program and explore the list of clubs.

"Being involved in a club is a great way to help create community," stated junior and co-leader of the Students for Peace club, Eric Buley. "Students are able to connect with others who share similar interests and have the opportunity to develop leadership skills."

The addition of the website along with the new Clubs and Organizations room (The Clubhouse) has allowed group members to have a central place to come to for meetings and club activities.

"The clubs have become more cohesive groups who are assured of their physical presence and are better able to articulate their vision," said program coordinator of Clubs and Organizations, Lace Smith.

Knowing the vision and goals of each group allows these different clubs to collaborate on events and come together.

"We will see a club that looks similar to ours or that would be able to contribute to our event and start emailing them," said Buley. "Then we often will sit in on each other's meetings in order to learn more."

Past events on campus include the Luau done by the Hawaii club, the Drag show performed by Harmony and the Green and Pink dance put on by the G.R.E.A.N. and Hope Scopes clubs.

What students may not realize is that there are smaller events going on around campus on a weekly basis.

"If you pick an event on campus, a club probably has their hand in it," stated Smith.

Students can come to the Clubhouse with ideas on events or if they are interested in starting a club of their own. The Clubhouse is located downstairs in room 135 of the UC.

harmony

Dmitry Mikhayev
HARMONY CO-COMMISSIONER
dmitrynm@gmail.com

Cate Fisher
HARMONY CO-COMMISSIONER
fisherce@plu.edu

Harmony is dedicated to advancing social change and doing what we can to engage our community in issues affecting queer-affiliated individuals.

Harmony's slogan for several years has been "Support, Empower, Educate," which reflects our twin goals of raising awareness and promoting equality. We have dedicated members who are invested in programming strong events that increase our visibility and thus bring attention to important problems like

discrimination, stereotyping and abuse.

Harmony leans on the support of our straight allies, our members are not just queer people. "Allies are an important part of any movement, because a minority group has trouble reaching the majority on their own," said Sam Glover, a Harmony member.

In return for that support we have a special event called Ally Appreciation Day, this year on Feb. 25, to show our Allies gratitude. Our other events

include National Coming Out Day, semi-annual Drag Shows and Pride Week - as well as movies, lectures and panels throughout the year. Although we stay focused and passionate about social change, our meetings are conducted in the relaxed and friendly setting of the Diversity Center.

For more information, contact the members at harmony@plu.edu. Meetings are held at 6 p.m. every Tuesday in the Diversity Center in the lower UC.



Photo by Monika Maier

GREEN member and alumna Belindo Ho protests a proposed coal power plant that was being planted in Washington. Members created word bubbles that expressed their stance and placed them around campus

. Other schools around Washington followed suit and compiled these pictures into a mural and sent them to government officials in the area where the coal plant was going to be built. As of now, the project is on hold.

grean

Monika Maier
GREAN PRESIDENT
maierme@plu.edu

Grassroots Environmental Action Now (GREAN) is PLU's student-led environmental club whose mission is to promote environmental awareness action on campus and in the community. The environmental focus of GREAN is very broad and has operated on a variety of scales, ranging from a small group of dedicated environmentalists to a larger company of interested students.

Some of the plans for this year's projects include informing students of election issues, gathering student feedback on Renewable Energy Resolution Conservation Fund Allocation, enhancing environmental practices at athletic events, leading Bike Day and putting together a paper library.

In the past, GREAN has completed a variety of projects, which include working with Dining Services to reduce waste in the UC, instigating the Smart Paper Campaign to bring recycled paper to campus, and leading energy-use challenges in the residence halls to promote energy conservation. In 2007,

GREAN introduced the Renewable Energy Resolution, which is taking effect this year. Each year \$20 is taken out of every student's yearly tuition and is used to provide the residence halls with green energy along with funding energy conservation projects.

GREAN is a great club for students who are interested in the environment. Meetings will consist of discussion and planning. They are held every Monday at 8:00 p.m. in the Clubhouse. The club also leads field trips to environmental places around Tacoma. They attend student environmental gatherings which allow club members to experience environmentalism in a larger context.

If you are interested in joining GREAN, feel free to go to the next meeting or email the club at grean@plu.edu.

Even if you can't make it to the meetings, those on the email list will receive information about events and other random points of environmental interest. To learn more, you can also check out the website at www.plu.

DeNiro, Pacino are righteous Hollywood veterans reunite in 'Righteous Kill'

Jessica Baldwin
baldwije@plu.edu
MAST A&E REPORTER



Hollywood veterans Robert DeNiro and Al Pacino play NYPD detectives Turk and Rooster, two detectives solving a multiple-murder case in "Righteous Kill," their first film together since "Heat." The movie begins with a voice-over narration courtesy of DeNiro's character, Turk. He is soon joined by Rooster (Pacino). Soon the crime spree leaves the jurisdiction of our detectives, and they are left suspecting even each other as they begin to discover that there is more to the murders than they first thought.

DeNiro and Pacino prove to be an electric combo in this action-packed movie that keeps you guessing. I must say, like good wine, these two actors only get better with age.

If you liked either of the movies they appeared in together, Francis Ford Coppola's "The Godfather: Part II" or Michael Mann's "Heat," you will be blown away by their performances in "Righteous Kill." They are the perfect pair, bouncing off of one another to create an ambiance of realism that can only be labeled as dynamite.

At one point, the police captain attempts to convince them not to take the serial case, citing their age and possible loss of pension. But Turk and Rooster laugh it off, joking about their old age and the idea of letting the young officers handle it. These two characters feel real, as though they have been partners for years. The chemistry is great.

But these veterans are not the only ones who shine. I have always found John Leguizamo, who plays a young police officer, to be a fairly good actor, but

★
★
★
★
★

FilmReview
"Righteous Kill" (2008)
Directed by Jon Avnet
Starring Robert DeNiro, Al Pacino, John Leguizamo
Rated R, 101 minutes

rarely have I seen him in such a serious role, especially one like this. Sharing the stage with two powerhouse actors, is enough to make anybody nervous. But Leguizamo held his own.

I wish I could say the same for his counterpart, Donnie Wahlberg, but the man just does not have it. Even the small role Curtis Jackson has in the movie outshined Wahlberg, who really should leave the acting to his brother. Despite Wahlberg's lazy performance, there is enough action, suspense and stellar acting from DeNiro and Pacino to make this a must-see movie.

Choke on this Chuck Palahniuk crafts disturbing yet endearing novel

Christina Montilla
montilca@plu.edu
MAST A&E REPORTER

Victor Mancini has a sexual addiction. Victor Mancini is a medical school dropout working in a colonial-era theme park. Victor Mancini purposefully chokes on food in restaurants to con customers out of attention, affection and money.

In "Choke," Victor is another of the disturbing, yet amusing characters created by Chuck Palahniuk, the author of "Fight Club."

But choking aside, Victor is a good person. Like a modern day Jesus (both figuratively and literally) he tries, in the best way he knows how, to take care of his ailing and delusional mother. He even impersonates the figures she imagines him to be each time he visits her at the nursing home. He is the perfect anti-hero. Written in the first person narrative, the reader embarks with Victor on his quest for triumph over his addiction and the burden of his deranged and secretive mother. He must unravel his past to save himself and her.

I cannot summarize much of the novel without giving up one of its many strengths; the endless, absurd turns and random facts that keep you utterly confused but wanting these decrepit characters to succeed in their bizarre world.

The plot lags in various places and it becomes boring to sift through what information is relevant to the plot and what is not. There are many flashbacks to Victor's childhood that seem pointless to the overall story and do not contribute to his character development.

Luckily, Palahniuk executes his dark and sadistic humor well and without shame. It is what holds the otherwise frayed story together. Although I was waiting for the ending about 100 pages before it actually occurred, the finale to this tale is twisted and humorous, and I am glad I stuck it out.

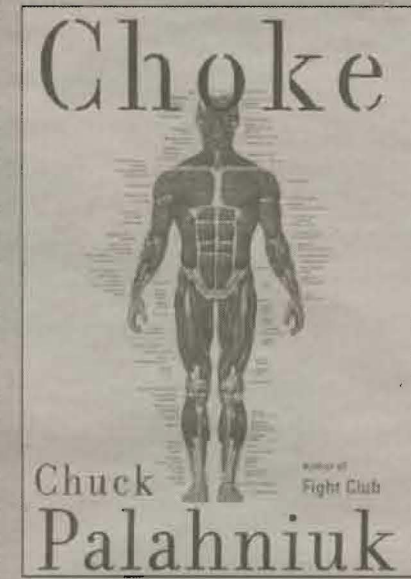
The imagination of Palahniuk never disappoints. His characters are unique and grotesque, but believable. You feel like they were once actual people the author met.

This novel is perverted. This novel is graphic. This novel will make you question why you picked it up to begin with. But it is worth it to experience a master at his craft. Only Palahniuk knows how to perfectly convey scum of the earth characters in a world too terrible for even them to hold together.

A film version of "Choke," comes out Sept. 26 in limited theaters. It promises to be a "dirty-minded, satirical, psychotic comedy," holding true to the very soul of this novel.

★
★
★
★

BookReview
"Choke" (2001)
By Chuck Palahniuk
Fiction, 293 pages



A&E WRITERS WANTED FOR ON-LINE AND PRINT STORIES

Email Matt Click at mastarts@plu.edu for more information.

THE Grand CINEMA Tickets are only \$6.00 with your current student ID!

606 S Fawcett Ave | 253 593 4474 | grandcinema.com

STARTS FRIDAY!

TELL NO ONE (NR)
Fri: 3:35, 6:10, 8:50
Sat/Sun: 1:00, *3:35, 6:10, 8:50
Mon-Thurs: 3:35, 6:10, 8:50
* a discussion will follow Saturday's 3:35 show

BOTTLE SHOCK (PG-13)
Fri - Thurs: 2:00, 4:20, 6:40, 9:00

MAN ON WIRE (PG-13)
Fri: 2:30, 4:40, 7:00
Sat/Sun: 12:20, 2:30, 4:40, 7:00
Mon-Thurs: 2:30, 4:40, 7:00

ELEGY (R)
Fri - Thurs: 9:10

On the front lines of globalization Author offers new perspective of foreign aid work

Kaitlin Hansen
hansenkn@plu.edu
MAST A&E INTERN

Given the sheer amount of reading that is required of most courses at PLU, reading nonfiction for pure pleasure is understandably low on most students' list of leisure activities. Log off Facebook, put down the remote and make an exception for William Power's "Whispering in the Giant's Ear."

In the primarily narrative recounting of his aid work in Bolivia, Powers takes the reader through the daily challenges of working with community-based organizations to implement aspects of the Kyoto protocol.

At the opening of the book, Powers has recently been transferred from West Africa, and the international aid agency for which he works has him on the promotion track to become a director, complete with penthouse, personal vehicle and a corner office. When a friend alerts him to a carbon sequestration project in the Amazon rainforest, he decides rather abruptly to quit in favor of working for the small non-governmental organization Fundación Amigos de la Naturaleza (Friends of Nature, or FAN). Immediately thrust into the remains of several hundred years of ethnic politics, territorial disputes and aid

★
★
★
★

BookReview
"Whispering in the Giant's Ear" (2006)
By William Powers
Nonfiction, 256 pages

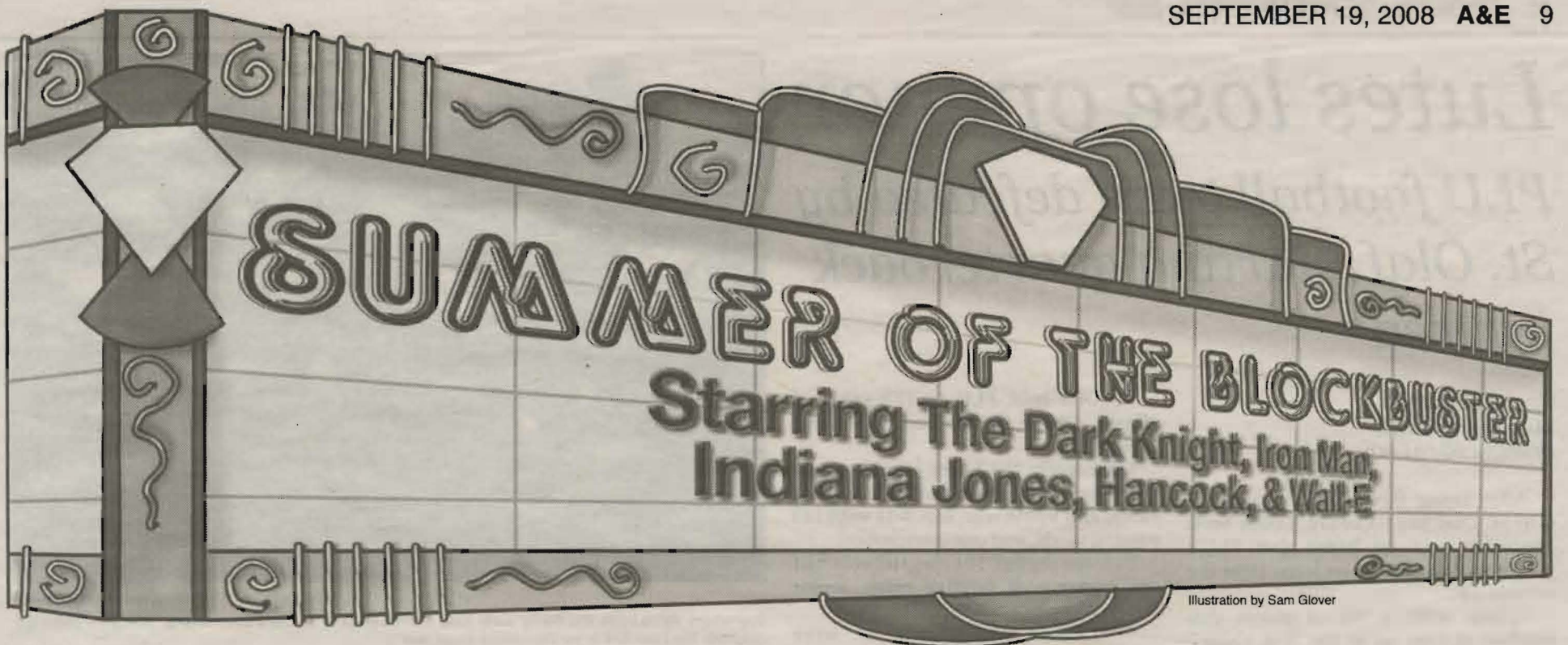
mismanagement, Powers struggles to reconcile the project with the fluid and often contradictory needs and desires of the people and communities with which he works.

Powers' narration switches between recalling the joys and frustrations of his daily work and philosophical speculation. Often questioning the specific micro projects with which he is invested, the author grounds larger questions concerning the effectiveness of developmental work globally in the context of the Bolivian people with which he works.

Who is the community in community-based projects? What is the relationship of a development worker to this community? Is this project effectively representing the best interests of those it is supposed to aid? What does development even mean?

What separates this book from the plethora of other similar works is how well Powers conveys his balance of determination to benefit others and his recognition of the futility realizing what that means.

This tone of cynical optimism makes "Whispering in the Giant's Ear" infinitely readable, and a must for those trying to conceptualize themselves and their lives in an increasingly interconnected world.



Megan Charles
charlemr@plu.edu
MAST A&E REPORTER

There may be sun shining over Tacoma, but it is clear that summer is slowly fading into fall. That being said, the summer blockbuster season is also coming to an end.

Even if you didn't see a single movie this summer, I am inclined to think that you heard about the smash success of "The Dark Knight." Easily the most successful movie of the season, Christopher Nolan's sequel to "Batman Begins," a reboot of the franchise, harnessed the largest opening weekend, largest opening day, largest midnight showing, and just recently climbed over 1977's "Star Wars" to second place as the largest domestic gross of all time, with roughly \$512 million to its name.

It was not a bad summer for other comic book heroes on the big screen. "Iron Man" was a surprise critical and box office sensation, while "Hancock," "The Incredible Hulk," "Wanted" and "Hellboy II: The Golden Army" all achieved moderate success. Steven Spielberg's highly anticipated "Indiana Jones and the Temple of the Crystal Skull" impressed audiences, earning \$315 million at the domestic box office and \$780 million globally.

Female-oriented flicks such as "Sex and the City" and "Mamma Mia!" were hits, the latter of which managed to ring in \$30 million in its opening weekend alongside

"The Dark Knight."

Comedies such as "Pineapple Express," "You Don't Mess With the Zohan," "Step Brothers" and "Get Smart" made middling amounts of money and achieved mediocre critical reception.

Ben Stiller's Hollywood action movie spoof "Tropic Thunder," despite initial controversy, ended the reign of "The Dark Knight" as the box office leader, and maintained an 84 percent fresh rank on Rotten Tomatoes, which compiles critic ratings.

Kid friendly winners were Dreamworks' "Kung Fu Panda" and Pixar's "Wall-E," two animated films that completed runs with over \$210 million.

For indie lovers, the high school documentary "American Teen," "Brideshead Revisited" and Woody Allen's latest venture, "Vicky Christina Barcelona," rounded out well with critics and audiences alike.

Successes, yes, but this summer was not without its flops and disappointments. Both "The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian" and "The X-Files: I Want to Believe" floundered at the box office and received lukewarm critical reception.

Box office misfortune befell "Speed Racer," which barely made half of its \$200 million budget worldwide. Eddie Murphy's not so impressive "Meet Dave" and Mike Meyers' "The Love Guru" also failed to make any kind of splash with moviegoers.

But perhaps worst of all was the box office disaster created by M. Night Shyamalan, a director whom many people admire, but cannot seem to produce any more

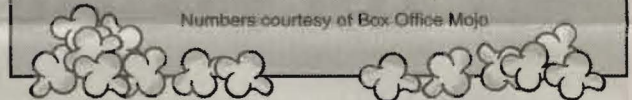
decent movies. His thriller "The Happening" failed in almost every possible way. Simplified by Ty Burr of the Boston Globe: "You feel like you're not watching the end of the world but the end of a career." Ouch, now that has got to hurt.

Even as the sun dwindles and we move into autumn, Hollywood is still feeling the effects of a wildly successful summer.

TOP TEN

The Dark Knight.....	\$512.2 million
Iron Man.....	\$317.9 million
Indiana Jones.....	\$315.9 million
Hancock.....	\$227.4 million
Wall-E.....	\$219.5 million
Kung Fu Panda.....	\$213.8 million
Horton Hears a Who!.....	\$154.5 million
Sex and the City.....	\$152.5 million
Prince Caspian.....	\$141.6 million
Mamma Mia!.....	\$136.2 million

Numbers courtesy of Box Office Mojo



First-years read, discuss 'Persepolis'

Graphic novel marks successful second year for pilot program

Jake K.M. Paikai
paikajk@plu.edu
MAST DESIGN EDITOR

Close to 100 First-year students filled the Scandinavian Cultural Center Sept. 7, each with differing looks on their faces. Some exhausted from nearly a week chucked-full of planned events, others wrought with anticipation for the coming Monday's classes, but all carrying in hand the same large, paperback novel: "Persepolis: the Story of a Childhood," by Marjane Satrapi.

What began that evening was, for these first-years, their first foray into the intellectual endeavor of academia. The book examined by the first-years, a memoir by Satrapi, chronicles her life during the Islamic Revolution in Iran, her home country.

A rebellious child, Satrapi's parents fear for her life and send her to Germany, where she spends the middle third of the book, exiled from her homeland. The novel, taking the form of a classical novel of formation, has Satrapi leave home to experience the world, life and love, only to return, and finally, to reclaim her childhood and identity as an Iranian woman.

Each student, selected for their receipt of a President's, Regent's, Rieke, or an Act Six scholarship, was sent the graphic novel over the summer and asked to read Satrapi's memoir, reflect on the novel, and to come to

the events offered during the month of September.

Amber Dehne, Assistant Director of Programs and Leadership through Student Involvement and Leadership (SIL), helped to coordinate the program throughout the summer.

"This [has] reminded me why I've chosen this profession—to witness students having great conversations and wrestling with issues," Dehne said.

Dehne, who was helped by Matthew Levy of the English Department and Steve Woolworth of the School of Education and Movement Studies, said this year the coordinators "built a more robust and intentional program" which has caused increased attendance.

The program, which started with a kick-off dinner and panel discussion, also includes a screening of the film of "Persepolis" as well as a guest-lecture next week, Wednesday, Sept. 24, by noted graphic novel scholar, Hillary Chute, junior fellow of Harvard University.

Each first-year was assigned to a small group, facilitated by a faculty or staff member and student volunteers.

Lisa Marcus, a panelist at the program's kick-off event, remarked upon the importance of "Persepolis" as a novel. "It humanizes 'the other' and breaks down the barriers between 'us' and 'them,'" she said.

"A common intellectual experience raises big questions that complicate the world for us and makes us think on a deeper level. When we all have a text in common, whether we like it or not, it allows us to form conversation and disagreement and as we do so, build community," Marcus said.

Marcus, a Professor of English and the Chair of Women's and Gender Studies, went on to talk about Satrapi's



Photo courtesy of Sony Pictures Classics

Marjane Satrapi, author of "Persepolis," records dialogue for the film version of her graphic novel. PLU students have the opportunity to see the movie Friday, 8 p.m. in Xavier's Nordquist lecture hall

portrayal of women under the Islamic government of Iran.

"She complicates the Western understanding of veiling and why women choose or reject the veil—she shows that women weren't always veiled and also shows why women might choose to re-veil themselves," Marcus said.

Many of the selected first-years have given feedback and the overwhelming response has been positive.

"Receiving the book made me really try and take responsibility for the reading [...] because I was chosen to be a part of the program," first-year Angela Pierce, a communication major, said, when asked about being part of the Pilot Program.

"The book opens your eyes up

to other cultures," Pierce said, and although she wasn't familiar with Iranian culture or its political history, "at the end of the day, a girl who grew up during the Iranian revolution is still similar to me."

PLU's second annual common reading program reaches its third week of scheduled events this Friday with an open screening of the film "Persepolis," co-directed by Satrapi and Vincent Paronnaud, at 8 p.m. in Nordquist Lecture Hall in Xavier.

Students are also welcome to attend the lecture, given by Hillary Chute, next Wednesday, Sept. 24 at 7:00 p.m. in the University Regency room, as well as a brown-bag lunch, offered earlier that day, at 12:30 p.m. in UC 217.

Lutes lose opener

PLU football team defeated by St. Olaf, starting quarterback injured

Carrie Draeger
 MAST SPORTS INTERN
 draegecl@plu.edu

After losing their season opener 17-0 to St. Olaf last Saturday, Coach Scott Westering said he hopes that PLU's young football team can learn from the experience.

"There were a lot of pieces that worked against us in the first game," said Westering.

Rainy conditions, inexperience, being far away from home and an injury to starting senior quarterback Michael Byrne all contributed to the Lute loss.

"We made our share of first game and young team mistakes, said Westering"

The Lutes started 19 players who never started a collegiate football game before.

First-year Keiko Mawae said that he let his nerves get the better of him at first.

"I had a lot of butterflies, but the older vets helped me through that," Mawae said.

Mawae, an offensive lineman, said he thought the team played decent, but made a few costly mental errors.

St. Olaf held PLU to 173 yards of offense, 184 in the air and -12 on the ground.

Offensively the Lutes were by first-year Issac Moog, who had 87 receiving yards; and Byrne who was 8-14 with 143 passing yards, and one interception.

PLU ran the ball 14 times and only had one rusher with positive yards, senior Aaron Murphy with 16.

The Lutes best chance to score happened in the second quarter when Byrne connected on a 66-yard pass to Moog putting the Lutes on the 9-yard line. PLU was unable to score on the drive when Byrne threw an interception on the one-yard.

"[Byrne's injury] made things tough for us on offense," Westering said.

Byrne was injured in the second quarter during a passing play. He faded back to pass and was hit hard by a St. Olaf defenseman, injuring his shoulder when he hit the ground.

Westering said that there seemed to be no structural damage to the quarterback's shoulder and the Lutes hope to have Byrne back playing this Saturday when they take on Cal Lutheran for their home opener.



Photo courtesy of Ben Hovland

Sophomore Vance Louie and Senior Justin Kelly attempt to corral St. Olaf's Evan Endsley during the game last Saturday. The Lutes lost to the Oles 17-0 to begin their season.

Senior backup quarterback Nick Caraballo took over for Byrne and ended the day 5-30 in the air with 42 passing yards and three interceptions.

The Lutes reached the red zone three times, but came up empty handed on each occasion. Mawae said that Lutes defensive stops in the red zone, four total, kept the Lutes in the game.

"Our offense was struggling and our defense would make stops when we needed it, said Mawae."

PLU's defense got the first test when they stopped St. Olaf's offense on the 2-yard line during the Ole's opening drive. Senior Haden Gienger led the Lutes defense with nine tackles, while senior Neil Chalmers racked up seven tackles

and the Lute's only interception.

PLU's defense gave up two touchdowns, one in the second quarter and again in the fourth. St. Olaf's other points came on safeties in the first and third quarters. St. Olaf had 365 total yards, 151 rushing and 214 passing.

Westering was impressed with the defense and how they played.

"I'm really excited and anticipate real improvement in our team this weekend," Westering said.

The Lutes take on Cal Lutheran Saturday at 1 p.m. at Spark's Stadium in Puyallup in the team's home opener. Cal Lutheran lost its season opener to PLU's Northwest Conference rival Willamette, 31-17.

Lutes SPORTS SCHEDULE

Volleyball

Linfield at PLU: Sept. 19, 7 p.m.
 George Fox at PLU: Sept. 20, 7 p.m.

Soccer

Men's at Pacific (Ore.): Saturday Sept. 20, 2:30 p.m.
 Women's at Pacific (Ore.): Saturday Sept. 20, 12 p.m.

Football

California Lutheran at PLU
 Spark's Stadium
 Saturday Sept. 20, 1 p.m.

Cross Country

Willamette Grass Course:
 Saturday, Sept. 20 10 a.m.



FORZA

COFFEE COMPANY

NOW OPEN

FREE WI-FI

ESPRESSO

GELATO

SANDWICHES

SALADS

SMOOTHIES

FRAPPES

COME JOIN US

SEPTEMBER 29th

FOR OUR GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION

-FREE 12oz. DRIP COFFEE

-COME SAMPLE OUR GELATO, PASTRIES AND UNIQUE FORZA BEVERAGES

-MUSICAL GROUP: ENDEVERANCE PLAYING AT 7:00

208 S GARFIELD

CONNECTED TO THE BOOKSTORE

Attention: support needed from Lutedome



Left: Fans celebrate a football game last season. The Lute football team begins their season at Sparks Stadium Saturday against California Lutheran.

Bottom: Fans at a Volleyball match last season celebrate a point for the Lutes. Volleyball was the most successful fall sports team last year, making the national tournament.

Photo by Chris Hunt

Lute athletes looking for cheering section from fellow students

The 12th Man.

In the National Football League, the mention of the 12th Man brings to mind the noisiest stadium in football. It evokes images of teal and green, painted faces and screaming fans. Most of all, it reminds opponents of the struggle to succeed when your ears are ringing from the deafening roar.

As we begin the 2008 fall season, my question for those who call themselves Lutes is simple; why not us?

On a campus that prides itself on the family atmosphere and unity among students, why do we have more empty seats than a Mariners game at our sporting events? With the tremendous athletic heritage that this school has, why can't we become the Division III equivalent of the Seahawks' 12th Man?

As a Division III school, Pacific Lutheran has no athletic scholarships. There are no free rides for guys who can throw a football 60 yards or girls who can spike a volleyball with such force that it makes Olson Auditorium shake. They all play for the love of the game and the opportunity to represent Pacific Lutheran.

The athletes on the field, track and court at PLU are no different academically from the students they sit next to in class.

For these reason alone, they deserve our respect and support.

Beyond the commitment and dedication it takes to compete in a collegiate sport, PLU athletic events serve as a tremendous opportunity to build student unity. Face it, once you get settled into your class and study schedule, it becomes more and more difficult to step outside of your comfort zone and get to know people who live on the other side of campus.

Sporting events provide the perfect setting to get to know people you've never met before. Hundreds of people fill the stands, cheering for a common purpose; a Lutes' win.

Sit next to someone you don't know and introduce yourself; then scream as loud as you can for your fellow students in the uniforms.

As always, we have some very exciting teams competing on or nearby campus. Our football team is young, fast and talented; ready to carry on the unique tradition of EMAL football. The Lutes boast a tough five-game home schedule this season, opening Saturday against California Lutheran at Sparks Stadium.

Our volleyball team is nationally ranked and coming off an undefeated season in the Northwest Conference, as well as setting a school record with 23 wins After winning their first home match of the season last weekend against Division II school



PLU Sports Editorial

Tyler Scott

scotttj@plu.edu



Photo Courtesy of Zion Olbertz

St. Martin's, reigning National Freshman of the Year Beth Hanna and the Lutes continue their home slate this weekend against conference foes Linfield College Friday and George Fox University Saturday.

Neither soccer teams play again until October 4th. But when they do return they offer a great opportunity to get out on a sunny day and support your friends and classmates while sitting right on the field, merely feet away from the players.

October 11th brings the annual PLU Invitational cross country meet, featuring a women's 6k and men's 8k race run on the PLU golf course.

Division III sports offer a highly unique collegiate experience in that the tickets are very inexpensive (free for all students with their Lute Cards) and the fans can sit right next to the action, instead of miles away at the top of a 70,000 seat stadium.

One of my dreams for this school year is to see a unified student body offering support for our fellow classmates who choose to fill their schedules with grueling practices and workouts so as to best represent Pacific Lutheran University.

Force the maintenance staff to set up the upper bleachers at Olson Auditorium and give the volleyball team that extra push to another conference win. Fill every seat at Sparks Stadium in Puyallup and show the administration that an on-campus stadium is a worthy investment at PLU.

It all begins this weekend with the football home opener and a pair of Northwest Conference match-ups on the volleyball court.

Support your teams as they represent you on the field of play. Offer them the same dedication they have shown in their commitment to representing our school across the region.

Hey Lutes! Go Lutes! Attaway! ATTAWAY!



Hanna

Scorecard

Men's Soccer as of 9/17

Standings

Team	NWC	%	All	%
Whitworth	0-0	.000	4-0-1	.900
Linfield	0-0	.000	4-1	.800
Pacific	0-0	.000	4-2	.667
Whitman	0-0	.000	2-0-4	.667
PLU	0-0	.000	2-3	.400
UPS	0-0	.000	2-3	.400
Willamette	0-0	.000	1-3	.250
George Fox	0-0	.000	1-4-1	.250

Team Goal Leaders

Daniele Zaccagnini - 2, Ricky Morales - 2

Team Assist Leaders

Jason Bjorgo - 2, Daniele Zaccagnini - 1, Trevor McDonald - 1, Andy Stolz - 1, Nat Breitenberg - 1

Team Saves Leader

Daniel Magum - 14

Women's Soccer as of 9/17

Standings

Team	NWC	%	All	%
UPS	1-0	.000	3-1	.750
George Fox	0-0	.000	4-0	1.000
Whitworth	0-0	.000	4-0	1.000
Whitman	0-0	.000	2-1	.667
L&C	0-0	.000	1-0-3	.625
Linfield	0-0	.000	2-2	.500
Willamette	0-0	.000	2-2	.500
Pacific	0-0	.000	1-3	.250
PLU	0-1	.000	1-2-1	.375

Team Goal Leaders

Laura Bressler - 1

Team Assist Leaders

No Assists Scored

Team Saves Leader
Kamryn Morgan - 13

Volleyball as of 9/17

Standings

Team	NWC	%	All	%
Linfield	0-0	.000	4-0	1.000
PLU	0-0	.000	6-3	.667
UPS	0-0	.000	5-3	.625
George Fox	0-0	.000	6-4	.600
Whitworth	0-0	.000	7-5	.583
L&C	0-0	.000	5-6	.455
Willamette	0-0	.000	2-8	.200
Pacific	0-0	.000	1-7	.125
Whitman	0-0	.000	0-9	.000

Team Kill Leaders

Beth Hanna - 124, Kelcy Joynt - 105, Kelsie Moore - 78

Team Block Leaders

Erin Bremond - 29, Beth Hanna - 26, Kelcy Joynt - 24

Team Ace Leaders

Kelsie Moore - 12, Kelcy Joynt - 11

Team Dig Leaders

Kelsie Moore - 133, Beth Hanna - 115

Team Assist Leader

Sarah Beaver - 363

Football as of 9/17

Standings

Team	NWC	%	All	%
Willamette	0-0	.000	2-0	1.000
UPS	0-0	.000	1-0	1.000
Whitworth	0-0	.000	1-0	1.000
L&C	0-0	.000	1-1	.500
Linfield	0-0	.000	0-1	.000
PLU	0-0	.000	0-1	.000
Menlo	0-0	.000	0-2	.000

Team TD Leaders

No Touchdowns scored

Team Rush Yards Leaders

Aaron Murphy - 16.0 ypg

Team Receiving Yards Leaders

Isaac Moog - 87.0 ypg, Greg Ford - 52.0 ypg

Team Pass Yards Leaders

Michael Byrne - 143.0 ypg

Team Tackle Leaders

Haden Gienger - 10, Neal Chalmers - 7, Giustin Jenkins - 6

Lutes shine on home court

Volleyball takes down Division II St. Martins

Cale Zimmerman
MAST SPORTS REPORTER
zimmercv@plu.edu

In the first match of the season on the newly redone floor at Olson Auditorium, Pacific Lutheran volleyball picked up where they left off last season with exciting team play and another quality win. St. Martin's College traveled north to play the Lutes in this non-conference match.

The Lutes started the match red-hot, winning the first two games with ease 25-14 and 25-13. The third game looked like it was going to be another slaughtering with PLU up 11-6, until the St. Martin's defense and passing games suddenly improved.

With the defense leading the way, St. Martin's went on a 15-4 run that sealed the victory.

"After we lost the third game I feel like everyone wanted to dig in deeper to [win]

in the fourth", sophomore setter Sarah Beaver said.

Game four was when the 600 plus fans in Olson saw what they came for.

The Lutes started out with an early lead, but St. Martin's went on another run to take over.

The Lutes saw themselves trailing 15-20, and eventually were up against a couple game point opportunities. Junior Brenna Archibald stepped up to the pressure and delivered two clutch serves that broke both St. Martin's game point opportunities.

The Lutes eventually came away with the victory, 27-25.

"St. Martin's definitely brought their game in third and fourth games," Beaver said. "But as a team we all rose to the occasion to play at our level."

Junior Kelcy Joynt led the offensive stat sheet with 13 kills.

Defensively, first-year Kelsie Moore stepped up and led the team with 24 digs. Beaver led the team in the assists category with 38.

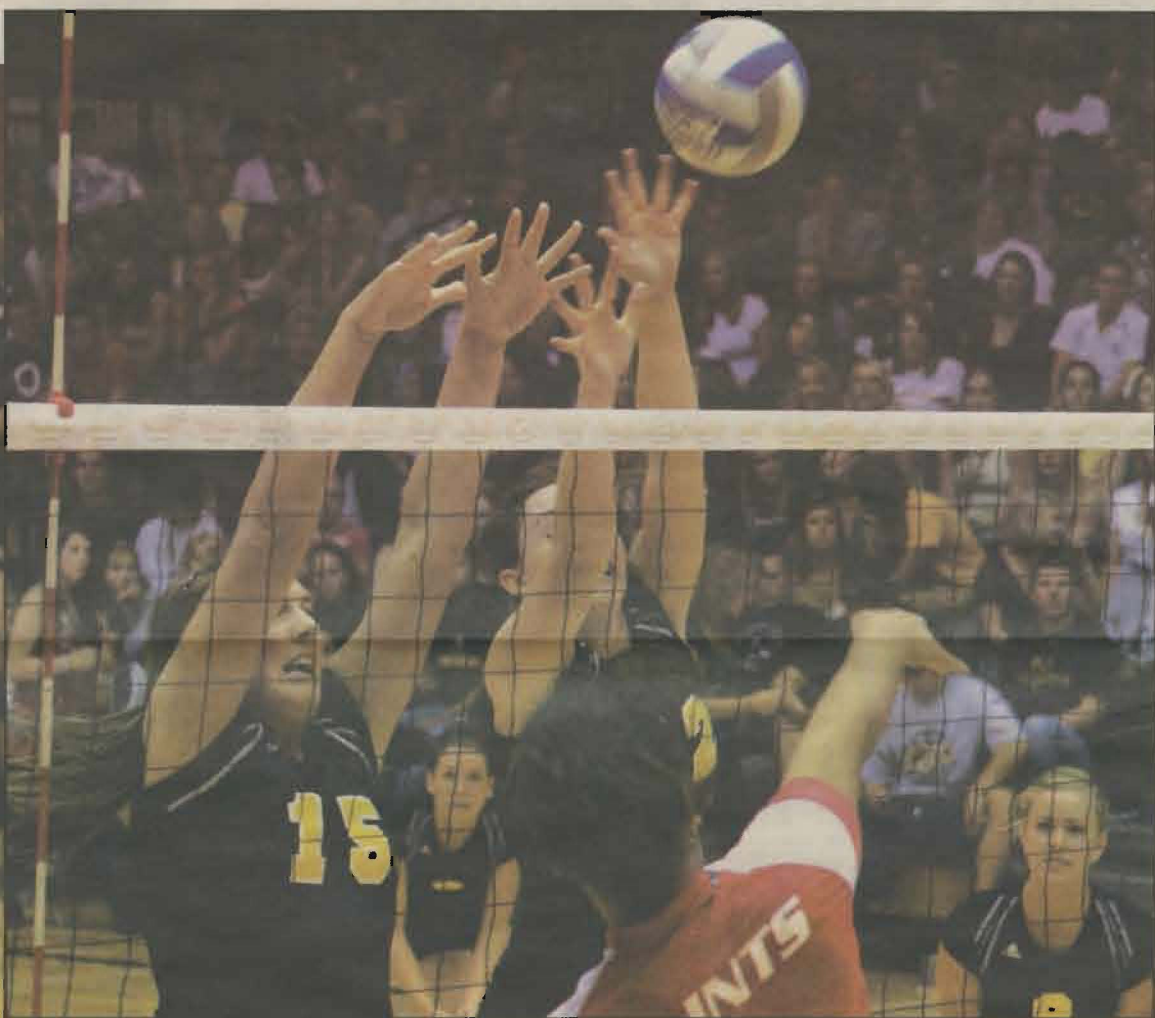
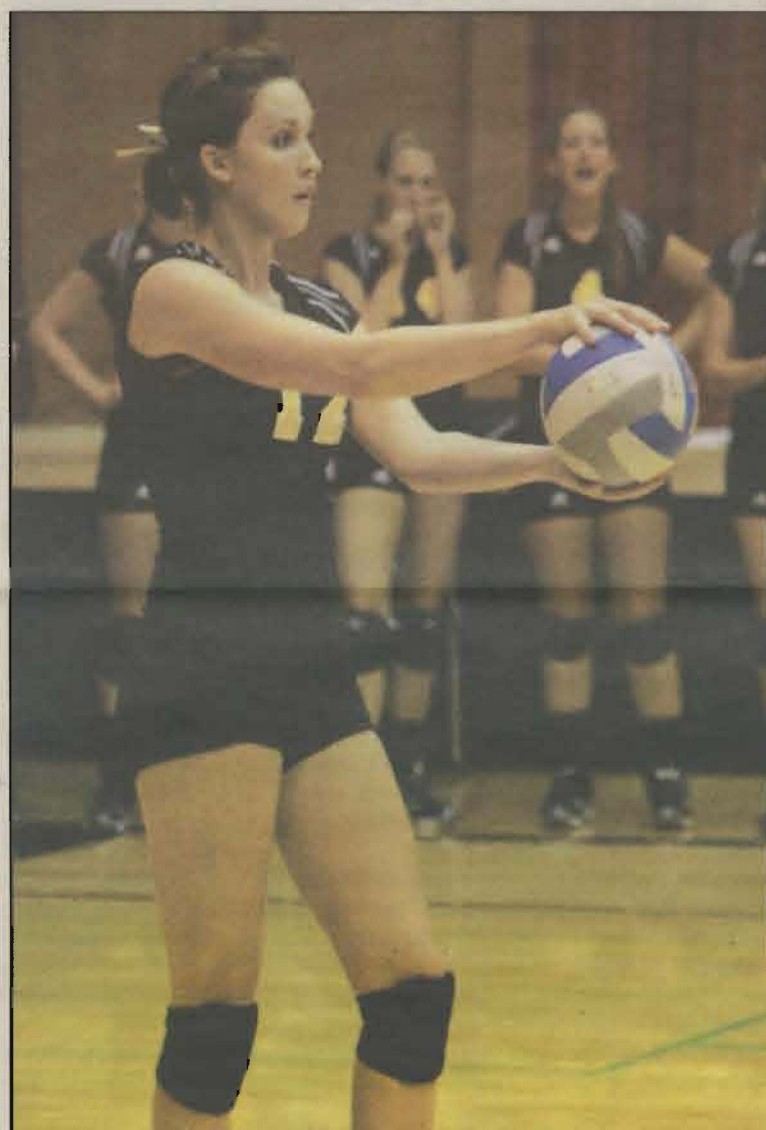
"I feel privileged to have amazing passers and hitters that I am confident in to be there for every ball," Beaver said.

Overall it was great team play by the youthful Lutes in a crucial non-conference victory where much game experience was acquired.

The Lutes look to apply that experience this weekend in their Northwest Conference opener. They play Linfield on Friday and George Fox University on Saturday in Olson Auditorium; both games set to start at 7 p.m.



Beaver



Photos by Daniel Ahrendt

Left: Junior Kelcy Joynt prepares to serve during Friday's match against St. Martin's at Olson Auditorium. The Lutes had six serve aces during the match.

Above: Juniors Anella Olbertz and Kelcy Joynt attempt to block a hit from a St. Martin's player. PLU won the match three games to one.

Edgeworks Climbing
INDOOR ROCK GYM

Tacoma's Indoor Rock Climbing Gym!


Indoor Rock Climbing

Come climb with us! Edgeworks is a fun place to stay active, push yourself and meet people!

- Over 200 Boulder, Top Rope & Lead Routes
- Beginners through Expert Level Climbs
- Real Rock Textured Walls
- Learn Slackline on our 40' Slackline

Student Specials & Prices


- College Student Memberships - With Valid ID
- Student Night - Second Friday of Each Month
- Membership SALES - Any Annual Membership Purchase any Annual Membership, Receive FREE!!
- URBAN CLIMBER! Chalk Bag
- URBAN CLIMBER! Magazine Subscription (offer good while supplies last)



Yoga Classes

Yoga balances your mind and body by focusing on core strength, endurance and breathing.

- Edge Yoga - Core Strengthening and Endurance
- Mixed Level Yoga - Relax, Stretch and Align
- FREE Yoga! - Annual Members Receive FREE Yoga!



253.564.4899 • www.edgeworks-climbing.com

PLU runners impress

Miller, Philips highlight cross country performance

Lorna Rodriguez
MAST SPORTS INTERN
rodrigl@plu.edu

PLU men's and women's cross country demonstrated strong performances last Saturday at the Lewis and Clark Invitational in Estacada, Ore.

The women's team put on a solid performance, eighth overall, by pushing each other and running as a team. Senior Lexie Miller finished first in 24:10.3, followed by sophomore Mary Wuest in 24:31.2, sophomore Erika Dornfeld in 24:40.9, first-year Erica Johnson in 25:03.2, and sophomore Amanda Clancy in 25:37.3.

In addition to the top five runners, first-year Jill Kuschel improved by an astounding three minutes from her time trial, finishing in 26:39.4. Wuest also had a standout performance, even though she didn't post her best time.

"Mentally I felt tough and approached the race at a more serious mental state," Wuest said.

The race was special for Wuest because she was able to run alongside Dornfeld, making the non-verbal agreement to push each other harder with

every step.

Part of the women's success this past weekend can be attributed to their perfect balance. The more experienced runners are extremely focused and driven, while the younger runners have pure talent and enthusiasm, according to Wuest. When combined this gives the team a great opportunity to achieve.

On the men's side, sophomore John Philips led the pack in 27:03.9, trailed by first-year Orion Bras in 27:09.4, Sean Andrascik in 27:25.6, Alex Martin in 27:31.00, and Justin Barth in 27:35.8.

For the second week in a row these top-five finishers crossed the line in a 35-second spread, with only six runners able to compete due to injuries.

"The men really seized the day," Wuest said.

The team placed seventh overall. Phillips ran a spectacular race with a quick start, solid middle, and strong closing two miles.

"It was a fun race to run because the conditions were supreme," Phillips said. "The competition was a good fit; not too dominant but not too easy."

Phillips believes the success of the men's team is due to their enthusiasm and team camaraderie.

"At practice everybody works their hardest in order to improve in the upcoming meet," Phillips said.

The cross country team will strive to improve once again at the Willamette Grass Course in Salem Ore. Saturday at 10 a.m.