

THE MAST



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NOVEMBER 9, 2007

PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

VOLUME LXXXV, NO. 9

Why study the Holocaust?

Emily Hoppler
Treichler
MAST NEWS REPORTER

Thursday, Nov. 1 in Lagerquist Hall, PLU hosted the sixth annual Raphael Lemkin Lecture on genocide and the Holocaust followed the next day by the first Powell and Heller Family Conference in Support of Holocaust Education in the Scandinavian Center.

Lagerquist Hall was close to full at 7 p.m. with more than 350 people attending, including many students, faculty, staff members, and members of the community. President Loren Anderson opened the lecture with a DVD about the Holocaust Studies program, saying, "You cannot study the Holocaust passively."

President Anderson then announced the inauguration of the Kurtis R. Mayer Professorship of Holocaust Studies. The Professorship was named in honor of Kurtis R. Mayer, a former 10-year member of the Board of Regents and supporter of the



Assistant professor of history Adam Cathcart talks to Doris L. Bergen, who is the Ray Wolfe professor of Holocaust studies at the University of Toronto.

Holocaust program. It was given to professor Robert P. Ericksen, who said that the Professorship "is a very important step forward for PLU."

The Professorship will sponsor future Powell and Heller Family Conferences in which, Ericksen said, they plan

to bring important scholars to campus, as well as Holocaust survivors. Ericksen also plans to use the Professorship to increase Holocaust resources in the library, establish funding for student research projects on the subject, and attract Holocaust scholars to PLU in the future.

See Holocaust
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Students struggle with landlords

Sarah Kehoe
MAST NEWS REPORTER

Senior Savannah Warren ran into trouble with her landlord last year when she moved off campus for the first time.

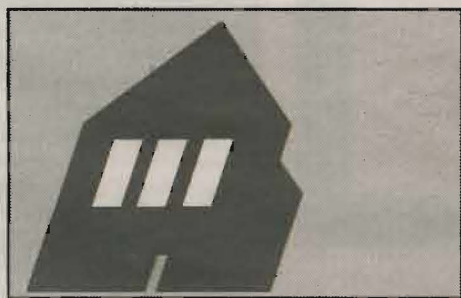
Many PLU students who live off campus rely on their landlords to fix the problems that occur within their home. Warren's landlord responded to their call for help in an eclectic way.

"When we would call him with a problem he would ride over on his Harley in his boots and leather pants," Warren said. "He had long grey hair, a long beard and this handkerchief with skulls on it that he always wore around his head."

After blaming Warren and her roommates for the heater not working and other things that broke down in the house, the landlord would try to fix it himself unsuccessfully. He then would refuse to call a professional to come and fix repair the problem stating that he had a guy that would come take care of it for them.

"He had a guy for everything," Warren said. "He had a heater guy, a floor guy - you name it. And the funniest thing was that we never saw any of his guys." The landlord was not available to comment on Warren's allegations.

Her landlord's behavior meant that Warren and her three other roommates were left with broken or damaged things in their house, including a broken toilet and mold on the wall of one of the bedrooms. The heater



Graphic by David Johnston

also broke at one point during the winter, leaving Warren and her roommates without heat for several days.

Warren did have some options in this situation. The Washington State Bar Association provides information on Washington state rental property laws and discusses the landlord's responsibilities for upkeep and repairs. According to the law, once the landlord has been notified of a defective condition he or she has a fixed amount of time to make repairs. A landlord has only 24 hours to fix the heat, water, electricity or other conditions of that nature. No more than 10 days are allowed for other repairs to take place.

Despite his failure to do repairs, Warren and her roommates were able to maintain a cordial relationship with their eccentric landlord until the last couple of days before they moved out.

Warren said the landlord came by for inspection and decided Warren and her roommates had not cleaned or kept the house up to his liking. He noticed the mold growing

on the walls in the bedroom that Warren and her roommates had brought to his notice earlier in the year.

"My roommate was actually really sick because of the mold growing in her room," Warren said.

The landlord also said he noticed a tiny crack in the sink, that was so small it was barely visible to anyone else. Warren said he informed her and her roommates that he was not going to give them their deposit back. While this complied with rental property law, Warren felt that it was unfair.

"We had a screaming match in the backyard," Warren said. "We could have made a big deal about the house not even being cleaned up for us when we moved in, but we didn't do that. He was just being really unreasonable."

Washington rental property law states that a landlord-tenant problem can be resolved through formal or informal mediation. If the parties are still unsatisfied, the parties can take legal action.

The father of one of Warren's roommates decided to be the mediator and set up a meeting with the landlord. When the landlord refused to give the deposit back, the father threatened him with legal action. The landlord subsequently returned the deposit.

"The funny thing is that I drove by the house a couple days ago, and now that we're gone the gutters are cleaned, there is new paint on the house, the yard actually looks really nice," Warren said. "Yet because of him, I would never recommend that anyone live in that house."

Men unlikely to go to health center

Andrew Croft
MAST NEWS INTERN

At PLU, there is a major problem that has been occurring: the lack of male students that visit the health center. According to clinic director and physician assistant of PLU's health center, Susana Doll, men don't come into the health center often. When it comes to getting tested for sexual transmitted diseases, men are ghosts around the health center, said Doll.

Last spring, an anonymous male Pacific Lutheran Student went against the curve and got tested.

"I've never done it before," the student said. "I thought it would be a good idea to get checked."

Sexual transmitted diseases are a big deal in our society, especially for college aged students.

In the student's case, as in most all cases, his tests came out negative.

"I didn't feel as if I had any STD's, but I thought it would be a good idea."

Even if you feel as if you have no chance to get an, it's good to get checked.

"Better safe than sorry," said the student.

"Men have this preconceived notion that STD and sexual responsibility is the women's responsibility," Doll said.

According to a publication on health and sexuality from the Do It Now Foundation, men have the same exact amount of responsibility that women do.

"If a man has an STD and a woman contracts it, it's both of their faults," Doll said. "And vice-versa."

Most of the male students at PLU don't visit the health center to get tested for STD's.

"Men take their health for granted," Doll said. "Men feel like they know everything, and when it comes to STD's, they think they are untouchable."

Before the student visited the health center for his check up, he thought like every other male that Doll has described.

"I used to think that if I wore a condom everything would be fine," the student said.

The use of condoms is a common misconception among men. According to the Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States, though condoms are a good source of preventing STD's and pregnancy, there is no definitive study about condom effectiveness for all STD's. If you use a condom, that doesn't mean you will not contract an STD.

The student used to think that it was the safe way out and when he wore a condom, contracting an STD wasn't even a possibility.

Before the student started going into the health center, he was embarrassed of what other people would think of him.

"I was always afraid that the person testing me thought 'Wow, he probably has sex all the time,'" the student said. "I also was afraid of people I know seeing me and thinking, 'What diseases does he have?'"

John Edwards: Second time's a charm?



Democratic presidential hopeful, former North Carolina Sen. John Edwards speaks at a town hall forum in Newmarket, N.H., Nov. 6.

John Edwards takes another stab at the presidency in 2008

Amber Walker
MAST NEWS REPORTER

The 2008 presidential primaries will be the first set of primaries since 1928 where neither

an incumbent president or an incumbent vice president will be running. However, former U.S. senator from North Carolina, John Edwards has some experience in running for president. In the 2004 election he ran for the Democratic ticket. After accumulating the largest number of second place finishes in the primaries, Edwards became the vice presidential candidate alongside presidential candidate, John Kerry.

Edwards announced Dec. 28, 2006 that he would be running in the 2008 election. His new platform is much more liberal than in

his 2004 campaign. His main focuses are on universal healthcare, fighting global warming, eliminating poverty and reducing America's dependence on foreign oil. He says he thinks the U.S. needs to strengthen homeland security without infringing on constitutional rights. He says he wants to invest in education and has a plan to make college more affordable called "College for Everyone." Edwards says he believes in equal rights for all couples, including same-sex couples and is pushing to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act, which infringes on any union that is not between straight individuals.

Another big concern for Edwards is the war in Iraq. Nov. 14, 2005, he wrote an opposing editorial for the Washington Post where he conveyed regret for voting to authorize the war in 2002. He now says he intends to withdraw 40,000 to 50,000 troops immediately, as part of a plan to end the war, and complete withdrawal within nine to 10 months.

"The biggest responsibility of the next president of the United States is to re-establish America's leadership role in the world, starting with Iraq," Edwards told the Washington Post the morning he announced his candidacy. "We need to make it clear that we intend to leave Iraq and turn over the responsibility of Iraq to the Iraqi people."

Since leaving the Senate, Edwards has been appointed director of the Center on Poverty, Work and Opportunity at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He also worked on a program in the Works Progress Administration to help bring relief

to the Gulf Coast after Hurricane Katrina.

Edwards was well-known for his clean politics. He was very careful not to badmouth other candidates. However, at a Democratic candidate debate Oct. 30, he went after Clinton, criticizing her for saying only what she wants others to hear.

"The American people deserve a president of the United States that they know will tell them the truth and won't say one thing one time and something different at a different time," Edwards said in Philadelphia.

"Four years ago, John Edwards did very well as a candidate in large part because he talked about a new kind of politics, an optimistic politics," Mo Elleithe, a spokesperson for the Clinton campaign told the Miami Herald. "This time around, his campaign seems to be stalling and his reaction is to go on the attack."

Edwards is currently behind both Senator Hillary Clinton and Senator Barack Obama in the national polls. In an ABC News/Washington Post Poll Clinton received 49 percent of the votes, Obama had 26 percent, and Edwards had 12 percent. However, it is still early to gauge the various candidates' support. Primaries begin in January, with the statewide primary Feb. 5.

For more information about Edwards, or other candidates, there are several Web sites dedicated to informing voters:

projects.washingtonpost.com/2008-presidential-candidates/
www.vote-smart.org/election_president.php

Washington votes 'no' to tax increases

Prop. 1: \$18 million bill to better roads and transit

APPROVE

REJECT

SJR-8206: Would require a budget stabilization account

APPROVE

REJECT

I-960: This measure allows school district levies to raise with a simple majority vote

APPROVE

REJECT

R-67: Insurance cannot unreasonably deny a claim

APPROVE

REJECT

Voters had money on their mind Nov. 5 rejecting big-spenders, approving measures that would keep spending in check

David Ammons
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

Washington may be an overwhelmingly "blue" state these days, with expansive Democrats running the show, but the 2007 election showed a surprisingly clear anti-tax, anti-establishment message.

Voters apparently approved Tim Eyman's latest tax curbs, slapped down the largest transportation tax proposal in state history, and demanded that lawmakers start a "rainy day" fund to head off future tax increases. Make it easier to raise local property taxes for school? Um, no.

The cranky electorate may like the social policies of the progressive establishment, but they voted their pocketbooks and showed a budget-hawk streak that had to please wannabe governor Dino Rossi and legislative Republicans who've had little to cheer lately.

"It was a pretty unambiguous message: Guys, we're tapped out," Eyman said. "We don't have a bottomless wallet."

Wednesday, as the full shape of the election became clearer, reporters were besieged by GOP spinmeisters who saw a repudiation of Gov. Chris Gregoire and the other Democrats in power, and viewed it as something of a taxpayer revolt.

Democrats were largely silent throughout the day, or else called it an unrepresentative low-turnout off-year election.

An \$18 billion tax hike for roads and light rail was derailed in King, Pierce and Snohomish counties, a region that has repeatedly voted for big infrastructure projects.

"It cost too much, did too little and took too long," said opposition spokesman Mark Baerwaldt.

It's another jolt for Gregoire, who already is vulnerable on the transportation mess as she heads into her re-election campaign. Rossi, eager for a rematch, said "Voters delivered a loud and clear message to Christine Gregoire that they don't want her taking more of their hard-earned money without seeing results."

Information compiled Wednesday, Nov. 7

STATE, NATION, WORLD BRIEFINGS

Local to Global news



Photo by Associated Press
Dr. Sharan Patil talks to Lakshmi at the Sparsh Hospital in Bangalore, India Nov. 5. Doctors began operating Nov. 6, on Lakshmi in a surgery that they hope will leave the girl with a normal anatomy, a hospital official said.

Girl born with extra limbs has surgery

Gavin Rabinowitz
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

Revered by some in her village as the reincarnation of a Hindu goddess, a 2-year-old girl born with four arms and four legs was undergoing surgery Tuesday to leave her with a normal body.

The girl named Lakshmi is joined to a "parasitic twin" that stopped developing in the mother's womb. The surviving fetus absorbed the limbs, kidneys and other body parts of the undeveloped fetus.

A team of 30 doctors was removing the extra limbs and organs, surgery that if successful would give her a good chance to live past adolescence.

"As of now, the child has been responding very well," Patil said hours into the operation.

Children born with deformities in deeply traditional rural parts of India, like the remote village in the northern state of Bihar that Lakshmi hails from, are often viewed as reincarnated gods. The young girl is no different — she is named after the four-armed Hindu goddess of wealth and her parents say she is revered in her village.

"Everybody considers her a goddess at our village," said her father, Shambhu, who goes by one name. "All this expenditure has happened to make her normal. So far, everything is fine."

Others sought to make money from Lakshmi. Her parents kept her in hiding after a circus apparently tried to buy the girl, they said.

The complications for

Lakshmi's surgery are myriad: The two spines are merged, she has four kidneys, entangled nerves, two stomach cavities and two chest cavities. She cannot stand up or walk.

"It's a big team effort of a lot of skilled surgeons who will be putting their heart and soul into solving the problem of Lakshmi," Patil said earlier in the day. "It's going to take many, many hours on a continuous basis to operate on the baby. So, these issues definitely make it complex."

Doctors at Sparsh Hospital in Bangalore, where the girl is undergoing surgery, said she is popular among the staff and patients. The hospital's foundation is paying for the operation because the girl's family could not afford the medical bills.

Local woman bites off ex-boyfriend's lip

ASSOCIATED PRESS

A woman bit off her ex-boyfriend's lower lip as they were kissing in bed and has been jailed for investigation of domestic violence, King County sheriff's deputies said.

Deputies were called to a house in White Center, an unincorporated suburb south of the city, at about 11:30 p.m. Monday and found a 49-year-old man bleeding on the porch, sheriff's Sgt. John Urquhart said.

"There was quite a bit of blood," Urquhart said. "He could talk, but just barely."

The man said he and the woman kissed several times when, without provocation, she bit off his lip and spat it out, deputies said. They reported finding the man's lip on the bedroom floor, covered with cat hair.

Doctors at Highline Hospital were unable to reattach the lip, and deputies said the man will likely be permanently disfigured.

A 44-year-old woman in the house cursed and attacked one of the deputies with a pillow before being arrested. Bail was set Tuesday at \$25,000. As of early Wednesday it was unclear whether she had a lawyer.

Deputies said the two and another man and woman, all four recovering from drug addiction, rented the house together and agreed to share a "clean and sober" home.

However, deputies had been called to the home an hour before the attack because the woman who later was arrested apparently was drunk and disruptive. At that time there was no indication of violence, nor any other reason to arrest her, Urquhart said.

Yahoo officials defend actions in China

Erica Werner
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

Yahoo Inc.'s chief executive and top lawyer on Tuesday defended their company's involvement in the jailing of a Chinese journalist.irate lawmakers accused them of collaborating with an oppressive communist regime.

"While technologically and financially you are giants, morally you are pygmies," House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Tom Lantos, D-Calif., said angrily after hearing from the two men.

Yahoo Chief Executive Jerry Yang and General Counsel Michael Callahan offered apologies

"I deeply regret the

consequences of what the Chinese government has done to the dissidents. My heart goes out to the families," Yang said.

Journalist Shi Tao was sent to jail for 10 years for engaging in pro-democracy efforts deemed subversive after Yahoo turned over information about his online activities requested by the Chinese authorities in 2004.

Callahan was summoned before the committee to explain testimony he gave Congress last year.

Callahan has acknowledged that Yahoo officials had received a subpoena-like document that made reference to suspected "illegal provision of state secrets" — a common charge against political dissidents.

But Callahan insisted that Yahoo did not know the

real nature of the Chinese investigation because the order was not specific.

"I cannot ask our local employees to resist lawful demands and put their own freedom at risk, even if, in my personal view, the local laws are overbroad," Callahan said.

Lantos interrupted him. "Why do you insist on repeating the phrase 'lawful orders'? These were demands by a police state," Lantos said.

"It's my understanding that under Chinese law these are lawful," Callahan responded after some hesitation.

Rep. Chris Smith, R-N.J., compared Yahoo's cooperation with the Chinese government to companies that cooperated with Nazi Germany during World War II.

Practice makes perfect

Nursing program sends students to real patients

Colin Hartke
MAST NEWS INTERN

For Sarah Greenwood, the first day of class this fall did not include a professor peppering students with information from a syllabus. Instead, she donned medical scrubs Oct. 22 and participated in an orientation at Tacoma General Hospital's medical-surgical unit.

This was her first day of a half-semester-long clinical rotation as a nursing student.

Sarah Greenwood, a senior in PLU's School of Nursing, will spend more than 100 hours during the seven-week rotation working at Tacoma General.

"It is always slightly intimidating on the first day at a new clinical site, but at the same time, it's exciting," Greenwood said.

At PLU, nursing students begin applying concepts from the classroom in an actual patient care environment during their sophomore year through a number of rotations at clinical sites that continue through their final semester of their senior year.

The School of Nursing places students at more than 100 health agencies for clinical rotations, according to the school's Web site.

The nursing faculty members select clinical sites where the students will be able to put into practice the theories and skills they are currently learning in class, said Janet Dubois, a clinical instructor for PLU's School of Nursing.

"At first, it's scary practicing skills on patients that you have only done on a dummy in lab," Greenwood said. "You are nervous because you are pretending that you know what you are doing, but you are really relying on your class skills and learning as you go."

Students typically experience the most intense concern and apprehension during their first clinical rotations, Dubois said.

"There is often a fear among students during those first experiences that what they are doing will hurt the patient," said Dubois. "We try to make sure the students have confidence in

knowing that everything we do is for the good of the patient."

Greenwood will progress during her rotation in the medical-surgical unit from taking care of one to two patients at a time to caring for three patients. This increase in patients will occur during the rotation.

She will spend time observing surgeries at the hospital as well.

Greenwood worked with the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department this semester during a separate, community-health-care clinical rotation.

She and another student compiled information about a health department program for women with drug and alcohol addictions.

"I am sick of school and ready to go out there and do it."

Sarah Greenwood, senior

The focuses of the clinical rotations in the School of Nursing vary greatly, ranging from mental health to pediatrics.

"Clinicals are really the best way to learn," Greenwood

said. "If you just learn something in the classroom, it doesn't really stick, but when you are actually doing it on a person, it is something you will remember."

Students participating in rotations usually spend two days of more than eight hours at the clinical site each week. Clinical rotations often start before 7 a.m., a factor some nursing students struggle with at first, Dubois said.

"Most people adjust to the early morning hours," Dubois said. "The beauty of nursing is that if you weren't one of the people who adjusted to working in the morning, you can just get a night shift after you graduate."

The final semester of Greenwood's nursing education will include a semester-long clinical experience called a preceptorship.

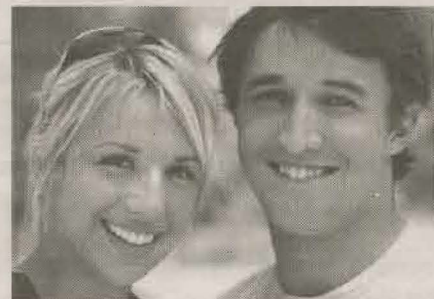
"The preceptorship is really when a student transitions from student nurse to beginning nurse," Dubois said.

For the final clinical rotation, the nursing faculty works to match students with an opportunity in the area of nursing they plan to enter, Dubois said.

Greenwood said she hopes for a placement in a neonatal intensive care unit for her preceptorship, an area of nursing she is planning to pursue after graduation.

"When I think about graduation, sometimes I still wonder if I'll be ready to do everything in a unit," Greenwood said. "I am sick of school and ready to go out there and do it."

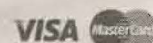
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Holocaust (Continued from page 1)

Ericksen introduced the lecture's two speaker, professor Doris L. Bergen, who is the Chancellor Rose and Ray Wolfe, a professor of Holocaust Studies at the University of Toronto.

Bergen's subject for the lecture, "Why Study the Holocaust?" is a question that many students at PLU may ask themselves. As a predominantly Protestant campus, some students wonder why the Holocaust applies to them at all.

"Approximately two-thirds of the German population under Adolf Hitler was northern European and Protestant," Ericksen said. PLU students should be asking themselves "how people quite like us turned into killers, or how they were able to accept and support a regime which openly practiced brutal behavior toward Jews and other minorities."

Bergen addressed this lecture topic by reviewing four clichéd sayings often tied with the Holocaust: "all it takes for evil to triumph is for good men to stand by and do nothing," "the power of one," "the triumph of human spirit," and "never again."

She pointed out the inaccuracies in the statements, particularly in reference to Holocaust.

For example the first saying, Bergen postulated, assumes that evil can take place with minimal effort, which is far from the truth he said.

"The Holocaust – mass murder – is something that requires much effort, a horrifying product of people doing an enormous amount," Bergen said.

According to Bergen, society comforts itself with this kind of saying because "it is easier to think about sins of omission than it is to think about sins of commission."

The Holocaust is not the only example of genocide, and Bergen contends that pretending it is is dangerous. The slaughter of the Tutsis in Rwanda, the mass deaths of Native Americans following the European expansion, and the current violence in Darfur all qualify as genocide.

Bergen ended her lecture by saying, "My wish for you is that continuing to study the Holocaust will ask more questions than it answers."

Ericksen considered the lecture a successful event.

"I think this was an excellent lecture by Doris Bergen, one of the best Lemkin Lectures we have had," Ericksen said. "She was interesting, clear, energetic, thoughtful and able to frame important questions in a very impressive manner."

Ericksen also considered the audience one of the best in the lecture's history.

"The attendance and discussion were both excellent."

The next day's conference began at 8:30 a.m. and lasted until 4:30 p.m. While the

majority of those attending were community members and teachers, who could sign in for clock hours, many students stopped in for pieces of the event.

The day's events included a speech by Magda Schaloum, an Auschwitz survivor, a session for teachers on why and how to teach

this one family and they perish in the end," Lehmann said.

Now, Lehmann said, Germany is made up of immigrants, many of whom do not identify themselves with the Holocaust and feel that the continuing opening of museums and monuments to the genocide is counter-

productive to the maturing culture.

However, Lehmann contends, "We [Germans] have a continued task to be involved in this collective responsibility."

The second speaker, Hubert G. Locke, is the dean emeritus of the Daniel J. Evans Graduate School of Public Affairs at the University of Washington, and hosted with Franklin Littell the first Scholars Conference on Churches and the Holocaust in 1970. Locke is also an author of several books on this subject.

Locke's topic, "From Theology to Civil Rights to the Scholars Conference on Churches and the Holocaust," featured a milieu of discussion, generated from two events of the previous week: James Watson's extraordinarily ignorant comments on the relation between race and intelligence, and the stunning results of a poll: 25 percent of respondents said they believed that National Socialism had its "good points."

Locke noted the sad fact that "six decades after the end of the Nazi regime, the idea that

some races are better still has great currency in the modern world."

This should be of grave concern to PLU students Locke said, because "No society, including our own, is very far from descending into this abyss that Germany descended into in to the 1920s."

"A nation that wallows in excessive patriotism is a nation that is ripe for committing egregious acts in the name of God and country," Locke said.

During the final open discussion, a veteran, Albert Adams, stepped up to the podium to share his own Holocaust story, relating to the audience how, after liberating the concentration camps, the U.S. soldiers would feed the survivors, and many would die from the shock.

"We had to bring them back to life gradually," Adams said, slowly making them more accustomed to food before allowing them to eat real meals.

After the conference concluded, Ericksen talked about the importance of studying the Holocaust.

"I would like students to understand the historic details of what happened," Ericksen said. "I also think it's important for anyone to ponder the implications of what happened. For example, how could human beings do such a thing? What does it mean about human nature? And what do we need to do to try to keep such things from happening?"

Students that are interested in learning more about the Holocaust can take several courses at PLU including History 360: The Holocaust, and History 362: Christians in Nazi Germany.

Both events were put on by PLU's Holocaust Studies program, sponsored by members of the PLU Board of Regents and other members of the community.

To honor victims of the Holocaust, the Powell and Heller families as well as survivors John and Georgette Heller, the parents of Henry Heller and Carol Powell Heller, endowed the Conference, which was introduced this year to the university.



Photo by Chris Hunt
Kristen Ziegler, first-year, talks to the speaker Doris Bergen about the presentation. Ziegler has been interested in history since high school and wants to be a teacher.

the Holocaust, a lunch and several discussions on a jumble of topics.

Two Holocaust scholars, other than Ericksen and Bergen, spoke at the conference, both during discussions on topics such as "Why Study the Holocaust at PLU?" and open discussion times, and also on subjects of their own choosing.

Professor Hartmut Lehmann, a visiting professor of history at UC Berkeley, has written extensively on Nazi Germany, with an emphasis on Christianity in Nazi Germany was one of the additional speakers.

Lehmann's discussion topic, "The Germans and the Holocaust, 1938-2007" took the audience through the ramifications of the Holocaust in reference to Germany, by the decade. However, Lehmann noted, "The study of the Holocaust begins in 1917, or in the early 1920s."

Lehmann talked about subjects during this time period including deNazification, and the incorporation of human rights in the Geneva Convention, continuing anti-Semitism and the 1978 film "Holocaust."

"The whole nation was watching that film. What was called the Final Solution was now the Holocaust and you could identify yourself with

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Feeding the city

J-term students give their time to help local community

Christina Montilla
MAST NEWS REPORTER

With the poverty rate in Washington continuing to rise, food banks look to provide service to even more families this holiday season, as well as offer opportunities for students to make a difference.

Emergency Food Network is a private, non-profit food supplier located in Lakewood.

The organization distributes 9 million pounds of food to Pierce County per year. Last year, EFN received 750,000 visits to its facility, 54 percent of which were from people under the age of 19 or over the age of 55. EFN owns



Photo illustration by Jenna Callaway

a cannery, repackaging plant and operates Mother Earth organic farm in Orting.

During J-term, PLU students go to work in the EFN cannery in Kent as part of the "January on the Hill" course.

For four Wednesdays, students produce between 10,000-12,000 cans of food. These then supply 76 sites, 80 percent of the local food banks across Pierce County.

Food for Individuals Seeking Help food banks of Pierce County have helped more than 270,000 individuals and receive aid from the Emergency Food Network.

One site popular to student volunteers is the S.E. Tacoma-Parkland FISH food bank located on 85th and Portland Ave.

In a modest building behind Christ the King Lutheran Church, the food bank operates Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

However, a typical day begins at 9 a.m. for many of the 10-15 volunteers. Duties to prepare for the busy day include separating dozens of bags of food - some as heavy as 50 pounds - into family-sized portions of food.

"You couldn't pay us to work this hard," director Ruby Wilson said.

Though the majority of volunteers at the food bank are 70 or older and have already experienced the hardships of raising a family, PLU students are appreciated for the help they can offer. Described as mature and hard-working, the students, "are some of the most marvelous people I've ever met. We adore them," Wilson said.

Co-president and junior Amy Blauman said that it was "a good experience to be working firsthand and observing family members young [and] old receiving what seems like a

small contribution, but really makes such an impact."

This week's families in need will receive a bag full of bread, cans of vegetables and fruit, oatmeal, dry spaghetti and spaghetti sauce. Their second bag contains potatoes, dried milk, and/or canned juice, flour, salt, tea, meat, ears of corn and a "little goodie" of donated cookies or cinnamon rolls.

Most families walk away with an average of 40 pounds of food, but volunteers add extra for larger families.

Families can range from one to 10 members and are welcome once a month or as frequent as once a week.

This food bank is the most frequented of the FISH food banks in the Tacoma area. This modest distributor will provide food to 160 families, 35 of which will be brand new, before the day is through. Last month they serviced 2,152 families or 7,075 individuals. Approximately 482 of those families were new, 32 of which were homeless, and 244 families were headed by single, white males.

"Most just graduated and don't have a job

yet," Wilson said.

Since this facility helps one third of the total patronage of all 23 FISH distributors, Beth Elliott, head director, plans to expand the facility by adding 2,250 square feet, as described in the FISH newsletter.

The association has met 98 percent of their goal fundraising as of September and looks to improve processes and reach even more families in the future.

Ten percent of the food FISH receives comes from Northwest Harvest, Washington's only statewide hunger relief agency.

NW Harvest secures 9.8 million pounds of food for distribution centers in 37 out of the 39 Washington counties a year.

The organization receives all of its food from local growers, processors and retailers.

NW Harvest receives no government funding. This allows it to stick with its policies and remove as many obstacles between the people in need and food.

The NW Harvest's Web site offers a wealth of information and advice on how individuals can get involved, from planning a food drive to finding places to volunteer.

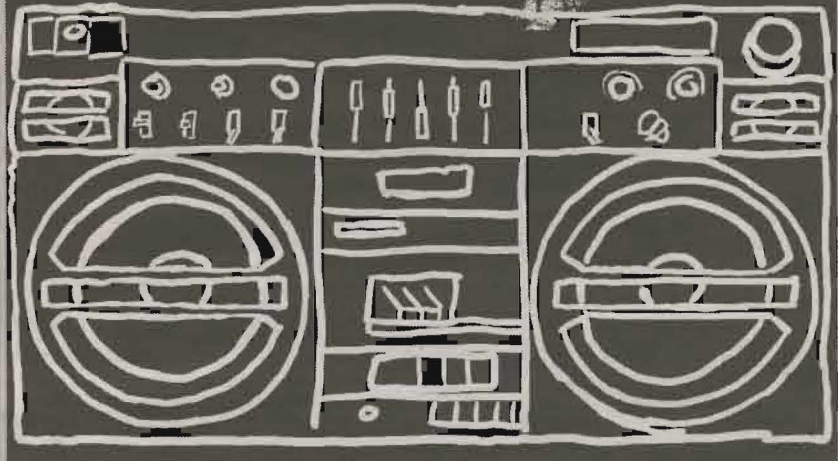
PLU will host a faculty-community outreach breakfast Wednesday, Nov. 28 from 8-9:30 p.m. in the Regency Room.

Students interested in community service are encouraged to attend as well.

"You couldn't pay us to work this hard."

Ruby Wilson
FISH director

CAMPUS SAFETY SAFETY BENT



Graphic by David Johnston

SUSPICIOUS ITEMS

Oct. 30

CSIN was contacted regarding a student who had found several items in her room that did not belong to her.

THEFT

Nov. 1

A student reported the theft of a game console from their room in a residence hall. They later reported that it had been returned.

MEDICAL AID

Nov. 1

CSIN was contacted for medical assistance for a staff member who was having an allergic reaction. CPFR was contacted and transport was not necessary.

STUDENT CONDUCT

Nov. 2

CSIN observed several students going into a bar after requesting an escort nearby. The matter has been forwarded to Student Conduct.

VANDALISM

Nov. 3

CSIN was contacted by an RA regarding a broken window in a residence hall main lobby. The engineer was contacted and the cause is undetermined.

ALCOHOL POLICY

Nov. 3

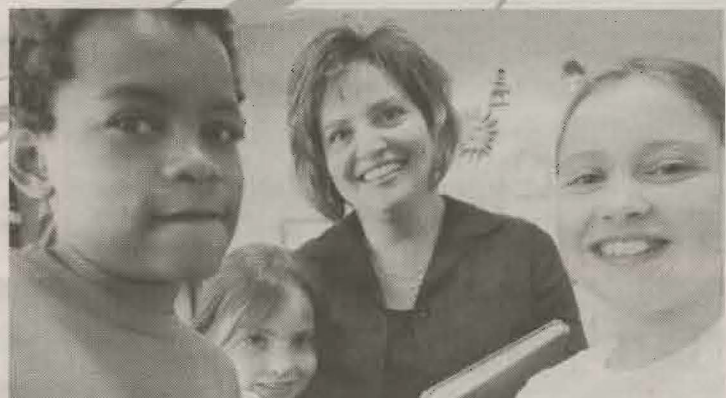
CSIN contacted three non-guests for having alcohol on campus. PCSD was contacted to assist, however no arrests were made.

VANDALISM

Nov. 4

CSIN was contacted regarding crayon graffiti in a residence hall restroom stall.

Become a teacher ...



Think critically

Transform practice

Promote justice



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Sustainability Tip of the Week

Over 1 billion people lack access to the only 3 percent of freshwater on earth. You can conserve up to five gallons of water each day by turning off the faucet while you brush your teeth.

Courtesy of Sustainability Fellows 2007

Guest Editorial

CRAIGSLIST

Friend or foe? Tragedy inspires a new look at Internet safety

Maren Anderson
MAST LUTELIFE EDITOR

Tragedy struck one Minnesota family Friday, Oct. 26 when their daughter's body was found in the trunk of her parked car. A day earlier, she had left her comfortable abode to respond to a Craigslist ad for a nanny in a quaint southern Minnesota town. Police notified her roommate and family on Friday morning when they found her purse in a dumpster. The family and the roommate told the police that she had not been seen for 24 hours, which launched a statewide search for Katherine Anne Olson.

Upon receiving the news of this tragedy, I realized I can no longer treat these "Internet-horror stories" simply as tragedies that happen to people I do not know. This story impacted my friends, my family and me, and its significance cannot be lost. Katherine was a personal friend of students at PLU through her work at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp in Montana and her brother Karl is a personal friend of many others on this campus and of me.



AP Photo
Olsen

Since the advent of the Internet, the consumer awareness towards its dangers has progressively diminished. Online retailers like Ebay and Craigslist promise safe products and services, yet these retailers can in no way patrol the Internet. Therefore, the required consumer consciousness must increase. The way we handle these online domains must change.

Every time you log on to Internet retailers like Craigslist, read the item description, know the location you are going to and be aware of your surroundings.

Katherine's younger brother Karl suggests that every time you use an online retailer, whether to pick up a couch or interview for a job, take a friend with you.

Using bravery as an excuse to venture on your own to an unknown location is in no way worth the loss of life. Even if you have had success with online transactions in the past, use this story as a catalyst for the change of your behavioral patterns.

This piece, in no way, seeks to discourage the use of Craigslist or other such retailers. Rather it is a word of caution, an appeal to reason and awareness. No one can live in the bubble suits that most parents have threatened to put us in at one point in our lives to prevent us from facing the dangers of this world.

But, as college students living in Parkland, we must step out and take the appropriate precautions to protect our safety and well-being. We are college educated, why not be smart about our consumer and safety choices? Activities, such as running alone at night and walking in an unknown Parkland neighborhood, are not the smartest choices for your personal safety.

The murder of Katherine Ann Olson is a story of personal tragedy, of stupid crime and a great loss for our world. But it gives us a chance to reflect on the potential impact of our choices, encouraging each of us to reevaluate the way in which we project ourselves in to this world through our use of Internet resources.

Our MySpace and Facebook profiles are all part of the vast Internet domain that is accessible to many unwanted viewers. Those profiles are your constructed image of yourself in the world. What is your profile picture—is it something that accurately portrays you? What about your interests, favorite movies, "about me?" It is imperative that we recognize the ways in which the global community sees and interprets us.

In college, I find myself believing that I am invincible—the Internet does not affect me nor does the tragedy that it could inspire. But this story and its impact have once again proved me wrong.

As the Internet generation, we have the responsibility to be aware of the sources of our information, how we relate to these sources, and how we can be interpreted in this vast medium.



Torture by any other name...

Ambiguous wording flares up concern about U.S. interrogation practices



Ethan JENNINGS

CRABBING AROUND

How must it feel to be waterboarded? I ask because the Bush administration's nominee for attorney general, former judge Michael Mukasey, labels waterboarding, a practice used by the U.S. in military interrogations abroad, "repugnant," but refuses to call it torture.

Let us examine the process. Usually, the victim is restrained against a hard board, either strapped in place or held down by his or her captors. The body is kept on an incline so that the head is the lowest part, sending blood rushing to the brain and inducing dizziness of its own accord.

A cloth or towel is placed to cover the mouth or entire face. Sheets of cellophane are also commonly used, reported ABC News in 2005. Once the mouth is covered, pitcher after pitcher water is poured over the cloth, impairing breathing and simulating the effect of drowning. Occasionally, the towel is removed to allow the victim to breathe—often, he or she gasps for breath as if it might be the last. Then, the cover is replaced and the process begins anew.

Imagine drowning. On dry land, in a small room in a prison or military base. Drowning, or more precisely, being drowned by other people.

While its proponents maintain that waterboarding is not torture, the reality is that it causes excruciating pain and possibly death—and what is torture, if not that? Because waterboarding's goal is to convince the brain the body is dying, many victims are psycho-

logically traumatized for years afterwards.

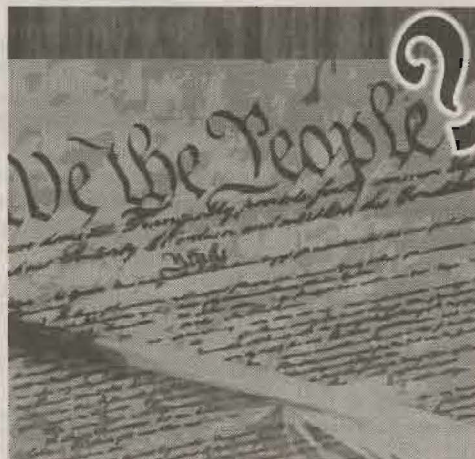
One such victim refused to take showers and panicked in the rain, as reported in the "The New Yorker." Numerous government officials, including Republican senator and presidential candidate John McCain and former CIA agent Bob Baer, name waterboarding "torture" and have expressed their opposition to it.

Baer even pointed out that torture of any kind is generally an ineffective interrogation method. The torture victim will usually tell his or her captors what they want to hear in order to stop the torture, regardless of whether it's true or not.

The 1949 Geneva Convention, which the U.S. ratified, forbids "violence to life and person, in particular murder of all kinds, mutilation, cruel treatment and torture" to "persons taking no active part in the hostilities, including members of armed forces who have laid down their arms and those placed "hors de combat" by sickness, wounds, detention or any other cause." The 1994 UN Convention against Torture, which the U.S. also ratified, states, "No exceptional circumstances whatsoever, whether a state of war or a threat of war, internal political instability or any other public emergency, may be invoked as a justification of torture." The U.S. Constitution itself forbids "cruel and unusual punishment."

The U.S. legal provision against torture is clear, and is just as clearly ignored. The current administration avoids the prohibition by naming waterboarding and other techniques "enhanced interrogation." How long will it be, then, until waterboarding is permissible in the U.S. legal system? When suspects of domestic crimes—citizens and non-citizens alike—are waterboarded into confession to crimes they may not have committed? When torture becomes codified with the politically correct term "enhanced interrogation"?

Think about how it must feel to be waterboarded. You may know sooner rather than later.



Graphic by David Johnston

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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

What disappointed you about the recent election?

(Students who said they did not vote were asked why)



(She said she had her parents vote for her.) I personally don't know what's going on with the election.

Maura Gannon, sophomore



I had some exams and a paper due the next day, so I left it off to my parents. They know where I stand with that, they raised me, our views kinda coincide.

Michael McNany, junior



The transportation one: I was disappointed with the way the package was structured, but at least we got the agencies together. Seattle has a long history of not passing transportation packages.

Eric Allen, senior



I'm sorry, I don't know about the election.

Andrea Nelson, first-year

FACULTY VOICE

Learning skeptically

Chang-li Yiu

PROFESSOR EMERITUS, MATHEMATICS AND PHYSICS

I often find that when a topic should be easy to understand, most people think it is difficult. When a topic should be difficult, most people think they know all the answers.

Fundamental physics deals with exceedingly simple subjects. Take the hydrogen atom, the simplest atom one can have: a single electron running around a single proton. Because it is simple, modern quantum field theory can predict some of its properties with fantastic accuracy. It is simple to learn how it is done.

In a graduate physics program, you would learn quantum field theory and you would be able to produce the results. Although the calculation looks long if you've had only high school algebra, every step leading to the final result is trivially understandable. But how many people would think it is easy?

When new acquaintances at parties find out I am a physics professor, they laugh and say something like, "Well, I never did well in math!" They are not embarrassed, as they would be were the subject politics or religion. This implies that physics is hard. Well, how about politics? It involves culture, history, economics, psychology and more. But almost all people think they have solutions to political problems, even though they might at times concede they don't know all the facts.

But when it comes to religion, practically everyone, even those who may not be able to learn to solve the simplest algebraic equations, has a direct line to God or Allah or Buddha. They all know the intentions of the master of the universe, down to which football team He supports. They have absolutely correct answers to all religious questions. To me, religion should be the most difficult subject conceivable. We live on a speck of dust, yet try to comprehend the mystery behind a vast universe.

My guess is that when a problem is so hard, anyone's answer is as good as anyone else's. That is why difficult problems are so easy. But that does not explain why a particular answer exists (such as "kill all the Xs, then all the world's troubles would go away"), and why those who answer are so sure they are correct. I think it is because we receive these answers almost unconsciously from our environment, before we are mature enough to ask questions.

I'll illustrate with a little history. In the mid-17th century, China changed from the Ming to the Qing Dynasty. Dynasty changes were always a big upheaval. Lots of people died, for all kinds of grand reasons. But I am not going to tell you about grand reasons. I am going to tell you about a change in hairstyles.

During the Ming Dynasty men grew their hair long. The Qing Dynasty's ruler ordered men to shave their foreheads and braid the rest of their hair behind. The rule was very strict: Either shave your forehead or lose your head. And lose their heads many did willingly. This was about ancestral tradition, something Chinese will die for. Three hundred years later, the Qing Dynasty came to an end. By then many refused to cut their pigtails because now pigtails were an ancestral tradition. This is the power of tradition. No question is asked; no reason is needed.

We are fed beliefs from the environment into

which we are born. Without them we cannot possibly function. But automatic, unconscious acceptance of beliefs can mislead us to think that these beliefs are eternal and unquestionably true. Therefore, we have to learn that our environment, cultural or physical, has not always been, and will not always be, as we see it today.

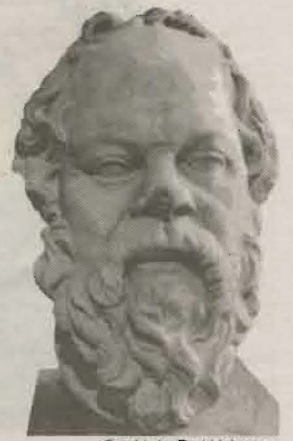
Einstein's theory of space and time was so shocking because we thought we knew everything about it since childhood. We thought continents had always been in their present locations. Abstract painting was rejected at first, because it did not look "real." Almost every new religion experienced oppression in its infancy, but most turned around to suppress other new ones.

One of the crucial duties of a teacher is to help students examine their ideas and beliefs: Where did they come from, what was their basis, are they still relevant, do they do harm? Teachers do not ask you to abandon your beliefs; they don't know everything or have every answer. But they have learned that a healthy dose of skepticism toward ourselves will make our minds more nimble. It will help us all to get along better in this shrinking world.

Teaching skepticism can be a hazardous task. Ask Socrates, who died for it. Teachers fare slightly better in our time. Still they may face grumpy students, angry parents or threatening school boards. It is a tribute to the human spirit that threats have not deterred people from choosing the teaching profession. Next time you hear something from your teacher that counters your beliefs, be thankful that someone is still willing to risk challenging you.

Remember, though, not to be paralyzed by self-examination. Our knowledge is necessarily incomplete; we may not be right. But in life, we must act. The point is that we must always be ready to admit that we don't have all the truth, especially when an action could cause more damage.

Self-reflection sometimes has surprising results. An old monk once said, "Thirty years ago I looked at mountain as mountain, water as water. Later, I looked at mountain not as mountain, water not as water. Now again I look at mountain as mountain, water as water." You may, after deep self-examination, come to an affirmation of your beliefs. Like the old monk, you have reached a more mature state of affirmation. Your teacher will be pleased.



Graphic by David Johnston

Born in mainland China, Yiu received degrees in Taiwan and at Columbia before coming to PLU in 1973. He served at different times as professor, dean and chair in the Mathematics and Physics Departments here until his retirement in 2005.

PUFFING THE OPIUM: Religion's abstract ideas soothe pain, but detract from reality



Most Sundays as I child, I can remember dressing up in frills and lace, donning little paten-leather white Mary Jane's, and hopping into the car for church.

I never really understood the significance behind making these trips every week. All my 8-year-old logic could comprehend was Sunday school equalled cookies and coloring sheets. This was enough to satiate my young heart.

I imagine I shared a lot in common with the religious but uneducated masses of medieval Europe. I was never given any clear answers, reasoning or a choice in the matter.

My decisions were made for me by a higher authority.

As I grew older and went through my own "enlightenment," I realized that a lot of people still hold on to those beliefs that I once had. They still read the fables in religious text and strive to mold their lives after what they are told is the "righteous" way to live.

They are modern-day mice on an exercise wheel. They

keep running wholeheartedly, determined to make it to some unseen better place. Meanwhile, they haven't moved an inch.

Earlier in October this year, the LA Times reported a study by the Burma Group, a Ventura Firm that has been tracking beliefs since 1984.

The study found that among participating non-Christian youth, their perceptions about American Christianity included: too judgmental (87 percent), hypocritical (85 percent), old-fashioned (78 percent) and too involved in politics (75 percent). That study concluded by stating half of young believers said they feel Christianity has become to judgmental, hypocritical and too political. One-third said it was old-fashioned and out of touch with reality.

"Out of touch with reality."

Karl Marx would agree. He says that religion is nothing more than the "opium of the people."

Just like opium, religion serves to numb pain and brings temporary happiness, while simultaneously clouding reality. I have to admit: The idea of Heaven is a fantastic one. A mystical place free of pain, anger, hatred and a place where we can be reunited with all the people who have enriched our lives. And a place where we all can finally meet this "God" we've heard so much about.

But just like the ancient cultures who used religion to explain things they didn't understand, our idea of the after

life provides the same satisfaction.

And we scoff at these ancient cultures for being naive and primitive.

Author and atheist Christopher Hitchens wrote religion is man-made and teaches people to be extremely self-centered and conceited.

He says, "It assures them that God cares for them individually, and it claims that the cosmos was created with them specifically in mind."

This could have a bit of "truthiness" to it. Common sayings among religious leaders are that "God has a special plan for you," "God loves you" and "God is watching you."

Think about how many people around the world pray for actions or objects that will allow for their own personal gain or benefit. Wouldn't this make religion an extremely divisive tool?

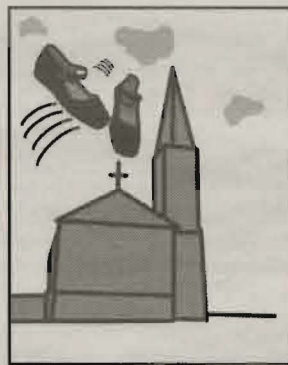
What if you couple that with thoughts of "my religion is the right religion"?

Disaster.

Since trading my days of paten-leathers for days of practicality, the idea of religion continues to filter through my mind like water through a noodle strainer. Too abstract to be taken seriously. No facts to be tested.

The world is being run by leaders with deep religious convictions. And look at the state of things today.

Well, in that case, maybe we should just keep puffing away the opium. Just have faith. God loves you. God has a special plan for us.



Graphic by David Johnston



Queer at PLU

Where's the queer on campus?

Reflecting on PLU's More- and Less-Gay Resources

Andrew Lucchesi
MAST LUTELIFE REPORTER

One would think that by my fourth year on this campus, I'd understand the gay community of PLU. The truth is that, if it can be characterized at all, the PLU queer community's only unifying factor is its amazing variability. More than anything else, being a leader within the queer community here has provided surprises at every turn. This year's particular surprise has awakened interest from new members, as well as those who simply want to learn about queerness at PLU.

Every other week, it seems, I am meeting with some new queer person, or a student working on a queer-related project, or a journalist asking about what this campus has to offer queer people. Perhaps we have a particularly queer first-year class coming in, or perhaps queer issues are just in vogue at the moment at PLU—I'll never pass up the chance to wave that particular rainbow-colored Rose-Window flag.

The oldest queer group on campus is called Crossroads. Crossroads was founded by Campus Ministry in 1988. Pastor Susan Briehl and the other two pastors on staff at the time created the group to address issues that they were seeing repeatedly in their individual counseling sessions, not only issues of sexuality but also issues of vocation, family and relationships. The name "Crossroads" was picked both because it evoked the Christian image of the cross and also because of the true-to-life transitions it addresses.

Over the years, the group changed hands, gained a secular focus, and eventually ended up under the supervision of a pair of openly gay faculty. Crossroads is now an entirely student-led group. A student from within the group is chosen by consensus to be the Crossroads Representative—the person who represents the group publicly to prospective members and other interested persons, who conducts external Crossroads business around campus, and who designs and leads the meetings. I've held the position since spring of 2006.

Crossroads is a confidential conversation group for queer and questioning people in the PLU community. This means that only gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning people are invited to attend. The meeting time and location are kept secret and only given to persons who agree to the rules of confidentiality and respect what Crossroads operates on. We talk about all sorts of issues related to queerness, life and everything imaginable. Not only is it a good group to explore questions about sexuality, it is simply a lot of fun. Movie nights, free food and good conversation keep people coming in record numbers.

Harmony Club, which effectively functions as PLU's version of a gay-straight alliance, was formed in the mid '90s. It welcomes members of all sexualities and gender identities and focuses on support, empowerment and education. It is concerned with things more external, as opposed to Crossroads which focuses more on the internal.

The events Harmony has run in the past years have been both ambitious and varied—they have also been very well received. Harmony has put on discussion panels, drag shows, dance parties, political demonstrations and a number of complete weeks of events (like "Pride Week" coming this spring). Harmony meets on Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. in the Diversity Center.

These two groups are the most queer-related groups on campus but not the only ones. I subtitled this piece with "more- and less-gay" because that is how I see the resources on this campus. There aren't gay and straight resources on campus—there are simply more-gay ones, and then there are less-gay ones.

The Diversity Center is among my favorite less-gay resources on campus. The Diversity Advocates, Multicultural-Affairs associate director Angie Hambrick and Eva Johnson, director of the Diversity Center, are all eager and willing to chat about queer issues on campus. Rainbow flag flying, the Diversity Center is a wonderful resource for queer issues.

Both Campus Ministry and Counseling and Testing rank on my list of great, less-gay resources. Both have had their hands in Harmony and Crossroads over the years—their attitudes toward gay issues have been nothing but supportive and accepting. RHA and SIL certainly have made great strides to create a queer-friendly stance. As long as we're at it, we could keep listing: ResLife, ASPLU, the Health Center (how could I forget?), and Academic Assistance . . . you name it.

The point I want to make is that singling out Harmony and Crossroads alone as "gay groups" is really to do a disservice to the supportive and affirming nature of almost all campus organizations. The work that I do in Crossroads and Harmony has been met with support at almost every turn at PLU, which continues, to this day, to surprise me every time.

To find out more about Crossroads, e-mail xroads@plu.edu or visit www.plu.edu/~xroads. For Harmony, contact the current Co-Commissioners, Dmitry Mikheyev and Samantha Glover, at harmony@plu, or visit their Web site, www.plu.edu/~harmony.

It's not me, it's you

Fear of examining diversity root of bias

Troy Moore
MAST LUTELIFE INTERN

How is it that so many straight people are uncomfortable with their gay counterparts? I should clarify that when I say people are "uncomfortable," I mean they are unwilling, reluctant or simply incapable of moving beyond their own perspective to imagine what it might be like as the gay person. I doubt that many of those that avoid the gay topic truly believe talking to, touching or loving a gay person will make them gay themselves, but is it really that far-fetched to think that what they are really afraid of is that they might somehow be changed by the encounter?

One thing that I've learned from studying sociology is that people are extremely tied to their personal identities. In fact, we cling so dearly to what we know and feel is our own, that we go to great lengths to protect it from others. Protection in this case can be as basic as feeling the need to clarify one's heterosexuality or as

elaborately planned as avoiding all contact with anything perceived as "gay." The latter raises more important issues than sexuality, mainly being the power of perception. People need only to think that you are different to label you as such. You need not be gay or lesbian, or even transgendered for that matter, to suffer the social repercussions that people of those groups endure.

The bigger issue here is not that gay people are innately different or deviant, but rather they are different from you. To validate who you are, the deviant identity is aimed at someone else, and I say this not to blame straight people for how they feel. Everyone goes through the process of redirecting negative attention throughout their daily lives. However, I argue that it is not necessary to say that there can only be one normal identity. After all, don't our definitions of what is normal change depending on the circumstances?

If you continue with this dichotomous attitude of good versus bad, us versus them, you will only be hurting yourself. It is impossible to always fit the social norm, so somewhere down the line you too will become the deviant person whether you want to or not. There are situations in which we all find ourselves having to question what it means to be *me*. It is paramount to remember that all of us struggle with our identity and no one is immune from feeling uncomfortable. You cannot retreat into your sexuality to escape from dealing with others.

ACTIVISM

Beth Kraig
PROFESSOR OF HISTORY
CHAIR, WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES

Over the years as an openly queer faculty member, I've had responses ranging from death threats to the kind of pro-queer activism that I want ("angry" activism from people who are truly disgusted by ongoing anti-queer prejudices and discriminations). Many people respond somewhere in the middle. They are not actively anti-queer, but they haven't really thought much about what they could do (and must do) if the society is to become fair and equal for all.

PLU is a slice of the world and therefore it includes people who would mark "die, fag!" on my office door to people who take injustice seriously wherever and whenever it happens. I like to tell queer students that they have a chance at PLU to learn how to be honest and effective as "out" people, and that includes understanding that if one pursues equality in an unfair world, one will receive hostile responses. It is important to learn how to respond to hostilities and attacks, because they surely exist in the world beyond college. If we wait for the world to change on its own, nothing much will change.

So, much as every bit of hate mail or name-calling has been ugly and nasty, I would never have expected otherwise. As a historian, I know that societies can change but not without struggle and activism and lots of hard work. If PLU students take equality seriously, they must embrace the process of hard work and they must be prepared to engage ugliness. They also need to see apathy and complacency as major obstacles to equality and justice.



PLU professor



Gay-safe or gay-tolerant?

Shannon Schrecengost
MAST LUTELIFE REPORTER

"God hates fags."
These words were found painted in green bold lettering across the side of the Hauge Administration building on Nov. 3, 2000.

This incident is just one of multiple hate crimes in the history of Pacific Lutheran University.

"It's not the words that are scary," senior Jerilynn Harris said. "It's the minds and hearts of the people who feel the need to write them."

October was Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Awareness Month. Throughout the month, PLU was host to numerous events to create awareness of LGBT issues. This awareness is a step in the direction of eliminating hate crimes on PLU's campus.

Hate crimes are defined as bias motivated crimes, those in which a perpetrator targets a victim because of his or her association with a certain social group. These groups are commonly defined by race, religion, sexual orientation, age, gender or political affiliation.

Hate crimes differ from other forms of crime and assault because they are not directed simply at an individual. Instead, they are meant to instill fear and intimidate an entire group of people.

"Hate happens," junior Jake Paikai said. "I feel very safe on campus and around campus for that matter. But, I am also not gallivanting around with a rainbow flag singing 'Gypsies, Tramps, and Thieves' either."

PLU policy addresses hate crime in its Equal Educational Opportunity Policy. Under this statute hate crimes are defined as, "any behavior which communicates a message that is threatening, intimidating or demeaning or which causes physical harm to a person or persons because of race, color, national origin, creed, religion, age, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, mental or physical disability or any other status protected by federal, state or local law."

Members of PLU's LGBT community believe hate crimes should be addressed separately from other policies concerning violence.

"I think hate crimes should have a policy of their own," said senior Katie Silveria, a 2007 Wang Center Sojourner Advocate. "I believe the more we bring things like this to light, the more they will be dealt with and the less frequently they will occur."

No matter what form the policy takes, PLU assures students that the administration will fight hate crime head on.

"The university would respond to a hate crime very swiftly," said Allison Stephens, associate director for Conduct, Leadership and Orientation. "It would be one of those violations that would be a higher level case, one within the suspension/expulsion category. It would be taken very seriously."

In the past, PLU has used incidents of hate crimes as a launching board to fuel conversation. When the graffiti episode of 2000 occurred, administrators facilitated a discussion in an effort to use dialogue to combat hate.



"I HAVE NEVER WORRIED ABOUT MY SAFETY AROUND PLU. THE STAFF, FACULTY AND STUDENTS HAVE DONE MORE TO EMPOWER QUEER PERSONS THAN HURT THEM."

-TROY MOORE, JUNIOR



"I BELIEVE PLU'S RESPONSE TO HATE CRIME WOULD BE QUICK, GENUINE, LOVING AND REAFFIRMING TOWARD THEIR GLBT STUDENTS."

-JAKE PAIKAI, JUNIOR

PLU has worked to promote diversity through the founding of LGBT-friendly clubs such as Harmony and Crossroads. Both groups serve as support groups for PLU's LGBT students.

Unfortunately, despite the awareness these clubs provide the greater PLU community, hate crimes continue.

"I heard about students from Campus Crusaders for Christ praying outside the doors of openly gay students years ago," said Harris.

"Other than that, I haven't heard of any large demonstration of anti-gay sentiment. It could happen at PLU, it could happen anywhere."

Understandably, PLU does not widely advertise when hate crimes occur on campus, but PLU students, specifically LGBT students, have the right to know.

"Hiding something like that perpetuates the idea it is okay," Silveria said.

In fall 2006, a student was gay-bashed. According to the Campus Safety Alert, Oct. 31, a male student was assaulted across the street from Ingram Hall.

The deputy's report indicated that the assailant approached the student and used "threatening, intimidating and demeaning language related to sexual orientation."

The student, who was unavailable for comment, was punched in the face, thrown to the ground, and kicked several times. The attack resulted in abrasions to the student's face and elbow.

Hate crimes are rare, but each act, no matter how large or small, is threatening to the safety of PLU's entire LGBT community. Queer students argue that while PLU does strive to provide a safe environment for LGBT students, it doesn't always succeed in this goal.

"PLU is a gay-tolerant university," said Paikai. "I think we are still working toward 'friendly' status."



"OUR GENERATION IS MORE ACCEPTING BECAUSE THERE IS MORE AWARENESS. GLBT ISSUES HAVE MORE OF A PRESENCE."

-KATIE SILVERIA, SENIOR



"I WAS SOMEWHAT CONCERNED ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT AT PLU - I WAS HALF EXPECTING A GANG OF REPUBLICAN BAPTISTS, WHICH IS FUNNY, CONSIDERING IT'S PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY."

-JERILYNN HARRIS, SENIOR

Historically, heterosexuality has been the dominant sexuality and the accepted norm in American culture. In American society, it is a concept so ingrained in our culture that heterosexuals do not often realize the privileges they enjoy from their sexual orientation. Yet the privileges are there and so is the oppression of people that fall outside this norm. It is something worth recognizing, worth thinking about and worth challenging. Our Women's and Gender Studies class has compiled a list of privileges routinely granted to heterosexuals. We developed this list in dialogue with Peggy McIntosh's widely taught essay, "White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack." In that piece McIntosh wrestles with the unearned privileges that her white skin affords her. We want to use McIntosh's model, but with a twist. She writes, "I have come to see white privilege as an invisible package of unearned assets which I can count on cashing in each day, but about which I was 'meant' to remain oblivious. White privilege is like an invisible weightless knapsack of special provisions, maps, passports, codebooks, visas, clothes, tools and blank checks." We think that heterosexuals carry a similar backpack stuffed full of goodies, and we compiled a list of them as follows:

1. Heterosexuals can legally marry the partner of their choice and receive all the benefits of this union, namely insurance, tax breaks, etc.
2. Heterosexual couples can more easily adopt children than can same sex couples.
3. Heterosexuals can be assured they will not be discriminated against in the workplace and that they will not lose their job because of their sexual orientation.
4. Heterosexuals do not have to worry that they will face rejection from family and friends because of their sexuality.
5. Heterosexuals find acceptance within the religion of their choice and can hold positions of leadership or prestige within that institution.
6. Heterosexuals are not accused of flaunting their sexuality because of public displays of affection.
7. Heterosexual students can be assured that the sex education they receive will be relevant to their experience.
8. Heterosexuals can feel comfortable that in most public places they will be surrounded by people of their sexual orientation.
9. Heterosexuals can find partners more easily than can people of other orientations.
10. Heterosexuals can be assured that their accomplishments will not be credited to their sexuality.
11. Heterosexuals will never be expected to stand as representatives of their sexuality.
12. Heterosexuals know that their sexual identity cannot be wielded as an insult.
13. Heterosexuals can be assured that their presented and well-represented in all forms of media.
14. Heterosexuals do not feel invisible or silenced because of their sexuality.
15. Heterosexuals are not pressured to change by society.
16. Heterosexuals do not face "sexual deprogramming."
17. Heterosexuals are not told their sexuality is "just a phase" that they will grow out of.
18. Heterosexuals are not accused of promiscuity based on their sexual orientation.
19. The sexual health of heterosexuals is not questioned.
20. Heterosexuals never have to publicly state their sexuality or "come out."
21. Heterosexuals do not have to fear of violence based on their sexual orientation.

Professor Lisa Marcus and her Women's and Gender studies 201 class



Photo by Chris Hunt

History Beth Kraig sits in her office. Kraig is the chair of the women's and gender studies program.

and remember that "sitting in the middle" on a justice issue is actually working against

The **K** Federalist Papers

weekly pop culture commentary

Bidding farewell to an old friend: So long, MySpace

It's time to part ways with the dying phenomenon that is MySpace

Jon Harthun
MAST A&E COLUMNIST

Dear MySpace,

We used to have so much fun together. What happened? Admit it, we've lost that spark, that burning desire that kept me coming back. There used to be that constant longing to see you, checking you at every possible moment: in libraries, on friend's laptops, classroom computers, teacher's desktops, in computer labs, Best Buy and Apple stores, on cell phones and even at work. I could have had you anywhere I wanted you. Granted, I still can. But the

thrill has long since passed. You taught me everything. I knew you front to back. I knew your buttons, your hot keys. I knew F5 refreshed your page, making it faster and easier to catch new comments and messages. You introduced me to hundreds, if not thousands, of new people. There was a thrill in making new acquaintances with the click of a mouse. "Add to Friends?" you'd ask me. At one point, my friends list nearly hit the 1,000 mark. Now it's struggling to break 50. I used to run into online friends at concerts, recognizing them from their strategically angled user photos. Now I run into day-to-day friends, embarrassed that I deleted them from my Top 8. When did our relationship stop being about friendships (your motto: "A place for friends")? When did it stop being about fun? Was it when I signed up for Facebook? Is that when it got weird between us? At first I was just curious, hundreds of pictures at my browsing

disposable, not to mention photo tagging and news feed updates. After a while, Facebook just occupied my free time a little better. It was so simple, so user friendly. I didn't have to worry about keeping up my profile or learning new HTML code to do so. I didn't have to worry about finding the right profile song or if it was going to get taken down the next day for supposed copyright infringement. I remember the days when I used to set time aside to take pictures for you, accompanied by close friends, a digital camera, and a little creativity: fake senior pictures, faux catalog shoots, imitation party pics and pseudo-sexy bathroom mirror shots. Maybe even throw in a peace sign and a bright smile, J-pop style, unlike the "straight up thuggin' it" peace sign everyone seems to throw down via Facebook these days (myself included). So what went wrong? Did I just

grow up and get too mature for our shenanigans? Did it happen when Rupert Murdoch got a grope in when I wasn't looking, when I was off with Facebook? Was it when Match.com started posting near pornographic ads on my homepage? Was it when you got too big for your own britches, adding YouTube-like elements, status updates and multiple photo uploads? I remember the golden days when you could only have four photos... period! MySpace, why can't I quit you? Maybe it's our lengthy commitment (since June of 2004 to be exact). Maybe it's because I've single-handedly brought MySpace into countless friends' lives, one by one, if not directly, then indirectly. You know that whole six degrees of separation theory? Yeah, that's me with MySpace. I am the Johnny Appleseed of MySpace. I am Johnny MySpace. I am in too deep. They say it takes two to hold on, but one to let go. MySpace, please, let go so I don't have to.

Events Calendar

What's happening on and around campus this week

- **Battle of the Bands @ PLU**
What: ASPLU presents Battle of the Bands
When: Nov. 9, 8 p.m.
Where: Chris Knutson Hall, UC
- **"Not Your Grandma's Showtunes"**
What: A musical theater cabaret showcase, featuring PLU theater major and minors
When: Nov. 9, 8 p.m.
Where: The Cave, UC
- **L'Orfeo by Claudio Monteverdi**
What: Opera workshop directed by James Brown and featuring PLU's Early Music Ensemble
When: Nov. 9-11
Where: Eastvold Auditorium

'Martian Child' surprises, endears

Cusack stars in oddly heartwarming tale of childhood

Jessica Baldwin
MAST A&E REPORTER

As children, most of us, at some point, have felt like outsiders. If not personally, then we have all at least known a kid like that. You know, the ones who sit in the back of the class, talk to no one, have no friends and seem as though they're from another planet. Apparently, some children actually convince themselves that they are from another planet. The trailers for "Martian Child" portrayed the movie as corny and boring. Oh, another film about learning and loving and growing. Done, done and done! Though not for all audiences, "Martian Child" is one of those "makes you feel all gooey inside" type of movies. This is the story of a mismatched father and son trying to find their place in the world and how they fit into

FILM REVIEW

"MARTIAN CHILD"
Directed by Menno Meyjes
Starring John Cusack
PG, 108 mins



each other's lives.

John Cusack plays David, a famous science-fiction writer and widower. David is considering adopting a child as he and his late wife had planned. Most of David's life, he has felt like an outsider—which led to his successful career as a sci-fi author.

When the adoption agency receives his application, they immediately decide that Dennis (Bobby Coleman) is the perfect son for him. Dennis is a young boy, about six, abandoned by his parents.

As a coping mechanism, Dennis convinces himself that he is from Mars on a mission to study life on Earth. He decides that the Sun will kill him and that if he doesn't wear his gravity belt (a strip of duct-taped cans filled with cement), he will float away. He also believes that any food other than Lucky Charms will kill

him. David decides to adopt Dennis and spends the next few months of the "testing period" trying to help Dennis stay on the ground and convince him that he is not from Mars. Cusack has chosen a familiar role for himself—the man who loves eternally and patiently. Throughout the film, David must lure Dennis out of his box (literally). Learning to deal with Dennis, David writes a book called "Martian Child," which includes stories of teaching Dennis to play baseball and convincing him he's not from Mars by saying "We're expected to love and get nothing in return. Isn't that weird enough? What the heck do you need to be from Mars for?" "Martian Child" is the "sit down with a cup of cocoa on a cold, dreary day" kind of movie. This is, of course, going to attract mostly women, as most Cusack movies do. Cusack is heartwarming, Coleman is charming and Amanda Peet is commanding in her short role as a supportive friend of David's. If you want the perfect movie to make you feel better, see "Martian Child."



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Pencils down



WGA members picket outside NBC studios Monday. New methods of distributing film and television sparked animosity and gave way to the current strike. AP/Wide

Hollywood braces itself as 12,000 writers make good on their promise to strike

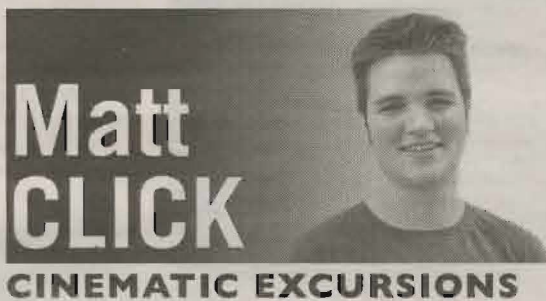
Everyone better prepare themselves for some reruns, because the looming Hollywood writers' strike—the first of its kind in over 20 years—is officially underway. Last-ditch negotiations between Hollywood's 12,000-strong writers union and the Alliance of Motion Picture & Television Producers proved unsuccessful and picketing commenced Nov. 5.

The Writers Guild of America has been threatening to strike for months now, citing new methods of distribution as their primary concern for the livelihoods of Hollywood's writers. Recently, television episodes and even movies have become available online for use with portable media devices. Writers don't see a cent of this money and they're a bit peeved.

But this animosity isn't recent. In fact, the trouble dates back to a dark, primitive time before iPods or "Lost." As DVD became America's format of choice for movies, writers were stiffed with a measly \$.04 a pop for sales. Frankly, this strike has been a long time coming.

So what does this mean for us? Well, try watching Leno, Letterman or even Colbert sometime this week. The effects of the strike should be fairly evident. Film productions have come to screeching halts. In the coming weeks, television programming will opt for reruns. The industry will literally lose millions.

And this isn't going to blow over in a few days. The 1988 writers' strike dragged on for an unbearable



Matt CLICK CINEMATIC EXCURSIONS

22 weeks, with \$500 million in losses. Nick Counter, chief negotiator for the AMPTP, says he expects a long standoff.

"We're hunkered down for a long one," he said. "From our standpoint, we made every good faith effort to negotiate a deal and they went on strike. At some point, conversations will take place. But not now."

Entertainment critics are weighing in on all sides. Some are accusing the WGA of taking advantage of new technology for higher wages. Others are staunchly supporting them in their efforts to "fight the Man." Most people are just upset about missing "Heroes."

Here's the thing, though. It's not a matter of supporting the underdog or rooting for the little guy. It's the principle of the thing. If you're a writer, you should get paid for your work, no matter how it's distributed.

Digital media is fresh, yeah. But the AMPTP claims that streaming and downloadable video is "still too new to structure a model for compensation." Distribution of art and entertainment, no matter how new the method, should warrant compensation for the artist responsible.

All we can do now is sit, wait and enjoy our Letterman reruns.

A country closed, an open mind

Williams' brisk book encourages activism in America

Megan Charles
MAST A&E REPORTER

BOOK REVIEW
"THE OPEN SPACE OF DEMOCRACY"
By Terry Tempest Williams
Non-fiction, 107 pgs
★★★★★

In "The Open Space of Democracy," a mere 107 pages, American author and environmental activist Terry Tempest Williams is calling for community, discussion, breaking out of boxes and labels, and working together as a solution to our problems on a local and global level. She discusses the effects of technological development, the growing concern regarding the environment, the degradation of society through war and the role the government has played.

What makes the novel so endearing to the reader is that it is not a point blank condemnation of the current state of our country's policies. But rather, it presents a hopeful and encouraging initiative as to what can be achieved through this "open space."

"An open democracy inspires wisdom and the dignity of choice," writes Williams. "A closed society inspires terror and the tyranny of belief. We are no longer citizens. We are media-engineered clones wondering who we are and why we feel alone. Lethargy trumps participation. We fall prey to the cynicism of our own resignation."

"When democracy disappears, we are asked to accept the way things are. I beg you: Do not accept the way things are."

Terry Tempest Williams' goal is not to break our society down into groups, one's religion, political party, occupation, for example. Instead, the goal of the novel is to see past differences, something that can only be achieved through open minds and hearts. If we do this, we are able to connect on a deeper level, a human level.

Williams is a thorough idealist, someone who believes that people are innately good, which is a quality becoming all too hard to find in modern society. With her sheer skill and ability to relate to and inspire any audience, she has, through touching and charismatic passages in this book, invoked a sense of optimism within a reader, even one as cynical as myself.

Williams is not preaching to us, she is only communicating her insights of the way things are and more importantly could be. I've come across too many people my age who fully believe that what happens in our society, particularly with our political administration, is entirely out of reach.

To some, any effort to change the way things are has become pointless and a waste of time. It is to these people in particular that I recommend "The Open Space of Democracy." As Williams implores, "Question. Stand. Speak. Act." These are our rights as citizens of this country, more than that, these are our rights as human beings and for this reason above all, we shouldn't be afraid to stand up.

Relient K not so reliant

Departure of longtime drummer means further change of band's sound

Alex Paterno
MAST A&E REPORTER

Relient K has been around for close to a decade. And with the exception of early drummer issues, the lineup has been fairly steady. However, as of Dec. 29, Dave Douglas, drummer, will no longer be a member of the band. It was his decision to leave.

"This has been a very difficult decision," Douglas said in an official statement on the band's Web site. "But I know that this is the right one."

Douglas seems to be following in the footsteps of RK's former bassist, Brian Pittman. Douglas will be moving on to other projects and he specifically cited Gypsy Parade, a side project with his wife, as his new musical focus.

No announcements have been made about the future of the band. Given how quickly the band replaced Pittman, a new drummer should be in the works soon.

Douglas and Pittman weren't the first members to leave Relient K. According to front man Matthew Thiessen, the band went through about five drummers in two years before finding Douglas.

When Relient K added John Warne on bass, Jon Schneck also came on with guitar. This was, presumably, to make the band more versatile by adding to the number of possible instruments.

It seems though that all of this new sound is coming at a price. Relient K's early recordings are fairly underrated. Basically, anything before "Two Lefts Don't Make a Right... But Three Do," the CD that first got Relient K secular airplay, is left unheard by newer fans.

While never flat-out claiming to be a Christian band, the themes presented in the band's early works and a few songs of new works definitely imply a Christian message. Relient K also signed to a Christian music label in the beginning of its career.

But that Christian message seems to be missing and occasionally edited out. Listen to the album version of "Be My Escape" and then watch the music video. Almost an entire minute of the song is left out. That minute implies heavily that the song is more about God than a girl.

Some may label me a traditionalist, or conservative listener, but Relient K has changed its sound and possibly not for the better. The band's first album to receive attention, "The Anatomy of Tongue in Cheek," was just that—tongue in cheek humor.

With song titles ranging from "May the Horse Be With you" to "I'm Lion-O," they were full of witty references to pop-culture with a high-power, pop-punk sound (and a message of love and Christ).

The usual argument in support of this new sound is that the band is maturing. There's nothing wrong with a band maturing. The issue with the new sound is that it has ceased to be Relient K.

"Two Lefts Don't Make a Right... But Three Do" is often seen as the bridge between the sounds, having some of the heavier lyrics paired with lighter music. That is a pretty accurate statement. "Mhmm" was such a digression from their previous albums that some fans were immediately turned off the band.

Dave Douglas is on to Gypsy Parade as of the first of the year. Relient K is saying goodbye to another member. Only time will tell if the new drummer will bring a new sound the way other replacements have in the past.

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Sat/Sun: 12:20, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30
Mon/Tues: 4:50, 7:10, 9:30
Wed: 4:15
Thurs: 2:35, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30

BEFORE THE DEVIL KNOWS YOU'RE DEAD (R)
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Mon/Tues: 3:45, 6:15, 8:45
Wed: 3:45
Thurs: 3:45, 6:15, 8:45
*A discussion is scheduled for Saturday's 3:45 show

VIVA CUBA! (NR) Sat/Sun: 2:30
Part of the Children's Film Festival

STAIRWAY to MOBAR

L.E.A.D. unveils new mural on steps of music center

Sarah Kehoe
MAST A&E REPORTER

A black, white and gray mural featuring the famous faces of John Lennon and Ludwig van Beethoven currently graces the steps leading up to the entrance of the Mary Baker Russell music building.

"Ever since I was a first-year, I've walked past these stairs and thought they looked really blank," junior John De Mars said. "I've always wanted to do a mural like this."

The famous musicians' faces are painted on the vertical part of the steps and can only be spotted if you are looking from the bottom. The design was implemented by 10 artists using tempura paint based on a conceptual sketch.

The artists carefully looked at the sketch and scaled it onto the steps accordingly—an endeavor that took 48 hours to complete.

The mural is just one example of what De Mars hopes to accomplish through the new PLU club Leaders Expressing Artistic Dreams.

The club is collaborative effort and was founded by De Mars and seniors Rich Wilkins and Liisa Nelson. The trio's interest in art compelled them to construct a program where a connection between art and non-art majors could be created. L.E.A.D. is open to any person or medium and its members encourage anyone interested in art to come join.

"We are trying to open the floodgates to projects on campus and in the community," De Mars said.

Senior and public relations officer of L.E.A.D. Jaclyn Aldrich said that L.E.A.D. wants all kinds of people with different interests to join the club to help move and inspire these projects around campus.

"I'm a graphic design major and John is a business major," Aldrich said. "You don't have to be artistic to join this club—you just have to have passion in some artistic endeavor."

Aldrich said the goal of this new club is to showcase the artistic talents of the students at PLU, educate students on the different forms of art, and show how important art is to the community.

"Our heart is to reach out to the community with our passion

and use that passion to influence fellow students and the Northwest in a positive way," De Mars said.

L.E.A.D. attempts to develop artistic ideas that have meaning to the PLU community and significance for everyone. De Mars explained that the theme of MBR and what the Music Department itself seems to symbolize was inspiration for the mural.

"I looked at it as a way to incorporate the theme of the building and also incorporate older and contemporary music," De Mars said.

De Mars, Aldrich, Wilkins, Nelson and the other members of L.E.A.D. battled the weather conditions, exhaustion and the curiosity of onlookers while they finished their art piece. Wilkins, who serves as the club's vice president, reported that he toiled a whopping 17 hours on the prior Sunday. The autumn air chilled the artists, but their goal of finishing by 4:45 a.m. on Monday kept them going.

"It was an extremely cold night and we were tired," Aldrich said. "But we were also pumped about the project and able to encourage one another to push through."

Students and faculty walking to class as well as PLU campus tours full of inquisitive visitors gave L.E.A.D. the opportunity to speak about their passion for art and culture.

"It was a great opportunity for us to tell the visitors about PLU and the art programs available," Aldrich said.

The mural is only temporary and set to be power washed off by L.E.A.D. in a month, based on the contract made between the music department and facilities. De Mars said that if students want the mural to be permanent, the club members could look into it.

In the meantime, L.E.A.D. is in the process of planning more artistic presentations to perform around the PLU community. Aldrich said the club is working on presenting a "war art" show at the end of November and will be window painting around the holiday season.

GET INVOLVED WITH L.E.A.D.

L.E.A.D. is a brand new campus organization devoted to bringing art to the PLU community. To get involved or share your thoughts on the mural, contact John De Mars at demarjo@plu.edu, Rich Wilkins at wilkin@plu.edu, Liisa Nelson at nelsonk@plu.edu or Jaclyn Aldrich at jaclyn.aldrich@gmail.com.

L.E.A.D. meets every Wednesday in Ingram 100 at 5:30 p.m.

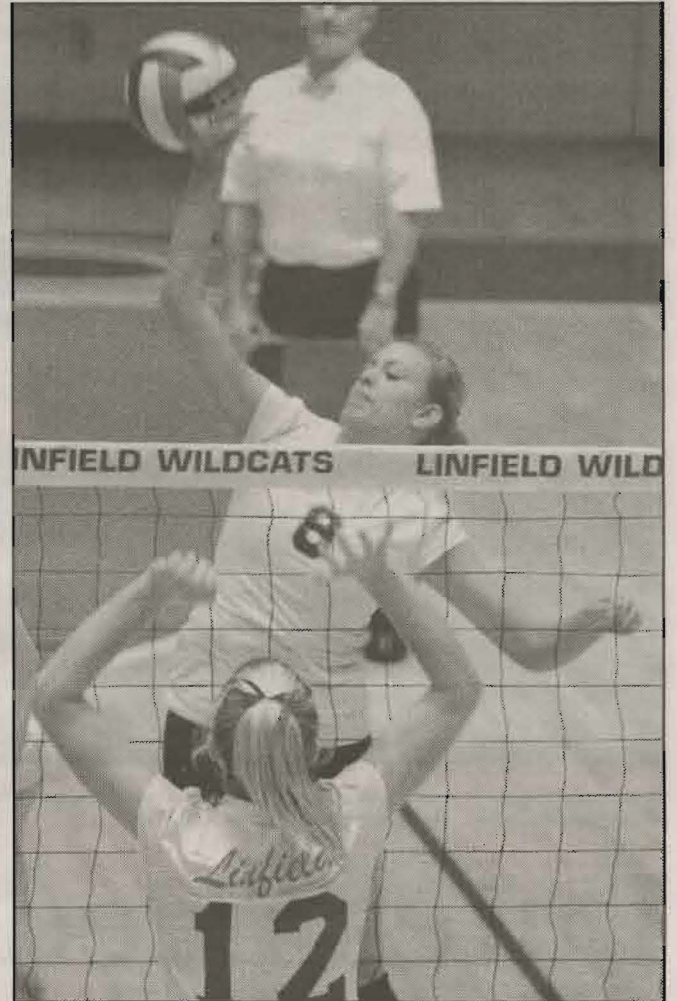
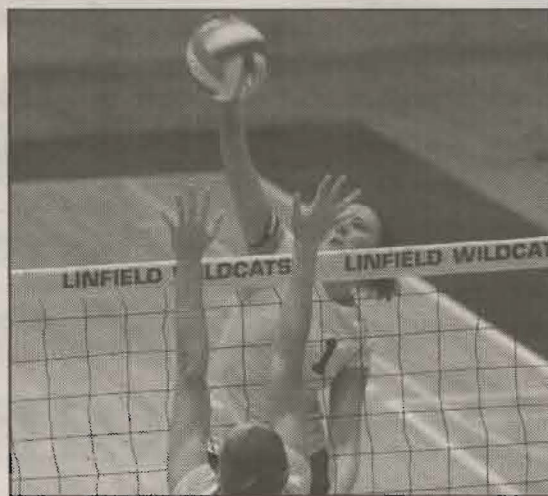
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!



Photo by Chris Hunt

Conference champions

PLU volleyball team takes home second conference title in 2 years, wins individual awards in the process



Photos courtesy of Zenon Olbertz

Honored Lutes:

- Kevin Aoki: NWC Coach of the Year
- Beth Hanna: NWC Player of the Year
- Gina Di Maggio: First Team All NWC
- Megan Kosel: Second Team All NWC
- Staci Matz: Second Team All NWC

Cale Zimmerman
MAST SPORTS REPORTER

After sweeping both Linfield and Pacific last weekend to complete a perfect season in conference play, the Lutes are hardly satisfied with just that. The wins came relatively easy, but the Lutes knew the teams could not be overlooked.

When PLU meets Linfield, it is always a dogfight. The two teams went down to the wire last season for the Northwest Conference Championship, which ended with a split title between the two schools. Pacific, who is usually a pushover in the conference, played much better volleyball this year and had its first winning season since 1995.

Knowing this, Pacific Lutheran came out of the gates prepared. With these victories, PLU is continuing to re-write history as it extends its current win streak to 19 matches. The wins of last weekend improves the record to 23-3 overall.

Pacific Lutheran is the first team to run the table in the conference since Puget Sound did it in 2000.

"We played pretty well throughout conference play. It is really tough to go undefeated," said head coach Kevin Aoki. "But the girls have worked really hard and the team chemistry is awesome."

That record is good enough for the Lutes to be the number 1 seed in the West Region of the Division III National Tournament.

With PLU winning the Northwest Conference, it is granted a bye during the first round of play in the national tournament. That in itself shows the respect that this team deserves considering the Lutes were one of only three teams nationally to receive a bye.

On Friday the Lutes will play the winner of the game between UPS, who received an at large invitation, and Nebraska Wesleyan. If Pacific Lutheran wins that match, they move on to the Regional Championship game on Saturday.

"I think we have a good chance of advancing to the final eight," Aoki said. "But we have to be playing well to do so. All the teams in this tournament are going to be tough."

Earlier this week, the Lutes brought home the accolades they deserve for such a historic year. Half of the all conference team players this year called PLU their home. First-year Beth Hanna was even selected as Northwest Conference Player of the Year.

Joining her on the conference first team was senior setter Gina Di Maggio. Senior libero Megan Kosel, and senior outside hitter Staci Matz were honored in making the NWC second team. After leading his team to an undefeated season, it was an easy pick in naming Aoki Coach of the Year.

Awards only go so far and the Lutes volleyball has the attitude of being a team. There is only one award that honors a whole team and that is the one this team is striving for, a National Championship.



Kosel



Photo by Chris Hunt

Top far left: Setter Gina Di Maggio sets the ball during a match in Oregon this weekend. Di Maggio had 1,058 assists this season.

Top middle: Outside hitter Staci Matz attempts to kill the ball. Senior Abby Mitchell and first-year Beth Hanna attempt to block a Linfield opponent. PLU was able to sweep the last two matches of the season and finish 16-0 in the NWC.

Top far right: Outside hitter Beth Hanna attempts to kill a ball in a match this past weekend. Hanna was named NWC player of the year earlier this week.

Above: PLU fans react to a PLU point at a home game this season. The Lutes will be playing in the regional championships this weekend at Cal-State East Bay.



Photo by Chris Hunt
 PLU midfielder Andy Hyres moves the ball past the Cal Lutheran defense Friday, Sept. 7. Hyres had one shot on the goal, but it was blocked by Cal Lutheran goal keeper Chris Thompson.

PLU snubbed from nationals

Men's soccer ends season on win

Bre' Greenman
 MAST SPORTS REPORTER

The Lutes men's soccer team wrapped up its season with two wins and finished second in the Northwest Conference. While the Lutes hoped for an at large bid that would send them to playoffs, they were informed Monday that their season had ended.

The Lutes traveled to Oregon to conclude their season. Last Friday, PLU played Linfield where it was a battle of midfielders. Both teams struggled on offense, producing only 4 shots for the Wildcats to the Lutes' 5.

"It was two defenses going at one another, and it is tough to score on Linfield at Linfield," forward Michael Ferguson said.

In the 51st minute of the game, Ferguson caught Linfield goalkeeper off guard scoring the only goal of the game.

Instead, Ferguson shot on the un-expecting goalie that was leaning the other way, picking up the 48th goal of his career. Ferguson said it was kind of a confusing play.

"I turned and got tackled, but the ball bounced back to my right, so I turned and hit a quick shot," Ferguson said. "It was a little lucky."

PLU goalkeeper Daniel Mangum only had to make three saves against the Wildcats, recording his ninth solo shutout of the season.

The Lutes' final match was played Nov. 3 at Willamette University. The Lutes won 3-1.

The first goal for the Lutes came early when Willamette fouled in the box awarding PLU a penalty kick less than five minutes into the game. Michael Ferguson stepped up to take

the kick for the Lutes allowing him to tie the goal scoring record.

Ferguson now shares the record of 49 career goals with Brain Gardner who played for PLU from 1986-89. Ferguson is pleased to be a part of PLU history but didn't want it to be at the expense of the team.

"It is a bonus to get the record along with the wins," Ferguson said. "I want to thank everyone for trying to get me the ball for the record."

In the 32nd minute of the game, the Bearcats found the Lute goal off of a corner to tie the game 1-1.

Just minutes before the half, the Lutes broke the tie with a header goal from junior Brennan Brown, his first of the season. The score was 2-1 at the half.

Late in the second half, Jason Bjorgo found forward Trevor Jacka on a corner kick. Jacka was able to add a third goal for the Lutes by heading Bjorgo's cross inside the near post.

"It is comforting to have scored in the last game of my college career," Jacka said.

The Lutes dominated, out-shooting them 22-7, while taking the advantage on corner kicks 7-4. Ferguson and Jacka led the Lutes in shots with five apiece. Jacka attributed the shots to players combining well.

"We were all healthy, and that's a big improvement in our offense," Jacka said.

After starting the season with four straight losses in the preseason, the Lutes bounced back with a record of 13-6-1 overall. They finished second in the conference with a record of 11-2-1.



Jacka

Lutes need new home Stadium

New on-campus football field would add to PLU, Parkland community

Tyler Scott
 MAST SPORTS GUEST COLUMNIST

Rumors have swirled for years about the possibilities. Each season, students ponder just how much longer they will have to travel 10 miles to watch their PLU Lutes play football. Yet as each season ends with the 15-minute drive back to PLU from Puyallup, the next one always begins again with the same drive.

If the team had played on campus, I would have made an effort to be at every home game for sure, because I love watching football and the only reason I haven't gone to every game is the inconvenience of it being so far off campus.

This school year is the fourth year senior Nick Gysberg has lived on campus. Rather than following some of his friends to the roomier, and often cheaper, confines of an off-campus home, he has remained in Stuen Hall, where he now serves as RHC president.

Gysberg is active within the PLU community and credits the family atmosphere present on campus as a main reason for his choosing to stay in a residence hall all four years. He believes that an on-campus stadium would only increase the community among students and provide greater opportunities for students, especially new students, to connect to the school.

"If there was the opportunity for students to band together and go to games, you would see the same types of things you see at larger universities - huge student sections with people going all out with face paint and cheering," Gysberg said. "There would be a greater student contribution to the atmosphere."

The Lutes played four home games this season, all at Sparks Stadium in Puyallup. Although the drive is not un-

reasonably long, it is a great enough distance to discourage students from attending. In a season that has seen the Lutes take great strides toward a return to the success of past years, it seems to still be a struggle to fill the home stadium.

Having a stadium so far from campus discourages student attendance. While the Lutes have been blessed with a fantastic group of student supporters, some who even come hours early to tailgate in the often-cold weather of Puyallup, many students don't even realize that a game is taking place.

Gysberg envisions a campus where this is not possible. His dream, although admittedly complicated, is to replace Foss Hall and build a stadium into the hill that connects upper and lower campuses. He imagines a stadium that fits into the natural landscape, similar to that of Stadium High School in Tacoma. He imagines a stadium that is the heart of the PLU campus.

"A centralized campus location would be so beneficial to the atmosphere of the school," Gysberg said. "It would become a meeting place for people. On a Saturday students could hear the cheers from the stadium in their hall and they would want to join."

This "Field of Dreams" concept may be farfetched, but the heart of the dream is the increase of PLU community. A stadium in the center of the school could provide a focal point for weekends in the fall for Saturdays that far too often feel dreary and empty on campus. Suddenly students who don't own cars would be able to walk five minutes to support their football team. First-years who have only been on campus for a couple weeks wouldn't have to worry about potentially asking someone they haven't had a chance to get to know if they could have a ride to Sparks.

Junior Timothy Siburg agrees that an on-campus stadium would greatly impact the atmosphere of the campus.

"It would provide better attendance, a better atmosphere," Siburg said. "It would create more of a true home-field advantage for teams to actually come on campus to play."

This season, in spite of the fact that the Lutes won all four home games, the Homecoming game was probably the only game that really filled Sparks Stadium. Perhaps it would

make more sense to have a Homecoming game at home, on the campus where alums created so many memories.

"It's a better opportunity to involve alumni into the actual feel and environment of the campus, during Homecoming or otherwise," Siburg said. "The downside to this, however, is that it risks alienating the surrounding community in Puyallup."

Is it possible that a stadium on campus would further enclose the Lute Dome in a way that would contradict PLU's continuing efforts to reach out and integrate into the surrounding community? Or would it enhance efforts by giving our immediate neighbors within Parkland a better opportunity to take part in PLU's tradition and atmosphere?

A common argument against building a stadium on campus is that it is not versatile enough. It takes a lot of money to build a venue so the football team can play closer to its fans.

But in reality, a stadium could be used for soccer as well. Intramural sports could take place on a field that isn't sometimes buried under a six-inch deep lake during the fall. During the spring, graduation ceremonies could be held on campus in the open air. Perhaps a stadium could provide a larger and more flexible concert venue for visiting artists.

The Lutes play what will most likely be the final game of a great football season Saturday at Willamette. Another season has passed, another year of fighting traffic (especially during the Puyallup Fair in September) and driving off campus to see our team play "at home."

Sometimes a stadium is more than just a stadium. Sometimes it's an atmosphere, an opportunity to bring students together who may never otherwise meet. Sports have long been sources of fellowship and bonding, and a school with as much history in its football program as PLU can only benefit from taking advantage of that.

Perhaps someday I will return for my own Homecoming, park my car where I did every week as a student and join thousands of alums and current students at Frosty Westering Field and cheer on a team known for its character, class and ability to bring people from all different backgrounds and communities together. Oh yes, and a team also very well-known for winning.

<p>The upcoming week in</p> <p>PLU sports:</p>	<p>Cross country:</p> <p>» Saturday, Nov. 10 NCAA Division III West Regionals Estacada, Ore. 11 a.m.</p>	<p>Football:</p> <p>» Saturday, Nov. 10 PLU at Willamette 1:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Swimming:</p> <p>» Friday, Nov. 2 PLU at UPS 6 p.m.</p>	<p>Volleyball:</p> <p>» Nov. 8-10 NCAA West Region Tournament Hayward, Cali.</p>

Sonics hijacked by Oklahoma City owners



Collin GUILDNER Bennett never intended to keep team in Seattle

I feel stupid. Stupid for thinking that the new Seattle Sonics owner had any intentions of attempting to keeping the team in the great Northwest. Stupid for thinking that a businessman from Oklahoma City cared at all about a city and a fan base that has supported its team for 44 years. Many events have led up to this almost inevitable move. Here is how it went down, how Seattle's longest standing major sports franchise looks to be leaving town and its loyal fans behind.

February 1994: Seattle agrees to a \$100 million renovation of the Coliseum, the current home of the SuperSonics. In return, the team must agree to a 15-year lease. The Key Arena was the first new professional sports stadium for a Seattle team. Safeco Field and Qwest Field followed for the Mariners and Seahawks, but the Sonics' new stadium was more than adequate 13 years ago.

How out of date can that place be? I understand that Key Arena has the smallest occupancy of any stadium in the NBA, but we are not even selling out now, how would more seats help this already struggling franchise?

July 2006: Clay Bennett and a group of Oklahoma-City based business men purchase the Sonics from Starbucks chairman Howard Shultz and his ownership group for \$350 million.

When the public savvy Bennett bought the team, he made everyone believe that he was going to do everything he could to keep the team in Seattle. Bennett came from Oklahoma City, an area that had expressed interest in an NBA team and even hosted the New Orleans team following hurricane Katrina. I felt his intentions were good, until he said he would move the team if a

\$500 million new stadium was not built.

April 2007: State legislature rejects the Sonics' proposal of a \$500 million arena in Renton. Bennett immediately threatens to relocate the Sonics to a new city.

This must have been Bennett's way of clearing his conscience. Now that he had attempted to keep the team in Seattle, he could move them to his home town. He had kept his word and attempted to keep the team at their original home.

All along Bennett was planning on moving this team, now his window was open. Clay, just because the state would not approve a \$500 million arena, does not mean we don't love our NBA team and want to keep them in our city.

June 2007: After Bennett and his management teams fired coach Bob Hill and general manager Rick Sund, he hires new people that he himself handpicked.

During the 2007 NBA draft, the Sonics trade star player Ray Allen to Boston for three players and a first round draft pick. The Sonics also decline to peruse free agent Reshard Lewis, a former all-star.

Though Bennett attempted to get everyone excited about the young players the Sonics had gotten in the trade, he had gotten rid of major people and players who had ties to the city of Seattle. Bennett even demoted Lenny Wilkins, a former player and coach for Seattle, who is loved by Sonics fans. Ray Allen had spoken many times in favor of keeping the team in Seattle. Without these people involved with the organization, Bennett had successfully begun to cut the ties between the SuperSonics and Seattle.

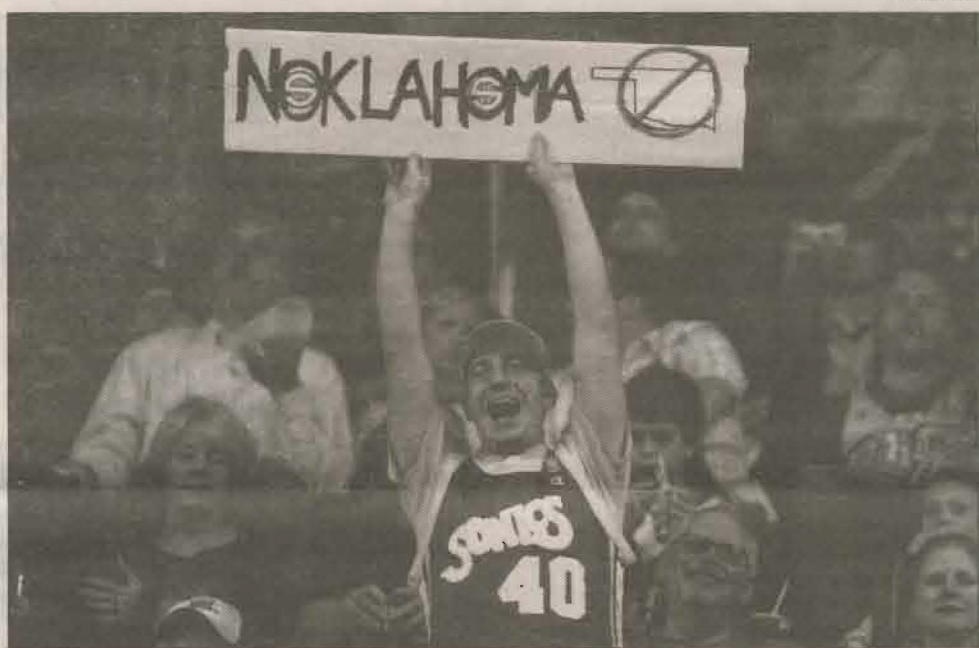
November 2007: A day after the NBA season began, Bennett announced that he will be filing with the NBA to relocate the Sonics to Oklahoma City. Seattle will still attempt to hold the Sonics to the lease with Key Arena.

And it all comes out. Bennett set a deadline for a new arena proposal at the beginning of the season. Bennett breathed a sigh of relief when it came and went, even though any proposal that would have been brought to him would have been shot down quicker than Shaun Alexander falls down after being touched by a defender.

Bennett has had his opportunity to keep the beloved Sonics in the city that has supported them for years, but now we know what he wanted all along. I still feel stupid for not seeing what he really wanted to do: Hijack our SuperSonics.



AP File Photo



AP Photo by Elaine Thompson

Above: Oklahoma business man Clay Bennett stands for a picture after purchasing the SuperSonics. Bennett convinced the Seattle fan base he would attempt to keep the team in the city, but now says he intends to file for relocation.
Below: A SuperSonics fan expresses his dismay for the Sonics potential move. Oklahoma City would be the likely new destination for the franchise.

Scorecard

Football

Team	NWC	%	All	%
Whitworth	5-0	1.000	7-2	.778
PLU	3-2	.600	6-2	.750
Linfield	3-2	.600	5-3	.625
Willamette	3-2	.600	4-5	.444
UPS	2-2	.400	4-4	.500
Menlo	2-4	.333	2-8	.200
L&C	0-5	.000	0-8	.000

(Stats as of 11/7)

Offensive Statistics:

Rushing Yards Per Game Leaders:
 Anthony Canger - 46.3
 Chase Reed - 21.8
 Aaron Murphy - 19.6

Rushing Season TD Leaders:
 Schonau-Taylor - 6
 Chase Reed - 4

Receiving Yards Per Game Leaders:
 Craig Chiado - 84.7
 Chase Reed - 55.5
 Greg Ford - 52

Receiving Season TD Leaders:
 Chase Reed - 6
 Craig Chiado - 5
 Greg Ford - 4

Passing Yards Per Game Leader:
 Brett Gordon - 188

Passing Season TD Leaders:
 Brett Gordon: 15

Defensive Statistics:

Tackle Leaders:
 Chad Blau - 54
 Robert Thomsen - 52

Sacks Leaders:
 Andy Eisentrout - 9.5
 Robert Thompson - 6.5

Interception Leader:
 Evan Bratz - 2

Women's Soccer

Team	NWC	%	All	%
UPS	14-1-1	.806	18-1-1	.925
Whitworth	14-2-0	.875	17-2-0	.895
George Fox	9-5-2	.625	12-6-2	.650
Whitman	9-5-2	.625	10-7-3	.575
Willamette	7-7-2	.500	8-9-2	.474
Linfield	5-10-1	.344	6-11-2	.368
PLU	4-11-1	.281	5-13-2	.300
Pacific	3-13-0	.188	5-14-1	.275
L&C	2-13-1	.156	2-14-2	.167

(Stats as of 11/7)

Goal Leaders:
 Melissa Buitrago - 4
 Monica Beard - 4
 Two Tied - 2

Assist Leaders:
 Monica Beard - 3
 Melissa Buitrago - 3
 Meredith Newby - 2

Saves Leader:
 Amanda Tschauner - 111

Men's Soccer

Team	NWC	%	All	%
Whitworth	12-2-0	.857	14-3-1	.806
PLU	11-2-1	.821	13-6-1	.675
UPS	10-3-1	.750	15-3-1	.816
Pacific	6-6-2	.500	8-7-2	.529
Whitman	6-7-1	.464	10-9-1	.525
Linfield	5-8-1	.393	9-8-1	.528
George Fox	1-10-3	.179	3-13-3	.237
Willamette	0-13-1	.036	2-15-2	.158

(Stats as of 11/7)

Goal Leaders:
 Mike Ferguson - 14
 Ryan Hanna - 4
 Jason Bjorgo - 4
 Erik Gracey - 4
 Derek Karamatic - 3
 Derek MacLean - 2
 Trevor Jjacka - 2
 Jake Taylor-Mosquera - 1
 Henrik Oiseth - 1

Assist Leader:
 Erik Gracey - 7
 Derek Karamatic - 5
 Mike Ferguson - 5
 Brennan Brown - 5
 Jason Bjorgo - 4
 Andy Stolz - 3
 Andy Hyles - 1
 Scott Parsons - 1
 Daniele Zaccagnini - 1
 Brian Lubeck - 1
 Derek MacLean - 1
 Joern Hella - 1
 Thomas Pedersen - 1

Save Leader:
 Daniel Magum - 55

Volleyball

Team	NWC	%	All	%
PLU	16-0	1.000	23-3	.885
UPS	12-4	.750	17-8	.680
Linfield	10-6	.625	15-10	.600
Pacific	9-7	.562	14-9	.609
Whitman	9-7	.562	13-11	.542
Whitworth	6-10	.375	11-14	.440
George Fox	5-11	.312	10-13	.435
L&C	5-11	.312	9-17	.346
Willamette	0-16	.000	4-22	.154

(Stats as of 11/7)

Kill Leaders:
 Beth Hanna - 472
 Stacie Matz - 366
 Kelcy Joynt - 203

Dig Leaders:
 Megan Kosel - 393
 Beth Hanna - 327
 Stacie Matz - 322
 Kelcy Joynt - 208
 Gina Di Maggio - 196
 Lauren Poole - 146

Block Leaders:
 Anella Olbertz - 56
 Kelcy Joynt - 47
 Stacie Matz - 37
 Sarah Beaver - 29

Assist Leaders:
 Gina Di Maggio - 1,058

Serve Ace Leaders:
 Megan Kosel - 52
 Beth Hanna - 43
 Kelcy Joynt - 35



Photo by Chris Hunt

Senior Patrick Carlisle breathes to the side during his race Friday against UPS. The men were able to pull off the upset against the Loggers and beat their cross-town rivals for the second year in a row.

Lutes Swim to Victory

PLU men pull off upset of UPS, women come close

Tricia Johnson
MAST SPORTS INTERN

Lute pride was in the air Friday night at the PLU pool as the swim team faced-off with UPS for the first dual meet of the season. Posters made by both the men's and women's swim team, prepared during a team bonding activity, decorated the walls that surrounded the bleachers. The Lutes' swim season has started in full force and looks to give us another reason to take pride in being a Lute.

The PLU men beat the UPS Loggers 109-96. There were close races throughout the meet, with the final event, the 200-freestyle relay, securing the Lutes' victory against the Loggers for the second year in a row.

"It was such an amazing experience to be able to beat UPS for the second year in-a-row," said men's team captain, Patrick Carlisle. "We had some guys win some key races and everyone contributed to the win. Meets like this just reinforce the fact that swimming is actually a team sport."

In the closest individual race of the night, PLU first-year Alex Limoges went head to head with UPS's Jake Rifkin in the 400 individual medley. These men made

the race a two man show by staying neck to neck with one another throughout the race. Limoges brought the crowd to their feet during the final meters of the race and claimed victory for the Lutes.

Some of the Lute team spirit must be wearing off on newcomer Limoges, who said "It's nice to have a group to fall into when you are a freshman. Our team gets along really well. It's a lot of fun."

Fellow first-year Trevor Olsen won the 100 freestyle along with Jay Jones, first-year, who won the 100 butterfly and 100 breaststroke. Jones and Olsen also swam on PLU's winning 200-freestyle relay team.

The victories kept rolling in when sophomore Ben Lilly won the 1000 freestyle while junior Andy Stetzler placed first in the 200 and 500 freestyle events.

The PLU women's team came closer than ever to securing a victory over UPS with a total score of 109.5-95.5. The two teams stayed within a few points of each other until the end of the meet, when UPS took the lead for good.

Despite being unable to beat UPS Friday night, there was still a strong sense of Lute pride coming from the women's team. They came closer to a win against UPS than they did last year, which is an accomplishment in itself.

Both Jessie Donovan, sophomore, and Jessie Klauder, first-year, had an amazing night, taking all of the events in which they swam. Donovan won the 50 freestyle and 100 backstroke events, while Klauder won the 200 freestyle and 100 freestyle for the Lutes. These two women were also part of the first place 200-medley relay team.

Gee's Bend: The Architecture of the Quilt has been organized by the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, and The Wood Alliance, Atlanta. Detail: Mary Lee, Bendolph, Blacks, strips, strings, and half squares detail, 2005. Cotton, 84 x 89 inches. Collection of the The Wood Alliance. Photo: Stephen Pflin, Pflin Studio, Rockford, IL

GEE'S BEND

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Photo by Chris Hunt

Senior Tara Johnson takes a breath in her race against UPS Friday. The Lute women came up just short of beating the Loggers, losing by a score of 109.5-95.5.