

THE MAST

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Students aggravated with Advising: Academic Advising leaves students with more questions than answers

By Chloe Wilhelm

Opinion Editor

When Max Norstrom started at PLU, she knew exactly what she wanted to do.

She didn't know how challenging it would be to make it happen.

Norstrom, who was a transfer student but has since left PLU, is majoring in Chinese Studies. When she came to PLU as a declared major, she had extreme difficulties getting her classes, schedule, E-pass – and even her acceptance letter.

"I didn't get my acceptance letter until I was a month into school," she said.

Norstrom only found out she had been accepted into PLU when she got an email about having to submit a \$200 enrollment deposit.

Because of this, she ended up registering for classes two weeks before school started.

After meeting with a temporary advisor, she was able to get her E-pass, classes, and register her car. She thought that her problems had been fixed.

They had only just begun.

Since she had already declared her major, she was able to meet with a faculty advisor

when it was time to register for J-Term and spring semester classes. However, she did not receive the academic help she expected.

"He just gave me my PIN number [for registration]," she said. "That was it."

She explained that she did not receive any help or guidance on what classes she should take, or in what order. To pick her classes, she had to check her CAAP report to figure out what she needed.

"I just kept track myself about what I needed," she said.

"That's how it's been ever since."

"It wasn't a welcoming experience. I felt like a burden." Duff said.

Norstrom continued to have limited contact with her advisor, and when she tried to reach out during registration, she only receives her PIN number in return.

She said that the process of planning her degree by herself has been extremely stressful.

She explained that after coming to PLU as a transfer student after doing a full year at another college, she was only able to transfer a semester of credits. Because of this, she tried to fit three and a half years' worth of classes into three years.

"Working that out by myself and studying my CAAP

report... was really stressful and chaotic," Norstrom said. "I may not be able to graduate when I want to after three years of doing everything on my own."

"It's making me look at whether or not I want to stay at PLU," she said. "[Academic Advising] isn't the only reason, but it's one of them."

Max Norstrom is not the only one who has had difficulty with Academic Advising at PLU. A number of students have had challenging experiences, including Payton Duff, a first-year pre-nursing student.

When registering for fall classes over the summer, she was assured several times that the French class she signed up for would also count as a religion credit.

Duff asked multiple times about the credit, and was assured that it would count.

It didn't.

"I was very upset," she said. "It's very difficult – now I am struggling to fit in a religion class on top of my nursing pre-regs."

This was not the only negative experience Duff has with Academic Advising. She said that when it came time to register for J-Term and spring semester classes, setting up an appointment was very difficult.

"When I got there, I had a one-hour appointment and was only there for about thirty minutes," she said.

She explained that while she got helpful information about what classes she should take, it was not a positive experience overall.



rience overall.

"It was helpful, but [my advisor] didn't seem too excited about the questions I had," Duff said. "I felt stupid for not knowing."

She said her advisor gave her recommendations on what classes she should take, but seemed like she wanted to get her appointment over with.

"It wasn't a welcoming experience," Duff said. "I felt like a burden."

Despite the difficult experiences some students have had with Academic Advising, their problems have largely gone unnoticed.

With a student body of over 3,000 students, there are only six academic advisors on campus – four of which have only been advisors for less than six months. Three are PLU graduates from the class of 2018.

Because of their small staff, each advisor provides registration codes, class recommendations, and academic guidance to 100-150 first-year students.

Kris Plaehn, executive director of the Center for Student Success, has worked at PLU for 13 years, and has been an advisor for five months.

She said that during summer

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'Student involvement soars on record-setting Bjug Day' corrections:

In the Bjug Day article, The Mast stated PLU matched the \$393,000 that was raised on Bjug day, however it should have read "PLU matched \$300,000 of the total \$393,000 raised."

The Mast interchanged the words "financial aid" with "scholarships." The two are different things according to PLU's financial aid office. The article should have said "scholarships" in place of "financial aid."

In the article, 'Social Media Ambassadors' were stated to be students. Instead the job belongs to staff and alumni working with the Bjug Day of Giving.

The Mast apologizes for these errors. We strive to be a newsroom that reports the truth honestly and as best as we can to our ability. If you see an error in our reporting please write us at mast@plu.edu and help us improve our paper.



The 2018 midterms presents: the good, the youth and the divided

By Gurjot Kang
 News Editor

After eight years, Democrats have gained a majority over Republicans with a 29-seat margin, flipping the House of Representatives this past midterms election cycle.

Meanwhile, Republicans maintained control of the Senate, occupying 51 seats. Almost a dozen seats combined in the House and Senate have yet to be declared.

The aftermath of the 2018 midterm elections left us with a divided Congress, but what does this tell us about the direction our country might be headed in over the next two years?

"It's very significant that the Democrats took control of the House of Representatives," said PLU Political Science Professor Michael Artime. "They have veto power now over any legislation that Donald Trump would want to pass and they also have the ability to engage in countless investigations over the next couple of years."

However, the issue of gridlock in Congress is likely not going away anytime soon.

"It was already pretty difficult for the Trump administration to pass big signature pieces of legislation," said Artime. "By the same token, Democrats, while gaining the House was important to them, they still don't have enough control of the legislature to pass meaningful legislation without bipartisan support either."

With control of the Senate, the GOP still has the ability to confirm executive positions and lower and supreme court justices.

This election also saw historic wins and greater representation in government with a record number of 123 women set to serve in the 116th United States Congress, according to the Center for American Women and Politics.

Amongst those elected into

the U.S. House were the first ever Native American female representatives, Democrats Sharice Davids and Deb Haaland.

Additionally, we saw the first Muslim American women elected into the House with Democrats Rashida Tlaib and Ilhan Omar.

This midterms, 29 year-old Democratic Socialist Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez also became the youngest female representative ever elected into the House.

Colorado's gubernatorial race led to the election of Democrat Rep. Jared Polis to serve as the first openly gay male governor in U.S. history.

Many more firsts occurred on the state level with initiatives and amendments passed this election cycle. For example, Florida restored the right to vote for over a million ex-felons with the state's Amendment Four, excluding those convicted of murder or criminal sex offenses.

The passage of this amendment is projected to significantly affect the African American voting population in Florida, which has been historically disenfranchised with Florida's previous voting policy for ex-felons.

Based off 2016 data from the Sentencing Project, this has the potential to impact over 418,000 African American voters, 17.9% of the African American voting population in Florida, who were previously barred from voting as a result of past felony convictions.

This election also saw young voters, ages 18 to 29, turnout in record numbers for the 2018 midterms in comparison to no other midterms in the last 25 years.

Estimates from the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE) indicate that around 31% of potential young voters casted their ballots this election—a 10% increase from the 21% who voted

in the last 2014 midterms. Some of these young people who really showed up this past election cycle were Lutes on-campus.

"From a nonpartisan point of view, I am super excited about the youth turnout," said Riley Dolan, ASPLU Civic Engagement Director and Lute Vote Coordinator. "We really showed up as young people."

As part of a state-wide competition to get young people registered to vote across college campuses, Lute Vote registered over 200 people to vote through paper registration forms and got 946 "pledge-to-vote" cards from students, 113 of which were out-of-state. Moreover, around 172 ballots were received from Lutes through concierge and Lute Vote Ballot Drop-off parties.

Dolan was also recently featured in a Seattle Times Article titled, "Will millennials care enough to vote, or 'go play softball or something?'" where his perspectives on young people voting were contrasted with the perspectives of Frank Schneider, a 90 year-old veteran and Trump Supporter, both of whom have voted in practically every election they've been eligible for.

"When young people aren't sharing our voices, we are letting others speak for us and a lot of the time other generations don't have the same values that our generation has," said Dolan.

There are currently a lot of stereotypes surrounding young voters. Dolan addressed some of these concerns.

"Something that gets thrown around a lot is that young people don't care or are ignorant, and I think both of those aren't true. There are a million factors that contribute to young people not voting but I definitely don't think those are legitimate reasons," said Dolan. "Young people care



PHOTO COURTESY OF RILEY DOLAN

ASPLU Civic Engagement Director Riley Dolan at a ASPLU Lute Vote Ballot Drop-Off Party.

extremely about these issues. College is where so many of these activism movements throughout history have started or been continued."

As some of the systematic barriers between young people voting are removed, Dolan believes we will see young people continue to vote at higher and higher numbers over the years.

In the Seattle Times article, regarding young people voting, Schneider mentioned how he thinks maybe voting isn't that important to young people and "maybe they'd rather got play softball or something."

For Dolan, if he had to choose between softball or voting, the answer is simple.

"Voting, a 100 percent," laughed Dolan. "But softball, it's a good second place."

ASPLU Lute Vote will be hosting a softball game Friday, November 16 at 5:30 p.m. in the FieldHouse to celebrate the record youth voter turnout during midterms. The event is called "Will Millennials Care Enough to Vote, or Go Play Softball or Something? Why Not Both?"

Car prowls plague PLU

By Olivia Crocker and Gurjot Kang
Copy Editor and News Editor

A car prowl epidemic has hit Pacific Lutheran University. With potentially hundreds of dollars in damages, and in some cases stolen property, affecting 23 PLU community members, the issue doesn't seem to be going away anytime soon.

A smashed driver side window, scratches on the door, chipped car paint and \$700 in damages. This is not how first-year Jesse Ring pictured spending her mid-semester break after a stressful week of midterms.

Ring received an email from Campus Safety on Oct. 19 that her car, a 2001 Volkswagen new beetle, had been broken into, prowled, in the Harstad parking lot the night before.

A week earlier, on Wednesday, Oct. 10, Junior student Taylor Greig faced a similar experience after leaving her car parked in the gravel lot behind the Health Center for two hours.

"I was gone for two hours and I walked out to my car and [saw the] window completely busted in, and the glove box was open but they didn't take anything," Greig said. "It already sucks having to leave my car on campus at night when I'm going to the library...but now [I'm] scared to leave it on campus during the day."

While Greig didn't have anything stolen, Ring had her scientific calculator swiped and was left with the task of cleaning out all the tiny shards of glass from her car.

"I was emotional and I was just trying to get a shop vacuum...and [Campus Safety] couldn't get me a vacuum to clean out my glass. I wasn't asking much. I pay like \$50 to park there...and I was just like 'you guys can't even give me a vacuum or broom?'" Ring said.

PLU Senior Abbey Natucci also fell victim to the car prowls.

Natucci remembers walking up to her car, seeing the broken glass and thinking, "You're



PHOTO COURTESY OF TAYLOR GREIG

The aftermath of a car prowler targeting the vehicle of Junior student Taylor Greig.

kidding me."

Natucci thought she was safe. She had left her car parked for only one hour near the Morken parking lot to meet with a professor but when she came back, her backpack along with half of her homework were stolen.

"I was pissed at myself for leaving the stuff in the car, but I guess I just figured it'd be fine for an hour," Natucci said. "Apparently not."

According to Campus Safety, the Parkland area has been experiencing an increase in car prowls and vehicle thefts this semester. Ring, Greig and Natucci are just three of the approximately 23 PLU community members who had their cars prowled this semester around campus between Sept. 1 and Nov. 6. Additionally, there have been two vehicle thefts.

Even if nothing is stolen from the vehicle, students still have to pay the price.

"My friends had the same exact thing happen and are sitting here having to pay a few hundred dollars out of pocket to pay for their windows to get fixed when I'm pretty sure not much was taken from anyone," Greig said.

To respond to the hike in car prowls this fall, Campus Safety has increased their monitoring of parking lots and the hours of off-duty deputies hired to patrol around campus. Campus

Safety is also working to better communicate the issue with the rest of the campus community.

Additionally, Campus Safety was successful in spotting a suspect and identifying the individual with a license plate number and video footage, which was subsequently provided to the Pierce County Sheriff's Department. Reports have been filed on the suspect.

But this doesn't completely resolve the issue since there isn't just one perpetrator.

"Oh we know it's multiple people...we'll get four or five right in a certain time frame and when we have caught some of them on video, we know it's not the same person," said Greg Premo, Director of Campus Safety.

In order to catch such crimes, all parking lots on campus have been equipped with some level of camera coverage.

"Not the streets as much, we focus on the parking lots because that's where the students who pay for their parking decals park. That decal money goes to the parking fund which supports the camera system," Premo said.

Due to the unreliability of technology sometimes certain cameras aren't always working.

"Cameras are like any other piece of technology, they go

Six Steps to Vehicle Safety

There are a number of precautions students can take to prevent car prowling according to Campus Safety.

- 1) Parking near well-lit and visible streets increases the chances that your car is seen by other people through the day. The more exposed your vehicle is, the less likely it is to be targeted. Residents who park overnight should try and park near streetlights.
- 2) Bring valuables such as laptops, textbooks, etc. with you to class. If this is not an option, it's a good idea to place them out of visibility in the glove box or trunk. Many car stereos have a removable front, which can be slipped into your bag when you aren't driving.
- 3) Even seemingly worthless items can be enticing to car prowlers, so decluttering your car is a great way to minimize risk. These actions are best taken before driving to school, so you aren't seen while hiding away your valuables.
- 4) Return to your car regularly if possible, as this can help campus safety narrow the possible time frame in the case of a break-in.
- 5) Campus Safety has an app called KnightShield with a GPS locating function in it that can be used to call Campus Safety for help, access important resources, request escorts and report incidents. Students can download the app for free on Apple and Android by searching "CampusShield" in the app store.
- 6) If you see suspicious activity, such as individuals peering into car windows, report to campus safety at (253) 535-7441.

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PLU on Wheels

By Ben Lechensky

Online Editor

Pacific Lutheran University is now identifiable anywhere in the Pacific Northwest thanks to some new vans.

PLU recently bought new 12-passenger vans for the Recreations Department which will primarily be used by Outdoor Rec and club teams on campus as they travel around the Pacific Northwest.

While PLU may have its own vans now, it wasn't always that way. Rob Thompson, Assistant Athletic Director for Recreation, said Outdoor Rec and club teams used to rent vans from the rental company Enterprise. The vans were in high demand and many student groups utilized them, so when talks turned to the potentially buying new vans, they made financial and logical sense. Thompson credits last year's Outdoor Rec directors for spearheading the movement to purchase vans

specific to the club.

The vans have already been used within the Recreations department and on Outdoor Rec trips this fall and demand for them is very high. Thompson is appreciative of President Belton and the University's Capital Improvements Committee for the support of the rec programs, saying the vans have "really made an amazing impact to our department."

Part of what makes these new vans unique is the PLU-themed design that encompasses the entire exterior of the vehicles.

MarCom was the driving force behind getting the vans decked out in the black and gold. Simon Sung, Executive Creative Director at MarCom, said the design process involved working with the recreations department, designing the wraps and coordinating production with the vendor. This included transporting



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN FROSCHAUER

Senior Colton Walter holds a cutout of his design in front of one of the vans.

the vans, setting a production schedule and arranging a field trip consisting of The Mast, ASPLU, COMA 361 and Impact students to tour the facility where the vans wraps were being assembled.

The Seattle-based company SuperGraphics was responsible for wrapping the vans. PLU alumni Zac Thorpe works with SuperGraphics, and Sung said he gave the students on the field trip a full access tour to the design and production studios.

Senior Colton Walter was the primary designer of the new wraps, and spent months coming up with different concepts and design ideas for the new vans. At one point, Walter said he had around 50 different

design cutouts pass his desk as he searched for the best overall design.

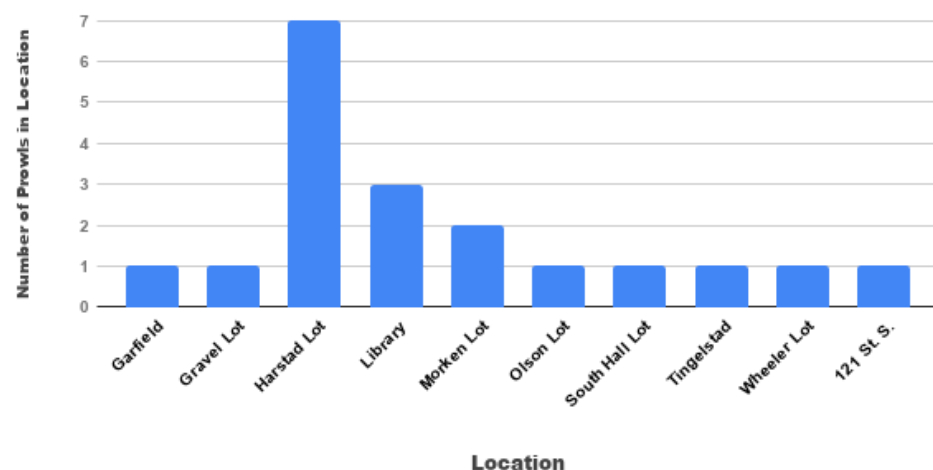
"It's cool PLU trusted me to complete the design," said Walter. "I am thankful and happy that I had support and that PLU trusted me with something they can use for years to come."

The new vans will see lots of use in the coming years, and there is hope they will help strengthen support for PLU and rec programs. Thompson hopes students will see these vans and be reminded to come explore the PNW with Outdoor Rec, and Sung sees the vans as mobile billboards that will help market PLU beyond the Lute dome.

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Number of Car Prowls this Fall Semester

*These numbers are from September 1 to November 6.



out from time to time...I can't say that we have 100 percent working at all times but the majority are working," Premo said

There are total of 77 cameras monitoring areas outside, including some interior cameras and ones on athletic or turf fields. There are approximately three cameras on upper campus and one on lower campus currently not working.

When a camera's broken, Campus Safety tries to troubleshoot the issue as quickly as possible but sometimes they must hire

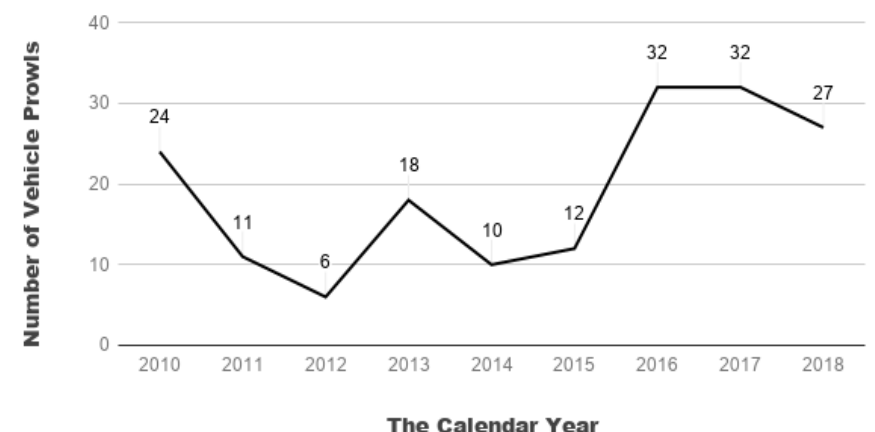
a third party vendor to bring in a technician to repair the cameras.

"That's where unfortunately it takes time because we don't have somebody on campus with that expertise. We have to call in a company and sometimes it takes a couple of weeks, three weeks, a month. It just depends on where we fall on their schedule," Premo said.

The rate of vehicle-related crimes this fall semester have been up more than normal.

Rate of Car Prowls from 2010 to 2018

*For the year 2018, the approximate number of car prowls is taken from the month of January until November 6.



GRAPHICS BY GURJOT KANG

"This has been a really difficult fall for us for sure in comparison to other years," Premo said.

Some students, like Greig, don't think the issue lies with PLU or Campus Safety and that they've done their best to tackle the issue. However, break-ins are still happening and there is not a set date for when the cameras will be fixed to help catch the perpetrators.

*Assisted by Colton Walter

PLU community gathers for synagogue shooting vigil

By Colton Walter

Photo Editor

A crowd of students, teachers, staff and members of the community gathered at Red Square to grieve for the victims of the Pittsburgh Synagogue shooting and to address what had happened.

The vigil took place on Monday, November 5th, a week after the October 27th shooting that took the lives of eleven people.

The service was organized and led by Professor Kirsten Christensen, Chair of Holocaust and Genocide Studies, and Rabbi Bruce Kadden. The vigil contained many different pieces and reflections in the aftermath of the Tree of Life Synagogue shooting.

"I hope that they felt supported in their grief," Christensen said, talking about the attendees. "Events like this... are devastating and destabilizing. Coming together is an important act so that we can see others who also feel impacted,

who want to mourn together, who want to respond in some way."

English Professor Rona Kaufman shared her personal connection to the synagogue's Squirrel Hill neighborhood and her family's experience there. Kadden also read "I am the Jewish Nurse," a letter written about the mix of emotions felt by the shooter's hospital caretaker.

Later, the choral group Consonare Amici sang a Kaddish prayer for the dead. Fitting the setting, a violin solo of Max Bruch's "Kol nidre" was performed in a souring, mournful melody by Music Professor Svend Rønning. The performances resonated with many audience members. "That was incredible, I got chills," said student Juliana Andrew.

One main focus of the vigil responded to the shooter's outspoken hatred of immigrants. On the social network Gab, the shooter repeatedly said that he targeted Jews because of their support for HIAS, the Hebrew



PHOTO BY COLTON WALTER

Students light candles in remembrance of the 11 lives lost at a synagogue shooting on October

Immigrant Aid Society that Tree of Life was a part of.

"I hope that students understand the importance of speaking out against hatred and bigotry in any form and supporting one another in efforts to create a just and peaceful community, country and world," said Kadden. "Most particularly it is important that we advocate for continuing to welcome refugees and immigrants to our country as they make us a stronger community."

On this topic, English professor Lisa Marcus read Warsan

Shire's poem "Home" during the vigil. The piece shared the desperation of refugees seeking asylum and linked their plight to tragedy. Marcus read, "You have to understand, no one puts their children in a boat unless the water is safer than the land."

Through this gathering Pacific Lutheran University hoped to show continued support through hardships and tragedies. More information on Holocaust and Genocide studies can be found at plu.edu/hgst.

Continued from cover

She said that during summer training, new advisors were provided with a handbook written by faculty with general information on first-year requirements for each major.

Despite their small staff, Plaehn said that Academic Advising continues to provide a variety of academic support, from helping first-year students pick their fall classes to making sure senior students will be able to graduate on time.

"We want to give students the tools they need to be successful," Plaehn said.

She said that while Academic Advising provides help for all PLU students, their main focus is on first-year students.

Plaehn explained that after students have either declared their major or have a major they are interested in, they tend to start meeting with a faculty advisor.

Dr. Maria Chavez, department chair of Political Science, is one of the faculty members who provides academic advising.

She currently has 52 advisees, and is able to provide more specific information



GRAPHIC BY KEVIN JANSEN

regarding majors and minors in Political Science.

"My job is to answer any questions students have about the major," she said. "For students who are sophomores and juniors, I make sure they have everything they need for graduation."

Student Payton Duff said that she has been able to get more specific advice about her nursing major after meeting with a faculty advisor.

"I was able to get a lot more information after meeting with my professor," she said. "It helped me a lot."

When asked about the challenges stu-

dents have faced with Academic Advising, Kris Plaehn said that the Academic Advising team tries to provide the right information for students.

"We certainly make every effort to learn what's going on and give the right advice to students along the way," Plaehn said.

She said that currently, students who have questions or feedback about Academic Advising are able to submit them at plu.edu/student-success.

Plaehn said that the Center for Student Success is planning on releasing a survey in the spring, which would allow students to give feedback on what was helpful and what changes need to be made.

For Max Norstrom, however, a future survey about Academic Advising would be too late to solve the problems she had at PLU.

"I don't feel connected to my major anymore," she said. "I've tried to reach out to my advisor about withdrawing from PLU, and I've gotten no response. I need help."

PLU success story: Rosanna Pansino

By Solen Aref
Reporter

What does mega millionare Youtube personality Rosanna Pansino have in common with all PLU students? While it's a little known fact, this baker, actress, and internet star also went to PLU like all of us.

With a big following of over ten million on her Youtube channel, it's hard to imagine this internet sensation went to a school as small as ours, but it's true.

After graduation in 2007, Ro (as she's known to her fans) started her Youtube page Nerdy Nummies where she hosts a geeky cooking show that covers everything from sci-fi, anime, comic books, movies, and more.

Rosanna came to PLU just like a lot of incoming first years: not too sure what she wanted to study, but with a few ideas in mind. She juggled the ideas of becoming a nurse, or a television reporter, or even an FBI agent.

None of those happened to be true calling however, which is where she was in the perfect position to discover her true life passion: acting.

Through taking a required class for her art credit, Rosanna's heart lead her down a path she never saw herself pursuing, but was so happy she found it. From an interview given to our MediaLab students at PLU back in 2011, Rosana explained that "PLU was a warm community, that helped me sort through what I wanted to do".

While it may not have been what she initially thought she wanted, or was planning on getting out of college, Rosana



PHOTO BY GOOGLE IMAGES

Rosanna Pansino graduated from PLU in 2007. Since then, she has become a successful actress and YouTube sensation.

couldn't be happier with her decision to go into show-business.

Rosanna looked back at her time in college in that same interview, crediting things like joining the LUTE cheer squad, and studying away in China for a semester as part of the reason she overcame her shyness and was able to thrive in the industry.

Rosanna's key persistence and hard work paid off, as she slowly started gaining small roles in hollywood through shows like Parks and Recreation, and CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. During this time, she also discovered the world of Youtube and started filming videos for fun.

Since there was no nerdy themed baking or cooking show on the internet similar to hers at the time, she gained lots of fans

who requested more videos from her. As her channel grew, and an adoring fandom was created for her Nerdy Nummies channel on the internet, she quickly realized she had to choose between either Youtube or Hollywood.

This crossroads lead her to sticking with Youtube, and today her success has lead her to 10 million subscribers, and an impressive nerdy nummies collection of 353 videos she has created.

We could all take notes from this fellow Lute about working hard, and following through on our dreams, no matter how far-fetched they may seem.

Her story has inspired many students and continues to inspire the next generation of Lutes who share her humble beginnings of going to a small private college in Parkland, Washington.

Music making its way through campus

The Music Department at PLU presents a large variety of concerts throughout the year. These events are hosted in either the Mary Baker Russell Music Center (MBR), or Karen Hille Phillips Center for the Performing Arts (KHP). Most events will be held in Lagerquist

Dec. 1, 12 p.m. - Solvinden Flute Ensemble
 Dec. 1, 2:30 p.m. - Dietrich Hanson - Non Degree Guitar Recital
 Dec. 1, 4 p.m. - T. J. Mallos Non Degree Basson Recital
 Dec. 1, 8 p.m. - Winter Rose, A PLU Christmas
 Dec. 2, 3 p.m. - Winter Rose, A PLU Christmas
 Dec. 3, 7:30 p.m. - Winter Rose, A PLU Christmas
 Dec. 4, 6 p.m. - Chamber Music Kaleidoscope
 Dec. 4, 8 p.m. - String Kaleidoscope
 Dec. 5, 8 p.m. - University Concert Band

Dec. 6, 8 p.m. - Sounds of Christmas
 Dec. 7, 8 p.m. - Winter Rose, A PLU Christmas
 Dec. 8, 1 p.m. - Artist Series: Trio Estades
 Dec. 8, 8 p.m. - Winter Rose, A PLU Christmas
 Dec. 9, 3 p.m. - Composers Forum
 Dec. 9, 8 p.m. - M. Kusche Sr. BM/BME Percussion Recital
 Dec. 10, 7:30 - Artist Series: Fan Li Voice Recital
 Dec. 11, 8 pm - Consonare Amici



New music dean sings a new tune

By **Marsia Johnson**
Reporter

From Choral Director to Music Dean, Dr. Brian Galante has become an even more prominent figure in the music department at PLU.

Music students have continuously praised Galante for the improvements he's made in the department, also sharing that he demonstrates true artistry and passion in his work.

Galante said that he knows what structures have worked in the past and he is working on making things more efficient in the department.

He has conducted University Singers, Men's Chorus, Chorale and taught many courses in the Choral Music Education sequence.

He says one class he misses teaching the most is Vocal Pedagogy, a subject he is passionate about.

Dr. Galante and Dr. Richard Nance, Director of the Choir of the West, are moving past the

planning stage and are in full preparation for the Christmas concert season.

Dr. Galante and Dr. Nance have been rehearsing with the choirs since the end of October, and are working with the orchestra beginning this week. After Thanksgiving, it's crunch time as they will be in the final stages of production.

One of the highlights of the holiday calendar this year is "Winter Rose, A PLU Christmas." One of the performances will occur at Benaroya Concert Hall in Seattle, one of the most prestigious venues in the city.

"Right now it's the crazy time, but it's music that students enjoy," Galante says.

"I think everybody gets excited about the opportunity to perform onstage at Benaroya, [and] how quickly the concerts sell out for our home performances.

Even though we are looking ahead to a very busy part of the semester, I think because of



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRIAN GALANTE
Dr. Galante conducting Christmas season concerts. He enjoys his new position in the department almost as much as teaching.

the spirit of the season, it really invigorates everybody."

Galante has described "Winter Rose" as having many parallels to the spirit of Christmas and the events we have experienced in the world today.

"The winter rose is a rose that is able to survive in the coldest of winters at high altitudes. All of the light out of darkness, hope in times of despair, it just seems relevant to

what we are experiencing globally, and much less nationally as well," Galante said.

The Chorale is singing two movements from the piece that Dr. Galante himself wrote. The first movement is called "It Was the Winter Wild" and the second "A Child, My Choice."

The piece is about a journey alluding to the advent of Christmas and an individual, spiritual journey. Chorale members are excited to sing the piece that he wrote.

"He's incredible. The spirit of music lives inside of him and he is such a giving mentor," says Chorale member Caroline Goodwin.

"He has so much to give and will only respond [to] what each student seeks, thereby inspiring them to grow and dive deeper into their own practice as a musician."

**Assisted by Olivia Crocker, Raven Lirio, Victoria Norman and Chloe Wilhelm*

Drag dazzles PLU campus

By **McKenna Morin**
Editor in Chief

Drag Queens from the Tacoma area visited Pacific Lutheran University's campus Nov. 7 in the second annual Feminist Student Union Drag Show. Set in the middle of Gender and Sexuality week, the show featured four performers and one student performer. There were multiple costume changes, elaborate wigs, and glitter for the crowd of about one hundred people. The night ended with a Question and Answer where performers talked about their start in Drag, their beliefs and favorite memories.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MARSIA JOHNSON



A dose of Disney on campus

By Olivia Crocker
Reporter

Disneyland may be over a thousand miles away, but that doesn't mean some of the magic can't find its way to campus.

Grace Amsden is a senior here at PLU, and a radio host with Lute Air Student Radio (LASR).

She first joined Lute Air in the spring of 2018, after learning from a classmate about the large variety of shows they run. Upon arriving at the station's office in the AUC, she says it felt like "stepping into a wonderland."

Amsden says Lute Air gives her the "freedom to express [herself] how [she] wants."

Amsden says each show is mostly independent from one another, but the group still manages to stay close. Lute Air Student Radio is a welcoming community, and an ideal environment for recording.

Amsden's show is "A Dose

of Disney" is broadcast live every Thursday from 1:00-2:00 pm, and is "dedicated to celebrating the magic of Disney."

The topics vary weekly, and cover anything from park events such as Pixar Fest, new expansions like Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge, or even Disney's virtual world ToonTown.

Amsden and Disney go way back. She first visited Disneyland when she was three years old, and has regularly returned to the parks since.

She and her family have created countless memories together, and Amsden credits these experiences for her Disney passion.

"It's my happy place." Amsden wants to capture that magic, and bring people "a little pixie dust on campus."

Amsden spends around five hours each week preparing for her show. On top of this, she self-promotes through a Facebook page, website, and creates her own graphics.

She even recently held a tabling event, where she was able to connect with many students on campus who share her love for the parks. Amsden's not complaining about the work involved. She's passionate about what she creates, and enjoys every step of the process.

"A Dose of Disney" has four more shows before the holidays, covering a lot of exciting topics. Nov. 22 is going to focus on Disney's pin trading, a tradition which has been a highlight of the parks for nearly two decades. Following this, Nov. 29 is celebrating Mickey Mouse's 90th anniversary.

Dec. 6 is dedicated to some Disneyland history, specifically attractions which have been retired over the years. The final show before the holidays is on Dec. 13, and will be highlighting the various festivities which occur throughout Disney Parks in the holiday season.



PHOTO BY GRACIE AMSDEN
A Dose of Disney broadcasts live every Thursday from 1-2pm. It discusses new Disney projects and attractions.

To listen to recordings of past broadcasts, visit www.mixcloud.com/adoseofdisney.

To listen to "A Dose of Disney," and other student radio shows live, visit Lute Air Student Radio at www.plu.edu/lasr.

Students interested in joining the station can email lasrgm@plu.edu for more information.

'A Christmas Carol' for the community

By Olivia Crocker
Reporter

The theatre department is trading drama for whimsy in "A Christmas Carol."

This one-act musical is shorter than most Pacific Lutheran University productions, clocking in at around an hour. It features Nick Sherwin as Ebenezer Scrooge, the penny-pinching miser from Charles Dickens' classic novel.

Rather than approaching the story from the traditionally dramatic and dark fashion, director Ghigleri is lightening the mood. "In 'A Christmas Carol,' Scrooge is a man who isolated himself; we want to tell a story of warmth and light being brought into his life."

This approach is for a very important reason; Ghigleri is trying to introduce a younger audience to theatre, and first impressions are everything.

"We're focusing on reaching an elementary age group, and getting them excited about theatre. Because the show is shorter than most, we can be very specific and detailed with what we are producing."

Ghigleri is stepping into a new role as director, though she has typically acted in the past.

"Learning to draw boundaries between the responsibilities I have versus, for example, my stage manager is a challenge.... But it's fun to decide how I want to collaborate and bring all those pieces together into one cohesive show."

Junior David Smith, who portrays both Mr. Fezziwig and Mr. Cratchit, says the acting in this production is unique. "In 'A Christmas Carol' we are playing caricatures. Mr. Fezziwig for instance isn't just



COURTESY OF JOY GHIGLERI
A heart warming holiday classic. A Christmas Carol opens Dec. 1, 2018.

jolly; he is the epitome of that trait."

Smith noted that his other role, Mr. Cratchit, is a more rounded character. It takes an entirely different acting style when in this more realistic character.

Like Smith, a number of the 10 actors are taking on multiple roles. While there

is a lead character, the ensemble plays a significant role in the show.

Smith said he's excited to perform with such talented actors. "This show is going to be so well-rounded, because of how many tremendous people are working on it. It's really an incredible group that is able to turn a short children's show into a professional one, which can be enjoyable for all ages."

The show may be designed for a young audience, but Smith says there is appeal for everyone. "It walks a space of liminality between childhood and adulthood; the music is so well written, all ages can appreciate the tunes. And we can all relate to traits in these characters, even if they seem a bit over the top."

Ghigleri says there's another reason people will want to see this show. "You can come in for an hour, and get into the holiday spirit! It's lighthearted, and it's fun."

Ghigleri has felt very close with the whole cast and crew through rehearsals.

"Theatre is a collaborative art. I'm in it for the people, and creating a piece of art that has a little piece of everyone in it."

Smith had a similar sentiment. "The theatre community has been one of the best parts of my time here [at PLU]. Going to a smaller university means you can find a tight-knit group like this. My warmest memories are with this group."

The performances will take place in the Karen Hille Phillips Center for the Performing Arts. There are showings on Friday, November 30th at 7:30pm, and Saturday, December 1st at 11:00am. Tickets are free to PLU students and anyone 18 or younger. General admission is \$10. Military and senior (60+) is \$5.

The not-so-great front-runners of this election: large corporations and voter suppression

By Gurjot Kang

News Editor

Millions of Americans took to their screens last Tuesday, November 6 to watch the results of the 2018 Midterm Elections slowly pour in across the nation.

Two prominent yet unfortunate themes emerged from the 2018 midterms: voter suppression and the power of big corporations.

Voter suppression was one of the front-runners in Georgia's race for Governor between former Republican Secretary of State Brian Kemp and Democratic candidate Stacy Abrams.

Kemp, worked as the state's chief elections official as the Secretary of State during the race until November 8, despite the many accusations of Kemp promoting voter suppression in the state through the rejection of thousands of provisional and absentee ballots.

As if 'monitoring the votes for a race you're running in' wasn't a large enough red flag, Kemp waited until after elections results indicated a chance he might win before stepping down from his post as Secretary of State.

Kemp leads the race with 50.3 percent of the vote, while Abrams trails closely behind

with 48.8 percent. Despite increasing pressure, Abrams refuses to concede and her campaign has issued "a federal lawsuit...asking a judge to delay vote certifications...by one day and to make officials count any votes that were wrongly rejected," according to TIME Magazine.

If Abrams won, her win would be historic as she'd become the first African American woman to serve as Governor in U.S. history.

Additionally, another common theme that emerged from the results of the ballot initiative races for 1631 and 1634 in Washington State: the power of big money, large corporations and misleading advertisement campaigns.

Initiative 1631, which aimed to decrease the amount of pollution by putting a carbon fee on large corporate polluters and investing in clean air, energy, water and local communities instead, did not pass, with the "no" vote gaining about 56% of the vote.

The potential passage of this initiative presented a large hope to many who wished to stand up to the current administration's lack of regulations on big polluters and rejection of climate change.

Sadly, this isn't the first time that a similar Washington State ballot initiative failed. In 2016, Initiative 732, another ballot initiative focused on implementing a carbon tax, didn't pass.

According to the News Tribune, the "No on 1631" campaign raised \$16 million. The biggest donors to this anti-1634 campaign, Phillips 66, BP, Andeavor, Chevron and American Fuel and Petrochemical Manufacturers—big oil—came at no surprise.

The win of big corporations in this initiative's race isn't too far off from the story of Initiative 1634.

Initiative 1634, which was falsely marketed as an attempt to prevent local governments from taxing the groceries of lower-income working class families, passed with 55% of the vote.

But in Washington State, many essential food items have been exempt from a sales tax for a while now. So, what's the misleading "Yes! To Affordable Groceries" initiative really about?

A look at the largest donors to the "Yes on 1634" campaign will show the initiative isn't about helping Washingtonian families as much as it's about restricting the right of local mu-



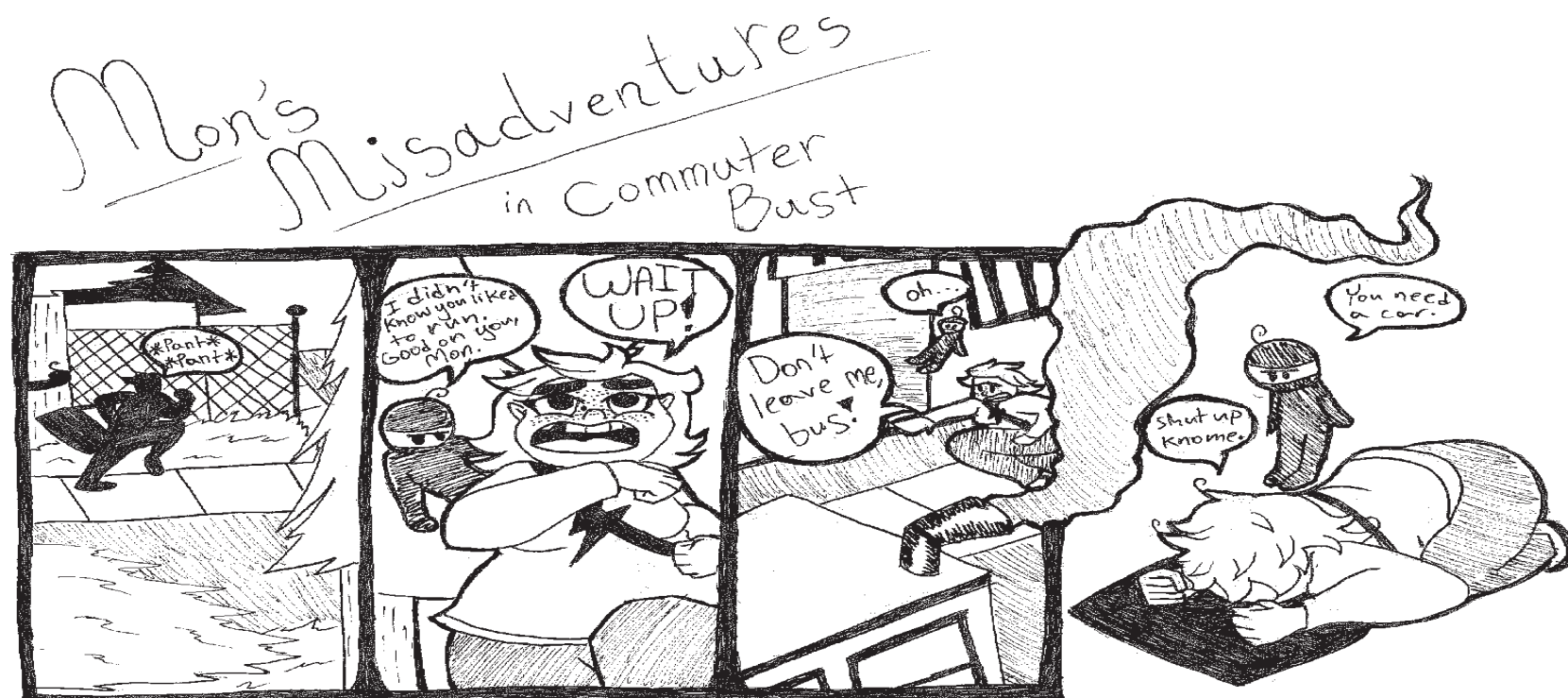
GRAPHIC BY MCKENNA MORIN

nicipalities from establishing a soda tax to curb the consumption of unhealthy sugary drinks, like Seattle did in 2017.

Just trace the money garnered in support of the campaign. Over \$20 million from large soda industries, including donations from the Coca-Cola Company (over \$9.6 million), Pepsico (over \$7.2 million), Dr. Pepper Snapple Group (over \$2.1 million) and more, according to King 5 News.

This election cycle saw many great things, such as record numbers of youth voter turnout for a midterm and over a 100 women elected into office.

However, it also saw some not-so-great results, amongst which happened to be voter suppression and the influence of large corporations.



Six ways to survive finals stress

By **Chloe Wilhelm**

Opinion Editor

Finals week is a stressful time for many students. From writing essays to studying for multiple tests, students often have a lot to do in a small amount of time.

Because finals can be so overwhelming, it is important to focus on self-care.

Cheri Campbell, a licensed mental health counselor at PLU's Counseling Center, said that many students forgo self-care in favor of studying for exams.

"It's very important for students to focus on basic self-care strategies," she said.

Campbell suggested a variety of self-care strategies and studying tips so students can be prepared for finals.

Focus on nutrition

Before and during finals week, many students forget the importance of maintaining a healthy, balanced diet.

Campbell said that since students spend so much time studying, eating can become an afterthought – sometimes, students have breakfast and won't eat again until 5 p.m.

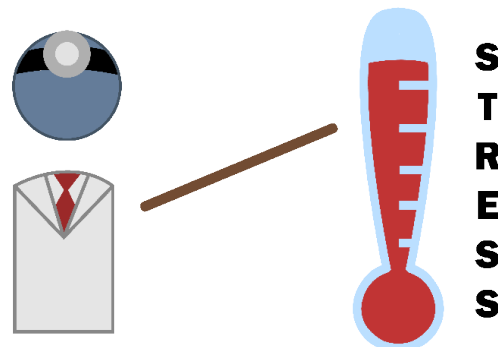
To avoid this problem, Campbell recommended that students make an effort to eat throughout the day, even with small snacks.

"It's also important to make sure you're eating enough protein throughout the day," she said.

Get enough sleep

During finals week, it may seem tempting to stay up late to get in a few extra hours of studying. However, this can do more harm than good.

Campbell explained that when students



don't get enough sleep, they can have difficulties staying productive and can end up being more stressed.

"Often, students stay up late to study and aren't getting enough sleep," she said. "We can't manage our emotions if we aren't getting our needs met."

Campbell recommended that students get at least six hours of sleep every night.

Keep moving

While students may have difficulty finding time to exercise during finals week, fitting in some type of activity into your schedule can be very beneficial.

Even if you don't have time to go to the gym, doing basic exercise (like taking a short walk) can help ease your stress.

Campbell suggested trying to add these types of short activities into your schedule throughout the week.

"Getting your body moving will help your mind be more alert," she said.

Find ways to relax

Since finals are stressful, it is important to find ways to relax throughout the week.

Campbell said that finding ways to relax – whether it be taking a hot shower, going for a walk, or petting your dog – can

help you be in the moment and lower your stress.

"These are basic things students put aside because they need to study," she said.

There will be campus events before and during finals that can help with this effort. For example, therapy dogs will be visiting campus on Dec. 6 in Red Square from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Smart studying

To make the most of your studying, it is important to focus on ways to increase your productivity and lower your stress.

Campbell said one way to maximize your productivity is to take short breaks in between studying.

She also recommended that students study in different environments throughout the week – like deciding to study in the library after studying in your dorm room all day.

Reach out for help

If you feel overwhelmed before or during finals week, don't be afraid to ask for help.

Campbell said that there are a variety of resources on campus that can help you reduce your stress and prepare for finals.

Students can always visit the Counseling Center, or if they are looking for academic help, can get one-on-one assistance with a tutor from Academic Assistance.

Campbell said that overall, it is important that students focus on their own study skills and self-care strategies during finals.

"It gives you more energy to do the things you want to do," she said.

Get verified: PLU's multi-factor system

By **Ben Leschensky**

Online Editor

By the end of November, all PLU students, faculty, and staff will be required to use Multi-Factor Authentication for all devices connected to ePass. Also known as two-factor authentication, this procedure adds another step to the login process, and requires downloading an app in order to work.

Bah-humbug, right? Not so quickly.

PLU's implementation of two-factor authentication is important and strategic to the privacy and security of all parties involved. The additional layer of security helps strengthen an account's defenses to malicious hackers or 3rd parties that may be trying to steal private information.

The rise of technology and the internet has allowed for people to put their entire

lives on the internet, including sometimes personal and very private information. Credit card numbers, addresses, and social security numbers are some of the things that end up online. Naturally, there are people out there that illegally try to steal this information for a profit, using code-breaking programs, phishing tactics, and hacks to steal from others.

With all that being said, it makes sense that PLU is pushing this out to all affiliated parties. ePass, Banner, and Sakai all contain potentially personal information, so adding a beefier security system makes sense.

Despite the benefits of two-factor authentication, I've only heard negative things on it from PLU students and faculty. Most people don't like having to reach for their phone to authenticate their login; however, people seem relieved when they

realize they can have the device remember them for 120 days (assuming they check the box shown on the Duo app).

In my opinion, this goes against the point of two-factor. Having the device remember you puts you at risk for having your information stolen. Even though it can be a hassle opening your phone to authenticate every time you log in, it's ultimately the best practice for keeping your information safe. So when you start using two-factor, I encourage you to take the extra step each time you log in. Better safe than sorry.

Multi-Factor Authentication will be required by all students, faculty, and staff by the end of November. Learn more about how to protect your information by going to www.plu.edu/helpdesk/getting-started-with-duo-multi-factor-authentication/.

Football, family and fun: seniors say goodbye



PHOTO BY MCKENNA MORIN

The twenty-two seniors pose as a class with head coach Brant McAdams before they play together at Sparks Stadium one last time. The team rallied around the seniors all season, looking to them on and off the field for guidance.

By Solen Aref

Reporter

Chances are that if you were on campus last week, you heard about the last home football game: the one and only homecoming game.

Right in the middle of family weekend-the 60th year alumni reunion-and senior day, this homecoming game drew a large spectator crowd of all ages to cheer on the Lutes one last time at home this season.

Prior to the game, fans gathered at Sparks Firehouse Deli for a tailgate celebration to get hyped up for the game and enjoy fellow Lute's company. Coach Brant McAdams also stopped by to meet some of the fans just before heading over to the stadium.

There was music, and food, and lots of chatter as the place buzzed with energy and excitement for the soon to be game.

Since the tailgate tickets were sold out well in advance, the deli house was packed to the brim, erupting with chatter and laughter.

Just down the street from the tailgate, there were a few tables set up outside of the stadium that small crowds were gathering around. One table was a setup for a chili cook off. Terri Hatton and Mark Bennett, who were both parents of former Pacific Lutheran University football players, were at the

game working the table. When Terri's sons Cody and Lucas and Mark's son Kyle attended PLU, there wasn't a chili cook off tradition in existence.

Wanting to start something that parents could participate in to be more involved and have their own tradition, the chili cook off was born.

“All you can ask for is improvement and their best effort” McAdams said.

What started 6 or 7 years ago with a team of five, quickly grew to a large group of parent volunteers.

Terri described how parents of all the football players were welcomed to join, especially freshman parents who “are very included,” to help continue on the tradition all four years their child plays.

The game itself was a true mark of teamwork and unity, from the stands of roaring, enthusiastic fans, to the long line of players cheering on their teammates from the sidelines.

Despite the rain that picked up, the energy of the team and the fans stayed consistently hopeful. The George Fox Bru-

ins brought their 'A' game, and unfortunately the Lute's efforts just wasn't enough to beat that.

The first quarter ended with no points for the Lutes and the Bruins ahead by 13. While the Lutes picked up 7 points in the second quarter, George Fox was still ahead with a leading 22. A back and forth rally left both teams not scoring in the third and fourth quarter, ending the game with a 7-35 defeat.

While the results may not have worked out in our favor, the game still brought families and individuals together to cheer on a common team and celebrate their hard work this season.

The crowds contained all age groups and types of people. From friends having a good time cheering on their school, babies in diapers, and proud grandparents who came out to see their grandsons play, or their granddaughters cheer. Not once did the players stop cheering each other on.

Second year player Kylan Sadettan explained why the players on the sidelines kept cheering on the rest of their team stating, “something that's always been kind of big is supporting and playing through your teammates that are on the field...no matter what, if we're down, or if we're up, we always

keep the intensity on the sidelines really good, always supporting our players.”

And support the players they did. Second year international student Claudia Sarmiento Garcia attended the homecoming game, which was also her first American football game.

She said “They had the fans in the stands, the cheerleaders, the band, but most importantly, they had their other teammates...it was very inspirational to me.”

Coach Brant McAdams also felt the same way about the team. While this is only his first year coaching PLU football, he is proud of their season and how they played.

When asked about the homecoming game, he said that the boys “fought all the way to the end...all you can ask for is improvement and their best effort.” This season had many things to celebrate, including three other home wins prior to the homecoming game.

While the Lutes may not have taken the win this time, the Lutes showed up, worked hard, and had each other's backs throughout the entire game, and that's a hell of a lot to be proud of.

Player spotlight: Ali Wriggle



COURTESY OF SIOBHAN WARMER

The women's rowing team practicing on American Lake with Mount Rainier as a backdrop. The team is done with competition this fall and will start back up with practices in February.

By Kiyomi Kishaba

Reporter

Unknown to her, Ali Wriggle's first venture to Pacific Lutheran University's involvement fair at the beginning of her first year would shape her entire college experience.

A lifelong athlete, Wriggle "wanted to be apart of a group on campus and...loved athletics and being involved in a team." She discovered rowing and decided to give it a go.

Three years later, Wriggle has been a member of the Varsity 8+ (top boat) every season as well as a three-time captain.

"The biggest thing that has kept me going with rowing is my teammates and coaches," Wriggle said.

"Having teammates to go through the same challenges and goals has helped me grow as a person."

The sport of rowing is incredibly challenging, with training occurring early in the mornings on American Lake.

"What many people don't know about rowing is how much of a toll it can take on your body," Wriggle said, "It

has been said that in one race you work just as hard as playing in two basketball games."

On top of being a successful student athlete, Wriggle is also a member of the nursing program.

A very demanding area of study, Wriggle has juggled her academics and athletics for the past three years.

"Being a nursing student and being part of a varsity sport has taught me a lot about how I need to manage my time and be organized," Wriggle said. "It

has also helped me to prioritize the things that I think are important to me."

As she finishes out her final season competing on the women's rowing team, Wriggle hopes to continue the achievements of her former seasons and compete next spring at the NCAA national championships in Indiana.

"It would be my fourth year of competing at nationals and that would be an amazing way to end my career."

Player spotlight: Emmanuel Saah

By David Walter

Reporter

Pacific Lutheran University soccer player Emmanuel Saah is truly making his case as one of the top candidates for this year's team MVP.

Students around campus describe Emmanuel as always having a smile on his face and staying positive no matter what.

On the field, Emmanuel has been a key player for the Lutes. This season, Emmanuel has scored 2 goals on 9 shots.

This helped lead the Lutes to an impressive 13-5-2 record, and winning the Northwest Conference title for the second consecutive season.

"I truly enjoy playing with the guys that I am playing with and also seeing how much we improve and get better each year" Saah said.

"I've made so many memories with these guys and couldn't be [more] thankful for all the memories. Winning the North-

“

“Beating the University of Puget Sound a few times in style is something I will never forget” Saah said.

 ”

west Conference twice and beating the University of Puget Sound a few times in style is something I will never forget," He said.

Emmanuel didn't see much playing time during his first two years, but he kept working hard and always did what he was told.

Emmanuel knew that his hard work would pay off at some point in his career with the Lutes.

This year, that hard work finally paid off when Emmanuel was given the chance



COURTESY OF BAILEY PLUMB

Senior Emmanuel Saah advances the ball against Willamette. The men's soccer team were co-champions this season, sharing the title with Whitman College.

to play under the bright lights. Playing at many home and away games, Saah said it really made his time at PLU great.

"It has been challenging, fun and hard to play, but the reward and growth has been awesome."