

THE MAST



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APRIL 27, 2007

PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

VOLUME LXXXIV, NO.20

Walking to save lives

PLU and UPS band together for cancer

ALLY HAWIT
Mast News Intern

PLU and University of Puget Sound students joined forces at PLU's track April 20, in the fight against cancer.

The event, a cancer research fundraiser called Relay for Life, was deemed a success by many participants.

PLU raised a total of more than \$46,000. The target was \$60,000. Roughly 60 PLU groups participated in the event, which consisted of more than 600 students, faculty and staff.

Students from UPS also participated, raising nearly \$21,000. The UPS goal was \$30,000.

Although the two universities are frequent competitors in athletics and other activities, students said they were happy to come together for a good cause.

"I really like that UPS was here," said PLU student Relay for Life committee member Chris Davis.

"I really like that we were able to collaborate with another school that we are usually rivals with."

Erika Robillard, another PLU student and the event's sponsorship chair agreed.

"This year was better than last, having UPS participate, too," Robillard said. "At first, people were apprehensive because it's, oh such a rivalry; but definitely a great cause to come together for."

The event began at 7 p.m. and lasted until 10:00 a.m. Saturday morning. Teammates, who took turns walking the track, had at least one member on the track for all 15 hours. For



Photo by Chris Hunt

Junior Katie Silveria and first-year Annie Kilgore support the American Cancer Society by attending Relay For Life. UPS and PLU joined together to raise more than \$60,000.

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Foreign language capstone gains new criteria

OLIVIA MA
Mast news intern

On April 9, all of the students who are majoring in Chinese Studies, Classics, French, German, Norwegian, Scandinavian Studies and Spanish received an e-mail from Tamara Williams, Chair of the Department of Languages and Literatures. In the e-mail, Williams declared the new change that student would not have independent study for their capstone project – instead, they must take a course with students from different language majors in the department and finish the research paper in English. It is going to be effective in the fall of 2007.

In the past 10 years, capstone projects in Chinese, Classics, French, German, Norwegian, Scandinavian and Spanish were formerly a two to four credit independent study. That means students made an appointment with a faculty member to develop the learning agreement.

What changed is that the Department of Languages and Literatures has roughly three times as many majors than it did 10 years ago.

"We have roughly 100 declared majors in our department now. But when I came 12 years ago, there were only 30, I think," Williams said. "That means faculty should not be expected to supervise independent study, as it takes them over their 24-hour credit load." Williams went on to explain that faculty members receive no compensation for doing

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Students show pride for sexuality, diversity

Harmony hosts march for acceptance

AMANDA CLANCY
Mast news reporter

"Awareness!" A member of a small group of activists yell while parading around the PLU campus. "So people know we're coming." The GLBTQAAI2 (gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, asexual, allied, intersex and two-spirited) community is coming out and they are proud of it. While holding educational signs, blasting motivating music and displaying rainbow-colored flags, this group received waves and car honks as they marched around campus to actively fight for the cause of equality for all people.

"We want to unify the campus," said Christine Claridge, a senior and president of Harmony.

The 10:30 a.m. parade during the morning of April 23 started the second an-

nual Pride week celebration sponsored by the PLU-funded organization, Harmony.

Other Pride week events included a same-sex marriage demonstration Tuesday, a movie Thursday night and a Pride Dance White Party tonight in the South Hall main lounge. White Parties began as an event for lesbians and gay men to get together and all who attend come wearing a white t-shirt to decorate with colorful paint.

The signs, later to be put up around campus, exhibit historical elements about past laws regarding homosexuality and tidbits like Ellen's coming out in 1997 and how the term 'gay' was first used in 1920.

Lesbians and gay men on the PLU campus are relatively few with a 1 to 9 ratio, but is also one of the higher rates for campuses in the area. There is a large pool of supporters of the gay community and gay issues on our campus.

"It's cool that they're out there," first-year Chris Stuntz said. "Some are afraid to come out, but it's good that they're showing."

Please see Pride
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Photo by Karin Hultkvist

Waving a rainbow flag, senior Candis Suddoth-Tyler leads the Pride Parade. The parade started at 10:30 a.m. on April 23 and was funded by Harmony.

STATE, NATION, WORLD BRIEFINGS

Local to Global news



AP Photo: Elaine Thompson

A Boeing 747 Dreamlifter, carrying the first major assembly for the Boeing 787 Dreamliner, is opened after its arrival from Italy, Tuesday, April 24, 2007, in Everett, Wash. The Dreamlifter, whose tail is designed to swing open for huge payload that is unloaded using the largest cargo loader in the world, carried a horizontal stabilizer, made of carbon-fiber-reinforced plastic, for the new aircraft. It is arriving in five segments inside a 42-foot-long shipping container that will be assembled by Boeing mechanics in Everett into a part that is 32 feet by 62 feet.

Body found in burned home after manhunt

Authorities recovered a body Wednesday night from the shell of a house destroyed by fire after police raided it in search of a man suspected of shooting three New York state troopers, one fatally. Police could not immediately confirm the body was that of Travis D. Trim, a 23-year-old from northern New York whom police had been looking for since a trooper was shot during a routine traffic stop Tuesday in rural upstate New York.

Ranger alleges cover-up in Tillman case

An Army Ranger who was with Pat Tillman when the former football star was cut down by friendly fire in Afghanistan said Tuesday a commanding officer had ordered him to keep quiet about what happened. The military at first portrayed Tillman's death as the result of heroic combat with the enemy. Army Spc. Bryan O'Neal told a congressional hearing that when he got the chance to talk to Tillman's brother, who had been in a nearby convoy on the fateful day, "I was ordered not to tell him what happened."

McCain to make case for presidency

Republican Sen. John McCain will lay out his case for the presidency Wednesday, claiming he has the experience to lead a nation at war as he seeks momentum for his troubled campaign. "I know how to fight and how to make peace. I know who I am and what I want to do," McCain says in a speech marking the official beginning of his second White House bid seven years after losing the GOP nomination to George W. Bush.

Cheney, Reid spar over Iraq policy

Vice President Dick Cheney accused Democratic leader Harry Reid on Tuesday of personally pursuing a defeatist strategy in Iraq to win votes at home — a charge Reid dismissed as President Bush's "attack dog" lashing out. The particularly harsh exchange came just hours after Bush said he would veto the latest war-spending bill taking shape in Congress, which includes a timetable for withdrawing from Iraq.

Mexico City lawmakers pass abortion bill

Mexico City lawmakers voted to legalize abortion Tuesday, a decision likely to influence policies and health practices across Mexico and other parts of heavily Roman Catholic Latin America. The proposal, approved 46-19, with one abstention, will take effect with the expected signing by the city's leftist mayor. Abortion opponents have already vowed to appeal the law to the Supreme Court, a move likely to extend the bitter and emotional debate in this predominantly Catholic nation.

House OKs Iraq troop withdrawal bill

A sharply divided House brushed aside a veto threat Wednesday and passed legislation that would order President Bush to begin withdrawing troops from Iraq by Oct. 1. The 218-208 vote came as the top U.S. commander in Iraq told lawmakers the country remained gripped by violence but was showing some signs of improvement.

Briefs gleaned from the Associated Press Wire Service.



April 16

A student reported the theft of \$500 from his wallet in his room. PCSD was contacted for a formal report.

CSIN was contacted for medical assistance for a student who was complaining of sharp abdominal pains. CPFR was contacted and the student was transported to the hospital.

A student reported a harassing message left on the door of her room.

CSIN contacted local youths who were skateboarding at a residence hall. They were RFC'd for continued disruptions and vandalism.

April 17

CSIN was contacted for medical assistance for a student who was complaining of an intense headache. CPFR was not contacted, the student was transported by a friend.

CSIN was contacted for medical assistance for a student who had injured her back while playing softball. Ice was applied and further assistance was not needed.

April 19

CSIN was contacted for medical assistance for a local youth who had injured her shoulder while playing

golf. Ice was applied and further assistance was not needed.

April 21

CSIN was contacted for medical assistance for a student who had fallen near the library and sustained minor cuts to his hand. The cuts were cleaned and bandaged, and further assistance was not needed.

During the course of routine patrol, CSIN discovered a transient sleeping in East Campus. The individual was contacted and asked to leave.

A student reported that she had received a harassing phone call in her room. The matter is under investigation.

April 22

During the course of routine patrol, CSIN discovered students asleep in the fifth floor lounge of a residence hall with the door locked. The matter has been forwarded to Student Conduct.

CSIN was contacted for medical assistance for a student who had rolled his ankle while playing basketball. The ankle was wrapped and ice applied, and further assistance was not needed.

A non-guest was contacted in the library and officially RFC'd after a previous encounter on April 15.

Safety tip of the week:

Keep an eye out for anyone who is loitering or hanging out around your home, campus, after school work or your car. College students are much more likely to be stalked.

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| Off-Campus At-Large: | Kyle Wetherald | Peter Moran |
| Renee Stupfel | Austin Nichols | |
| Kaley Burwell | Sara Strueby | |

Relay For Life
Continued from page 1

many, however, the event was more than just a relay.

"It's been a lot of fun, considering we've just been walking in circles," PLU student Mike Engh said. "It's been a great bonding experience and the event was very well-organized."

The event was co-sponsored by ASPLU, ASUPS, Celebrity Nail Salon, Forza Coffee, the PLU Student Alumni Association, Puget Sound Outdoors, MiXX 96.1 Radio, Taco del Mar and Xcelerator Energy Drink – to name a few.

A "survivor lap" was run by cancer survivors and their care givers and marked the beginning of the relay.

"It was really powerful to see the survivor's lap," PLU student Carrie Locken said. "And hopefully with this event, there will be more and more (survivors)."

Several other activities were organized with the intention of entertaining the community of participants as they continued to walk.

Among these, a favorite seemed to be the Luminaria ceremony, held to remember those who have died from cancer and to celebrate those who have survived the disease. For donations of \$1 or more, community members purchased white paper bags with candles inside. These were lit and placed around the track late Friday.

PLU student Allison Calhoun was among those who said while she enjoyed all of Relay for Life, celebrating the lives of those who have battled cancer was a moving experience.

"My favorite part of the event was the Luminaria," Calhoun said. "It was amazing to see how many there were."

As strains of "Amazing Grace" on trumpet pierced the night air, PLU and UPS community members walked around the track, illuminated by candlelight.

In addition to the main-staged events, a "Hope Reflection Tent" and a "Relay Activity Zone" provided students and community members with recreational activities, such as face painting, a Harry-Potter-a-thon, grocery bingo, Twister and several arts and crafts.

Fundraising continued even during the relay. One woman quickly knitted and sold hats, the proceeds of which she donated to the cause.

At the closing ceremony, the totals for each university were announced. The top five team and individual contributors were also recognized.

PLU's top individual contributors were: Vicky Winters, who raised \$1,260, followed by Allison Stevens, John Nelson, Miranda Hill and Austin Nichols.

The top PLU team contributors were Campus Ministry, which raised more than \$2,300, followed by EMAL Football, Delta Iota Chi, the School of Education and the Superstars.

Participants and organizers also praised the event for bringing awareness and inspiration to the Tacoma area, while also building community through the participation of both PLU and UPS.



Photo by Chris Hunt
One of the many PLU Relay For Life fundraising groups sports their banner that has the names of family and friends on it. Relay For Life earned \$66,799.74 this year, which surpassed the total earned last year.

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History Club has a blast with the past

AHMED BENKHALTI
Mast news reporter

Young club on campus hopes to attract more new students

The PLU History Club held a game night last Friday in Xavier Hall.

Among the activities taking place that evening were history-themed games, such as Stratego, Risk, and Axis and Allies. Game Night lasted a long time, "because a lot of those games take hours to finish," president of the History Club, Molly Olmstead said.

The club was also showing the movie "Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade". In addition, there were also snacks, such as chips, pizza, and soda.

"Game night is really an outreach event because it caters to more than just history enthusiasts," Olmstead said.

This was one of several events hosted by the History Club this year. The club members have also put together lectures and movie nights. One night featured a showing of the Lord of the Rings movies. Sometimes the students go on field trips to museums. Last November, they visited the Dead Sea Scrolls.

The PLU History Club is very young. It was created only last year by a handful of students including Olmstead. In the beginning, there were only five members. Currently, there are now 8 to 10 students who regularly help plan events in the club. Olmstead hopes that with events such as Game Night, the History Club will be able to inspire younger students to join.

"I'm going to be graduating soon, and I would like the club to continue on," Olmstead said.

Information about upcoming events with the History Club can be found in the Daily Flyer. To sign up, contact Molly Olmstead at: olmstead@plu.edu

Alternatively, log on to Facebook and join the PLU History Club facebook group to receive frequent updates.

From Dmitry to Dominique: A unique drag transformation

SHANNON SCHRECENGOST
Mast news reporter

The popular music blares from the small computer speakers, distorting the familiar lyrics: "Don't cha wish your girlfriend was hot like me?" A thin but muscular male, standing no taller than 5'11, dances across the dark dorm room and gazes into a mirror before applying a perfect coat of lipstick upon his pouted lips.

Sophomore Pacific Lutheran University student Dmitry Mikheyev is about to begin a rigorous process: the transformation from Mr. Mikheyev to Ms. D'Amour.

Dmitry's interest in drag started with PLU's Miss Lute 2006, an annual drag competition hosted by the university. Dmitry participated, and with the help and encouragement of friends, won the competition.

"I had wanted to do Miss Lute since I heard about the competition as a prospective student," Dmitry said. "I wanted to win and I did."

But Dmitry couldn't have done it alone. His best friend and fellow student, Jake Paikai, assisted in the original steps of turning Dmitry into Dominique.

"Anyone would help their friends to become happier," Paikai said. "Dmitry is happy when he does drag, so naturally I'd help him in anyway possible. Plus, he looks great in a dress."

Since winning Miss Lute, Dmitry often dresses in drag as a hobby, though he does some performance.

Some days he can be seen strutting his stuff on campus wearing typical male clothing, matched with a wig and natural makeup. Other days, he rocks a complete female get-up, but the makeover process isn't easy.

A rainbow of glittery makeup spread across the counter resembles the tools of a surgeon prepped on the operation table. Among the array of beautification products are oddball contents, such as duct tape and toilet paper.

Step one: shave face. This is one of the only elements in the routine that is mildly masculine. Dmitry, who rarely sports facial hair, must shave every time he is "in the face."

"Dressing in drag really allows me to explore my masculinity," Dmitry said. "When Miss Lute was over I grew a beard for the first time. I went from a woman to a manly man, even though I didn't really act like it."

Step two: alter body. While many drag queens tape their penis flat to eliminate the possibility of a bulge in slinky outfits, Dmitry opts to layer on the undies.

To create breasts, Dmitry uses an all-too-painful looking combination of strapless bra, duct tape, and toilet paper. He applies the tape just above his stomach, pushing his chest upward to create the appearance of cleavage, then stuffs the bra to create a rounded, breast-like appearance.

Step three: alter face. Dmitry applies a hefty amount of makeup for performances, but keeps it light and relatively natural for daily wear. Traditionally, drag makeup leaves the natural look behind.

"When wearing makeup I can still feel like a woman, even in my underwear," Dmitry said. "But once the makeup is off, it's off and I am back to Dmitry."

When putting on full drag makeup for performance, Dmitry can spend more than 20 minutes on his eyes alone. With eyebrow-high, green eye shadow and dramatically long false eyelashes, Dmitry is ready to shine.

"Performance is a key element in my life," Dmitry says, mouth agape as he applies eyeliner in a perfect arch. "It gives me energy."



Photos courtesy of David Fleming

(From back to front) Dmitry Mikheyev and his alter ego, Dominique D'Amour, strike a pose. Dmitry works at the Diversity Center as a diversity advocate and is majoring in art and psychology.

Pouting his lips, a metallic pink lip gloss is applied. After the traditional lipstick-toilet paper daub, he licks his lips seductively, glamorously making eyes at himself in the mirror.

Step four: clothing. Dmitry sews much of his own costuming, though he is trying to recruit his mother for costume help. He slides into a schoolgirl skirt and a cardigan sweater.

Fastening the strap of a high heel, Dmitry rises to his feet. Walking in heels, obviously, is something that has become second nature. Hips sashaying, he glides with the grace and ease of a cat-walking supermodel.

Final step: hair. Dmitry fits an amber brown wig over his natural short hair. Brown ringlets fall to his shoulders, and the transformation is complete.

Now, as Dominique D'Amour, looks are not the only difference. When Dmitry is in drag, he is Dominique. He is suddenly a "she," and saying otherwise can cause great insult.

"The character of Dominique is still developing," Miss D'Amour said in a soft, feminine voice. "Dominique and Dmitry are really two separate people. I want them to be different even though they share similar qualities."

Though Dominique is unable to separate

herself from Dmitry, the two personalities are different people.

"As Dominique I am much more outgoing and friendly," Dominique said. "I have more attitude and I am more fabulous. As Dmitry, well...Dmitry is beyond comprehension to me sometimes."

Dominique hopes to make it in the drag-queen big-time. Though it's a hobby now, she hopes to gain fame and make money. With the support of family and friends, that is a very likely possibility.

"My dad is really proud," Dmitry said. "He thinks it is fun, and he likes that I am going beyond what is expected of me as a male."

Dmitry's mother, on the other hand, is not as pleased.

"My mom is Russian and a little more conservative," Dmitry said. "She isn't as happy of the idea. She loves me though and is fine with whatever."

He's got the looks, style and class. But, those are not the only reasons why people love Dmitry.

"Being friends with Dmitry is like having really good cake," Paikai said. "You can't help but stuff copious amounts of it in your face."

Pride

continued from page 1

The idea of an awareness parade is perfect to some. "I think it's flaunted to perfection," first-year Perris Wright said.

"I wish we didn't need to have this week because I just wish everyone was just more comfortable and everyone accepts everyone," first-year Brianna Kerr said.

Some students are neutral, like sophomore Monroe Samifua.

"I have love for everybody," Samifua said.

Awareness is a big part of why pride week happens.

"It makes us feel like we are affecting people," Andrew Lucchesi, a junior and member of Harmony said.

"We find power in people who are vocal," sophomore Dmitry Mikheyev said.

However, the group of activists always anticipates some resistance. Others on campus are opposed to same-sex relationships.

"I don't agree with it; they need Jesus," sophomore Trina Togafau said.

Laurel Carter is also against homosexuality.

"God loves homosexuals, just not what they do," Carter said.

Senior David Marshall agrees, but doesn't think hate solves anything.

"I can't see bashing gays as solving anything. I still want to love the person regardless of how founded they say they are in it," Marshall said.

Harmony holds weekly meetings Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. in the Diversity Center to discuss issues, activism and event planning. Currently, they are working to invite TCC to PLU events, hoping to create a network with other groups. Harmony will participate in a combined booth with the Rainbow Center in downtown Tacoma in July.

White Dance Come show your pride

When: Tonight at 9 p.m.

Where: South Hall

Make sure you wear white!

Genocide: A student's struggle to help prevent deaths in the African region of Darfur

ERIC WAHLQUIST
Mast news reporter

A J-term trip to Namibia planted Africa in a special place in Christi Berner's heart. Today, she has channeled that passion toward solving the crisis of the genocide in Sudan.



A few months ago, Berner, a junior at PLU, received an email application to attend a summit on Sudan held by the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington D.C. March 24-25. She filled out a few short essay questions and sent the email back, not expecting much. Then, just weeks before spring break, Berner received notification that she had been selected to attend the summit. She quickly dropped her spring break plans and hurriedly made arrangements to get to our nation's capital.

Due to the late notice, Berner had to fly into Philadelphia and rent a car for the two hour journey to Washington D.C.

"I have a drive," she said.

Berner really got involved in the fight against the Sudanese genocide in Darfur during the fall semester of this school year. She joined the on-campus club VISION (Voices In Sudan: Involving Ourselves Now) which put on a successful panel during the fall including speakers from the Political Science and Communication departments, a military official and David Mangok Akuien, a Sudanese refugee and student at PLU.

The club also had a successful T-shirt selling campaign to raise money for the people of Darfur.

VISION meets every Thursday at 7 p.m. in Admin 206.

Through her involvement in the club, Berner's enthusiasm for resolving the Sudanese crisis had grown, and she followed up by writing a research paper, which broadened her knowledge on the policies and international law surrounding the crisis. The summit in Washington D.C. subsequently allowed Berner to connect with people nationwide who shared her same passion.

"I got to meet student advocates from around the country," Berner said.

At the conference, Berner attended many break out sessions and panels that discussed the genocide and what could be

done to repudiate it.

She also connected with a nationwide student organization called STAND (Students Taking Action Now: Darfur), which shares its ideals and mission with the more centralized VISION organization here at PLU. With such a conglomeration of ideas focused on a common goal, the summit was able to create a nationwide connection between individuals and organizations that are actively fighting against the injustices of genocide.

The central issue surrounding the genocide in Sudan is their civil war, which has escalated in the western region of Darfur. The Sudanese government has enlisted the Janjaweed militia to squelch out two rebel groups centered in the region. This militia has targeted the ethnic populations that primarily make up the rebels, and has centered its focus on killing civilians. To date, at least 450,000 people have died in the genocide, which has caused more than 2.5 million people to become displaced.

A Sudanese woman in Darfur who leaves her home to collect vital firewood is risking death at the hands of the Janjaweed. Right this second, someone could be getting raped or murdered in Darfur.

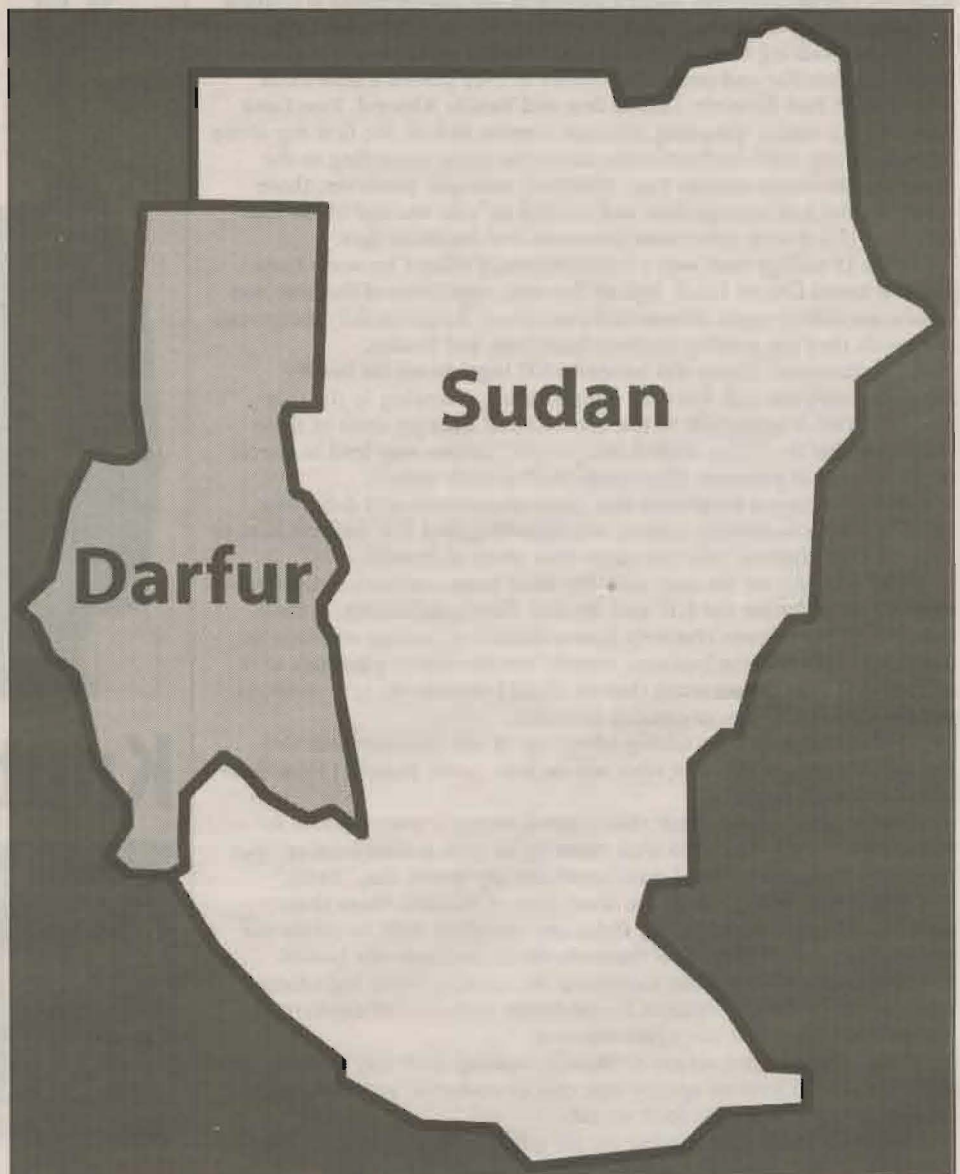
Currently, resolutions and peace treaties have been the only real form of resistance against the atrocities, but haven't produced substantially positive results as of yet. The U.N. Security Council has been unable to even classify the conflict as genocide due to China's investment in Sudanese oil.

More information on the Sudanese genocide is available at savedarfur.com.

While the issues of the Sudanese crisis are complex, Berner's experience at the summit has revealed new ways of taking a stand against the wrongdoing.

One strategy discussed in Washington D.C. is the idea of divestment. Divestment is the opposite of investment and entails cutting off financial support from institutions that directly or indirectly support the genocide. Berner plans to meet with the administration of PLU to discuss where the university's funds are currently being invested, and whether or not a divestment strategy would be feasible.

On more of a student level, VISION is planning a campus-wide project later this semester, which would entail PLU students applying either handprints or footprints to a giant canvas. The canvas would also include the stories of the three Sudanese refugees



Graphic by Chris Hunt

who currently attend our school. Ideally, the artwork would then be displayed and sold by an organization like the Seattle Art Museum, with the proceeds going toward Darfur relief.

Berner has been able to follow her passion toward the service of others and the fight for human rights globally.

"My experience has given more of a direction to my future," she said.

Berner's dream job would be to work on human rights and social justice issues in North Africa, and to be a voice between

those in power and those existing in marginalized populations.

She is also looking forward to studying abroad in South Africa for the fall 2007 semester, in order to gain a broader perspective on the continent.

Berner wants the PLU community to recognize the crisis in Darfur, and realize how each individual can have an impact on its resolution.

"We didn't just buy shirts because they look cool," she said.

Come support VISION on their awareness day! May 9 in Red Square

Postcard making and creating a canvas covered with hand and foot prints to display on campus
Don't forget to wear your blue shirts and if you don't have one, you can buy one on awareness day!

Language continued from page 1

independent study and the professors become over-worked.

"It wasn't really a matter of money as much as it was a matter of time. For me, to direct in Spanish, I was doing 10-12 capstones as independent study every semester. That's equal to a class," Williams said.

Many believe that the new capstone promises to give students a more structured environment in which to develop their research.

"In this way, students will have more support, more continuous feedback than before, and automatically, I think may in fact produce better product," Williams said.

Many professors also believe the new capstone is a great opportunity for students to learn about the national literatures across disciplines.

"The first point is that a lot of the theory and the critical framework for studying literature are coming across the disciplines," Williams said. "So, how I analyze the text in German has some connection with how I analyze the text in Norwegian. Second, there is no doubt that Norwegian literature, for example, is strongly influenced by German and French literature, and German literature is influenced by French literature too. So we want begin to recreate a community of learners that understand some of the interconnection between the different literature traditions."

The response of students first came out through a petition with 75 signatures on it two weeks ago.

"I do know about the changing in the capstone," first-year Molly Kirkwood said. "I learned about it through an email sent to me through the language department. I

think it is crazy that we have to write in English for our paper. We are not global studies majors and I think that they should allow us to choose whether to do it in English or the language we are studying. We should have the choice."

Others students empathized with the practical reasons given.

"On the personal side, I feel that I, as a Chinese Studies major, focused on the language, deserve to cap my major with a capstone class in Chinese," first-year Leif Nordquist said. "However, on the practical side of the argument, I also heard that in some of the smaller departments like Chinese studies, where no official capstone project has been established, capstones have been either OK or abysmal and rarely

great. While I can understand the situation the departments are in, I feel that this capstone in English class is a lazy solution to the problem."

Some students did not know very well why and how the faculty made this change right after they noticed it. On

April 23 there was a forum held and attended by 12-15 students and faculty in Ingram 101 to better inform students about the change.

"My sense that day was that I felt students had much better understanding after it," Williams said.

She also emphasized that they made the decision and were going to work with students for one year to see what they think. Some revisions to the new implemented change are not impossible.

It is also known that some people in the department feel that they have a moral obligation to compromise with students who apply to write their capstone in their target language. As a result, the students who want to do their capstone in their target language have been advised to talk to the faculty.

"In this way, students will have more support, more continuous feedback than before, and automatically, I think may in fact produce better product,"

**Tamara Williams,
Department Head**

From the editor

Cosmetic companies need to stop covering up chemicals

Sure it can make someone look professional or glittery or even like someone else entirely, but when a person in the United States is putting on makeup they might be putting on more than they bargained for.

Those walking through red square Monday and Tuesday were met with some familiar and unfamiliar names as they passed a blue Luna tent: Carmel Nut Brownie, Lemon Zest and Vanilla Almond. Free Luna bars was the rumor spreading through campus and on the first day alone approximately 1500 students came out to the event according to the Shoot for the Moon College Tour 2007 tour manager. However, those students that had enough time and interest to visit the rest of the tour site were gifted with more than just some free nutrition bars.

This 15-college tour was a collaboration of efforts between Luna and the Breast Cancer Fund. One of the main objectives of the tour was to educate college-aged women and men about the potentially dangerous chemicals they are putting on their faces, hair and bodies.

The European Union has banned 1300 ingredients for beauty supplies, while the U.S. has only banned nine, according to the tour manager. This is important to the Cancer Fund because some of these chemicals that are being soaked into people's bodies may lead to cancer or if a woman is pregnant they could lead to birth defects.

While it cannot be proven that these ingredients will definitely cause someone to develop cancer, it is upsetting that U.S. citizens have to deal with this fashion faux pas more than those in Europe.

The manager on the tour told *The Mast* some companies make two separate formulas for the E.U. and the U.S. This is ridiculous. If these ingredients might even remotely have a chance of causing someone to develop cancer and the business already has developed a formula without them, it only makes sense that we should receive the safe products, not the potentially cancer-causing formulas.

These companies are taking advantage of our free economy and regular citizens are the ones who will be hurt (quite literally) from these sleazy business moves.

Please men, do not think this is just a women's issue because females are typically forced to wear make-up to look professional or "put together." This issue should make everyone say words like "nasty."

The word "nasty" should at least come to mind to those that research this topic and find out about the chemicals used to create our day-to-day products and how these chemical penetrate our bodies.

While those behind the movement for banning these ingredients have turned to the government to cast blame and look for answers, the real culprits lie within corporate America.

Since these chemicals are eventually making their way into our systems, we should have an agency that checks cosmetics just like we have an agency that checks the food we eat.

However, let's all remember we are gifted in this country to have a government that does not control every move a business makes. We have numerous court cases, protests and events that tell the government it needs to give people and businesses freedom. However, it seems every time a company is doing something a group of citizens does not like, they turn to the government to lay the smack down on the business.

It's understandable that there are probably too many companies in this case to tackle them all individually. It's not only cosmetic companies that are not following the restrictions set by the E.U. Deodorant and shampoo companies are among the other types of businesses that allow potentially dangerous chemicals to be included in their products.

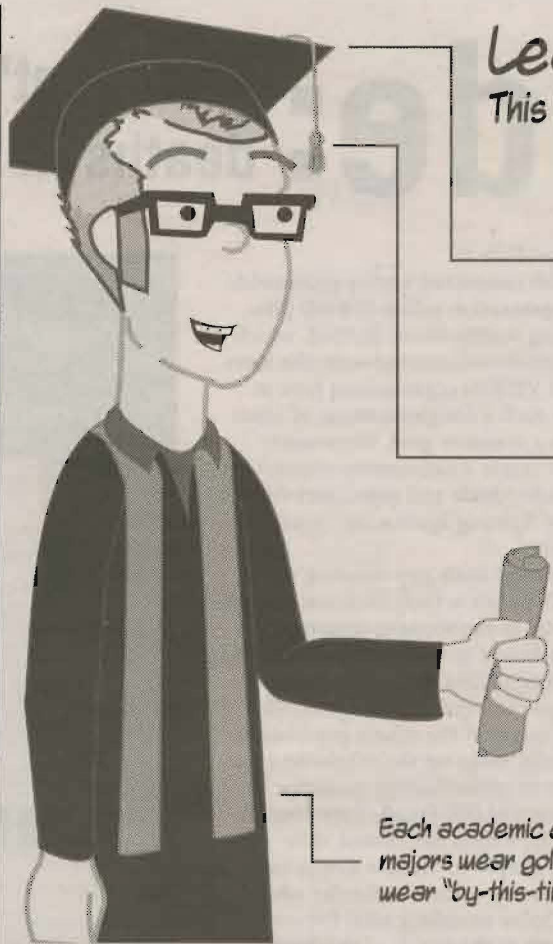
Yet, it would still be nice to see more action against the companies themselves. We shouldn't have to give up our free economy to have ethical business practices.

There are around 500 U.S. businesses that have joined a pact that says they will not use any of the 1300 ingredients banned in the E.U. However, before anyone starts scratching his or her head saying that sounds like a lot of businesses, know that many of the larger popular cosmetic brands are not on this list. Every student at this school should check this list because they deserve to know if a brand they use is trying to cover something up (besides facial blemishes). To find this list and more information about this topic go to safecosmetics.org.

While Luna benefits more from having people pay attention to what they put in their mouths rather than on their bodies, it is a positive step in the right direction that the Cancer Fund was able to use Luna to get its message out to college students on the West Coast. It was impressive for PLU to not only host a fun and informative event like this, but to have so many students turn out for it. Let's just hope those that went didn't just get a free Luna bar and walk away because there was more to this station than free snacks.

Whether you wear it to look professional, glittery or like someone else, try to discover what exactly is in your cover up because there is a good chance it will be anything but pretty.

Editor's Note: In honor of full disclosure, the editorial board wanted to let *The Mast* readers know the Luna Tour donated free boxes of Luna bars to *The Mast* staff, but did not approach us for a story.



Learning For Knowledge! This Week: The Symbolism of Graduation

The mortarboard cap is an ancient tradition dating from Roman times that represents the spatula you'll use to flip burgers at Jack in the Box.

The tassel serves to remind us of the sacrifices made by all those brave men and women who paid their way through college by being professional "dancers".

Did you know its traditional to print diplomas on paper made from recycled hundred dollar bills? That's why it's so valuable! Where did you think all that money went?

Each academic discipline has its own color of vestiments. Science majors wear gold, Business majors wear brown, and English majors wear "by-this-time-next-year-I'll-be-working-at-Starbucks" green.

Cartoon by Adam Spry

Knut gummis make me sick



April Reiter

LOOKING THROUGH THE GERMAN LENS

Just like the rest of the warm-blooded in Berlin, I fell in love with Knut at first sight of his beautiful white hair and deep, shiny, black eyes, a symbol of hope, peace and the mighty Euro.

In case you haven't heard of him, Knut is the Berlin Zoo's baby polar bear being raised by humans since he was rejected by his mother Dec. 5.

Knut's trek to stardom began when animal welfare Frank Albrecht called for his death, saying that raising Knut by hand would create problems later.

Albrecht's argument actually has a precedent: a baby sloth named Hugo was put down last December at the Leipzig Zoo after his mother abandoned him.

The media frenzy began. Could the Germans really kill such a sweet and innocent teddy?

Of course not, zoo officials decided. Maybe it was the fans, or maybe that he's so darn cute.

Thus began Knut's celebrity career. The bear began appearing at the zoo, stumbling out to play before the fans and photographers. He was everywhere: on subways, billboards and magazine covers.

Knut even has a blog, translated in three languages. The folks at the zoo thought of everything: Trinkets for sale include mugs, key chains, and postcards (guilty), a pricey (\$40) stuffed animal in Knut's likeness, and Knut-shaped gummy bears.

Like a teenage girl seeing Justin Timberlake on TV, I was naturally drawn into the fray.

I started obsessively devouring all Knut media, videos, pictures, posters in the subway, etc. I knew I had really lost my mind when I took a 20-minute subway ride in search of a free Knut poster.

I took a day to visit the Berlin Zoo with friends. My visit to see Knut turned out to be a visit to see through of people waiting in line. There was a

line to get inside, a line to get food and most notably, a line in the middle of the zoo street with no end in sight. This line was the line to see Knut.

After 10 minutes of waiting in said line, sad realization dawned on me: This poor little polar bear is being used.

I had seen all of the other baby animals already. Among them were an elephant, a giraffe, many different species of goat and an orangutan. Why Knut? Why all of the worthless souvenirs, the photographers, not to mention Vanity Fair covers (one in Germany and one in the United States), for the polar bear and not the others? Were they somehow less worthy of protection because they had mothers, because they aren't as cute? Why kill the sloth and not Knut?

Perhaps it's Knut's place as a symbol for the global warming crisis, that his species is threatened with extinction. If we don't do something about global warming, Knut and all his cute, wild cousins will soon vanish. (See US Vanity Fair Green Issue cover where Knut and Leonardo DiCaprio pair up to raise awareness about global warming — or to get you to go buy the magazine.) But wouldn't the goat and elephant babies also be affected if we continue to spur global warming? Yes, they surely would.

After pondering, I found no reason that Knut should be a star other than his cuteness, circumstance and our need to feel good about ourselves. I stepped out of line. My hip bumped a table laden with Knut merchandise. I got a bad taste in my mouth.

I didn't feel right about joining the mob that literally ran for a glimpse of the bear.

After all, buying the merchandise doesn't do much to save the polar bears.

I am happy that Knut can serve as a symbol to raise awareness about animal extinction and the environment. But I don't want to be lulled into a comfortable apathy, fingering for a Knut gummy as I click between Knut videos on the Internet. He should be more than a manufacturing and media frenzy, or he should just be able to be a bear.

But his survival does give people something cheery to read about in a media landscape rife with war, shootings, bombs and other societal aches. I love him for that, for being a temporary escape and symbol of hope, for helping us to see what we may lose if we keep destroying our world.

The Mast Staff, 2006-2007

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Policies

The Mast is published each Friday by students of Pacific Lutheran University, excluding vacations and exam periods. The views expressed in the editorials, columns and advertisements do not necessarily represent those of the PLU administration, faculty, students or *The Mast* staff.

The Mast adheres to the Society of Professional Journalists' code of ethics, which includes the guidelines to "seek truth and report it," "minimize harm," "act independently" and "be accountable."

The Mast encourages letters to the editor. Letters must be submitted to *The Mast* by 5 p.m. the Wednesday of publication. Letters without a name, phone number, and identification for verification will be discarded. Letters should be no longer than 400 words in length, typed and double-spaced. *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 is your favorite class you scheduled for next fall?



None because I'm graduating.

Lindy Ramstad, senior



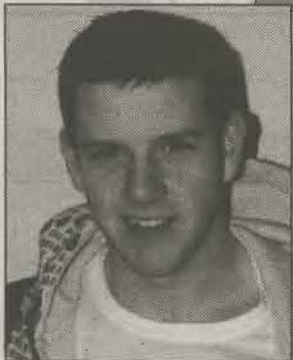
Professional writing because I love to write and learning some skills might be good.

Brian Pedey, sophomore



I haven't scheduled my classes yet, but social psychology. I like psych and I want to take a whole bunch of psych classes.

Meagan Shatz, first-year



My economics capstone because I really want to graduate.

Adrian Hedwig, junior



Crew because I love the sport and I've been doing it since I came to PLU.

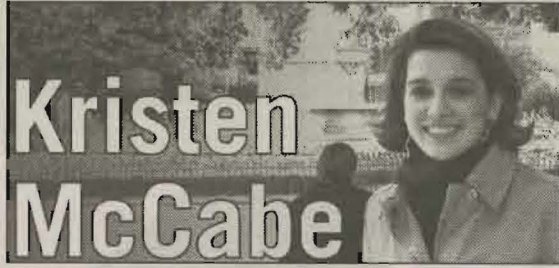
Stephanie Farrow, sophomore



I don't even know if I'm going to this school next year.

Ryan Kehl, first-year

I wanted to go there, but time is up



FIRST IMPRESSIONS

I'm starting to feel slightly panicked. I have two more weeks of class, then a week of finals and then ... it's over. My semester abroad will only exist in memories, photographs and souvenirs.

How strange to have only just started, only just really gotten into the swing of things and then to have to face the facts that the end is swiftly approaching. The mountain of things that need doing is looming large and I wonder if I'm going to be able to enjoy these last weeks in London or if they are going to go by so quickly that they will just be a hurried blur.

It's not just the fact that I have numerous projects and papers to complete for my classes that makes me worried. I'm looking at my "to see" list from the beginning of the semester and wondering when I'm going to have time to visit all of the places still left without a check next to them. How could I not have done these things yet? When am I going to squeeze them in? What have I been doing all semester?

Well, lots, actually. Besides a day or two of being ill, every single day has had a full agenda. I've been to art galleries, museums, castles, libraries, theaters and gardens - not to mention a trip to Scotland and a spring break spent in Africa. I can't exactly accuse myself of slacking, but I still am kicking myself for not seeing

more. After all, when am I going to be back?

And that's the other difficult thing about contemplating my departure: I'm not going to be back in the foreseeable future, which means saying goodbye to those I've grown to love here.

I have an absolutely fantastic host family and it's really quite sad to me that our chances of seeing each other after this are rather slim. I've made friends with other students here, and now I must face the reality that these new friendships will be relegated to the occasional message on Facebook.

These aren't exactly the most cheerful reflections. I turn to others that are more encouraging. I'm already looking forward to everyone and everything that means "home": family, friends, church, a small town and my dad's summer barbecues.

This summer will be great and this fall will be tons of fun. I've missed being at PLU and I'm already excited for next semester. There are things about London that I won't miss (the long commute on the very crowded Tube, the city streets invariably smelling of cigarette smoke and, worst of all, the horrible exchange rate).

Even so, I wouldn't object to this semester stretching out longer than I know it's going to. I know that I'm not going to be able to do everything that I want to do, but I am going to try to squeeze as much into these weeks as I possibly can. I don't want to feel at the end of the trip that I missed out on something that I really should have seen or done.

To do: complete assignments and projects, visit as many places as possible, get as much as possible out of this trip.

Note to self: don't get so caught up in my "to do" list that I don't enjoy the time left.

I don't want to feel at the end of the trip that I didn't spend time with the people here I've come to know and love. I don't want to be so caught up in doing that I forget to take it all in.

Sexual assault affects everyone, be aware

CLARE BRAUER-RIEKE
Guest Columnist

Sexual violence is a problem. Until recently, this problem has been narrowly defined, and often perceived as only a woman's issue.

Many believe that because women are the persistent majority of sexual victimization, the resolution lies in teaching women how to not become a victim. This is simply not true.



Brauer-Rieke

Sexual violence is more than the stereotype of a young woman being attacked by a stranger in the bushes, an active myth that thrives even today.

Here at PLU, we know that sexual violence must be more broadly defined. Sexual violence is not exclusively rape, but includes sexual harassment, sexual exploitation and any form of unwanted sexual contact. Sexually violent behavior can be physical, emotional, verbal or a combination. It not only includes young adult women, but is a spectrum of sexual victimization in which victims are of all ages, both sexes and any sexual orientation.

While an overwhelming majority of targets of sexual violence are women, men can also be victims. According to the FBI, the majority of male victims experience sexual violence before the age of 18.

The danger, contrary to the popular myth, is less among strangers than friends and acquaintances. A woman's risk of being raped by someone she knows is at least four times greater than being raped by a stranger, according to the National Crime Victimization Survey's research: "Preventing Violence Against Women." One out of every four college women has been raped or the victim of attempted rape by a boyfriend, date or acquaintance, according to the American Association of University Women (AAUW).

Sexual violence is not just a woman's problem. Sexual violence is everyone's problem, exacting a high price that is paid by everyone in our campus community. Physical violation and emotional anguish are immediate after an assault. However, the long-term consequences can be devastating and destructive to the individual and the community.

During the month of April, PLU's student group SAPET (Sexual Assault Peer Education Team) will host activities to bring attention to the problem of sexual violence and

empower the PLU community in order to speak out and prevent it. SAPET will join with the National Sexual Violence Resource Center and thousands of advocates and survivors across the United States in observance of Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

This is an opportunity for our community to focus on the problem of sexual violence and to commit ourselves to those actions we can take as individuals and as a community to end sexual violence.

For more information on Sexual Assault Awareness Month activities, email sapet@plu.edu. If you or someone you know has been sexually assaulted, help is available 24 hours a day at the Sexual Assault Center of Pierce County crisis line, (253) 474-7273. In addition, Jennifer Warwick, PLU Victim Advocate, can support survivors and offer resources (warwicj@plu.edu).

Sexual violence will not be stopped until each one of us takes an active part in finding solutions. We live in a culture of silence, in which we believe it isn't safe or acceptable to talk about sexual violence and assault. Together we can promote sexual awareness and education, and work as a campus community to end sexual violence.

Letters to the editor...

'300' movie critic still does not address issues

Regarding Matt Click's column (April 20, 2007) "Snyder's Spartan-epic a simple action flick? Or something more?" I would like to respond by thanking the reviewer for taking the time—the second time around—to attempt to address possible motives behind the production and distribution of "300" at a time of tense relations between the United States and Iran. I would like also, however, as the direct recipient of his column, to continue the dialogue that we appear to be having.

First, Mr. Click insists that Zack Snyder "has persisted" that he did not intend the film "300" to be a social statement, therefore his reasoning is: "The director said so." If I stood in one of my classes and announced that all of the stories of the saints were true because the authors of those accounts "said so," I would be intellectually irresponsible. This highlights the concern I raised in the initial letter which was that the reviewer failed in his job, which is to do more than simply "announce" information about a film but to apply careful and thoughtful analysis using the tools of film criticism.

Second, Mr. Click insists that in addition to "300," no action film has subversive social commentary, and he lists "Die Hard" and "Predator" as examples. I will

not address that he calls these films "art." What I will address is that while I do not teach film, I do teach textual criticism and films are texts; this means that they can be read on multiple levels. A simple application of this method will result in the conclusion that these are two films about Americans killing foreigners and aliens. Ouch.

Third, I would like to address Mr. Click's comment that "...what you take from the film is a direct result of what you bring into it; our reactions depend heavily on our own personal preconceptions." I am interested in the use of the word "preconception," a word that is most often used to mean "prejudice," or an opinion that is formed beforehand and without adequate evidence. I do not think that Mr. Click actually meant to insult himself, but his point is important: if one goes into a theater looking to confirm largely erroneous opinions about the world that we live in, one cannot find a better place to do that than in a theater.

Finally, I would like to answer Mr. Click's question: "Why can't a movie about a bunch of guys kicking the crap out of each other be a movie about a bunch of guys kicking the crap out of each other?" My answer is: precisely because whether in a film, in a back alley, or in the Middle East, a bunch of guys kicking the crap out of each other is never just a bunch of guys kicking the crap out of each other.

Brenda Ihssen
professor

Promoting Susta

The Morken Center is the first building at PLU to be fully sustainable. See how the United States compares to other countries in sustainability and recycling renewable materials.

Morken Center Quick Facts:

Architect: Zimmer, Gunsul, Frasca Partnership in Portland, Ore.

Contractor: Sellen Construction in Seattle, Wash.

Project Manager: Lorig & Associates in Seattle, Wash.

Size: 53,137 square feet, two wings, with three stories on the south wing and two on the north wing

Construction Timeline: 13 months

Project Cost: \$21 million, including furnishings, equipment, landscaping and parking enhancements.

Technology: There are over seven miles of conduit running through the concrete floors to power advanced technology in the building. All common areas have wireless network access. Some computer science and computer engineering classrooms have student workstations with computers at each desk. Dedicated study areas for seniors completing semester-long "Capstone" coursework allow students to develop ongoing projects in private areas without having to set up and dismantle equipment on a daily basis.

Sustainability Features: Built based on the U.S. Green Building Council's guidelines for certification under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program:

•**Flooring:** Concrete is used in 65 percent of the building to reduce the amount of chemical cleaning products and wax needed to maintain the floors. In areas with carpeting, 60 percent of the carpet is made of recycled content. Carpet was also laid in tiles so small sections can be replaced rather than entire rooms.

•**Paint and glue materials:** Materials with low-odor volatile organic compounds were used to keep the air in the building clean and odor-free, even on the first day of occupation.

•**Glass:** Low-energy glass means lower energy use for cooling in warm months.

•**Wheat board vs. solid wood doors and cabinets:** Wheat board, which is made with post-industrial wheat chaff from commercial farms, is the composite material that fills the doors and makes up the cabinets.

•**Geothermal pump system:** The building is heated and cooled through a system of 83 geothermal pumps, located 300 feet underground. It is a closed loop that uses water from underground wells to alter the temperature within the building depending on the season. The temperature of groundwater remains a constant 52 to 54 degrees Fahrenheit, so concentrated heat energy from the water can be used to warm the building in the winter. In the summer, when air temperature is much warmer than the underground temperature, the water cools the building. The system uses less energy than traditional heating and cooling systems and is lower maintenance. The system also boasts the distinction of being 100 percent free of hydrofluorocarbons, a greenhouse gas proven to deplete the ozone. The use of the geothermal system for heating and cooling means the Morken Center does not use fossil fuels.

•**Lighting:** Lights in each room are controlled by motion sensors and shut off when no one is in the room. The light fixtures used are 33 percent more efficient than standard lighting fixtures and provide 25 percent more light per fixture.

•**Wood:** Wood on the main stairway in the atrium is made of bamboo, which is a rapidly renewable hardwood. Veneers of maple and fir elsewhere in the building were harvested from certified sustainable forests. The maple veneers have a wheatboard core; the fir on the ceiling in the atrium is affixed to wheatboard backing.

•**Steel:** The building's framing was done with steel that has a recycled content of 95 percent.

•**Construction waste:** Ninety-three percent of all construction waste was recycled. Construction vehicles were fueled with bio diesel.

•**Landscaping:** Landscape mulch came from recycled wood. Much of the rest of the landscaping consists of native plant species designed to require little water use.

•**Water:** An underground cell captures rainwater and gray water and stores it, allowing it to gradually leech back into the ground rather than being deposited into storm drains that require treatment by the county. The building and its fixtures were designed to use little water, including waterless urinals in the men's bathrooms.



The morken center for learning and technology

Morken center models sustainability on campus

EMILY DOOLEY
Mast International Editor

The Morken Center for Learning and Technology, a learning environment for math, computer science, computer engineering and business at Pacific Lutheran University was dedicated on May 5, 2006. The Morken Center is one of the Pacific Northwest's most environmentally friendly university buildings. PLU received word in July that the Morken Center reached gold-level certification in the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program. The gold-level rating has been achieved by only a small handful of public works projects in the state of Washington, and only one other university, The Evergreen State College in Olympia, has a LEED gold building. The Morken Center is the first "gold" project in Pierce County. The Morken Center features

computer-equipped classrooms and laboratories, and labs dedicated to multimedia, electronics and research. Seminar and conferences rooms, a public events room, an atrium and a café provide ample public space for meetings and events. The cost of the project was \$21 million.

One of those design considerations was giving as many rooms as possible in the building access to natural light. The fact that natural light floods so much of the building was among dozens of factors in the building's certification.

Also important in the certification process is that the Morken Center requires no fossil fuels to operate. It is heated and cooled with a geothermal heat-pump system that regulates the building's temperature with water stored in 85 underground wells.

Other features that contributed to the building's certification include details such as: over 90 percent of the construction waste was recycled,

concrete floors requiring no chemical cleaning products or waxes were used and the use of stainless steel siding and roof tiles which are long-lasting and heat neutral. It is a model of sustainability with state-of-the-art conservation and low-impact environmental features.

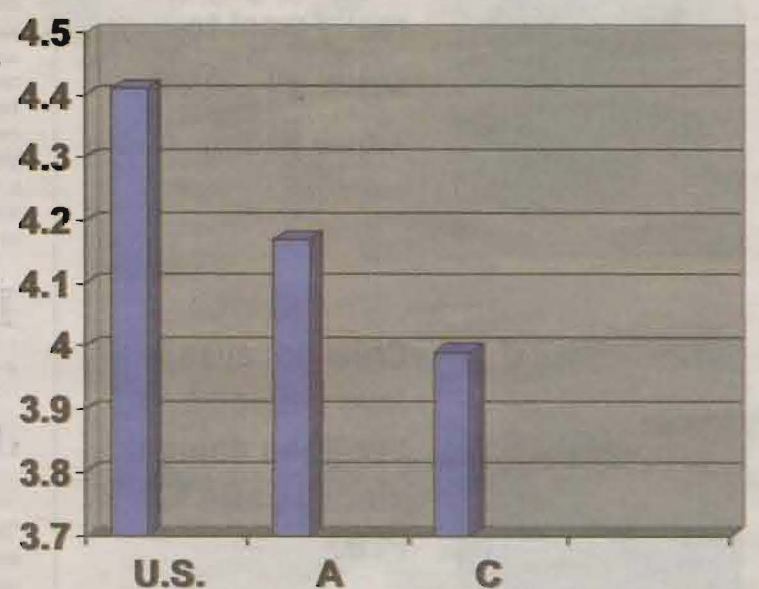
The U.S. Green Building Council was established in 1993 to provide a consistent, measurable system of certification for green buildings. The LEED program evaluates buildings in five areas: sustainable sites, water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, materials and resources, and indoor environmental quality. Within these credit areas, points are available. The number of points a project earns determines the level of certification the building will be awarded. There are four progressive levels of certification: certified, silver, gold and platinum. Gold is the highest level any project in Washington state has reached.

TOP THREE COUNTRIES FOR WASTE PRODUCED PER PERSON PER DAY:

U.S. - 4.41 LBS.

AUSTRALIA - 4.17 LBS.

CANADA - 3.99 LBS.



Australian scientist lives sustainably underwater

story courtesy Associated Press

An Australian scientist emerged last Wednesday after spending nearly two weeks underwater in a steel box, pedaling a stationary bicycle to generate his own electricity and growing algae to convert carbon dioxide into oxygen.

Marine biologist Lloyd Godson spent 13 days at the bottom of a lake in the bright yellow capsule he calls the BioSUB to fulfill a lifelong dream and make a point about sustainable living.

Godson used a system of

solar panels and a pedal-powered generator to create electricity and recharge his laptop, and kept an algae garden to absorb carbon dioxide and release oxygen for breathing.

"It's nice to feel the sunshine on the face and the breeze here," Godson told reporters after emerging from the 10-foot-long sub, which was submerged in a lake in the eastern Australian town of Albury. "You start to get a bit of cabin fever, but I thought it was going to drive me a bit more nuts than it did."

Godson had to recycle his own urine and waste, but a team

of divers delivered food and drinking water to the sub, including fruit, nuts and a homemade lasagna. An "Easter shark" swam by with a supply of chocolate eggs, according to local media reports.

For entertainment, Godson watched videos on his laptop and used a wireless Internet connection to communicate with schoolchildren from around the world.

The 29-year-old scientist won funding for the project by winning a \$41,800 contest called "Live Your Dream" sponsored by the nature magazine, Australian Geographic.

ustainability

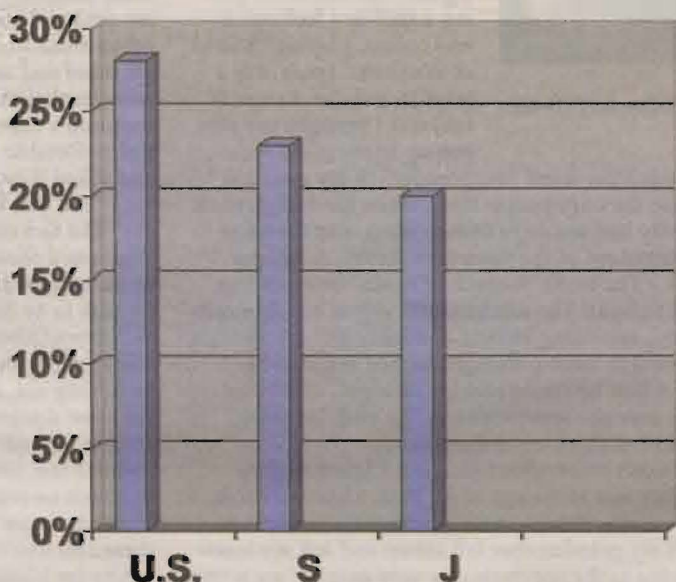


photo courtesy Jenn Furumasa

CHECK OUT THE TOP THREE COUNTRIES FOR GENERAL RECYCLING, PAPER RECYCLING, AND RECYCLING THROUGH WASTE-TO-ENERGY PLANTS. SEE HOW THE UNITED STATES COMPARES TO OTHER COUNTRIES:

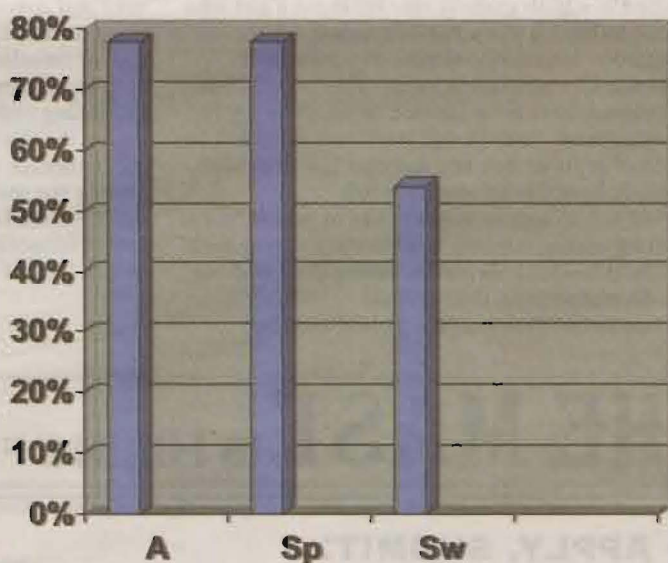
General Recycling:

- U.S. - 28% of recyclable material
- Switzerland - 23% of recyclable material
- Japan - 20% of recyclable material



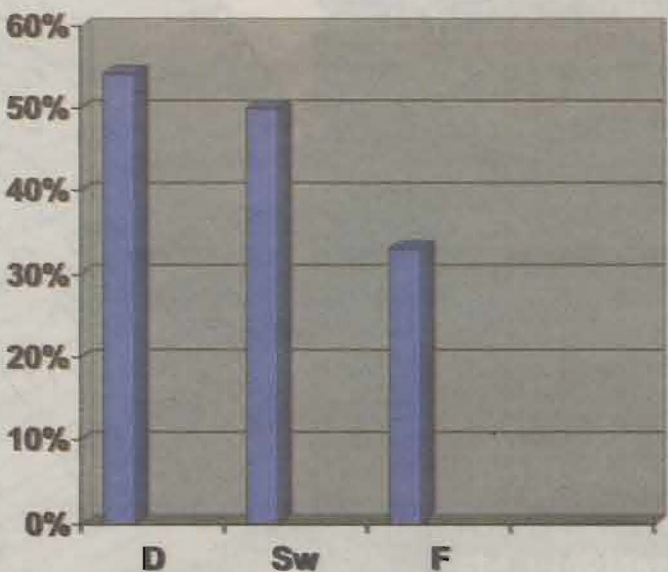
Paper Recycling:

- Austria - 78% of all paper
- Spain - 78% of all paper
- Switzerland - 54% of all paper



Trash Burned in Waste-to-Energy plants:

- Denmark - 54% of all trash
- Switzerland - 50% of all trash
- France - 33% of all trash



FAST FACTS FOR RECYCLING AND ENERGY USE IN THE UNITED STATES:

- Americans constitute five percent of the world's population but consume 24 percent of the world's energy.
- A standard shower-head uses about 5-7 gallons of water per minute, so a 5-minute shower can consume 35 gallons!
- The average U.S. home uses the energy equivalent of 1,253 gallons of oil a year.
- 40 percent of the energy used in homes is for heat.
- Americans throw away 44 million newspapers everyday. That's the same as dumping 500,000 trees into landfills each week.
- 17 trees are saved for each ton of recycled newspaper.
- Americans discard 4 million tons of office paper every year—enough to build a 12 foot-high wall of paper from New York to California.
- Americans throw out about 85 percent of the office paper we use.
- The average American uses about 580 pounds of paper each year.
- Americans throw away enough aluminum every month to rebuild our entire commercial air fleet.
- Recycling steel and tin cans saves 74 percent of the energy used to produce them and recycling aluminum saves 95 percent of the energy used to make the material from scratch.
- Americans use 100 million tin and steel cans every day.
- The 36 billion aluminum cans land filled last year had a scrap value of more than \$600 million.
- Americans throw away enough glass bottles and jars every two weeks to fill the 1,350-foot towers of the former World Trade Center.
- Every year we make enough plastic film to shrink-wrap Texas.
- If every American household recycled just one out of every 10 plastic bottles they used, we'd keep 200 million pounds of the plastic out of landfills every year.
- If only 100,000 people stopped their junk mail, we could save up to 150,000 trees annually. If a million people did this, we could save up to 1.5 million trees a year.
- Producing one pound of recycled rubber versus one pound of new rubber requires only 29 percent of the energy.
- The junk mail Americans receive in one day could produce enough energy to heat 250,000 homes
- Americans dump the equivalent of more than 21 million shopping bags full of food into landfills every year.
- It takes an entire forest - over 500,000 trees - to supply Americans with their Sunday newspapers every week.
- Every day America cuts down two million trees but throws away 500,000 trees worth of newspaper.

WORLD EVENTS:

Six world powers consider letting Iran keep partial atomic program

The United States and other world powers may be ready to allow Iran to keep some of its uranium enrichment program intact instead of demanding its complete dismantling, foreign government officials said Tuesday. Officials said some willingness to compromise might advance talks Wednesday in the Turkish capital between top Iranian envoy Ali Larijani and Javier Solana, the European Union's foreign policy chief. Iran is running more than 1,300 centrifuge machines at its underground facility at Natanz. Its ultimate goal is to run 50,000 centrifuges a year, enough to churn out material for a network of nuclear power generators - or a full-scale nuclear weapons program. The six powers - United States, Russia, China, Britain, France and Germany - also want to reduce assembled and hooked-up centrifuges to less than 1,000.

European astronomers find potentially inhabitable planet outside solar system

For the first time, astronomers have discovered a planet outside our solar system that is potentially habitable, with Earth-like temperatures, a find researchers described Tuesday as a big step in the search for "life in the universe." The planet is just the right size, might have water in liquid form, and in galactic terms is relatively nearby at 120 trillion miles away. But the star it closely orbits, known as a "red dwarf," is much smaller, dimmer and cooler than our sun. There's still a lot that is unknown about the new planet, which could be deemed inhospitable to life once more is known about it. And it's worth noting that scientists' requirements for inhabitable count Mars in that category: a size relatively similar to Earth's with temperatures that would permit liquid water. However, this is the first outside our solar system that meets those standards. The results of the discovery have not been published although they have been submitted to the Journal of Astronomy and Astrophysics.

Al-Qaida-linked group claims suicide truck bomb that killed nine U.S. soldiers in Iraq

An al-Qaida-linked group claimed responsibility Tuesday for double suicide truck bombings that killed nine U.S. paratroopers in the worst attack on American ground forces in Iraq in more than a year. The Islamic State of Iraq, an umbrella group of Sunni militants that includes al-Qaida in Iraq, said it was behind Monday's double attack on a U.S. patrol base in Diyala province northeast of Baghdad. The military said it might have been shot down but the investigation is still ongoing. The use of a suicide bomber in a direct assault against U.S. forces was unusual. Militants, seeking to avoid American firepower, have mostly used hit-and-run ambushes, roadside bombs or mortars on U.S. troops.

Hamas fires rockets at Israel, five-month cease-fire endangered

Hamas militants in Gaza joined in the rocketing of Israeli towns and villages for the first time in five months Tuesday, retaliating for deadly Israeli raids in the Palestinian territories. The barrage, which came on Israel's 59th independence day, did not cause any damage or injury, but it marked the first time Hamas acknowledged firing shells toward Israel since agreeing to a cease-fire in November. The cease-fire has greatly reduced the level of violence in Gaza, sparing the area from Israeli incursions and airstrikes. It has also helped prevent a resumption of suicide attacks in Israel. But the informal truce has been widely criticized in Israel because Palestinian security forces have not stopped rocket squads from firing at Israeli towns. While Hamas rocket squads have stayed on the sidelines, other groups such as Islamic Jihad have kept up an almost daily barrage on Israelis living just outside Gaza. Hamas is a tightly organized group, and Israel says attacks from Gaza have the tacit approval of the militant group's political leaders.

Thousands of mourners file past casket of former President Boris Yeltsin to pay last respects

Thousands of somber, teary-eyed mourners shuffled past the open casket of Boris Yeltsin in a vast cathedral Tuesday, lighting candles and laying flowers as Orthodox priests chanted prayers for the first freely elected president of Russia. Former Presidents George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton headed the list of foreign dignitaries flying in for the funeral and burial Wednesday in Moscow's elite Novodevichy Cemetery - largely a resting place for Russian dreamers and artists rather than politicians. Among other ex-world leaders from Yeltsin's era expected at the funeral were former Polish President Lech Walesa and former British Prime Minister John Major, although some countries such as Egypt and Japan were being represented only by their ambassadors to Moscow. Yeltsin died Monday of heart failure at age 76.

Ethiopian rebels attack Chinese-run oil field, killing 74 workers and destroying installation

Ethiopian rebels who have fought alongside Islamic militants in neighboring Somalia stormed a Chinese-run oil field at dawn Tuesday, killing 74 people and destroying the exploration facility in a restive border region. It was the first such attack on a foreign company in this Horn of Africa nation, in contrast to Nigeria on the western side of the continent, where rebel groups frequently attack international oil concerns. Chinese officials said nine Chinese oil workers and 65 Ethiopians died and seven Chinese were taken away by the rebels. It wasn't known if the rebels suffered any casualties. The assault by more than 200 gunmen lasted nearly an hour, and followed a warning last year from the rebel Ogaden National Liberation Front against any investment in eastern Ethiopia's Ogaden area that could benefit the U.S.-allied government.

Letters to the editor... Bravery isn't always earned on the battlefield

In a recent letter (April 13, 2007) Jens Gilbertson complains of a "lack of objectivity" in a presentation by Lt. Ehren Watada. But Gilbertson's use of epithets - "Lt./coward," "Lt./traitor" and "Lt./deserter" - suggests an indifference to truth.

The New York Times reported, "Officer Faces Court-Martial for Refusing to Deploy to Iraq," (July 23, 2006): "Two officers who served with Lieutenant Watada in South Korea also voiced support for him... though they made it clear they did not share his views on Iraq. 'He was a good officer, always very professional,' said one of the officers, Capt. Scott Hulin. 'I personally disagree with his opinion and his stance against the war. But I personally support his stand as a man, to be able to do what his heart is telling him.' A former roommate of Lieutenant Watada, First Lt. Bernard West, offered similar remarks."

Ehren Watada is one of the bravest men I have ever met. He is a commissioned officer who is being true to his oath to preserve and protect the Constitution of the United States of America. And he continues to serve in the Army, at Fort Lewis.

Jens Gilbertson also complains about the film "Sir! No Sir!" and the Vietnam/Iraq comparison. Lt. Watada believes that until elected leaders are held accountable for involving the nation in illegal wars of aggression, the pattern of which Vietnam and Iraq are a part is likely to continue. The Gulf of Tonkin incident used to justify the invasion of Vietnam by massive numbers of U.S. troops was a fiction, so were Saddam Hussein's weapons of mass destruction, which were used to justify the invasion of Iraq.

As for the film, that resistance within the military did play an important role in ending the Vietnam War is corroborated by a remark by "Gen. Maxwell Taylor, who said in the 1970s that 'we sent the Army to Vietnam to save Vietnam; we withdrew the Army to save the Army'" ("Testimony of Lawrence J. Korb," U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee, April 17, 2007, http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2007/04/pdf/korb_testimony_misuse.pdf).

Finally, Jens Gilbertson says that Lt. Watada was "used" by groups at PLU "who do not support any war, and would like to see the U.S. military done away with entirely." I am not aware of any such groups.

Mark K. Jensen
Associate Professor of French

Palestinian speakers meant to bring a new perspective

Since I'm the faculty member who invited the two Palestinian speakers to campus last month, I feel compelled to respond to Jens Gilbertson's letter questioning the value of their presentation, the oppression of the Palestinians and my own motives.

Mr. Gilbertson criticizes the presentation because it did not give all perspectives on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. He is, of course, correct. Feryal Abu Haikal, the schoolteacher from Hebron, and Mohammed Khatib, the farmer from Bil'in, only gave their own perspectives as non-violent activists resisting the Israeli occupation of the West Bank. When I invited them to speak to my class on post-colonial issues, as well as to the broader university community, my objective was to expose students at PLU to a different point of view on the conflict than they are used to. What Mr. Gilbertson seems to disregard is that the Zionist position gets a lot of exposure in the United States. If it truly is important to develop an understanding of all sides in a conflict, as he writes, that side has already been heard by anyone with even a semblance of media literacy.

In listening to non-violent resisters to Israeli violence, we were exposed to something different than the usual representations of demonic suicide bombers and righteous Israeli victims. And, despite what Mr. Gilbertson appears to believe, our two guests were not spokespeople for the Palestinian Authority. I hope he understands that not every Palestinian is.

Mr. Gilbertson's claim that the "Palestinians are far from oppressed" is, of course, absurd. With their homeland occupied by one of the most lethal and state-of-the-art militaries in the world, their civilians brutalized and degraded, their land confiscated and walled off and their people being killed, the Palestinians are oppressed. There is an overwhelming imbalance of power, violence and terror on the part of the Israelis, who, in the last six years, for instance have killed four Palestinians for every casualty they have taken. The Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories has been in clear violation of a number of United Nations resolutions, and their human rights record is abysmal.

As for the specter of suicide bombers, Khatib gave a very powerful personal argument against the practice. It was an important moment in the discussion, and I'm sorry that Mr. Gilbertson missed it.

Mr. Gilbertson's understanding of objectivity is also worrisome. I am not doing a very good job as an educator if I simply parrot all the major points of view on a topic. While this might fit Mr. Gilbertson's definition of objectivity, it is not good teaching. As a professor, I am called upon to carefully evaluate, to make judgments and to profess. Not all viewpoints are equally valid. Some oppress more than others.

While avoiding involvement in and engagement with the world may appear "objective," it really only masks our support for the power dynamics that prevail in the status quo. As the late Edward Said pointed out, to abstain from resistance is to be intellectually complicit in hegemony and its oppressions. That kind of "objectivity" kills.

Troy Storjell, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Norwegian and Scandinavian Studies

Fifth-grade sexuality and the implications it has for us all



JESSICA RITCHIE

"Did you guys hear about the fifth-graders who supposedly had sex in their classroom?"

In a New Orleans elementary school classroom March 24, four unattended fifth-graders (two 11 year-old girls, a 12 year-old boy and a 13 year-old boy) allegedly had sex while posting a fifth as a lookout. I was online, playing "World of Warcraft," (yeah, I'm a level 25 paladin. Laugh it up.) and I brought the subject up to my guild-mates.

I included the word "supposedly" in my question because the only people there when the fifth-graders allegedly had sex were fifth-graders, and therefore the legitimacy of the story is in doubt. A listener of 107.7 The End's "Church of Lazlo" brought this doubt to light. The adults scoff: "What are they calling sex? Wrestling around and kissing?" DJ Slimfast confessed to having thought he had sex in second grade when he kissed and lay on a girl, and "was pretty sure she was pregnant," he said, laughing. This sort of thinking is dangerous.

I don't know about you, but I knew exactly what sex was at the age of 11. Hell, I knew what it was at seven, thanks to an unfortunate incident in which my grandmother fell asleep and left my innocent eyes to the spectacle of a very graphic sex scene on TV. When the question of when we all knew about sex was raised to this online community, they collectively responded that they knew for certain what sex was by fifth grade.

Evidently the ever-wise adults of today are forgetting as the gap between fifth grade and now widens, just what they knew about then. And the costs could be catastrophic. I knew a guy (who will remain unnamed) in junior high who ashamedly confessed to having lost his virginity at 10. Rumors abounded in eighth grade (I was 14) about a girl who admitted to having put a Popsicle in her vagina. Furthermore, boyfriends of mine in junior high were constantly pressuring me to "give it up." These things cannot have been isolated incidents at my junior high school. They're not. And they shouldn't be thought of as such. Ask any teenager and they will most likely have similar stories to tell.

As much as society may not like to hear it, sex is happening earlier. And we need to start talking seriously about it with kids earlier, before they find out false information from their friends.

Later in the conversation, a guild-member

- we'll call him Phuz (a shortened form of his online screen-name), mentioned that he was 10. I fought the unethical urge to prove my point (I'm quite stubborn and competitive by nature) by blatantly asking, "Do you know what sex is?" opting instead for the more subtle "Have you had sex ed. yet?" To which he responded that he hadn't, but his mom had talked with him about it.

One might suggest that as we weren't talking face-to-face, this boy of 10 could easily have been some immature 20-40 year-old. You're right. But in my personal experience, immature 20 year-olds come off as immature 20 year-olds. This younger boy came off timid and unsure, but smart - something immature pranksters rarely seem to be. I later privately sent him a chat saying I was sorry if I made him uncomfortable. He said he was "a bit" uncomfortable and asked if he could ask me a question:

"Did you have sex when you were 10?"

The fact that this child was asking me this question sent a clear message to me, one we all should heed: he was unsure of whether or not it was normal for him to be having sex at his age. Much like the competition of who can get the most partners amongst pubescent boys who assume they should be having sex, elementary-school kids are having the same doubts. To affirm that my assumption was correct I asked this young boy whether he had been made to feel like he should be having sex at his age, to which he replied: "Yeah. I guess."

That adults are second-guessing the legitimacy of these children's claims is outrageous. That these same adults are blaming the media is even more so. I hate "Bratz" dolls and the sleaze-icons of today such as Paris Hilton and Lindsay Lohan as much as every other sane person in the U.S., but I hate when people pick convenient scapegoats even more.

Our world is changing. In light of these changes, it's high time that the parents of today stop yearning for a yester-year without 11 year-olds engaging in group sex and start taking action. Doubting the words of these 11 year-olds is a game too dangerous for us to play. To assume their ignorance is to disregard the very real concerns these children have and leave them stumbling in the dark with parents too ignorant or unwilling to guide them.

As uncomfortable as it may be to be candid with our young children, I think the time has come to ignore the discomfort and find the realist in each of us. Innocence can be maintained in children while sowing the seeds of knowledge, responsibility and good personal choices. Ultimately, wouldn't the real loss of innocence be a child losing his/her virginity in full view of three other children?

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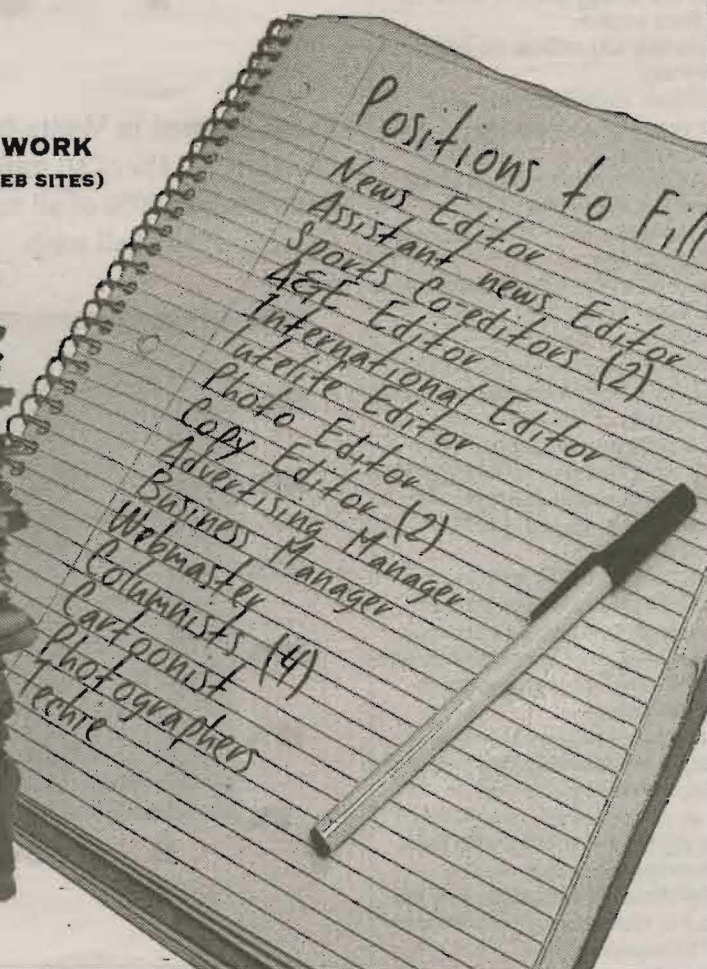
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'Cabaret' Week 3: Building a 'Cabaret'



Kristina Corbitt

The set for 'Cabaret' is the next step in preparing for the production

Two weeks ago the Eastvold stage was bare, a blank canvas to be filled with the three-dimensional art of the "Cabaret" set. Before building could begin, set designer Henry Loughman researched, read the script and gathered inspiration for his design.

An empty stage does provide Loughman with some of this inspiration. "Very often (I) come and just sit and it's quiet ... it gives you an understanding of the space - the height you're playing with and width of the space," Loughman said.

In addition to "feeling" the space, Loughman has been influenced by what he saw in the popular and recent Studio 54 revival of "Cabaret" in New York. In this revival, scene changes were very minimal. Loughman has taken this into account in his design. Instead of changing the set entirely when the story moved to a different location, the focus was always in the Kit Kat Klub. To represent the outside world - a train station or apartment for example - chairs and a few set pieces will be used to represent their respective locations.

During the process of designing and building the set, Loughman often envisions new ways to design or assemble a scene - sometimes in the middle of the night.

"(I) wake up at 4 a.m. with an idea," Loughman said. "the trick is writing it down quickly enough." Loughman's success as a set designer in part comes from his immersion into a show and these moments of inspiration.

The Kit Kat Klub set is now being constructed. Taking up most of the stage is a platform approximately one foot

off the ground. In the back of the club are platforms eight feet high. The band will be on one of these tall platforms, as well as some of the cabaret dancers. Extra time is being dedicated to secure these platforms to ensure they will be safe and sturdy for all actors and musicians.

Creating the world of the Kit Kat Klub is primarily a crew of 13 students, who dedicate their afternoons to the construction of the set.

April 21 the cast and production team united for "Cabaret's" first workday, a day dedicated to building the set and costumes. All cast members are required to contribute, either with sets or costumes.

Although things may move faster with a small crew of well-trained stage builders, Loughman values the workdays as well as his crew. "It's our job in educational theater to provide the opportunity for learning while building," Loughman said.

Loughman is also the technical director for "Cabaret." In addition to designing the set, he oversees behind-the-scenes and backstage work.

PLU theater is welcoming a guest lighting designer for "Cabaret," Scott O'Donnell. O'Donnell is the president of the Board of Trustees at the Tacoma Little Theatre. In exchange for O'Donnell's lighting design, PLU's own Loughman will be designing the set for Tacoma Little Theatre's upcoming production of "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas."

O'Donnell's lighting will come together next

week, as the cast, crew, production team and designers prepare for a final week of rehearsal.

Next week the orchestra and vocalists will come together for the first time on the set of "Cabaret."

Editors Note:

Kristina is writing a weekly piece on the production of Cabaret from now until opening day. She also has a part in the production.

"Very often (I) come and just sit and it's quiet ... it gives you an understanding of the space."

Set designer Henry Loughman



Photo courtesy of Kristina Corbitt
Crewmember and junior Tristan Morris sits on a platform while fellow crewmembers first-year Travis Morris and sophomore Ryan Ecklund adjust and secure the leg.

PLU's arts and literary journal to be released May 3 Saxifrage release party will showcase student artists, writers.

BRYANNA PLOG
Mast reporter

Saxifrage, PLU's own art and literary journal, will celebrate the publication of this year's edition with a release party May 2.

This is volume 33 of Saxifrage, a selected collection of poems, stories, paintings, sketches and photography by PLU students.

The event will take place in Xavier 201 from 7 to 9 p.m. and will allow the PLU community to view works by the artists and writers included in Saxifrage 33. Those attending can also get a first look at the publication while munching on free snacks and talking to the writers and artists.

Copies of Saxifrage are free to anyone who wants to appreciate the literary and artistic skills of those at PLU.

Sophomore Jason Comerford has two pieces of photography in this year's edition and plans on attending the release party.

"As artists, we should be proud to show our collective works off to the world," Comerford said.

Comerford encouraged everyone to take a look at this year's Saxifrage.

"It serves to showcase the kind of artists that PLU turns out, as well as our best works of the year," he said.

Over 400 submissions were narrowed down to the almost 40 works in this year's edition. A group of around 25 volunteer judges went through all the pieces in the first two weeks in March after the Feb. 28 deadline passed.

Junior Abby Fagan is co-editor of Saxifrage with junior Sondra Tripp. They compiled the selected works and designed the look for the current edition.

"The arts are something that need to be stressed on a regular basis," Fagan said. "It's not a job for me; it's something I really enjoy."

Saxifrage is student run, and receives funding from the university through the media board, the same group that funds KCNS, KCCR, *The Mast* and *The Matrix*.

Saxifrage gets its name from a poem by early 1900s poet William Carlos Williams. A saxifrage is a beautiful pink flower that as it grows, appears to

break through rocks.

The 64 pages of Saxifrage 33 are currently at Johnson-Cox, a Tacoma publisher. 1800 copies are being printed for anyone who wants to peruse through the journal. This is also only the fourth year that Saxifrage has had color.

PLU students, faculty, staff and alumni are all allowed to submit works. Submissions included poetry, short stories, graphite drawings, digital photography, works done in oil pastel, many pieces with mixed media and even a play.

Comerford has submitted photographs to a few other art publications and this year also decided to try and get pieces into Saxifrage.

"I decided to submit to Saxifrage after seeing the publication during the previous year," he said. "It struck me as an interesting way to get some of my work and my name out."

Though she won't be an editor for next year's publication, Fagan encourages everyone to read this year's edition and think about submitting for next year.

"It's always good to get your name in print," she said.

Saxifrage provides this opportunity, for everyone, regardless of year or major, to find their artistic niche and appreciate the skills of their classmates.

"Regardless of size or notoriety, it's always nice to find that someone likes your work," Comerford said.

The Saxifrage release party is open to the public. After the reception, copies of the art and literary journal can be picked up starting May 3 in the Administration building and in the Columbia Center.

Saxifrage release party: May 2. 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Xavier 201

Pick up a copy of Saxifrage starting May 3 in Admin. and the Columbia Center

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Sat/Sun: 12:15, 2:10, 4:00, 6:15, 8:15

Mon-Wed: 4:00, 6:15, 8:15 Thurs: 2:00, 6:15

THE HOAX (R)

Fri: 2:00, 4:15, 6:30, 8:45

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The Barbarian Invasions (R) Part of the Tournées Festival
Thursday ONLY at 2:15, 4:30, 7:00, 9:00

Sky Blue Sky's the limit



Jon HARTHUN

Wilco makes a classic rock album in modern times

Five years ago, Wilco recorded an album deemed unmarketable by Reprise Records. The band dropped the label, purchased the recordings, and released them on Nonesuch Records as "Yankee Hotel Foxtrot." This album, hailed as one of the best albums of 2002, went on to sell 500,000 copies, commercially Wilco's most successful album to date. Their 2005 release "A Ghost is Born," which received little airplay, went on to win two Grammy Awards including Best Alternative Album. "Sky Blue Sky," the band's newest effort will be released May 15 on Nonesuch Records.

The album starts off beautifully with "Either Way," which drops you into small-town America, chocked full of long dusty roads, wavering golden wheat fields and endless blue skies. Not since the Wallflowers' "One Headlight" has an organ sounded so sweet. Singer Jeff Tweedy approaches the simple life with a matter of fact attitude: "maybe you still love me/maybe you don't/either you will/or you won't."

"Impossible Germany" defies everything we thought we knew about modern music. Wilco's ability to channel the Allman Brothers with such articulate precision is remarkable. This six-minute accomplishment is everything today's artists fail to achieve: the ability to emulate the past flawlessly while incorporating everything their own music has represented thus far.

"Sky Blue Sky" is a shove off the tailgate of a rusty truck, onto the front yard of a farm house, laundry blowing in the wind and blue-jeaned children wrestling in the grass. The song's as simple as a cold glass of water on a humid day, and as devilishly redundant as pulling weeds in the family garden, as Tweedy calmly strums strings and harmlessly coos with confidence. "Side With the Seeds" is rather the opposite, thoughtfully cluttered with guitar, organ and piano. The awe-inspiring guitar solos by both Tweedy and guitarist Nels Cline are best fit for local dive bar stages and 8-Track players of the Thunderbirds parked outside.

"Please Be Patient With Me" sounds like a heart-breaking love note: "I should warn you when I'm not well/I can tell/there's nothing I can do to make this easier for you." While "Hate It Here" lifts off from windy orchard treetops with its Paul McCartney/Wings-like piano balladry, "Walken" starts off like a watered-down "Trampled Underfoot" and continues its Zeppelin-like effectiveness to song's end.

The grossly repetitive "What Light" is the album's weakest moment, and an ill-fated attempt at Tweedy trying to be Dylan, but "On and On and On", the album closer, picks up any slack the less than stellar imitation leaves behind.

"Sky Blue Sky" is an album so brilliantly stuck in the 1970s and so vibrantly representing of everything American rock n' roll stands for, its hard not to dig through dusty vinyl collections, looking to find an appropriate companion.

Suggested tracks: "Impossible Germany" "Side with the Seeds" "Hate it Here"

Overall Rating

A-

Tracklisting

1. Either Way
2. You Are My Face
3. Impossible Germany
4. Sky Blue Sky
5. Side with the Seeds
6. Shake It Off
7. Please Be Patient with Me
8. Hate It Here
9. Leave Me (Like You Found Me)
10. Walken
11. What Light
12. On and On and On

"Vacancy" is chilling, but leaves viewers vacant



Matt CLICK

New horror thriller offers scares, suffers from thin characters and tired plot

In Alfred Hitchcock's 1960 masterpiece "Psycho," bank teller Marion Crane checks into the Bates Motel, managed by the shy but likeable Norman Bates, and never checks out. Now, replace Marion Crane with a troubled married couple; replace the rich, sadistic villainy of Norman Bates with a slightly nerdy, severely underdeveloped snuff filmmaker; finally, replace any semblance of plot or meaning with a trite story, a slew of cliché scares and one of the worst endings in recent horror cinema, and you've got yourself a flick called "Vacancy."

Nimród Antal, director of 2003's "Kontroll," helms "Vacancy," a film that is at once frightening and yet completely unfulfilling. David Fox (Luke Wilson) and his wife Amy (Kate Beckinsale), a couple deeply impaired by the death of their young son (a dead child conflict - how unique), find themselves stranded in a strange, run-down motel when their car breaks down in the middle of nowhere.

They soon discover that the entire motel is a snuff film studio, with cameras in every corner capturing their terror, panic and eventual murder. Determined not to fall victim to the murderous motel filmmakers, the couple begins searching desperately for a way out - while the killers search for a way in.

"Vacancy" is a rudimentary hotel slasher, utilizing the very basic of overused plots. But unlike many recent horror films, "Vacancy" doesn't rely on gore and violence to terrify. In fact, it almost feels like an entirely different breed of thriller, set apart from the typical Hollywood schlock like "Saw" and "Hostel." As a horror fan and film purist, it was refreshing to watch a film that is genuinely terrifying, if only for a few minutes.

But that's the problem: "Vacancy" just doesn't keep the scares going through its entirety. The opening sequence is entirely too tedious (Antal tried desperately to cram all the character development he could into the first 20 minutes, apparently), and the last 30 minutes had me rolling my eyes in the wake of

its numerous Hollywood contrivances. Roughly 1/3 of "Vacancy" is legitimately scary, while the rest is tired and meandering. I was startled the first few times a dark figure ran across the frame, but after a while, I simply came to expect it.

Sadly, the film makes no real attempt at amping up the terror or progressing the plot. It's repetitive scare after repetitive scare, killer after killer popping out of the darkness in a stale effort to surprise the audience. After 20 minutes of seemingly endless chase and escape, the film lost its novelty and transcended into B-movie slasher territory.

And don't even get me started on the character development. David and Amy spend the entire movie bickering about this and that, never really reaching a turning point if only on a crazy, terrified whim ("I love you, but only because we're about to be dismembered"). The killers, namely the motel manager, Mason (Frank Whaley), are used as simple tools for fright, rather than real characters. I mean, Mason is essentially a poor man's Norman Bates with a mustache and a penchant for camcorders. What could have been developed into a cool psychological thriller, expanding upon the motives of the killers, ultimately left me wanting more.

However, the film moves along briskly, clocking in at a taut 80 minutes. It's short and brutal, and I most definitely enjoyed it for what it was worth.

It's not breaking new ground like last year's "The Descent," or renewing the genre like "28 Days Later," but "Vacancy" is infinitely better produced than most of the sour PG-13 horror fair currently clogging our multiplexes.

*** 1/2 out of *****

Read Matt online at <http://rocketnumber09.blogspot.com>.

Calendar of Events

April 27

Jazz Ensembles Homecoming Concert

Time: 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Location: Lagerquist Concert Hall

Cost: Free to PLU students

Swing Into Spring: Harstad All-Campus Event

Time: 8 p.m. to midnight

Location: Memorial Gym

Cost: \$5 for singles, \$7 for couples

White Party - Pride Dance

Time: 9 p.m. to midnight

Location: South Hall Main Lounge

April 28

PLU Hawaii Club 10th Annual Luau 2007

Time: 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Location: Olson Gym

Choral Series: University Singers Concert

Time: 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Location: Lagerquist Concert Hall

Cost: Free to PLU students

F-Games

Time: 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Location: Foss Field

May 1

Choir of the West Pre-Tour Concert

Time: 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Location: Lagerquist Concert Hall

Cost: Free to PLU students

May 2

Saxifrage Release Party

Time: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Location: Xavier Nordquist Lecture Hall

University Concert Band and Men's Chorus

Time: 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Location: Lagerquist Concert Hall

Cost: Free to PLU students

May 3

Aagot Vinterbo-Hohr, Norwegian Sámi author

Time: 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Location: Xavier Nordquist Lecture Hall

String Kaleidoscope

Time: 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Location: Lagerquist Concert Hall

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Draft day patience

Hawks a few good picks from glory



Tim KELLY

The NFL Draft begins its two-day domination of the ESPN family of networks early tomorrow morning.

Some may argue that this invasion of the airwaves has gone on way too long.

Although the NFL draft does not have the nail-biting excitement of the NCAA tournament, what it lacks in excitement, it makes up for in entertainment. The befuddled looks and the scrambling for information when a player is drafted higher than expected is always enjoyable.

This is an all-day event where you must be up by 9 a.m. to catch the first pick. In my younger years, I would make sure to get up early to catch all of the action.

From a Seahawk fan's perspective this is no longer necessary since the Seattle has been making the playoffs every year for the past four seasons.

We don't get the excitement and anticipation of the first few picks, but I will take team success over high draft picks any day. If I only wanted high draft picks, I'd switch my allegiance to the Arizona Cardinals.

The excitement is lacking even more as the Seahawks do not have a first round pick at all thanks to a trade to New England for wide receiver Deion Branch.

That is fine by me. If the Seahawks were thinking of drafting a wide receiver at that position it is split down the middle whether a first round pick will be a productive wide receiver.

Of all the receivers on the Seahawks roster, not one was drafted in the first round. We all remember how well Koren Robinson did.

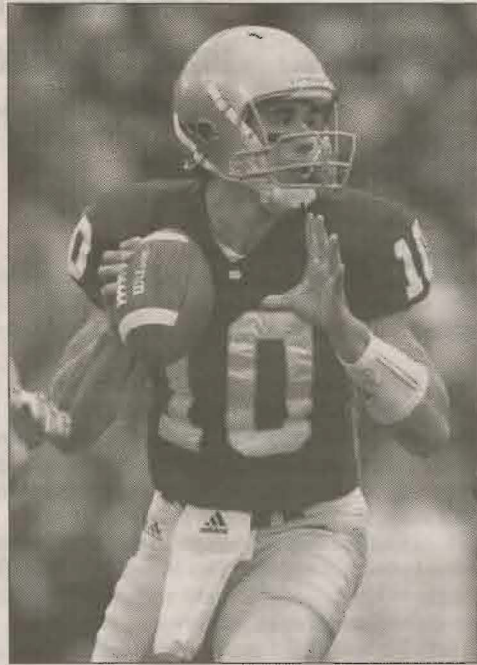
The glaring needs for the Seahawks this year are at tight end and offensive line. The defense is pretty solid but a run-stopping defensive tackle is needed in case of off-injured Marcus Tubbs goes down.

Depth in the secondary is also needed. The Hawks ran into trouble with that in Super Bowl XL and the problem continued all the way through last season.

As said before, the lack of a first round pick does not hurt the team too much. Of the 22 projected starters

only six (Shaun Alexander, Walter Jones, Chris Spencer, Marcus Trufant, Julian Peterson and Patrick Kerney) were first rounders.

Good players are found throughout the draft and the Seahawks, under the Ruskell regime, have done a great job at finding value players. Two-time Pro Bowler Lofa Tatupu was that value pick two seasons ago and his presence helped turn the shaky defense around. Scouring the mock drafts in various publications and according to the "experts," we find a wide range of suggestions for the Seahawks, but most of them feature the drafting of the offensive lineman to plug in at either guard position. The team was dealt a blow when Steve Hutchinson bolted. The revolving door at guard found a good replacement late in the season when rookie Rob Sims of Ohio State University stepped in and took the job. The team was so impressed with him that after failing to sign Kris Dielman of San Diego, they didn't go after any other free agent guard.



AP photo by Michael Conroy
Quarterback Brady Quinn is expected to be drafted early.

Three possible guards may be available to the Hawks in the second round: Justin Blalock of Texas, Ben Grubbs of Auburn and Arron Sears of Tennessee.

According to the scouting report found in The Sporting News, Blalock has the speed and athleticism but struggles in pass blocking and relies too much on his natural strength. Grubbs is good in pass protection but needs to get in better shape.

Sears is already considered ready to run block in the NFL but needs work on his passing game. Any one of these would be a great pick choice.

The selection of a guard could be hindered if a top tight end, i.e. Greg Olson of Miami or Zach Miller of Arizona State, fall into the Hawks range.

Tight end is a key component of the West Coast offense that Mike Holmgren runs and both of these would be a great fit. Olson is being projected as high as the 14th pick so he will most likely be gone but Miller is a different case.

He started out as a late first round early second round pick and now has descended a bit. Miller is not known for his blocking but has been rated decently.

If Miller is still hanging around in the picks in the late 40s, don't be surprised to see the team trade up.

It will be an interesting draft considering the Seahawks only need a few more pieces to reload for another Super Bowl appearance. Let's hope that these good players will fall into the Hawks' lap.

Semi-sweet week

Men's lacrosse advances, women finished for year

JON WEDELL
Mast sports reporter

The men's PLU lacrosse team fought off a sluggish first half to flatten Whitman 11-6.

The loss sent the Missionaries packing for the season, while the Lutes battle in the semifinals of the conference tournament at Curtis High School, in University Place against the Western Washington Vikings Saturday at 2 p.m.

The other semifinal features the Montana Grizzlies taking on Southern Oregon.

The Lutes' aggressive defense led to hard checks, forced turnovers and at-will goals from the face offs. Sophomore goalie Marshall Hughes performed well, shielding the goal, making timely saves to keep the Lutes afloat in the first half.

Finally the midfield and offensive players shined their sticks and pounded the ball in the back of the net as well as some timely checks that drew excitement from the crowd.

Another key factor to the PLU victory was winning face offs and senior defender/face off master Matt Wuerffel dominated them.

"Having a large core of seniors, we knew what was on the line, and we used a lot of energy

to separate ourselves from Whitman because the winner goes on and for the loser, the seniors' career is over," senior defender Chad Peterson said.

The Lutes and Vikings met earlier in Bellingham, Wash., where Western's offensive play showed holes that will need to be patched for the Lutes "D."

PLU ended up losing by the count of 18-9. Western Washington played physical and the offense for the Lutes had no continuity.

"We need these young guys," Wuerffel said. "They have stepped up. Marshall (Hughes) has stepped up in goal after losing Ben Resare to his knee injury."

The women's season came to an end thanks to Western Washington. Meeting earlier this season, the Lutes fell short by the count of 12-8.

The Lutes fell short once again in Portland, Ore. The final score of the match was 15-9. The Lutes had a rough start and the Vikings took advantage.

"Unfortunately we had a rough start against Western Washington, but we finished strong in the second half," sophomore Emily Ulloa said.

The Lutes responded in the second half to battle back but ended falling short.

The Lutes finish the season with an 8-3 record. The Vikings ended up taking on the Oregon Ducks Club team.

The Ducks have yet to lose a conference opponent.

Softball blazes through Lewis & Clark

Lutes go 4-0 over weekend

TYLER SCOTT
Mast sports reporter

The Lute softball team finally found some offense to go with improved defense and solid pitching in its weekend doubleheader sweeps of George Fox and Lewis & Clark.

In their second straight weekend trip to Oregon, the Lutes found the momentum that carried them through the start of the season before a midseason swoon that saw them lose 11 of their previous 14 leading up to the 4-0 weekend.

"We definitely saw some improvement in our offense this weekend," Coach Rick Noren said. "We hope to continue that this week in practice as we prepare for UPS this weekend."

The games against George Fox were moved from Saturday to Friday in order to avoid wet weekend weather, and the games were played at Linfield's lighted field.

In the first game, first-year pitcher Hadley Schmitt pitched all seven innings, giving up only four hits and striking out four to out-pace the Bruins' Kayla Winkler, who only gave up five hits in a complete game effort but suffered the tough luck loss, 3-1.

In the second game, the Lute offense came alive, led by sophomore infielder Theresa Tauscher's 3 for 4 effort with three RBI's and three runs scored. Senior pitcher Ashley Lopez picked up her first win of the season, pitching 3 2/3 innings in relief of first-year Cassie Canales in the 13-4, six-inning game.

The Lutes once again used a complete game by Schmitt to win a close game, 4-2, Sunday against Lewis & Clark.

The second game featured a repeat performance of Friday's offensive outburst as the Lutes dominated 8-0 in a game that was called after only five innings.

Canales was the star, both offensively and pitching-wise, going all five shutout innings and only giving up two hits to accompany her 3-3 performance at the plate

with two RBI's and two runs scored.

The sweep moved PLU back over .500 for the season, with a record of 16-15 going into the final weekend against UPS. The teams will play a doubleheader Saturday at noon on the PLU field, with a rematch doubleheader Sunday afternoon at UPS.

"Our pitching will need to have a good week of practice to prepare for UPS," Noren said. "They are a very good offensive team and will pose a huge challenge to our freshman pitchers. It should be an exciting weekend of competition and a good way to end the 2007 season."

Question:
Who holds the Mariner's record for stolen bases?
Answer on page 16.

Women's tennis suffers first round knock-out

STEPHEN ODELL
Mast sports reporter

The Whitman Missionaries defeated the Lutes 5-4 Saturday, the first day of the Northwest Conference tournament, ending PLU's season with an overall record of 14-7.

Whitman's two early wins in the doubles matches proved to be the difference as the two teams split the six singles matches.

"We did our best," senior Tracy Fujitani said.

PLU, seeded fourth in the NWC tournament, met expectations as the team finished fourth overall in the tourney.

Seniors Fujitani, Nicole Petrzela, and Bria

Smith's careers were also cut short with Saturday's loss to the Missionaries.

"It's so sad to see them go," first-year Ashley Brooks said of the seniors.

Brooks, first-year Ashley Coats and junior Erika Feltus are all expected to return for the 2008 season.

Feltus, along with Petrzela, earned All-NWC honors.

"I'm looking forward to hearing how they have improved," Fujitani said.

It was a season of turmoil for the Lutes - a season accented by an April 12 upset win over rival Puget Sound, and devastated by an 8-1 April 13 loss to Linfield as well as the mid-season departure of several players from the team.

"Our season was up and down," Fujitani said.

Linfield went on to win their sixth straight NWC championship by beating the Puget Sound Loggers 7-2.

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One for the money

Baseball one win away from becoming NWC champs

SEAN MCILRAITH
Mast sports reporter

The Pacific Lutheran baseball team is only one win away from capturing a share of the Northwest Conference championship after taking two games from the Whitworth Pirates last weekend.

PLU is now 29-7 (18-3 Northwest Conference) and will have two chances for the title tomorrow when they host the Puget Sound Loggers in a double-header.

The Lute squad needs two wins to secure an outright NWC championship.

PLU and UPS finish the regular season with a single game on Sunday but the Lutes can wrap the championship up tomorrow and make Sunday's game less important.

"We expect all three games are going to be close as well," head coach Geoff Loomis said. "We are hoping to get a lot of fans out there to help with home field advantage."

The Lutes baseball program is seeking its first NWC title ever and has not won a conference championship since the 1953-'54 seasons when it won consecutive Evergreen Conference championships.

George Fox sits two games behind the Lutes in the NWC standings but the Bruins are finished with conference play, putting the bat in the Lutes' hands.

Heading into the weekend PLU held a three-game lead over George Fox, but ran into a little trouble in the first game against Whitworth.

The Lutes took an early 1-0 lead but the Pirates responded by scoring four runs in the third inning off of PLU ace, Joe DiPietro. DiPietro settled down some but Whitworth added another in the seventh to make it 5-1.

"We knew it would be tough going to Whitworth and try to sweep them," Loomis said. "In game one we faced a

good pitcher that pitched a good game against us."

PLU attempted a comeback, plating two runs in the eighth inning on an RBI double from sophomore first baseman Jordan Post and a single from senior left fielder Tyler Green. A ninth inning home run from sophomore third baseman Chris Bowen brought PLU within one run of sinking the Pirates but the rally fell short as Whitworth snapped the Lutes' 10-game win streak with a 5-4 victory.

Green had three hits and DiPietro (9-2) gave up an unusual 12 hits and five runs in the loss.

PLU responded with power in game two demolishing Whitworth 14-0. Senior pitcher Kael Fisher improved his record to 4-0 after going nine innings allowing just four hits and striking out 12 Pirate batters.

"You lose the first game and want to bounce back," Fisher said. "I think we did a good job as a team, especially coming back hitting."

Speaking of hitting, four Lutes hit home runs including sophomore second baseman Matt Akridge, junior designated hitter Tim Young, sophomore catcher Brandon Sales and Green.

After Akridge led off the game with a home run, PLU scored seven runs in the third including a grand slam home run from Green. Sophomore Kris Hansen, senior center fielder Ryan Thorne and Akridge also added an RBI apiece.

The barrage continued into the next inning when PLU plated four runs, two coming from Sales' home run.

The Lutes added two more runs in the ninth for insurance. Seven Lutes had multiple hits including senior right fielder Justin Whitehall and Hansen with two, and three from senior short stop Logan Andrews.

The series concluded Sunday with another Lute victory and series win, this time it was 14-3. PLU received another big game from junior Brett Brunner who pitched eight innings allowing nine hits and three runs.

Brunner went seven scoreless innings before Whitworth managed three runs in the eighth. The score was only 3-0 in favor of the Lutes heading into the top of the eighth

but PLU picked up the pace with a two-RBI double from Thorne and an unearned run from senior second baseman Roger Guzman putting PLU up 6-0.

After the gap was closed 6-3, the Lutes decided to end the Pirate rally for good, plating eight runs in the top of the ninth. A two-RBI double from Post and a monster grand slam from Andrews were just a few PLU highlights.

"I think I was channeling a little bit of anger," Andrews said. "I wasn't doing so hot and just wanted to hit the ball hard. I'm surprised it got out. I'm usually not a power guy; I think I shocked a lot of people, including myself."

Sophomore reliever Hunter Simpson came in and docked the Pirate ship in one-two-three fashion. Senior third baseman Jared Simon was 2-4 with two RBI's and two runs scored while Sales went 3-4 with two runs plated.

"We knew going in that we had to win three games to get the conference title and just winning the series was all we tried getting out of there

with," Andrews said.

With all the home runs last weekend, the baseball program broke another school record. The Lutes have hit 29 homers this season, breaking the old record of 27 set back in 1990.

"We played about as good as we could play considering our backs were against the wall a little bit," Loomis said. "If we played in a park like that we would have a lot of home runs, but given that our park is pretty big it's a nice accomplishment that we set that mark."

The Lutes host the UPS Loggers (16-18-1, 13-8) tomorrow at noon.

The Loggers are coming off two wins in the Chapman Invitational in California last weekend. The Lutes have already beaten the Loggers in three non-conference games this season. PLU, the number 14 team in the country, can also clinch an automatic bid to the Division III playoffs with two wins.

"It gives us an opportunity to win it here at home because we'd really like to celebrate in front of the home town," Andrews said.

"I'm usually not a power guy; I think I shocked a lot of people, including myself."

Logan Andrews
Senior



Logan Andrews



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Men's golf finishes strong

PLU ends second in conference

AARON OLSON
Mast sports reporter

The Pacific Lutheran University men's golf team finished the season strong with a second place finish at the Northwest Conference Championships played at Tokatee Golf Course in Blue River, Ore.

Senior Brian Misterek and sophomore Jason Casey each shot 3-round totals of 219 to lead the Lutes to a second place finish behind Whitworth College.

"I came ready to play in the final round, with birdies early," Casey said. "I had a little bump in the road on 12, although my putter heated up as the round progressed to put me in position to win."

Whitworth won the tournament by shooting an overall score of 870 which outlasted the Lutes' 889, Linfield's 904, Pacific's 910, Puget Sound's 922, Willamette's 935, Whitman's 962 and Lewis & Clark's 1000.

Misterek and Casey played amazing for the Lutes in the



Brian Misterek

final of three conference tournaments of the year. Casey led the way on day one with an impressive score of 74. Misterek and junior Chris Packard followed with 75s while CJ Stauffer, Kyle Spitzer and Barrett Stamps all contributed to the team's score.

Packard played well and finished with an overall 3-round score of 222. Sophomore Stauffer rebounded after an 85 in the first

of three rounds to shoot a 73 in the second round for an overall score of 237.

First-years Stamps and Spitzer finished with overall scores of 238 and 240 respectively to help with the Lutes' comeback.

Casey double-bogeyed the 12th hole, though he made it exciting on the final three holes of the tournament. He received birdies on 16 and 17 while leaving a birdie putt a foot away from the cup that would have tied for the individual first place crown in the conference tournament.

All conference awards were issued to Misterek and Casey while Packard finished one shot short from receiving the award.

"The season was a little bit disappointing, although we turned it around in the end," Casey said. "As for next year, we will definitely miss Brian Misterek. He has been the leader all along and he will be tough to replace."

Packard, the Lutes captain next season agreed with Casey's comments on the season.

"I feel we played well although we were not able to play to the best of our abilities consistently," Packard said. "As for next year, I feel that we have potential to compete for the conference crown although we will miss Misterek. I have heard that we have some good young recruits coming in to help us, which will be good."

NWC results:

1. Steven Johnson - 218 (Whitworth)
2. Brian Misterek - 219 (PLU)
2. Jason Casey - 219 (PLU)
3. Andrew Parrot - 221 (Whitworth)

	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
THIS WEEK IN SPORTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Men's Tennis at Ojai (Calif.) Tournament, All Day. Crew at WIRA Championships, Sacramento, Calif., TBA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baseball vs. Puget Sound (2-9), Noon. Softball vs. Puget Sound (2), Noon. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baseball vs. Puget Sound (1-9), Noon Softball at Puget Sound (2), Noon. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NBA playoffs: Cleveland @ Washington, Utah @ Houston, San Antonio @ Denver, check local listings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MLB action: Seattle Mariners vs. Chicago White Sox, 7:05 p.m. on FSN. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NBA playoffs: Kobe and the Lakers vs. Steve Nash and the Phoenix Suns, time and channel TBA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make-up game: Seattle Mariners @ Boston Red Sox, 4:05 p.m. on KSTW.

Sonics' hopes sinking

Fans and lawmakers beginning to realize that they are tired of opening up checkbook for sports



Kristi BRUNER

I hate change. Any kind of change, whether it's *The Mast* office's move to South Hall or having to register for new classes fall semester. I hate it.

Thus, if anyone asks how I feel about the Sonics moving, I'm firmly against it. I can't even fathom not having a professional basketball team in Seattle.

What am I going to have to look forward to in the winter? Disney on Ice at Key Arena? I think not.

But I'm losing steam in the fight for the Sonics to stay; I'm tired of the talk. Stay or go, just decide already so that all the fans out there can move on.

Washingtonians in general, even loyal fans, have finally given up the fight to keep the Sonics. Boredom has turned to indifference. People everywhere are hanging up their Payton jerseys and wishing that they had moved to Portland, Ore. with Nate McMillan. At least the Trail Blazers have Brandon Roy.

Nothing else can be done. Legislators know that it is difficult, if not impossible, to raise money for an arena if the home team is doing poorly. Attendance fluctuates based on the success of a team and it's clear that

the "super" of the Seattle Supersonics is a thing of the past.

Maybe change is good. Just look at the Charlotte Bobcats arena. When the Hornets were given the boot out of Charlotte and the Bobcats came to town, the stadium took off.

Thriving since it opened October 2005, it is constantly booking big-name concerts while also housing the Bobcats, the WNBA team Sting and the Checkers, a minor-league hockey team.

The stadium has also been selected to host the 2008 men's regional NCAA Tournament as well as the 2008 Atlantic Coast Conference men's basketball tournament.

Maybe a trip out to the mid-West wouldn't be all that bad. It could be a new start for the team and Key Arena.

It's hard to believe that it's gotten to this point. It's irony at its best for a team to have celebrated its 40th year in the NBA while the franchise slowly began to unravel. Not even the greats can save the team now.

So is that it? Do Sonics fans just throw in the towel and put all their energy into the other professional teams of Seattle? Is it time to retire the green and gold sweatband and break into a bag of peanuts in preparation for a different kind of ball game?

Not yet. The Sonics will no longer be found in the Key but there's still hope that they will remain in Washington, playing at a new facility in Renton, Wash.

Now it's a waiting game. The legislators have postponed the bill proposing advancements and funding on a local arena as the Sonics fall in line behind many other sports



AP Photo by Ted S. Warren
Many Sonic's fans have voiced their opinion about the team's uncertain future. Owner Clay Bennett has stated that if an arena deal is not struck by fall of this year he will explore options to move the team to Oklahoma City.

that are hoping for new facilities.

With a new arena, wherever it may be, will come a new coach and general manager. The Sonics are cleaning house after firing Coach Bob Hill and GM Rick Sund Tuesday.

New management may be all this team needs to gain momentum and revive the love of basketball in the Northwest.

A new arena could bring excitement and promise that the Key could no longer do, like the Kingdome - beloved by many, but its days were numbered. The Mariners may not be at their best, but their stadium is doing just fine.

Seahawks' management gambled with the theory that if they built Qwest, fans would come. And come they did. Soon after

the 'Hawks made it to the Super Bowl, the fans paid off the Qwest costs.

So, Safeco worked for the M's and Qwest for the Seahawks, but the Sonics have done better than both of their brother teams. The Sonics have gone to the finals and won a championship, not even something the '95 M's were able to do. There have been some great times in that arena.

At this point, I welcome change. Anything is better than the way it is now. Eventually fans will get used to adjusting their clocks to Central Time Zone or possibly familiarizing themselves with I-405 on their way to Renton.

The fall of the Supersonics franchise has convinced me that not all change is bad. Sometimes it's all we've got.

Scorecard

Tennis

Standings - Men

Team	NWC	%	All	%
Whitman	16-0	1.000	23-7	.767
PLU	14-2	.875	16-9	.640
Linfield	12-4	.750	16-12	.571
UPS	9-7	.563	9-10	.474
Willamette	8-8	.500	10-12	.455
Whitworth	6-10	.375	7-16	.304
George Fox	4-12	.250	4-12	.250
L&C	3-13	.188	3-13	.188
Pacific	0-16	.000	0-16	.000

Standings - Women

Team	NWC	%	All	%
Linfield	16-0	1.000	18-5	.783
UPS	12-4	.750	14-5	.737
Whitman	12-4	.750	18-7	.720
PLU	11-5	.688	14-7	.667
Whitworth	8-8	.500	10-12	.455
Willamette	6-10	.375	7-15	.318
L&C	5-11	.313	7-13	.350
George Fox	1-15	.063	1-16	.059
Pacific	1-15	.063	1-17	.056

Last Two Matches - Men
4/20-21 vs Linfield - Won 8-1
vs Whitman - Won 6-3

NWC Champions!

Next Two Matches - Men
4/26-29 Ojai Tournament in Calif.-TBA
5/4-5 NCAA Div. III Regionals - TBA

Last Three Matches - Women
4/20-21 vs Whitworth - Won 7-2
vs Linfield - Lost 8-1
vs Whitman - Lost 5-4

Baseball

Standings

Team	NWC	%	All	%
PLU	18-3-0	.857	29-7-0	.806
George Fox	19-5-0	.792	28-5-0	.848
Linfield	14-7-0	.667	19-14-1	.576
UPS	13-8-0	.619	16-18-0	.471
Whitworth	9-12-0	.429	13-21-0	.382
Willamette	9-14-0	.391	17-20-0	.459
L&C	8-15-0	.348	12-20-0	.375
Pacific	5-16-0	.238	12-25-0	.324
Whitman	3-18-0	.143	5-27-0	.156

(Stats as of 4/23)

Batting AVG:

- Brandon Sales - .408
- Matt Wolford - .333
- Cory Beavers - .333
- Jordan Chargauf - .333

Hits:

- Jordan Post - 41
- Three tied with - 39

RBIs:

- Justin Whitehall - 36
- Jared Simon - 35
- Tyler Green - 33
- Jordan Post - 29

Last Three Games:

- 4/21 at Whitworth - Lost 5-4
- 4/21 at Whitworth - Won 14-0
- 4/22 at Whitworth - Won 14-3

Next Two Games:

- 4/28 vs UPS - 12 p.m.
- 4/29 vs UPS - 12 p.m.

Softball

Standings

Team	NWC	%	All	%
Whitworth	24-0-0	1.000	29-3-0	.906
Linfield	21-1-2	.917	30-4-2	.861
Pacific	16-6-2	.708	24-8-2	.735
Willamette	11-13-0	.458	17-16-0	.515
PLU	10-14-0	.417	16-15-0	.516
UPS	9-15-0	.375	20-16-0	.556
George Fox	5-23-0	.179	7-29-0	.194
L&C	2-26-0	.071	4-34-0	.105

(Stats as of 4/23)

Batting AVG:

- Theresa Tauscher - .413
- Cassie Canales - .357
- Vanessa Bryant - .333

Hits:

- Theresa Tauscher - 31
- Beth Kenck - 27
- Heather Walling - 26

RBIs:

- Theresa Tauscher - 24
- Beth Kenck - 19
- Alana Schutt - 16

Last Two Games:

- 4/22 vs Lewis & Clark - Won 4-2
- 4/22 vs Lewis & Clark - Won 8-0

Next Four Games:

- 4/28 vs UPS - 12 p.m./2 p.m. (DH)
- 4/29 at UPS - 12 p.m./2 p.m. (DH)

Golf

Last Two Events - Men

- 4/1-2 vs NWC Spring Classic - 5th
- 4/22-23 NWC Tournament - 2nd
- Top performers:**
- Brian Misterek - 219 (2nd)
- Jason Casey - 219 (2nd)

Last Three Events - Women

- 3/8-9 at UPS Invitational - 4th
- 3/17-18 at Willamette Invitational - 6th
- 4/15-16 at Northwest Conference Tournament - 6th

Track & Field

4/20-21 NWC Championships-

- Women: Placed sixth with 71.33 points**
- Men: Placed seventh with 19 points**
- W Hammer: Megan Wochnick - 154-05 (1st)
- W Hammer: Taylor Hacker - 127-07 (3rd)
- W Javelin: Karin Hatch - 131-01 (2nd)
- W 400-m hurdles: Faven Araya - 1:04.99 (2nd)
- W 800-m: Katie Choate - 2:19.24 (2nd)
- W 4x100-m relay - 51.01 (2nd)
- M 400-m hurdles: Luke Weinbrecht - 56.62 (3rd)
- M 4x100-m relay - 44.24 (4th)

Upcoming meets:

- 5/12 Ken Foreman Invitational - 9 a.m.
- 5/18 or 19 Last Chance Meet - 11 a.m.
- 5/24-26 NCAA Division III Championships in Oshkosh, Wis. - 10 a.m.

Kings of the court

Men's tennis wins third straight title

COLLIN GUILDNER
Mast sports reporter

The PLU Men's tennis team continued their dominance over the Northwest Conference last weekend with an amazing victory in the Conference Championship Tournament in Yakima, Wash.

The two-time champion Lutes were able to defend their title, defeating Linfield and Whitman en route to their 28th conference title in the last 36 years. Though conference championships have come to be an expectation for the men who take the court wearing the black and gold, this one will be remembered for years to come.

"It is impossible to describe how it feels to win a championship like this," Coach Craig Hamilton said. "We just played our best and it all came together in the end."

Coming into the weekend the Lutes knew it would be a difficult task if they were to defend the trophy that has had their name on it more often than not the



Photo courtesy of Justin Diercks
Senior Jeff Loranger prepares to hit the ball in his match against Whitman Saturday.

past four decades.

The Whitman Missionaries came into last weekend ranked the fourth best Division III tennis team on the west coast and the 12th best team in the nation by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA). Whitman had also defeated the Lutes twice in regular season matches, which were PLU's only two conference losses of the season.

"I did not think we had a very good chance to beat Whitman," senior co-captain David Miller said. "Don't get me wrong, I have complete confidence in the guys on our team, but Whitman was playing really well."

Before the inevitable match up of the number one and two teams in the conference, Whitman and PLU respectively, the Lutes had to take care of business against the third-ranked Linfield Wildcats in the first day of competition. The Lutes did so in a big way, defeating Linfield 8-1 in one of their most dominating performances of the year.

"It felt good to come out and win in blowout fashion like that," senior co-captain Jeff Loranger said. "I felt like we had a good chance to win the conference after we played so well against Linfield."

The Whitman-PLU rivalry has taken a huge step forward this year, and it was fitting that the two would duke it out for the right to call themselves Northwest Conference Champions and move on to the Division III National Championship Tournament in May.

Though the Missionaries had won the previous two meetings, the Lutes only lost 5-4 in the previous meeting, which followed a 7-2 thumping during the first match up of the year in February.

The match-up with Whitman started with the Lutes taking two of the three doubles matches from the Missionaries.

A surprise win from the number three doubles pair of Kevin Floyd and Jarred Vidano came when the two were able to take their match against Whitman's pair of Matt Solomon and Nadeem Kassam, the team who won the ITA tennis regionals way back in the fall.

"It is always great to come out on top when it is not expected of you," Floyd said. "It was just kind of the story of our match



Photo courtesy of Justin Diercks
David Miller (front) and Justin Larimore (back) play in a doubles match against Whitman Saturday.

that day."

Another surprising victory for the Lutes came in the second half of the day during the number five singles match-up. Justin Peterson was able to come out on top in his match against Christoph Fulks in convincing fashion, winning in straight sets 6-1, 6-2. Fulks had won in straight sets when the two met earlier in the year, making the victory that much sweeter for Peterson.

The match came to an exciting conclusion when both senior co-captains, Miller and Loranger remained on the court with only one having to win to clinch the conference championship for the Lutes.

Loranger was the first to finish his match, winning against Robbie Munday in three sets, 4-6, 6-2, 6-4.

Though the rest of the team watching from the sidelines knew that the Lutes would come out on top, Miller was unaware of the results of the previous matches and still believed that his match was the deciding factor of the tournament. After beating Whitman's number-one player Phalkun Mam, Miller promptly threw his racket in the air in celebration and the team rushed

the court to commemorate the victory.

The victory by Miller is even more meaningful because he played at Whitman during his first year before transferring to PLU with a bitter taste in his mouth.

"It's an amazing feeling every time I play them and beat them," Miller said. "They don't really like me very much."

The men arrived at the tennis courts for practice Monday knowing that all that lay ahead for them is an invitational tournament in Ojai, Calif. this weekend before finding out the draw and where they will travel to compete in the National Championships on May 4-5.

The mood was light and it was all smiles for the latest team to come out on top in the Northwest Conference.

Answer:
Julio Cruz, 290 SB's

2007 men's tennis NWC champions

Third straight title

28 titles in 36 years

Beat Whitman and Linfield to win title



Photo courtesy of Justin Diercks
Back row (left to right): Coach Jeff Allen, Coach Ben Schaefer, Tyler Oschner, Justin Peterson, Jamie Crosetto, John DeMars, Justin Diercks, Coach Craig Hamilton. Second row: Jeff Loranger, James Odan, Kevin Floyd, Jared Vidano. Front row: Justin Larimore, David Miller. Beat Linfield 8-1 and Whitman 6-3.

First team all-NWC:

Senior David Miller

Senior Jeff Loranger