

MOORING MAST



Take Back THE NIGHT

Courtney Donlin
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Cries echoed across campus April 27-28 as students marched from Red Square, exclaiming their intolerance of gender and sexual violence.

Pacific Lutheran University wrapped up Sexual Assault Awareness Month with two events to raise awareness about violence. Men strapped on high heels on Wednesday for Walk a Mile in Her Shoes, and both men and women gathered in Red Square on Thursday for Take Back the Night.

"Overwhelmingly, the campus is very supportive," said Jonathan Grove, Men Against Violence program coordinator. Grove said that events such as Take Back the Night and Walk a Mile in Her Shoes fit perfectly with PLU's mission to improve care and support.

"This is a unique opportunity for

men," Grove said. "We can support survivors and have a good time."

Jennifer Warwick, victim advocate for the Women's Center, emphasized the significance of men's involvement in events such as Walk a Mile in Her Shoes.

"For a really long time, gender violence has been women's issue," Warwick said. "The majority of perpetrators are men, but the majority of men are not perpetrators."

Despite the less than ideal marching weather, around 30 students, staff and faculty members voiced their cause.

Senior Fletch Joyner was asked to organize Walk a Mile in Her Shoes this year along with senior Mark Hengstler. Joyner began his involvement with Walk a Mile in Her Shoes in spring 2010. Previously, the day chosen for the walk was sunny and warm.

"As I was getting off the bus, I had this image of doing it [the walk] alone," Joyner said. "It was raining sideways."

Joyner was far from alone on

Wednesday. More than 20 students, staff and faculty members participated in the march, with about half in high heels.

Thursday's dynamic was more serious. Around 70 people gathered in Red Square, shouting cheers such as, "One, two, three, four, we won't take this anymore. Five, six, seven, eight, no more violence; no more rape."

"Take Back the Night can have very deep, dark moments," senior Hilary Scarbrough said. "It's a different tone of support." This is Scarbrough's third year organizing Take Back the Night.

The support included 14 cheers led by radical cheerleaders dressed in mismatched clothes and face paint. Joyner had pom-poms stuck behind his ears.

Despite the radical cheerleaders' unconventional outfits and enthusiastic cheering, the open mic portion of Take Back the Night brought the emotions of sexual violence to harsh reality.

Several PLU students stood in front

of the crowd and spoke about their personal experience with rape and violence. Some had family members who were victims of rape. Others were victims themselves.

Often, stories brought both their audience and themselves to tears. Any time a story became too emotional to continue, the crowd would scream and applaud its support for the speaker.

"Take Back the Night breaks the silence," Warwick said. "In our society, in general, there's a lot of stigma and taboo about sexual violence."

Participation is a big way to undo the taboo.

"I'd like to see more attendance," Scarbrough said. "Not as an event planner, but to feel more empowered."

The final step to break the silence happened after the open mic session. Scarbrough, pictured above wearing a tiara, led the crowd through campus, screaming the cheers at the top of their lungs.



INSIDE

Relay for Life raises more than \$37,000, and keeps on going



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University makes immigrant students' DREAMs come true



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Senior BFA majors reveal art pieces



ART, PAGE 8

Baseball team falls to Linfield in last home series, senior Ryan Aratao hits record-breaking double



SPORTS, PAGE 12

Cancer 'hits home,' Relay aids relief

Nick Neely
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Pancakes, fruit and hot chocolate, provided by Pacific Lutheran President Loren Anderson, awaited participants at the end of this year's Relay for Life last Friday and Saturday.

"Relay to the Rescue" was held at the PLU track, and began 6 p.m. Friday and ended at noon the next day. Approximately 500 participants have raised more than \$37,000 for the American Cancer Society so far. The goal is to reach \$38,000 by August.

The main stage hosted many forms of entertainment, including PLUtonic and HERmonic in the evening and aerobics with Susan Westering in the morning.

Cancer survivor and PLU alumnus Jay Ballinger said he found the turnout remarkable.

"All these marvelous students came out to support this fundraising," Ballinger said. "Usually it is people who have been touched by cancer."

Students did not raise money by themselves; many formed teams. The purpose of this was to form relay shifts so at least one person from each team would walk the track at all times.

Some of the 45 teams set up tents on the field so participants could camp overnight. Others returned to their residence halls at night.

Luminaria, white paper bags illuminated with a candle to remember cancer victims and recognize those still fighting, were placed around the track as night fell.

Relay Co-chair junior Katy Gwinn's grandfather was recently diagnosed with cancer.

"When it hits home so closely," Gwinn said, "it gives new meaning to the work."

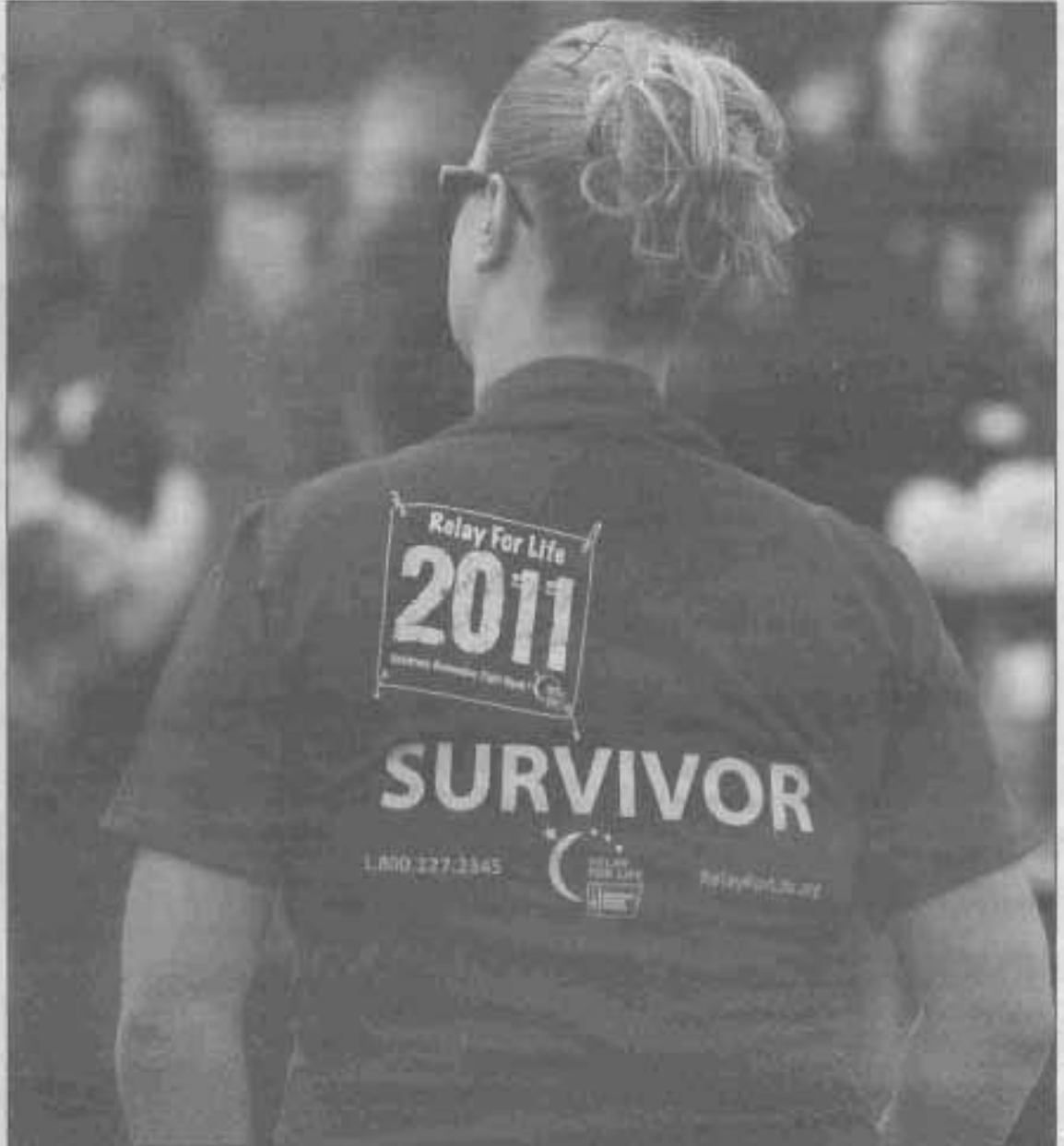


PHOTO BY TED CHARLES

ABOVE: A cancer survivor faces the crowd prior to the opening survivor lap of Relay for Life last Friday. Fifteen cancer survivors, including students and alumni, attended the event. They sported Capes to honor this year's theme: "Relay to the Rescue." LEFT: The survivor lap, led by two students holding the survivor banner, kicked off this year's event.



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Grand Cinema shows 'Endgame,' prepares for archbishop's arrival

Dianne McGinness

NEWS REPORTER
mcginnis@plu.edu

"If you know the truth of our situation, professor, you will see that the issue of violence is irrevocably connected to the other issues we wrestle with. Only when we can participate in a truly democratic process will our armed struggle become obsolete, only then can the conflict between us end," African National Congress Head of Information and right-hand to ANC president Thabo Mbeki said in the 2009 film "Endgame."

Pierce County Center for Dispute Resolution and Tacoma's Grand Cinema will

host a showing of "Endgame" at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, Saturday and Sunday in order to prepare students for Desmond Tutu's appearance in Tacoma.

The center, created 20 years ago, offers mediation services to anyone in need of a peaceful resolution.

"The center provides a mediator, someone who doesn't have a part in the conflict, to come to a balanced, fair solution that everyone feels comfortable with," Maralise Hood Quan, executive director of Pierce County Center for Dispute Resolution, said. "The film shows peacemaking in all aspects."

"Endgame" takes place in South Africa during the late 1980s, an era when apartheid,

a system of legal separation of race, was a prevalent issue.

"Not a lot of people know the context of Desmond Tutu's life and work," said senior Luke Terwilliger, executive assistant and mediation services intern. "Without knowing that, it is hard to understand him."

In the film, Michael Young, played by Johnny Lee Miller, orchestrates secret talks between two conflicting parties in order to arrive at a peaceful resolution and ultimately the end of apartheid.

"Endgame" demonstrates the benefits of peaceful dialogue," Terwilliger said. "It empowers people to come to their own peaceful resolution."

Hood Quan discussed the correlation between modern

day mediation and the system used by Desmond Tutu.

"We use the same steps to solve local problems as Tutu did to solve international issues such as apartheid," she said.

Hood Quan also said that "Endgame" talks about overcoming hate and discusses the importance of forgiving one another.

After the film, audience members will be invited to participate in a conversation about mediation and what they witnessed on screen.

"We forget how good we have got it," Hood Quan said. "Watching 'Endgame' will help students understand what Tutu lived through and what he did."

South Hall brings mystery to dinner

Caitlin Elrod

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Who done it? That was the question on everyone's mind April 28 as South Hall residents got together for their annual hall event in the Scandinavian Cultural Center.

The South Hall Mystery Dinner included South Hall's residents portraying different characters throughout the dinner. For this particular theme, the residents were on a cruise ship called Mystery of the Seas Cruise Liners finding out who killed Candy Carr.

"I didn't know I was going to be someone who slept around a bit with the passengers, and I didn't know that I was going to die," junior Courtney Shoe said. Shoe was the unlucky person chosen to die during the game.

The suspect pool included all participants, but the favorite suspects were the captain, bus boy, towel boy and the pageant contestants. People were encouraged to bribe others for information and were given fake money with which to do so.

"I am the captain of the Mystery of the Seas Cruise Liner. It is my job to make sure that the crew act admirably, and the guests have a wonderful time," said senior Adam Schreiber, who played Captain Stubling.

This event was started by Cori Jo Jahnsen,



A group of students dressed as characters gather April 28 during the Mystery Dinner to hear who was "arrested."

a CA in South Hall last year. Cassandra Chapel, resident director, advised Jahnsen as she brought the event to life last year. South Hall residents enjoyed the mystery dinner last year, so members of South Hall decided that they wanted to continue the tradition and make it an annual event.

"This year it was given to the

Community Assistants to implement again, to really create something for South Hall as a tradition," Chapel said.

Prizes were given at the end of the dinner to those who had correctly guessed the killer, who had dressed best, portrayed their character and who had earned the most money.

Urban Habitat Restoration: Work parties rebalance environment outside UC

Courtney Dunlin

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Endangered plants are under attack on the Pacific Lutheran University campus, and the Urban Habitat Restoration project works to rebalance the natural state of the environment.

Environmental studies majors seniors Reed Ojala-Barbour and Emma Kane lead the project, which aims at restoring critically endangered plants found on campus.

Ojala-Barbour began as a fellow with the Sustainability Office and Kane is the habitat restoration volunteer coordinator.

The project, which was formed by Ojala-Barbour in summer 2009, uses work parties throughout the school year in order to recreate the natural habitat on the hillside behind the University Center.

"PLU has an important habitat, especially because of the Gary Oak tree, which is critically threatened in Pierce County," Ojala-Barbour said.

The work parties are days dedicated to pulling out invasive plants, such as the

Himalayan blackberry bushes that currently overpower campus, and replacing the space with the native plants.

Along with the physical effort, the project educates its volunteers on safety measures and planting procedures, going over which species to remove and which to plant. The project now focuses mainly on planting species from plant families that call PLU campus home.

"It's been tremendously successful. There are goals achieved that we haven't even begun to shoot for."

Chrissy Cooley, sustainability manager

"We've put in temporary irrigation to really foster these young plants and help them establish themselves in the space again," Kane said.

However, recreating the natural habitat originally found on campus goes beyond planting endangered foliage. The restoration

project would undoubtedly fail without the help of volunteers at the work parties.

"It's entirely volunteer-run," Cooley said.

The restoration project works hand-in-hand with neighborhood children, using programs like the Big Buddy Program to bring in interested elementary students.

There are 10 to 15 volunteers at an average work party, Kane said. Overall, the project boasts approximately 150 volunteers.

Along with nearby schools, the project has several partner organizations, including the Green Tacoma Partnership and the Cascade Land Conservancy. The project receives funding to continue their work mainly from grants. So far, funders include the Pierce Conservation District and the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation.

"It's been tremendously successful," said Chrissy Cooley, sustainability manager. "There are goals achieved that we haven't even begun to shoot for."

The importance of maintaining PLU's natural environment goes far beyond planting vulnerable species of trees and shrubs.

Cooley said: "A lot of times students feel like visitors, and they don't realize the significance of the place."

BRIEFS

Artist teaches Norwegian decorative painting classes

Return to the rural valleys of Norway with expert artist Marilyn Hansen and learn how to do rosemaling, which is Norwegian for decorative painting.

This form of decorative folk art originated in the rural valleys of Norway but it is being taught through three classes in the Scandinavian Cultural Center Meeting Room on May 10, May 21 and May 22.

There are three main styles of rosemaling: Telenwerk, Hallingdal and Rogaland, named after the regions in which each originated.

Classes are from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and reservations are required. Call Marilyn Hansen at 425-882-3647 to reserve a spot.

Sustainability encourages people to bike to work

Ditch your gas guzzler and take two wheeled transportation to work this week.

Sustainability at PLU is hosting Bike to Work week, which will include events such as a bike maintenance class and a group bike ride. In the bike maintenance class participants will learn how to take care of their wheels and the group bike ride will take place after that.

Meet at the Harstad Bike Co-op on May 10 from 2-4:30 p.m. to participate in the bike maintenance class and 4:30-5:30 p.m. to participate in the group bike ride.

Start Smart workshop aids women in negotiating skills for entering the workplace

Women can learn to negotiate salaries no matter what stage of a career they are at through the Start Smart workshop.

This workshop is meant to empower young women as they start their career in order to avoid the gender wage gap. It will teach women how to negotiate for fair and equitable salaries post-graduation.

The Start Smart workshop provides junior and senior women with knowledge and skills as they approach the job market.

Register by Friday and email womencenter@plu.edu to secure a spot. The event will take place Wednesday from 4-6:30 p.m. in Morken 103 and is sponsored by the Women's Center and Career Development.

Reported by Caitlin Elrod

PLU pushes students into the wide world

Sarah Wise
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Studying away is more than an opportunity; it's a life-defining experience.

In 2006, Pacific Lutheran University became the first U.S. university to have students studying on every continent at the same time, according to the PLU website. The university places a large emphasis on global study and a commitment to engaging in our global communities, and yet the only major which requires a study away component is the global studies major. All the same, in 2010 the number of graduating seniors who had studied away during their time at PLU exceeded 50 percent, according to the PLU website.

Sophomore Emily Roska, an advocate for the study away requirement at PLU, researched the impact study away makes on the average college student in America. Roska found through a University of Delaware survey that students who study away have a higher level of global engagement, which is defined by the survey as civic engagement, philanthropy, knowledge production and social entrepreneurship. Roska also found that the Institute for International Study Abroad reports that students who study away are frequently encouraged to pursue higher education.

Study away programs are far more affordable than many students realize. Many semester programs are equivalent to a semester on campus; some are cheaper. Regular financial aid applies toward many study away programs, further alleviating the cost.

Augustine once said, "The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page." Roska agrees.

"Traveling is an experience of a lifetime that should be experienced by everyone at least once in their lives," Roska said. "PLU should encourage their students to engage even more in their communities and worlds by requiring a study away trip sometime during their four years at PLU."

Regardless of whether or not study away is required, it certainly is an important aspect of any student's education and personal growth. If you are considering a study away course, I strongly encourage you to plan ahead by visiting the friendly staff in the Wang Center, located on Wheeler Street behind the music building. The Wang Center's website (www.plu.edu/studyaway) features an extensive list of scholarship opportunities available to students studying away. The resources are available to make any study away program accessible to all students. All it takes is proper planning. Study away is an important aspect of a global education to pass by.

Cheer 'peace,' not 'victory'



Penn State senior Jake Liferizi holds an American flag as he and others fill Beaver Canyon Avenue in downtown State College, Pennsylvania, around midnight on Sunday, shortly after learning about the death of Osama bin Laden.

AP PHOTO BY ANDY COLWELL

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On Sunday evening, President Obama announced the United States successfully killed Osama bin Laden, and then thousands incorrectly rejoiced. Within a couple of hours, more than 180,000 joined the Facebook group "Osama bin Laden is dead 5/1/11." A MSNBC reporter interviewed a college student near Ground Zero who said it was a time to party because bin Laden is dead.

Many Americans took this student's recommendation and began to party. Suffice to say, this isn't what we should have done.

This past Sunday history was made; we had successfully brought to justice one man who promoted evil against the U.S. and other countries in the world. The world became a little bit safer that evening.

"Justice has been done," President Obama said, in his announcement from the White House.

Bin Laden was the mastermind behind the 9/11 attacks, and sought to commit

evil against America and other nations. Our actions to assassinate bin Laden were justified; the way we behaved afterwards was not.

This cathartic outpouring of emotion is to be expected. A historic moment like this should be recognized and celebrated. However, it should have been a somber moment in reflection

shown us images of groups celebrating the death of Americans by burning the American flag and the shooting weapons in the air. Many Americans were revolted by this image, yet in a matter of minutes we replicated it.

On Sunday, many Americans did not improve the global image of America and its citizens. We appeared to be a barbaric nation that celebrates death.

Bin Laden's death will not end terrorism. Al Qaeda and other terrorist networks have other leaders capable of committing evil. There is a new number one on the FBI's most wanted list.

The families of victims of 9/11 and the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq can take some solace knowing bin Laden is dead. However, this does not bring back the lives of those lost or heal the wounded.

On Sunday, an evil man who organized the murder of thousands was brought to justice. But this does not mean it is time to party.

It was a time to rest easy and enjoy the relief with our loved ones. Instead we shot-gunned a beer and chanted 'USA, USA.'

Many Americans were revolted by this image, yet in a matter of minutes we replicated it.

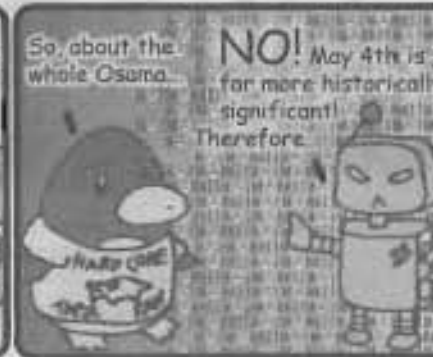
and quiet celebration of the successful work of our military and intelligence services.

Obama even said it himself, "Tonight we give thanks to the countless intelligence and counter terrorist professionals, that worked tirelessly to achieve this outcome."

Many Americans should have realized that they were ultimately celebrating the death of a man.

For years the media have

Robot & Penguin



Tim Guy

SUBMIT LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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The Mooring 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 Mooring Mast staff.

The Mooring 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 Mooring Mast encourages letters to the editor. Letters must be submitted by 5 p.m. the Wednesday of publication. Letters without a name, phone number and class standing for verification will be discarded. Letters should be no longer than 500 words in length and typed. The Mooring Mast reserves the right to refuse any letter. Letters may be edited for length, taste and errors.

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THE MOORING MAST STAFF 2010-2011



TO THE EDITOR

Response to 'Designated smoking areas would benefit students, community health' from April 15

Editors,

One of the predominant struggles in American politics today is between the right of the individual to make personal choices to do as he or she pleases and the efforts of the legislature to control citizen's actions. As John Stuart Mill, distinguished philosopher of liberty, wrote in his 1859 work "On Liberty," "It is a basic principle of libertarian politics that no one should be forcibly prevented from acting in any way he chooses, provided his acts are not invasive of the free acts of others."

The celebrated body of Supreme Court law has upheld this philosophy. For example, in cases dealing with freedom of expression and association, the Court has interpreted the Constitution in a way that protects even those practices that are distasteful to a particularly vocal group of society. The burden of the law has always been to protect minorities from the whims of the majority.

Recently, there has been an outcry to suppress on-campus smoking. Despite the fact that a few ill-mannered individuals have given a bad name to this group, the fact remains that most students are consistent with PLU policy.

"Washington State law prohibits smoking in public buildings and in campus vehicles. Smoking is prohibited within 25 feet of a building entrance, exit, windows that open, ventilation intake, and other areas through which non-smokers must traverse. Signs are posted on all building entrances and campus vehicles," according to the PLU Student Code of Conduct.

However, instead of moving or directly confronting those few students who are subjecting others to nicotine, certain members of the PLU community would like to ban smoking altogether on campus.

Who are these PLU elitists, to

attempt to go over the limits of the law in order to interfere with others' lives? When such people write that "it would clearly be healthier for all if PLU returned to being a smoker-free institution," they are imposing their personal beliefs on others.

I am not arguing that designated non-smoking areas are a bad idea. For those who are unwilling to politely ask others to move, perhaps this would resolve the problem. However, to forbid all PLU students from smoking in any form on campus grossly interferes in their right to lawfully practice whatever legal habits they prefer in a manner that respects others.

According to the CDC study, as of last year, 22 percent of college-age Washingtonians smoke. This is a substantial part of our student population. Yet, it has become all right to discriminate against this minority, telling them that they have no place on the PLU campus.

When we begin to ostracize certain members of our student body for legal habits, we are violating the Lute spirit of our community. I would be ashamed to live in a community where people only tolerate the habits that they themselves practice.

Lara Major
sophomore



Kelly Ventoo

ASPLU HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR
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Progressing with succession plans for the coming school year, ASPLU is now one step closer to forming a complete team. It is with much excitement that I am now able to announce the ASPLU Director team for the 2011-2012 academic year:

- Finance – Shannon Price
- Human Resources – Melissa Polder
- Programs – Nicole Jones
- Sustainability – Steena Troyer
- Diversity – Elizabeth Ginsberg
- Venues – Aaron Steelquist
- Outdoor Rec, Finance – Matt Leslie
- Outdoor Rec, Personnel – Justin Barth
- Impact Business – Alex Peterson
- Impact Production – Kate Miller

These directors will train with the current directors during the month of May, which will assure a smooth transition. If you have any interest in becoming a chair person or getting involved with ASPLU during the coming school year, please contact President junior Alexis Ballinger at ballinaj@plu.edu.

From the Editor

Reno Sorensen

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The 2010-2011 volume of The Mooring Mast is drawing close to its last installment. As we look back on this year, we take the time to appreciate the strides student media has made in collaboration and cooperation.

Next year will mark the beginning of student media's leap into twenty-first century journalism and digital representation. The Mooring Mast, Saxifrage, The Matrix, KCNS and KCCR will have unified, yet distinctly utilitarian, websites. The general managers of the five media outlets have also discussed having a single home page that streams content from each of the individual media outlets and provides forms for comments and submissions.

Also, reporters, photographers and opinion writers, be on the lookout for application opportunities for staff positions for the 2011-2012 school year.

In an April 29 brief announcing Friday's lecture from Nobel laureate Edmond Fischer, Professor Fischer's prize was not a Nobel Peace Prize but a Nobel Prize. The word "Peace" should not have appeared in the title of his prize.

Jeff Clapp, professor of theatre and athletic director for the Theatre Department, did not teach the 2001 F-term course in Trinidad. Clapp visited as part of a small group of faculty who were chosen to visit Trinidad and explore how their departments could utilize the education experience offered there.

CORRECTIONS

Submit edits and corrections you find in the paper to mast@plu.edu

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SIDEWALK TALK

How do you feel about U.S. citizens' reactions to Bin Laden's death?



"His death is good for humanity in general but I don't think it should be celebrated to the caliber it is being celebrated."

KeelyAnn Kelly
first-year



"It makes me angry, because mourning over someone's death is not a happy thing."

Mackenzie Landis
sophomore



"I think that the celebration will be perceived, to the U.S. and other nations, as disrespectful."

Amy Jones
junior



"I'm not going to tell people how they should or shouldn't react. That's up to them."

Sean Andrascick
senior



2,835

Students received acceptance letters for fall 2010

696

Students accepted offers of admission

1

Undocumented student enrolled in the PLU Class of 2014

Students gather in Dean Auditorium for the Class of 2014 convocation ceremony. None of the students featured in the background of this photo are the undocumented student enrolled in the school in 2010.

University provides education without citizenship, follows national trend

Jack Sorensen
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During last fall's convocation, returning students from the class of 2014 proceeded to Oboon Auditorium to begin their education at Pacific Lutheran University. They were 666 strong, said Karl Stumo, vice president for the Office of Admission. They had an average GPA of 3.64 and an SAT of around 1100. Out of the 2,835 applicants admitted, they were the 196 that accepted the offer.

One of them was an undocumented immigrant. The student, referred to as "Karen" to protect her privacy, was admitted to the university carrying a full-ride scholarship from an outside organization, said McGonnie Cunningham, associate director of admission and coordinator of multicultural recruitment in the Office of Admission. While Karen chose to decline an interview to protect her identity, both Stumo and Cunningham agreed to discuss Karen's enrollment and its significance.

Karen's enrollment at PLU falls in the midst of a national battle over the status of undocumented, or "illegal," immigrants and education. In late December, U.S. Senate Republicans shot down a vote on the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act. The measure, in its second introduction to Congress, proposed providing temporary "undocumented citizenship status" to immigrants who had entered the U.S. illegally as children, pending enrollment in an institute of higher education or enlistment, according to the White House blog. Full citizenship would be granted upon completion of a college degree or honorable discharge from the U.S. Army.

Karen would have been eligible for protection under the DREAM Act.

Instead, she finds herself a college student who is fortunate and talented enough, Cunningham said, to receive a sufficient outside scholarship to attend PLU. While the status of Karen's citizenship could be questioned by the state or federal government, Cunningham and Stumo defend her status as a student, defending the position that admissions does not consider citizenship when reviewing applications.

"We're open to applications from undocumented students, absolutely," Stumo said. He said he believes an integrity to the university's Lutheran

heritage means that the institution remain "open to everybody."

"PLU doesn't limit academic merit scholarships for anybody ... based on anyone's citizenship or the color of their skin," Stumo said.

Stumo confirmed that PLU had accepted undocumented students before — a practice that he said is common in other states, such as California.

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that up to 2.5 million undocumented minors were living in the U.S. in the year 2000, according to the University of California Los Angeles Center for Labor Research and Education. Approximately 65,000 undocumented students graduate from U.S. high schools each year.

These rising statistics have fueled the national conversation on immigration and education, and although the DREAM Act failed to garner enough

support for such legislation in a letter to Washington state Sen. Patty Murray published on the Washington DREAM Act Coalition website, Sen. Murray co-sponsored the national bill.

Stumo maintained it is not against the law to enroll an illegal student, provided the student is not receiving federal aid, such as a Pell Grant. If ever questioned, Stumo said the university "would say that we're open to undocumented students, they're welcome in the university."

Through her role as coordinator of multicultural recruitment, Cunningham said she is "overjoyed" at this invitation for the university, which she believes places PLU "in line to be lifted up as a forward-thinking school."

"Everyone should have the right to an education — the way that you change your community and the way that you change the world is to uplift education," Cunningham said.

While PLU cannot take an institutional stance, President Loren Anderson is not hesitant about expressing his views on the issue.

"I can tell you my stance, and I am obviously a great supporter of it [the DREAM Act] and an advocate for it," Anderson said.

Anderson echoed his colleagues in the Office of Admission and said he was disappointed that the topic of education and citizenship gets "sound-up" and "dragged down" by the other facets of the debate on immigration reform.

"It's hard to imagine why it doesn't pass," Anderson said, expressing that he believes "it is just the right thing to do."

Anderson said he believes talented students should be eligible for an education regardless of their or their parents' citizenship status.

"We've got bright young people in this country who deserve a chance and are prepared," Anderson said. He also said that, while undocumented students may acquire a degree from PLU, they may still face more obstacles in the workplace.

Anderson said he hopes the future will be more promising for students like Karen.

"We need to keep the pressure on to try and get those laws changed," Anderson said.

"We're about the business of creating an educational opportunity for people who earned that opportunity, and I think that's the appropriate place for us to stand."

Though Karen declined to interview, she said that, after college, she hopes to someday work towards positive immigration reform.

"It is just the right thing to do."

President Loren Anderson

support in the U.S. Senate, state legislatures across the country are voting on similar DREAM Act measures that provide financial assistance for undocumented students within their own states.

California has passed the California DREAM Act three times since 2006, all of which former Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger vetoed. The state legislature is looking to again send a California DREAM Act to the governor's desk, which Gov. Jerry Brown has promised to sign, according to the Associated Press.

The Maryland state Senate approved a bill last month that would provide in-state tuition to illegal immigrants. However, a "Republican-led petition drive" is working to repeal the bill just a week before Gov. Martin O'Malley is projected to sign it, according to a story in The Baltimore Sun.

Washington does not have a state DREAM Act, though Gov. Christine Gregoire has openly



Senior Dan McCarthy stands by his wax sculpture "Uncertain Reasoning," a piece in the Senior Art Exhibition, a showcase of this year's Art Capstones. McCarthy said it in part symbolized that "Technology is the son of man."

Nordic film series comes to a close

Lara Major
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With the showing of "The Five Obstructions" on Sunday, this year's Nordic Film Series came to an end. Viewed by an audience of Pacific Lutheran University students, alumni and community members, the documentary was the final part of the series of five films sponsored by the Scandinavian Cultural Center and Scandinavian Area Studies Program.

Jennifer Jenkins, assistant professor of German and this year's coordinator, said the Nordic Film Series began as a way to expose the PLU community to different types of Scandinavian film. Reflecting the rich and varied natures of films made in this field, the series has featured specific themes every year, such as the "Nordic Road Movie." This year, the theme was Danish Film of the 2000s, inspired by the surge of "back-to-basics" filmmaking recently popularized by Danish filmmakers.

"We've had good attendance at the films, as well as great audience feedback afterwards," said Jenkins. "We actually get more audience members from outside PLU than PLU students themselves, but both groups have responded with interest and enthusiasm to the series."

"The Five Obstructions" examines the intimate relationships that exist between filmmaker and film, and professor and student. As a challenge to his aging mentor, Jørgen Leth, Lars von Trier has him remake his short film "The Perfect Human" in a series of five "obstructions." Each obstruction consists of a handful of barriers to Leth's filmmaking, from filming in the "worst place on earth" (the Red Light district of Bombay) to the "ultimate punishment" to a filmmaker such as Leth, creation without limitations. Apart from being a reflection on the creative process, "The Five Obstructions" gives its viewers an intimate glimpse at the interactions between two celebrities in the Danish film field.

Sophomore Lisa Harrington, who attended Sunday's showing, found "The Five Obstructions" to be a thought-provoking window into the world of Danish film.

"I think Americans have a tendency to ignore foreign films," she said after watching the film, "but we shouldn't be afraid of subtitles. I was surprised by how interesting and, at times, hilarious this movie was."

Film showings took place in the Scandinavian Cultural Center. Attendees of "The Five Obstructions" enjoyed a variety of Scandinavian dessert treats, including crispy krumkake (Norwegian rolled cookies) and fruit-studded yeast bread. Afterward, as she has for the past four films, Jenkins conducted a discussion session about the film.

Although still in the planning stages, the Nordic Film Series will return again next year, along with other activities to promote PLU's Scandinavian heritage.

Seniors reveal final work

BFA majors participate in annual capstone gallery

Kari Plog
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Paintings, photography and pottery adorned the University Gallery in Ingram Hall April 27 for the annual senior art gallery opening. Senior BFA majors had the opportunity to showcase their capstone pieces for the Pacific Lutheran community to marvel over. The gallery included everything from sculpture, landscape photography and pottery to graphic design, hand-made books and hanging abstract pieces.

I am in my fourth and final year at PLU, and have had the opportunity to gaze at a variety

of different gallery exhibits, both from outside artists and student artists. Browsing through the gallery the morning after it opened, I was in awe. The

"Time is running out to ... recognize the raw talent that we have at PLU for just a short while longer."

diverse range of solid artwork was beyond impressive.

I can openly admit, ironically as the arts and entertainment editor here at The Mooring Mast, that I am not the most art-

savvy critic around. I am not an abstract art enthusiast, nor am I knowledgeable about the technical aspects that make up artistic endeavors. However, it doesn't take an art expert to recognize the sheer talent exhibited in the University Gallery thanks to this year's talented art graduates.

I highly encourage all of my friends, peers and professors at PLU to take any extra time and take a stroll over to the senior art gallery while it is still available to patrons. Time is running out to browse through some amazing pieces and recognize the raw talent that we have at PLU for just a short while longer. I guarantee you won't be disappointed.

A new book, a new year

Samantha Shockley
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Every spring, Saxifrage elects new editors to continue the following year. Junior Jennifer Jepsen, and first-year Samuel Hosman will be taking over the roles of co-editors for Saxifrage 38.

"I feel like we complement each other really well," Hosman said.

Both Jepsen and Hosman are excited to work together on a project that will present both of their talents in a real publication. The new editors agree that they are eager to collaborate and create the next edition of Saxifrage. Hosman, still learning the ropes, is glad to have Jepsen as a mentor.

"He has the design, and I have the leadership," Jepsen said.

While their ideas are still up in the air, both agree to one thing—increasing the publicity of Saxifrage.

"We want to integrate Saxifrage into the PLU community," Hosman said. "Host more activities for students in the fall and help others understand what it is."

Their idea is to make Saxifrage 38 not only open to everyone, but inviting. More pages of content mean more applicants and submissions. Their excitement about more publicity is woven into their desire for more students to participate.

Both said that every single student at PLU is talented, and even if a student isn't published they still had the opportunity to create something meaningful to them.

The shrill exuberance of the editors will leak out



into the efforts they put into helping Saxifrage grow. Art is not only a love for each of them, but a part of their studies.

"Saxifrage is a critical celebration of the incredible talent we have here," Jepsen said. "It's for and by the community, and it depends on the PLU students' support."

Hosman was published in Saxifrage 37 and understands the art and beauty that is at PLU. Jepsen has the knowledge of literary art that will compliment the artistic side of Hosman. But both appreciate what Saxifrage is.

"People forget all the talent we have here," Hosman said.

He expressed his excitement about getting the

chance to view and judge the submissions. Both Hosman and Jepsen are looking forward to the entire process, which includes working together, creating events and publishing a work they can call their own.

Saxifrage 38 will be something for PLU students and faculty to look out for in the coming year.

"I think we're going to come out with a unique book and it will be a really fun process," Jepsen said.

Saxifrage 37

Release Party May 11, 5:30-8 p.m.

University Center Plaza

NPCC is back



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As fall slowly turned to winter, many Pacific Lutheran University students lamented the closing of Northern Pacific Coffee Company at the corner of Carnegie and 12th. The doors remained closed and the lights off for a surprising amount of time, but the veil has since lifted and NPCC is back on its feet.

The newly renovated NPCC has had its doors reopened for several weeks now, but the charms of the old establishment are still very present. With its scuffed floors and chipped tables, crammed bookshelves and scrawled chalkboard menus, NPCC remains an eclectic, funky, supremely casual student hangout.

So what's new? Owner and General manager Ed Cedras. He is producing knockout coffee from several sources, including Tacoma's own Valhalla Coffee Company. Cedras has served as a highly active member in the professional barista competition world, both judging and competing amidst high level baristas with a voracious appetite for not only coffee, but for proving themselves the best. He certainly knows the ins-and-outs of the coffee industry, and his ultra-friendly personality makes you want to sit and talk about coffee with him (which I did).

To really see his talents at work, I simply asked him to impress me when I was at the counter to order. He

produced four excellent macchiatos, each made with a different bean. Comparing the different flavor profiles really exposes Cedras' talent. He's able to cast the spotlight on the subtle differences in flavor without having them smashed down and run over by the bigger flavors of the beans.

If you've never compared two different beans, definitely give it a shot. You'll be surprised by how different two coffees will taste from each other. You might also be impressed by how well you're able to pick out the differences in flavors.

NPCC is also serving sandwiches and beer. Live music most nights, and vinyl on the nights without, make NPCC a lively place to hang out and relax. You'll almost always run into someone you know at NPCC; it's a student hang-out that is synonymous with PLU. The renovations and updates to the classic structure of NPCC have cleaned it up a bit, but the same ultra-hip, relaxed vibe has never left.

In fact, NPCC may even seem more accessible than ever before. The interior is a little more spacious and streamlined, with plenty of room to stretch out and without feeling the pinch of space from tables shoved too near each other.

If you haven't stopped into NPCC since its reopening, I encourage you to swing by. The coffee is excellent and the atmosphere is fun. If you're looking for a new hangout or you miss your old spot at NPCC, drop in and see what's new.

PLU musician sets his standards 'way higher'

Composer's career already underway

Anniko Carow
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Those who know Jason Saunders best tend to use words such as "engaging," "funny," and "focused" when describing him.

"Talented in general," is what Lace Smith, Pacific Lutheran's manager of Student Programs and Technology, said about Saunders. "Basically, an awesome student."

Smith, who has collaborated with Saunders on a variety of projects over the years, has become a friend and admirer, particularly of his work ethic.

"He's not really satisfied with a low hurdle," Smith said. "He always pushes himself to go that step higher. Sometimes, way higher."

"Way higher" might be something of an understatement.

A music education major set to graduate in December 2011, Saunders has won multiple awards for music composition and music performance. Several of his choral works have been published.

Saunders has also served as co-editor of Savilege, PLU's annual literary magazine. He works as a student supervisor in the Multimedia Services Department, has produced videos for International Student Services and Student Involvement and Leadership, and still finds time to serve as an assistant conductor of the Men's Chorus and occasional guest conductor of Choir of the West.

Yet, despite all of these activities, Saunders has gained the most recognition for his talents as a composer, specifically of modern choral music.

"Since he arrived here, he has been quite clear of where he wants to go," said Greg Youtz, PLU professor of music composition. "He hasn't gotten distracted. Hasn't lost his focus. He stays to the course, and does it all well."

Saunders grew up in Vancouver, Wash. and said he weighed a few career options when he was younger.

"When I was 16, I wanted to be a graphic designer or a video producer," Saunders said. "That's where I saw my career going. Composing was just kind of a side hobby."

In spite of those other interests, however, Saunders said he was influenced by music from a young age.

"I've been exposed to music my whole life," Saunders said. "In my house, there was classical music playing all the time."

Even so, Saunders said he never seriously contemplated music as a possible vocation until he was a teenager.

"I didn't start participating in music until middle school. In seventh grade, I started choir," Saunders said. "I was the only boy in choir. But I still liked it."

Almost simultaneously, Saunders, who studied piano in elementary school, began to compose music and conduct.

"As I started to be more involved in choir, I started student conducting my junior year. And that's what really got me into choral conducting," Saunders said. "My first 'real' piece I did

my senior year, which the choir performed and I got to conduct it."

Youtz, who has served as Saunders' instructor, adviser and mentor at PLU, said his protégé, who has studied composition since arriving in 2007, is developing into a significant talent.

"Jason has had a wonderful career so far," Youtz said. "It's very unusual for an undergraduate to have so many awards and to be published."

Youtz said Saunders is primarily a singer. However, his real future is likely to be in the realm of conducting.

"Jason is increasingly becoming a very good conductor," Youtz said. "He needs to get some real world experience."

Some of that experience will come in fall 2011, when Saunders begins a semester-long stint as a student teacher at either Spattaway Lake High or Puyallup High School.

"After I do student teaching and I graduate," Saunders said, "I plan to go to grad school in fall of 2012 for choral conducting."

Eventually, Saunders said he hopes to land a full-time high school teaching job, and then ultimately settle in at a small university for the long haul.

"Conducting and teaching choirs is the job I want to have," Saunders said. "Composing is something I'll always do and I want to keep studying. I can't imagine not composing."

Before those next chapters of his life begin, Saunders will share his talents with European audiences this summer.

Saunders will travel throughout Germany and France for two weeks, beginning at the end of May, with PLU's Symphony Orchestra and Choir of the West.

"Choir of the West is doing my newest choral piece right now and we're taking that on European tour," Saunders said.

The PLU groups will perform in churches, cathedrals and gardens, among other local sites.

Audiences abroad will be just as wowed by Saunders as those who regularly hear his work, predicted Smith.

"He's got talent for days," Smith said, as well as a "particular perfectionism that I've come to appreciate."

For his part, Saunders credits PLU for providing him with the atmosphere that has allowed him to learn and grow.

"I don't think that I would have had these opportunities at a different school," Saunders said. "PLU's music department really provides a lot of opportunities. I don't think I would be where I am now without that faculty support and those opportunities."



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THE CONSPIRATOR (PG-13)

Fri: 2:15, 5:00, 7:35
Sat/Sun: 11:50am, *2:15, 5:00, 7:35
Mon-Thurs: 2:15, 5:00, 7:35
**A discussion will follow Saturday's 2:15pm showing*

WINTER IN WARTIME (R)

Fri/Sat: 1:45, 4:05, 8:40
Sun: 11:30am, 1:45, 4:05, 8:40
Mon-Thurs: 1:45, 4:05, 6:25, 8:40

JANE EYRE (PG-13)

Fri: 2:45, 5:20, 8:15
Sat/Sun: 12:15, 2:45, 5:20, 8:15
Mon-Thurs: 2:45, 5:20, 8:15

WIN WIN (*)

Fri: 2:00, 4:20, 6:40, 9:00
Sat/Sun: 11:40am, 2:00, 4:20, 6:40, 9:00
Mon-Thurs: 2:00, 4:20, 6:40, 9:00

ENDGAME (PG-13) Fri-Sun: 6:30

Lutes SPORTS SCHEDULE

Track & Field

May 6 at Ken Shannon Invitational at West Seattle Stadium, Seattle, Wash., 2 p.m.
 May 7 at Ken Shannon Invitational at Husky Stadium, Seattle, Wash., 9:30 a.m.

Baseball

May 6 vs. George Fox at Inland Cellular Tournament in Lewiston, Idaho, 3 p.m.
 May 7 vs. Linfield at Inland Cellular Tournament in Lewiston, Idaho, 3 p.m.
 May 8 at Lewis-Clark St. at Inland Cellular Tournament in Lewiston, Idaho, 2 p.m.

* represents a PLU home game



Sophomore Ryan Ransavage throws the shot put at the Pacific Lutheran Invitational on March 12. Ransavage, along with a number of other Lutes, will try to improve on their personal bests in hopes for making a bid to the NCAA Division III Championships.

PHOTO BY TED CHARLES

Lutes look for shot at nationals

Brendan Absbier
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Senior Conor McNeill, sophomore Ryan Ransavage, first-year Stephanie McFarland and junior Ayla Mull will look to improve on their season top marks as the four travel to the Ken Shannon Invitational this Friday and Saturday.

The invite, hosted by the University of Washington and named in recognition of former Husky coach Ken Shannon, is an opportunity for each of PLU's athletes to improve on their personal marks in hopes of making the cut for the NCAA Division III Championships in Delaware, Ohio, according to a release by the PLU Sports Information Office.

The event begins at 1 p.m. at West Seattle Stadium on Friday and at 9:30 a.m. at Husky Stadium on Sunday.

McNeill currently owns a top throw mark of 181-0 in the hammer

throw, placing him 17th in the nation for the event.

Every year, 15 to 18 athletes get invited to compete at the national meet and for McNeill to make the cut, according to a PLU Sports Information Office release, he will need to gain three to four feet on his mark to secure a spot at nationals.

Ransavage will need to add eight feet to his personal record in the hammer throw this season, which sits at 176-0, set at the Northwest Conference Championships.

McFarland and Mull will compete in the women's javelin throw. McFarland currently ranks No. 30 nationally with a mark of 131-0.

Mull holds the No. 34 spot in the nation with a top throw of 130-2.

Both will have to add seven to eight feet to their distances to have hope of breaching the top 16 to receive an invite to nationals.

The next meet for Pacific Lutheran happens May 17 at the George Fox University Last Chance meet in Newberg, Ore.

2011 PLU Top Marks

Men's Hammer Throw

McNeill	181 feet
Ransavage	176 feet

Women's Javelin

McFarland	131 feet
Mull	130 feet 2 inches

Scorecard

Men's Tennis

as of 5/5

Team	NWC	%	All	%
Whitman	12-0	1.000	16-9	0.727
Willamette	11-1	0.917	12-6	0.694
Whitworth	8-4	0.667	11-10	0.524
Pacific (Ore.)	7-5	0.583	8-10	0.444
Linfield	5-7	0.417	6-8	0.429
George Fox	5-7	0.417	6-10	0.375
PLU	4-8	0.333	6-12	0.333
UPS	2-10	0.167	3-13	0.192
L&C	0-12	0.000	0-16	0.000

Singles

AhYat 8-9 (6-5 NWC)
 Berg 3-14 (3-9 NWC)
 Cotton 6-11 (4-7 NWC)
 Dickey 7-10 (5-6 NWC)
 Gunstone 7-11 (6-6 NWC)
 McNally 1-1 (1-1 NWC)
 Parretta 0-2 (0-1 NWC)
 Sheldon 7-11 (4-8 NWC)

Doubles

Dickey/Sheldon 12-5 (9-2 NWC)
 AhYat/Berg 5-6 (4-5 NWC)
 Cotton/Gunstone 9-2 (6-2 NWC)
 Gunstone/Parretta 0-3 (0-2 NWC)
 Cotton/Parretta 2-5 (2-1 NWC)

Women's Tennis

as of 5/5

Team	NWC	%	All	%
Whitworth	12-0	1.000	17-3	0.850
Linfield	11-1	0.917	17-4	0.799
Whitman	9-23	0.792	11-9	0.550
Willamette	7-5	0.583	10-7	0.588
L&C	6-6	0.500	6-8	0.429
UPS	5-7	0.417	8-10	0.444
Pacific (Ore.)	3-8	0.250	3-12	0.200
George Fox	1-11	0.093	4-14	0.222
PLU	0-12	0.000	2-15	0.118

Singles

AhYat 6 2-15 (1-11 NWC)
 Ellmer 6-9 (4-7 NWC)
 Hoerr 2-13 (1-10 NWC)
 Newell 7-10 (5-7 NWC)
 Helms 3-12 (1-9 NWC)
 Riley 3-14 (1-11 NWC)
 Ro 3-3 (2-2 NWC)

Doubles

AhYat/Newell 7-10 (5-8 NWC)
 Ellmer/Riley 2-8 (0-7 NWC)
 Hoerr/Rafael 4-8 (2-6 NWC)
 Helms/Rafael 2-0 (1-0 NWC)
 Ellmer/Hoerr 0-1 (0-1 NWC)
 Riley/Ro 0-1 (0-1 NWC)

Baseball

as of 5/5

Team	NWC	%	All	%
Linfield	20-4	0.8333	29-8	0.780
UPS	18-9	0.625	17-17	0.500
George Fox	14-10	0.583	25-11	0.694
Pacific (Ore.)	14-10	0.583	21-16	0.564
PLU	13-13	0.500	18-18	0.500
Whitworth	13-11	0.542	20-20	0.500
Willamette	12-12	0.500	22-17	0.563
Whitman	4-20	0.167	8-30	0.267
L&C	3-21	0.125	5-32	0.156

Team Average Leaders (min 40 at-bats)

Hoffman .390
 Gates .336
 Aratani .326

Team Home Runs Leaders

Gates 4
 Frost, Johansen 3

Team Runs Batted In Leaders

Calder 23
 Aratani, Moore 22

Team Pitching Leaders

Wall (6-1) 3.46 era, 75.1 ip, 67 h, 31 e, 16 bb, 64 k
 Beatty (5-4) 3.98 era, 75.1 ip, 72 h, 31 e, 19 bb, 58 k
 Johnson (4-3) 3.31 era, 64.2 ip, 61 h, 32 e, 12 bb, 49 k

Softball

as of 5/5

Team	NWC	%	All	%
Linfield	22-1	0.958	41-2	0.971
PLU	22-6	0.786	31-13	0.706
Whitworth	17-11	0.607	20-19	0.513
Willamette	16-13	0.552	19-19	0.500
Pacific (Ore.)	12-16	0.429	22-18	0.556
UPS	9-19	0.321	11-27	0.289
George Fox	0-22	0.000	12-20	0.300
L&C	0-26	0.000	0-31	0.000

Team Average Leaders

Goings .412
 Matsuno 61.411
 Hatlen .410

Team Home Runs Leaders

Matsuno 10
 Hagensen, Hatlen 8

Team Runs Batted In Leaders

Matsuno 41
 Hatlen 39

Pitching Leaders

Hagensen (2-6) 2.30 era, 38.1 ip, 24 h, 0 e, 21 bb, 30 k
 Hatlen (0-4) 3.43 era, 27.2 ip, 10 h, 5 e, 11 bb, 46 k
 Matsuno (4-3) 2.89 era, 28.2 ip, 23 h, 3 e, 30 bb, 17 k

PLU Perseveres

Softball goes through changes, rises in NWC ranks

Kari Plog

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Pacific Lutheran University's softball team is in stand-by mode as the team waits for the verdict from the NCAA regarding an at-large bid for the Division III national tournament. The Lutes ended the regular season with more than 30 wins for the first time since 2003.

The team ended the year with a 31-13 record, up from 23-15 last year. For former players, returning players and the returning coach, such a successful season came after a rocky end to last season.

Three weeks prior to the end of the 2010 season, several players approached Athletic Director Laurie Turner with complaints about verbal abuse from head coach Erin Van Nostrand.

According to reports from former players and an Olympian reporter, as many as half a dozen players compiled a list of comments they said Van Nostrand made to players during the season and gave the list to Turner.

"We certainly looked at the concerns," Turner said. "We evaluated them and moved forward."

Some of the alleged comments included in the list were "Don't even bother to bring your jersey, you will never play again... mark my words" and "Go f... yourself." Following the reports of these concerns, Turner met with the players and monitored practices.

Turner said that after examination of the claims and observing practices, the claims were dismissed and Van Nostrand was able to continue coaching the team.

"Certain individuals voiced concerns and some did not," she said.

Sophomore Kaaren Hatlen said the concerns that were raised were not verbal attacks from her perspective.

"A lot of stuff that was said was taken out of context," Hatlen said.

Van Nostrand said she was taken off guard by the concerns that were brought to the administration. She said her coaching staff was never notified of any grievances and she wished students would have approached her or her assistants before going to Turner.

"It was really hard," Van Nostrand said. "I care very much about my players."

Sophomore Lauren Watson and Hatlen said they both respect Van Nostrand, and Hatlen said the coach offered a lot of support for her last season and continues to do so.

"She's really passionate about the game," Hatlen said. "She cares about us as more than players. It's more than just about softball, it's about life."

According to reports from The Olympian from 2010, the concerned team members and

some parents were requesting Van Nostrand be removed from the program.

Both Hatlen and Watson said the intent of the frustrated players was very clear.

"They wanted to have our head coach fired," Hatlen said. "They had a very strong agenda and wouldn't take no for an answer."

The concerned players agreed to finish out the season after Turner agreed to monitor the program. After the claims of verbal abuse were dismissed, about nine players quit the program, including one student who transferred to Saint Martin's to continue playing softball. That student declined to comment regarding the incident, and former players were unable to be reached for comment.

Watson said she was confused about the way the incident escalated, and that many of the girls overreacted. She said Van Nostrand should have been approached with the concerns.

"She [Van Nostrand] always has an open door," Watson said.

Van Nostrand said she is committed to the success of her players on and off the field. She has turned down coaching jobs at Division I schools because of her commitment to the

Division III philosophy.

"It's my job to help them be as best prepared as they can be after leaving PLU," Van Nostrand said.

Turner said these complaints from last season were unique because players who voiced concerns failed to utilize resources available to student athletes.

"If they [students] feel like they've been wronged in whatever capacity, there's a process to go through on our campus," Turner said. "Zero grievances were filed."

Turner said no similar complaints had been filed prior to this incident, and the team has not experienced any problems since the issues were dealt with at the end of last season. She hopes students recognize that resources such as team leadership, Student Athlete Advisory Committee and the student athlete handbook are all resources provided for students who experience problems within the athletic program.

"In my mind there's a lot of things in place for student athletes to have a voice and they need to utilize that voice," Turner said.

After the complaints were dismissed, Van Nostrand and her coaching staff made

adjustments to the program to incorporate more resources for the athletes. Players complete weekly journals in order to reflect on any concerns they might have and the coaches have "bullpen" into practices, Van Nostrand said.

Hatlen and Watson said the journals provide players with an outlet of expression in case students don't feel comfortable talking with coaches about an issue in person.

"If you had something you wanted to say it's a way for them [the coaches] to know," Watson said.

The PLU softball team competed in its first-ever conference tournament at Linfield April 22-23. Van Nostrand said she worked for the last two years to allow students this opportunity to compete in what she called a "playoff atmosphere."

"It gave them something to play for," she said.

The Lutes made it to the conference tournament championship game and fell to the Wildcats 11-6. Van Nostrand said getting to the championship and playing the number one team in the nation was an accomplishment.

"We're a really good team. We have nothing to be ashamed of," she said. "We fought them all the way to the end."

Van Nostrand said they have seen a successful season and no matter what happens

with the NCAA bid, the season has been rewarding for her and for her players.

"It will be the icing on the cake if we go," she said.

The team chemistry is what Van Nostrand said made this season so great. She said talent can only take you so far, but it is chemistry that really makes the difference.

"Seeing them have fun playing the game they love has been the most rewarding," Van Nostrand said.

Hatlen said the coaching staff has done a great job building her confidence this season and last.

"They were there for me 110 percent before, during and after what happened last year," she said.

Both Hatlen and Watson are excited for next year and expect to build on the current success of the team. Van Nostrand mimicked that excitement, and said she has no regrets despite the challenges the team has faced.

"Everything happens for a reason," she said. "This was just part of the plan."

Lutes earn NWC first-team honors

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The Northwest Conference honored five Pacific Lutheran softball players with first team all-conference selections, according to a release by NWC officials on Wednesday.

Juniors Stacey Hagensen, Amanda Goings, first-year Lindsey Matsunaga and sophomores Glenelle Nitta and Kaaren Hatlen were all voted to the first team by league coaches.

Hagensen was also awarded Pitcher of the Year for the NWC after going 21-6 with a 2.30 ERA this season.

No. 1-ranked Linfield also produced six first team all-conference players including Player of the Year, Emilee Lepp. Linfield's head coach, Jackson Vaughan, was named Coach of the Year after leading the Wildcats to a 41-2 overall record (29-1NWC).

The Wildcat's only conference loss came against PLU.

Goings finished the season hitting .412 while Matsunaga followed close behind with a .411 average.

Nitta batted .330 with 36 hits and 27 runs.

Hatlen damaged opponents on the mound and in the batters box. She accumulated a .410 batting average after gathering 55 hits, 44 RBI and a team-leading 15 doubles. While pitching, she finished 9-3 as the Lutes No. 2 pitcher.



Watson

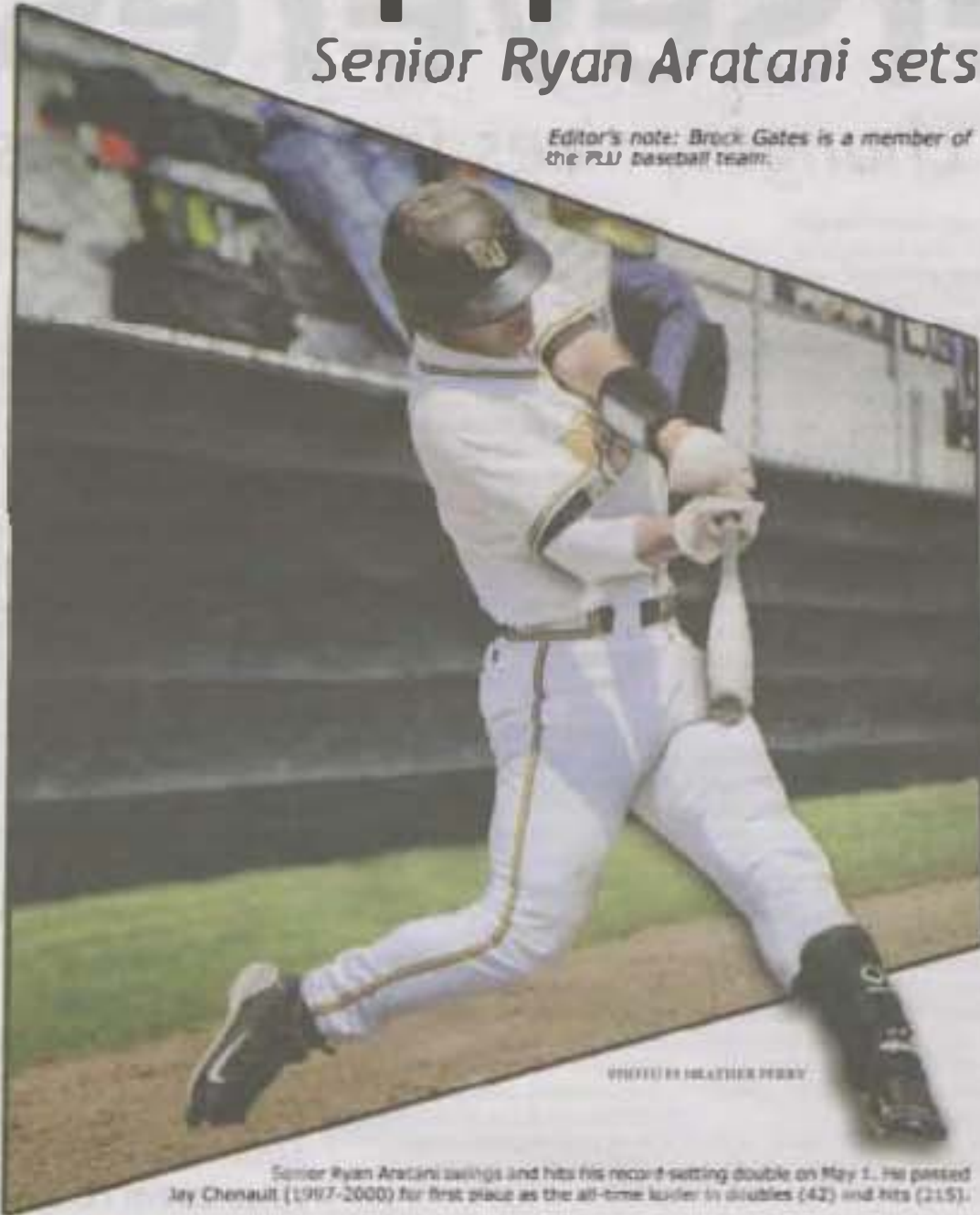


HATLEN BY TONY GONZALES

Sophomore Kaaren Hatlen delivers a pitch in a game this season. Hatlen produced positive numbers for the Lutes this year, batting .410 with 44 RBI and 27 runs. Pacific Lutheran has three batters who ever batted better than .400 this season.

Lute pops into record book

Senior Ryan Aratani sets school standard for hitting



Editor's note: Brock Gates is a member of the PLU baseball team.

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Senior Ryan Aratani hit his way into the Pacific Lutheran record books on Sunday, setting new school highs with his 215 career hits and 42 career doubles.

"It's been a true honor to wear the black and gold for the last four years," Aratani said about his career. "To be able to play behind the amazing support we get from everyone here at PLU was a true pleasure."

Despite the historic day for the Lutes, the No. 6-ranked powerhouse Linfield toppled PLU in their three-game Northwest Conference sweep of the Lutes last weekend.

The three losses will end conference play and drop PLU's record to 13-11, tying them with Willamette in fifth place in the NWC.

Linfield clinched the conference championship one week prior to their matchup with the Lutes with their victory over third place on-site George Fox. This is their third conference title in four years.

Two 3-run towering homers by Linfield's Gayton Trues helped the Vikings close the door in game one with a final score of 9-4.

Left-hander senior Bret Handy came in to relieve starter sophomore Max Beatty in a

solid 3 2/3 innings for PLU. It was Handy's second time facing Linfield since his impressive outing against them as a first-year where he went eight innings for the win in 2008.

"I was able to keep the hitters off balance by throwing my off-speed for strikes and having the confidence to throw my heater on the inside corner," Handy said.

On the offensive side of things, the Lutes were led by shortstop first-year Nick Hall, who stroked four singles.

Once again, junior Dan Johansen held his ground on the mound going eight innings in game two, but Linfield stamped PLU hitters in the 0-3 loss. Also, of the six hits accumulated by the Lutes, Johansen drove in three.

With a swing of the bat, Aratani blasted a double in the 8-1 game three loss that would place him as all time career hits and doubles leader in Pacific Lutheran baseball history.

The hit capped the last home game played by the Lutes this year and the last ever for the seven graduating seniors on the 2011 squad.

The season is not over, however, as PLU will take the long haul to Lewiston, Idaho, where they will face up once again with NWC opponents Linfield and George Fox along with NAIA competitor, Lewis and Clark State, in a three-game round-robin tournament.

Senior Ryan Aratani swings and hits his record-setting double on May 1. He passed Jay Chenault (1987-2000) for first place as the all-time leader in doubles (42) and hits (215).

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