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New 2011-2012 acting provost named for PLU

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Interim acting Provost Steve Starkovich was named provost and dean of graduate studies at Pacific Lutheran University for the 2011-2012 academic year, according to an e-mail from President Loren Anderson Wednesday.

"We are fortunate that Steve has agreed to continue his service to the university for two additional years, particularly when continuity in both long-range planning and continued accreditation qualification are essential," Anderson said in the e-mail.

Starkovich's appointment comes on the heels of the announcement of resignation by Patricia O'Connell Killen. Killen accepted an offer to become Academic Vice President at her alma mater, Gonzaga University in Spokane.

"Steve (Starkovich) has been serving most admirably as acting provost this year, providing leadership and direction for a full range of academic sector issues and activities," Anderson said in the e-mail.

Starkovich started teaching at PLU in the fall of 1992 while completing his PhD from the University of Victoria in British Columbia, Canada. He was hired into a tenure-track position in 1997 and has served as an associate

SEE PROVOST PG. 3

Searching for the future Career and Internship Fair informs, inspires



Photo by Heather Perry

Juniors Autumn Scott (left) and Cindy Thomas (right) stand and listen to a representative from the Madigan Army Medical Center at the Madigan Army Medical Center booth at PLU's Career and Internship Fair. This annual fair was held on Wednesday, March 10 and Thursday March 11 and provided students with information about local internships and careers before and after graduation. The event allows students to talk to representatives from these groups.

Women's Center receives governmental praise Prestigious visit from Tony West follows Department of Justice award

Jack Sorensen
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The federal government recognized PLU's Voices Against Violence program yesterday with a visit from Tony West, Assistant Attorney General for the Department of Justice: Civil Division. West's visit was part of a national tour acknowledging exemplary college programs working as domestic violence advocates on campuses.

Pacific Lutheran University was selected as one of 12 schools nationwide as part of the U.S. Department of Justice's (DOJ) campus tour aimed at highlighting model programs.

The schools were chosen from a list

of 62 institutions that had the DOJ Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) Campus Grant—an award designed to foster and promote domestic violence response programs on college campuses.

The grant is awarded every three years, and PLU's program is in the process of reapplying.

Jonathan Grove works in the Women's Center for the Voices Against Violence program, and serves as the project coordinator for the Men Against Violence project. Grove said that PLU is the only "small liberal arts, faith-based university chosen."

The other schools selected include Harvard University, Brown University and Stanford University among others. A complete list can be found on the DOJ: OVW website

at www.ovw.usdoj.gov.

The OVW maintains several criteria required of grant recipients. The OVW website states that potential universities must establish a coordinated community response to violence against women on campus, a mandatory prevention and education program geared towards incoming first-years and a training program for campus security.

Receiving of the grant comes with validation from the OVW that PLU's Voices Against Violence program has met these standards.

A DOJ press release said, "The campus tour is another part of the Justice Department's mission to raise public awareness on issues around violence against women."

OVW maintains that one of the most effective methods of curbing domestic violence statistics is activism on college campuses.

According to its website, which cited a study performed by the National Institute of Justice, "the percentage of completed or attempted rape victimization among women in higher-educational institutions is as high as 20 to 25 percent." For this reason, the agency has increasingly focused on college and university campuses nationwide, beginning projects such as the Campus Grant program.

Grove said the award and visit is not an end to the work the Women's Center is doing on campus.

"We still have a long ways to go," Grove said.

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PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

Local to Global

Wedding bells for same-sex couples in DC



AP Photo by Jacquelyn Martin

Rocky Galloway, left, and Reginald Stanley are pronounced "partners for life" by Rev. Sylvia E. Sumter during their marriage ceremony Tuesday, March 9, the first day that gay marriage is legal in Washington, D.C.

Jessica Gresko
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP) — One bride wore a black suit, the other had on a white one with rhinestones. They walked down the aisle to Billy Joel's "Just the Way You Are" and kissed after the pastor pronounced them "legally married."

The Rev. Darlene Garner, 61, and the Rev. Candy Holmes, 53, were among the first same-sex couples to marry in Washington, D.C. on Tuesday, when the district became the sixth place in the country to conduct the unions.

The district joins Connecticut, Iowa, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont as places that issue same-sex couples marriage licenses.

Garner and Holmes were one of three couples married at the office of the Human Rights Campaign, which does advocacy work on gay, lesbian and transgender issues. In the other ceremonies, Reggie Stanley and Rocky Galloway married and then carried their 16-month-old twin daughters down the aisle, and Angelisa Young and Sinjoyla Townsend hugged and smiled after being declared "partners in life this day and for always."

About 150 couples were eligible to pick up marriage licenses after applying last week. Many of them stood in line March 3 at the marriage bureau of the district's Moultrie Courthouse for four or more hours. Like all couples, they had to wait three business days for their licenses to be processed.

By the time the marriage bureau closed Tuesday, 42 couples had returned to pick up their licenses. At least a dozen couples married and returned the licenses the same day. Couples do have 10 days to return their licenses after they have been married, so more couples may have actually tied the knot.

Couples plans for ceremonies varied. A large number — many of whom had held previous ceremonies — planned to marry at the city's courthouse. Normally, the courthouse hosts four to six weddings a day, but over the next several weeks, officials are expecting 10 to 12 per day because of the demand for same-sex ceremonies.

Rebecca and Delia Taylor picked up their license Tuesday morning and a minister friend immediately married them outside the courthouse. The couple said they long ago exchanged rings and considered themselves married. Still, they were grinning after picking up their certificate inside the courthouse.

"We've referred to each other as wives," Rebecca Taylor said. "It's just a legal document, so if anything happens to one of us, we have rights."

Pizza for PLU: Farrelli's now accepts LuteBucks

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Pacific Lutheran University and Farrelli's Wood Fire Pizza have struck a deal.

Farrelli's on Garfield began to accept Lute Bucks last Sunday.

Students may now dine out with the same funds they use to purchase textbooks, pick up toiletries from the market and do laundry.

Valerie Seeley, the director of LuteCard and concierge operations, said that Farrelli's had been looking to integrate the use of Lute Bucks into its restaurant since it opened the Garfield location in 2007.

The delay was a result of the complicated scanning technology needed transfer Lute Bucks via student LuteCards.

Now that the technology has been installed, Farrelli's representatives said they expect instant benefits.

The majority of the restaurant's customers are already PLU students, especially in the evenings.

While Farrelli's staff said they hope the change will bring in more students, Marcolina Valdes, a Farrelli's on-floor manager, said Farrelli's primary motivation is to become more involved

with the PLU community by making it easier for students to eat at their restaurant.

According to Valdes, an important aspect of the Farrelli's business mission is to be involved in the community.

For the restaurant managers, the acceptance of LuteBucks seemed an

accounts in the first place is to access the campus laundry machines.

When senior Jacob Harksen was informed of Farrelli's new policy, he immediately questioned its usefulness.

While LuteBucks may now be used in place of cash or a debit card, the money comes from the same place; he said it's simply one more step.

There are some students who are glad to hear of the change, however. First-year Chelsea Bailey said she thought the decision was a good idea, and while she does not eat at Farrelli's often, she predicted she will probably go more frequently now that it's more convenient.

"It's an alternative, it's good food, and now it's just like using money here," Bailey said.

However, sophomore Kyle Kennedy still said even though he can now use his LuteBucks at Farrelli's, it's not going to affect his patronage either way.

"I don't really even have LuteBucks except for laundry," Kennedy said.

Kennedy echoed Harksen, saying he didn't believe there would be benefits in using LuteBucks because of the switch, since LuteBucks are comprised of money already spent.

"I don't know, I might do less laundry now," Kennedy said.

"It helps you guys out, helps us out. Why not help each other?"
Marcolina Valdes
Farrelli's On-Floor Manager

obvious choice.

"PLU is our community. It helps you guys out, helps us out, why not help each other?" Valdes said.

While several students did say the change may result in them eating at Farrelli's once or twice, most students said they don't think they will go to Farrelli's anyway.

Many said the only reason they put money in their

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MediaLab goes brown, screens "Dirt!"

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No longer will we be "going green." "Dirt! The Movie" says, "Go brown."

MediaLab, in conjunction with Independent Television Service and PBS, screened "Dirt! The Movie" at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 18 in Ingram 100.

Bill Benenson and Gene Rosow's documentary, inspired by William Bryant Logan's book "Dirt: The Ecstatic Skin of the Earth," takes an intimate look at one of the world's most precious resources: dirt.

"What we often call dirt, the stuff we are trying to wash off our car or wash off your driveway are really these soils and sediments that are vital to keeping our biosphere healthy," said Peter Girguis, Harvard University assistant professor of biology. "Soils and sediments are really more like a living skin on the Earth, and they're the stewards of our planet."

The film explores many modern practices, like industrial farming, mining and urban development that harm our soils and have contributed to droughts, starvation, floods and climate change.

"We want people to start off with an emotional connection to dirt," Rosow said. "Then we want to instill a sense of caution about the destructive things we are doing to nature and dirt and how those behaviors impact our daily lives."

TreePeople is a partnership to manage the urban ecosystem in the greater Los Angeles area.

President and Founder of TreePeople, Andy Lipkis comments on what we can take away from "Dirt!"

"Dirt! The Movie" opens our eyes to the science and healing power of a world right beneath our feet," Lipkis said. "It inspires us to engage and enjoy getting our hands dirty, while providing real hope in perilous times."

Image courtesy of PBS.org

Public Broadcasting System's (PBS's) promotional postcard for the film "Dirt! The Movie" was screened in Ingram 100 at 6 p.m. on Thursday, March 10. PLU's MediaLab shows films like this as part of their work with the Independent Television Service and PBS. The film, which explores our natural resource of dirt and soil and how we harm and taint it, can be found through PBS.



Photo by Ted Charles

Sophomore Caroline Olstad inscribes a letter to sophomore Boo Dodson, who is currently studying away in Amman, Jordan. The Study Away Fair offered students a chance to send sojourning students a note from home, as well as broadcast new January Term study away opportunities for 2011.



Photo by Ted Charles

President Anderson takes notes on the proceeding of the PLU 2020 Campus forum on Feb. 24. The Forum was open to students as well as members of the PLU community and operated via round table discussions on a variety of subject pertaining to the planning of PLU 2020.

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professor of physics since 2001. He has served as a department chair and has extensive experience on the Faculty Affairs and Budget Advisory Committees, according to the e-mail.

Starkovich earned his undergraduate degree in atmospheric chemistry from Oregon State University in 1976.

He earned a master's degree in educational policy and management with an emphasis in higher education administration from the University of Oregon in 1985. Starkovich's contributions to PLU include writing the "astronomy half" of the \$500,000 grant from the W.M. Keck Foundation that funded the PLU astronomical observatory in 1998, Anderson said in the e-mail.

New MediaLab film examines the family

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The award-winning filmmakers of MediaLab at Pacific Lutheran University will premiere their newest documentary entitled, "The New American Family: Defining Commitment in a Changing Society," on Saturday, May 1, at the Seattle Central Public Library.

Melissa Campbell, a co-producer of the project, hopes the film will encourage viewers to think deeply about the definitions of marriage and family.

"This documentary premiere is a great opportunity to bring people together from many perspectives," said Campbell, "and have an informed discussion about topics that too often separate people."

The film specifically seeks to explore the complex dynamics of relationships in the 21st century and focuses attention on the evolving meaning of "family."

This topic has become especially contentious in Washington state, where an "everything but marriage" voter referendum passed last November, granting state benefits to same-sex couples.

"The recent passage of this measure that gives more rights to domestic partnerships has heightened the debate about

what constitutes a marriage and what makes a family," Campbell says.

Campbell and her co-producer, Andriana Fletcher, are communication majors who will graduate in 2010.

Campbell and Fletcher are no strangers to complex and controversial topics.

In 2009, Campbell was lead producer on "Illicit Exchanges: Canada, the U.S. and Crime," a documentary that explored the explosion of guns, gangs and drugs across North America.

The film won several national awards, including a 2009 collegiate Emmy in the documentary category.

Fletcher, also a multi-award recipient, was a lead producer on "Point of Entry: Migrating to North America," a 2010 international Accolade Award and national BEA Festival of Media Arts winner.

"The New American Family" premiere will begin at 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 1, and will be followed by a panel discussion.

The Seattle Central Public Library is located at 1000 Fourth Ave., Seattle, Wash., 98104. Admission to the event is free.

However, RSVPs are required by no later than April 2, 2010 and should be sent to: ml@plu.edu.

For more information, please call MediaLab PR Associate Kelcy Joynt at 206-226-5978, or e-mail her at joyntkm@plu.edu.

ASPLU elections hit PLU

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Elections for the ASPLU president and vice president took place Wednesday March 10 and Thursday March 11.

The voting took place in a booth outside of The Commons

in the UC. Sophomore Alexis Ballinger and junior Megan Buchholz were the two final candidates for president.

Sophomore Thomas Nelson and junior Adam Whistler were the final candidates for ASPLU Vice President.

Ballinger ran on a platform of diversity and finances in terms of scholarships and enrollment, while Buchholz ran on the

concept of building community at PLU.

Nelson's main issues were inclusion and connections at PLU while Whistler's main issues were sustainability and financial issues.

Voting closed at 5 p.m. on Thursday, March 11 and election results were unavailable at the time of publication.

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From the editor



Thoughts from the Boss

Kari Plog

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Slave to stuff

I have grown to despise Apple. Not for its products, but for the way it markets those products. I've grown to understand media and its impacts on society, and I'm calling Apple out—stop marketing things we don't need.

One iPhone commercial boasts "The iPhone. Saving life's dilemmas, one app

at a time." This and all other Apple marketing schemes paint Apple products necessary for life. Apple's main goal: convince the masses that they need iPhones. This is shameful and only perpetuates a nasty cycle of obsession with material things.

Marketing executives use a technique called "branding" to keep consumers buying. In effect, Corporations advertise to create unreasonable loyalty—people fall in love with

their stuff.

Advertising and media play the biggest roles in society's disturbing addiction to consumerism. According to a popular YouTube informational video "The Story of Stuff," the average person sees over 3,000 advertisements every day. People see more advertisements

in one year than people 50 years ago saw in an entire lifetime. The people in control of those commercials, billboards and logos need to take responsibility for the effect advertising has on our culture—people are now defined by what they can produce, buy and throw away.

I find it disgusting that people have replaced intimate relationships with people for intimate relationships with their flat screen televisions, MP3 players and their Nintendo Wiis. The most disturbing part of this addiction is the waste.

According to "The Story of Stuff," for every one can of waste we personally produce in our household, 70 cans of waste result in order to produce the products taking up that one can of waste. In North America, only 1 percent of the products that flow through the linear system of consumption are actually still in use six months after purchase. The turn-around rate for disposal of products is practically immediate. People buy stuff

simply to throw it away.

Here is the cycle: companies produce unnecessary items, people buy products after marketing executives tell consumers they need them, people use them until companies produce and market something better and then people throw it all away immediately after consumption. This is a linear system of waste that devalues humanity and creates a world where people will never be happy with what they have.

My call to action: Apple, use your apparently successful marketing techniques to guide the masses toward sustainable consumerism. Develop a system in which consumers use their unreasonable love for your brand* to do good rather than race to own the next fad. After all, Apple, you are the trendsetter—do something useful with that power. The odds of consumerism disappearing are slim, but the odds that consumerism can evolve are great as long as the right people are on board. That means you, Apple.

Calling for transparency



Miller Musings

Kate Miller

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I avoid using my column to talk about myself, or to too specifically further my agenda. This week, I break this.

I was an ASPLU Senator. I resigned my position at the end of fall semester. There were many reasons for this. I have thus far been silent regarding my justification.

First, I tried to hold my fellow members of ASPLU accountable. This was a mistake, at least as an "insider." I proposed a piece of legislation to increase transparency, a very common campaign issue last spring.

The ASPLU Executive Senator, President and Vice President informed me the specific legislation was unnecessary. An alternative route to effect the same changes was to issue a directive. It was then relayed to me to consider the directive issued. Have I seen the proposed changes enacted? No.

Personally, I feel that people avoided the legislation because ASPLU has become a comfortable responsibility.

Few students actually hold their representatives accountable. How frequently do students e-mail the senate@plu.edu? How frequently do students attend ASPLU meetings? How frequently do students make suggestions to improve ASPLU? How frequently do students offer to help with the improvements?

I also resigned because I was tired of playing the politics. I needed to be more diplomatic as an elected official than as a member of the student body. I could not fight for my convictions as intensely as I can as an average student because I knew I needed to work with the other senators on

other issues.

As one of the few average students who has a vision, makes my voice heard, and takes action, I feel my representatives have a greater responsibility to hear me. I can be loud and obnoxious as a student, fighting passionately for my beliefs. This was impossible as an elected official.

This speaks to the toxicity of the dynamics of ASPLU. I should not be more effectual as an outsider than as an insider. I should not have felt restrained by my organization.

I still feel it is my organization. As you may have assumed, I continue to be active in ASPLU. I have chosen to participate in the positive parts of ASPLU: the flourishing aspects. There are some individuals for whom I have tremendous respect. I have seen where I can do something constructive. I even applied for a director position for next year.

I believe ASPLU can improve, but only if students care. Students need to voice their concerns. Students need to have a vision. Students need to take action. Students need to hold their representatives responsible, because few others do.

Students need to be informed and they need to inform others. If they have a problem, they need to contact someone. If they have a suggestion, they should take action. If you are uncomfortable with this duty, contact me and I'll pass the message along. Because, in all honesty, I expect more from ASPLU. And I hope the new ASPLU executives will acknowledge and respond to these expectations.

Guest Columnist Reconcile this

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The latest flip-flop by President Obama started July 12, 2006, when he spoke about health care reform:

"One of the arguments that I sometimes get with my fellow progressives ... is this notion that we should function, sort of like Karl Rove, where we identify our core base, we throw 'em red meat, we get a 50 plus one victory ... if we want to transform the country though, that requires a sizable majority."

The simple majority is how Congress avoids running out of money. Normal legislation from the House of Representatives requires 60 or more votes in the Senate to pass. This exception traditionally had to do with the federal budget, which is why it's called budget reconciliation. The law requires the U.S. government to pass a budget with a minimum of 51 votes.

Obama and the Democrats got their 60 votes. The problem was that the Senate's version of the bill offended Democrats in the House, who wanted the precious "public option" – code for "single-payer, government-run health care" – included. The two legislative chambers squabbled over language until Scott Brown succeeded Ted Kennedy in Massachusetts, reducing the Democrat vote count to 59.

Thus, the Party of Death became a kamikaze act, demanding that many of its House members serving in conservative districts end their careers by voting "yea" on the Senate bill and losing their seats in November. But the Party of Death is still trying to blame the Republicans, even though it only needs 51 Senate votes.

The best part of all this is watching the myth of Barack Obama crumble to pieces. Remember how Obama was supposed to heal the divisions in our nation? He was supposed to be post-partisan and post-racial. He was supposed to be the consensus-builder who would bring everyone together. The sea levels were supposed to recede (they haven't). Washington, D.C. would finally work (it doesn't). Our enemies in Iran and North Korea would love us (they don't). Guantanamo Bay would close (it hasn't). Gays would serve openly in the military (they don't). Equal work would bring equal pay (all we've got is increasing unemployment). Racial equality would reign (it did long before Obama was elected). The war in Iraq would be over by May 2010 (it won't be). And we would all join hands and sit in a circle with our eyes closed and flowers in our hair singing "Kumbaya." And we aren't doing that either.

It was all a myth. The truth is, the Party of Death had the votes it needed to make all of this happen. There was nothing to stop it except the cold, hard reality that this is still a center-right country founded on principles enshrined in a Constitution the Party of Death hates. After all that hot air on the campaign trail, Obama has turned out to be the most divisive, inconsistent, radical, partisan, uncompromising and authoritarian president we have ever had.

Reconcile that.

Like the redesign?

The Mast wants to know what you think about the new changes to the front page
contact us via Facebook or at mast@plu.edu

Mast Staff 2009-2010

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 class standing (e.g., first-year, junior, etc.) for verification will be discarded. Letters should be no longer than 500 words in length and typed. The Mast reserves the right to refuse any letter. Letters may be edited for length, taste and errors.

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Letter to the Editor

Outside the Lute Dome Other schools don't get it

"So, why haven't I heard of this 'Pacific Lutheran University'?" I spent 10 days interviewing for graduate school at four universities in Pennsylvania, Ohio and Tennessee and virtually no one had heard of our beloved PLU.

When one faculty member posed the above question, I'll admit to feeling a bit defensive. The short answer is that the only universities in this country that are universally known beyond state borders are either huge state schools (generally with well-known sports teams) or well-endowed Ivy League schools.

PLU is a small, private, liberal arts university. If you don't live nearby, you probably haven't heard of it.

These massive schools with their legends, their iconic buildings and their testosterone-injected mascots may be well known. As a soon-to-be-graduating senior, I think schools like PLU offer more. As I explained to this faculty member-- and riveted graduate students from schools like UCSF and the University of Minnesota-- the things that make us uniquely and unequivocally us is what has made my college experience interesting and vibrant.

I tried to explain PLU, and my attempts came up short. PLU is a Norwegian, Lutheran private

school that emphasizes global education, diversity, kindness and sustainability, but that doesn't capture it.

It doesn't capture that we have had students on every continent simultaneously, that we're so obsessed with living green that my friends will make me unlock my dorm door if they notice I forgot to turn out one of my lights, that one of our biggest events on campus is our bi-annual drag show, that we have completely un-ironic "free hug" days, that the campus squirrels have as big a presence as the football team.

My graduate-student hosts revealed in my active participation in the Black Student Union, that it was even possible that a BSU existed on a "Norwegian" campus. They were completely

shocked that I, as a first-year, interviewed former Vice President Walter Mondale for this newspaper (after all, why would he come to a university they had never heard of?)

This point has emerged for me: if I had attended a big school, my meat would probably stay on all winter and there would be a Starbucks and a Pizza Hut in the University Center instead of desserts I can't name.

But would I know the heart of my university, and would it know me?

"If you don't live nearby, you probably haven't heard of it."

In response to the article "Alcohol attitudes," I would like to make two points. First, I would disagree with the statement that the U.S. has turned drinking into a taboo.

One only has to look at alcohol ads, television shows and movies to know that our culture promotes a very different message. Many alcohol ads associate alcohol with loud parties or club scenes, i.e. being 'cool.' Reality television shows, like Jersey Shore, associate alcohol with partying and drunkenness. Movies often portray the same message.

In regards to teenage drinking, all the ads I have ever seen, such as those from the AdCouncil, are in regards to irresponsible drinking behavior such as binge drinking. Organizations such as the AdCouncil encourage parents to talk to their kids about drinking, the potential for harmful effects and the consequences associated with drinking. In the U.S., it is legal for parents to serve their children alcohol

in the privacy of their home. However, the main point I would like to make is in regards to personal responsibility.

Taking personal responsibility for one's actions is something that is lacking in my generation and younger generations. We are all capable of taking responsibility for our actions. However, it seems that many would rather shift blame to others in order to avert or otherwise avoid responsibility.

It may be because the current generation is too proud, or would rather preserve its egos and self-esteem by averting the uncomfortable feelings that come with consequences for bad decisions.

To blame society for underage drinking problems only promotes the wrong message; it teaches young people that they can blame others for bad decisions ("If only the drinking age were lower," or "I would have been fine if the police hadn't caught me"). Despite what

society may advertise or promote, anyone can say no. People don't have to get drunk and black out on their twenty first birthdays-- there is such a thing as moderation.

To say teenagers are just rebellious creatures also promotes the negative associations our society has with teenagers. Although this is a time when many begin asserting their independence, and despite the fact that studies have shown that teenagers are easier to persuade than adults, they still have the same ability to make intelligent and responsible decisions.

Anyone can resist the urge to break the rules, and the only person to blame is oneself. So how about we stop blaming society for all of our personal problems in regards to drinking and start focusing on how each individual can be responsible for his or herself.

**Amy Klokow
Class of 2010**



Comic by Rebecca Scarborough

Guest Columnist

Destroying democracy: NBC merger will put too much power in one place

Taylor Krueger
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Comcast is fighting for a 51 percent stake in a NBC Universal venture, but this merger would crush diverse, independent sources of information and consequently demolish a well-functioning democratic media.

Comcast is the largest provider of U.S. cable television and Internet service, and the third-largest home-phone provider. NBC Universal is one of the largest entertainment companies in the world, with cable hits such as Bravo and USA Network. Let's not forget about Universal's movie studio

and several theme parks. General Electric, NBC Universal and Comcast jointly filed a merger application and public interest statement with the Federal Communications Commission Jan. 28, arguing that a merger would benefit public interest by improving localism, diversity, competition and innovation.

The document states that the merger will increase quality and variety of content with a commitment to boost local news programming by 1,000 hours and increase children's and family programming.

Approving the merger will only further consolidate U.S. media, which is already controlled by a few corporate conglomerates. Localism, diversity and competition will not improve: it will be

completely erased from U.S. media. "This merger would further limit the American people's access to a wide array of information and broadcast content that is inherently necessary for a properly functioning democracy," Congressman Maurice Hinchey said. "The Comcast-NBC Universal deal must be blocked for the good of the American people."

Vast consolidation has hit the U.S. media industry in the last 20 years. Today, five companies own all the broadcast networks and 90 percent of the top 50 cable networks, produce three-quarters of all prime-time programming, control 70 percent of the prime-time television market share, own the nation's most popular newspapers and control more than 85 percent of the top 20 Internet

news sites. If the merger is allowed, Comcast-NBC will control content production and distribution at an unprecedented level. The conglomerate will own the nation's largest cable system, one of the largest networks, 27 broadcast television stations, 14 national cable channels, seven production studios and several fast-growing Internet properties.

Public interest groups such as The Center for Digital Democracy and Free Press have already expressed opposition to the merger, saying it will destroy media diversity.

No one entity should have such control over audiences. Varied and diverse information sustain democracy, media monopoly kills it.

Sidewalk Talk

What sets PLU apart from other universities?



"The connection that you have with your professors."
Andrea Riemer
first-year



"The amount of study away opportunities we have."
Codie Barker
first-year



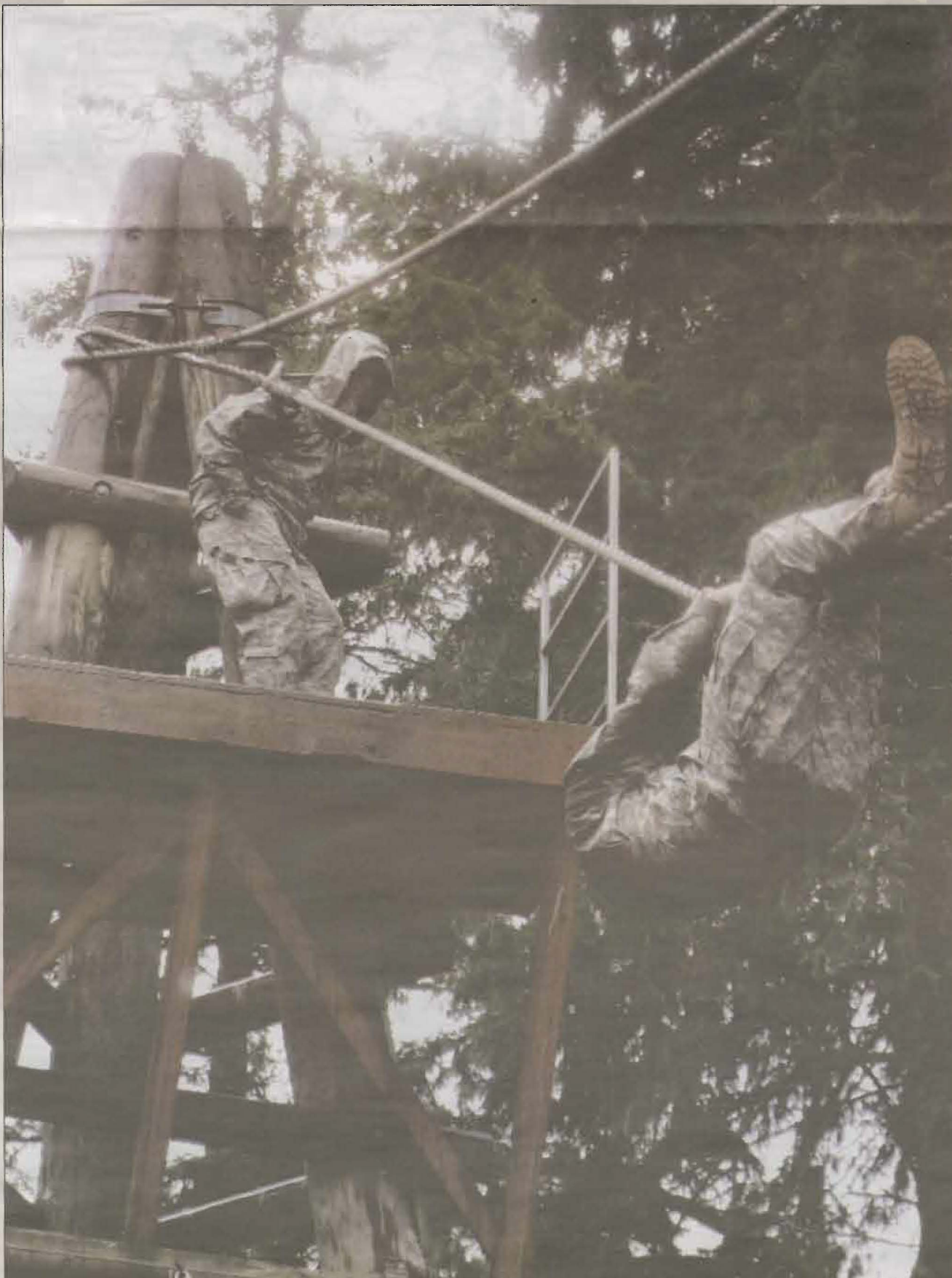
"We are super small."
Conner Skurja
sophomore



"We are very small and people feel like they're at home."
Linling
junior

A WALK THE BOO

of an ROTC



An Army ROTC cadet climbs a rope toward Major David Ortega during one of the monthly field training exercises at Fort Lewis.

Haley Miller
LUTELIFE EDITOR
millerhr@plu.edu

Several hundred students from Pacific Lutheran University and neighboring schools—including University of Washington Tacoma, among others—participate in the Army Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) program.

Army ROTC is an intensive leadership program that combines with college coursework, supplementing a traditional liberal arts education with instruction in leadership development, military science, strategy and problem-solving, according to the PLU Army ROTC website.

In exchange for alleviating the financial stress of a private college education, students fulfill a four-year minimum military service commitment post-graduation. Upon program completion, ROTC students are commissioned as officers into the United States Army, National Guard or Army Reserve.

Most outsiders know little about PLU's ROTC program other than its notorious 6 a.m. physical training (PT) exercises. However, there is much more to ROTC than camouflage, obstacle courses and gun-slinging. It's a community of hardworking students and future leaders.

"We're way more than just a uniform," said nursing major in her second year of the ROTC program.

TIME COMMITMENT

Students involved in Army ROTC have a busy schedule in addition to school. ROTC students are required to take a military science class per semester, in which they learn military history as well as basic navigational skills, map reading and team-building.

Cadets gather in the field house of Olson Gym every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 6 a.m. for physical training. Once a month they participate in field training exercises at Fort Lewis, which involve basic rifle marksmanship, land navigation, leadership reaction courses, obstacle courses and rappelling.

"It's more than a part-time job," said Ryan York, a senior in his fourth year of ROTC. York, whose concentration is in nursing, political science and business, estimates that he spends at least 30 hours a week doing something directly related to ROTC.

Cadets take on bigger leadership roles as juniors and seniors. Junior business majors have learned to manage increasing responsibility as the ROTC program.

"It can be draining but also rewarding," Doan York guesses that the students least involved are first-years with no leadership position. They spend at least 15 hours a week on ROTC-related work.

IN ROTC'S

student



eran University and of Puget Sound and ers—make up PLU's program. gram in conjunction

INDIVIDUAL GROWTH

Schmitt struggled with juggling ROTC responsibilities last year on top of the rigorous coursework required for entry into PLU's nursing program. She recalls other nursing majors expressing difficulty with chemistry and asking for help, which the program cadre addressed by hiring a tutor that barely got them through the course.

"Being able to swallow your pride, say 'I don't know what I'm doing,' and ask for help" are some of the challenges Schmitt faced as a first-year ROTC student.

Dorr tackled a non-academic issue: shyness. Coming out of high school, Dorr would have described himself as a fairly reserved person with low self-confidence.

"I've had to grow myself over the years to become that person of action," Dorr said. Along with the ability to function with minimal sleep, Dorr attributes his general assertiveness and increased willingness to speak out to the program.

York entered the program as a different sort of cadet, with a family and prior military service. During his involvement with the program, York underwent a divorce and received a low assessment score, placing him in the Army Reserve—events which he says contributed to a "mid-life crisis in his 20s."

"You stumble a bit, but because everyone is such a tight-knit family, you can do things you didn't think you could," York said.

SUPPORT SYSTEM

"I think I only have ROTC friends. That may sound a little sad, but it's totally true," Schmitt said.

York, Dorr and Schmitt agree that the most rewarding friendships arise in ROTC.

"My most dependable friendships are with people I would never talk to and associate with on the street," York said.

Dorr echoes similar sentiments.

"I hang out with ROTC people all the time and would depend on them for anything," Dorr said.

Aside from the friendships it fosters, PLU's ROTC program has an excellent support system for cadets. As with all ROTC programs, the cadre has an open-door policy where students can share academic and personal problems at any time.

There is also a student mentorship program to encourage accountability. Groups generally have four students, one from each academic year, arranged in a ladder system of authority. First-year cadets look up to sophomores, sophomores to juniors and juniors to seniors.

"They [the cadre] actually care about their work and us. They want us to succeed," Dorr said.

For more information about PLU's ROTC program, visit its website at <http://www.plu.edu/~rotc/>.



Schmitt

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Dorr



York

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Academy Awards reflect voting bias

Typical winners make for lackluster 2010 Oscars

Matt Click
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Legendary actor George C. Scott once refused an Oscar. He was nominated for Best Actor in 1970 for his powerhouse performance in "Patton," and subsequently won at the 43rd Annual Academy Awards. When asked why he declined to accept the statuette, Scott said, "The whole thing is a goddamn meat parade. I don't want any part in it."

Scott had the right idea. Though I don't agree with him refusing an honor bestowed upon him for his work, I do sympathize with his sentiment. The Oscars are a shallow and hackneyed ceremony, and have been for a very long time.

It's not just that "Crash" inexplicably won in 2006, that "Shakespeare in Love" beat "Saving Private Ryan" in 1999 or that "The Dark Knight" was snubbed last year. It's not just that the Oscars play out like an elitist popularity contest, with Hollywood's top tiered films at the helm.

It's that year after year the safest, least controversial, most widely accepted films are nominated for Best Picture — and win.

I praised the Academy in my column two weeks ago for increasing the number of Best Picture nominees to 10, opening the contest to genre films like "Avatar" and "District 9." But as the night wore on, it became increasingly clear that those nominations were just bones tossed to appease the nerds who, last year, nearly burned buildings down when "The Dark Knight" was blatantly ignored.

"Avatar" scooped up the usual consolation prizes: Visual Effects and Cinematography.

The fact remains that "Avatar," "District 9" and even Quentin Tarantino's "Inglourious Basterds" never really stood a chance for Best Picture. Not because of the quality of the other films, but because of inherent prejudices in an outdated voting system that favors the bland, the politically correct and the secure.



"Hurt Locker" screenwriter Mark Boal, director Kathryn Bigelow and producer Greg Shapiro stand backstage with their awards. The film ended the night with six awards, including Best Picture and Best Director. Bigelow is the first woman to win Best Director.

"District 9," a seminal, landmark film, did not win one single Oscar.

"Unfortunately, the critical worth, artistic vision, cultural influence and innovative qualities of many films are not given the same voting weight," said Tim Derk, editor of American Movie Classics' Film Site.

"The Hurt Locker," this year's winner, is not a bad film. None of the Best Picture nominees, except "The Blind Side," were bad films. But "The Hurt Locker" is merely the next in a long line of typical Oscar winners: sentimental and non-controversial with a flimsy message that is guaranteed to not piss off anyone. It's topical, not timeless. No one was surprised that "The Hurt Locker" won, because the Oscars, like the films selected, are, if nothing else, predictable.

I look back to 2007: "The Departed" nabbed Best Picture, and Martin Scorsese was awarded his long-deserved Oscar for Best Director. In 2008, the unique and darkly funny "No Country for Old Men" won the honor. I was happy with these results — I felt as though the Academy and its voters were finally catching up

with the times and selecting films that held some sort of ageless weight.

But the Academy is rapidly backpedaling. The Oscars should be a celebration of filmmaking. In the end, it doesn't matter who wins. I'm still happy to see movies like "District 9," "Avatar" and "Inglourious Basterds" in the list of nominees. But I can't shake the feeling that these were throwaways, that the Academy voters were just watching their backs while they looked for the easiest choice. That these unique genre films were set alongside sappy garbage like "The Blind Side" is indication enough of a deep-seeded bias.

When I rent a movie, I won't pay attention to the "Winner of 17 Academy Awards" emblazoned on the DVD case. Instead, I'll pick a film I know I will enjoy. I'll pick a film I know will make me think, make me laugh, make me uncomfortable. "Children of Men," "A Clockwork Orange," "Brokeback Mountain" and "Pulp Fiction" are just a few of the names of films snubbed at the Oscars. And yet these are titles we recognize. These are the movies we love.



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THE MOST DANGEROUS MAN IN AMERICA: DANIEL ELLSBERG AND THE PENTAGON PAPERS (NR)

Fri: 12:20, 8:50 Sat: 2:40, *4:45, *6:50
Sun: 12:20, 8:50 Mon/Tues: 8:50
Wed: 2:40, 4:45, 6:50 Thurs: 12:20, 2:40

*Discussions will follow Saturday's 4:45pm & 6:50pm showings

THE WHITE RIBBON (R)

Fri: 2:40, 5:45 Sat: 11:50a, 8:50 Sun: 2:40, 5:45
Mon/Tues: 2:40, 5:45 Wed: 8:50 Thurs: 5:45, 8:50

THE HURT LOCKER (R)

Fri-Thurs: 3:15, 8:35

THE LAST STATION (R)

Fri: 1:55, 4:20, 6:45, 9:10
Sat/Sun: 11:30am, 1:55, 4:20, 6:45, 9:10
Mon: 1:55, 4:20, 6:45, 9:10 Tues: 1:55, 4:20, 9:10
Wed/Thurs: 1:55, 4:20, 6:45, 9:10

NORTH FACE (NR)

Fri-Sun: 12:30, 6:00 Mon-Wed: 6:00
Thurs: 12:30, 6:00

CRAZY HEART (R)

Fri: 2:10, 4:35, 7:00, 9:25
Sat/Sun: 11:40am, 2:10, 4:35, 7:00, 9:25
Mon-Thurs: 2:10, 4:35, 7:00, 9:25

Tragedy takes on postmodernism

Student-directed plays reminiscent of Greek dramas

Vpstart Crow presents Neil Labute's "Bash Latterday Plays" as part of the 2009-2010 theatre season on March 16 and 17. The Vpstart Crow is a Pacific Lutheran University organization created to give upper-class students the opportunity to produce supplementary theatre.

We have a commitment to theatre that pushes all theatre-minded individuals to expand their views of what the theatre means to a modern audience. We work with the constraints of young struggling artists. Production elements are kept minimalist, and we use spaces around the campus that offer unique atmosphere and challenges.

"Bash" is an evening of three short mono-duet dramas reminiscent of the Greek-tragedy style. Three plays: "Iphigenia in Orem," "A Gaggle of Saints" and "Medea Redux" make up the evening. These pieces bring the tragedies of Euripides (one of three known ancient Greek playwrights) out of classical theatre and into the everyday.

Labute wrote his characters into the Mormon religious tradition until "Bash" got him excommunicated from the church. Although the plays were

the vpstart crow presents

bash
latterday plays

ipthigenia in orem/a gaggle of saints/medea redux
written by neil labute directed by travis clark morris

tuesday march 16 & wednesday march 17
7:30 pm

Ingram Hall 100, Pacific Lutheran University
\$4 with plu i.d. \$6 general admission
tickets available at the door cash only

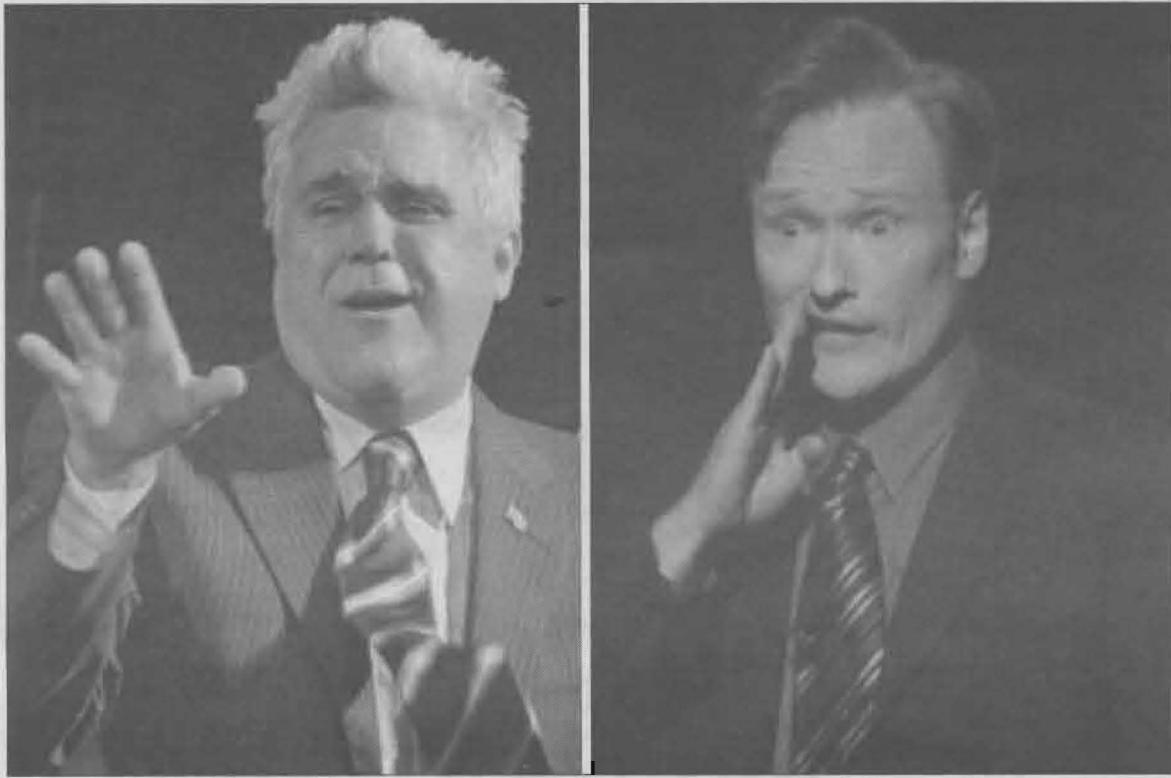
Pacific Lutheran University School of Arts & Communications

not written for religious content, we see a unique addition to the lives of these characters by their relationship to their faith. Labute's voice is poignant, eloquent, lyrical and raw, illuminating the humanity of his characters and the chilling acts of violence that lay dormant in everyday life.

The play will be performed Tuesday, March 16 and Wednesday, March 17 at 7:30 p.m. in Ingram Hall 100. Tickets are sold cash only at the door, \$4 faculty and students and \$6 general admission.

Travis Clark Morris, director

Leno hops back in saddle



Photos courtesy of NBC

After "The Jay Leno Show" did not meet expectations, NBC pulled the plug. When the then-host of the "The Tonight Show" Conan O'Brien (right) refused to change the decades-old timeslot of the show, he was forced to step down, and Leno (left) was reinstated as host.

After short absence, comedian resumes hosting 'Tonight'

Hailey Rile
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Jay Leno reclaimed his spot as NBC's "Tonight Show" host Monday, March 1 after a nine-month stint hosting "The Jay Leno Show" in the unfamiliar realm of primetime. Funnyman Conan O'Brien was placed in the late-night time slot on June 1, succeeding Leno's position of more than 15 years. The switch back came after poor ratings of the two new shows.

After exploring several possible remedies, including restoring both men to their original positions and pushing O'Brien's "Tonight Show" to 12:05 a.m. to make room for a short half-hour of "The Jay Leno Show" at 11:35 p.m., O'Brien could not be convinced. Believing that "The Tonight Show" franchise would be damaged if these changes were made, O'Brien said he "cannot participate in what I honestly believe is [The Tonight Show's] destruction."

In the end, O'Brien signed an agreement with the network to leave with approximately \$45 million for himself and his staff and the promise that he would not pursue other endeavors until Sept. 1.

Despite the short absence, it seemed like Leno never left.

With a "Wizard of Oz"-themed opener, Leno repeatedly said, "There's no place like home."

Leno's traditional humor was evident. He threw

in a few jokes about how NBC has handled the late-night lineup. After receiving a lot of applause, Leno greeted his audience saying, "I'm Jay Leno, your host. At least for a while."

In his monologue about Olympic gold-medalist skier Lindsey Vonn, a guest on the show that night, he said, "When it comes to going downhill, nobody's faster. Okay, except NBC."

Other notable names adorned the guest list: celebrated actor and Grammy Award winner Jamie Foxx and country singer Brad Paisley. Leno also unveiled his new desk for this chapter of his career.

Others are still loyal to O'Brien. When talk of Leno returning surfaced, the chant "I'm With Coco" spread across the Internet. A Facebook group, "Team Coco," was established for fans to show their allegiance to the red-headed entertainer. Coco is a nickname established by actor Tom Hanks, who appeared on O'Brien's "Tonight Show" on both its first and last episodes.

First-year Kathryn Perkins said she thinks it's unfortunate that Leno got his spot back.

"I don't think it's fair," Perkins said. "He changed, and now he's getting bad ratings and wants to go back. Oh, boo hoo for you. Stay where you are."

Sophomore Kelsey Gagnon disagrees.

"I think it was a strategic move on behalf of NBC, which you can't blame them for," Gagnon said. "They're concerned about ratings and they're concerned about money."

Gagnon is a self-professed Leno fan and said that she doesn't think the move back was exclusively about Leno. Rather, it had something to do with the long-famous time slot. Conan wasn't doing well enough.

"There's something expected out of that specific time slot," Gagnon said. "People expect the best."

Author educates on foraging food in 21st century

Amanda Kappelman
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Cook

Langdon Cook, author of "Fat of the Land: Adventures of a 21st Century Forager," visited the Garfield Book Company Thursday, March 4. Cook presented his almost 30-member audience with a slide show, which included photographs of his culinary works crafted from foraged items.

Cook, a former senior book editor for Amazon, and his family left their former lives behind to move to Oregon and live off the grid. This meant no electricity, a gravity-fed water system and solar panels combined with the use of copper coils inside a wood-burning fireplace for hot water.

Cook said that this experience caused him to start thinking seasonally. Cook organized his presentation seasonally, beginning in winter.

For foraging in the winter, Cook recommended shellfish, particularly razor clams, littleneck clams and oysters. These can be incorporated into dishes such as razor clam tempura sushi, Thai red curry clams and oyster stew. His favorite recipes are included in his book.

Wild greens make up most of the foraging options for the spring season. And with the warmer weather, stinging nettles and fiddleheads are available. People started asking questions once nettles entered the culinary discussion.

"People always ask me what nettles taste like," Cook said. "They have a cool, but peppery zing, and can be used in the same dishes you use spinach for - pasta, soups, lasagna."

The nettle has almost more protein than any other plant. The trick to eliminating the sting, Cook said, is to boil the nettles in water for a minute or two.

Choices for the summer include thimbleberries, blackberries and huckleberries. Thimbleberries, Cook said, are best made into jam as they "have a shelf-life of about two seconds - they fall apart as soon as you pick 'em." Cook described using huckleberries in sauces, as well as jellies and cobbler.

A plentiful option is the mushroom, with several varieties such as the lobster, cauliflower, chanterelle and porcini in the Pacific Northwest.

"I feel like a kid when I'm out there," Cook said. "And what kid doesn't like a treasure hunt? I love going out there and finding edible mushrooms. If you're going out mushroom hunting, maybe you should learn the poisonous ones before you learn the edible ones," Cook said.

During the question-and-answer section, senior Beau Abajian asked, "Are you afraid people are going to read your book, then get out there and take your turf?"

"I want people to get out there and interact with the land," Cook answered. "I give up secret spots all the time."

Cook had some parting advice: "All students, all people in general, should know where their food comes from and be more active in that process."

For more information on Langdon Cook, follow his blog at <http://fat-of-the-land.blogspot.com>.

A capella groups deliver in Lagerquist

Alex Domine
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Pacific Lutheran University's a capella groups' double-header concert in Lagerquist Hall Friday, March 5 resulted in two sold-out performances. There was standing-room only, with a total of 1038 seats filled.

HERmonic's set included "White Winter Hymnal," originally by Fleet Foxes; "Paper Planes," originally by MIA and Imogen Heap's "Just For Now," all arranged by senior Siri Larson. Also in the set was "Winter Song" originally by Ingrid Michaelson and Sara Baraeilles, arranged by sophomore Kylie Lewinski; "Kids" originally by MGMT, arranged by senior Faith Ockwell; "Last Name" originally by Carrie Underwood, arranged by senior Mackenzie Trail and "Tik Tok" originally by Ke\$ha and arranged by sophomore PLUtonic member Julian Reisenhal.

An emotional highlight was dedicated to Lakewood's fallen police officers. Jane Siburry's and KD Lang's "Calling All Angels," arranged by Ockwell, featured senior HERmonic President Adrienne Fletcher.

HERmonic also included upbeat crowd pleasers. "Tik Tok" featured senior vocal performance major Kathryn

Clause and sophomore Megan Liebold. Also among the upbeat repertoire was "Last Name," arranged by and featuring Mackenzie Trail.

The all-male a capella choir, PLUtonic, took the stage for the second half of the evening. Seniors Jesse Hull, Eric Troftgruben, Adam Geisler, Sean Maloy, juniors Phil Serino and Eric Griebenow, sophomores Tyler Morse, Daniel Gilbertson, Anthony Kelly-Glasoe and first-years John Marzano, Julian Reisenhal, and Daniel Frerichs all entered with cheeky confidence.

PLUtonic performed pop hits such as "Down," originally by Jay Sean and featuring Daniel Gilbertson; "Finally Home," originally by Mercy Me and "Greenlight," originally by John Legend. All of the arrangements were composed by Serino. The set also featured "In This Heart" originally by Sinead O'Conner and arranged by sophomore Tyler Morse.

The most eventful part of the night was PLUtonic's performance of "Here We Go," also arranged by Serino. The closing piece, collectively choreographed by all

PLUtonic members, brought out the group's iconic playful charm.

While the night was full of highlights and impressive vocals, PLUtonic and HERmonic fell short in a few areas of their performances.

Lagerquist Concert Hall's cavernous space swallowed HERmonic's thin vocals. The natural timbre of a female a capella group struggles to offer a projecting sound in such a space.

Despite powerful vocals, PLUtonic's reputed playful nature erred toward cliché rather than charming. PLUtonic's boyish character sets them apart from other PLU ensembles, and does so successfully until it distracts the audience from the music.

PLUtonic's members included themselves in HERmonic's "Tik Tok" as eager clubbers attracted to Claus's and Liebold's swagger. In return, HERmonic gleefully cheered PLUtonic from the sidelines during the second half of the evening. The groups' fun factor was overwhelming, and provided the perfect antidote for mid-semester doldrums.

"The groups' fun factor was overwhelming."

Lutes SPORTS SCHEDULE



Baseball

PLU at Menlo March 13, noon, 3 p.m.,
PLU at Menlo March 14, 1 p.m.

Women's Tennis

PLU vs. Whitman* March 12, 2 p.m.
PLU vs. Whitworth* March 13, 3 p.m.

Men's Tennis

PLU at Whitman March 12, 3 p.m.
PLU at Whitworth March 13, 11 a.m.

Softball

PLU at George Fox March 13, noon, 2 p.m.
PLU at Lewis & Clark March 14, noon, 2 p.m.

AN ASTERISK REPRESENTS A PLU HOME GAME

PLU sports more than academics

Mast Sports Insider



Tyler Scott

scotttj@plu.edu

I would like someone to show me a college that truly qualifies as only an "academic institution."

I recently had a conversation with a couple fellow Lutes about the athletic department.

They expressed a desire that barely stopped short of axing the whole thing because the athletic department offers no substantial benefit to the community.

The thesis of their argument was that Pacific Lutheran University is an "academic institution."

My response: "Then let's cut the music program."

Now I feel inclined to offer a bit of background information. After devoting much of the past four years to PLU athletics, I have encountered people who think I must have a one-track mind that cares only about sports.

I don't.

I was a percussionist all through middle and high school, I played on an award-winning marching drumline during high school. If PLU had a marching band, I would have joined as soon as I enrolled.

This is why I have never understood the "academic institution" argument against supporting athletics. No university is solely an "academic institution."

If PLU really is an "academic institution" and nothing more, the cuts should not end with the athletic department or the music program.

Let's cut the study abroad program. Pacific Lutheran is not a travel agency.

Let's tear down the residence halls. An academic institution is not an apartment building.

Let's demolish the University Center. Clubs and organizations are not part of academics. Neither is food.

I will be the first to admit that all of this is absurd. Music is a tremendous form of expression that has provided meaning and excitement for generations. Studying abroad opens the minds of students to the vast cultural differences of other societies.

Residence Halls are vital to the university experience and provide the opportunity for students to move and study from thousands of miles away.

The University Center is a hub of the campus, offering resources and facilities that play a fundamental role in campus life.

Along with all of these things, sports provide a release. Like music, athletics give people a chance to express themselves and learn valuable lessons in working together.

Pacific Lutheran is absolutely an academic institution. Many of its academic programs have rightfully earned nationwide renown. So has the athletic department.

Calling PLU solely an "academic institution" undermines the achievements and goals of the university as a whole. Yet somehow this argument aims to undermine PLU athletics.

Last week's Wang Center Symposium provided an excellent opportunity for students to broaden their views of sports and the purpose they can serve in life. My only suggestion would have been to make a stronger connection to the Pacific Lutheran community by inviting Frosty Westering to relate it to PLU athletics.

I would challenge any student who thinks sports serve no meaningful purpose at a university to do a little research into Lute athletics. I don't want people to be brainwashed to love sports as I do. But I believe that it reflects poorly on PLU that members of the university community would belittle an extracurricular department without researching the subject.

The day PLU becomes solely an academic institution is the day I am no longer proud to be a Lute. The day that happens, the university will cease being PLU.

Men's tennis wins one, loses one

Paula McFadden
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The Pacific Lutheran men's tennis team beat University of Puget Sound for the 37th consecutive time March 3 at the UPS Tennis Pavilion and lost to Linfield last Friday at home.

Doubles seniors Joel Trudel and Justin Peterson ranked No. 12 in Division III men's doubles, with their season record at 9-0, beating first-year Mike Cutter and sophomore Nick Kelley at No. 1 in doubles 8-4.

First-year Taylor Dickey and senior Brent Smoots held the No. 2 position in doubles, beating sophomores Brian Burger and George Murphy, 8-5.

Trudel, Peterson and Dickey won all their singles and doubles matches.

No. 1 Trudel won his singles match with the win over UPS's Sam Finkleman.

Peterson has the No. 2 spot in singles, when he defeated Cutter. Dickey beat Logger Alex Harrison No. 4 in singles. Scott Sheldon, No. 3 in singles, won against Kelley, giving PLU the final point.

The match against Linfield ended in a PLU loss 7-2, improving Linfield's record to 5-1.

The Wildcats remained undefeated in five Northwest Conference matches



Trudel

with the win over the Lutes.

Linfield held the No. 12 ranking in Division III West Region men's tennis with PLU holding down the No. 9 position.

The rankings will change as PLU saw its record fall to 7-3 with the loss to Linfield.

Linfield's Mark Magdaong and Brett Kingzett took Peterson and Trudel's undefeated doubles record away with an 8-3 victory.

The PLU doubles pair headed into the match ranked No. 3 in the region, No. 12 in the nation and unbeaten in nine spring season matches.

Matt Levering and Zachery Lyons beat PLU's Smoots and Dickey, 8-2.

Senior Michael Manser and Sheldon picked up a doubles point for PLU, Kauffman and Cody

beating Matt Levien, 8-4.

Linfield held the win over PLU in the singles matches with Magdaong over Trudel at No. 15, Tal DeWitt over Peterson at No. 2, Kingzett over Sheldon at No. 4, Levering over Dickey at No. 5, and Levien over Smoots at No. 6. PLU's Manser grabbed the singles point with a victory over Linfield's Mitchell Davidson, who was No. 3 in singles.

Men's Tennis

Overall record: 7-3
Conference: 7-3
Home: 1-2
Away: 6-1
vs. Reginal ranked: 1-3

Sports

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abshieb@plu.edu

Track & field provides strong performances

Brendan Abshier
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The Pacific Lutheran University track and field team traveled to Linfield and had strong performances Friday

and Saturday.

The main standout for PLU was junior Lokia Arceneaux, who won the hammer throw and finished second in the 100- and 200-meter dashes.

Arceneaux's Friday hammer victory came with a distance of 136-9. She also dashed to a

12.54 time in the 100-meter and 26.09 in the 200-meter.

Sophomore Chelsea Putnam showed a strong season-opening performance, finishing second in the long jump with a distance of 17-4 1/4.

Junior Conor McNeill threw the hammer 154-1 and

sophomore Sean Andrascik finished with a time of 10:29.53 in the 300-meter steeplechase; both were second place finishes.

Also finishing on the list of notable PLU performances with third-place finishes were first-year Nicole Jones, who jumped

8-11 3/4 in the pole vault; junior Kelly Fenton, who threw the javelin 115-1; and sophomore Jasmine Wallace, who hurled the hammer 129-5.

PLU will host the PLU Invitational 9 a.m. Saturday. It is PLU's only home meet this season.

Baseball battles, barely beats Bruins

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The Pacific Lutheran University baseball team went 2-1 in its conference-opening home game against George Fox University last weekend, bringing its overall record to 11-2.

The Lutes beat the Bruins 6-5 and 7-6 in Saturday's doubleheader, but lost 3-4 on Sunday.

"We are not satisfied with the way we played," senior Josh Takayoshi said. "We underachieved, plain and simple."

The nine errors committed by the Bruins on Saturday were instrumental for the Lutes, who did not score their first earned run of the weekend until the 10th and final inning of the second game. Nine of the 13 runs scored by PLU were unearned. The Lutes finished the day with 24 left on base, 12 in each game.

"As a collective whole, we know that the offense simply didn't show up and perform," junior Ryan Aratani said. "We wasted great starting pitching performances from Trey (Watt), Rob (Bleecker) and Scott (Wall), and great relief appearances by everyone in our bullpen because we flat out didn't score runs."

Senior pitchers Trey Watt and Robert Bleecker each threw eight innings

Saturday. Watt gave up five runs off nine hits, striking out four and walking two. Junior Nic Delikat pitched the final inning, earning his first win of the season.

In the second game of the day, Bleecker allowed two runs off four hits, striking out seven and walking three.

Senior Paul DiPietro came up with his second win of the season after relieving sophomore pitcher Nathan Eisenhauer, who allowed the Bruins four runs in the 10th inning.

Takayoshi started both rallies in the final innings during Saturday's doubleheader, once with a double to right center and the other with a single up the middle. He finished the day with five hits in seven at bats and two walks, raising his batting average to .415.

The first earned run on Sunday came in the fourth with an RBI single by sophomore Brock Gates, scoring senior Ben Shively. The other two runs came in the seventh. Junior Sammy Davis singled, scoring sophomore Ethan Ottemiller and then Davis scored on a single by Takayoshi.

The Bruins prevailed, scoring four runs off six hits, while the Lutes scored only three runs off 11 hits, ending their day with nine left on base.

The Lutes ended the weekend with 33 left on base and five errors.

"[Last] weekend was somewhat of a reality check for our team," Aratani



Photo by Heather Perry

Senior Robert Bleecker delivers a pitch while a base runner takes his secondary lead. Bleecker currently holds a 2-0 record with a 5.73 ERA.

said. "We had a goal of limiting our mistakes defensively and we didn't do a good job of that. We take great pride in playing great defense, but our offense's inability to perform played one of the bigger roles in the way we played."

The Lutes will spend the next seven games on the road, which is normal, said head coach Geoff Loomis.

PLU will begin with a three-game series this weekend against Menlo College in Atherton, Calif.

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