Lake Forest welcomes freshmen

Last Wednesday, a beautiful summer sun shone down upon the newest edition to Lake Forest College, the Freshman class of 2014, as they completed their Orientation Week with the traditional class photo, procession to First Presbyterian Church, and Matriculation ceremony.

Idling as they waited for the photographer to set up, walking through a tunnel of current and past Lake Foresters, this class followed a similar route as many that came before it. And yet, there are plenty of reasons that this is a class unlike any other.

According to Bill Motzer, Vice President for Admissions and Career Services, this class was culled from 2,400 applicants, the second largest pool in the college’s over 150 year history. Of that pool, half were accepted and 405 decided to attend the college.

Though the freshman class is now a little bit smaller than that number, Motzer stayed any undue panic, stating that the loss of two students from the class roster and the apparent loss of another, due not to disinterest but to poor travel conditions—the student is coming back—is but a bump in the road. Universally, it’s “no big deal,” he said.

And, indeed, the class that remains is still quite impressive. It is the most diverse class the college has yet received, comprised of “40% underrepresented or international students.” A record number of freshmen are coming from Chicago Public Schools on scholarships this year, as well, a program that started just a few years ago but that this year netted a “very successful return” of 24 students.

The college is also proud to be receiving a Bill and Melinda Gates scholar, one of 1,000 such students in the whole United States.

Such feats are not mere numbers though, “I think we all benefit [from this diversity],” Motzer said, saying that these demographics give us all the opportunity to learn about other cultures and background, while also setting us apart as a college.

Beyond this varied heritage, the incoming Freshman class is also quite bright. It is a “very solid” class, Motzer said, with an average high school GPA of around 3.6.

As for Orientation itself, Motzer thought that “people responded well” both to the traditional activities and to new ones like the trust-building low ropes course, which Motzer believes helped students learn to work together and bond as classmates.

And such is our current knowledge about this new class, but, as the weeks progress and they become integral parts of the Lake Forest community, we will surely learn even more.
Campus green initiative

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How does a garden, food, and Lake Forest College all relate? A beautiful and innovative step towards improving the school’s community will now take place in the form of a garden. Food represents our culture, tradition, and relationships. By using food as a way to relate to one another and to educate ourselves, it can become a uniting source that will lead toward building a better campus relationship. Also, understanding where our food comes from can help us see the big picture in terms of maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

Building a stronger campus community is the essential idea behind this vegetation operation. While students can contribute their time and clean pants to volunteering for the garden, they can also learn and help teach one another various skills that they will be able to take with them after they’ve graduated. The ability to personally shape the campus can give students a sense of “ownership,” or connection that they might not have had access to until this point, says Liz Birnbaum, the Environmental Studies Program Coordinator.

As a school, Lake Forest College has been really supportive of both the Environmental Studies Program, largely funded by the Andrew W. Mellon foundation, and it’s green initiative. New classes, such as Biodiversity and Agriculture, which link the knowledge learned in the garden to the classroom, have been recently added, as well as a few others. Jennifer Lindsay of the Office of Residence Life has intentions of partnering with the E.S. initiative and has said, some hope of incorporating the garden’s tasty produce into their dishes.

As brilliant and exciting as this new garden plan is, though, LFC cannot take complete credit for its origin. So far there are eight out of fourteen schools in the American Colleges of the Midwest consortium which already have launched their own gardens or farms. Indeed, community gardens and urban farms, as well the more popular farmer’s markets, have been steadily increasing around the nation. Though LFC is not a predominantly environmental school, many students have expressed their interest in the environmental issues and groups throughout the campus, as well as the opportunity of working in the garden. An example of such interest is reflective in the Student Government, which voted unanimously in favor of the garden. The administration was even able to bring together the planning within the last fall semester, revealing a very fast acceptance to this new green agenda.

The garden itself, located behind Glen Rowan, will be about 4,624 sq. ft. and will in part contain two large plots traditionally tilled and 6 smaller beds that will be double dug, to help incorporate more planting space. There will even be one bed dedicated to Spring 2010 seniors, whose biodegradable gowns will create the earth used for those plants. Nada Finn, from Greentown Waukegan community garden, has generously donated 7,000 seeds to the garden including herbs, flowers, berries, and vegetables. Planting will begin sometime between mid and end of May. The garden will help embrace the college community by allowing students “to receive out-of-classroom experiences that complement and deepen their education” (Five Year Plan for Lake Forest College). It will also hopefully promote further interest concerning environmental incentives and programs either on campus or beyond. Upcoming volunteering opportunities are available April 28th and 29th for the “Digging on Reading” days, which encourage students studying for finals to take a break and stop by the garden for an hour to help with the initial dig.

Meet your Student Gov’t!

President: Chase Cook ’11
Vice President: Zibba Patten ’11
Treasurer: Riley Hutchinson ’12
Secretary: Brianna Lemond ’13
e.Team President: Lorena Kennedy ’11
MSC Chair: Elise Beckman ’13

Greetings Class of 2014!

As alumni of Lake Forest College, we can attest to the amazing experiences that await you! Lake Forest College is an institution that has deeply rooted traditions, values and a strong sense of community.

We hope your experiences at Lake Forest are filled with exciting events, wonderful friendships, challenging academics and warm memories.

Sincerely,
The Forester Alumni Family

Lake Forest debuts new website

Screenshot courtesy of Lakeforest.edu

The new website sports a snazzy design with more photos and interactive elements, yet is still easier to navigate than the old version. Check it out!
Iron Chef Ruben continues to dominate

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He’s wrapped your wraps in the afternoons and fried your eggs to perfection in the early hours of the morning—he’s Aramark Chef Ruben Jimenez, who now reigns as Lake Forest College’s Iron Chef 2010.

Last Thursday in the caf, competition was stiff. In a recent e-mail sent to the campus, Pat Doggett, Program Director for the Mohr Student Center, said that in the end “only 14 points separated first place from last place.” But, ultimately, it was Chef Ruben who took the title.

It was no easy battle, however. Chefs Jimenez, Kate Applehans, Michaelangelo “Monte” Monterroso, and Coach Jim Catanzero were busily preparing dishes even as the student body first entered the caf for lunch. Each chef was allowed one sous chef, Jonas Mikolich, Kedryn Samson, Joseph Bozarth and Casey Flynn, respectively.

As students gathered around the chefs’ makeshift kitchens, there grew a noticeable circle of people around a more mysterious table, one covered in sheets and hiding what everybody was dying to know: the secret ingredient. Students speculated as to what could be hidden under the bulky sheets, and eventually it was revealed that coffee would be the ingredient of the day. The chefs were creative with the coffee given to them, some using it to make various sauces, and some incorporating it into a type of breaded crust for various dishes.

Alumni staff member Tim State was the official commentator for the Iron Chef event, for which he dubbed the caf an “area for competitors from across campus.” State was sure to talk to the competitors as well as the panel of judges, which included a variety of local food experts, President Steve Schutt, and Student Government President Chase Cook.

When State asked if he had learned anything from the competition, Cook said that he was a “devoted carry-out man [who] learned a lot today.” Chef Ruben kept State assured that all was well for him during the competition, inciting State to announce to the audience that Ruben “seem[ed] incredibly relaxed,” throughout the competition.

As students eagerly waited to get a peek at the dishes, they were occupied by a variety of contests offered by Aramark. The most popular by far seemed to be an M&M’s challenge in which participants had to suck up an M&M through a straw and attempt to balance as many as possible on other straws in a very short amount of time. The other contest offered was an apple stacking challenge in which students attempted to stack as many apples on top of one another as possible. Both challenges offered excess flex dollars for a prize.

After all the dishes were served and sampled, the verdict came in: Chef Ruben was once again the Iron Chef, and for another year, he will reign supreme.

Looking to increase your business? Support The Stentor by placing an ad!

Publishing since 1887, Lake Forest College’s The Stentor is an award-winning, weekly newspaper that reaches over 1,400 Lake Foresters, including students, faculty, alumni, friends, and neighbors of the College.

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- Quarter Page (5.625 x 3.22in) - $30
- Business Card (2.82 x 1.61in) - $20

All prices listed above are per issue. However, discounts are available for any multi-issue purchase. Ads must be received the Monday before publication.

Thank you!

Tea with the Undertaker: Emerging Writer Visits Lake Forest College

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Sitting across from Gretchen Henderson in the Library as she sips “Wild Berry” tea, we’re struck by her warmth and gentle exuberance. Winner of the 2010 Madeline P. Plonsker Emerging Writers Prize, Henderson begins by asking us each what we plan to do after Lake Forest College. She explains that this is the best part of the Residency: being able to have coffee and dinner with students, to be able to get a sense of the College, to be subtly and genuinely influenced by the voices and the music of these young minds.

The Plonsker Residency allows Henderson a unique opportunity to complete and publish (with &Now, an imprint of Lake Forest College Press) her manuscript entitled Galerie de Difformité, a work that identifies less as a traditional book and more as a museum of thought, along the lines of “choose your own adventure.” For Henderson, “museology [can be] a narrative strategy,” teeming with history and interpretation, even complicity. Although “[museums] have an entrance and an exit,” explains Henderson, the power between the two rests in the eyes and minds of each beholder.

Every Galerie reader may discover different themes and masterpieces, or come to one of countless possible interpretations. Galerie de Difformité has no chapters, but “Exhibits” interspersed among images, letters (as in, epistles), essays on deformity, poems, directives, and other curiosities leading readers down rarely trodden paths.

Henderson herself (at least, a fictionalized version) serves as Undertaker of the museum, stating on the accompanying Galerie website (a collaborative offshoot of the project and virtual gallery): “If the object of uniting a certain degree of Beauty with Deformity, through Utility, has been attained, the merit is the Artists. —If not, the Undertaker is willing to bear the blame.” By deforming traditional literary forms, Henderson seeks to draw attention to deformity and its negative contexts in contemporary society. However, in juxtaposing and metamorphosing different genres, she sees the Galerie as communicating the “regenerative power of

Photo by Zakea Boeger.
“Tea” cont. from page 2
what’s deformed” to “widen our sense of normalcy.” Henderson hopes that Galerie de Difformité will encourage people to think more generously and generatively about forms, both books and bodies.

Parallel to the influence of the museum, Henderson’s training in vocal performance plays an important role in her storytelling. For Henderson, Galerie de Difformité is a natural evolution of the role that music has played in her life through the voice: breathing, listening, singing. “Every element of the body is needed to produce voice,” says the writer, and her Galerie is comprised of innumerable elements that attempt to produce a voice, or sometimes several. “It took me a long time to learn to listen, and I’ll be honing that art for the rest of my life.” In this way, the Galerie invites readers to listen as it becomes a chorus of voices.

Indeed, a few Lake Forest students have already begun to help shape her project. In our interview, Henderson extended a campus-wide invitation to the LFC community to contribute to her undertaking. The online offshoot of her project (difformite.wordpress.com) encourages, nay beseeches, “Subscribers” to deform “Exhibits,” photograph and submit them for possible inclusion in the book, with certain publishing on the website. The realm of contribution has widened to include audio, as Henderson encourages readers to “deform the aural dimensions of Exhibits to see, namely hear, how they vary.”

The very nature of new media supports Henderson’s views on the future of how we process narratives, and art in general. As a living organism, the brain doesn’t operate on a single fixed plane for even a moment, yet we expect literature to remain unchanging. Henderson “adores the tactility” of books as much as the rest of us, but she applauds new media, literature that offers and engages a more versatile approach to literacy. Regarding her literary plans for the future, Henderson would like to return to a novel that was runner-up for the AWP (Associated Writing Programs) Award, finish a book-length critical performative essay on musical adaptations in literature, and explore more poetry, art and sound collaborations. This summer, she will be a Peter Taylor Fellow at the Kenyon Review Writers’ Workshop in Ohio at Kenyon College, where she is an Affiliated Scholar in English. Gretchen Henderson will be present and active at the 2010 Lake Forest Literary Festival, reading alongside keynote speakers such as Vanessa Place and Shelley Jackson. Henderson greatly encourages all students and the larger community to participate in deformation and reformation through the virtual Galerie de Difformité (difformite.wordpress.com) and equally encourages students to take her up for tea and a pleasant chat.

Galerie de Difformité

Henderson extended a project. In our interview, Henderson extended a campus-wide invitation to the LFC community to contribute to - her undertaking. The online offshoot of her project (difformite.wordpress.com) encourages, nay beseeches, “Subscribers” to deform “Exhibits,” photograph and submit them for possible inclusion in the book, with certain publishing on the website. The realm of contribution has widened to include audio, as Henderson encourages readers to “deform the aural dimensions of Exhibits to see, namely hear, how they vary.”

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Upcoming Lake Forest
Sporting Events

9/1/10
Women’s Volleyball
vs. University of Chicago
4:00pm

Women’s Soccer
vs. Concordia (Ill.)
5:00pm

Men’s Soccer
at North Central
(III.)
5:00pm

Women’s Volleyball
vs. Dominican (Ill.)
8:00pm

9/2/10
Women’s Tennis
at Benedictine (Ill.)
3:30pm

9/3/10
Women’s Volleyball
Elmhurst College
Invitational
against Western New Eng.
at Elmhurst
6:00pm

Women’s Volleyball
Elmhurst College
Invitational
against Wheaton
at Elmhurst
8:00pm

9/4/10
Cross Country
Tom Barry Invitational
(St. Norbert)
Colburn Park,
Greenbay, Wisconsin
10:00am

Women’s Volleyball
Elmhurst College
Invitational
against Augustana
(Ill.)
at Elmhurst
4:00pm

CAMPUS WATCH

Case Number: 1000417
Date & Time Reported: 8/24/2010 11:42:33 PM
Location: HARLAN HALL
Offense: LIQUOR LAW VIOLATION - REFERRAL
Incident: IMPROPER HOSTING & UNDERAGE CONSUMPTION
Disposition: CLEARED W/NO FURTHER ACTION

Case Number: 1000414
Date & Time Reported: 8/24/2010 11:36:51 PM
Location: DEERPATH HALL
Offense: DRUG LAW VIOLATION - REFERRAL
Incident: MARIJUANA POSSESSION AND USE
Disposition: CLEARED W/NO FURTHER ACTION

Case Number: 1000397
Date & Time Reported: 8/16/2010 5:47:36 PM
Location: STUDENT CNTR/COMMONS
Offense: LARCENY / THEFT OFFENSE
Incident: THEFT OF WOODEN PALLETS REPORTED
Disposition: INFO-REPORT ONLY

Case Number: 1000409
Date & Time Reported: 8/23/2010 9:06:15 PM
Location: SPORTS CENTER
Offense: LIQUOR LAW VIOLATION - REFERRAL
Incident: UNDERAGE CONSUMPTION
Disposition: CLEARED W/NO FURTHER ACTION

Public Safety
Lake Forest College