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The Stentor

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April 21, 2011



Senior editors
Andrew Van Herik and Katie McLain
depart *The Stentor* with all the
necessary glamour and grandeur



News

Students advocate for sustainability at Lake Forest

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In an article on the Rumor Forum printed in *The Stentor* on April 7, 2011, in reference to sustainability on campus I reported that “student interest seems to be low, and, as a result, progress in sustainability on campus has been slow.” This statement was not my own; rather, it was pulled from the notes from the Rumor Forum taken by Student Government Secretary Ivaylo Valchev ‘14, and can be attributed to one of the panelists present (President Schutt, Dean Flot, or Dean McCracken). Source attribution aside, the statement had many students enraged, and, as a result, I sat down with several students to hear their side of the story.

With the rapid growth of student interest in the activities of the Environmental Studies (ES) Department and the League for Environmental Awareness and Protection (LEAP), the statement that student interest is low hardly seems accurate. Some students expressed that the statement seemed like an excuse, not an actual statement of fact. They also questioned how school officials could claim that interest is low when they have made no effort to actually gauge student interest. LEAP President and Recycling Project Chair Ana De la Torre ‘12 allowed me to preview results from the recent recycling survey. Since ES workers have not finished processing all of the data, *The Stentor* is not able to use exact figures. However, the fact that over 600 students participated in the study demonstrates student

interest in sustainability issues. De la Torre and Alex Gilbert ‘12, an ES student worker, indicated that the responses were overwhelmingly positive in regards to recycling. Students who do not currently recycle indicate that this is not because of lack of interest, but rather because of concerns about whether the contents of recycling bins are really



Recycling bin in Johnson B.

being recycled, lack of knowledge about what can be recycled, and a lack of recycling bins on campus.

De la Torre indicated that all of these barriers to recycling are easily remedied, and that ARAMARK custodial staff seem to be responsive; however, she also expressed frustration at being tossed from one office to another when trying to solve issues. Additionally, she indicated that although ARAMARK supervisors may be responsive to requests, whether their staff actually follows through is hard to tell. ARAMARK Dining Services, on the other hand, has shown a consistent commitment

to sustainability in their practices. According to ARAMARK Corporate, “throughout our company, we develop and implement programs that promote sustainability through environment-friendly products and practices, sustainable food & local purchasing options, energy & water conservation efforts and waste management,”

Photo by: Lexie Zaas

(source: aramark.com).

Facilities Management controls the number of recycling bins on campus, and De la Torre indicates that representatives there have voiced that more bins simply leads to more bin contamination, which defeats the purpose. However, De la Torre hopes this can be combated by actively educating the campus on what is and is not recyclable. Information on what is recyclable can be found online at <http://www.lakeforest.edu/about/initiatives/green/recycling.php>. Several students in LEAP indicated that although Student Affairs claims to provide recycling bins for all rooms, this

is simply not true. More than one student in the group indicated that they themselves have been without a recycling bin since the beginning of the year, despite attempts to remedy the situation.

The success of the Campus Garden and the emergence of a Slow Food group on campus also indicate increasing interest in sustainability on campus. De la Torre was quick to point out that as soon as the garden was implemented, it became an advertising point for the College, referenced in various admissions materials. Gilbert also indicated that prospective students are looking to see green campuses. He feels that Lake Forest College may attract more applicants by implementing more green measures.

One curiosity in Lake Forest College’s previous work towards creating a more sustainable campus is Buchanan Hall. Buchanan Hall, renovated in 2007, is LEED certified. LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification entails a strict set of standards for building construction. The LEED rating system “is designed to promote design and construction practices that increase profitability while reducing the negative environmental impacts of buildings and improving occupant health and well-being,” (nrdc.org). The fact that Lake Forest College has a LEED certified building is impressive, however students question what the College has done since then. If there was interest to build a LEED certified building three years ago, why do officials no longer think there is interest?

Students in the Environmental Studies major credited Professors Glenn Adelson and Liz Birnbaum with the success of current and past sustainability efforts. In regards to Professor Adelson, De la Torre said, “he has awesome ideas and he’s willing to listen to anyone and everyone.” Gilbert said that as an alumna, Professor Birnbaum really understands what it’s like to be a student here and is able to use this knowledge to advance sustainability efforts on campus. Unfortunately, *The Stentor* was not able to obtain an audience with either faculty member before the paper went to press.

De la Torre is a student representative on the College’s Sustainability Committee. She indicated that this committee is extremely committed to making changes on campus, but there are many issues to consider with even the smallest changes, and this translates into painfully slow progress. Again, she voiced frustrations with the bureaucratic process, where each idea must go through many people and could be shot down at any point along the way.

With Earth Week coming to a close and the school year wrapping up quickly, students may think it’s too late to voice their concerns and show their support for sustainability efforts; however, students are encouraged to embrace that now cliché phrase “everyday is Earth Day” and make certain their voices are heard.

Upcoming Events

4/21 11:00am
Boomers 5th Birthday Bash
4/21 2:30pm NCCP Volunteer Opportunity
4/21 5:30pm Forester Finance Network Kick-Off Event
4/21 5:30pm Forester Finance Network Kick-Off Event
4/21 6:00pm
Seeing Things Event: The Modern Wing
4/21 6:00pm YOGA Group
4/21 7:00pm Weekly Student Senate
4/21 7:00pm Earth Day Speaker: Michael Ableman
4/21 8:00pm Playwrights in Progress
4/22 11:00am Hug a Tree, Save a Tree
4/22 7:00pm Film Screening: The Greenhorns
4.22 7:30pm Combined Orchestra and Choir Concert
4/22 8:00pm Playwrights in Progress
4/23 8:00am 11th Annual NeuroFrontiers Workshop
4/24 7:00pm Delta Gamma weekly meeting
4/24 9:00pm Creativi-T
4/25 10:00am Invisible Children- Book Drive
4/25 11:00am Britten Follert Book Signing
4/25 2:00pm Live Whale office hours
4/25 4:15pm LEAP meeting
4/25 4:30pm MSA meeting
4/25 5:30pm SAACS meeting
4/25 6:00pm Weekly Model UN meeting
4/26 Last day of classes
4/26 8:00am Board of Trustees Executive Committee Meeting
4/26 12:00pm Active Minds meeting
4/26 12:15 pm
Mindfulness Meditation
4/26 4:00pm Senior & Faculty Celebration
4/26 7:00pm PRIDE

News

Enrollment Growth: Dean Flot shares positive aspects and addresses rumors

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Enrollment growth, its presence is evident on campus. It is very hard to miss the orange fencing of the cafeteria expansion or get frustrated when we can't get into a class because too many students want it. However, there are more benefits to current students coming out of this process than current students think. Adding more Foresters to our community in the long run is not a burden, but a benefit.

I guess a big concern that a lot of students have is that it is already difficult to get into classes, adding more students will make it even more difficult," said Ashley Vogel '14. However Dean Flot has assured that the College will not add more students without growing its academic program. "Our growth must remain within space limitations," said Flot.

Even though some

students see adding more students as a burden, there are many benefits to current students coming out of it as well. A few examples include the cafeteria expansion, formation of new academic programs and the plans for a new residence hall. The sports center is not part of enrollment growth.

GPA's then those admitted in previous years. There is a very high possibility that students admitted to the class of 2015 have the highest average admission GPA in college history. The student teacher ratio currently sits at approximately 11.5 to 1 and at the end of the five-year growth plan will rise to

course list each semester. There are things being done in order to accommodate the need for extra housing. The Lake Forest in the Loop program was partially influenced by enrollment growth. The college brought in a consulting company to gather information about what faulty and students

to October of last year. The consulting group will then report to the administration once they have thoroughly examined the information in order to build the most desirable residence hall. There are some other factors that will have to be examined until it can be determined indefinitely if the residence hall will be build. The administration must look at the economic feasibility before saying with one hundred percent certainty that this is going to happen. "We are anticipating starting construction during the summer of 2012, and the building being complete in the beginning of the fall semester in 2013" said Flot.

The location of the residence hall has not yet been determined, however the rumor that Roberts will be demolished is false. There was discussion that Moore will be torn down, but no decision has been made. However, the rumor that the college is buying a house on Deerpath or Sheridan to house students is false, and has never even been discussed by

the administration. There are a few other rumors that Dean Flot would like to be terminated. Having classes start and 7:00 am has never been discussed by the administration and neither has only allowing freshman to live in Deerpath. The rumor that juniors and seniors are no longer allowed to live on campus in the residence halls, is also false, and has never been brought up as a possibility.

The other big problem that was brought up was the fact that parking in campus is already tight. "Parking is a very big concern to commuters," said Irina Bajic '14. The school has plans to add parking. Currently there are 287 parking spots available for faculty/staff and 538 for students. The school does not have an exact number set about how many parking spots that they plan to add, but they intend to make use of small spaces. There are patches of unused land on campus that can be transformed to parking spots. Small things like this will be done in order to help ease the "growing pains" of enrollment growth.

"The students admitted to the class of 2015 had higher average GPAs than those admitted in previous years. There is a very high possibility that students admitted to the class of 2015 have the highest average admission GPA in college history.

- Rob Flot, Dean of Students

Students have expressed concern about the college lowering the bar for admissions and letting less qualified people into out school. The students admitted to the class of 2015 had higher average

around 12 to 1.

Living situations are a very pressing concern for students. Obviously, this problem cannot be fixed as easily as the cafeteria expansion and adding a few more classes to the

think would be desirable for a new residence hall. The group gathered information from the Lake Forest College community in the form of focus groups and surveys. These results were gathered during the months of April

Campus Watch



Date & Time Reported 4/13/2011
Location MIDDLE QUAD
Offense MISCELLANEOUS INCIDENT
Incident UNATTENDED GRILL CONFISCATED
Disposition CLEARED W/NOTIFICATION

Date & Time Reported 4/14/2011
10:39:54 AM
Location NORTH HALL
Offense MISCELLANEOUS INCIDENT
Incident NEIGHBOR COMPLAINT
Disposition INFO-REPORT ONLY

Date & Time Reported 4/16/2011
11:02:45 PM
Location SPORTS CENTER
Offense LIQUOR LAW VIOLATION - REFERRAL
Incident UNDERAGE POSSESSION
Disposition CLEARED W/NO FURTHER ACTION

Date & Time Reported: 4/16/2011
12:59:29 PM
Location: STUDENT CNTR/COMMONS
Offense: ACTIVATED ALARM - FIRE/SMOKE
Incident ACTIVATED DETECTOR - NO FIRE

Date & Time Reported 4/16/2011
11:29:38 PM
Location BUCHANAN PARKING
Offense LIQUOR LAW VIOLATION - REFERRAL
Incident OPEN ALCOHOL
Disposition CLEARED W/NO FURTHER ACTION

Date & Time Reported 4/19/2011
3:46:23 AM
Location BLACKSTONE HALL
Offense DISTURBANCE
Incident LOUD MUSIC
Disposition CLEARED W/NO FURTHER ACTION

News

Plans for cafeteria expansion released and detailed



Photo courtesy of: lakeforest.edu

The outside of the new cafeteria.

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With orange fence dominating much of middle campus, it's hard to miss the cafeteria expansion. Ground has indeed been broken, and the two trees that once sat outside the southwest windows have been torn from the earth. Rumors have been circulating for months about the cafeteria expansion plans, but it was not until Student Government President Elise Beckman's email of April 12th that the plans officially reached the student body.

Although The Stentor attempted to cover this story after plans were first brought to the Student Government about seven weeks ago, we found that sufficient information was not being released. Sources expressed that they did not

frustrated with the seeming lack of communication and the empty promise of the imminent release of plans. Furthermore, some students felt degraded by the notion that they could not handle behaving like mature adults in the

DINING ROOM

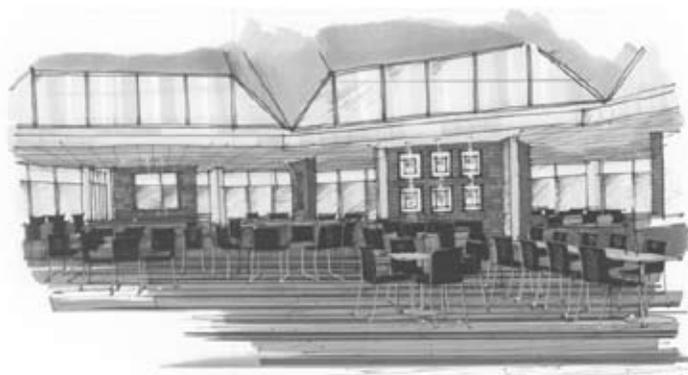


Photo courtesy of: lakeforest.edu

The inside of the new dining room.

want information reaching the student body before it was finalized. This may seem like a fair excuse, but many students were

presence of plans that may need to be changed. On the other side, Beckman said that it isn't an issue of not being able to handle it,

but rather not wanting to get students excited about something that may not happen. Additionally, according to Beckman, past student commentary influenced much of the planning, despite students not being directly involved in the drafting of plans. The cafeteria expansion will add 3500 square feet to the current space, which

concept will allow for faster preparation, greater variety, fresher food, and more vegetarian and vegan options. In the Fresh Food concept, all steps in the food preparation process are performed in a single station. This means that each station is equipped with preparation space, grills, fryers, and coolers, and it will eliminate most of the back of house work and congestion. Additionally, new equipment, like the pizza oven and Mongolian grill, will help improve food quality and prep speed. Micenko has plans to add a made-to-order wrap/salad/deli station. This will replace the self-serve deli bar. The self-serve soup and salad bars will be continued. The current drop-off window system for dish washing will

people during peak hours, as is current practice. If needed, a runner may be added. He plans to maintain the personal relations that students have with certain workers.

The caf will be closed for the entirety of the summer, with intentions to re-open on August 19th. Summer service will be in the student center and hockey rink. From May 9th to June 9th, when the kitchen is closed as well, students will likely be given a cash equivalent to be used at Boomers or P.O.D.

President Schutt's email to the campus indicated that funding for the project is made possible by a \$4.1 million loan from "Aramark Educational Services

PIZZA SERVERY

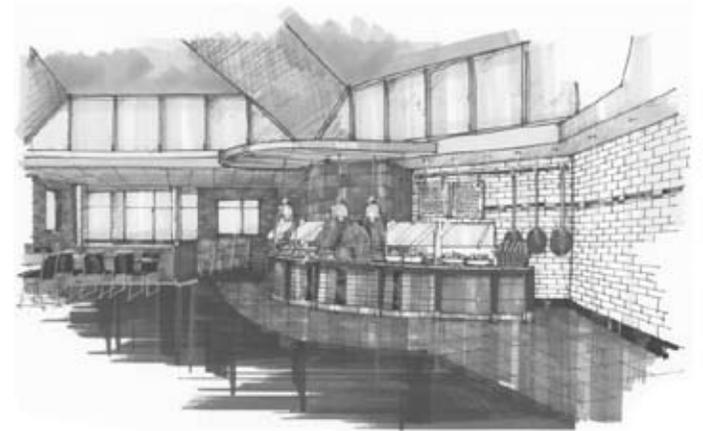


Photo courtesy of: lakeforest.edu

The pizza servery in the new dining hall.

translates into 180 additional seats. Seating will feature tables for two, four, and six, and will also include the option of booth seating. Students will also have the option to sit at circular, rather than rectangular tables. A new configuration of stations will allow for better flow, and new equipment along with preparation methods will allow for faster, more comprehensive service. The renovated caf will feature carpeted flooring. The carpet will come in small squares, which are easily replaced, and the carpet will help control noise.

Jason Micenko, ARAMARK Campus Manager, indicated that most of the food offerings will not change, but that the new Fresh Food Company

be replaced by a mechanical tray drop, eliminating congestion and clutter in this area, as well.

An ARAMARK representative indicated that in designing the plans for the cafeteria expansion, they sought to make it a versatile place that will be able to evolve with new trends. When asked about staff, Micenko indicated that this would be evaluated, but he has no plans to hire more staff-persons. Each station will be staffed with two

LLC, in consideration of a long term extension of ARAMARK's food service contract." According to reports from the Rumor Forum, this "long-term extension" will be 15 years in length. Reports also indicated that "the contract also allows the College to pay back the loan to Aramark and dismiss the contract, if need be."

Forester Focus

Student Government responds to the “Staff Editorial” in the April 14th edition of *The Stentor*

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This article is in response to the editorial published in last week's edition of *The Stentor*. A core value of the current Student Government Executive Board is transparency, so I am appreciative when the Student Body takes an interest and offers questions about the actions and decisions of Student Government at Lake Forest. I believe the current Executive Board has been consistently transparent since being elected in December, and as always, students are more than welcome to drop by the office or send any Senator or Executive Board member an email. The emails of the Executive Board can be found on the website. Mine is banvicw@lakeforest.edu. Feel free to contact me with any concern, ideas for improvement to campus, or just to have someone to talk to when you need a friend.

On any campus the Student Government is always in the spotlight. Every move that is made is and should be scrutinized, with some agreeing and showing appreciation for that move, and others disagreeing and letting those that represent them know about it. That is what makes a democratic government work. Opinions are voiced and heard. That said, while every voice is definitely heard, not every call for a change is valid or useful for the common good. That is why this year both the Senate and the Executive Board

voted to change budget allocation process from an academic year model to a semester model.

The rationale included the fact that student organizations that were just forming in the first semester did not formerly have budgets to program for the Student Body, and organizations that did have budgets had ideas for new events during the second semester that they did not request a budget to fund in the previous year. Now, in both cases, the executive boards of those organizations have the opportunity to request the funding that they need not only to be successful as an organization, but to bring relevant and timely programming to the campus community.

As *The Stentor* published in the April 14th, 2011 edition, appeals could be filed, which we will discuss (by the time this is printed, the meeting will have already happened) during our weekly meeting. However, *The Stentor* called for an “appeal not necessarily about our Executive Board mandated budget, although we do have issue [sic] with that” (p. 9), but rather for a complete reorganization of the process. It has been proposed that the Executive Board no longer oversee the budget allocation process, but rather relinquish that responsibility to the Senate.

The most obvious problem with this is time, or lack thereof. As the editorial board of *The Stentor* stated, the day long budget allocation process really is “an arduous and hellish day” (p. 9). It took the nine members of

Executive Board under the advisory of Dean Waugh eight hours to finally finish budget allocations.

Now place that burden onto a Senate comprised of twenty-seven members. The process would take weeks, and that does not even include the appeals process. The editorial continued, “who gets money and why is a question every club leader and every student senator and every member of the Executive Board has a different answer for” (p. 9). I doubt even the writer of this article would like to meet for weeks discussing budgets.

I am not blind and unfeeling to how the Editorial Staff of *The Stentor* feel due to not receiving the full budget that they felt was necessary to operate at full capacity. I, too, am in organizations that aren't just Student Government, and to be clear, not all of the requests of these organizations in which Executive Board members partake were fully funded. It is not a dictatorship, where nine members fund their interests and divvy up what is left to the “other” organizations.

I am the treasurer for an organization, and I suggested cutting one of the programs I requested funding for in the Fall 2011 semester. Why? Because I do not sit on the Executive Board to have an “in” for my organizations. I am representing not Chris Banville, not my organization, but the interests of the Student Body as a whole.

I am not alone in this endeavor. I can introduce you to the eight other

members of Executive Board, who do this every day, as well as twenty-five fellow senators. Despite the opinion of the editorial staff of *The Stentor*, *The Stentor* was and will remain a funding priority. Still, I do wish to inform the readers that this legislation is not found in the Constitution as cited in the editorial, but rather in Section D of the of the Lake Forest Student Senate Bylaws, and is actually originally found on page 63 of the Student Handbook. Besides, just because a certain budget request was not approved in a semester budget request does not mean the program cannot be applied for via the Discretionary Fund, Speaker Fund, and/or the Mohr Student Center Fund.

The Stentor proposes that the Senate assume budgetary control. It is true that we have an elected Senate to serve as our representative government; however, I feel that I shouldn't have to remind the unbiased staff of *The Stentor* that the Executive Board is elected by the Student Body to serve as a representative governing body as well. The fact that four positions were uncontested is not the fault of the Executive Board. In fact the Student Body is as upset with the current Executive Board as is the writer of this article and the other staff members of *The Stentor*, I daresay they should do something about it. I look forward to seeing a number of spirited campaigns and contested seats during the election in December.

Working for a more transparent budget allocation Process

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Yes, it is that time of year again where everyone in a campus organization is complaining nonstop about their budget allocation for the fall semester. Being the President of two organizations (PRIDE and United Left), treasurer of another (Model United Nations), and being a senator for the class of 2013, I know what it's like seeing precious parts of the beautiful budget request you spent hours writing be cut. Though times might seem tough for our organizations, there is work being done to make receiving money for our organizations more transparent.

A recent topic of discussion I've been having with other senators and members of the cultural coalition is that of a constitutional amendment I intend to introduce that would shift the powers of approving or denying discretionary fund requests from the Executive Board to the Senate.

This has been the concern of many organization leaders since the representation of organizations is much higher in the Senate than in the Executive Board and doing so would grant more organizations a voice when it comes to the allocation of a portion of student government's budget. This change would of course help alleviate, to an extent, the cuts to programming some of our organizations received for the fall. I've

spoken with numerous senators and Exec Board members (including our President, Elise Beckman) of my proposed amendment and have so far received generally positive responses.

Now, I know most people's issue is with the actual semester allocation process. Now, this process, for the sake of *everyone's* time, will remain the job of the Executive Board. Don't think, however, that your calls for a more transparent budget allocation process haven't been taken into consideration.

Talks between Senator Nelson Igunma, myself, Treasurer Jaehning, and President Beckman have already been taking place. Transparency between the Senate and the Executive Board on the matter of budget allocations will come. From what I've seen, it is the priority of members of both the Senate and the Executive Board.

We've all heard your calls and we're working diligently to make your requests happen. Coming in for discussion with an open mind and a proposed solution is the best way to get what you want out of your student government; Senate and Exec Board.

As for answers as to why your budgets might have been cut more than in the past, that is a question best directed to our Exec Board members since I am a Senator and currently the Senate has no say in the budget process. Keep in mind though, that a positive attitude gets a better response than a negative one.

Features

SPRING TV PREVIEW

The Office and Glee return from hiatus

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Every once in a while, a sitcom captures the attention of the American audience. Yet hooking the viewer is only half of what makes a sitcom truly remarkable. Great sitcoms use comedy to explore timeless issues, creating a lasting legacy that becomes a central figure in defining its zeitgeist.

Seinfeld was the first sitcom to show just how deep of a cultural impact a television show could have. Millions tuned in each week to watch “a show about nothing,” feasting off of its scintillating scrutiny of every-day life. It was the first time a TV show added a slew of precise phrases to the American vernacular, such as shrinkage, yada

A strong cast of both over-the-top caricatures coupled with relatable characters give the show all its needs to create an interesting and enlightening dynamic. Ever hyperbolic, Dwight epitomizes the cutthroat, servile worker fighting to climb the corporate ladder. Stanley embodies the low-motivation worker coasting to his lighthouse retirement. Todd Packer, the crass, tactless misogynist bent on being every guy’s favorite man’s man.

Our examination of the true inner workings of sitcom characters is by and large superficial. They provide short-term comedy, and when we do get a glimpse of their deeper emotional states, the connection is less than raw. Instead, *The Office* relies primarily on the Jim

audience is rewarded with the inevitable. Their story of a romance blossoming out of friendship, despite many impediments, is masterfully executed.

Michael Scott offers up another emotional nucleus for the show. Both extremely warm-hearted and socially inept, Michael’s greatest insecurity is his inability to find true love and he comes to the realization that experiencing love vicariously or casually is no longer sufficient. We follow Michael through several seasons as he searches for true love without success, growing ever more weary of his prospects. Finally, a HR representative named Holly is assigned to his branch, a woman who shares his youthful outlook on life. Not without difficulty, Michael and Holly finally commit themselves to one another, and chance forces Michael to choose between his two loves, Holly and Dunder Mifflin. He chooses Holly.

Having wrapped up its two primary emotional plots, the serious *Office* viewer might wonder what more the show can provide. New story lines like the Andy/Erin/Gabe love triangle, attempting to emulate the emotional resonance of Jim and Pam, just feel inadequate. Another season of less-than-engrossing love stories may deny *The Office* a grand finale. Yet the season-spanning plots of the show, which melded comedy with deeper, more intense emotions, will continue to define the show’s monumental legacy.

yada yada and festus. and Pam’s relationship and Michael’s search for love as its emotional linchpins.

Jim and Pam’s story, which stretches multiple seasons, is one of the uncertainty and difficulty of transitioning from friendship to romance. Jim’s self-confidence issues and Pam’s commitment to her baseless love of Roy create unforgettably heart-wrenching scenes, and for many seasons, viewers agonized over whether or not they would ever exit friendship limbo. Finally, the

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There are two kinds of people in the world – those who love *Glee* and those who have never seen an episode and want nothing to do with the show. Before this semester, I identified with the second group. I thought *Glee* was nothing more than a glorified hour-long version of *High School Musical* and I had no desire to take part in a show geared towards high school students.

This, however, turned out to be a (mostly) inaccurate portrayal, and with *Glee* returning this week from its midseason hiatus, I thought it would be appropriate to look back at the last season and a half and examine where the show is going.

Instead of summarizing the plot, I will have you remember as many social issues from high school that you can. Teen pregnancy. Love triangles. Gay students. Bullying. Sick parents. Racial issues. Clique confrontations. Binge drinking. Add in a hysterically evil cheerleading coach and several well-choreographed interpretations of modern pop songs, and you’ve got yourself a show.

Thankfully, *Glee* has so far avoided the Disney Channel strategy of glossing over tough issues within a half hour segment, which makes *Glee* stand apart from the rest of the primetime lineup. Kurt Hummel, for example, is the show’s primary homosexual character, but *Glee* doesn’t force the other characters and the audience to accept and celebrate Kurt’s sexual orientation. Instead, it portrays Kurt’s situation as difficult, ongoing, confusing, and ultimately rewarding as Kurt finds love with Blaine Anderson, a student at an all-boys school. This last item is particularly inspiring, as Kurt and Blaine share several passionate kisses onscreen, an action that comes across not as forced or shocking, but as sincere and beautiful.

Not all of the other social issues are treated with the same finesse, and some of the plotlines, such as the love triangle between Finn Hudson, Quinn Fabray, and Rachel Berry, come across as unoriginal and flat. But overall, *Glee*’s sincerity and sympathy outweigh the Disney Channel moments.



Photo illustration courtesy of Katie McLain.

Glee’s other strength, however, lies in its comedic value, and the decision to cast Jane Lynch as the venomous and hilariously evil cheerleading coach, Sue Sylvester, was sheer brilliance. Lynch’s deadpan comedic style is spot-on, and half of the fun of watching *Glee* is waiting for her next brilliant line. My personal favorite: “This is what we call a total disaster, ladies. I’m going to ask you to smell your armpits.”

And, of course, *Glee* would not be *Glee* without the music. Now, some of the musical decisions are less than stellar – a Justin Bieber themed episode, for example – and some of the music borders on *American Idol*-levels of bubblegum pop sweetness. However, hearing Kurt Hummel sing a slowed down version of the Beatles’ “I Want to Hold Your Hand” is pure magic, and music mash-ups, such as “Thriller” and “Heads Will Roll” by the Yeah Yeah Yeahs, keep the songs from sounding stale.

I’m a little worried, however, about the direction that the music will take in future episodes. The last episode before the midseason hiatus had the *Glee* team performing original songs for their regional competition. It’s an interesting concept, but one that caters much more towards the high school audience than the slightly more sophisticated viewers. I can tolerate small doses of songs titled “Loser Like Me,” but one of the main reasons why I watch the show is to enjoy the familiarity of hearing established songs performed in a new way.

Hopefully, *Glee* does not venture too far down the path of high school culture, but I’m fairly confident that the show will continue to demonstrate cultural and social sensitivity. My only regret is that I did not start watching the show earlier. Being a *Gleek* has just been too much fun.



Photo courtesy of 1979semifinalist.com

yada yada and festus.

Since *Seinfeld*, few sitcoms stand out as having an equally lasting impact. *The Office*, a television show that examines the working and personal lives of a small paper company’s employees, explores a range of issues, from the most pertinent of our times to the most timeless. Novel in its use of the work environment as the vehicle for plot, *The Office* took the mundane corporate experience and transformed it into a living, vital spectacle.

Features

Club Profile:

THE STENTOR

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The Stentor is a campus standby, an institution that has stood the test of time from 1887, the printing of its first issue, to 1926, the oldest issue in the *Stentor's* office archives, to present day. The organization has never taken a year off, allowing the campus to fend for itself without its trusty newspaper. Although staff changes and ambition have made the production of *The Stentor* itself problematic at times, *The Stentor* is remarkable for its consistency and quality.

But of course we would say that. We are *The Stentor*. We think we're pretty great. Right? Right? "We are an open, warm,

engaging staff," sophomore opinions editor Shawna Hite says. Thanks, Shawna.

So rather than toot our own horn, let's get into the down and dirty of how *The Stentor* works. Here's the process.

Each week, we meet on Thursday to plan our next issue. In this meeting, editors decide what stories to assign that seem pressing for the coming week. News editors must decide which current events on campus, including everything from late night entertainment to speaker series and Student Government, should be reported on for that week's *Stentor*. They try to strike a balance between all the varied interests on campus so that no part of the L.F.C. community feels slighted. "We try report on things that

we feel would be interesting to read and maintain a record of campus life," say news editors freshman Lexie Zaas and sophomore Nelson Igunma.

The Features section aims to "create a human interest focus that is both entertaining and relevant," says senior features editor Katie McLain. Features may contain arts and theater on campus, reviews of hot new movies, or unique pieces like the Puppy Profile from last week's issue or other campus profiles. Professor Profiles, a series *The Stentor* looks to build upon next year, show the more comprehensive and serious side of this fun loving section.

News and Features reflect and are written by your fellow students, but

the greatest place to voice your own thoughts is the Opinions section. Here, Editor Shawn Hite learns as much as the readers of the paper learn each week. "Getting to read the opinions of my fellow Foresters has been an unforgettable experience," Hite says. The Opinions section looks to not only accrue singular voices speaking to a particular topic, but to build an on going discussion, whether than be the brunt of work of a prolific columnist or the on-going responses to past columns.

Making up the vibrant back page, and sometimes more, each week, the Sports section is an important part of the *Stentor's* legacy and campus reach. Here, relevant athletics and intramural teams get their moment in the sun, with in depth coverage from our omnipresent sports editor, junior Nick Cantor. *The Stentor* is a "causal and friendly yet productive" place, Cantor says as he puts the finishing touches on this week's page.

The newest and most experimental section this year, Forester Focus, expands on our stated goal of representing student voices on campus. From fitness tips to an informative and sometimes wacky dual-advice column, this section is like a melding of features and opinions with a greater Forester flair.

With the stories assigned and the section's planned, the group disbands to seek their own fortunes for the week. This is a nerve wracking time. Sometimes writers get bogged down

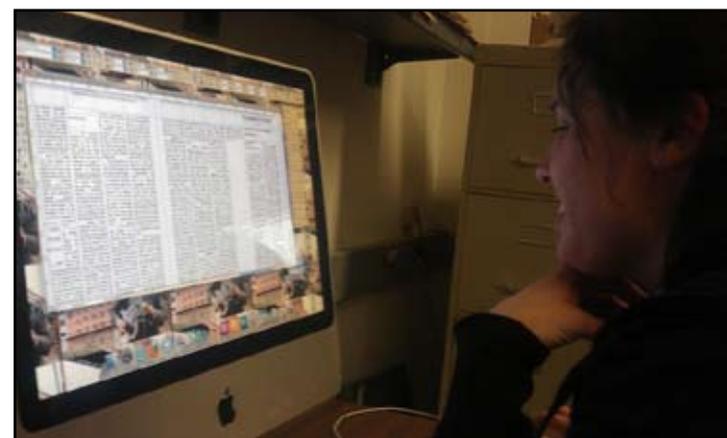


Photo courtesy of Andrew Van Herik.

Opinions editor Shawna Hite intently scrutinizes a submitted article.

in work and a story falls through. Each week, an editor will likely have to write a story themselves or struggle to contact his or her writer to fill the section.

This "filling" is just one of the slang terms one hears around here. Filling space becomes a euphemism for the more cynical approach that we jokingly take on some time—I don't care what it is, but something has to fill this white space! Other commonly heard expressions include, "Has ----- gotten his article in yet?" That's a phrase Hite is often heard yelling around midnight. Not to cast too dark a pall on the whole affair, but another common experience is the fount of creative swear words lobbed at the technology in the office. We shall not reprint this language here.

The slang and the cussing indicates that we've reached the layout section of the process, the lowest valley leading to the highest peak of finishing an issue. Here, Word documents become beautiful pages of luscious text, brilliant photography, and engaging pulled quotes (those bigger words that

draw you into the article with their mystery and intrigue). Here, thousands of words become 12 immaculate pages. Here something important happens.

And it happens from around 7pm to some ungodly hour on Wednesday morning. "I never knew how much work it takes to publish an issue of the *Stentor*. I am so proud of what we have accomplished this year, and I hope that other students will fill the gaps left by departing seniors," McLain says.

The Stentor is not without its complications, but the staff believes the content is worth the controversy: "While the *Stentor* been considered a source of controversy among the leaders on campus, we strive to represent the interests of the student body," Igunma says.

And that is *The Stentor* in a addled, bewildering, invigorating nutshell. A hard working group of people that somehow still enjoy being around each other. We make this paper. And we'll keep doing it. We can't stop.

WANTED

SENIORS WITH SOMETHING TO SAY ABOUT THEIR LFC EXPERIENCE

WRITE FOR US: TUESDAY, APRIL 26TH

editor@lakeforest.edu

Opinions

A senior's final *Stentor* request

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I must admit that I was slightly surprised to see The *Stentor*'s staff editorial last week regarding the budget process of Student Government. It wasn't fully informed, and could have talked a lot about the numerous efforts of current treasurer Ben Jaehning to get rid of the very parts of the process the editors here find upsetting. The thing is, the article doesn't really even mention the opposite view, which a journalism class teaches editorials should do.

Even quick conversations with Elise Beckman, Ben, or Dean Flot (or even my dinosauric SG self) would have given that editorial much more meat and meaning. The problem is

that as long as *Stentor* editors are left to write editorials to fill space in their last hours before submission each week, there will

“*We need writers who care enough to think hard about their stories and do the research.*”

be opinions that aren't fully informed or wholly thought out. I'm sure the editors and columnists wouldn't disagree with me on this, and I'm positive that they would welcome more writers and editors on their staff to help alleviate this problem.

It's like sports talk radio in Chicago. Nobody really knew a whole lot about hockey, so when it became a big topic last year with the Blackhawks winning the Stanley Cup (Canadian and American's biggest professional hockey championship), lots of guys who hadn't talked about hockey since the last time the local

boys were good in the early 1990's suddenly were asked to chat about Joel Quenneville, Jonathan Toews, Patrick Kane, and Antti Niemi. Doing their jobs, these meatballs who were used to talking about the badness of the Cubs, the potential of the White Sox, and the glory days of Michael Jordan would dedicate a portion of their show to talking about hockey.

It gets as ridiculous as a scene I heard the other day when two guys were laughing about how they had never heard of Zdeno Chara or Henrik Lundqvist before. If you're a hockey fan, you know how insane that sounds. It's like being a junior or senior at LFC and saying, "Who the hell is Pat Doggett?" I actually heard that the other day, too. Anyway, I came really close to calling in to that radio station, but instead I exercised

my rights as an American and changed the channel. The other day, I seriously thought about accompanying a move downtown with a bid for a super-late-night sports radio talk show about hockey, with other stuff sprinkled in.

These two modes of change are the only ways for me to do anything about the situation surrounding sports talk radio's ineptitudes surrounding hockey in the Chicagoland area, and they are also the only two ways for us to do anything about the situation surrounding *The Stentor*. We need writers, folks... and not just any

writers. We need writers who care enough to think hard about their stories and do the research. Fill out the articles with interviews. Put your thoughts out there in the Opinions section, and tell everyone about what you know in the News section.

There was a really cool article detailing our admissions process a few weeks ago, and even more intense ones earlier this semester about the Curricular Policies Committee. However, we've missed things. Numerous academic talks, choir performances, awesome programs, amazing accomplishments, and whole-campus issues are never covered in this newspaper solely because we lack the manpower to get it done in a week.

The fact remains that *The Stentor* has nothing but potential. It was the center

of campus conversation around 1993 (the last time the Blackhawks were good, interestingly) and was an important piece of the conversation as recent-

ly as two years ago. It can become the same thing once again, but only if enough people put something behind their words and send in thought-out and fantastic pieces to *The Stentor*. Make it your own.

You don't have to be a communications major, an English major, or have classes in journalism. They'll show you the ropes. Or, feel free to change the channel. I leave it to you now. Thanks for four great years.

Ramifications of some recent

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I was recently accepted to be a Resident Assistant at Lake Forest College for the 2011-2012 school year. Upon receiving the job, I was eager to be a part of a rare experience on campus. I was eager to interact with students by furthering community development in a paraprofessional position that engaged leadership and promoted 'real-life' learning experiences. While I've seen ResLife provide these opportunities for students in many ways, I have recently felt a great deal of concern for what next year will bring, and the direction ResLife is headed.

Before directly addressing some of my concerns, I want to make a few things clear to students and to the administrative bodies on campus. First, I would like to explain the anonymity of this article. As stated in the "RA Position Description" (which can be found on the Lake Forest College webpage), RAs must, "Refrain from insubordinate behavior. It will result in personnel action. The student/staff member title represents the Office of Residence Life and should not be used when expressing public opinion or support, as the student/staff member's personal opinion may not necessarily reflect the feelings of all student staff members."

So, I would like to state that any claims made in this article are my own, and may not directly reflect the feelings of any other ResLife staff member. I

would be forthcoming with my name if I did not fear what the result of those "personal actions", as described in the job description, would be. Second, I would not be writing this article if I felt my critiques were isolated and did not reflect the feelings of other students campus-wide.

Third, if ResLife is in any way surprised to hear some of the sentiments of this article, I would suggest the reason for their surprise is the general consensus that when one speaks out against ResLife, they are silenced. If I as a student, or if I as an RA, did not feel ResLife operated with the intent to intimidate, then these issues would have been brought up with Peter Rivera and other ResLife administrative figures in person.

In the first RA staff meeting of the year, Mr. Rivera used an interesting story to discuss how employees should behave with integrity. He stated that what RAs say can affect their job and the community around them. He told us of a person who had posted on Facebook about being bored at work. When this person's boss saw the post, they were fired. That to me did not send a constructively cautionary message, rather one of intimidation.

I would like to point out that the National Labor Relations Act prohibits employers from punishing employees for talking about wages or workplace conditions. I don't feel as if this type of example was used with much integrity. Though I will admit that it was not said with the intent of ending up in the *Stentor*.

Integrity was one of the six core values of

ResLife that was promoted during the period RA selection. Though each RA had to write about integrity and other given values, I have not always seen them represented by ResLife as a whole. I'll speak more about integrity later, but I would first like to address the ways in which the **other five core values** have been degraded of late.

Responsibility and respect: It does not seem very responsible or respectful to me that a handful of current students at Lake Forest College could not get a room at this past Sunday's room selection. This seems to be a lack of planning. Students who were the last to pick did not have any rooms left to select from, and they will likely be placed with a freshman next year in an undetermined resident hall.

I believe ResLife and the college's responsibility lies first with their current students. If they cannot house current students, then perhaps they should not admit a great influx of new students until another resident hall is built. Surely, it is not all one party's fault, and perhaps the students should have not assumed they could get a single. However, this kind of thing should be accounted for before room selection.

It is possible that students who are planning to be RAs next year may not get a room if they choose to leave the program before signing a contract formally agreeing to take the position. The contract, pertaining to all of the new requirements of RAs, along with the rate of pay RAs will receive next year, has not been released. It has not been discussed. That brings

Opinions

questions raised regarding Residence Life

me to the next core value.

Diversity: Aside from academic obligations, RAs know they must give priority to their job. I can't imagine there is anyone hired who doesn't know that. However, it seems if RAs are doing their duties in an upstanding manner, they should be allowed to have a diverse role on campus, and spend their time doing other things at Lake Forest College. However, if ResLife enforces

some of the new duties listed in the "RA Position Description," it seems RAs will have no diversity in their life and will be subserviently tied to their job. New duties include the ability to leave campus "a total of 12 days a

semester." RAs will also have to inform Resident Directors of "all outside commitments" for approval, and "A record of a student staff member's outside time commitments will be kept." It has been said that these rules are really benefitting the RAs by setting aside times when we can specifically be off campus and away from our duties. But I question why an honest and fair rule has to be explained and defended in order to be understood in the first place.

Learning and personal development: I wonder how I will be able to learn and personally develop if I am chained down to my resident hall without much ability to join other groups? If I am to spend

the majority of my time in my resident hall, I feel I will become a one trick pony who resents having taken the job in the first place. While my fellow RAs and my residents will certainly be a great incentive and source of enjoyment, I will be looking for something more.

Therefore, I suggest ResLife increase the incentive through monetary means at the very least. Most colleges give their

“ I think if ResLife would be more open to RAs about new policies, and be in control of situations like room selection and timeliness there would be a great deal more integrity. At the moment, there seems to be a lot of whisperings and walking on egg shells. ”

RAs free room and board, or a much larger wage than what has been offered at Lake Forest College in the past. There are many students who work on campus and make more than RAs. While I think it's great students have the chance to prosper financially at LFC, I think as a community organizer and paraprofessional worker who is "on duty" at all times (as an RA is expected to be) there should be compensations which reflect that responsibility. RAs don't know what they'll be making next year, though they have heard there will be an increase in pay. I believe that every person will be much more willing to give more time if they feel they are being

rewarded for their efforts.

Community: I believe this is one area where ResLife has done an outstanding job, and I don't worry there will be any change in that. In my opinion, the ResLife community and students on campus do a good job of creating a positive living and learning environment. I know the new changes in ResLife have been designed with the intent of furthering that sense of

closeness and fostering responsibility among all.

Furthermore, I have full faith this will be successful. Some students may balk at some of the policies, but I believe they are in place for good reasons. Yet, when strictly enforced, some policies may seem more like ruthless punishments, than as learning opportunities as they should be. This is not always an easy thing to do in practice, and I think ResLife and students have done a good job at working to find some middle ground. I hope that continues.

Finally, back to integrity: This article is meant to incite discussions and better the program of ResLife for all staff members and students on cam-

pus. In the "RA Position Description," it is cited that "We will critically evaluate our decision making processes to ensure that personal interests do not override the needs of residents." Within the next couple of weeks I hope some of these discussions can begin, and be followed through with next year.

I think if ResLife would be more open to RAs about new policies, and be in control of situations

like room selection and timeliness there would be a great deal more integrity. At the moment, there seems to be a lot of whisperings and walking on egg shells. If administration

cannot function at a level which openly provides for its people, there will be no integrity, community, learning and personal development, diversity, responsibility, or respect.

Furthermore, if some of the proposed policies are enforced, there may be a lack in RAs as well. I have the sense that I am not the only one wary of next year and worried about about what my rights on campus will be. Discussion needs to begin now. If it does, integrity will prosper and spread, and ResLife will certainly be moving in the right direction.

President's Corner

A lesson for our Forester college community

ELISE BECKMAN
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What does it mean to build a community? Does it have something to do with the way we treat our friends? Professors? Classmates? Roommates? Why do we even care about being a community? What does community building have to do with you and me?

Before I came to college, I had heard the phrase "community building" many times. However, I had never taken community to heart or really thought about what it meant in my life. I grew up in a neighborhood with a local swim club, so I suppose we had a community there. We knew our neighbors, and we interact easily with all of them. Does that mean that we have a community? I am convinced that it does.

Now, I am sure that you are asking what all of this has to do with Lake Forest College and how we treat each other. I may enjoy telling boring stories about my neighbors and my neighborhood, but the truth is that my neighborhood community is a good model for how we need to build our community here on campus. Community building takes work, but it has little to do with physical lifting or construction. Community has to do with the daily actions we ALL take.

Do you stop to open a door for someone who has full hands? Do you say "thank you" when Uriel hands you a delicious Mayan mocha after you pulled an all-nighter to finish that one paper? Do you treat other Foresters with respect? Do you treat our campus

with respect?

When John Quiñones came to campus last week, he talked about the many ways in which people act (or don't act) when they know that someone in their community is in trouble. Although the scenarios on *What Would You Do?* are staged, their meanings do not change. People really do treat members of their community as if they are only around for entertainment. Do we do that with our friends here at the College? Or, do we step up when there is a problem?

There is no secret formula to community building. It doesn't hinge on the success of one particular step, and it certainly doesn't involve just one person. It involves an entire community made up of all its individual members. Yes, that includes you, your best friend, your roommate, the person that you have a crush on, that guy you sit next to in the library, your classmates, your professors, and everyone else in this amazing Forester community.

As you finish up your classes and head into the summer, I hope that you will be actively thinking about what impact you want to make in this Forester community next year. Think about what it means to be a community, and what you would like to contribute to this community throughout the rest of your time here.

We are all Foresters, and we owe it to ourselves to treat each other with kindness and respect. Furthermore, we owe it to future Foresters to leave this place better than how it was when we found it.

Forester Focus

Enrollment growth: Building a sense of community at LFC

A counseling services analysis and prospectus

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Reflecting on this past academic year, certainly one of the big topics in our community has been enrollment growth.

It has been exciting to see increased number of students on campus this year, but the growth in our student body has not been without its challenges and questions. As consultants within Counseling Services, we have spent time analyzing and reflecting upon this impact using a community psychology perspective. We wish to share our observations about the dynamics within the college to generate dialogue in the community about how to best accommodate the growing student body in the years to come. Our goal is to promote a more connected, informed and diverse community at Lake Forest.

At Lake Forest College, a sense of community is a primary value. Though it may not be universal, students often chose to attend a small liberal arts college like Lake Forest at least partly for the hope of membership in a community where “we know your name.”

With this assumption comes an expectation of feeling welcomed, gaining a sense of belonging, and receiving more individualized attention from faculty and staff. These ideas are certainly supported in research. In their seminal work, David McMillan and

David Chavis proposed 4 key elements that contribute to a sense of community: 1) membership, or a sense of belonging, 2) influence, or a sense of mattering, 3) fulfillment of needs, and 4) a shared emotional connection. As the LFC community adjusts to accommodate the growing student population, it is important to consider how these elements can be promoted for students, faculty and staff.

There have been many opinions expressed in *The Stentor* the past few years about the sense of

elements listed above. Whether a student feels that she belongs at Lake Forest may depend on her emotional connection with peers in a student group working towards a common goal. Another student may feel he belongs after receiving support from a professor or staff member. Faculty and staff who share an emotional investment with colleagues in a common mission or goal are likely to feel a stronger sense of membership.

Most importantly though, all members must

future. While this decision was necessary and in the best interests of all members of the community, it is also an example of power flowing in one direction, from the top down. This process seems to characterize many big decisions and the flow of information at the college, as reflected in the research of Baldassari (2011) in his presentation at the Student Symposium titled “Understanding Lake Forest College’s Flow of Information.”

This type of top-down leadership style and

consist of a greater level of complexity to which shared power and influence can lead to greater satisfaction of the diverse needs on campus.

As McMillan and Chavis discussed, in a healthy community, influence is “bidirectional.” Not only does a community have the potential to influence its members, but the members should also have influence in the community in order to feel valued and enhance community well-being. Clearly the college has made some efforts to include a variety of perspectives

from different segments of the community through interdisciplinary committees such as the Enrollment Committee, College Council, the College Life Committee, and the Academic Resources and Review Committee.

However, if the college is to be truly successful in growing enrollment and a greater sense of community, students, faculty, and staff

will all have a voice in how the community changes. Faculty and staff need to have input in how the community works to accommodate more students and more diverse needs. Furthermore, the new students must be recognized not only as growing source of needs but also a source of diverse perspectives that can enrich the community.

One of the most interesting characteristics of the class of 2014 related to its size has been an increase in the diversity amongst its members. To date, this has been “the most diverse class ever” at LFC in terms of race, ethnicity, socioeconomic

status, national origin, and high school attended. This growth has been exciting for the college in many ways as staff and students are able to experience and learn from new cultures, backgrounds, and perspectives. As the school has increased its diversity within the student body, we have naturally also seen a more diverse range of academic, financial, residential, social, physical and psychological needs. In an appropriate effort to support the integration of these students into the community, the college has tried to focus on how to satisfy these diverse needs over the course of this year.

However, to generate a true sense of community, these students must have influence in addition to having their needs met. For the new students at LFC to be integrated as part of the community, they must feel empowered to enrich the culture of LFC in meaningful ways. They must know that they genuinely matter and have the power to influence change within the college while also having their needs heard and understood. The input and perspective of the various staff and faculty that work with those students are essential in accomplishing this goal. More importantly though, the students must also take responsibility for making their voices heard and asserting their diverse perspectives about how to make this a better community. Only when power and influence can be genuinely shared will Lake Forest College be able to make a home for diverse students, continue to achieve a healthy sense of community and belonging, while continuing to grow enrollment.

“ *To generate a true sense of community, these [new] students must have influence in addition to having their needs met. For the new students at LFC to be integrated as part of the community, they must feel empowered to enrich the culture of LFC in meaningful ways.* ”

community, or lack thereof, at the college. Data collected through student surveys, though, suggest that students are feeling more connected to other students, faculty, and staff, and perceive a greater sense of school spirit than in the past. At first glance, it may appear that all students should feel a sense of connection to the community. Participating in the functions of the college, whether as a student, faculty or staff, qualifies one as a member of the community by definition. However, whether that membership involves a deeper sense of belonging is somewhat dependent on the other

have influence or power in the community to feel true membership.

The plan for enrollment growth has raised some interesting issues around power in the LFC community. The decision to grow enrollment at the college followed from economic necessity and for the long term financial health of the college. Administrative leaders of the college exercised power to enact a plan to benefit the college.

The courage and intentionality of this decision makes sense and appears to have positioned the college well for the

flow of information can work extremely well to allow organizations to run effectively as having a leader delegate responsibilities can help provide structure and order to a community. However, as business expert, Jim Collins, points out in his book *Good to Great and the Social Sectors*, it can be more effective for social organizations, such as colleges, to embody a more legislative leadership approach that shares power and influence with the different entities in the community. Unlike businesses, in which a more executive leadership style is effective, college campuses

Sports

SCOREBOARD

4/18/11
Men's Tennis
Lake Forest
Carroll (Wis.)
Postponed

4/17/11
Men's Tennis
Lake Forest 5
North Central 4

Softball
Monmouth 4
Lake Forest 3

Monmouth 1
Lake Forest 7

4/16/11
Softball
Illinois Col. 2
Lake Forest 10
Final-5 innings
Alumni/Parents day

Men's Tennis
Lake Forest 2
Monmouth 7

UPCOMING EVENTS

4/22/11 Softball Lake Forest Knox 3:00 PM	Lake Forest Grinnell 2:00 PM	4/26/11 Softball Lake Forest North Cen- tral (Ill.) 3:00 PM	Lake Forest TBD 10:00 AM @ TBD - North Division Champion MWC Cham- pionship Tournament - Game 1	Champion MWC Cham- pionship Tournament - Game 2	5/6/11 Softball Lake Forest TBD 2:00 PM @ TBD - North Division Champion MWC Cham- pionship Tournament - Game 4
4/23/11 Softball Lake Forest Grinnell 12:00 PM	4/26/11 Softball Lake Forest North Cen- tral (Ill.) 5:00 PM	5/6/11 Softball Lake Forest TBD 12:00 PM @ TBD - North Division	5/6/11 Softball Lake Forest TBD Champion MWC Cham- pionship Tournament - Game 3		

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Sports

First full year of Sports Center creates new aura on campus

NICK CANTOR
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It may not feel like it with temperatures in the low forties and rain blowing in your face, but spring is well underway and like the academic year, the athletic season is nearing its end. For the tennis team, the season will last one week past final exams as they head up to Madison, Wisconsin to take part in the Individual Midwest Conference Tournament, but for nearly everyone else, the finishing touches are being put on their own seasons. Softball too, will take part in the Midwest Conference Tournament after the conclusion of final exams. The 2010/11 athletic season at Lake Forest College saw many of its previous trends repeated in regards to the success or lack thereof on different teams' behalves. It was a season filled with seemingly memorable moments that are more than likely to be swept up into the sea of other ones that already exist. Yet, for the time being, it is one worth commemorating.

What made this year different from any other year in the past was the fact that this was the first full academic year in which students, athletes, faculty, and community members got the opportunity to take advantage of all the new Sports and Recreation Center has to offer. While some got the opportunity to experience the lush and lore of the Sports Center beginning last spring, this year was the first in which there was no construction left to be completed and no deadlines for completion to be extended. Lake Forest College had a drastically different feel and look to it for those driving up to South Campus for either the first or fourth time in late August. The glass exterior of the facility, reminiscent of an Apple store, created a friendlier, more inviting atmosphere, all the while maintaining the history and authenticity of the older parts of the gym.

The Sports Center essentially became a symbol of all that Lake Forest College is proud to stand for. It is a modern marvel

that highlights, rather than overshadows the older aspects of its past. When one walks into the building initially and is made out to be someone important by being asked to swipe their ID card at the front desk, they become viewers at a museum, in which the new basketball, tartan, and Astroturf fields serve as the primary exhibits. Should one to choose to take their

interests elsewhere, they have the opportunity to head on upstairs to the elevated track with not only a view of the courts and fields below, but a small workout station with bicycles and elliptical machines to take part in as well. Beneath the lobby exists a much larger workout center with a dance room, batting cage, and new training room all within close proximity to

one another.

While the additions to the Sports Center are ones that many have taken the opportunity to absorb, whether it be through intramural sports, a late night workout, or a trip to "Boomer's South" the best qualities of the facility may be what was chosen to remain untouched. Basketball games are still played in the same

gym, with the same uncomfortable bleachers, and acoustics that make it nearly impossible to make out what the PA announcer is saying. Swim meets still take place in the same part of the building in which the air temperature could get one confused with the Amazon if they were to be blindfolded and made unaware of where they were. Handball matches are still played on the same courts, in which public viewing is next to impossible. The Hall of Fame commemorating all of the individual and team accomplishments throughout school history are still on public display in the same manner that they have been in the past, with photos, plaques, and trophies lining the old, brick walls. Lake Forest got it right in their decision on how to reconstruct the Sports Center. Instead of eliminating all that they had, they chose instead to build off of it in areas where it was needed most, and to hold onto the parts of it that were worth saving. Perhaps there will be additional changes made somewhere down the road, but as of now, the Sports Center is at its finest, serving as a mix of historicism and modernism, bridging together the past and present.

In about four months the athletic season will get underway once again with the football, soccer, volleyball, cross country, and women's tennis teams beginning yet another season of hopeful competitiveness. Fall will eventually give way into winter, whose harshness gives the Midwest its tough gritty reputation, as hockey and basketball seasons will unfold. Swimming/Diving and Handball will also get underway, with the handball team looking to bring back yet another national title. In spring, or the hopeful concept of it, men's tennis, softball, rugby, and lacrosse will begin their seasons. In addition, all throughout the year, intramural and potential new club sports will continue to keep students busy during times of stress. In time, the Sports Center will fall into the cycle of the seasons and sports that go with them and will feel as much a part of the college's makeup as anything else.



Photo courtesy of goforesters.com

The entrance to the new sports center instantly highlights the facility's impressive features



Photo courtesy of goforesters.com

The swim center is an example of the sports center that has maintained its vintage quality