The Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Program Speaks to Equality

CASSIE PIERSON
STAFF WRITER
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By taking steps in your own life, we can come closer to King’s goal...

All too common are negative remarks made against minorities of various ethnicities, upbringings, and religions. Even in open and affirming places such as Lake Forest College, where equality is pushed and diversity is encouraged, subtle forms of discrimination and prejudice still occur. The dilemma of discrimination is even greater on a global scale. In many countries, homosexuality is punishable by death. In others, discrimination based on religious background happens very often, sometimes resulting in death. Still, some countries face, or are recovering from, the struggles associated with genocide. Sadly, the majority of these conflicts fall beneath our radar because they aren’t personally relevant, or because they aren’t happening anywhere near us. This was not the case at the Martin Luther King Jr. program, which received a full turnout this year. The program began with members of the LFC chorus and the Voices of Inner Peace singing the Negro National Anthem with the audience, followed by a warm welcome given by Kristina Gonzales, president of the United Black Association. Hossam El Bashari introduced the night’s main speaker, Bryant Smith. His speech was entitled “The Message” performance by Glenn Johnson and the Voices of Inner Peace, the audience reflected upon the words of Bryant Smith, the unity candle ceremony, and the remarks made by our beloved Lake Forest community. The message was that although we have made important steps in decreasing discrimination and celebrating diversity, by taking steps in your own life, we can come even closer to King’s goal. To reference a lesser known quote by Martin Luther King Jr., “Everybody can be great, because anybody can serve. You don’t have to have a college degree to serve. You don’t have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.”

Campus Watch

Date & Time Reported: 1/1/2011 2:12:12 PM
Location: CAMPUS CIR
Offense: UTILITY INCIDENT
Incident: APPLIANCE MALFUNCTION
Disposition: CLEARED W/NOTIFICATION

Date & Time Reported: 1/4/2011 11:40:52 AM
Location: MCCLURE HALL
Offense: DRUG LAW VIOLATION
Incident: MARIJUANA PARAPHERNALIA POSSESSION
Disposition: CLEARED W/NO FURTHER ACTION

Date & Time Reported: 1/3/2011 11:39:37 AM
Location: SOUTH CAMPUS
Offense: LARCENY / THEFT OFFENSE
Incident: SIGN STOLEN
Disposition: CLOSED PENDING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Date & Time Reported: 1/13/2011 10:27:42 PM
Location: MCCLURE HALL
Offense: DRUG LAW VIOLATION
Incident: SUSPECTED MARIJUANA USE
Disposition: CLEARED W/NO FURTHER ACTION

Date & Time Reported: 1/5/2011 9:54:16 AM
Location: MCCLURE HALL
Offense: CONDUCT / RULE VIOLATION
Incident: POSSESSION OF PROHIBITED ITEMS
Disposition: CLEARED W/NO FURTHER ACTION

Date & Time Reported: 1/9/2011 11:58:08 PM
Location: LOIS DURAND HALL
Offense: INJ/SICK PERSON - EMERG MED TRANSPORT
Incident: INTOXICATED SUBJECT
Disposition: CLEARED W/NOTIFICATION
News

Weather

Thursday, January 20th
AM Snow Showers
High 19°
Low 10°
Chance of precipitation 30%

Friday, January 21st
Partly Cloudy
High 8°
Low 8°
Chance of precipitation 20%

Saturday, January 22nd
Few Snow Showers
High 19°
Low 10°
Chance of precipitation 30%

Sunday, January 23rd
Mostly Cloudy
High 22°
Low 19°
Chance of precipitation 10%

World Watch (source CNN)
- Major quake hits southwestern Pakistan
- U.N. delays vote on sending more troops to Ivory Coast
- Chinese president to begin U.S. visit
- Mexico: A founder of Zetas cartel arrested
- More than 650 dead in Brazil floods
- Australia floods spread
- Rant against politicians lands Nobel laureate in court in Bangladesh
- Israel arrests suspect in Srebrenica massacre
- 60 die in attack at Iraqi police recruitment center

Upcoming Events
1/21 - Internship Information Session 12:00pm
1/22 - S.N.A.P Game night 10:00pm (to 01/23)
1/22 - Space Party 11:00pm
1/23 The Sleds Are Coming 6:00pm
1/24 Last day for permissible change of registration, last day to register for credit/D/fail option
1/24 Economics Seminar Series – Timothy Lu, The Wharton School 4:00pm
1/24 Lois Rocks! 8:30pm
1/25 Mindfulness Meditation 12:15pm
1/25 John Waters Film Fest: “Polyester” (1981) 6:00pm
1/25 Sorority Recruitment Informational Meeting 7:00pm
1/26 Homecoming Planning Committee Meeting 9:30am
1/27 Formal Recruitment (For Sororities)
1/27 YOGA Group 6 pm
1/27 Opening Reception: The Ragdale House Speaks 7:30pm
1/27 RA Selection Social 9:00pm
1/28 Formal Sorority Recruitment
1/28 Zumba 4:30pm
1/29 Formal Sorority Recruitment
1/29 Intercultural Leadership Retreat 9:00am
1/29 SAACS Nerd Party 11:00pm
1/30 Lake Forest Lyrica: Chicago Chamber Musicians 3:00pm
1/31 Economics Seminar Series – Karen Selody, University of California, Berkeley 4:00pm
1/31 What Does Diversity Mean to Me? 8:30pm
2/1 Mindfulness Meditation 12:15 pm
2/2 Faculty Meeting 4:30pm
2/3 New Uses of Technology in the Classroom 12:00pm

This issue’s cover image of Ophiucus provided courtesy of the U.S. Naval Observatory and the Space Telescope Science Institute’s project to restore the Star Atlas by Johannes Hevelius, ca. 17th Century.
Black Swan disturbs audiences with unsettling depiction of psychosis

NIKKI YEOMANS
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On Sunday, Natalie Portman was deservedly awarded the title of “Best Actress in a Motion Picture: Drama” at the Golden Globes. She concluded her acceptance speech by thanking director Darren Aronofsky for his ability to bring his story to life. Aronofsky’s talent is evident in his ability to push Portman to the limits of her performance. Portman, in turn, delivers a mesmerizing portrayal of Nina Sayers in the Black Swan.

In a great many twists and turns, Portman transforms into the Black Swan, a role that demands a unique blend of grace and intensity. Aronofsky’s use of dance as a metaphor for Nina’s psychological journey is both captivating and disorienting. The film is a ballet of the mind, with Portman leading the way.

Black Swan is one of the most psychologically thrilling films I have ever seen. Aronofsky’s other films (Pi, Requiem for a Dream, and most recently The Wrestler) Black Swan has a unique quality of making viewers feel as if they are watching something so personal and distressful that it is too disagreeable to watch, yet, much like a car wreck, they cannot take their eyes away.

Nina’s crash is controlled by tremendous external and internal forces, most notably the influence of other characters. In the film, the two most understated forces were subsequently the two most understated acting roles, and, in my opinion, the two best. Nina’s mother, played by Barbara Hershey, is a ballet has-been who shrewdly tries to contain and oversee every step her daughter makes. Hershey’s vacantly haunted eyes, pitiful loneliness, and mediated actions to be the perfect mother make her in many ways the creepiest character. Hershey’s is a presence that is deeply felt but sparsely understood.

Aronofsky, the veteran ballet dancer turned abrasive yet seductive director, uses all those characteristics and his meticulousness to provoke his ideal performance from Nina. His influence and actions are maddening to both audience and dancer. In light of Leroy’s seeming contribution to former prima-ballerina Beth’s (Winona Ryder) departure from the troupe and suicide attempts, his actions and influence on Nina are worrisome. Cassel’s acting however, is supreme. Nina’s competition and questionable friendship with fellow ballerina, Lily, (Mila Kunis) catalyzes many of her breakdowns and ultimately leads to her rapid unraveling. Kunis’s acting job is also quite notable.

Most film reviews these days are concerned with critiquing specific scene sequences that added or detracted from a film, with plot, and with cinematic appeal to the audience. None of things should be of concern when watching or reviewing Black Swan. All of these things were executed with precision and ease by a director who has only directed five feature films, but are not the real story of this film, or of Aronofsky’s talent. The real story is the performance Aronofsky can elicit from actors, and the emotional reactions he can evoke from audiences. As Leroy aims for his production of Swan Lake to be, Aronofsky and cast have succeeded in making Black Swan “stripped down, visceral, and real.”

4/5 stars

The festival will culminate in a talk by John Waters on Thursday, March 24th at 7:30 PM in the Lily Reid Holt Chapel on Middle Campus.
The Alumni Chapter: Conversations with LFC student director, Matthew Helderman

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Senior Matthew Helderman spent the last eighteen months writing, directing, and producing a full-length film called The Alumni Chapter. The film is about four high-school friends who meet up at a diner after college graduation. After the conversation turns sour and flashbacks reveal the truth of their friendships, the characters decide to leave behind their old lives. On February 19, 2011 at 6:30, the film will premiere at The Portage Theater, 4050 N. Milwaukee, Chicago, Illinois. I had the opportunity to meet with Helderman and to talk with him about his upcoming film.

How did this project begin?
Matt: I wrote a short story called “The Hole in the Wall” – about thirty-five pages long – that I wanted to make into a short film. I had already done a few short films, and I thought that this story’s dialogue would make a good short. But what was a short film with four people talking at a diner quickly developed into a feature film because I started adding flashback scenes into the dialogue. Since a lot of the flashback scenes were more academic, the film’s title changed to The Alumni Chapter.

A full-length film seems like a lot of work and a lot of time for an undergraduate. How did you pull it off?
Matt: Well, when I started, I sold everything that I owned. I sold most of the valuable things that I had. Honestly, I didn’t factor in the costs of transportation and meeting spaces – and other random things that you don’t realize are a part of making a movie. I also didn’t sleep too often during a lot of the filming.

What’s your movie about?
Matt: It’s about a group of friends who went to boarding school together and went off to their respective colleges. The film is about when they come home after graduation and meet at a diner that they used to frequent. After conversation turns sour, they realize that they weren’t the friends they thought they were – some characters moved on from high school and others held on to it. The film has a pretty sad ending. Looking back, the film is about leaving behind the person you were. You know – I’m sure you and I have friends at home that sort of expect us to be who you used to be. That’s what it’s about.

Who are your influences in the film world?
Matt: This is tough. I’d say Woody Allen because of his character development and his portrayal of female characters. Pedro Almodovar and Allen present women characters really well, and no directors do it like they can. Wes Anderson’s earlier films have also influenced me; he’s really good at capturing that post-graduation paralysis that I’m trying to get at in my film. I’ve also looked to Kubrick for style.

What is your favorite citrus fruit?
Matt: Clementines

What were the most difficult parts about making this movie?
Matt: Funding. And hiring crewmembers and interviewing people to join the cast was pretty challenging. At first, I wanted a tight knit group, but it ended up being a crowd of about 130 people who worked on the film. This all required more funding, so I had to write to film societies. It all worked out well because we ended up getting some support from these film societies.

What was the easiest part of making the film?
Matt: Honestly, writing was the easiest part. But even that wasn’t easy. I went through about ten versions of the script. Like I said, I expanded the project from a short film to a full-length production, so I had to do a lot of writing and rewriting. After I wrote the original thirty-five-page story, I wrote scenes as flashbacks, and then I auditioned actors and actresses to read the new scenes. I spent a lot of time auditioning. Whichever scenes worked well made the final script; those that weren’t working didn’t. I had to really widdle the script down to find the good stuff. There is no real easy part to making a movie though. I mean, the film was edited three times. It’s a long, arduous process of actually getting it onto a screen.

What part of making the film was most fun for you?
Matt: Everything was unbelievable and tiring. Everything was fun, but some weeks we worked seventy hours straight and a lot of people didn’t sleep at all. The scenes with Professor Abba Lessing were fun. It’s actually a pretty good story. Our actor for one of the teacher roles wasn’t working out (he was a bit stiff), so I called Professor Lessing because I thought that he fit the role. I just asked him, and he asked, “what day?” So, on my first big weekend of shooting, everything is moving, everyone is crazy, and no one slept, and Professor Lessing comes to the set. Before we start filming, Professor Lessing refuses to read from the script and to look into the camera as I had planned. He then improvised a scene on Kafka, and it’s worked out perfectly. Honestly, it’s one of my favorite parts of the whole film. That was a fun day. Also, I’m really into music, and I’ve studied it a lot, so I loved scoring the film with the music supervisors. It wasn’t nearly as tiring as editing.

How is the film business?
Matt: It’s intimidating - especially going to meetings and meeting people who are pretty high up in the film world. Actually, until recently, no one ever asked if I was a college student, and I don’t think that I would have been able to accomplish what I did if people knew that I was still an undergraduate. I never lied about my age, but no one ever asked either. Recently, my sister (she worked on the movie too) just let it slip to some of the crew.

What genre is this film?
Matt: It’s a dramatic comedy - not experimental at all. It’s fairly standard in most ways. It’s a type A film. For me, this movie is about the story and not about the filmmaker.

A lot of your film was shot on the Lake Forest College campus. How has Lake Forest College supported your filmmaking?
Matt: Lake Forest was great about me filming on the campus. The only problem was with insurance; it can get pretty pricey to film even a jump. But the college gave us everything that we needed for the set and lent us more than we needed. Everyone has been a great help. President Schutt has also been very awesome.

You study Philosophy and English at the college. How has that impacted this Film and your filmmaking in general?
Matt: The film deals a lot with philosophy and literature. It also deals a lot with education and how well or not so well it prepares you for the world. It’s not always obvious in the film, but the characters often represent how I felt during a lot of my educational development. Philosophy actually helped me get money, too. I had this confidential edge at some meetings. I felt like I was well read and intellectual enough to handle myself in more sophisticated crowds. Also, a lot of philosophy majors become filmmakers, so I guess it’s just natural.

What’s the future of this film? What comes after the February 19th premiere?
Matt: After the premiere in Chicago, the film goes on to NY. Depending on how it’s received there, it may go to LA or London. It all depends on the reviews of the premiere. From there, we want to go to Net Flix – but we are still a while away from selling it to them.

How does your future as a filmmaker look?
Matt: Well, that’s obviously a difficult question. I’ve been offered a job to be an executive producer in Chicago. My parents want me to take the secure job, and I probably will. But I also have two developing scripts of my own. They, however, are more expensive than my last film. I would probably need about a half a million to shoot them. I’ll do it as long as I can do it. As of now, things are looking pretty good. I am giving a lecture on young filmmakers, so I quit my job at Apple. Honestly, I get paid more to do this lecture than I would if I worked for a month at Apple.

Is there anything else that students should know about your experience?
Matt: Looking back, there were quite a few things I was new at. It was my first film and regardless of watching thousands of movies you need to spend time on a set before you can control one. I actually did a lot of weird things. People, for instance, now say things like, “I knew you were so young.” But I wasn’t just young; I had no clue what I was doing for a lot of the time. I figured – what’s the worst that can happen? – I can still graduate and get a regular job.

Thanks for your time, Matt. But one last question: What are your favorite news sources?
Matt: I usually read the NYTimes, BBC, and The Stentor, of course.

Get Tickets to the February 19th premiere:
http://mnichapterfilmpremierECHicago.eventbrite.com/

The Alumni Chapter on the web:
thealumnichapter.com
facebook.com/thealumnichapter
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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.

Current Ad Rates:
Full Page (11.25 x 14.5in) - $54
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!

WANTED
TALENTED, IMPOVERISHED, MISUNDERSTOOD COLLEGE JOURNALISTS LOOKING FOR COMMUNITY OF LIKE-MINDED INDIVIDUALS

WRITE FOR THE STENTOR:
editor@lakeforest.edu

Staff Editorial

Why are we here? In college, that question comes down to: why are we studying our respective majors?

Those majors represent our hopes for the future. Each course we take, especially for those of us who are upperclassmen, is now aimed at some career or personal goal out of college. It’s a strange feeling being so practical about things.

We enter college in different states. Some of us know what we want to do and some are completely befuddled, or, more positively, open to anything. College is about learning of and pursuing our interests. Think about all the possibilities.

This will sound kinda like a Dr. Seuss. You could be a language major and engage with new cultures and traditions. You could be an economics major and help us figure out how we use money and how that should change. You could be a politics major and learn about our crazy system and how you can do something of use in it. You could be a chemistry major and research new medicines. You could be a biology major and understand our natural world. You could be a mathematics major and better describe how numbers define our lives. You could be an English major and contribute to literature. You could be a physics major and engineer innovative new machines. You could be a philosophy major and try to understand how people relate to each other and the world. You could be a sociology and anthropology major and quantify our relations and roles in society. Or you could take on an independent study and work within or without all of these fields. There’s so much you can do.

We all aspire to do something with our college education, and it’s easy to forget that when we look out upon the sea of people walking across the snow-crusted ground. That well-muscled fellow in the sports jersey may be the next business entrepreneur. That woman plowing through the snow in heels might be our next president. The guy toiling in a lab may develop our next great drug. Your loyal Stentor staff may contain the next Pulitzer Prize winner. Even if none of that happens, the potential is there, and that is the point.

In this, the final semester of some of our college careers, this truth seems all the clearer. As some of you start your undergraduate education, some continue it, and some finish it, we at the Stentor would like to emphasize the diversity and skill of the student body at this campus. Some of us may look back on college fondly, some with disdain, and some not at all, but we all in some way find part of our identity here.

We would like to encourage all students to make the best of whatever time they have left here. Be it short or long, use that time to learn something new and do something interesting, something that may seem uninteresting or intimidating, but that some little bit of you really wants to become involved in.

Follow your passions and your dreams. It sounds corny as hell, but it’s true. We all have plenty of our lives to waste in unhappy work environments. We might as well spend college working for something more fulfilling and worthwhile. Some of us will end up in those unfortunate environs, but at least we’ll have tried to live happier lives.

So, welcome back to college everyone. Do make the most of it.
Madame Helvetia Hatbroth’s Horoscopes

My dear readers, in the past week, you may have noticed several things. You may have noticed the blizzard that hit campus, about which I was unable to warn you due to the charming Stentor staff being snowed in. You may have noticed the grand opening of the P.O.D., ready to sell you Provisions on Demand until 2 AM. Perhaps you even noticed Ricky Gervais offending random celebrities at the Golden Globes, and his subsequent un-inviting to next year’s event. Had he only consulted me first, I could have helped him avoid such embarrassment. I would also like to note a rather large snub on the part of Natalie Portman’s – yes, you clever readers, it was I who made the prediction long ago that Black Swan would signal her biggest rise to fame yet. (You may have seen it run in the New York Times just short of a decade ago.)

Madame Hatbroth hopes that her most loyal readers, however, noticed something of great importance: the seeming shift in, and addition of, astrological signs. I assure you, my dear, sweet reader, Madame Hatbroth is more baffled than thou. Even the great Madame Helvetia Hatbroth did not see that one coming.

Here is what I’ve gathered thus far:

I’ve found that a sort of analogy between said astrological changes and last year’s Swine Flu outbreak proves to be most helpful. It was sometime last Fall/Winter that Swine Flu was suddenly a big deal. People didn’t really understand what it was or necessarily affected them, but they did know how to panic about it. Last week, when it first broke that everyone’s astrological sign had changed, Madame Hatbroth couldn’t count on an abacus the number of panicked comments she read on the Yahoo! Article when it was first posted. Suddenly, just as there was a new strain of the flu, there was a new astrological sign.

Ophiucus. Let it roll off the tip of your beer-laden tongues. It’s a man riding on and or wrestling/dancing with a snake. The snake does not seem happy about this. (See front cover). Loyal readers, do you REALLY want this symbol to represent you? Your personality? Then there’s the superstition factor. It’s the “thirteenth” sign. Oooooh. I, however, think the snake rodeo going on in its symbol takes away from the ominousness of it all. Madame Hatbroth does not want a mockery made of her profession.

Swine Flu had a similar problem. Somehow, the Flu suddenly sounds less threatening when related to an animal that spends a decent amount of its time rolling around in mud and acting as the main character of a heart-warming children’s novel. “Mad Swine Flu” or even “Crazy Pig Flu” Gonna Get You Sickness” would have both been optimal choices.

Yes, there were those who decided to take some extra measures in their life. Heidi and Spencer of “The Hills” fame made sure the whole world saw photos of them wearing their surgical masks while returning from a vacation. Supplies of flu shots for the H1N1 virus were quickly depleted, leaving many both mask and shot less. Yet, just months later, in August 2010, WHO declared the emergency over.

As we’ve learned, it doesn’t even really matter for those born before 2009 (right…?). There’s also that whole controversy that the horoscopes are actually based on seasons rather than the constellations. Mere hours after the crises had begun, Facebook statuses were filled with relief.

In summary, just as with the Swine Flu, it would seem that nothing has actually changed. This would explain why Madame Hatbroth didn’t see such changes on the horizon – I do only see things that actually make a difference, you know. It’s not like I just drop by the Stentor office and start making bat dung up.

Until next week, glorious readers, I will be diligently assessing your futures...

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Ask Isaac, with Isaac Acosta*

Dear Isaac,

I’m a freshman who has had a good time at lake forest so far, but I’m looking to get more involved on campus. I kinda like politics and I think I’m funny. What clubs should I look into?

-Finding my place

I’m messing around with this girl but we haven’t talked about what we’re doing or what we want out of it. Should I ask or can I just keep having fun instead of making it all complicated?

-Love is scary

Definitely not mock trial if your a comedian. There is the student government but it all depends on how committed you want to be, and also because it’s great for the resume. There’s also amnesty and ISO, which is getting to know more about global communities and culture.

-Go Bears! What do you think of the NFL playoffs so far?

-Big Fan

First of all, Jets are doing amazing, beating both Peyton Manning and Tom Brady back to back. Packers are doing really well, their defense is unstoppable and if the Bears have a chance, I would rely on Devin Hester and not Jay Cutler. Steelers on the other hand better not take Jets for granted, they come this far, not to lose...

-Should your prediction make me scared for their safety?

-CelebrAlcoholic

Again, don’t change what’s already perfect. Go with the flow and have a good time, your in college, your in a relationship, and your happy... Why complicate things now?

-Dude, I like videogames and play ‘em a lot, but in job interviews or when people ask me about my hobbies I always worry about mentioning games. What’s up with this feeling I have that people would judge me for playing them?

-Proud (?) Gamer

Remember: Isaac can be reached by e-mail and campus mail. Simply drop him a line at acostic@lakeforest.edu or submit your questions to The Stentor mailbox near the gates center.

* Madame Helvetia Hatbroth and Isaac Acosta wish to gently remind their readers that her horoscopes and his advisements are written merely for entertainment purposes, and no decisions should be made based upon them.
**Response: Rave Article Disappoints**

Dear Annie Cooper, Margaret Cohn, & Stentor Staff,

It is difficult to find an appropriate way to channel my disappointment and outrage caused by the extreme disregard you have not only for our student body, but also for the promotion of unbiased and moral thinking. When a faculty member showed me the “Hixon Transformed” article in the November 11th issue of the Stentor I chucked it to the ground. I was disgusted. You published gross generalizations and stereotypical slander. What were you thinking? Were you thinking, or were you still tripping on the mass amounts of weed in circulation at the “rave”?

“We pull different groups on campus together. From the Nerds in Deeppath to the stupid jocks who just want to bring sluty freshness… It’s really about expanding the campus and offering more things to do on the weekend.” All students who attended were satisfied… The fact that there was no interference from Public Safety probably didn’t hurt either.” I could quote much more. These comments are proof of backward thinking. Small’s comments caluminate [sic] many people. In regard to freshman [sic] college is not always an easy transition – we do not know what the repercussions could be from a confused freshman reading that quote [sic]! I also find it highly ironic that you censored the word “s**t” in the last paragraph, but nothing else.

As for the generalizations, they exhibit poor journalism and incompetent literacy. I was one of “all” the students who attended and I do not feel well represented by any of the all-inclusive words and remarks. True, I found the music selection enjoyable and appropriate, and I had fun dressing up for the rave. However, at no other point do I agree with what was being said. To demonstrate quality journalism, perhaps the next times students who are not members of the organization hosting the event of topic can be quoted.

This article frustrates and upsets me and many of my peers. If that is the goal of the Stentor – to antagonize and alienate its readers – then congratulations! You’ve done it.

Candidly,
Katie Hellner ’13

**The Stentor Responds**

Dear Miss Hellner,
The Staff of the Stentor thanks you for your valuable input.
The Stentor has nothing but the utmost respect for our readership. We take great offense to any accusations to the contrary. If any member of our readers feel that this is not the case, or if he or she feels that the material presented in our publication is biased, perhaps they should take a more active role and write something to be published. Every week this academic year, we have published an advertisement asking for more writers. Nothing comes of apathy. Perhaps you would like to write with us?

When given direct quotations for inclusion into the story, it is our journalistic and moral responsibility to reproduce those quotations as accurately as possible. Thusly, the quotations you cited by Mr Small were reproduced accurately to reflect his input and thoughts concerning the event. Regarding the use of certain expletives, however, we are also required by certain standards of decency to reproduce these in masked form.

However, we also acknowledge a failure on our part to attain contrary points of view on the success and reality of the rave, as well as, perhaps, a lack of oversight in the words we allowed to be printed regardless of the source. We apologize.

Cordially,
The Stentor Staff

**The wonders of VisComm**

**MIGUEL GONZALEZ**
CONTRIBUTOR
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The Visual Communications Department of Lake Forest College values having a strong work ethic as well as having a positive attitude every day. Our job consists of a variety of tasks, the most important tasks being customer service and paying attention to details and the quality of our work. The student worker and supervisors are adept at an array of jobs that benefit the campus community. At VisComm we print, photocopy documents, bind, stitch, laminate, fold, cut, collate, fax, make deliveries, and do other errands around campus. Our service contributions to Lake Forest College are very important.

Not only does VisComm display an amazing commitment to worth ethic and service, but this department is more than that. We also represent a family and a progressively building community. We do not only represent a business, we are very much a part of the Lake Forest College campus community, therefore carrying the same motives of community building, and diversity.

Diversity, in particular, has been a major theme in VisComm. All the student workers and supervisors have come from parts of the United States and from different countries, countries like East Timor, Peru, Somalia, Albania, Canada, India, Palestine, and many others are represented. Workers and supervisors come from different parts of the country, from places as far away as New York, Pittsburgh, and Minnesota, to places close by in the Chicago-land area.

The VisComm family is mixed and unique in all ways and yet united with love, humor, compassion and, at times, discipline.

I truly admire the community that Visual Communications represents. More so, VisComm is a piece of the fabric that is Lake Forest College. Our own diversity is a concrete representation of the commitment that the entire college community has in appreciating and striving for the diversity and unification of all people, acknowledging our common threads, while still appreciating the differences.

“VisComm is a representation of the commitment the entire college has in appreciating the diversity and unification of all people.”

**That’s too much information, Kanye**

**MARIO BALDASSARI**
COLUMNIST
baldamj@lakeforest.edu

Well hello, dear readers. It’s been just over a year since we spoke regularly back in Fall 2009. I’ve missed you. (Not in a creepy way. Get to it? Okay...)

Arguably the most famous rapper in the country and the world is now Kanye West, especially since he established his Twitter account this past summer and started putting ridiculous one-liners out into the world.

Whenever it was a slow news day, the entertainment reporters just checked his account and could find some insanity worthy of “news.” I understand that it’s all the nature of the beast of our celebrity culture, but I believe we have gone too far.

I pine for the days when artists of all types were famous merely for and through their art. I had a teacher tell me once that if you had asked her where Ozzy Osbourne lived in the 70’s she would have immediately said, “Underground.” Because of the silly television shows and Internet memes we consume every, we know Ozzy lives in a beautiful Beverly Hills mansion with his wife and, when the show was on, his kids.

The artistic process is wildly interesting to us non-arty types, but we’ve now gone beyond studying the creative parts of these people to investigating every small segment of their lives. I just finished reading an Esquire article in which the interviewer argues almost the whole time with Christian Bale about what an interview should be and how he should be able to write it up. The writer is interested in what makes Bale tick on a daily basis, outside of being an actor, and Bale wants to talk about his character and the actual guy it’s based on in his most recent movie.

The point is that we know too much about these people and are too interested in parts of their lives that have nothing to do with their craft. Robert De Niro is one of my favorite actors. I love reading about how involved he gets in his method acting process, but I really don’t care about how or who his wife is and what they do together on his days off.

Inside the Actors Studio with James Lipton is a fun series, because he asks about HOW THEY ACT. Garbage shows like Extra and TMZ do nothing more than give us something to gossip about other than our own stories. Is it because gossiping about celebrities makes us feel like we’re their buddies? So what comes out of all this is the end is that I, as a young man in America, have trouble buying the products made by over-revealing artists. I try to be socially conscious, if not totally conscientious. I avoid Wal-Mart if possible, I seriously mean to stop using plastic grocery bags, and I do my best to shop and buy local and organic.

I’m starting to have real reservations about consuming products created by artists who follow up by telling us about everything they do on a daily basis and generally act like idiots on a national stage. The examples range from Kanye on Twitter to Tom Cruise on Oprah to any reality television star ever (especially Snookie and her cohorts).

I fear that there will come a day when I can’t buy anything anymore and I’ll just have to become the freakiest of hipsters. Or I could just stop reading and paying attention.

Going back to my buddy Kanye, I actually find a little humor in his tweets and his music in a...
Choosing quality over quantity

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I’m not sure how to describe my relationship with movies. I certainly like them a lot; I would wager more so than the average American. However, I’m not sure I qualify for certification as a “movie buff.” I don’t particularly care for black and white films, foreign films, certain independent films, or films from the 1960s or 1970s. I’m not sure someone with that many hang-ups can be considered a buff.

That being said, I do really enjoy movies. I can recite Martin Scorsese’s filmography from memory. The same holds true for Wes Anderson, the Coen brothers, Christopher Nolan, Ron Howard, and a number of other directors.

Given that information, it should not be surprising that my parents purchased a years subscription to Netflix for me as a Christmas gift. I loved the gift. It was something I anticipated using frequently. A few days after Christmas I loaded Netflix onto my computer and began to look through its extensive library. After fifteen minutes of searching, I realized I could not find one movie I wanted to watch.

A similar phenomenon exists at the grocery store. In addition to enjoying movies, I also enjoy breakfast cereal. Despite that enjoyment, I cannot remember the last time I was able to purchase a cereal on my own. I simply can’t make decisions when faced with countless choices.

I would argue that I’m not alone in this disability. There are signs of others being affected. For proof, one needs to look no further than the popularity of Pandora. The online radio station uses algorithms to pick music that it thinks you’d like. There are so many songs out there that we cannot possibly choose which ones we like. We ask someone, or in this case, something else to make our choices for us.

This is also the logic behind iTunes’ Genius application. Countless other websites employ similar algorithms. Amazon suggests my own decision. While I may be free in the sense that I can choose any movie, song, or breakfast cereal, I need to rely on someone or something else for help.

Because of our belief in the conventional wisdom regarding choices, car dealerships brag about enormous inventory. Restaurants brag about variety. Airlines brag about their many destinations.

We are geared to believe that progress implies making more and more available to everyone. Perhaps we are going about this the wrong way. Instead of progressing toward a future in which everyone has limitless choices, maybe we want to go in the opposite direction. Maybe everyone could be faced with a moderate amount of choices.

As our technology improves and makes more and more things available to us, we are also requiring technological improvements to tell us what we want from that technology.

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As our technology improves and makes more and more things available to us, we are also requiring technological improvements to tell us what we want from that technology.
A tribute to Ron Santo:
A life of passion and hope

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Cubs legend, Ron Santo, passed away over a month ago, and for the life of me, I simply cannot transform this tribute into something immediately relevant. Too much time has gone by, and though the famous Santo stories are still amusing, they will never have the same poignancy as they did at Ron’s funeral.

But at the same time, I know that the Cubs community has not finished mourning Ron’s absence, and probably won’t until the Cubs can finally win a World Series. After all, that has been one of the things that the fans lamented the most – that Ron Santo, who lived and died for his Chicago Cubs, never once saw them win a World Series.

The closest he came was in 2003, when the Cubs were five outs away from clinching the National League pennant. But then the Cubs were losing, he’d let out an explosive “Gah!,” heave a big sigh and say, “You know, in all my years of baseball, I have never seen anything quite like this.” It was during times like these when I forgot that Ron was a former Cub and a baseball legend. To me, he was just another fan – probably the biggest Cubs fan that has ever lived.

Ron’s fellow broadcaster, Pat Hughes, said at Ron’s funeral that we shouldn’t mourn Ron’s passing, but instead celebrate a life marked by triumph and passion. I agree with this, but I can’t lie – when the Cubs broadcast their first spring training game over the radio, I am going to miss Ron tremendously. We won’t get to hear him interview the “fine manager of the Chicago Cubs” anymore, nor will we hear him ceremoniously butcher another player’s last name. I remember listening to games in 2004, when Ron would consistently refer to second baseman, Mark Grudzielanek, as “Mark Grunzelanny,” no matter how many times Pat Hughes corrected him. And when the Cubs acquired Japanese outfielder, Kosuke Fukudome, the question around baseball was whether or not Ron would be able to pronounce that last name appropriately.

Unfortunately for Ron, next year never came, but that never stopped him from pouring his heart into all of his radio broadcasts. My family and I used to joke that we never needed to hear the score because the tone of Ron’s voice was telling enough; if the Cubs were losing, he’d let out an explosive “Gah!,” heave a big sigh and say, “You know, in all my years of baseball, I have never seen anything quite like this.”

And I believe that there’s some sort of baseball afterlife, where Babe Ruth keeps calling his home runs and Ron can click his heels all day long. And when the Cubs finally win the World Series, Ron will be cheering along with the rest of us. He’ll click his heels, wipe away a few tears, and say, “You know, in all my years of baseball, I’ve never seen anything quite like this.”

Photo courtesy of ScottRAnselmo
at the English Language Wikipedia
Ron Santo, Cubs radio commentator, strolls onto the field.
Lake Forest Swim Team places third in Kenosha

In the DATE issue of the Stentor, an article was run concerning the Lake Forest Swim Team’s performance at the TYR/CollegeSwim.com Classic. We were alerted that there was some important information left out of the article. Swimmer Amy Finn has written this piece to correct any errors and provide a more accurate picture of the meet.

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On Friday December 3rd and Saturday December 4th, 2010, the Lake Forest College Swim Team traveled to the TYR/CollegeSwim.com Classic at Carthage College in Kenosha, Wisconsin. The Carthage College swim teams came in first and St. Olaf’s men and women’s teams finished second. Both colleges’ teams are nationally ranked in the top 25 Division III teams. Both the Lake Forest women and men’s swim teams placed third overall in the competition.

Becky Shaak led the women’s team, placing first and breaking her own meet record in the 1650m with a time of 17:40.88. She also finished second in both the 200-IM (2:13.23) and the 400-IM (4:43.45).

“When during mile, I try to focus on one part of my swim to take my mind off how tired I am,” Shaak said. “Each 50 or 100, I try to do something better than the last. At this meet, I felt really good during the mile, so it made it a lot easier to focus on doing it right rather than how I felt. It’s more important to me that I feel good about how I swim my race rather than just winning.”

Sophomore Kelsey Hooper and junior Emily Watts, who both swam the same events, also achieved top-five finishes. Hooper came in second in the 100-freestyle (:54.34), fifth in the 200-freestyle (2:02.28), and third in the 50-freestyle (:25.52). Watts placed third in the 100 (:54.69), fourth in the 200 (2:01.57), and fifth in the 50 (:25.77). Also placing in the top-five in their events were junior Amy Finn in the 1650 (4h in 18:59.16), senior Whitney Hales in the 200 breaststroke (4b in 2:34.76), and freshman Sarah Stoklosa in the 200-butterfly (5b in 2:24.73).

Shaak teamed up with Hooper, Watts, and freshman Jill Pastick to win the 800-freestyle relay with a time of 8:05.76. The women’s relay teams finished second in the 200-medley relay (1:42.20), 400-medley relay (4:09.31), and 400 freestyle relay (3:40.91).

When asked about the team’s performances at the meet junior Jenny Steege had this to say: “I think the team had a great performance as a whole from the meet this weekend. Almost everyone swim season best times, and the energetic atmosphere on deck throughout the whole weekend was a great way to end our semester. Seeing the women’s 800 freestyle relay take first place and out swim both Carthage’s and St. Olaf’s relays by over 6 seconds was one of the many testimonies that prove our team’s advancement in speed this year compared to last year. If we continue to perform like we did this past weekend, I have no reason not to anticipate great swimming to come from the Forester swim team at conference this year.”

On the men’s side, Alex Marks was the only swimmer to win an individual event. The sophomore won the 200-breaststroke with a time of 2:12.44. He also placed second in the 100-breaststroke (1:00.15) and placed 15th in the 100-freestyle (:51.46).

“When 200-breaststroke was a very challenging event. I went into the race with a positive attitude and gave myself a goal time of 2:12 and that’s exactly what I did,” Marks said about the race.

Also accomplishing top-five finishes were Michael Mackin, a senior, and Garr Punnett, a freshman. Mackin finished second in the 100-backstroke with a time of :53.43. He also placed fourth in the 200-backstroke (1:58.96). Punnett finished fifth in both the 200-backstroke (2:01.21) and the 100-butterfly (:53.77).

The men’s relay teams placed second in the 200 freestyle, 400 medley, and 200 medley.

“I think the team did well after listening to Coach talk and comment about everybody’s swims. I know a lot of people went lifetime best times and season best times,” commented sophomore Stamen Tintikov about the men’s team’s performance.

When asked about his team’s performance, head coach Vadim Tashlitsky said, “I was proud of the way the team competed, at Carthage in particular, and throughout the first semester in general. I also think this group has the potential to have a very special season, but we have to continue to work hard and improve daily to reach the team and individual goals they’ve set for themselves.”

The team will not compete again until Saturday January 15, 2011 when they will travel to Hope College to swim at the Illinois-Michigan Quadrangular.

SCOREBOARD

1/15/11
Swimming & Diving
W: 4th, M: 4th
Illinois-Michigan Quadrangular
(Hope)

Men’s Ice Hockey
Concordia (Wis.) 2
Lake Forest 4

Men’s Basketball
Beloit 49
Lake Forest 63

Women’s Basketball
Beloit 73
Lake Forest 60

Women’s Ice Hockey
Wis.-Superior 3
Lake Forest 1

UPCOMING EVENTS

1/21/11
Handball
IHA Women’s Singles
Lake Forest

Women’s Basketball
at St. Norbert
5:30pm

Men’s Ice Hockey
at Northland
7:00pm

Men’s Basketball
at St Norbert
7:30pm

Women’s Ice Hockey
at Concordia (Wis.)
7:30pm

1/22/11
Swimming & Diving
Lawrence/Carroll
1:00 pm CST
Senior Day/Parents
Day/Alumni Day

Handball
IHA Women’s Singles
Lake Forest

Men’s Ice Hockey
at Northland
2:30pm

Men’s Basketball
at Ripon
4:00pm