Julien Sanson Elected Executive Board President

Henry Schenker
Staff Writer

Julien Sanson was elected Executive Board President for the coming year after receiving 61% of the 515 votes cast during the online election, which concluded last week. The other members of the Board for next year will be: Vice President, Liz Tietjen; Treasurer, Ed Vrits; and Secretary Evan Martz.

Ties were cast 51% of the vote, Vrits received 53% and Martz received 48% in an uncontested race.

Press and ads adorned walls around campus — promoting significant changes and presenting innovative ideas, some generating a laugh, such as: Lake Rich, “I’ve Got Your Money in the Right Place,” Julien Potter the Secretary, and Josh Gordon-Blackout.

In addition to the mass advertising that took place, messages on Pipeline, and a large time commitment, the candidates were also required to give a speech and participate in the annual Student Government debates.

“The campaign was tough, and stressful sometimes, but I must recognize it was also a thrilling experience,” said President-elect Julien Sanson. “I am glad it’s over though. The students made their choice, and now it’s time for Evan [Martz], Liz [Tietjen], Ed [Vrits], and I to work together.”

For the first time in the College’s history, elections were held online, and while fewer students voted than last year, student government leaders were pleased with the number of people who voted and are hopeful for the future of online elections. The candidates discussed important issues and made several suggestions for improvements to the campus.

“The most important job of a Student Government leader,” said Emily Bangert, candidate for treasurer who received 209 votes, 41%, “is to stand by your word and make sure that things are what they should be.”

One question facing candidates will be whether they can live up to Bangert’s claim. How to achieve this goal is what separates the candidates. As part of the elections, a new constitution for General Assembly was passed by 417-98 margin.

LFC Ranked #9 In Princeton Review List “Top 10 Best Value Colleges”

Press Release
The Princeton Review

On Monday, March 29, Lake Forest College is the nation’s #9 “best value” undergraduate institution, according to The Princeton Review. The New York-based education services company named the College to its “Top 10 Best Value Colleges” ranking list which appears in The Princeton Review’s just-published book, America’s Best Value Colleges. The book is a guide to 77 colleges with outstanding academics, low-to-moderate tuition & fees, and generous financial aid packages. It includes public and private colleges and universities in 35 states and the District of Columbia.

“I am very pleased that The Princeton Review has recognized the outstanding value of a Lake Forest College education,” said President Stephen Schutt. “Our goal is to make it possible for well-qualified students with financial need to attend the College. We should all be very proud of this important national recognition.”

The Princeton Review ranking of schools for the “top 10” list, and its selection of the 77 colleges in the book is based on its analysis of quantitative and qualitative data the company obtained from administrators at over 500 colleges, and surveys of students attending them.

Says Robert Franek, Assistant Publisher, The Princeton Review, “We identified over 30 factors by which we rated the colleges in three categories: Academics, Tuition, and Tuition GPA: the sticker price minus average student aid received in gift aid scholarships and grants. The schools we chose for this book may not be the least costly colleges in America, but they are all great education deals. We highly recommend them to students and parents seeking the best academic bang for their buck.”

America’s Best Value Colleges has three-page profiles on the colleges, and advice about applying for admission and financial aid. It is one of over 200 Princeton Review books published by Random House. The Princeton Review is known for its test-prep, education, and college and grad school admissions services. It is not affiliated with Princeton University or ETS.

Vice President-elect Liz Tietjen mentioned working with Aramark to revise the current meal plan so that people who can’t make it to breakfast won’t be charged for it. She also mentioned revamping the Internship Committee to provide funds for students traveling into Chicago or the surrounding suburbs to pursue internship opportunities.

Josh Gordon-Blake discussed the possibility of a residence hall in Chicago and expanding the lines of travel to experience more of the city.

Sanson’s ideas included a directory with pictures, a standardized calendar, a nightly discussion forum, more tent parties, and a shuttle bus to Highland Park and into Chicago.

Treasurer-elect Ed Vrits highlighted the discrepancy between the student organization budget and what is actually spent. According to Vrits, student government has an enormous surplus. He also stated that until the budget is spent to its entirety we should never turn down a club in need of money for an event.

As part of the elections, a new constitution for General Assembly was passed by 417-98 margin.

The New General Assembly Board: From left to right, President Julien Sanson, Vice President Liz Tietjen, Treasurer Ed Vrits, and Secretary Evan Martz.

PIPs Performs In Chicago

Jon Bingham
Staff Writer

Sunday, April 4 was an exceptionally long day for all the students and staff involved with Garrick Players. This year’s PIPs (Playwrights in Progress) were performed March 25-27. But even after the last show on the 27th came to an end and the festivities of the cast party wound down, the show still wasn’t over. Each year, the theater department deploys a day pass to leave the ward for a day and perform PIPs at Victory Gardens Theatre in Chicago. This annual tradition gives the cast a chance to perform in a more professional setting, and it gives the student playwrights and directors a chance to be critiqued by professional playwrights from the Chicago area.

The day began at the painful hour of 8 a.m.—thanks for nothing, daylight savings time—with the cast and crew assembling at the theater to stuff props and actors onto the bus. As with any school field trip, the bus left late, though once it did get moving most of the cast made up for that last hour of the way to Victory Gardens. Once we arrived though, there wasn’t much time to waste. Victory Gardens wasn’t going to drop everything for us, so we had to be long gone by 1 p.m. when the professionals were coming to a must-see performance of their current show, Trying. That left us only a couple hours to run through the plays and redo the lights, sets, and blocking for the shows.

After the tech work was over, the cast was treated to lunch at a nearby restaurant—that’s grant money well spent—and then split into groups to pass the time until our 6 p.m. call. Some went back to the theater to watch the performance at Victory Gardens for free, but most of the group found its way to the Lincoln Park Zoo, where we were given a free tour of the exhibits courtesy of Ashley Brant’s expert commentary—“Lion’s manes will actually grow longer in captivity than they will in the wild. No one knows the reason for this for sure, but one scientist believes that it is because there’s less shit attacking them.”

Finally, 6 p.m. came and the final preparations for the 7:30 p.m. show began. The actors went through the current warm-ups, light and sound boards were tested one last time, and the lights went out at about 7:35, officially starting the final performance of the 2004 PIPs. Although some of the actors were a little ratty after a week off and the sound guy missed his share of cues, the show went extremely well and ended up being one of our finer performances. After the show the directors and playwrights met with professional playwrights for a critique of their work, which everyone seemed to enjoy, and the professional playwrights weren’t too hard on the student playwrights either. So the show was a success, and the directors, actors and stage crew that had given us so much of their time to the theater could finally reclaim their lives from Garrick. Except, of course, for those that are now involved in the next production, Boy Gets Girl.
The Reel Life with Mary Huxhold: Death Comes to Sweden: Ingmar Bergman’s Finest Film Hours

Mary Huxhold
Staff Columnist

Choke full of biting cynical humor, intense images, and totally original stories, Swedish Director Ingmar Bergman is one of the greatest, if not the best, director in film history. Reflecting his own life, demons and hating unflinchingly both the dark and light of his soul, Ingmar Bergman’s films become individualized to each person that views them, giving the viewer a very intimate and astounding experience no matter what time or background they are a part of.

“The Seventh Seal” (1959): The first film that any proper film student learns about, Bergman’s “The Seventh Seal” tells the tale of Knight Antonius Block. Returning home to a plague ridden Sweden after years away fighting in the Crusades, Block comes to two disturbing revelations: 1) Death is following him. 2) He feels as if his life has been a waste. Desperate to find some answer to his existence, he challenges Death to a game of chess to buy some time, using the few moments he has left to search, making his way through his plague ravaged country, waiting for the first film that any proper film student learns about, Bergman’s “The Seventh Seal” tells the tale of Knight Antonius Block. Returning home to a plague ridden Sweden after years away fighting in the Crusades, Block comes to two disturbing revelations: 1) Death is following him. 2) He feels as if his life has been a waste. Desperate to find some answer to his existence, he challenges Death to a game of chess to buy some time, using the few moments he has left to search, making his way through his plague ravaged country, waiting for the atmosphere that Bergman creates is heart-wrenching, most effective by his subtly in and masterful images and sound. Block is often dwarfed by his natural surroundings, the stark black and white photography conveying the emptiness and terror in Block’s heart. Death himself is an unforgettable image. A face of stone washed white, he is clothed entirely in black, his face marked by unwavering patience. He knows that it is inevitable for all us, he alone seems to have the time. In one of his best images, Bergman brings to life the figure of Death: a face of benevolent giver. Deeply passionate, Death finds them. However, Block is caught in between. He believes that the only way to survive is to never stop gaining knowledge, yet he also feels an emotional connection to those surrounding him that lacks rational backing. We see this as Death finally catches up to all. Block makes a mistake in his game on purpose, damning himself while freeing the young couple. Not a very self oriented rational thing to do, yet he did so in the end.

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“A Christmas Carol.” He just becomes happy in the acceptance of his death, finding comfort in his victory over fear and loneliness. Time is always passing throughout this film. You can here a clock ticking in almost every scene, the camera always moving dynamically towards an end, yet there are no hands on the clock. We don’t know when it will happen, we just know that it does. It’s absolutely brilliant!
That's The Gift!
My New Favorite Word

I have a new favorite word. It is a perfect descriptor of my personality; in fact, various professors and higher-ups have assigned me this title since I started my occasionally-thinking, obsessively-ques-
tioning, young-adult life.

You see, my favorite word is naive. It is also, unfortunately, the condition in which I live my life. I suppose I became aware of this condition during class one day. For some reason or another, we began debating whether or not stu-
dents advance their academic careers in college because of a relentless obsession to learn.

Most students, my professor estimated accurately, were indifferent to this pursuit of intelligence so long as a well-paying job was at the end of the tunnel. By now, my professor was canvassing and asking specific mem-
bers of the class the main reason they were attending college.

I slunk in my seat as my stomach began to boil over. Ugh, I hate that question. Everyone knows my answer is so annoying. One student after another gave the expected answer described above. My professor must have sensed my unease because, wouldn't you know, she asked me too.

The whole class turned around, in unison, and stared at me as I made a split-second decision to answer truthfully or to humor them with the antici-
pated response. Sure, a comfortable salary sounds pleasant, but forty years of wearing a tie in a soundproof, windowless office does not. In all honesty, I can do without a well-paying job as long as I am happy with what I am doing. Of course, that won't always fly.

Outside these walls of academia in a "real" world, I've been told, it is a world that will eat an English major alive, removing the bones from their gullets and organizing them by size with the intention of playing them in a matrimony like fashion. The more people I talk to, the more they set me up to settle for this inevitable, yet jazzy conclusion.

When I get out there, though, I don't want to be just another social security number. I don't necessarily want to follow somebody's beaten path. I'd like to do things differently, contently and proudly. I'd like to make a contribution, profound or not, to the world. How naive of me.

There are plenty of other things that make me naive as well. I'd like to think my writing touches people because, even though it is usually only partially-logical, it is always whole-hearted. I'd like to live comfortably without having to sacrifice my beliefs and ideas. I'd like to do something that might make others think about everything differently. All these things, I am finding, are written-off as naive. Love, I am slowly finding, is also a symptom of naivety.

And what's so wrong with being naive, anyways? How come these ambitions, even if based on innocence and innocent intentions, are always repressed? Why are people, like me, being conditioned to fall in line with everyone else in order to anticipate this "real" world? Why shouldn't we be naive?

In more or less words, this is how I addressed the professor's question. My face turned an awkward scarlet hue as many of the other students shot suspicious glances my way. Well, okay. I was being naive.

The professor, on the other hand, gave me this warm, almost satisfied smile. Something tells me that she knew my answer would be—that she knew I was skeptical at all but, in fact, pleased with my response. This was inspiring. I suggest, in a bold and spontaneous attempt at naiveity, that the term naive should be a positive one; it should be something people are proud of inspiring.

My friends, is the gist because why would anybody want to be skeptical at all? In fact, pleased with my response. This was inspiring this pursuit of intelligence so long as a well-paying job was at the end of the tunnel. By now, my professor was canvassing and asking specific mem-
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**Starting Off Big**

Melissa Peters  
Guest Writer

The Forester softball team split a double header with Carthage College last Thursday but took two wins against conference opponent Grinnell College on Saturday. In Kenosha, the Foresters won the first contest against Carthage 3-2, breaking a 10-game winning streak. Junior Kristen Feeney had two of the team’s five base hits. In the second game, Carthage scored 3 unearned runs, while the Foresters could not produce at the plate. With the Carthage loss behind them, the Foresters refocused against Grinnell, reaffirming themselves as the top team in the Midwest Conference. While the Foresters took the second game 5-0, the first game presented a challenge by forcing 8 innings of play. In the final inning, sophomore Ashley Closson singled to score junior Justeen Streich on an error. Both freshmen Jenny Riddle and Mackenzie Knowling went 2-3 in the game.

In the second game against Grinnell, the Foresters out-hit the Pioneers 11-2 and committed no errors. Closson went 3-4 with 2 RBIs, while sophomore Melissa Wegner went 4-5. Steinbrenner is the epitome of underdog — a team whose closest semblance of a superstar is a guy who hits around .270 and has only one home run. He's also not aYankees buy championships, and the player who contributed the most to the team's success was a guy who had a .333 batting average (3-for-9) and a .778 slugging percentage — but the magnitude of his contributions was overshadowed by the team's overall success.

**Athlete of the Week**

**Freshman Comes Up Big**

Mike Wajerski  
Sports Information Director

Lake Forest College softball player Jenny Riddle was named Forester Athlete of the Week for her performance on the plate in a non-conference doubleheader versus North Central College Saturday (March 27). She posted solid numbers in the two games—.333 batting average (3-for-9) and a .778 slugging percentage—but the magnitude of two of her hits was the key.

**Sports Column**

**Joltin’ Joe: Party In The Big Leagues**

Joe Meixell  
Sports Columnist

I’m one of those who have been outspoken about how the Yankees are the black eye of baseball, and how the ruthless spending machine that is George Steinbrenner is destroying America’s finest institution. I’ve combined about his signing of Gary Sheffield, Alex Rodriguez, Javier Vasquez, etc., and I don’t know how many times I’ve compared Steinbrenner to the Emperor from Star Wars. In essence, I’ve been convinced that the Yankees are an affront to baseball, sports, and all that is good in the world.

However, there’s one key factor that I’ve been ignoring this whole time. Amid all the what’s going on about the Yankees buy championships and overpower smaller teams. I’ve failed to notice that the Yankees haven’t won a World Series in the past three seasons. While three years without a trophy isn’t exactly a drought, it is remarkable when you consider the incredible amount of money spent to build teams that Steinbrenner thinks will win those games.

Logic would tell us that the team with the most money is able to afford the best players, and therefore should field the best team, position-by-position. This team should be stronger than any other team in the league, and should probably win a championship, right? Wrong. The past three World Series Champions have all been underdogs, have all had drastically lower payrolls than the Yankees, and have built an incredible run through strength of pitching and fundamentals on offense. The Arizona Diamondbacks beat the Yankees in 2001, the Anaheim Angels defeated the Giants in 2002, and last year saw the Florida Marlins beat the Yankees again. Each of these teams went into the season without terribly high hopes, and each team was an underdog all season long. In fact, even when the Marlins pulled off an improbable upset over the Chicago Cubs in the NL Championship Series, most pundits were convinced that this Cinderella run would crash and burn after four or five games against the New York powerhouse.

The fact that teams with smaller payrolls, fewer superstars and lower expectations have unseated giants in the past, should serve to give hope to small clubs as the baseball season kicks off this month. Teams like San Diego, who haven’t played well since a four-game World Series loss to the Yankees in 1998. The Padres have a new ballpark this year, and are hoping to take advantage of a weakening NL West Division to make some noise about a playoff run. Teams like Minnesota, who have been able to capitalize on a weak AL Central Division to make several playoff trips recently, but have yet to actually do anything once they make it to the big show. The Twins are the embodiment of underdog — a team whose closest semblance of a superstar is a guy who hits around .270 and has only one home run. He's also not a superpower, quality if not overpowering pitching, and team chemistry to get them all the way into the playoffs, and one of these years they're bound to win a few games in the postseason.

This annual guessing game is part of what makes baseball in the new century so special. There was a time when the Yankees made it to 26 World Series championships in 38 years, and won 19 of those. In those days, the annual expectation was for the New York ballclub to dominate competition. Now, in this time of improving pitching and dropping home run totals, a team that can bring speed, average and pitching to the table has a chance to achieve their greatest dream — coming up big in the Fall Classic.

As March Madness winds down, it seems that upsets take care of themselves and the higher-ranked teams will triumph in the end. This may be true for college basketball, but in the world of baseball in April, the possibilities are endless. So here’s to the Devil Rays, the Texas Rangers, the Yankees and the Rangers — for these teams, hope springs eternal. Bring on the Yankees!