Dean of Students Robert Flot sent an email to students regarding a “Pocahontas and John Smith” themed party that took place off campus shortly before Thanksgiving break, leaving the issue of cultural appropriation in the thoughts of many students.

“The actions were culturally insensitive, at best, in donning Native American costumes,” Flot said in the November 21 email.

Photos of the party posted on social media sites featured Lake Forest College students wearing “headdresses and other stereotypically Native American apparel,” said the Dean.

Louisa Van Akkeren ‘18 thinks cultural appropriation is an issue on campus. “I would say it’s not overt. You don’t really see it that often. But if you go on [social media apps] like Yik Yak, you see it a lot,” she said.

Though the “Pocahontas and John Smith” party was one instance of cultural appropriation, this is an issue seen throughout the year on different occasions—especially when costumes are involved, according to Van Akkeren.

Van Akkeren suspects these events, even if unintentionally careless, are damaging. “I feel like, at this point, there are so many resources on campus and so many things everywhere that talk about [cultural appropriation], that people should kind of have some idea that what they’re doing is not right,” Van Akkeren said.

Flot said he first learned about the party on Friday, November 20, one day after it took place.

“I have very few details…aside from seeing some social media photos,” he said in an email interview. “I was disappointed by the photos. I have very few details about the party, aside from seeing some social media photos of Lake Forest College students wearing what appear to be Native American costumes. While I’m not in a position to answer...exactly why these students chose to engage in this type of behavior, I can say that I was disappointed by the photos.”

The community standards section of the Student Handbook doesn’t explicitly refer to cultural appropriation, but states “we are all accountable for how our actions affect others.”

This calls on each student at the College to try to avoid acting in ways that demean or disrespect other members of the campus community.

For students looking to further their understanding of the issue of cultural appropriation and to learn how to limit it in the future, there are several options on campus.

“Go to some of the clubs that deal with gender, sexuality, race,” said Van Akkeren. “Go to SWAN if you want to learn about feminism, go to UBA or Latinos Unidos.”

All of these clubs meet regularly and welcome all students to join.
Student body president responds: Student Government - elected or automatic wins?

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The Stentor’s September 29 headline, “Student Government: elected or automatic wins?,” drew attention to the student-run senate’s struggle to fill elected student representative positions for the past few academic years. In many of the past elections, including elections for executive board positions, only one student would run for a position, resulting in an automatic win for that student.

“[In] my personal opinion, [Student Government] is too big,” said Devin Tyler ’17, the current student body president, who said he recognized this issue for the first time after reading the Stentor.

“It may be time for us to consider making Student Government more exclusive, making it worth a fight, making it worth getting elected,” he continued.

The Stentor brought up the issue of some upperclassmen senators potentially intentionally skipping the election process, in which senators have to collect between 25 and 100 signatures from students they’ll represent, and instead, waiting for an e-mail from Student Government listing vacant positions after the election and asking for interested students to submit letters of interest.

“I can see [the] frustration with seeing other members getting an easy way into Student Government, but I also recognize the fact that the senator is supposed to represent the constituents, and the constituents have to have some peace in who’s getting elected,” said Tyler, regarding that issue.

Student Government is running the annual election for executive board positions this month. This year, there are at least two students running for each position, giving the student body the option to choose between whom they would like to elect.

Students have noticed quite an increase in competition for executive board positions this year, likely due to the fact that there is more than one student running for a seat.

Yik Yak, a social media app that allows users to post anonymously within a five-mile radius of their phone’s location, was buzzing with several posts regarding the Student Government elections the week of campaigning.

Students posted their opinions on the Student Government candidate debate, expressing support for some and really bashing others. The debate between the three candidates running for president—Raphael Mathis ’17, Matthew McPherson ’17, and Bushra Shams ’17—was a popular discussion topic.

Every student running for an executive board position also created Facebook pages to campaign and ask fellow students for support. Social media for Lake Forest College students was filled with campaigns in the month of December.

Election results were expected to be announced the night of December 6.

The current executive board will step down at the end of this semester. The 2015 executive board included President Devin Tyler ’17, Vice President Pulkit Diwan ’16, Treasurer Brendan McLane 17, and Secretary Urooj Ahmad ’17.

Over the past year, the executive board changed the traditional meeting place of the organization from Hotchkiss Hall’s Meyer Auditorium to the Skybox in the Mohr Student Center in hopes to promote transparency and encourage students to attend and listen to senate meetings; began a new mental health campaign called “It’s On Us;” and began a new tradition of a presidential address to the student body toward the end of their term.

One large project undertaken by Student Government in collaboration with the Health and Wellness Center this semester: a new mental health campaign called “It’s On Us.”

Student Government moved their traditional meeting place from Hotchkiss Hall to the Skybox on Middle Campus this year.
In its short time on campus, Moore Hall has received infamy for its multiple cases of vandalism that have led to residents of the building being frequently charged to pay for damages, ultimately leading to the installation of security cameras.

“Criminal vandalism has virtually disappeared in Moore Hall since the system went live in mid-April 2015,” said Director of Public Safety Rick Cohen.

The security cameras have garnered attention from students on campus and sparked conversation on whether or not they reduced vandalism.

During the 2013-14 academic year, there were 15 criminal damage to property incidents reported to Public Safety. In 2014-2015, there were 14, according to Cohen.

“The last report occurred last semester after the (security camera) system was installed and resulted in the offender being immediately and easily identified, and subsequently held responsible for their actions,” Cohen said.

There have been no reported acts of criminal damage to property since last April, he said.

Stephanie DeLeon ’17, who lives in Moore Hall, believes there has been a change on campus with the security cameras in place. “Kids are taking more caution,” she said.

Cohen cautions students about the legal consequences of vandalism on campus. “I think it is important to recognize that damaging the property of others, whether believing it is insignificant or not, is still an illegal act that results in unnecessary expense to repair,” he said. “It is not victimless, harmless, or humorous.”

“While my words may seem a bit harsh, I am confident that my ‘message’ is similar to one most parents try to instill; respect for the property of others. We are all very fortunate to live, study, or work in a beautiful and caring community. It is therefore our collective responsibility to care for and protect it,” he said.

Although vandalism does not seem to be a concern in Moore Hall at the present time, students like DeLeon nonetheless feel that security issues are still present in the building.

“Cameras will not stop a person from entering but they can identify them once they get in. So from that perspective, cameras have been a positive addition. Nevertheless, if warranted, there are still more measures that can be taken,” Cohen said.

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Should You Consume Study Drugs During Finals?

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In your lifetime, you’ll probably have to take at least one pill, capsule, or medicine tablet. It provides relief and it helps the body recuperate from illness. Over the last decade, students at universities and colleges across the country have taken these pills with a whole different purpose.

Prescription drugs, also known as “study drugs,” are popular among college students because they increase concentration and energy, which enhances learning and provides an opportunity to control impulses and focus on a subject. While it is relatively cheap to obtain some of these drugs, the consequences in the long term could be fatal. [Check out some “study drug” effects on the accompanying infographic.]

These “study drugs” are actually prescription drugs to treat such conditions as attention deficit disorder (ADD) and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).

The most common “study drugs” among college students are Ritalin, Adderall, Concerta, Focalin, and Vyvanse. However, Niche.com, a website dedicated to “provide reviews and insight from everyday experts” on since fall semester is close to an end, many students have started thinking about another round of books for the classes they have chosen. Many think about the amount that is overpaid, which may or may not actually need to be purchased in the long term. Before considering paying an incredible amount of money for books, they would not use any other way of renting out of 10 Lake Forest College students said it has saved college students hundreds of dollars.

As college students, we use laptops a lot, whether it’s shopping online, watching YouTube videos, listening to music, going on social media, or creating documents on Word or Excel. If you think about it, all these activities consume the life of our laptops daily. Since they use lots of battery and RAM memory, an active hard drive that keeps all applications open such as Chrome, iTunes, and Spotify, our computers will suffer the afterthought of excessive habit. There is a multi-tasking extension called “The Great Suspender.”

This extension allows you to have as many Chrome tabs open as you want and it will not kill the battery or slow down your computer. It freezes the tab that has not been used in the longest amount of time and stops it from using up as much of your RAM. Therefore, this extension allows the battery to keep the tabs open but it saves everything on the page. When you return to the page, you can click “refresh” and the tab will come back to life, exactly where you left it off. Now everyone can afford a laptop that can keep seven chrome tabs open at once. “My laptop is basically an iMac,” says Clay Dreier ’18.

Sinc
Professor Spotlight of the Month

Lake Forest College is always committed to show the best of the best. When it comes to athletics, academics, student life, and every other organization on campus, Foresters show the best of themselves, and faculty is not exempt from this rule. In this issue, we show you the path of Dr. Rebecca Graff, assistant professor of anthropology; she discusses her journey to Lake Forest College and offers advice to current undergraduate students.

Interview conducted by Camille Lemieux '17, Managing Editor.

Lake Forest College students and a faculty member help with the dig, which I taught as a field school at the University of Chicago. So by then, Lake Forest College was already on my radar! After graduation, I was a post-doctoral instructor and a visiting professor at two universities before I was lucky enough to come to Lake Forest College. I left a term position in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan (a beautiful place!) to come back to the region of my research. I feel very fortunate to have landed at LFC.

What advice do you have for current undergraduate students? This can be related or unrelated to academia.

I had such a great college experience and really threw myself into the intellectual puzzles and experiences of my courses and beyond. I wasn’t thinking about career as much in terms of course selection, etc.—I knew what my major was and what I was passionate about, and was lucky to be able to pursue it. I wasn’t thinking about “Major X = Job X”; I never was thinking that there was a one-to-one correlation between my undergraduate coursework and my future career. This is still the case for most BA degrees. My advice: College will be the only time for most people to get to learn about things that will be outside of their careers and future day-to-day life, so take advantage of the myriad of experiences within and beyond your major, and within and beyond LFC. You never know what the future may hold, and it is both terrifying and exciting!

How to Make the Most of Your Winter Break?

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S tart with the most obvious and most annoying thing. Turn your phone off. Log off your social media accounts. Yes. It gets better. I promise. Lock all of your textbooks in a drawer and throw the key into the flames of Mordor (you might want to reconsider this decision, though, because you probably paid a fortune for them and maybe, just maybe, you might need them in the future). For a day only. It’s only 24 hours, you can do it.

Write a postcard for that friend you occasionally reminisce about but never get to talk to because you’re too busy. Put a coat and a scarf on if you’re going to warmer places), go out and explore. See where your feet take you and follow whatever your instincts tell you. Do something you’ve never done before — learn to drive, learn to ice-skate, learn to make origami swans or even simple paper boats. Go to the local library, go to a random shelf, pick a book and start reading it. Your eyes aren’t going to fall and your brain isn’t going to melt, trust me. The struggle, the pain you face is in fact just weakness leaving your body. Play less Candy Crush and more hide-and-seek. Talk more to the people you’re with. Observe how they’re finally grown up and are slowly becoming rational human beings (yes, this applies to your parents and older relatives, too). Go to a place you’ve never visited before. That sketchy neighborhood you keep hearing things about? Good, go there. What’s the worst that can happen, especially if you do a bit of research beforehand and take all the necessary precautions?

Good. Now you can get your phone and social network accounts back. Take another 24 hours and spend it with yourself. You’re also a human, remember? Your own person needs his/her own company every once in a while. Take yourself somewhere nice for dinner, go to a forest, go hiking, or just spend the entire day in bed. It’s unhealthy but who cares? It’s holiday season and you have too much time on your hands anyway. Listen to Chinese rap, Russian underground beats, or odd Nebraska country. Go out and look at the stars or enjoy watching the light pollution in your area. Watch a play or a football game. Try making eye contact with a stranger (preferably not in the sketchiest area of your town, though. For your own sake).

I’m under no circumstances qualified to give advice or pose as a figure of authority and, ultimately, it’s up to you to choose what you want to do, since it’s your own time. You know, having time on your hands is exactly like having money — they’re both resources and it’s up to you how you spend them. Think about it for a bit and don’t forget to have an interesting winter break!
When We Were Young...

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Lake Forest College requires students to take many classes from different departments, but once a student decides what major he or she would like to pursue, he or she has to fulfill anywhere from eight to 14 class requirements to complete the major.

After reflecting, thinking, and strategizing, I declared my major second semester of my first year. I am a sociology and anthropology and French double major. Altogether, I have eight class requirements for my SOAN major and eight for French.

Coming into college, I believed that I wanted to become a psychology major because my long-term goal is to become a counselor. Through my major, I have found that I am able to take a different path because the liberal arts education allows me to explore different ways of thinking.

Although I am incredibly happy with my decision, I wanted to know if other students felt that they had picked the right major.

Estefania Ornelas ’16, a psychology major, said: “For the career that I want to go into, yes. I am going to open up a day care and I feel that it was my best option that this school offered.”

Cesar Cardenas ’17, an economics and international relations major, said: “I feel like I chose the right major because it is something that I am passionate about, therefore I can easily pick a career field which I am sure I will like.”

Norma Vargas ’18, a criminal justice and Latin American studies major, said: “I chose the right major, even though I had to create it on my own, because I feel that the majors that I currently have are going to teach me a lot for what I want to do. I want to be an immigration lawyer in the Latin American justice major will ultimately help me learn about the legal system and how people work within that area. And then the Latin American studies major will ultimately help me understand the people I will be working with, because I want [the Latino community] to be my primary focus.”

Brandon Lawler ’17, a business major and entrepreneurship minor, said: “Kinda…sorta. Because I don’t really know what I want to do with my life, but I want to go into the business world, so hopefully the business major helps out.”

Lysette Gonzalez ’16, a politics major and theater minor, said: “I don’t think [I did]. Because I don’t know what else I could have picked besides politics for what I want to do because I figured, ‘what area of study needs leaders,’ but I don’t know what I want to do with it so I don’t know if it was right or not.”

Through these different responses, I gathered that it is not so much the required classes that make the major, but the experiences that a student gains with the major.

Getting a bachelor’s degree is now considered common, therefore students have to do more to stand out. So to those who have not chosen their major yet, I would strongly suggest strategically about what skill sets you want to gain during college and have a plan post-Lake Forest College.

Happy studying!

Opinions

Did I Pick the Right Major?

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Our generation is one that makes me shiver and cringe and one that makes me smile and applaud. Our entire lives have been told, “We are the future,” but now what?

The future is here and I have no idea what I am doing. We are growing older and a lot of my friends and I are about to enter our “roaring twenties” decade, where we live life to the fullest, make our best memories, and transition into full-adulthood.

While that all sounds quite nice and normal, I can’t help but find it remarkably mundane. Remember when we were told we could be anything we wanted to be and the books and movies we consumed just endorsed that?

I think fear has made me opt out of following my wildest dreams. No, life is not like a fantasy world. It is not like a post-apocalyptic world with zombies, factions, or districts. There are no underground worlds (that we know about) and time machine DeLorean’s are not real.

But wouldn’t it be so much better if these things were real? Well, most of them…I could do without the zombies.

I’m not hating on what is real and pure and genuine in the world we live in, I just think sometimes we lack the excitement and possibility we had as kids.

Over Thanksgiving break I babysat for two little girls. We played a game where we had to name what we’d want our superhero power to be. I said “invisible,” and the 6-year-old said something along the lines of, “I want to fart rainbows so I can blast off to the sky.”

When did we stop thinking like that? Don’t you miss living in a fantastical world where anything could happen and you could be whatever you wanted? Kids’ imaginations are so unlimited and free, they have different levels of creativity than adults do.

Granted, we do need our thoughts to mature and our minds to be molded along the way, but, still, how hilarious is that? We’re growing up, and that’s completely okay, but we shouldn’t ever stop being creative.

I think as we grow up, we get a better handle on reality and what we’re supposed to do and who we’re supposed to be. But the closer we get to the better the fantasy sounds.

This is probably why there are such cult followings for certain movies and TV shows. People want to be a part of and experience them. Book fandoms are huge, and there is one for basically every series.

Why are theme parks built and comic cons so impossible to get tickets for? They let us step out of real life.

I think fantasy is so important and relevant because it takes us out of reality and transports us to somewhere unimaginable and sometimes better than the places we are in. I think it’s so important because it gives us characters to look up to and learn from in an out-of-the-box context.

Never stop seeing the unbelievable, unreal, and unattainable possibilities of a fantastical world. If you don’t, life is quite dull. Reality—while necessary—should not be what you settle on. Don’t ever stop reaching for that fantasy.
All Lives Matter!

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T he #AllLivesMatter campaign is a naively generous, feel-good response to protests addressing black people with apes. It is not a surprise that implicit association stereotypes of black people, continue to return black bodies to full human status. Unfortunately, those early Social Darwinist arguments, combined with stereotypes of black people, continue to produce an anti-black cultural psyche. It is not a surprise that implicit association tests conducted by Goff et al. in 2008 found that Americans strongly associate blackness with uncleanliness and brutality.
The racial profiling, disproportio-
porate incarceration rates, and murder of unarmed black people, along with the crude response to protests addressing such issues by the media and public, all make sense in this twisted white-written narrative through which we view black people as animals that are undeserving of dignity or life.

We have been raised in a so-called “progressive era,” whereby colorblindness and diversity are prioritized. The incessant fear of speaking about race produces a culture in which white people are allowed to pretend that racism has been abolished and enables them to negate the existence of white privilege.

Color-blindness is effective in both discrediting black activism and maintaining white supremacy. That is why #BlackLivesMatter is so jarring and threatening—it clearly argues that the lives of black people are treated as insignificant and disposable, and white people are not even murdered or otherwise disenfranchise them for any reason whatsoever due to their privileged status.

In order to deny a racialized reality, people conjure up #AllLivesMatter, claiming that it is more “humanistic.” But the fact of the matter is, firefighters do not focus their efforts on houses that are not on fire. They focus on houses that are on fire.

In this same vein, activists are not focusing on white people, because they are not historically and presently marginalized. The lives of white people have always mattered. To truly see black liberation, we need to acknowledge the historical context through which black people were denied their humanity and the anti-black narrative rooted in this country.

We need to acknowledge the empirical and statistical evidence of disproportionate brutality towards black people.

We need to let black voices speak and be recognized.

Finally, we must refrain from reaffirming racist tendencies of entitlement and race-denial embodied in #AllLivesMatter.

On Administrative Response to Racism

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L ake Forest College has recently had to confront various forms of racism and microaggressions that plague this campus. Most of us are aware of the racist and defensive statements made on social media (especially Yik-Yak). Is this a surprise? No. This campus is an extension of the world at large, a world which is prejudiced at its core, making incidents of racism inevitable. The fact that our campus is racist seems paradoxical, considering our college’s fervent claim that it “embraces diversity.”

I see these words plastered in purple among the Forester Five rainbow all over campus, yet it does not match up in the lived experience of students. My focus will be to help outline what our administration can do to bring substantial change, or at the least appropriately acknowledge the realities of racism.

First, we need to recognize that racism is a global endemic, and it is not going anywhere. We live in a white-dominated society, both demographically and institutionally.

With this comes the historical baggage of genocide, slavery, colonialism, and marginalization, both systemic and subtle, that people of color have to deal with. You cannot solve a problem without first identifying it.

Secondly, we need to escape this delusion of “diversity,” “tolerance,” and “inclusion” are going to bring solvency to the grim reality of racism. Though these are positive agendas, it’s naïve to think reaching a quota of colored faces or celebrating different identities truly addresses the underlying problems of white supremacy. Brutally honest conversations about race and culture

Grades Gotta Go

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A ll around campus, there are reminders to fill out course evaluations. Course evaluations have gone digital! Get your black card and soon you can see your grades earlier.

Tell me, does one see this double standard? Students are evaluated by one letter! We get labeled with one letter to describe our performance in a class. That means that 140 hours spent working for and participating in a classroom are described by one letter. All of the papers written, all of the discussions contributed to, all of the tests taken, are described by one letter.

Yet we are encouraged to spend time thoughtfully evaluating a course.

This double standard underlies a universal educational flaw. On the one hand students are expected to learn for their own enrichment. Liberal arts colleges in particular make no secret of the fact that they do not exist to train future laborers. Yet, on the other hand students need to be able to make money with a college degree. Students must focus on their future employment prospects and on their current learning process.

Students can no longer serve both masters. Perhaps due to the major uptick in college tuition costs, education has come to center on the economics of learning. And in so doing, learning has become a monetized system. A classroom is now a market in which work is exchanged for grades. Take extra credit for example: if a student’s grade is low, the student can simply perform some task and their teacher will add more points to their grade book. Irrelevant to any learning goals, students now focus on teachers’ judgment instead of exhibiting any genuine interest in course material.

I caught up with some of the intelligentsia on campus to hear what they had to say about modern grading systems. “I don’t know what the solution is,” said Sam Mercier ’16. “Grad schools and medical schools may refuse students if they have not been graded. Yet, grades mean different things in different schools. Elite schools, such as Harvard, are notorious for grade inflation.”

Isabel Mckenzie ’19 believes that more discourse between educators and students about their progress would be a step in the right direction. “If students could evaluate their classmates, as well as their progress to teachers, grades would become more holistic and meaningful.” As it currently stands, grades make no attempt to improve students’ academic ability in any way; they exist only as a convening labeling system, and as such need to be reevaluated to take into consideration the shortcomings intrinsic to college evaluation system.
Why you’re obsessed about reality TV

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“I could be any reality TV star, who would it be?”

Being hooked to a show may not be such a horrible thing unless it starts to take priority over schoolwork or other important obligations.

The Bachelor, Americas Next Top Model, The Real World, The Voice, and many more entertaining reality TV shows are becoming more and more popular by the minute.

Why might people be into reality TV so much in comparison to other shows? Is it because of the amusing characters themselves or the horrifying thriller they present. “Everyone enjoys a good laugh, so why not watch that silly TV show your peers rave about?” (Odyssey)

Being able to have the actors/actress’s as a model of how something can be utilized may be helpful to the viewers. According to an outside source, “reality TV satisfies their urge to relate to characters on the shows they watch.” Just like Ari Biderlello, ’17, says, “reality TV shows are something that we can either relate to or vice versa.”

Once the audience member finds a connection to a particular program then there is a higher likelihood of attachment to the TV screen just like a slug attached to a fish tank.

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Reaching out to former Lake Forest College student, Mallory Krzysciak, ’19, thinks “reality television is so popular in today’s society because many people look for what is ‘real’ rather than something that is fictional.” Or so we think these TV shows are displaying reality. Who knows what these stars do behind the scenes when the camera is off.

Is ‘reality’ really real? That is a question you can answer yourself. An interesting question that I thought would be amusing to know from another Lake Forest Student was, “If you could be any reality TV star, who would it be?” Alex Veleris, ’16, says “ Martha Montross from HGTV’s winning ‘Beach Flip’ team, because she and her fiancé built an awesome house together and she has great style and taste.”

Perhaps it is the idea of grandeur and extravagant possessions that drives us to admire and, in a way, covet their lives. “Reality shows allow us to get a glimpse into the lives of celebrities who choose to live their life on camera and put themselves on display” (Odyssey).

Reality TV shows mostly illustrate the new and in style approach to living life, implying the viewers to connect with the character. This allows for us to gain a sense of obligation to check in with the characters and check in on their lives, as if they were a friend.

Being able to have the actors/actress’s as a model of how something can be utilized may be helpful to the viewers. According to an outside source, “reality TV satisfies their urge to relate to characters on the shows they watch.” Just like Ari Biderlello, ’17, says, “reality TV shows are something that we can either relate to or vice versa.”

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Being hooked to a show may not be such a horrible thing unless it starts to take priority over schoolwork or other important obligations.

Movie Reviews

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Mockingjay Part II, the highly anticipated film series comes to a close. In the finale, Katniss must continue her fight with District 13 against the evil President Snow, in order to completely rid Panem of the Capital.

The same cast is present and the film has sentimental value as it is Phillip Seymour Hoffmans last film before his death.

Overall, I believe this to be much better than the first part. Although I will warn you, it is a bit more depressing, so don’t say I didn’t warn you!

Overall, 2 ½ stars.

Mockingjay Pt. II ★★ ½

Mockingjay Pt. II is about the Boston Globe’s coverage of the sexual abuse scandals of the Catholic Church in the early 2000’s.

Starring: Michael Keaton as the Head of the Spotlight team, Liev Schreiber as the new Editor in Chief, John Slattery as an editor, and Mark Ruffalo, Rachel McAdams, and Brian d’Arcy James as the reporters of the Spotlight team.

The acting was credible, there was not a single weak character, and the writing was fantastic. Being a Catholic, I was worried it would make my faith look bad, but it is a story on the Church and the victims who suffered the horrible abuse, not the religion itself. One of the best journalism films ever.

Overall, 3 ½ stars.

Spotlight ★★★★

Brooklyn, once again, sure to score some Oscar noms for best actress and perhaps best film?

Brooklyn centers on a young Irish immigrant named Eilis Lacey (Saoirse Ronan), who comes to the United States and makes a new life for herself, while leaving her mother and sister behind in Ireland.

Once she comes, she lives in a

Music Review

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Sunday night rolls around every week, and with it all the homework us college kids are given throughout the week that we chose to procrastinate on.

Sam Pederson ’17 knows the struggle and that is why he airs his show, aka The Show, at 10pm to 12am on Sunday nights for anyone looking to hear some local music and get over the homework bumph in front of them.

He plays music of all genres excluding country and most EDM; however, Sam also does some live acoustic stuff with Kevin Kupiec ’17 when they are not into the playlist.

They mostly play covers but they are trying to come up with their own original songs in the future. Sam says, “Students should listen to my show because I play really honest music and everything I play is lyrically driven and very eclectic.”

When anyone listens to Sam’s show it should be noted that one has to listen to the music and sit with it rather than letting it in one ear and out the other because he plays music that has a deeper purpose than most music. Kevin adding, “His show blows, don’t listen to it.”

He got into music after being taken to his first Warp Tour when he was in 6th grade with his older siblings and some relatives, and he has been branching out from there. Now he finds music by going to live shows and word of mouth, as well as listening to free local music on Bandcamp.

Sam is also the booking director for WMXM, he is in charge of getting bands to play here on campus. He also promotes, plans, and produces the show.

He has learned that anything can happen at any time and it has really pushed him to think on his feet because he should have a team of people behind him but he manages to do it on his own.

He wanted to add that WMXM is planning on doing a spoken word show in December, so look out for that.
BoJack Horseman is a more realistic portrayal of depression than anything appearing on television prior.

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Top picks of Netflix

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Netflix. The perfect time of the year to binge on Netflix is right now, just as we start getting slammed with final exams. So, let me talk about the best movies on Netflix right now.

If you are in the mood for something relatively new, NightCrawler starring Jake Gyllenhaal is a really entertaining film, it sucks you in. Fun fact: he was actually nominated for a Golden Globe last year. The film centers on a socially awkward man who begins to film crimes and sells them to the local news. However, things get bad when he decides to film murders as they happen. It is definitely an engaging film if you like action and suspense!

For a more comedic and light-hearted film, Some Kind of Beautiful is a recently added film. It focuses on Pierce Brosnan, who acts like a bad boy professor who is also a father and does a good job with that, but things get complicated! Also starring Salma Hayek and Jessica Alba.

Here’s one film that got great reviews last year, Beyond the Lights. I honestly couldn’t take my eyes of the screen. It is about a young African-American girl who has a beautiful voice and her English mother depends on her. Years later, we see the same girl who is now a pop star, but corrupted by the exploitation of the music industry and her voice appears to have been made electronic. Her mother seems to be only in it for the money. However, when she meets a young police officer who actually sees her for her, her life changes for the better.

If you are looking for a classic that’s not too old, I would suggest Good Will Hunting. The film is about a tough young man who went in and out of foster care in Boston. He hangs out with his friends (The Affleck brothers) and likes getting into trouble. At one point though, we discover that he has a brilliant mind. However, his inability to let go of the past and his confusion upon meeting the love of his life throws him into a state of uneasiness. Through the help of a new therapist (Robin Williams), he learns to understand just how to let go of the past.

So, what are you gonna watch tonight?

–Grace Dowling

Doctor Dandy here! As winter and the break approach, many look to Netflix to escape the harsh realities of the outside world and its weather. But you can only binge-watch Friends so many times before you know Joey’s cues better than LeBlanc did. If you’re in that sort of predicament, this is the list for you. Here are ten of my favorite shows, movies, documentaries, and other things available on Netflix. In no particular order:

• The Increasingly Poor Decisions of Todd Margaret

This quirky IFC comedy from the mind of David Cross follows American Todd Margaret as he bumbles his way through England while attempting to market the newest energy drink. It’s recently been picked up for a third season, meaning seasons one and two are both on Netflix now.

• Columbo

This classic detective hour-long detective serial follows Sargent Columbo as he solves crimes through a combination of questioning and deduction. The Socratic Method is strong in this clever, funny, and occasionally thrilling serial which has been described as less of a “who-dun-it” and more of a “how-catch-em”.

• Bojack Horseman

Will Arnett stars in Netflix’s animated comedy about a washed-up actor attempting to re-start a career that has been dead since the nineties. While appearing to be a sitcom about a washed-up, egotistical former star, BoJack Horseman is a more realistic portrayal of depression than anything appearing on television prior.

Movie Reviews

Continued from page 8

boardering house (where much of the film gets its humorous scenes), has a job at a snobby department store, and falls in love with a young Italian man.

However, she must return to Ireland once something unexpected arises, and upon arriving, she meets another man. What will she do? Brooklyn is a beautiful film that does everything perfectly.

My friend Molly and I go the movies every Monday, and we both agree, this is a film that blends the traditional movie plot with contemporary film-making methods, and voila! Overall, 3 ½ stars.

Brooklyn

Industry Documentaries Super-Entry

Netflix features a massive index of documentaries about specific or niche industries or jobs within the entertainment industry. If you’re curious about any part of how your favorite entertainment products get made, Netflix has something for you. A few of my favorites are:

• I Know That Voice: Voice-acting
• Showrunners: That mysterious 21st century invention
• Stripped: Newspaper comics and the strip-comic industry
• Supermensch: Talent Agents (Though specifically Shep Gordon)

• Harmontown

While similar to the documentaries listed above, Harmontown really deserves its own entry. Following Dan Harmon (the mind behind Community and co-creator with Justin Roiland Rick and Morty) as he takes his podcast around the country, performing live in front of crowds with his friends and other industry greats. Definitely not for more sensitive viewers.

• Sleepwalk With Me

Based on the stand-up comedy of Mike Birbiglia, Sleepwalk With Me tells the story of an up-and-coming comedian’s struggles with work, relationships, and mental illness. Charming, funny, and surprisingly light considering the subject-matter.

• Master of None

This Netflix original series starring comedian Aziz Ansari follows a struggling actor as he deals with dating and relationships in the 21st century, casual racism, and coming into one’s own. If you’re a fan of grounded, realistic comedies that follow a single central character, Master of None is one of your best choices at the moment.

• Let’s talk stand-up

Netflix offers a ridiculous quantity of stand-up comedy. Unfortunately, only about a third of it is any good. Here are some of my favorites that are either very recent or that feature lesser-known comedians. Given the nature of stand-up, many of these are not for more sensitive viewers. An asterisk (*) will denote those titles which I find comedians will appreciate more than a regular comedy fan.

o Morgan Murphy: Irish Goodbye*

• Mike Birbiglia: My Boyfriend’s Girlfriend
• Todd Barry: The Crowd Work Tour*
• John Mulaney: The Comeback Kid
• Anthony Jeselnik: Thoughts and Prayers*
• Demetri Martin: Live at the Time
• Eugene Mirman: Vegan on His Way to the Complain Store

• The Tarantino Collection

Several of Quentin Tarantino’s films are available on Netflix! If you missed Django Unchained or Inglourious Basterds while they were in theaters, or if you just feel like watching Reservoir Dogs for the thirteenth time, Netflix has you covered.

• The Twilight Zone

Finishing off the list is Rob Sterling’s absolutely classic anthology series of supernatural tales to thrill. The four available seasons have a combined total of 148 episodes of 25 minutes each. The best-written series ever made.

–Cameron Chamberlain

STAFF WRITER
GRACE DOWLING ’16
STAFF WRITER
CAMERON CHAMBERLAIN ’19
DOCTOR: Oh, hey. Don’t cry. I’m just givin’ you a hard time. You know us American doctors....ahaha.... we are really conversed people. We love saving your life just as much as we love making money off you. And I’m a pediatrician, for God’s sake. I don’t need to have my office open on Christmas. My wife just bought this mansion in Lake Forest and it was way outta our price range. Haha, look at me and my doctor ego, talkin’ bout myself while you’re in tears.... are you going to be ok to do this eye exam?

KID: Yeah. I’m sorry, Doc. It’s not your fault. My mom just got in this freak accident a couple of days ago. It’s been a rough holiday.

DOCTOR: Oh no!!! What happened???

KID: Mom was putting up my family’s Christmas tree and while she was carrying it to the living room, she slipped on some milk I spilled. The tree fell on her, and the pine needles from the tree punctured her eyes, like they were....(Starts sobbing) Like they were chicken kabobs, sir. It was horrific! She had to go to the emergency room. The surgeon said he’s never seen anything like it. He said the pine needles had the perfect velocity and angle to completely gouge out her eyes.

DOCTOR: Oh my. I’ve never heard anything like it.

KID: I know, and my family isn’t the most well off, and her insurance couldn’t cover her entire surgery, so I had to get a job bagging groceries at the Piggly Wiggly down the street.

DOCTOR: Well, I’m here to give you a hand. I’m going to give you a new eye exam, and I’m going to make sure that you’re going to be okay to do this surgery.

KID: You’re insane. I can only imagine what you’re like in public.

DOCTOR: My kids have been givin’ me a hard time lately for wearing socks and sandals in public. I guess you could say my sandals are a “no toe zone.” Eh??....ahaha....That joke is actually a perfect transition to our eye exam. I just got this new Parking Wars themed eye exam poster.

KID: You’re going to be my first patient to read it. I haven’t even read it yet, so I’m kind excited. Shall we?

**GOUGE HER EYES OUT!!!**

Group Project Leaves 3 Dead, 1 Wounded

ASHLEY LAMARRE ‘18
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A n Introduction to Psychology group project leaves three students dead and one slightly wounded after a Wednesday night meeting in the Donnelley and Lee Library to discuss a project that was going south.

Amanda Smith ’19 claims that an unknown assailant burst into their study room and began to use the sharpened candy canes, materials of their experiment, to brutally attack her group members.

This was a sudden occurrence, for these four unsuspecting freshmen. The fourth, the only one that made it out with some cut-up and sticky hands, provided us with the scandalous inside information on what transpired throughout the course of the project.

This group had the deadly mix of one over achiever, Smith, and three slackers who were prime examples of what can happen when the diffusion of responsibility kicks in. They had only met up one previous time, and this was only because the professor forced some in-class project time in which everyone seemed to be at least remotely interested in working with each other.

It wasn’t until Smith created a group chat in order to schedule more convenient times to meet that she realized no one had any intentions of doing the project. Out of the respect for the fallen students, we will leave out their names; one of the deceased had claim to have basketball practice all the time, when everyone knew that student wasn’t even on any team.

They were caught red handed playing video games in the Student Center when the basketball team had practice. Another of the deceased claimed that because they were a commuter, they could only meet at 5:00 a.m., which made everyone wonder how in the hell that is the most convenient time for any college student. Finally, the last of the deceased was just open and honest and admitted they didn’t give “two shits” about the project and was just taking this class pass/fail for a GEC requirement.

On the Wednesday night before the project was due, Smith managed to convince the others to at least come for the last round of data she was collecting, no one knew that that would have been the most inconvenient time for all. Smith claims that the sight was “horrific” yet the assailant spared the subjects to be tested and herself. When asked how the assailant burst into the study room if you need a key to get in, Amanda grew shiftly and claimed they must have broken the lock. Then when I asked her why her hands were found sticky and cut up with a scent of peppermint, she proceeded to yell, “They had it coming!” and catapulted off the second floor of the library to the first.

Some claim to have seen her disappear into a ravine, never to be seen again.
It’s Way Too Late To Make Up Those Participation Points

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Late last Sunday afternoon, 75 percent of Lake Forest College students realized with horror that it was way too late to make up those participation points. It was during the usual homework hours following the hangover-fueled cafeteria brunch that the victims remembered their class syllabi stashed away in a pocket of their notebook. Chaos ensued. Students on every floor of the library were seen hurriedly smoothing out crumpled and forgotten class schedules and frantically scanning pages for some glimpse of salvation.

Many students scrambled to their iPhone calendars to verify that the semester was, indeed, more than halfway over.

Experts on Participation Points said that many students involved in the incident had not even realized how many classes they had missed. “It was only after I looked at the syllabus when I noticed that I only remembered lectures on every other chapter. But, I thought I had to have been there for more periods than that. I knew I was being graded on my participation,” one perpetrator was caught saying. “I have been weeping over my agenda since I got here,” another confessed. “How was I to know the semester would go by this fast?”

Public Safety officers campus-wide were called in to try to calm the situation after one particularly distraught student began frantically emailing their professor begging for extra credit opportunities.

“We all got that email from Dean Flot a few weeks ago. Some people are taking serious issue with the “Pocahontas and John Smith” party held on campus, and I am too. Can you believe the nerve of some people? The outright DISRESPECT of some people? They didn’t even invite me!!!!!!

“What the hell???? I’m cool, I’m fun, I’m willing to perpetuate hurtful stereotypes until I throw up! I am trying to approach this from a rational standpoint, but I honestly don’t know that I can. The thought that a group of people would get together on this campus and organize such an event is mind-blowing. And on a school night! Everyone knows I love to turn up, especially when I should be doing homework.

Honestly, I am saddened and disappointed that this sort of behavior still takes place at Lake Forest College. I’m a junior. I should be invited to every party. I shouldn’t have to find out about cool opportunities to be racist from Dean Flot. I should find out from my friends.

In his email response to the party and the anger it caused, Dean Flot said, “Were College values undermined; maybe so.” Um, YES, Dean Flot. We’re talking about Forester Unity here. We’re talking about building a community. How can that community be built if I keep getting left out of the coolest, most inflammatory parties on campus?

Public Safety offices campus-wide were called in to try to calm the situation after one particularly distraught student began frantically emailing their professor begging for extra credit opportunities.

“The situation has escalated quite a bit since noon...We have at least 30 new cases of students who realized their grades were in jeopardy after receiving word from their friends via both iMessage and Facebook messenger. Our plan, as of now, is to keep students away from the 24-hour lab for the professors’ protection.

“If things worsen, we will take a step toward shutting down Outlook Webmail,” an officer on the scene assured. President Schutt has as yet to make an official comment on the library riots at this time, but an inside source leaked that he fears the remaining 25 percent of students will soon realize that they will be receiving C+ grades.

Is this offensive? “Maybe so”

REBECCA HOWELL ’17
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We all got that email from Dean Flot a few weeks ago. Some people are taking serious issue with the “Pocahontas and John Smith” party held on campus, and I am too. Can you believe the nerve of some people? The outright DISRESPECT of some people? They didn’t even invite me!!!!!!!

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THE Chicago Cubs Season

The Road to the Playoffs

by Grace Dowling (16)

1. Samantha Ryzcek (18):
"They have been doing great and it has been fun rooting for an awesome Chicago team."

2. Lexi Chlond (17):
"The chemistry between the team and their new coach has proven their skill and ability on the field. I'm excited to see what will come next spring."

3. Ellis Rutilli (17):
"The Cubs had a dope season. Probably the chilliest part about it was when Carlos Zambrano hit that jack straight over the ivy centerfield."

4. Harrison Seigel (16):
"I think they had a great turnaround."

5. Jenny McTague (17):
"It's about time! I couldn't have been more proud of how awesome this season was. The bolds and bullpen both came alive. They are a young team. It's only the beginning!"

6. Coco Ricalo (16):
"I thought the Cubs season was awesome. They were a lot of fun to watch and I think they inspired the city."

7. Matthew McPherson (17):
"The Cubs season made me experience something that I have never experienced before. The excitement and anticipation at Wrigley Field was contagious. However, I'm a huge Cardinals fan, which put a sour taste in my mouth that the Cubs were now performing well. Needless to say, it was new."

8. John Snider (16):
"Holy cow! What a season. They made it interesting and got me to watch baseball again."

9. Rocco DiMatteo (17):
"The Cubs were not supposed to win, but they prove the point where they had gotten this season. Being a Cubs fan all my life and sticking with them through the good and bad makes me excited to see what this ball club can do in the next couple of years."