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It was a Tuesday morning—the first sunny one we’d had in weeks. We crammed into a white minivan with three other Lake Forest College students, along with Donald Stanley in the driver’s seat. We were on our way to a protest in the heart of downtown Chicago to meet hundreds of other Illinois college students demanding support for the MAP (Monetary Assistance Program) grant.

We sat behind Parth Tank, a sophomore neuroscience major at Lake Forest College, who was the only recipient of the MAP grant that joined us on the trip. Parth has been living in Woodridge, Illinois for about six years. He works as a teacher’s assistant for Chemistry and does research at the Biolab.

Parth chose to attend Lake Forest College partially because it was affordable. Before he enrolled, he was awarded a MAP grant that covered a large amount of his college expenses. He gets about $5,000 a year from the MAP fund, and as a first-generation American immigrant, that money makes a huge difference.

Parth, like 400 other students at the College, is able to attend this school because of the MAP grant. But that financial security crumbled when he received an alarming email from President Schutt in January.

In the email, President Schutt wrote: “Last year, as you probably know, you were awarded a Monetary Assistance Program (MAP) grant from the State of Illinois to help you pay for your Lake Forest College education. What you might not know - and what you need to realize - is that the State has failed to transfer funds for your grant and grants to thousands of other students at Lake Forest and colleges across Illinois.”

In an interview, President Schutt further described the political standoff in the state capital: “There is a several million dollar shortfall in the state’s budget and the governor and legislators disagree over the best way to deal with that deficit.”

In the midst of this disagreement, the grants promised to hundreds of thousands of students have not been funded. According to President Schutt, some colleges in Illinois asked their students to defer for a semester until funds were sorted out. Young students facing thousands of dollars of debt are considering dropping out or transferring to colleges outside the state.

The protest we attended took place outside Chicago’s Thompson Center, where many offices of the Illinois state government are housed. It was below freezing with relentless winds, but the crowd was buzzing with the energy of over 200 protesters of all ages and all ideologies, who were all demanding the same thing.

Protesters waved posters with messages like, “Save our Education” and “Illinois Better Have My Money.” Si Se Puede (Spanish for “Yes We Can”) projected through the streets. Students yelled out, “Money doesn’t grow on trees; sign SB20431,” referring to a bill that Governor Bruce Rauner needed to sign in order to fund the MAP Grant. Rauner did not sign this bill despite the protests.

Parth was among the protesters. He normally has a quiet presence - a calm and go-with-the-flow attitude - but at the protest, a voice of urgency emerged.

The protest inspired concern in Parth. He told us he didn’t know much about the MAP grant’s impact on Illinois students before the protest, but now he “[wants] to support it as much as I can. It’s not just for me. Illinois students are in danger.”

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Caution: Icy Walkways Raise Student Concern

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Many students are concerned that, during the winter, the College is not taking enough measures to ensure a safe and ice-free environment. Areas that see heavy student traffic seem to become instantly covered with ice when temperatures plunge below freezing. However, others are perturbed by the prospect of using environmentally hazardous materials to clear the sidewalks.

Danielle Sychowski ’19 has concerns about the potential safety risks presented by the lack of salt use. Given the heavy icing between the library and Student Center, it is not surprising that minor accidents are prone to happen. Last month, Sychowski slipped and fell because the ice had not been adequately cleared. She is worried that the inadequate use of salt violates the College’s policy of putting the safety of students first.

A male freshman student pointed out another potentially hazardous spot. “The ramp leading to Reid Hall is like an ice-skating rink,” he said. He was concerned that the ice forming on the ramp often becomes a safety hazard to students who are using wheelchairs. This issue is important, as the ramp is the only wheelchair access to the building.

Some students believe that the College is intentionally restraining from using large amounts of salt in order to protect the environment. These students cite environmental concerns as the primary reason for their support of utilizing salt sparingly.

According to experts at the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Surfaces, the salt used to melt ice contains toxic pollutants. The chloride ion, which is often isolated in salt runoff, is corrosive and damaging to the environment.

Alice Hanline ’19 feels that the College should reduce the amount of salt used to melt ice. Hanline feels that the College should try to do more to protect the environment.

David Siebert, the Director of Facilities Management, stated that the College is not consciously decreasing the amount of salt it is using.

According to Siebert, the amount of salt used is, in fact, a significant expense to the College’s annual budget. Siebert shares the same environmental values as the students, but he is confident that salting is properly carried out, as the College is putting their safety first and that the icing program is closely monitored.

Even though environmental concerns exist, salt maintains a crucial role in de-icing and to prevent accidents on campus. As for the environment, the College strives to distribute salt as evenly as possible to prevent areas of concentrated pollution.

The ramp leading to Reid Hall is like an ice-skating rink.”
Lake Forest Students Start Delivery Service On Campus

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They met during the first month of their freshman year at a WMXM 88.9FM event. Since then, they have regularly attended other extracurricular activities together; in doing so, they have developed a long-lasting friendship that has lead to the first student-led delivery service on campus.

Tyler Armentrout’18 and Mariano Garcia Jr.’18 are two young entrepreneurs who, within a 24-hour time span, have launched Awubis, an on-campus delivery service that provides food and other items from various locations to any student’s dorm room.

“As freshmen, we heard a lot of people complaining about how far some things are [from campus]. One day we read an article about two entrepreneurs who created a new product every weekend, so we decided to challenge ourselves and we coded a website, implemented a service, and launched Awubis, all in one weekend,” Armentrout said.

Mariano Garcia had first bought the domain for Awubis thinking it was “a cool name for an URL.” Little did he know it would become one of the most successful student-led business ideas on Lake Forest College campus. It turns out that they receive their first request within the first four hours after launching the website on Sunday, February 21st. Consequently, they received multiple requests for orders that continue to come in.

“We told people that we would deliver the products as fast as we can. We are optimistic, but it’s been pretty underground now as we are concerned about the logistics and legalities,” Armentrout said.

While they have been having meetings with President Schutt and other administrative, Awubis seems to incentivize the creativity and leadership of other community members, which is why the college supports this beta-state project. Given that Awubis is a new service, they are still talking to people to make sure that the launch is successful.

Among the major concerns that could arise from the launching of the service is the potential competition. The possible competition from other Lake Forest College students represents a financial threat from an economic perspective. However, Armentrout is confident that Awubis can work among other delivery companies to provide a better service for students.

“We are really two hyperactive, ambitious freshmen who were looking to combine forces and do something together,” said Garcia. “Awubis is compromised to deliver “anything from the locations that we support on our website, except those products that require a government-issued ID, such as alcohol, cigarettes, and tobacco.”

Garcia, a computer science major, and Armentrout, finance major, have spoken with their professors about this idea. “Professor Amanda Felkey and Professor Stewart Foley have been really helpful” having their support, Armentrout said. He added that this support “is a beautiful thing.” Both have expressed professors are a large part of the reason why the idea is successful and why they came to Lake Forest College in the first place.

Regardless of their major area of study, other students are encouraged to launch their ideas. “Whatever it is you do, you can be an entrepreneur. It’s as simple as just having that mindset and being driven, constantly wanting to learn from other people. To ask questions, to be curious, to research, to find out more about this expansive world we live in. Go downtown and experience, speak with Lake Forest people, develop your ideas. It is kind of what Mariano and I have been doing. It’s been fun,” they both said.

For more information about Awubis, visit the official website, www.awubis.com.

Foresters Earn Money Without Leaving Their Rooms

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As a college student, time is really precious to me, so I try to research, to find out more about self by participating more on different challenges. A “solution” is an essay, or paragraphs, carefully composed that answers the problem in question. As a college student, time is really precious to me, which is why I do not implement or execute the solutions, I just purpose them. When answering the challenges, you will realize that most of the problems are not that complicated. If you can propose a simple, legitimate, and feasible method to solve the given challenge that is a job well done.

Since the company understands that we are just students, not professionals, there is less competition among participants. No harm and no foul intended.

“I got a lot more than money out of this site. I actually have stuff to put on my resume too.” Zach Augustyn ’18 said.

You can earn up to $80 dollars without submitting a thing and you only have to earn $20 more dollars to pull the money out via bank transaction. Use this code when you sign up to earn some quick cash and possibly break that free $100 dollar barrier on which some students seem to have a struggle: TR14CF415, just go to www.mindsumo.com.

If, while solving your challenge and earning easy money, you would like to know more about your favorite artists, Muspy is a free service that notifies you when they release new albums. Each day Muspy checks the MusicBrainz, an online music database, to see if the artists you follow have new releases, and notifies you if they do. Notifications are sent by email, so simply provide your email, fill your preferences, and enjoy the notifications. It is free to sign up.

“I love Muspy, Muspy loves me” Jeremy Levinson ’18 said.
L.E.A.P. meets every Tuesday at 4:30 P.M. in Ravine Lodge

L.E.A.P.s’ Mission to Introduce Reusable Bags

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L.E.A.P., which serves as an important environmental awareness group on campus, hopes to introduce a project that would allow for even greater conservation on campus: reusable bags. If you think about it, we are always given the choice for a bag whenever we go to the P.O.D., and chances are that most of the time people will say yes. But, have you ever thought about the implications that this poses on the environment?

L.E.A.P. Stands for “League for Environmental Awareness and Protection,” and its goals for this semester and moving forward include “reducing waste on campus, making our community aware of environmental issues, and fostering a school-wide appreciation of nature,” said L.E.A.P. President Kalina Sawyer ’18. To make this happen, L.E.A.P. has been collaborating very closely with Aramark and Lake Forest College as a whole.

After talking with Jason Micenko, Aramark Food Service Director, Sawyer confirmed that Micenko has ordered a supply of reusable bags, and that there may even be a market-based incentive for us P.O.D-dwellers. Woohoo!

Additionally, with the high demand on the receipts that are provided in order to check flex balance, Sawyer and L.E.A.P. are working to ensure that recycling bins will be recognizable near the P.O.D.

This March, L.E.A.P. will be hosting an event that will allow students to decorate and take home their own reusable bag. Through this event, L.E.A.P. hopes to educate students on the many negative consequences that plastic bags inflict on the environment. What negative consequences? Plastic bags take 1000 years to disintegrate while simultaneously releasing toxic chemicals, these chemicals then get into the environment and can harm animals, intestines, water, soil, and are ultimately a big no-no. So, after this event, hopefully students will understand how unfortunate and unnecessary plastic bags and receipts are, and their existence will be no more.

By the time you are reading this, L.E.A.P. will have already hosted their leap day celebration. Adorable animals such as bunnies and mini pigs will be brought to the College and students will learn about the process of the meat industry and animal testing. As part of this project, L.E.A.P. hopes that students will sign the pledge to boycott animal-tested products.

Overall, one can see how important L.E.A.P. is in providing environmental education to the Lake Forest College student body. The use of reusable bags and recycling bins would help tremendously in minimizing the harm inflicted on the environment. Make sure to go to the L.E.A.P. event in March, as your presence and participation are requested to make a change, together.

Club Spotlight: Student Government

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Leadership is one of the most emphasized values at Lake Forest College, and one of the ways many students chose to get involved and develop leadership skills is through Student Government. As a student-led organization with Aldo Guzman as a faculty supervisor, the Student Government oversees many aspects of the campus. These include, but are not limited to the approval of new clubs and organizations on campus, as well as the management of their budget and discretionary funds.

Such organizations and clubs are the ones that host events throughout the academic year, such as Winter Formal, Times Talks, Open Forum, etc. One of the goals of Student Government is to have the voices of students heard and promote more campus involvement. To do that, there are senators of different categories to represent each group of students.

There are four Class Senators for each class year and one Hall Senator for each residence hall. There are also different committee chairs, and each senator is required to be a part of at least one. Examples of committees are the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and the College Life Committee.

Another example is the Clubs and Organizations Committee (COC), which oversees different aspects of clubs and organizations. If a club wants to officially become part of the student community, they first have to go through COC to get approved.

Additionally, Student Government has a main executive board, which is made up of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Each Student Government member, regardless of his or her position, is required to hold certain number of office hours each month, so they can address the needs of students and members of the community.

Student Government member, regardless of his or her position, is required to hold certain number of office hours each month, so they can address the needs of students and members of the community.

If you have any concerns or questions, address them to any member of Student Government. Feel free to also come by their office hours. The office hours for executive board members are posted on a board next to Pearson Rooms and the ones for other members will be posted there soon.
To Raise or Not To Raise: That Is The Question

YES

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1. If the United States or even a single state were to raise the minimum wage, our country would benefit today. This is because, currently, we have zero inflation, which means our money is worth more. So if workers get paid more, they will have more money to buy things—their purchasing power would increase. Families would gain both financial security and an increased ability to purchase goods and services, consequently creating jobs for other Americans. I recognize that theory predicts that jobs would actually be lost if we increase the minimum wage, but that is only true if the minimum wage is above the equilibrium. Theory is not always practiced in reality.

2. Illinois’ minimum wage is $8.25 per hour since January 1, 2016. The local minimum wage for Chicago is $10.00 per hour, which is the same in the state of California. This adjustment between different regions is important because your minimum wage should be calculated based on your location’s expenses so you are able to live sustainably. If we had increased the federal minimum wage to $9.80 in July 2014, we would have helped 28 million workers receive an approximate $40 billion in additional wages over the following year. GDP would have also increased by roughly $25 billion, which would have resulted in about 100,000 net new jobs over that one-year period.

3. Increasing the minimum wage would encourage the unemployed to join the labor work force, but that would mean there is more competition for the job. There would be more of a supply of labor than the demand. Because of this employment shift, there would be fewer people on the street selling drugs, living in prostitution, experiencing depression, suffering from alcoholism, experiencing domestic abuse, and committing suicide (according to Professor Tuttle). There would be a decrease in unemployment, which is beneficial because the people who want to work will be able to do so.

4. If consumers get paid more, they will spend more and continue to promote economic growth, which helps our economy as a whole. Spending is good because it helps boost our gross domestic product (GDP), which is the economic measure of a country’s productivity. GDP is the country’s output/production of final goods and services.

5. If the federal government increases the minimum wage, it will help us match the increase in inflation in the future. Raising the minimum wage does not necessarily create inflation; however, we know from past experience to expect inflation sometime in the near future. When there is inflation, the minimum wage salary should at least be equated to the inflation rate in order for workers to have enough money to have the same purchasing power. Increasing the minimum wage would be a safety measure to ensure a worker’s financial future.

NO

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1. Raising the minimum wage creates a chain cycle effect: businesses must eventually raise prices in order to support paying higher wages to its employees and those earning minimum wage will end up not benefitting from more money in their pocket as that excess they’re earning from the raise is being spent on more expensive goods.

2. Employers of minimum wage workers often spend a considerable amount of time and effort training their employees. These newly taught skills make workers who begin at a minimum wage rate more valuable and gives them a chance to gain experience. Employers’ training of these workers allows them to fight their way into the middle class; however, if businesses must spend more on wages, they may become unwilling to take the time and money to train unskilled workers and choose to hire skilled workers instead, which would make it so much more difficult for those who are new to the workforce to gain the training and experience they need to continue moving up the employment ladder.

3. In the 1923 Supreme Court case, Adkins v. Children’s Hospital of District of Columbia, justices believed that minimum wage could be a violation of the constitutionally guaranteed freedom of contract that is embedded in the Fifth Amendment. They voiced the following opinion: “To the extent that the sum fixed exceeds the fair value of the services rendered, it amounts to a compulsory exaction from the employer for the support of a partially indigent person, for whose condition there rests upon him no peculiar responsibility, and therefore, in effect, arbitrarily shifts to his shoulders a burden which, if it belongs to anybody, belongs to society as a whole.”

4. Raising in the minimum wage eliminates jobs. The Congressional Budget Office (a nonpartisan organization) estimated that once President Obama’s proposed $10.10 wage would be fully implemented, 500,000 jobs would be lost.

5. Less than 3% of all wage and salary workers in the United States earn the minimum wage. If the minimum wage is raised, the price of goods will go up for everyone, which would result in less disposable income for the majority of working Americans.
Access #TheWoodLounge

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Calvin Durand Hall, affectionately known as the Wood Lounge, is one of the most visually arresting spaces on the Lake Forest College campus.

Built by famed architect Howard Van Doren Shaw in 1907-8 and modeled on the dining hall at Trinity College, Cambridge, its soaring wooden beams, walls of leaded glass windows, and dark paneled wainscot punctuated by fluted pilasters exemplify a handsome and refined Collegiate Gothic aesthetic.

The Wood Lounge is one of the College’s historic gems. It is also a beloved study area and a tangible element of our school’s culture; the Lounge’s implicit (and strict) policy of silence has been passed down year after year from seniors to first years.

A student’s priority, especially at a rigorous college, is to study. Everything else, from extracurriculars, guest lectures, career events etc., should be secondary. However, it seems our College has confused its priorities.

Over the years, the Wood Lounge has been the victim of a haphazard slew of poorly-attended events feeding every spectrum of the Forester Five rainbow.

Disassembling the Lounge not only damages its furniture and floors, but abandoning it on the weekends denies students their cherished academic refuge.

Instead we are forced in a disheartened exodus into the emotionally sterile library, or into our prison-like dorm lounges. There we torture our eyes under obnoxiously bright CFL bulbs, suffer through a clamor of blaring espresso machines, chattering peers, and flushing toilets, and ‘lounge’ on the stiff polygonal furniture that seems more suitable for an asylum than academia.

To make matters worse, lack of maintenance on the Lounge has left its wainscot and radiator covers buckling from water damage and several of its windows inoperable.

The balcony suffers from tilting tables, rundown railings, and filthy carpet.

Still, the College was able to come up with funds to remove the historic leaded glass window on the second floor and replace it with a vinyl door that would be equally at home on the side of an ethanol plant.

It also bought a number of vinyl chairs and blue couches from a circa 1993 YMCA daycare to replace their tattered predecessors – decoration that is jarringly out of place with the Lounge’s intended aesthetic.

The trusses of this Oxbridge-esque room are choked with banners denoting our ability to “ACCESS #EDGE,” whatever that means.

If unclear, this is a reminder to the College administration that sensitivity to historic space cannot be optional.

The problem with this antipathy is twofold: it disrespects the integrity of the building and it damages the culture that encompasses it.

The College is blessed with priceless architecture from some of the most significant firms in Chicago. The genius of these buildings speaks for itself… no “#edge” adhesive need be stuck on for us as students to appreciate it.

Either the College needs to prioritize renovating other spaces to make them more aesthetically pleasing and usable, or it needs to envision new venues so as not to interrupt a deeply cherished academic space or damage our architectural heritage.

In a Perfect World, We Wouldn’t Have Cars

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I strongly believe in the benefit of public transport for everyone and I also believe people should walk more and drive less, both due to personal health and environmental reasons.

I am in no position to give advice, make judgments or attempt to change anyone’s view on life, but I think students should really think twice before getting in a car just to drive from the library to South or from North to the Walgreens in Lake Forest, especially on a beautiful, sunny day.

A lot of Lake Forest College students choose to have or not have cars for various reasons.

“Cars are always useful,” Binam Bajracharya ’19 said, but he thinks having a car would be more useful if campus was closer to Chicago. “There is nowhere much to go,” he added.

Sara Jankovic ’18 prefers to use Metra, she said, because having a car on campus is expensive for an international student. She agrees that “for people who need it for commuting, it’s a viable option.”

Upperclassmen do indeed have priority when it comes to having a car parked on campus, but it is not as if freshmen are completely forbidden to have cars. If a freshman provides a valid reason as to why they need a car, they will be allowed to have it; an example of a “valid reason” would be the necessity of driving to appointments that are scheduled at regular intervals.

I think either everyone should be subjected to the same control and asked to provide reasons for why they need a car, or none should be asked.

In my opinion the best solution would be for cars to be forbidden for everyone, but this isn’t a realistic solution since a large portion of our students commute. The most feasible thing to do would be a stricter screening of those who own cars.

Since this is a campus full of students and the consumption of various substances that impair thinking isn’t exactly a rare occurrence, we need to consider all the amount of driving that happens under those conditions, the risk of unwanted accidents and the danger this poses to students’ lives.

In a perfect world, we wouldn’t have cars. In the current world, it would be great if we could at least have fewer cars and drive less.
10 Ways to Have a Better Conversation

Celeste Headlee, the host of the program "On Second Thought!" and once the Midwest correspondent for NPR’s "Day to Day," gave a talk on 10 ways to have a better conversation. It was surprising to hear some of the things she said about conversation, and the manner in which we approach talking to one another, she mentioned that in a study of 10,000 American adults, (and) they found that at this moment, we are more polarized, we are more divided, than we ever have been in history. We’re less likely to compromise, which means we’re not listening to each other.

So how do we go about changing this?

1. Don’t multitask.

Though we believe it to be possible, we really can’t multitask at all. While we may think we are effectively accomplishing two tasks at once, we end up just half-heartedly doing two things at one time. Headlee mentions that if you don’t want to be in the conversation then get out of it, don’t be half in and half out.

2. Don’t pontificate.

In other words, don’t talk in a manner that shows you think you are always right. Headlee makes her point by saying “If you want to state your opinion without any opportunity for response or argument or pushback or growth, write a blog.” Speaking to someone that takes on a dogmatic attitude is boring and leaves no room for growth in the conversation.

3. Use open-ended questions.

This gives the other person more room to share their experience with their own words, rather than just answering “yes” or “no” to a closed-ended question.

4. Go with the flow.

Don’t get stuck on one comment or question, listen to the whole answer.

5. This point is pretty simple.

If you don’t know, say that you don’t know.

6. Don’t equate your experience with theirs.

All experiences are individual and it’s never the same. It’s not about you at that point, and sometimes the other person just needs someone to listen.

7. Try not to repeat yourself.

It’s boring.

8. Stay out of the weeds.

Forget the details, leave them out. Don’t stress out about details like years and dates, people want to know about you and what you may have in common.

9. Listen.

This is the most important point of these ten. I’m going to quote Headlee here because she says it so well:

"We get distracted. The average person talks at about 225 words per minute, but we can listen at up to 500 words per minute. So our minds are filling in those other 275 words. And look, I know, it takes effort and energy to actually pay attention to someone, but if you can do that, you’re not in a shouting out barely related sentences in the same place.

10. Be brief.

Wednesday, from 10-12 pm, subject yourself to Spiritual Exercises put on by Cass Balzer ’16 and Spencer Michaud ’16.

This radio show is one of a kind in this day and age. They play some of the heaviest music they can find, just for you, every week. The music is raw and open-ended. And is only for those true music lovers that seek to gain something from their listening experience.

They also play other types of music like folk and what have you, but they want people to truly listen to the lyrics of the songs and all the other aspects of it. “We play challenging music because we want listeners to be pushed out of their comfort zones and give them a new experience that they learn from.” - Cass.

The show is called The Spiritual Exercises because they hope you gain some kind of enlightenment through their show. They also look for you to learn from the many subcultures of metal they play: like drone, slug, and crust. When it comes to metal, they have an endless amount of choices to pick from because the subcultures of metal are constantly growing and new ones are always popping up, so one never knows what they will play for their listeners.

“I still listen to them,” Nate Sousa, a Lake Forest College alum, had to say despite being graduated for almost a year now.

Cass started off as an archivist for WMXM before taking over the Metal MC position, and now she runs the club and does stuff like organizing things, filling positions, and the usual paperwork.

Her show is only going to be around for the rest of this semester because both of the DJs in charge are graduating this spring. Be sure to try and listen to a couple of the shows they offer before they go off the WMXM air for good.

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Movie Reviews, Oscar Picks

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It’s time for your movie reviews! So, with the Oscar deadline long past and the Academy Awards ceremony just over, this is usually the time when the film season dies down. You can count on action-packed superheroes and franchise films to attract box-office attention.

Here were my predictions for the winners: The Revenant, Brie Larson for Best Actress, Kate Winslet or Alicia Vikander for Best Supporting Actress, Spotlight for Best Film, Alejandro Inarritu for Best Director, and Leo, finally!! The rest, well that was up to the Academy. Now, let’s begin with what’s hot right now.

DEADPOOL with Ryan Reynolds and Morena Baccarin. Okay this movie was not what I expected! It’s about a man who is forced to become a superhero after becoming ill. It’s not your run-of-the-mill superhero movie, though. It’s rated R for violence and surprisingly, raunchy language. It’s pretty funny and in a different way than you would expect. It’s also number one at the box office. So Go see it! 2 1/2-3 stars, sorry I can’t decide!

ZOOLANDER 2 with Ben Stiller and Owen Willson. Derek is back to his old ways. After returning to a fashion show in Rome, Derek and Hansel see how much the fashion world has changed. They eventually come across Penelope Cruz’s character of an agent needing their help to stop the murders of pop stars all over the world. Can he do it? Relax, don’t do it, when you’re not gonna go to it. Relax I’m totally kidding, or am I? It’s a big downgrade from the first, but I guess you could go? 1 1/2 star.

Okay, so since the theaters are in a lull right now with giving the best choices, and since I’ve reviewed pretty much all of the movies in past articles, I want to put the spotlight on some Netflix awesomeness.

Breaking Bad fans!!! I hope you’ve been watching Better Call Saul. If you haven’t, no sweat! The first season is on Netflix, and the second season is only on its 3rd episode! It features Jimmy McGill, better known as rambunctious lawyer Saul Goodman, and his life before his time on Breaking Bad. It shows his rise as a lawyer, and the things you never would have guessed about him.

Also, Dope is a new release, Netflix is stepping up their game! Dope follows central, nerd character Malcolm, and his struggles in a rough neighborhood. Things seem hard, but when given an opportunity, he and his friends go on a fun adventure throughout one of the best cities in the world: Los Angeles, The City that Never Sleeps.

Anyway, that’s all I have for you in this edition of Movie Reviews. I hope you tuned into the Oscars. A.k.a. the movie extravaganza of the year! Let’s see if I was right or if I was wrong with my predictions. Until next time!
Texan Student Terrified of Snow

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Chinophobia: the crippling fear of frozen precipitation. While this word may not mean a whole lot to the average Illinoisan, it means everything to one special forester here on our campus in winter.

Today, we tackle a story of fear and loss.

Bruce Holtman is a freshman here on campus, hailing from Arlington, Texas. Like all eager young souls ready to begin their journey here at Lake Forest College, he arrived for New Student Orientation in August. For Bruce, life was as sweet as fresh Texan sweet-tea. The weather was warm. The tender embrace of mother nature was reminiscent of his homestead.

Then, something previously unimaginable began to occur. The leaves changed. The sun began its humble retreat. Bruce could feel his vigor fading like a candle left in the whipping wind. His bones longed for the desert heat that he was raised in. Then, one day, just when he was sure that God could not forsake him any further… it happened.

We have a direct interview with Bruce to recount the fateful day. He gave me full permission to use this information.

Dean: “So Bruce, what was it like when you saw it for the first time?”

Bruce: “I… I remember walking out of the student center… the sky was grey… like purgatory. I took my first steps… and I saw it… falling.”

Dean: “Saw what?”

Bruce: “The nightmare… it hit my cheek, and it stung me like a cold blade. I fell on the pavement… I thought I had been shot.”

Dean: “And then what happened?”

Bruce: “… More of it fell… I knew I only had a limited amount of time before Satan’s spawn overtook me. I scrambled to the car and used my Apple watch to call my personal valet boy to come and sacrifice his body to save me from the fodder of the heavens. He used himself to shield me from the snow, and he carried me into the car… off of the wet pavement…”

Dean: “… And?”

Bruce: “Once in the car, I looked down… and he was dead. He was shocked senseless by the snowflakes barring his tender skin. The cold had overtaken him.”

Dean: “Dear God… why weren’t the Texas students informed of how lethal the snow is to their systems?”

Bruce: “We weren’t aware of the dark mysticism of the north — the wrath of the sky.”

Dean: “How’d you escape the snow?”

Bruce: “By this time, a quarter inch of snow had already formed a wall preventing me from driving. I never learned to operate a snowy vehicle. I was trapped like a castaway at sea. On the quad, I could see sick bastards playing in the same substance that killed my driver. I prayed for salvation.”

Dean: “… And this was when pub-safe broke open the car to carry you back to Nollen?”

Bruce: “Yes sir. Those men saved my life…”

If there’s any lesson to learn here folks, it’s to educate yourself on a school’s climate before committing to a four-year education there.

Lake Forest College Embarrassed by Lightweight Drinkers at Winter Formal

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The College has issued a statement of apology to its fellow party schools, attempting to explain the poor display of alcohol tolerance at last weekend’s Winter Formal. After complaints from Venue Six10 custodian staff about the volume of vomit, discouraged administrators felt the need to address this breach of college etiquette. Lake Forest College has a proud history of riotous behavior due to excessive alcoholic consumption, but this last weekend’s turn of events tarnished Lake Forest College’s legacy. There were students vomiting after a single shot of alcohol. Can you believe it? This writer is appalled at the conduct of her peers. If you are going to drink underage, you had better do it right.

After the event had ended, the venue was a veritable war zone. The floor was strewn with shards of glass, many of which found their way into the feet of drunken dancers. The ER at the Swedish Covenant Hospital was overwhelmed by the flood of drunk college students with severe gashes in their feet; one nurse told us, “I can’t believe these are Lake Forest students; they usually hold their alcohol so well.” A passer-by remarked, “I don’t know if Lake Forest can come back from this blow to its reputation.”

Amidst these dire times, the College aims to find a silver lining. Many friendships were formed in the bathroom stalls that night; according to the Dean of Students, “the adversity of Saturday night has, in fact, forced students to ENGAGE WITH COMMUNITY (one of the Forester Five).” He said, “their nausea allowed them to LEAD THE WAY (another Forester Five) to the bathroom; as they ran into the stall, they were forced to THINK WITH PURPOSE (Forester Five) so as not to vomit on the floor. By EMBRACING THE DIVERSITY (Forester Five) of alcoholic drinks, students ACHIEVED THEIR GOALS (F.O.R.E.S.T.E.R. F.I.VE) getting turnt.”

We at The Stentor encourage students to support each other and maintain optimism during this difficult time. Let’s make Lake Forest College great again.
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In 1962, Lake Forest College students Roof Cecil 64’ (the coolest/sickest kid in the school) and Latchkey Lispsing Lenard 63’ (his awkward lisping best friend) were in the library and came across the endeared Lake Forest College poem, “Wood You Lounge With Me?” written by Alexander Cummings, class of 1869. Latchkey Lispsing Lenard aka 3L’s read the poem out loud to Roof Cecil aka R.C.

3L’s: “Wood you lounge withhh me?
Wood you pal withhh me?
I’m a thsturdy friend.
Lend me your time.
Hit me up whenever you like.
Think of me as your grandfathher.
Hit me up whenever you like.
Lend me your time.
I'm a thsturdy friend.
Lend me your time.
Hit me up whenever you like.
Think of me as your grandfathher.”

R.C: Challenged accepted! That creepy old lounge deserves to be burned down.

3L’s: Yeah, it’s sssooo weird. I think it’sssss haunted…You ssstooill got the sssthesse matchessss?
R.C: No, I used them all up on my sscented candles.

3L’s: ‘You’re an RA and you keep candlesss in your room. You’re sssooooo bad.
R.C: (laughs) Lisps about something I don’t know. I play by my own rules.

3L’s: Cola R.C….I mean cool it R.C. ‘Sssstsy humble.
R.C: Oh… I’m, Gucci boss (It was the 60s and R.C was using the slang term “boss,” which became mainstream in the late 70s, and “Gucci,” which became popular in 2010ish. R.C was a trendsetter with no cool ceiling. Some say he invented cool).

3L’s: I know B.B (Betty Boop) has matches. Let’s just go ask her. She’s probably studying in The Wood Lounge right now.

3L’s and R.C go to The Wood Lounge, where they find B.B sitting down, reading To Kill a Mocking Bird while smoking a cigarette (remember it’s 1962, so this was common).

3L’s: B.B! Wanna bum me a ssquare?
R.C: Yeah B.B. You tryna hobo me a rhombus? (This phrase has yet to become popular among the masses).

B.B: No, this is my last cigarette.
R.C: Run along boys. Let B.B read.

3L’s: Actually, we came here to ask if we could borrow some matches to burn down The Wood Lounge.

B.B: What? You can’t just burn down The Wood Lounge. Who do you guys think you are?

3L’s: Well my name issss Latchkey Lispsing Lenard, and thhhhis here lounge isss creepy and old, ssso it deserves to be burned.
R.C: Yeah B.B, this here wood lounge is haunted. Study spaces shouldn’t have any traces of ambiguity. Yug dig my shovel? B.B throws her cigarette bud on the floor and get’s up in the faces of R.C and 3L’s.

B.B: Since when does anything in life make sense, R.C? Besides, I bet if you just tried learning more about The Wood Lounge’s history, you wouldn’t find it so scary and mysterious.

3L’s: She’s right R.C. You know, I may have a lissssp, but I’m beginning to think thithe only reason why I hangout withhh you is because I thought you talk cool, but now I’m beginning to realize that you don’t have a clue about what you’re saying.
R.C: Oh, I got a clue. Don’t question me mark.

B.B: R.C The Wood Lounge is a gentle giant that never hurt a fly. Sure, it may be a little corky and the people that study in it may seem like woodmani worshipers, but I promise you. There is nothing to be afraid of.
The cigarette B.B tossed on the ground starts to slowly catch fire.

R.C: (laughs) Woodmanti. I like what you did there. Well, I feel stupid. Maybe I do need to stop hiding behind my lingo and let my guard down a little.
The fire behind B.B starts to catch fire in the entire lounge. B.B and all the other kids studying in the lounge begin morphing into demons.

3L’s: Holy sssnikes! Thhhe lounge is on fire!
R.C: Are we in hell?!
3L’s and R.C burned to death, but as we all know, The Wood Lounge still stands strong today. SO, WHEN YOU TRY TO KILLA WOOD LOUNGE, DA LOUNGE WILL KILL YOU. DON’T FUCC WITH THE LOUNGE!

Student Prays for the Sweet Release of Death After a Long Night of Drinking

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LAKE FOREST, IL— This morning, after a heroic battle against the worst foe...sing hangover of his life, Alan Goodman ’17 has lost the will to live. Goodman spent last night celebrating his twenty-first birthday at the Lantern with enough alcohol to take down a bull elephant. The group left campus at around 10:30 p.m. and walked to the venue. What started out as a fun night out quickly got out of hand when someone took out a super soaker of vodka.

Goodman passed out in front of Young Hall on Middle Campus. He was grabbed by his ankles and dragged to his dorm room by passersby around 3:00 a.m., witnesses said.

“Please, dear God, just let me die. I don’t want to live with this quality of life,”

Goodman groaned from his bed. Closely monitored by Health Center staff, he is currently being treated with saltines and water.

“I wish I had seen the signs. It’s hard to see him just lying there. I feel so helpless,” said David Harrison, Goodman’s best friend from Highland Park.

Goodman is currently in a stable but vegetative state surrounded by friends and family in his South Campus dorm.

Op-Ed: STOP CENSORING ME!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
Michelle Greeneway was named Northern Collegiate Hockey Association Player of the Year for the second time in her career on Thursday. Four teammates joined her on the All-NCHA Team and another earned a spot on the league’s All-Freshman Team.

Greeneway, a senior forward, leads the nation with 33 goals, 46 points, and eight game-winning scores this season. She is also tied-for-sixth in the country with six power play goals. She has recorded at least one point in all but three games so far this year and has scored at least one goal in 19 of 25 contests with a dozen multi-goal performances. Her program record 103 career goals rank tied-for-fourth in NCAA Division III history. Greeneway has now been named First Team All-NCHA four times and she earned her other NCHA Player of the Year award as a sophomore.

Sophomore Olivia Spellmire joined Greeneway on the list of six All-NCHA forwards. She set a program record and ranks second in the league and fourth in the nation with 27 assists. In addition, her 40 points are the third-most in the NCHA and rank tied-for-sixth in the country. Spellmire recorded at least one point in 17 of 25 games this season and two or more 13 times.

Senior Alex Stensland made her third straight appearance on the All-NCHA Team and ranks tied-for-second among league defensemen with 19 points. She was also-tied-for-fifth in the nation in points per game by a defenseman. Her eight goals on the season are the conference’s second-highest total among players at her position and her three short-handed scores led the league. Stensland now has 49 assists in her career, which ranks third in program history.

Sophomore defensemen Kayla Griffith was also named All-NCHA after earning the same honor a year ago. She has six goals and 13 assists to match Stensland’s point total on the year. In addition to their contributions to the team’s scoring output, Griffith and Stensland has helped Forester goaltenders face just 19 shots on goal per contest, easily the lowest total in the conference.

Senior Allie Carter was one of two All-NCHA goaltenders. Her league-best 1.12 goals against average and .947 rank second and ninth in the nation, respectively, and she also leads the conference with five shutouts. She has allowed more than two goals in a game just once in 17 appearances this season. Carter is currently the program’s career leader in save percentage (.927) and goals against average (1.62).

Forester forward Amy Budde was one of six players named to the NCHA All-Freshman Team. She ranks second in the conference and tied-for-fourth in the nation with 25 points and her 20 assists are the fifth-most in the league.

Lake Forest’s five All-NCHA selections were the highest total in the league. The Foresters finished second in the NCHA standings with a conference record of 15-2-1 and enter this weekend’s semifinal round of the NCHA Slaats Cup Playoffs with a team record 20 victories against just three losses and a pair of ties.

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Sports

#20 Lake Forest Picked to Repeat as MWC Champion

The Midwest Conference released its 2016 Softball Preseason Coaches Poll and season preview on Friday and Lake Forest College was atop the list. The Foresters were also ranked 20th in the country in the National Fastpitch Coaches Association Preseason Poll.

Voting for the league’s preseason poll is done by the MWC head softball coaches. Each coach votes for the other 10 schools in the conference in order of predicted finish. Points are assigned in reverse order of voting (10 points for first, nine for second, etc.). Coaches may not vote for their own teams. The Foresters were listed first on nine of 10 ballots and received 98 of a possible 100 points.

The tournament champion will receive the league’s automatic bid to the NCAA Division III Tournament, which will begin on May 12.

Lake Forest is looking for its third consecutive conference title and the ninth in program history, more than any other active member of the league. The team returns 14 letter winners and seven all-conference honorees, including 2015 MWC Pitcher of the Year Jessi Werner and fellow First Team All-MWC selections Kaleigh Ambrose, Alex Hemmer, and Sally Snarski.

The Foresters posted a 35-11 overall record last season, hosted and won a four-team NCAA Division III Regional Tournament, and finally had its season come to an end against Alma College in the super regional round.

The NFCA’s Preseason Poll was released on February 3 and Lake Forest was the only Midwest Conference school in the top 25. The Foresters are scheduled to take on at least three other top-25 teams, beginning with a season-opening doubleheader at #18 Emory on March 6. Lake Forest will also compete at the prestigious NFCA Classic, where the team will face #11 Alma to begin pool play on March 11 and could take on any of nine other ranked programs in its three bracket games. In addition, the Foresters will host #16 Illinois Wesleyan University in a doubleheader on March 26.

Jim Schick Named Second Team All-MWC

The Midwest Conference released its 2015-16 all-conference men’s basketball teams on Thursday and, for the second straight season, Lake Forest College’s Jim Schick was a Second Team selection.

Schick, a junior forward, leads the league in rebounding at both ends of the court and his 11.0 boards per game overall rank 15th in the nation. He is also seventh in the MWC with 15.8 points per contest, third with a .553 field goal percentage, and sixth with 34 minutes player per game. Schick has reached double figures in both points and rebounds 12 times this season to lead the conference and rank tied-for-33rd in the country in double-doubles.

With 242 rebounds, Schick owns the program’s highest single-season total since 1981 and his 8.4 rebounds per contest over the course of his career rank fourth in team annals.

The 2015-16 Foresters finished their 18-game conference schedule with a record of 10-8, good for fourth place in the standings. They also enter this weekend’s four-team MWC Tournament at St. Norbert College with an overall mark of 12-10.

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Pictured: Jim Schick

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