Away from home, Lawrentians cope with tsunami

Beth McHenry

With a current death toll of more than 155,000, the under-seen disaster of December 26 and the resulting tsunami is sure to be remembered as one of the worst natural disasters in history. However, for Lawrence students with family, friends, and homes in affected countries — primarily Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, Thailand, Somalia, and Malaysia — the tsunami and its effects are unusually personal.

As with any disaster, the news of the tsunami was unbelievable for many. Alvina Tan was shocked to hear that her home country, Malaysia, had experienced a tsunami. "No one would ever imagine a tsunami would happen in Malaysia; we are hardly exposed to any kind of natural disasters, except for floods and the occasional landslides. It wasn't until I read in the newspapers and saw on CNN the magnitude of the earthquake/tsunami and its impact, that I realized that it was true.

The devastation caused by the earthquake and tsunami is monumental. Unfortunately, there is reason to believe that numbers in the news here in the United States are not accurately portraying the death tolls. Scientists estimate that technology and techniques used in censuses in many of the affected countries, such as Indonesia, are inaccurate. In another example, Tan relates that friends in Myanmar have said that Myanmar is not featured in the news as much as areas with less serious damage, perhaps for political reasons.

Of course, survivors of the tsunami are now faced with the aftermath of the disaster. Those who are experiencing the full-out descriptive images of sickness proportions. The family of Freya D'almeida, like others in Sri Lanka, has been working around the clock with relief efforts. However, there are simply not enough medical supplies, medicines, money, or people to adequately care for the dead and dying.

D'almeida related that in Sri Lanka, the bodies of the dead are being burned; there is no longer enough space, time, or manpower to bury the corpses. Furthermore, the ecosystem could not accommodate the sheer numbers of such an undertaking. According to one BBC correspondent, "a stench hangs over Sri Lanka." In some areas, says D'almeida, people step over bodies "like they are stones in the street."

Furthermore, the rebuilding of most areas will be extremely difficult. D'almeida says that the most of the hotels in Sri Lanka were destroyed. Since Sri Lanka relies on the tourist trade, she adds that the country will not be the same for countless years.

For Lawrentians, the most difficult part of the past weeks has been sitting idle waiting for news of family and friends and the frustrating inability to help. Tan says that the concern extended not only to her own family and friends but also to lawrentians abroad. "For Lawrentians, the most difficult part of the past weeks has been sitting idle waiting for news of family and friends and the frustrating inability to help. Tan says that the concern extended not only to her own family and friends but also to lawrentians abroad."

Lawrence to add permanent athletic director position

Andy York

This past week, Dean of the Faculty Kathy Murry sent an e-mail and a press release out to students, faculty staff and the general public stating that Lawrence is in the process of looking to hire a permanent athletic director. Currently the athletic director is Kim Tate, the head softball coach, and her assistant athletic director is John Tharp, men's basketball coach.

The switching over from coaches possessing the athletic director position to a new full-time staff member is due to changes of the athletic department's budgeting and acting procedures. Murry is quoted in the release stating "it has become apparent that we need a full-time administrator, an individual who is not tied to any coaching responsibilities, to provide strong leadership for this department with which more than 30 percent of our students are involved.

The funding for the new full-time administrative position is newly found due to some reconfiguring of the athletics department. The move toward a full-time athletic director position is one that is becoming increasingly popular at the Division III level. Five of the nine schools in the Midwest Conference have an athletic director who is not a coach at the college or university, and in the WLC, the conference that has all the University of Wisconsin schools in it, only UW-River Falls does not have a full time athletic director.

The timing of the announcement comes as Murray and President Beck are beginning an extensive look at the athletic department, and are looking to attempt to trim its budget. According to the United States Department of Post-Secondary Education, the athletic department budget for Lawrence in 2003-04 was a whopping $1,063,185.

There is an immediate nationwide search underway for the new athletic director, who will attempt to aid in the budget cutting procedure. The committee who will be selecting the new athletic director is the faculty and student members of the Committee on Recreation and Intercollegiate Athletics. Currently the only student member on that committee which is appointed by LUCC is Sara Compa. Members of the athletics staff will also be in on the selection committee.

Lawrence has one of the most diverse athletics programs in the state. While there are many schools similar, and much larger in size than Lawrence, LU has the second largest athletics department behind the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Madison has 22 intercollegiate athletic teams, while Lawrence is a close sec- ond with 23. The athletic teams compete in a wide variety of conferences as well.

Most Lawrence athletic teams compete in the Midwest Conference.

continued on page 2

Web registration to pull Lawrence out of 1900s

Katy Stanton

According to Norman, a Saint Norbert senior and member of the Committee on Recreation and Intercollegiate Athletics, the current system of registration is outdated and inefficient.

"It's in need of an update," Norman suggests that in preparing for the upcoming transition, students get familiar with Lawrence's Voyager system, watch their e-mail for updates, and attend the forthcoming practice session.

Students and faculty members will be able to practice from February 14-25, essentially recreating their current schedules in order to familiarized themselves with the format and process. The first round of registration for the 05-'06 school year begins on April 24 and runs through May 5, and advanced registration for 05-'06 continues from May 9 through June 4. The transition should be smooth and glitch-free.
Chuck Erickson, 03, had a story to tell his fellow Lawrenceans last night with AIDS. Resource Center of Wisconsin worker Joe Brooks, 03, met "HIV and AIDS: Breaking the Silence.

The story begins in an Ames, Iowa, hospital where — on June 16, 2004, at 11:30 p.m. — Erickson was diagnosed with AIDS. "I will never forget it for the rest of my life," Erickson said in a phone interview Wednesday. According to Erickson, the doctor who diagnosed him was very "emotional" since, "I was the third person she had ever had to tell that to," Erickson said.

The diagnosis came as a complete shock to Erickson. He had, in fact, been tested for HIV three months prior, and had been told that he was negative. Erickson had been hospitalized in May due to a case of bronchitis that developed into pneumonia. He had gone to the emergency room for treatment of a 105-degree fever that had not broken for several days. Eventually, Erickson was placed in the intensive care unit, where his fever eventually broke. While doctors had run a battery of tests, they had found no cause for concern.

Erickson’s medical difficulties until June 16, just as Erickson was preparing to leave the hospital. Erickson’s case is unusual in that he was diagnosed with AIDS without ever having been diagnosed with HIV. The doctors in Ames discovered Erickson had AIDS when they counted his immune system’s T-cells. The average person has over 2,000 T-cells, when Erickson was first tested, he had 16. Zero T-cells only occur after death, and a T-cell level of 100 or below means a patient consistently has a T-cell count below 200. Erickson’s case was so rare that his infectious disease specialist told him that if he did not accept his various AIDS medications, Erickson would die within four weeks.

"I started planning life both ways, if I should live, and if I should die," Erickson said. One of Erickson’s first orders of business was to call his brother in the Phi Kappa Tau and Sigma fraternity. Three Phi Kappa Tau came to help Erickson over Fall term: Dan Pelzer, Patrick Michalson, and Peter Iveren.

"I got better. I’m doing much better," Erickson said. After his recovery, Erickson returned to campus, once again "because Phi Tau was looking for more outreach stuff and more people." As a case in point, Erickson cites the AIDS Drug Assistance Program, which provides AIDS victims with their AIDS drugs completely paid for by the federal government. According to Erickson, the program was intended to be funded forever, but he suspects that funding has diminished during the Bush administration.

The lack of funding basically forced Erickson to wait for the 10 laws he awaited on his waiting list to die of AIDS. For the first few months, he paid for his medicine out-of-pocket, about $250 daily. Essentially, he felt like the government had told him, "We don’t think you can be rehabilitated, so we don’t really care about you." Erickson said the improvement in Erickson’s condition, however, was due to his medicine down to less than $50 per day, all of which is now covered by the AIDS Drug Assistance Program.

"Although it is difficult living with AIDS, Erickson insists that the disease is not the "death sentence" it was in the 1980s. In fact, Erickson is in his last year of study for his master’s degree in students affairs from Iowa State University, and works two jobs on campus: full plans to keep trucking on and I have full plans to get a Ph.D.," Erickson said. "I’ve now become a do­men, or a vice president of student affairs at a small college. "The only difference between his job prospects before he got AIDS and now, Erickson said, is that he must look for a jobs located near infectious disease special­ists, who are generally found only in metropolitan areas.

Erickson believes that his mes­sage is particularly important to Lawrence students because, "You’re the future of the United States ... I want this to be part of the Lawrence education. Students need to find their passion in life, and remember that there are others who are not as fortunate as you, and find ways to help other people as best you can."

Students and faculty members who returned to the Lawrence campus this past weekend most likely experienced feelings of frustration when their internet services were either down or very slow. Over the past few days, computer services has identified the main source of the problem and staff members have been working overtime to fix it.

There are two different problems which ultimately combine to slow down the network. The first problem, computer viruses, is one that staff have been alerted to frequently, yet it still remains an issue. This is due to stu­dents not having up-to-date anti-virus software.

Students without anti-virus soft­ware are often unaware of the prob­lems they create mainly because viruses cause false traffic and "run behind the scenes," explained user services manager Dana Reese-Schmidt.

Messages from computer Services have been sent out via e-mail and voice mail, urging students to get up-to-date anti-virus software. Students that do not have anti-virus software are urged to make sure it is updated. Software that may have been purchased with your computer, such as Norton, will require that you update your sub­scription, typically annually.

There is anti-virus software available free of charge from computer serv­ices, which can be downloaded going to www.lawrence.edu/dept/com­puter_services/AV.

The second problem concerns music downloading and game-playing on the network by students. When files are shared via music programs like Limewire or Kazaa, students risk bringing in viruses, spyware, and using up Lawrence’s network band­width.

Michael Corbet, director of com­puter services, said, "Our internet connection has a capacity of 10 megabytes. A student downloading music can use a couple megabytes by themselves. We basically run out of bandwidth when numbers of students are engaged in that type of activity. We understand we’re not going to eliminate the sharing of music we need to get more sophisticated tools in place so that we can better ensure a responsive network.

Computer services has tracked down many of the sources of the viruses, which in all cases are PCs, and has been working with students to correct the problems. What the students can do right now is make sure anti-virus soft­ware is up-to-date, they can download without software, to download it from the Lawrence site.
Inclement weather challenges travellers

Bonnie Alger
Staff Writer


Traveling this holiday season, especially with regard to getting back to campus this term from the holiday break, proved more than interesting for some Lawrentians. Faced with bad weather of all kinds, several students alienated into second term just in the nick of time.

Ben Hane, a junior, had a great time studying in Freiburg, Germany this past term. Coming back to the States should have been a piece of cake. After hours of waiting in the Cincinnati airport, he finally caught what was supposed to be the last flight out on the evening of December 22nd. Instead, the flight sat, "ready for takeoff" for five hours, before being canceled at 3 a.m., with not a restaurant or hotel room vacant in the entire city. After spending the night in the Cincinnati airport, Hane booked a flight for the next evening to Chicago. His flight in Chicago was delayed as well, and by the time he finally arrived home in Elgin, Ill., it was Christmas Eve.

Sophomore Melody Ng of Hong Kong experienced difficulty going through customs on the way back to the United States. She missed her flight in Japan due to airport congestion, and was forced to wait an extra two hours to catch the next plane to Chicago. However, arriving in the United States was not the end of her difficulties. "When I finally got to Chicago, my plane to Appleton was delayed for three hours, and we had to sit there waiting the whole time as they kept moving the delayed departure time further back," says Ng. She did not get back until Monday.

On Saturday morning, senior Ellen Jenne left Decatur, Ill., to head back to campus early so she could open the front desk at Kohler Hall on Sunday morning. The typical 5.5 hour drive ended up taking much longer for Jenne, as she first drove through two hours' worth of dense fog, followed by drizzle from Rockford, Ill., to Madison, Wis. Once she hit the highway, she drove through 15 to 20 minutes of freezing rain, with cars driving at speeds of 45 mph or less. Unfortunately for Jenne, the inclement weather proved too much for her car, as she lost control of the vehicle twice. She says of her arrival at the Highway 26 exit, "I had slowed down a considerable amount, but it wasn't enough to keep control of my car. I tried to break with as much ease as possible because I knew I didn't want to spin. My car ended up in the next lane on the highway, having run the stop sign." After that incident, she gradually slowed down to 10 to 15 mph, when she hit a patch of black ice. Jenne arrived in Appleton approximately eight hours after she left home.

Getting back in time for winter term: priceless.
Hey, Wisconsin, it's about time you got a snowplow

Peter Gillette
Editor in Chief

Jane Byrne was elected mayor of Chicago, Ill., in January of 1979. Gender prejudice notwithstanding, it was no small feat. Byrne’s victory shocked election forecasters who figured that incumbent Michael Bilandic (Byrne’s former boss) would retain his seat atop the city’s efficient Democratic political machine. But even a well-oiled machine can be ground to a halt when Midwestern winters weigh in.

You see, a few days before the election, a series of snowstorms took the city—and Bilandic’s road crews—by surprise. Traffic would not move. People were mowed in Chass likely would have broken out had residents been able to find it. For Byrne, disaster struck just in time. Throughout her campaign, Byrne had been able to find it.

First, I would like to take this opportunity to outline some goals that I would pursue if elected. First, I would aim to continue Vice President Engineer’s work with making the Budget Process easier to understand by removing more of the red tape surrounding it. Second, I would like to work with Bee-Life toward allowing students to paint their rooms, with a security deposit paid in advance. Third, I would like to work to revise the Formal Group Housing regulations in order to discontinue discouraging groups from applying for residence halls.

I remember slipping on the sidewalk on the way to our front door, though, until my father made a crucial discovery: One winter, he glanced down the street and saw that the snow-free sidewalks were in front of homes with campaign signs for Alderman Tappos. Def, an ardent supporter of Ronald Reagan, swallowed his pride and struck up a friendship with our Democratic alderman. For years, I never worried about snow.

We moved into a more rural area right around the time I began driving, but the roads remained, almost always, passable. Perhaps one of my thoughts, as my car faced oncoming traffic, was that downtown Chicagoans who slid to their polling rooms, with a security deposit paid in advance, they were empty or under-filled at the start of the year, and will work to provide incentives for students who contribute their time to these important groups. I am confident in my ability to adapt to any unforeseen issues that may face my administration. Thank you.

The Lawrentian seeks

Call Peter at x6319 or e-mail the Lawrentian at Lawrentian@Lawrence.edu

• paid position
• build a résumé
• improve writing

There is no greater issue facing campus government today than the severe lack of student involvement that has afflicted LUCC and its committees for the past year. Other issues, such as smoking halo legislation and student privacy (especially regarding e-mail), cannot be addressed when we do not have people—committed, dedicated students—in positions to solve these problems. While our slowed system still leaves us with a higher efficiency rate than, say, the U.S. Congress, we can’t continue in this vein.

As president, I will redouble the efforts I put forward as a member of LUCC’s Committee on Committees to fill all seats on all campus committees, many of which were empty or under-filled at the start of the year, and will work to provide incentives for students who contribute their time to these important groups. It is not fair to ask the students to make a major commitment of time and effort while providing in return only a pat on the back and the pride of doing one’s civic duty. I promise to resolve any issue facing the Council in a manner acceptable to all sides when possible, especially with regard to smoking halo rules, when compromise is not possible, I will make it possible. In all cases, I will work tirelessly to advance students’ rights, and I am confident in my ability to adapt to any unforeseen issues that may face my administration. Thank you.
STAFF EDITORIAL

The evil side of e-mail

In last term’s final issue, we published a letter to the editor purported to be from Mike Burkhart, the vice president of Delta Tau Delta. Following its publication, we have learned that Burkhart was not the author of the letter. The published letter does not represent the views of Burkhart or the views of his fraternity, and we therefore retract the letter in full.

The situation occurred in the following manner. An unknown individual sent the letter through a third party email account to The Lawrentian, and “signed” it in Burkhart’s name. Since our editorial policy at the time assumed the validity of all submitted letters — and because we do not have the resources to perform background checks — we assumed that the letter was genuine. We discovered the error because we do not have the resources to perform background checks on the author of the letter. The published letter does not represent the views of Burkhart or the views of his fraternity, and we therefore retract the letter in full.

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The letter was pulled from our website, and Peter Gillette and William Dalen met with Burkhart and Dean Truesdell to discuss the situation. At our request, Truesdell evaluated the situation and decided that this was a violation of our computer use policy and has asked computer services to attempt to trace the email to its original sender.

While we, along with many in our community, have reservations regarding the use of email tracing, we felt that this violation — the theft of a fellow student’s identity in order to damage him — was significant enough to justify a principled use of that resource, especially since this abuse was a violation of recorded university policy — unlike the situation regarding the Senior Streak email.

Regrettably, the reliability of this process has now come under question, and it is quite possible that the imposter will not be discovered or held accountable for his or her actions.

In response to this error, The Lawrentian has changed its editorial policy as reflected in the masthead. Letters to the editor must now be accompanied by the author’s phone number so that we can attempt to confirm that the person who signed the article actually wrote the article. In the event that an author cannot be contacted by phone before our deadline, we will not publish the article.

This error is primarily the consequence of the unprecedented abuse of the trust between this newspaper and a member of our community. We have never had a situation in which an individual stole the identity of another in order to submit any article to our newspaper, nor have we had grounds to believe that such a situation would occur. We regret this error, but it is in our hope that our new editorial policy will ensure that the submissions to this newspaper are genuine and also that our authors will not be unreasonably hindered from expressing their views.

PHOTO POLL:

How did you celebrate Christmas? Hanukkah? Kwanzaa?

"Preparing to run against Jill Back in the next election."
—Joel Rogers

"I got a stomach bug on Christmas Eve." —Jocelyn Greenbaum

"I sent my gradves and had a few wrestling takedowns with my family in Milwaukee, Wisconsin."
—Mara Leaver

"I didn’t have my groans and had a few wrestling takedowns with my family in Milwaukee, Wisconsin."
—Mara Leaver

"Men’s fitness practice is at 9:30 am at the Rec Center."
—Aaron Jubb

"I drank sparkling grape juice and then ate chocolate and told my parents I got food poisoning."
—Matt Stackpole

"We’re Festivus for the rest of us."
—Andrew Wong

"I chew sparkling grape juice and then went to bed at 7:30 because my parents told me to."
—Matt Stackpole

STAFF EDITORIAL

LUCC Endorsement

LUCC elections for president and vice president will be held at the beginning of next week, and while both candidates for president have admirable goals, The Lawrentian has chosen to endorse Pete Snyder.

Snyder has been a constant presence in LUCC for the past two years, and has performed very well as a representative, committee chair, and parliamentarian. While we believe that Snyder will do well as LUCC president, we do have a few words of caution. Several students are indeed concerned with the “freshman full meal plan” and the bloated LUCC bureaucracy, but Tim Ruberton’s focus on a stronger, more effective LUCC with full committees and dedicated representatives is crucial to the success of any agenda. Given the state of LUCC during this year, Snyder would do well not to ignore the writing on the wall by covering it with a new coat of paint.

We encourage all Lawrentians to vote this Monday through Wednesday, and wish Snyder the best of luck.

The opinions expressed in these editorials are those of the students, faculty, and community members who submitted them. All facts are as provided by the authors. The Lawrentian does not endorse any opinions piece except for the staff editorial, which represents a majority of the editorial board. The Lawrentian welcomes everyone to submit their own opinions using the parameters outlined in the masthead.
Welcome to the world of tomorrow

Paul Karner
Staff Writer

My first realization came in early November while I was busy trying an article for The Lawrence and my computer started talking to me. When I had finished scratching my head and inspecting the wires attached to my computer, feeling a little bit like the puzzled ape in "2001: A Space Odyssey," I realized it was actually my friend Tom from Chicago talking to me on AOL chat, a program that allows you to literally chat over instant messages. You can even chat via screen TVs, camera phones, or even the newly popular " Videocameras." I was literally chatting over instant messages, which is not only fascinating but also a bit disconcerting.

Another technological wonder of the 21st century is the DVD based out of Thailand. Thanks to brilliant digital video technology, I now don't have to rearrange my schedule to accommodate the 24-hour "Law and Order" marathons. I can simply sit back like a flute recital! Come this Sunday at 4:30 in Harper Hall.

Underwood is not only a distinguished flute player; he is also a professionally trained teacher, he is also a teacher. Keith Underwood is a bassoon player with a self-designed major in the Renaissance era. This summer, while working at a nature center, she discovered that she also loves teaching. She had no way to meld all the instruments together. Without a computer, it would be difficult to find a way to incorporate all the arts into one comprehensive project.

Carrie Campbell, a senior, has interacted with the children that vary widely. She is an environmental studies major and a studio art minor. This summer, while working at a nature center, she discovered that she also loves teaching. She had no way to meld all the instruments together. Without a computer, it would be difficult to find a way to incorporate all the arts into one comprehensive project.

Carrie Campbell discovered ArtsBridge. The program, which President Jill Beck brought to Lawrence this year, sends college students into local schools to teach a program that integrates the arts with the regular curriculum.

Campbell was one of about 25 students who applied and one of 14 selected to complete the program, which lasts from January to June and requires at least 25 contact hours. The scholars receive a stipend to spend on their projects, as well as a personal monetary award.

Campbell will work with the art teacher at the Academy, a new charter school that currently serves about 30 students. The school includes kindergarten through sixth grade, plus ninth grade.

Campbell's program will integrate environmental awareness and what she calls "ecological teaching,"另外 one other song compares to this "Buffalo" from "Sonora Hope & Madness," I can decide what the best part is, but it doesn't really matter. This song is a masterpiece.

1. "It's Only Time" - The Magnetic Fields. This song shows that REM is back with a vengeance. It's a sonic trip over eight minutes long.

2. "Slow Jamz" - Kanye West. The strings are so lush you could kiss them.

3. "Leave an Open Door" - Roger Clyne and the Peacemakers. Roger and his band have done some great songs before, but only one other song compares to this "Buffalo" from "Sonora Hope & Madness." I can decide what the best part is, but it doesn't really matter. This song is a masterpiece.

4. "It's Only Time" - The Magnetic Fields. Stephen Magnetic, the magnetic singer, says "Why should I love you?" the years have flown. "It's only time."

5. "Sonic Boom" - The Magnetic Fields. The best song ever written about a love that's lasting the longest.

6. "Mississippi Goddam" - Nina Simone. Anyone who has ever had to pretend that they were someone else will appreciate this song about leaving one's hometown.

7. "The Man Who Sold the World" - David Bowie. This song seems like a rally cry to the masses, but it's a quieter and more introspective song that gives people a chance to reflect.

8. "Float On" - Ben Lee. This is a song about letting go, which is something we all need to do sometimes.

9. "The Raven's Tail" - Tim Waits. Is it the lead guitar line, the tragic love song, or the gravity-defyinglead vocals? Try all of them.

10. "Suitcase Calling" - The Polyphonic Spree. This is a song that just keeps going and going and going.

11. "Slow Jamz" - Kanye West. That's right, you can't stop, which is absolutely necessary because once you start moving you can't stop, which means you have to keep going.

12. "I Went All Over Town" - The Magnetic Fields. The best song ever written about a love that's lasting the longest.

13. "I Was Born a Winner" - The Magnetic Fields. The best song ever written about a love that's lasting the longest.

14. "The Man Who Sold the World" - David Bowie. This song seems like a rally cry to the masses, but it's a quieter and more introspective song that gives people a chance to reflect.

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Guest soloists team up with LJU jazz trio

Joe Pffender
Art* and Entertainment Editor

Three familiar faces around the conservatory will join two new ones on Wednesday night. The Lawrence Jazz Trio will play in Harper Hall at 8 p.m. on the 12th, along with two guests, saxophonist Wayne Ecsoffery and vocalist Carolyn Lehnart.

The Lawrence Jazz Trio — Matthew Turner on cello and piano, Dave Richeson on drums, and Mark Urness on bass — performs regularly on campus, including an extensive performance in Prof. Richeson's recital last term.

Lehnart, the daughter of jazz bassist Joe Lehnart, is an extremely successful performer in a competitive field. She started singing early, and by 16 she had made an appearance at the Blue Note jazz club. She is coming to Lawrence just after completing a tour of Germany, Switzerland and the Netherlands with her band, Lyn Leon, as a guest with Al Jarreau. Her new CD, "New 8th Day," is scheduled for release in February of this year.

Ecsoffery is 6 feet 4 inches tall, weighs in at 200 pounds, and has appeared in the TV show "Vic," as well as a Pfizer industrial film and a Mitsubishi ad. He also has an impressive music resume, holding diplomas from the Hartt School and the New England Conservatory, as well as having recorded with the Mingus big band on "Night at Noon," with Eric Reed on "Happiness," and as a leader on two CDs — "Times Change" (2001) and "Intuition" (2004). His shoe size is 13/14.

This event promises to be musical rewarding for all comers. The LJU Jazz Trio will provide a reliable yet flexible backdrop for two first-rate soloists, and the synthesis of their creative energies will be nothing if not unique and exciting.

“Life Aquatic" is another hit for Anderson

Reid Stratton
Arts and Entertainment Editor

If you are already a fan of director Wes Anderson's other films "Bottle Rocket," "Busman," and "The Royal Tenenbaums," then the chances are pretty high that you'll like "The Life Aquatic" too. Anderson employs a lot of the same subtlety for which he is so well known, but we also get a few new and striking additions in this film.

The film centers on what is being housed to be the once-famous oceanographer and documentary maker Steve Zissou's (Bill Murray) last voyage. He sets out to sea with his usual crew, plus a man he has just met, Ned Plimpson, (Owen Wilson) who may be his son. The purpose of this mission is to find and kill the shark that killed Zissou's last voyage. The real endearing performance. The visual gags, the writing, and the acting are all very impressive, and the story is just enough fantasy to project the entire film into another universe altogether. The main conflict is between Zissou and his newly discovered son, Ned. Though their relationship starts off well, a wedge is driven between them by — what else — a woman.

Specifically, Jane Winstead-Richardson (Cate Blanchett), a journalist who is covering Zissou's last voyage. The real charm of the movie, however, comes from the minor characters. My personal favorite is Klaus, played by Willem Dafoe, who at times almost steals the show with his hilarious and often endearing performance.

And of course, what would a Wes Anderson movie be without an awesome soundtrack? Most of the music comes from David Bowie, but was translated into Portuguese and played on acoustic guitar. On the character, Poli (Seu Jorge), does almost nothing else the entire film but periodically play a Bowie cover Portuguese-style. Mark Mothersbaugh, who has written the original music for all of other Anderson films, is back again, and has clearly joined the 8-bit revolution, composing most of his music for MIDI keyboard. The music is as creative as ever, but unfortunately doesn’t work well that well in the context of the film. Anderson's movies are very difficult to compare to one another, so I won't even bother, but I will say that "The Life Aquatic" has a lot to offer. Though it rambles ever so slightly. The visual gags, the writing, and the superb acting make this film an excellent choice for this — the dreariest time of the year. You might as well space it up by watching a movie set in the tropics.

Res Hall Review

Films found at your dorm's desk

by Reid Stratton
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Almost Famous (2000)

Running Time: 122 min.
Stars: Patrick Fugit, Kate Hudson, Bill Murray
Found at: Plants

When William Miller’s (Fugit) older sister leaves their home for New York City, he is given a big impression on him by leaving behind all her records. William grows up living and breathing rock music, despite the warnings of his over-protective and totally un-cool mother. William aspires to be a rock critic, and gets his big break when he is assigned to cover an up-and-coming rock band, Stillwater. He follows them on their tour and falls in love with Penny (Hudson), in a coming-of-age movie set against the rock revolution of the 70s.

Comments: The weakest part of this film is the over-all premise. There just isn’t enough body to the story to really fill out two hours of film. There are so many conflicts that come and go again and again that we never get a chance to get emotionally attached to any of the characters. Instead, we are tossed around between tensions that rise inside the band, between the band and William, between William and Penny, and between Penny and the band. Plus mom keeps popping her head in from time to time. Fugit does a tolerable job, though he sometimes fades in and out of stuff delivery, and Hudson’s character is too annoying to fall in love with. If you are looking for some good music and a little background noise, then check this movie out. If not, then leave it on the shelf.

Hockey wireless over winter break

Alex Weck
Sports Writer

LJU hockey’s win column remained stagnant between terms, as they were defeated three times.

An aw p.s home series with the conference-leading Milwaukee School of Engineering brought little happiness to the second-place Vikings. Losses of 7-1 and 3-1 forced Lawrence to wait until the second-to-last series of the year for another shot at pole position.

The past weekend, the Vikings fell to strong competition from UW-Stevens Point 6-3. UNSP is a strong competitor from the neighboring NCHA, a consistently strong conference.

This weekend LU hosts the yearly doubleheader against St. Olaf College. In an attempt to gain more diverse support, this series will be billing the series between the two highest academically-ranked and musically-oriented Midwestern hockey schools as "The Meeting of Music and Mens.

Games are set at 7:30 on Friday and 2:00 on Saturday. Conservatory students attending the game will be granted a prize at the door. Go on, I dare you.

I hear there’s enough carbon in the human body to make 1000 pencils. What’s the hell do I have with 1000 pencils?
Andy York

Lawrence University athletic director Ken Tateson announced over winter break that the Vikings have hired Chris Howard to be the new football coach for Lawrence. Howard, an Appleton native, comes to LU from Notre Dame, where he led the Green Knights’ defense the past three years. In that time, the Green Knights won three straight NECW championships and the three divisions of NCAA football.

Howard has coaching experience at both the University of Utah and Southern Illinois, and was both offensive and defensive coordinator at Southern Utah. Due to press deadlines, an interview with Coach Howard regarding this issue of The Lawrentian, but you can read the exclusive interview in next week’s edition.

The Decline of College Football: BCS

Anthony Totoritis

Staff Writer

The current state of postseason play in college football is alarming. College football has lost its shine and the fans are left to wonder why they have to shell out the almighty dollar. Winning in college football hasn’t been the same since the 80s. No one is excited anymore when it comes to watching college football. No one is excited anymore for the simple fact that the student athlete is difficult to defend after reviewing the evidence of corruption.

When an aspiring program sets its sights on a successful season, a national championship is the goal. However, in the current system, a team needs to go undefeated to win the national championship. The current system consists of four straight games, where the team with the most wins is declared the national champion.

A surefire way to ensure that a team has the inside track to the national championship is to make sure the team is unblemished. By winning the conference championship, a team is granted an automatic bid to the College Football Playoff. However, the system is flawed, and a team can still advance to the College Football Playoff even after losing a game.

The system is not set up in a way that allows a team to win the national championship even if it loses a game. Instead, the system is designed to ensure that a team with a loss is not considered a viable contender for the national championship.

The NCAA has finally taken notice of the issue and is considering making changes to the system. The NCAA is expected to make a decision on whether to change the system in the next few months.

The current system has been under fire for years, and many believe it is time for a change. The NCAA is expected to announce its decision in the next few months, and it will be interesting to see what changes are made to the system.