SJP holds vigil for lives lost recently in Israel and Palestine

Ms. Charm Taylor performs and teaches students how to breathe

Nicole Mitchell
Staff Writer

In the evening on Monday, Oct. 26, many Lawrentians walked noisily through the doors of the Warch Campus Center, chatting as they headed to and from dinner. Yet, clustered around a tabletop covered in tea lights, one group was silent and still. The small crowd stood at a candlelight vigil to protest the Israeli occupation of Palestine, and to honor the seven Israelis and at least 31 Palestinians who have been killed since Oct. 1.

The vigil was held by Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP), and opened with a poem read by junior and SJP Co-president Tamara Nassar. The names and stories of those who died were then read aloud before silence fell. Photos of the deceased hung around campus and were also displayed by students at the vigil. Taylor's visit to Lawrence was a collaboration between Art House, Downer Feminist Council (DFC), Sankofa, All Is One! Empowering Young Women of Color (AIO) and Multicultural Affairs.

The idea to bring Taylor to Lawrence originated after senior Margaret McNeal saw Taylor playing with a band in New Orleans this past summer as part of New Orleans' White Linen Night festival.

"There were a lot of different bands playing in the street, and I didn't really stop until I saw [Taylor's] band," said McNeal. She thought of several groups at Lawrence who might be interest ed in co-presenting an artist like Taylor, citing Taylor's "empowering, without being overly simplified" music.

Taylor performed after stu-
On Tuesday, Oct. 27 at 7 p.m. in the Warch Campus Center cinema, Audrey Geyer, director of “Our Fire Still Burns: the Native American Experience,” held a question and answer conversation. Her film screened in the cinema during the three days prior to her visit on campus. The event was hosted by the Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA).

The hour-long documentary focuses on the lives of contemporary Native American figures in the U.S. Midwest, including a businesswoman, a journalist and a youth advocate. Those interviewed in the film discuss how they continue to heal from the past, keep their culture alive, and how they use ancestral teachings for education and social change.

The film sheds light on the history of American Indian boarding schools and how families today continue to be impacted by the historical trauma.

During the hour-long session, Geyer discussed her background and experience with the documentary, and encouraged students to share their own personal stories.

Geyer described her impetus for the project as being a class she took in high school that dispelled her preconceived notions about Native Americans. “I’m not Native American, so it’s even more unusual that I would be drawn to this topic. But in some ways it’s not unusual because I think we as people are more alike than different,” said Geyer.

Geyer continued, “All these years later, a seed was planted in me. I was so shocked and angry and so disillusioned about American history in relationship to Native Americans, and how falsely it’s been presented to us, what has been omitted so much from our books growing up and being educated in public schools and private schools.”

Geyer described her introduction to the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe in Mount Pleasant along with the importance of developing relationships and understanding the fear and distrust of participants in any artistic practice.

Native students in the room shared their personal experiences with education and engaging in cultural traditions. Students discussed the lack of information on Native Americans in history textbooks, the misrepresentation of Native Americans in the mainstream media and the historical trauma that many families experience. Many of the participants emphasized the importance of not lumping Native Americans into one category, especially since each tribe has a distinct culture and heritage.

Associate Professor of Music Brigetta Miller commented, “There are 567 federally recognized tribes in the United States, each with their own individual histories. We have many Native American Lawrence students here tonight that each have a different story and a different school experience.”

Assistant Dean of Students Multicultural Affairs Pa Lee Mosu felt the film and discussion was a great educational opportunity for students. “I think it’s important to find different ways to educate and inform others, so a film documentary is something different that OMA hasn’t done this year yet. Plus, with November being Native American Heritage Month, the timing would be great to spark and continue conversations about history, traditions and cultures that still affect people today, especially since the film is focused on Native Americans in the Midwest.”

SJP Vigil

continued from page 1

exactly this vigil is honoring? Over 20 of the Palestinians who have been killed since the beginning of the month were killed while attacking Israeli civilians and police, or in the immediate aftermath. When you say that the vigil is “to honor the lives lost in the struggle for liberation from the Israeli occupation,” does this mean you are honoring those who have died in the process of murdering/attempting to murder Jews in Israel, or does it mean you are honoring Palestinian noncombatants who have been killed in the conflict?

Addressing this controversy, as well as other backlash that SJP has received, Anatashi stated, “This event relates to one of the biggest misconceptions about our group on campus. We are against the occupation; we are an advocacy group for Palestinians against the occupation, but we are also for anyone harmed by the occupation.” She emphasized that this includes Israelis as well as Palestinians. Shar added that although SJP has faced backlash, they are all trying to educate people and will continue to do so, “because that is what activism is all about.”

SJP Vigil

continued from page 1

dent group Solstice and Toronto rapper Crossword at Sankofa Open Sessions, and was initially challenged by problems with the sound system. However, when the mic cracked and cut out, Taylor performed her music acapella until the problem was resolved.

“Breathe for the first five minutes of every day, before you go into the world,” advised Taylor, recommending that individuals pay attention to their own body and breath before engaging their mind in the many activities of the day.

Taylor also discussed why she refuses to put her music up for sale on iTunes, stressing “three cents a song is not enough for an artist—indie musicians, insisted Taylor, must collectively refuse to accept such a small amount of profit, and should instead use independent platforms, such as Bandcamp, to sell their music.”

Finally, Taylor discussed her background in education. She describes how she grew up having multiple passions that she wanted to pursue, “saying [she] would be [a fashion icon], a teacher and a singer” when people asked what she wanted to be when she grew up, and was often told to “pick one.” Taylor taught elementary and middle school before becoming a full-time musician, explaining “this way [she] can do all three” and teach to an even wider audience than she could in the classroom.

She concluded by explaining that, no matter what kind of audience or venue her band performed in, whether to a large turnout in a concert hall or to “seven people in a basement,” they always try to give it their all.

“[Taylor] and her band didn’t know what to expect, but they [said they] felt overwhelmingly welcomed by campus,” remarked McNeal.

Charm Taylor

continued from page 1

Students for Justice in Palestine Co-president Tamara Nassar, left, speaks at the vigil.

Audrey Geyer discussed her film “Our Fire Still Burns: The Native American Experience” with viewers in the Warch Campus Center cinema last Tuesday.

Audrey Geyer discussed her film “Our Fire Still Burns: The Native American Experience” with viewers in the Warch Campus Center cinema last Tuesday.
How NOT to Lose Friends and Alienate People

Fiona Masterton
Columnist

Dear Fiona,

I feel like learning how to not alienate your friends when you’re stressed out is a serious and necessary life skill. I mean, this is the kind of thing that is going to show up over and over in your life. When you’re stressed out, the tiniest things can piss you off, and it’s really easy to get upset over the tiniest things ever, like almost everything to do with personal advice, there’s no exception. And because people are different.

On top of that, we’re dealing with human relationships between different people relate to their friends differently. What works for some friendships might not work for others. You might even notice that you have a friend who, once they start working, one tactic works really well with one friend and crashes and burns with another.

The best thing you can do is be honest. That works for pretty much everybody. Tell them basically what you just told me: that you’re super stressed out and you don’t want to put in their feelings by accident. Warn them that you might get snippy, but you don’t mean it, and they should tell you if they feel hurt. However, this doesn't give you a free pass to be a jerk; you still should try not to be snarky with your friends. This kind of honesty helps you just in case you end up behaving unexpectedly awful to one of your friends.

Another thing you can do is schedule time in advance with your friends, where you all just set your work aside and hang out for a while. This can be really great if you can pull it off, because one of the things you have to remember is that your friends are stressed out too. They need downtime just as much as you do. If you can coordinate it well, then you can spend your downtime together, which can be a big stress relief.

Pick a night to be movie night, or take two hours every week to play a video game together. Really just choose something you can do together without the stress of work. And maybe even schoolwork interfering. This can really help keep you from being irritable with your friends when you’re stressed.

Not alienating your friends when you’re under pressure really just comes down to being honest and communicating with them about what’s going on with you. They will most likely understand what you’re going through and try to support you as best as they can. Try to be as aware of yourself as you can. Pay attention to how you’re feeling in a given moment, and if you need to leave the room because you’re going to snap at someone, just do it.

Good luck! - Fiona

The Family You Choose

Savvas Stairopoulos
Columnist

To me, friendship is one of the noblest and most quintessential aspects of human life. Someone once told me that, “our families are the family we choose.” I made this statement because I know it is very selective when it comes to making friends. That is not to say, of course, that I am not advanced now, where I do not live up to my standards, nor did I become antisocial. It took me some time to think, trying to remove some of these old baggages from my life. Someone once told me that, “that boy even have any friends? All he ever seemed to be doing was getting work done.” “Hmm, hmm, okay. Do you by chance know what he was covering in his article?” “I believe the local water treatment plant’s expansion plans. Nothing all that news-worthy. I doubt the expansion plans will get very far, anyway, with all of these news-worthy. I doubt the expansion plans will get very far, anyway, with all of these businesses and our university in their way.”

“Did any of Chester’s friends mention seeing him before he went missing?” I asked.

“Yeah,” he replied. “Well, I will continue searching the grounds with my team, and we will see what we can find. I’ll get back to you with any new information. If you hear anything, let me know.

After he left my office, I thumbed through a stack of requests from students. I don’t think the dining hall is at fault. Keep up the lesson.

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Friendship is, by Plato’s definition, a purely spiritual relationship based on commitment and mutual admiration between two or more individuals. Just like most relationships, however, friendship may go through various hardships in which distances separate the stakeholders. It is likely that something extremely important will happen to your friend while you are away, and by missing out on it, it may become increasingly difficult for you to empathize deeply with them. Because of this kind of disconnect, there might be times when you both become parodies of your past selves, merely skimming on the surface with snippets of older conversations. When this happens, you need to find the courage to break through the awkwardness of emotional distance, and you need to speak up. This is an extreme situation that comes along when both of you allow too much time to pass by, forgetting to keep in touch with each other.

I have watched some of my friendships fade out of the corner of my eye because of this. Failing to live up to the expectations your friends have of you may result in them feeling neglected or unimportant. In order to prevent this from happening, you need to make sure there is a shared tension of too much time gone by. A two-sentence text may seem insignificant at first, but it can mean the world to your friend, especially if they are going through hard times.

Skype and Facebook are my two favorite means of communication with my friends from Greece; the first because it allows for face-to-face interaction, the latter because I can use it to share with them the numerous ideas, texts and videos that I come across. These two, and many other media alike, will help alleviate this difficult situation and make future meetings seem much less overwhelming and awkward.

Although more time-intensive, another great idea is to have a common blog with your friends. It can be something that only you and your friends know about, and that may help it function as a place for you and your friends to unedit and share your lives’ events and sharing them with each other.

It may be awkward to say this, but friendship is a kind of love. It may not be as binding in the day-to-day as romantic love, but it has the same responsibilities. A true friendship is a lasting bond that, although it requires care, will provide love and support regardless of time and place. Just remember that, because friendship is such a sacred relationship, it requires mutual contributions. So, keep your friends close, and if they are an ocean away, keep them closer!
The Lawrence University Volleyball team, after going unde- feated in the month of October, faced two tough losses this past week on Oct. 24 and Oct. 28 when they fell to Ripon College and St. Norbert College.

The volleyball team started the month strong winning all of their games in October, including wins against conference foes like Grinnell, Lake Forest and Knox.

Volleyball’s last win was their Alumnae Day game on Oct. 17 against Northland College. The Lady Vikings’ had a dominate performance and defeated Northland in three straight sets. In this game, freshman defensive specialist Krista Thomas led the team with 15 digs. Freshman Arianna Neumeyer shared the lead with sophomore Allie Wood with 7 kills apiece. Sophomore Sydney Nelson led the team in assists with 17. Despite the impressive wins this past month, the Lady Vikings saw their winning streak end at the hands of Ripon.

In a tough match against Ripon on Oct. 24, Lawrence’s Volleyball team fell 3-0, breaking their six-game winning streak. That Saturday was also the Lady Vikings’ Senior Night with only two senior girls to be recognized. Each match was relatively close. Senior Megan Conley led the Lady Vikings’ offensive with nine kills, followed by senior Terese Swords who had six kills. Nelson aided the team with 13 assists, while Neumeyer helped the team with 11 assists.

After the loss to Ripon, the Lady Vikings’ sat in fifth place in the Midwest Conference, with a 6-3 conference record. However, after Wednesday’s loss to St. Norbert, the Lady Vikings were eliminated from competing in the conference tournament. St. Norbert, ranked third in the conference, defeated the Lawrence volleyball team in three straight sets. This defeat will put the Lady Vikings into the last conference tournament spot with a 7-2 record.

While this loss may be disheartening for the Lady Vikings, the women’s volleyball team finished with a winning conference record of 6-4. The volleyball team is also the young team with most of its ros- ter returning next year. The fresh- men who have been playing, have gained a vast amount of experi- ence at the collegiate level and the team has bonded significantly to help with what is to come next season.

The Lawrence Women’s Soccer Team competed against Ripon College and Lake Forest in two separate Conference match- ups this past week. The Lady Vikings were victorious in their game on Thursday against Ripon with a final score of 5-0, but fell to the conference leading Foresters 4-0. The team moves its record to 9-8 on the season.

Lawrence shut out the visiting Red Hawks with five goals coming from a dominant offensive performance. “This was one of our best games as a team,” said senior Perrin Tourangeau. “Everything just started flowing.” The first goal of the evening came from senior Leung on a penalty kick that bounced off the bottom of the crossbar in the 19th minute. Freshman Mari Hubanks followed with the next goal up the side- line to make the score 2-0. Ripon almost capitalized on a penalty kick with a minute left in the first half, however Paige Birutchbach’s shot bounced off the post out of bounds leaving the Vikings with a win in it at the half.

Lawrence continued scoring into the second half beginning with a goal by Tourangeau off a deflected corner kick. The Vikings’ next goal came in the 74th minute off a header from senior Genna Matt. The team sealed the vic- tory with a late goal by freshman Christine Kermansh, the first of her collegiate career.

The Lady Vikings did not fare so well against the undefeated Lake Forest on Saturday. Led by Michelle Greeneway, the Foresters scored 4 unanswered goals in the Lawrence loss. Although Saturday’s loss means it is statistically unlikely that the team will progress to the conference playoffs, the Lady Vikings are determined to end the season on a high note. “This sea- son feels different,” Tourangeau said. “We all had a cohesive goal, which forced us to work really hard for our teammates. I’ve had a positive experience this year.”

Matt Geleske
Staff Writer

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Women’s soccer prepares for last game

What’s one thing you’re really look- ing forward to for the rest of this year as a Lawrence student?

I’m really looking forward to meeting people outside of athletics, getting involved in clubs I’ve signed up for, and getting more involved on campus. I’d like to play a bigger role in the commu- nity.

How different does competing at Lawrence feel from competing in high school?

The girls are definitely bigger. And more intimidating. I went from the top of the food chain to the bottom, and I see it. But there’s a leader role in play, where you’ve demanded to lead on and off the field, and I think that’s something great about Division 3 athletics – you have to make an impact in yourself in the classroom and on the field.

How have your teammates help- ed you with your transition into the life of a collegiate student-athlete?

They gave me a lot of good advice.
Football remains winless as season heats up

Jordan Atkins
Staff Writer

Lawrence University’s football team lost last Saturday 35-7 while playing host to the Scots of Macalester College. The Scots’ ground game proved to be too much for the Vikings, as LU’s defense surrendered 416 rushing yards. Macalester’s strong defense forced LU to play two more plays that went for no gain or a loss, and the Vikings could only convert on 1 of 13 third-downs, while gaining just 169 yards on offense.

Freshman Ryan Butterfield once again took the majority of the snaps under center. He threw for 75 yards and completed a touchdown pass to junior Wes Hetcher. This was not only Hetcher’s first touchdown of the year, but also his first reception. “I got an opportunity and I tried to make the most of it,” Butterfield said. “It’s good to have a mentor like [Hetcher],” he said.

Sophomore Jacob Berman was Lawrence’s leading wideout for the third time this year, as he collected 44 yards on 5 catches in addition to the 25 yards he gained rushing. Berman leads Lawrence in all-purpose yards this season.

Senior Simon led the rushing attack for the home team as he collected 29 yards on 5 carries. Simon’s day also included 3 receptions and a 44 yard punt return.

Despite giving up 5 rushing touchdowns, Lawrence was able to lock down the Scots’ passing game, holding them to just 30 yards on 15 attempts. Lawrence junior Tony Harth recorded 2 sacks, and sophomore Jake Gortihua added one as well. Sophomore Dan Rothbauer also intercepted his first pass of the season.

With the loss the Vikings are now 1-6 this year and 0-3 in the North division of the Midwest Conference. However, the Vikings can still finish as high as fourth in the conference if they pull out some wins in the next few games of the season. Macalester improved to 4-3 and remains in the hunt for the conference title.

This Saturday, Oct. 31, the Vikings will face arguably their biggest challenge of the season, taking on undefeated St. Norbert College. St. Norbert leads the conference in turnover margin and allows an average of only 10.0 points per game.

The Vikings look to break a 17-game losing streak to the Green Knights. Although St. Norbert has proven to be the best team in the conference so far this season, LU believes they are up to the challenge. “We’ve got to have the experience to compete against them,” Butterfield said. “We’ve got to have the confidence to believe that we can win.”

“We’re going to go in there and show them that we can compete against them,” said junior lineman Jackson Straughan. “I think we have a lot of positives in the little things,” Straughan added. “Once we perfect those little things, then we can start executing to the level that we as a team set goals to do.”

Straughan wasn’t alone in believing that the team is doing the right things in practice. “Our coaches know what they’re doing,” said Hetcher. “We’re going to have successes if we believe that we can be successful.”

With only three games left on the schedule, the team looks to make use of the remainder of its games and practices. “Going forward, having more and more experience, we’re just going to continue to improve,” said Straughan. “It’s going to be a lot of positives in the near future for Lawrence.”

Butterfield’s approach is simple. “I just want to put more points on the board than [the other team],” said Butterfield. “I don’t care how we get that done.”

The full roster will need to match Butterfield’s attitude in order to make a dent in the conference as the season comes to a close.

LETS GO, VIKINGS!
Is it working? Checking in with CORE leaders

Laura Leppink
Staff Photographer

Following their CORE meetings, CORE leaders senior Emma Huston and juniors Andrew Hill and Allison Brooks-Conrad sat sipping their drinks of choice and discussing the specifics of the evening. The CORE topic for the evening covered intersexuality and inclusion, which followed last week’s topic of privilege. This topic sparked conversation among the three who discussed the conversations they had with the members of their CORE group, affectionately called CORE-gies.

Brooks-Conrad described one of her biggest struggles as establishing “what [her] role is for the students in [her] group—mentor, resource, friend?” She ultimately concluded that her “role is whatever the students in ‘Y’ group needed [her] to be.” Hill, in turn, mentioned that developing communication between co-leaders was also an important area to work through.

Each CORE leader interviewed took their role for similar reasons. Huston, a senior, responded that she “wished [she] had known some of the things covered in CORE meetings” and that the “wish [she] had had a person to ask questions to as a freshman.” Hill and Brooks-Conrad both described their experiences in the CORE pilot programs. Brooks-Conrad described her experience: “My CORE group played a big role in my adjustment to campus and feeling comfortable as a freshman and I wanted to provide a similar experience for other incoming freshmen. I also really looked up to my CORE leaders when I was a freshman and was inspired by them.”

Hill agreed saying “I was a part of the pilot program my freshman year and my leaders were awesome and it’s something I think it’s a unique way to bring the freshmen class together.”

The conversation turned to their favorite parts about being CORE leaders. Brooks-Conrad explained that “I think of students who I met last year as freshmen who have become leaders on campus and it’s wonderful to witness that transition.” Emma continued off of Brooks-Conrad’s statement highlighting their role for similar reasons. Brooks-Conrad described one of her senior CORE students saying he “likes to see the group grow and learn to trust each other.”

Ending their Monday night post-CORE hangout on a light note they discussed ways in which to get CORE students to attend the meetings. They unanimously came to the agreement that food was always the best option! But what do the CORE students think? The answers from the CORE-gies were unanimous about the CORE meeting food options being of high importance. Along with the agreement about food, the stu-

Learning the business of business with LU connections

Alba Van Vliet
For The Lawrentian

Leaving early on the morning of Thursday, Oct. 22 during reading period, a number of Lawrence students traveled to Chicago for the Lawrence Scholars in Business trip. This is an annual opportunity for students to connect with alumni and learn more about a career in the world of business.

The students visited a variety of companies during this overnight trip. The Lawrence alumni gave a tour through the offices, explained how they got their job, gave career advice and answered numerous questions by students.

Freshman Alissa Urmanova said that Allstate Insurance was her favorite company. “I have never realized that an insurance company can offer such a variety of job opportunities,” she said. “It was interesting to listen to people with an experience of 30 years in the insurance industry.”

A less traditional company that was visited was 1871 and the Startup Institute. “It was really amazing to meet students of the startup institute, and overall get some insight into the growing startup scene in Chicago,” said junior Aedin Rafique. “Startups can be great employment options for liberal arts grads, but unfortunately it is often overlooked at Lawrence.”

On Thursday evening there was a dinner for the current Lawrence students and some alumni. While enjoying the food, the students and alumni got to know each other. Alumni reminisced about their time at Lawrence and shared some of their career or general life advice. For sophomore Tamanna Akram, the dinner was her favorite part of the trip. She found that the informal setting of the dinner sparked a good variety of conversations. During the trip the importance of using the Lawrence alumni network as an advantage was stressed. This was Rafique’s second time on the trip. “This year was less visits, but I felt that we were able to meet more younger professionals/alums, and I personally liked that. It is easier to connect with younger alums and relate to their experiences,” he said.

Most of the students joining the trip were international students. Some students are of the opinion that this is a thing Lawrence
What are the three most important things in your backpack right now?

Senior Tahnee Marquardt: So it’s a tea infuser, a Frisbee and a little bucket with different spices in it.

Do you carry these with you often?

TM: Yes, all the time.

Can you explain a little about why you have these things with you?

TM: Because I love tea, and I love being able to whip out my Frisbee and play with anyone on campus, I think you should always have one. And you can use it as a plate, too. It’s very versatile. The spices are kind of in there by accident, but they’ve been in there since I got the backpack, because I got it free with the bag so I just kind of kept them in there. But then I realized that I actually use them on a regular basis. I think it’s supposed to be for camping, like a spice keychain, but I end up using them a lot.
OFC makes use of lipstick and audience

McKenzie Fettes

On Thursday, Oct. 22, at 7 p.m., Lawrence University’s improv group, the Optimistic Feral Children (OFC), presented an improvisation show. As I made my way into the Cloak Theatre that night, I was stopped by a team member asking me to stand on a bar, using some lipstick in his right hand. He asked me, “Have you been to a show before?” I said, “Nope, I’ve never been before,” so he waved me in and promptly used the lipstick to mark the person behind me who had not been to a show before, on the cheek. Having witnessed this show before, I was aware of OFC’s practices, so the lipstick-marking at the door did not surprise me. The group—composed of nineLawrentians with excellent improvisational skills—forms various games and slots in their shows and makes a constant effort to involve the audience as much as possible.

Sure enough, the group’s first game was to call several audience members with lipstick on their cheeks to the stage. Each audience member was given a prompt, and the OFC Improv member paired with an OFC member, who attempted to scare them in a creative way and elicit laughter from the audience. Impressively, the unprepared audience members responded with genuine fright and great responsibility. The group also played off the audience’s confusion with great enthusiasm, and created a completely different improv show before, on the cheek.

Next, the team did imitations of the world’s worst version of professionals that were called out by the audience, which compelled some players to displaying impressions of lousy doctors, among other things.

Then, the team played a game at Press Conference, in which one team member stepped outside while the rest of the group and the audience decided a random person that the person outside was supposed to be. Fortunately, the facilitator got fully participated in. Once the team member outside stepped back in, the OFC Improv member asked audience descriptive questions with the intent of getting the person onstage to eventually discover who they were supposed to be and what became the person onstage.

In this case, the audience decided that the chosen OFC member should be wrestler John Cena and that this press confer- ence should focus upon his most recent event, a poppy. This scene caused many loud guffaws in the audience as the character himself outage tried to effectively answer seemingly random questions about puppies and wrestling.

The team also played a game called “Two Options”, in which two members were paired with an OFC member, who attempted to play off a random scene—of which is determined by audience suggestions—and then had to come up with new actions, reactions, and dialogue for that scenario.

After that, the team acted out a game called “Survivor”, with two members and one OFC Improv member. The group created a scenario and then had to come up with new actions, reactions, and dialogue for that scenario.

One scenario the OFC Improv member introduced us as his son. However, after talking to his son, he decided to turn in next. Of course, the OFC Improv member who introduced us as his son outside was supposed to be the wife of the first fisherman, and the person onstage to eventually discover who they were supposed to be and what became the wife of the first fisherman.

We also witnessed a game that was the equivalent of the book version of “Undermajordomo Minor” where a joker with very little concern for people who are not Klara, the straight man. Even though he does not care for someone like his rival, the bumbling soldier Adolphus, he finds himself in a situation involving his old high school sweetheart. There was no telling what curious twists and turns in between.

I am always pleased with the variety of shows that are performed in the audience to consistently laugh and enjoy themselves. If you are ever looking for a fun night with laughter and fun, then you should come to the OFC’s next show on Saturday, Nov. 14 at 8 p.m.

Mark José Dane (MJD)

Izzy Vellen

If the jazz faculty at Lawrence University can be viewed as a particularly diverse and incredible group that branched off from this diverse group. The trio—bass- ist and Associate Professor of Music José Encarnación, and drummers and Professor of Music Dane Richeson—is quite similar to the Jazz Faculty Quartet. But lacks the unique voice of pianist and Lecturer of Music Bill Carrothers. This did not stop the trio from creating a new voice together, especially when joined by percussionist Dennis Hopp.

Seeing any incarnation of the jazz faculty perform is always a treat, and to see them play off-campus was a whole new experience. Taking place in Becket’s, a bar and restaurant in Oshkosh, the concert gave off different vibes than its usual setting. To all the spectators but me and a few fellow students, this trio did not consist of professors. It also was a wonderful experience. Taking place at night off with a game called “La Ronda”—A French phrase mean- ing round. This game involves multiple scenes that all take place in a fictional small town where it is assumed that everyone knows each other, with each team mem- ber acting in at least two scenes. The point of the game is for the last scene to somehow connect back to the first scene, taking into account the plot other characters have added to.

It was perhaps the best game of the night by far, the team crafted an expert tale that started with my character being washed in a river, one of whom possessed a runaway wife, and ended up with the wife’s brother finding her speaking with a fisherman being discovered with her high school sweetheart. There were several humorous twists and turns in between.

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Book Review

“Undermajordomo Minor”

Henry Dyskatl

The Man Booker Prize shortlist in 2011 was strange in terms of nominees. Two of the listed authors were debut writers, and only one—Julian Barnes, the eventual winner for his Masterclass, “The Sense of An Ending”—was well known internationally. By far that year, the strongest nominee was Patrick deWitt, a Canadian who had published “The Sisters Brothers,” a shockingly bizarre, violent and hysterical western.

He had only written one novel before called “Ablutions: Notes for a Novel,” the searing tale of an alcoholic bartender working in a bar. To go from that to something resembling the equivalent of the book version of “Undermajordomo Minor” was one thing. To nearly claim argu- ably the most important book prize in the English-speaking world was something else. The world book week, marveling what on earth deWitt would possibly turn in next. It is last, is here “Undermajordomo Minor,” released just in time for the fall book season, a continuation on from “Sisters,” in Minor.

deWitt is taking on a genre, this time a fairy tale. Just as “Sisters” was a very, very weird western, nothing in this book is normal in the slightest. partly as simple as any other fairy tales. After a couple of unfortunate twists of fate turns and lives of the characters, the story is an exercise in desire and the search for a more interesting one. Lucy, the protagonist, comes to the OFC’s next show on Saturday, Nov. 14 at 8 p.m.

Luke, for his part, is destined to become a literary coal mining magnate. He has little concern for people who are not Klara, the straight man. Even though he does not care for someone like his rival, the bumbling soldier Adolphus, he finds himself in a situation involving his old high school sweetheart. There was no telling what curious twists and turns in between.

This is really deWitt’s trick: hook you with the funny stuff, and then he’s got you. After five-sixths of the book, you think you know something that I shall not spoil for you, but suffice to say it’ll be both revolting and deeply moves him, which leads to all his subsequent actions in the final 50 pages. These pages, which I almost slid through, were startling in deWitt’s clarity of prise and insight into human nature.

Lucy, once again, becomes deeply human. His love for Klara, once a reflection of himself, finally becomes a construction for the other characters. It is a section that makes one almost stop in their tracks and under- stand why deWitt took nearly four years to write a superficially simple book with a final line that reads, “What I want for “Undermajordomo Minor,” dear reader, it is a fantastic novel in every scene, page or adjective.
Art can be deeply conceptual or purely aesthetically pleasing. Many artists try to do both or one or the other for various reasons. “I just like making aesthetically pleasing pieces of art,” senior Liam Hoy said. He draws inspiration from sculptor Anish Kapoor—you are probably familiar with his piece “Cloud Gate,” the Bear in Chicago.

“He doesn’t try to justify his object manipulation. He just makes it so they look great and people like them, which is something that I want to do,” Hoy said.

Similarly to Kapoor, Hoy deals mostly in sculpture. His medium of choice is clay.

“Clay has always been seen as something used to make functional things,” Hoy commented. “I wasn’t until the last couple of years that it started being used for abstract forms and stuff like that.”

This resistance to and subversion of clay’s conventions is important, Hoy said, although he does not limit himself to the medium.

“Well, with sculpture, you can think of what you want to make and then pick a material; wood, metal, whatever,” he said. Hoy also tries to expand his work to unconventional settings.

“I like land art. I like being outside,” he said. “I don’t want to disturb the nature that I go out into. Slightly altering stuff that’s already out there I think is fine and can be interesting.”

It is with these ideas in mind that Hoy finds a connection between his two majors: studio art and environmental studies.

“There’s a lot of overlap; a lot more than one might think,” Hoy said. “I haven’t started my environmental studies capstone yet, but I’m going to try to look at sustainability and environmental concerns associated with really large-scale land art installations.”

He plans to discuss the artistic methods of current land artists and the ethical and social consequences of overt destruction.

“Andy Goldsworthy […] uses stuff that he finds out in nature,” Hoy said. “On the opposite end of that spectrum would be somebody like Michael Heizer who’s blowing up sides of mountains and calling it ‘negative sculpture.’”

In addition to art, he maintains this appreciation for nature through other activities at Lawrence.

“I started the Lawrence University Nordic Ski Team at the end of my freshman year. It’s still going strong,” Hoy said. “I’ve been really involved in ORC [Outdoor Recreation Club], as well. I’m president this year.”

However, his love for art overpowers these other aspects of his life.

“[Art]’s unlike a lot of other majors because you get to really instill a passion for something that I think is way more stimulating than any of the other classes that I take in environmental studies,” he said.

After he graduates, Hoy plans on taking a few years off to explore options. His goal is to pursue a master’s degree in fine art, but held plans are still up in the air.

Regardless of what Hoy does in the future, his curiosity and attitudes toward art will always be present.

“Art is a way to stay sane, a stress relief. It certainly comes with its own stress,” Hoy commented. “But it’s what I would much rather spend my time on than other things.”

Keep your eyes peeled for Hoy’s future work in The Rabbit Gallery. He said the studio art senior show both coming this spring.
The Lawrence community as a whole puts forward the appearance that we have an interest in change for the better. We all want to work towards the best version of our university that we can have. Governing and administrative bodies at Lawrence want students to be really busy but running smoothly, and the students want to learn and live their lives in a stimulating environment. The issue we have noticed is that these two spheres of our community often do not communicate as effectively with each other as we believe they could.

We believe that this vulnerability in communication comes from both groups. The governing and administrative bodies—which can be anything from Bon Appétit to the Lawrence University Community Council (LUCC)—are not pursuing Information actively enough to create that change that students want, and the students are not active enough in asking for what they need.

In order to effectively create the positive changes that students desire, governing and administrative bodies need to collect feedback from students—feedback that gives them an idea of the overall wishes of the student body. The current methods of information collection is through anonymous surveys on public feedback boards.

Lawrentians do display the ability and drive to be involved in time and time again. It is possible that sometimes governing and administrative bodies might not trust that students will give helpful feedback when some students do not take their responsibility seriously and use opportunities for feedback as a way to mock the group requesting feedback. It must be noted that this is not the norm and that the expectation of such behavior is no reason to be passive about finding out how to improve service.

There are preexisting ways in which governing and administrative bodies can better encourage constructive feedback. One method is to have more personal feedback, such as through focus groups of reliable and invested students, including CORE leaders and residence life staff. Another way to improve the feedback system is to incentivize it. By seeing some kind of reward system, students may be more willing to give feedback. A third improvement could be to establish the importance of constructive feedback with the student body; this is another area where CORE could be useful. This could be a place to show how important it is to fill out surveys to improve the campus in a way that reflects the entire campus opinion.

We trust that once this information is gathered, it is analysed and changes are made promptly. One more example of a way that governing and administrative bodies could improve the state of feedback gathering would be by making it clearer to students from the beginning as to how the university is structured so that they can give their opinion in the most effective way possible and to the correct person.

Once students know what they want to change and who they should talk to about it, it is the student’s responsibility to relay this information in a useful way that aids at both understanding the system in place and changing what needs to be changed.

Letters to the Editor can be sent to in Opinions & Editorials Editor Jessica Morgan at jessica.morganlawrence.edu. We review all letters and consider them for publication. The Lawrentian staff reserves the right to edit for clarity, decency, style and space. All letters should be submitted on the Monday before publication, and should not be more than 350 words.

The opinions expressed in The Lawrentian are those of the students, faculty and community members who wrote 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.

Women's Soccer continued from page 4

Jennifer Morgan
Op-Ed Editor

The very first article I ever wrote for The Lawrentian two years ago was about why maintaining long distance relationship—whether among friends, family or a significant other—is worth the effort it takes to stay in touch. With the incredibly rare exception of people who go to school close to home and have no incentives for them to move away, everyone has had to communicate over distance at some point in their lives. While I still believe that continuing relationships despite distance in the modern age is beneficial, fulfilling, they come with many challenges—especially when that relationship is with a monogamous romantic partner.

I have been in a distance relationship with my significant other for two and a half years, meaning that—aside from two months—a we have been over two hours away from each other for that stretch of time. Last summer, I had the opportunity of living with him and his family and was able to spend a good amount of time with them over reading period. Returning back to campus again this year after living with my significant other has caused me to spend a lot of time reflecting.

Although it is nearly impossible not to ask yourself this question while in a distance relationship: How can I stay in my relationship, then why is distance hard? Why isn’t it always easy? And that is because it is not inherently easy.

Before returning to campus over the past semester, I was again with the reminder that the time I had to spend together with my significant other was limited. This is essentially a more extreme variation of that feeling you get on a Friday when you know the following days of classes and obligations are about to resurface, because in reality that often ends up being tied together.

When you are a busy college student with a busy schedule dating another busy college student with a busy schedule, the window of time available to drive for five hours and then spend a reasonable time together without conflicting with any responsibilities is very small. Not to mention difficult when you are short on cash. Therefore, it is often that it is not until a holiday or rare fll in a busy schedule that you get to see each other. Because let’s be real—both weekends and weekdays are regularly busy for a typical college student.

Seeing each other during free weekends and holidays is great. Super-duper. After all, there is not always an abundance of free time during the week to socialize, any ways. However, this makes it difficult during the times when you really want your significant other around the most. For instance, during a stressful week, when you are ill, are playing in an exciting performance that you are proud of and you are simply having an off day.

There will be times that they can come and visit on these occasions, though it is incredibly infre pe. Friends are always around during triumphs and tough times, too, but nothing beats cuddling with your favorite human after a hug or playful need of a shoulder afterwards.

Missing being able to have these type of interactions in person, can it sometimes be hard to justify why staying together is more fulfilling. There are other ‘fish in the sea’ a much bigger sea. I do not want to downplay the ability help but to notice when we notice another person attractive. And why sit around missing someone when that person keep noticing ing in your math class might be able to spend only two minutes away feeling lonely, too. Noticing and being curious about other people while in a monogamous relationship is simply human nature, but can be further illuminated while in a distance relationship due to its challenges.

All of these factors are only some of the many aspects that make dating over distance challenging. However, if two people have mutual interests in staying together, all of the challenges that come with distance can be less of a burden with open and honest communication. Do not be discouraged from a current or future distance relationship. Under stand that it only works if two people are able to communicate and work through it together.

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Women’s Soccer continued from page 4

seen major growth in all of our teammates. The team stands at sixth in the Conference, a mark that is a great improvement from last year. The team will take on Monmouth at home on Oct. 31. If Lawrence wins against Monmouth and both Knox and Beloit lose, the team could potentially gain a conference championship berth.

On how to balance schoolwork, soccer and everyday life, they’re a real backbone to the freshmen, if we need it. They definitely pull you out of your shell, too. I came to this school very shy and awkward, and I believe that communication is a necessity while in a distance relationship. Do not be discouraged from a current or future distance relationship. Understand that it only works if two people are able to communicate and work through it together.
Genderflip Twilight raises eyebrows

Bridget Keenan
Staff Writer

So, apparently Stephanie Meyers wrote fanfiction of her own creation. Although the fact that it was written by the original author as a supplement to the original series disqualifies it from fan fiction, “Life and Death” has the exact same goals as most gender-swapping fanfic. As far as I understand, Meyers wrote the new novel solely as a response to criticism.

I am not going bother to prove that “Twilight” is sexist; that dead horse has already been beaten. What remains to be seen is what exactly Stephanie Meyers wanted out of the new book. What exactly is she proving about the roles of gender in her newest book?

I appreciate the effort to deconstruct the inherently gender defined roles, but that does not change the fact that Meyers was taking the entirely wrong approach in downplaying the role of gender, the new series only depicts gender to have just as much control over the characters as it did originally. Despite all this, I do not think it is right to belittle her attempt to right the sexism within her own series.

Meyers is frequently accused of assigning gender roles. Although completely denying these accusations at first, she has become painfully aware of their power and validity. It is unclear whether the series has been aptly made enough times to cause Meyers to take action. “Life and Death” was essentially written as a defense against claims of misogyny from readers.

Before continuing, it is vital to understand the character of these complaints. We have reason to believe that Stephanie Meyers is only held to these high standards based on her being a woman. Although especially apparent in Twilight, the ideas she has presented are by no means out of the ordinary. Perhaps gender has played a bigger role in starting the controversy than solving it.

To the best of anyone’s knowledge, Meyers intended to prove that the book “Twilight” need not be read in a sexist manner. By switching the genders of the main characters, she would prove that the storyline is not dependent on gender. However, she was unable to do this without adulating much of the concept to meet her conservative ideology.

“Life and Death” attempts to show how the mania of love and the main characters response to distress are not innately gendered. However, Reac reacts completely differently to both of these situations than his woman counterpart. He responds with much more autonomy than Bella had, and often tries to save or dominate Edward rather than the other way around. Beau isn’t afraid of Edythe the way Bella is of Edward, suggesting a toxic gendered aspect to both relationships.

While I completely credibility Meyers for featuring a much healthier relationship than was presented in the original novel, gender still remains a determining factor for its dynamics. She proved that the relationship would be more healthy and realistic if it conformed less to traditional notions of gender. However, it is unclear whether she believes this to be true or if it is merely coincidence. Meyers has proved that she does not see gender as entirely essentialist, but she does, nonetheless, believe in gender-based reactions.

It is assumed that the characters will perform their newly assigned gender role somewhat traditionally. However, reworking the plot around gender goes against the ethos Meyers set up with. It is to be seen whether Meyers will stand by these viewpoints in the future, but for now, it provides an opportunity to dissect Meyers’s views on her own works.

Benghazi hearings illuminate congressional corruption

Jonathan Rubin
For The Lawrentian

Hillary Clinton endured a grueling 11-hour hearing with The United States House Select Committee on Events Surrounding the 2012 Terrorist Attack in Benghazi on Oct. 22. In the hearing, she was prodded over and over again about her actions leading up to, and her subsequent response to the tragic attack which cost four Americans their lives. The committee was created by Speaker of the House John Boehner, who ridiculously gave the committee no budget or deadline. Boehner also called for the creation of the similarly ludicrous Planned Parenthood judiciary committee.

Committee Chair Trey Gowdy and his Republican colleagues tried many different angles to try to box Mrs. Clinton in a corner. No matter what the committee pressured her on: her email or her changing characterization of the attack. It was a demonstration to a terrorist plot, the presidential candidate remained composed and thorough. Her powerful performance saved her from having to go on trial for scandal, but was no game changer for the scandal she has been accused of. The investigation prodded over and allowed her to escape with her record largely unscathed.

Ranking member and top Democrat of the committee, Representative Elijah Cummings, used all of his time throughout the hearing to blast the partisan politics of the committee. “Everyone on this panel knows these accu-

sations at first, she has become painfully aware of their power and validity. It is unclear whether she agrees, but the claim has been aptly made enough times to cause Meyers to take action. “Life and Death” was essentially written as a defense against claims of misogyny from readers.

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How do you feel about your options to provide feedback regarding your experience at Lawrence?

I think students need a digital platform to give feedback so the university can assess their strengths and weaknesses.
— Guli Louie

“From my experience with Student Academic Services, they have been receptive and helpful.”
— Alex Kurki

“As a member of LUCC, I think the General Council is an option to give feedback, but I hope we can get a quicker method.”
— Tatyana Jenkins

“As a freshman, I don’t have any feedback to give, but, as far as options go, I don’t know of any. More would be better, but it’s not a big deal.”
— Dennis Horunslak

“The administration is good at listening to us, but not at taking action. I hope to one day see swifter responses to our feedback.”
— Cassidy Greenleaf

“I’m not really aware of any options, so I think they should be advertised more.”
— Jordan Ross

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