

The Hill News

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF
ST. LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY
FOUNDED IN 1911

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Letter and Editorial Policy

The Hill News is published every Friday of the school year, except during holidays and examination periods, by the students of St. Lawrence University, Canton, NY 13617. Unsolicited manuscripts, articles, and letters to the editor must be typed and signed. Copy and advertisement deadlines are 12:00 p.m. on the Wednesday prior to publication. All materials submitted for publication are the property of *The Hill News* and are subject to revision.

The Hill News office is located on the third floor of the Student Center; our telephone number is (315) 229-5139. We have the ability to receive emails at HillNews@stlawu.edu. The comments and opinions of our readers are welcome.

Letters may be no more than 500 words in length. All letters must be typed, signed by the author, and include the author's full name and telephone number. The name of the author may be withheld only for compelling reasons, and after discussion with the editorial board. *The Hill News* reserves the right to edit letters for space, clarity, style, and taste. The printing or omission of letters is entirely at the discretion of the editors and *The Hill News*. Any letter received after deadline will not be considered for publication in that week's issue.

All copy, advertisements, letters to the editor, etc., must be submitted as hard copy or e-mail by the above listed deadlines unless other arrangements have previously been made. This policy is strictly enforced.

The opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper, the staff, or St. Lawrence University.

From the Editor

Welcome back and hello to the Class of 2010!

I hope everyone had an amazing summer and is well-rested and ready to start another exciting year here at St. Lawrence.

It's shaping up to be an eventful semester: the Java Barn will be settling into its new home at the old health center, musical theatre will be coming to campus, and a host of new professors have joined the faculty and look forward to sharing their varied talents with students.

This semester, *The Hill News* editorial board is excited to welcome a number of new student staff members, as well as several returning editors. Scott Bosy '10 and Peter Culkin '08 join us as Features Editor and Sports Editor, while Jennifer Munt '08, Candice Vallejos '08, and Kristen Manganini '07 come on board as Copy Editor, Business Manager and Advertising Manager, respectively. Emily Luxford '07 returns from a semester abroad in London to rejoin us as the Arts and Entertainment Manager, and Kat Bagley '07 leaves Ireland behind to act as our Senior News Editor. This week's edition also marks the introduction of a range of new columns. Brigette Smith '07 offers a critical look at the Thelomathesian Society in "Thelmo 101," Jessica Mott steps in as The Greek Corner correspondent, the St. Lawrence campus, and the world at large, is seen through the humorous eyes of Cuthbert Wellington and Bertram H. Whistlewick, and finally, Peter Culkin rounds out the final page of each issue with his new sports column. And of course, the popular "Sex in the North Country" returns for another semester.

For those of you looking for the opportunity to get involved on campus, *The Hill News* is actively seeking columnists. Openings remain in the following fields: advice, politics, and the great outdoors.

Sample columns should be sent to ccduda03@stlawu.edu or hillnews@stlawu.edu. In addition, weekly meetings are held at 6:00 p.m. in the Media Suite of the Student Center, Room 304/305.

Writers and photographers are encouraged to stop by; you never know when cupcakes or pizza might appear!

Caroline Duda
Editor-in-Chief

NOTES FROM ABROAD

Marc Amigone
Columnist

The Fall 2006 Kenya Semester Program officially started on August 19 when we all met for the first time at the St. Lawrence University campus in Karen, Kenya, approximately 15 minutes outside of Nairobi. Our week-long orientation started almost immediately as we began introductory Swahili classes and were advised on security, health, and transportation issues for our new environment.

On Friday the 25th of August, almost a week before classes started at St. Lawrence back in the U.S., and you all were squeezing the fun and enjoyment out of the last few days of summer, we boarded a bus and drove approximately 8 hours to Western Kenya for our rural homestay with the Kipsigis, an indigenous tribe that practices an agricultural lifestyle in the Great Rift Valley Province. The Kipsigis are pre-dominantly tea farmers. They also grow corn, pineapple, pumpkin, beans, and various other crops, but tea is their main cash crop.

With the exception of one or two students, we all lived without electricity, running water, or the use of cars for the week. My family showed me how to milk a cow, harvest tea, plant beans, chop firewood, collect water from a well, and various other tasks someone who grew up in urban Buffalo has never done nor needed to do. My family used gas lamps for light during the nighttime, batteries for their television which only received one channel, and fire wood for their cooking which was done in a one-room building separate from the house over an open fire.

Every three years, St. Lawrence is required to use a new village to which they send students to live with for a week. Fortunately, and unfortunately, for us, we were the first students to live with the Kipsigis. As the first Americans to ever visit their village, let alone stay in their homes, we were asked all kinds of questions about American culture, politics, the economy, the way we performed daily tasks, gender roles, and many other subjects we never thought we would be explaining.

Barack Obama, the Senator from Illinois whose father is Kenyan, was visiting Kenya the same week we were staying with the Kipsigis. All the news coverage in the papers as well as television shows followed the Senator's visit closely. Kenya was extremely enthusiastic to welcome Obama, and on a much smaller scale, the Kipsigis were excited to have us for the same reasons. Through long discussions with my host brother Rodney, who is applying to St. Lawrence through the Kenyan scholarship program at St. Lawrence, I learned that Kenya, and many other African nations, are very dependent on the West for financial support.

Seeing Obama come to Kenya signified in most Kenyans' minds an increase in the concern the West showed for Kenya and therefore an increase in foreign aid. Although none of us were asked for any money during our stay, everywhere we went, people were incredibly eager to greet us, take pictures with us, or invite us into their homes for "chai" (tea). One woman walked with me for half an hour explaining to me the problems of her family and her village. Seeing my skin color and hearing I was from America meant to her that I was in a position to help her. I did my best to explain to her I was just a student, and my capabilities were limited.

We returned to Karen on September 1st to begin our classes. Everyone in the program takes the two required classes: the core course, Culture, Environment, and Development in East Africa and Swahili. The four elective classes offered by the program are Health, Sickness, and Healing in Kenya, a medical anthropology class, Introduction to the History of Modern Kenya, Critical Issues in Socio-Economic Development in Kenya, a cross-listed sociology/government class, and Biodiversity Conservation and Management in East Africa, a cross listed environmental studies/biology class.

If anyone has any questions about the program or in general my e-mail address is mgamig03@stlawu.edu. We would love to hear from people back on campus.



Photo by Marc Amigone

SEPTEMBER CLASSES AT THE YOGA LOFT!

THE YOGA LOFT AT 89 RIVERSIDE DRIVE IN CANTON IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO PROVIDING THERAPEUTIC AND PERSONAL GROWTH PROGRAMS.

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PLEASE REGISTER IN ADVANCE WITH THE INSTRUCTOR FOR THE CLASSES LISTED BELOW. TO RECEIVE A FALL FLYER, TO ADD YOUR NAME TO THE MAILING LIST, TO REQUEST A GIFT CERTIFICATE, OR FOR GENERAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT PAT GLOVER (315) 379-1418 OR PGLOVER1@TWCNY.RR.COM.

GIFT CERTIFICATES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT NATURE'S STOREHOUSE IN CANTON. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO OFFER A CLASS OR WORKSHOP AT THE YOGA LOFT, PLEASE CONTACT JAN HUTSLAR AT (315) 379-0959 OR JANHUTSLAR@YAHOO.COM.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SCHEDULE THE USE OF THE PRIVATE PRACTICE ROOM, PLEASE CONTACT BOARDMEMBER VALERIE SUMMER AT (315) 379-1955 OR VSUMMER17@YAHOO.COM. THE YOGA LOFT WEBSITE (WWW.YOGA-LOFT.ORG) CONTAINS MONTHLY CALENDARS, DESCRIPTIONS OF CLASSES & WORKSHOPS, AND A PARTIAL LIST OF LOCAL COMPLEMENTARY HEALING PRACTITIONERS.