



HILLMAN OPERA  
PREMIERES  
B-1

BLUE DEVILS  
GEAR UP FOR  
BASKETBALL SEASON  
B-6



## New CMA director strives to serve students

**KENNETH AXFORD**  
Staff Writer

The Center for Multicultural Affairs is home to a number of important groups at Fredonia, all of whom work to facilitate social activism and awareness on campus. Among others, these groups include the Women's Student Union, Pride Alliance, Black Student Union and Latinos Unidos.

Last year, following the departure of the previous director, a lengthy search began for a new CMA director. Potential candidates from all over the country were subjected to an intensive interview process with both the faculty and students at Fredonia. This week, the search came to an end and Jellema Stewart officially began her career as the new CMA director.

Prior to applying for the position at Fredonia, Stewart worked at Buffalo State University as a complex director in residence life. This position entailed the supervision and management of two residence halls which housed approximately four hundred students. She has also worked at the University of Maryland in Baltimore as a group interventionist. Now, Stewart will bring her extensive background in social work and an impressive talent for management to our own Center for Multicultural Affairs.

This Monday, staff and students were invited to meet Stewart at an open house held in the CMA office in Thompson E-125. In regard to her vision for the future of CMA, Stewart stressed the importance of increased visibility and student participation on campus. In speaking with CMA members, it became apparent that many students were unaware of the center and the vital role it plays on campus.

"They give out sweatshirts and other items with the CMA logo on them, but a lot of [students] don't know what that stands for ... My role is to brand them, to let people know that CMA is here."

Stewart also noted that, while some groups in the CMA may seem specific to one demographic, anyone is welcome to participate regardless of their culture or heritage.

"Being in the Black Student Union doesn't mean you have to be a black student. Anyone can be involved."



KENNETH AXFORD/STAFF WRITER

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JELLEMA STEWART READILY ACCEPTS HER NEW POSITION AND HOPES TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

## President Obama secures a second term



BRITTANY GILBERT/SPECIAL TO THE LEADER  
FRESHMAN OLIVIA MELINSKI PLEDGES TO VOTE ON ELECTION DAY.

**ANNE RITZ**  
Staff Writer

Many either celebrated or were filled with disappointment last Tuesday evening. On Nov. 6, Obama took the lead with 332 electoral votes, securing his role as President of the United States for a second term.

The popular vote closely predicted the outcome of the election, with Romney at 48 percent and Obama at 50.5 percent. The Democratic Party also retained control of the Senate with the gain of two seats. The Republican Party retained the control of the House with 234 seats.

The results of this year's election were very close, unlike the 2008 election when Obama won with 365 electoral votes. Students coming out of the polls at the

Fredonia polling location feel that both campaigns were very close.

Matt Cali, sophomore music education major, had a difficult time choosing a candidate. He found that certain points of each differed with his own beliefs. "I thought the election was interesting. Both candidates, I thought, had very interesting viewpoints and it was hard to agree with one particular side on things, like the social aspects," Cali said.

"I liked Mitt Romney's economic views, but I didn't like his social views," Cali said, "And, on the other side, I liked Obama's social views, but I didn't like his economic views."

Dom Maimone, a junior music performance major, thought that Obama's performance in the first debate

Continued on page A-2

# New CMA director appointed: Continued from A-1

The CMA should, by its very nature, serve as an open forum for students to discuss pertinent social issues, and Stewart addressed this fact in her open invitation for student involvement in CMA activities.

Her years of experience in higher education have taught Stewart the importance of being mindful of students' expectations, particularly on a small campus such as Fredonia. On smaller campuses, the degree of accountability between staff and students tends to be higher, and so it is especially important that promises be kept and initiatives followed through with. As an administrator on a smaller campus, "all eyes are on you."

In fact, a significant portion of Stewart's interview

process consisted of an evaluation by a panel of students from various groups on campus. She attributes her appointment to director in part to the good rapport she developed with these students during the interview.

"Their input was very valuable in whether or not I got the job. If they didn't click with me or vice versa, I don't think I would be sitting here ... You can be trained to do a job, but you can't train someone to connect with the students."

Under Stewart's direction, we can expect to see an increased presence from the CMA on campus. In addition to her work with groups affiliated with the CMA, she hopes to work with other departments in order to achieve collective goals on campus.

"That's my vision. To advocate for [CMA], to educate, and to collaborate [with other departments]."

This propensity for collaboration is refreshing and integral to the continued well being of the CMA. No group on campus exists alone, and organizations are very often able to do their best work in tandem with one another. Jellema Stewart recognizes this and hopes to extend an attitude of open collaboration to other groups on campus.

"We're all fighting for the same population, so why not work together?"

With Stewart at the helm, the CMA can finally feel secure in its leadership and look toward continued involvement in Fredonia's community.

# Obama wins presidential race: Continued from A-1

caused the election to be so close. "I feel like Obama just expected to win, and [he expected such] before the whole debates thing happened," Maimone said, "Then, after the first debate, everyone said Obama was destroyed. So, I think he was a little too cocky coming into it. But I guess we'll see."

Because many New York residents have been displaced, Cuomo allowed voters to use the affidavit ballot, enabled voters that are living away from their homes to vote from any polling place in New York State.

This allowed first time voter MaaRa MaaKheru, freshman visual arts and new media major, to vote at the polling location in Fredonia. "I did not expect it to be so easy, I thought it was going to be a longer process," said MaaKheru, "My mother described the process as being really lengthy and she had to wait a long time for it."

MaaKheru was interested in voting because she thought there were issues in the campaign that would directly affect her.

"I didn't really like Romney's campaign; I thought he wasn't very specific with his intentions," she said. "When he did get specific, I didn't like a lot of the things he was planning for women's rights and everything. I can't afford to not have the Pell grant, and I was told he would remove that so I was not interested in voting for him."

Charles Cornell, professor of New York State Government, explained that the election results demonstrate how voter turnout and demographics are beginning to change. "I think it was quite remarkable how the polling beforehand – how accurate it was," said Cornell, "It also illustrates that the demographics of the country are changing, and voting habits are as well. We had a high turnout election and it changed and expanded the pool of voters for the winning side."

This election, many people were split into different issues. The public seemed to be divided on different topics that came up during this campaign.

"I think it was polarized, but whether it was more polarized than '08 – probably a little bit more. But it certainly wasn't not polarized four years ago. I think it was highly polarized, but I think there was a lot of motivation from voters for Romney that their prime motivation was to unseat Obama.," Cornell said, "I think, also, Affordable Care Act probably polarized the vote a little more because it became such a hot button issue."

Dr. Linda Brigance, communication professor, felt that the results of this election demonstrated how

'gaps' in terms of gender, race, age and urban/rural," said Brigance, "The 2008 election was very polarized also, but I do believe the country has become even more polarized in the last four years and that this is reflected in the campaign rhetoric and election results."

The youth vote was up one percent than what was originally projected this election. "I was so glad that the youth vote [18-24 years] was so much stronger than was predicted. I feel like my students are politically active and hope this trend will continue," Brigance said.

As the age of social media continues, political campaigns begin to change the way they reach out to their audience.

"Social media is an increasingly important factor in campaigns – and why shouldn't it be? It is increasingly part of so many facets our daily lives," said Brigance, "Voters are influenced by people they know more than ads, et cetera, so something forwarded to you by a friend or posted on Facebook is going to get your attention more than an ad on TV or a direct mail piece. I'm sure that is a big factor in the increasing participation by young voters."

The buzzing of people's reactions on election, in person and in social media, illustrates the division in this country. Whether you came across a nasty comment or a hateful tweet, the strong emotions were hard to escape. Brigance hopes that, now that the election is over, this will begin to become less of a problem.

"I would like to see a return to civility now that the election is over. The level of hateful discourse is concerning," Brigance explained, "A healthy democracy needs civil public debate, we can't solve anything by shouting past each other and we certainly have a lot of serious problems to solve in the next four years."



COURTESY OF GETTY IMAGES

polarized we are as a country and the gaps in different demographics.

"I think this campaign season and the election results reflect a highly polarized country. It illustrates

# Alumini receives award for excellence

**JENNIFER PETERS**  
Special to The Leader

There was a packed Marvel Theatre on Nov. 12, where the Jessie Hillman Award for Excellence was given to Dr. Frank and Sallie Pullano. Following the award, the Hillman Opera and Fredonia School of Music and department of theatre and dance presented the performances of *Suor America* and *Gianni Schicchi*.

President Virginia Horvath was truly honored and delighted to present this award to Dr. and Mrs. Pullano.

"To honor a person who is dedicated and respected musician or educator and has demonstrated a passion of teaching or performance," Dr. Horvath stated. "The Jessie Hillman Award for Excellence recipient is a person or persons who have served as a community force in the advancement and appreciation of music."

Both Dr. and Mrs. Pullano greatly appreciated

the award and medals. Dr. Pullano graduated SUNY Fredonia in 1956 with a music education major and also received his masters in music education at the University of Illinois.

"While I was [at the University of Illinois], I made real progress as a singer, so my doctorate was in performance in literature rather than music education," Dr. Frank Pullano said. "Then I joined the faculty here in 1960, and I retired in 1991. So I was here 31 years."

"The Hillman Memorial Music Education has been very important to us for many years because my husband and I were students here in the fifties. He was in the very first Hillman Opera; it sort of launched Hillman Opera for the past 56 years," Sallie Pullano explained. "Since then, we have been very involved with the music here. He was on the faculty for over 30 years and did a lot of producing. We're retired now, but still enjoying music wherever we

can find it."

The couple got married in 1958 and currently reside in Rock Hill, S.C. Their children were born in Fredonia and also received degrees at SUNY Fredonia, so the school is a home for their entire family.

Following the award were the opera performances. The performances were in French, with English subtitles overhead.

"The cast members sing just gorgeously," Sallie Pullano said with excitement. "It was a wonderful production."

Dr. Pullano enjoyed the performance that evening as well. "It's fabulous; I'm so impressed with these young people here, and it was beautifully cast," he stated.

As the curtain closed that evening, the crowd stood up in applause for the amazing show. Dr. and Mrs. Pullano were privileged to be able to view the remarkable performances.

# Veterans honored with *ReEntry* performance

**MAGGIE GILROY**  
Staff Writer

The second production by the Performing Arts Company premiered Saturday at the American Legion in Fredonia. *ReEntry*, directed by senior theater arts and public relations major Eamon Rayhn, was a respectful and enlightening tribute to the men and women who have served our country overseas.

The production featured an ensemble cast of a mere five actors: Nicholas Nieves, Nick Stevens, Jake Bradley, Theresa Egloff and Deanna Jelardi. The performance took place off-campus, which is a change from the company's usual home, the Bartlett Theatre.

"It's at the American Legion, which is a home for a lot of veterans to go and be a member of," said Rayhn. "The plan was to get it close to Veterans Day; since it is a military show, we felt like it would fit the time period of Veterans Day and have it at a space that has to do with veterans."

Written in 2009 by Emily Ackerman and KJ Sanchez, the play consisted of a series of scenes and monologues that feature real words taken from interviews with people who had been discharged from the armed services or on leave for a period of time. The show focuses on the re-entry process into civilian life, as well as the effect it has on family members that surround themselves with members of the armed services.

This content hit home with several cast members including Nieves, who played Man 1 in the production.

"Most of the members of my family have been in the armed services ... so I come from a background where I'm familiar with the military," said Nieves. "Also, I come from Dunkirk and there are a lot of people there from the military, there's a lot of pride there ... so personally,

I already know what it's like for some families dealing with not knowing how to handle – how to interact with people coming back. Because things are different; things change for them."

"We, as a cast, have sat down and talked about our own experiences, our families. We went online, did a little bit of research ... but the most important part of the play is just the honesty, because it's all of their words, because it's all interviews. So, it's all right there on the page, all of their emotions," Nieves went on to say.

As they were performing at the American Legion, with the final performance taking place on Veterans Day, the cast and crew felt the pressure of performing in front of veterans who had experienced the topics covered in the play on a personal level. Nieves described this pressure as "a huge responsibility."

"Because this is such an honest show, all the tips and tricks we usually learn as actors don't work here. It's not about entertaining, it's about being honest to the words and honest to the people who have served and try to give them some respect."

"My oldest brother is in the Air Force ... and although that this show focuses more directly on the Marine branch, I have a connection to it too," said Rayhn. "My job is to make sure that it's coming across as honest as possible, that the people that are watching this will actually believe that these are real people and that the words and stories they have to tell are actually true."

While everyone is used to the violent, gory images of war that are shown online and in newspapers and magazines, the struggle the armed forces face re-assimilating into society is a topic not frequently touched upon.

The show brought this re-entry process to light, as it something that is often seen as taboo and is not mentioned frequently in our society. Audience members

are reminded that life at home will never be the same for those who had served and that it should be recognized openly in society.

"I don't know if it's about reminiscing about the times, I think it's more about appreciating the fact that this happened to other people and then being able to compare ... I think it's more about relating to it," said Rayhn.

"I think one thing we really want to try to get across to these veterans that, the things you went through, they went through too. You're not alone," said Nieves.

This message was especially meaningful to audience member Nancy York, whose sons have served overseas including her son, Kyle, who is a medic in the Army and will be leaving again in January for Afghanistan.

"My heart just goes out to these kids that have really come forward and let us know how these boys and girls deal with things that come home," said York. "And, as a mother, my heart breaks that I have to have my boys go there. They don't come home and complain ... because they don't want their mother and father to know that they are hurting in this way."

"These kids did an absolutely wonderful, wonderful job with this. My reality is that I am going to go through this again and they did a great job ... it doesn't hit you until you see it right there and on stage." York saw the production on Saturday and planned to bring her husband, who was also in the military, back to see it the following day.

"Although it is in the back of your mind, subconscious, and we just had an election they should be aware of it, they should be respectful," Rayhn said of those who are not in the armed services. "Especially if they have someone in their family who is involved. Give them a call. It helps."

## Operation Breakfast Rescue helps families in need



SYLVANA DUSSAN/LAYOUT EDITOR

DELTA CHI MEMBERS PACK FOOD IN BOXES FOR OPERATION BREAKFAST RESCUE

**ANNE RITZ**  
Staff Writer

Sponsored by Joyce Smith of Volunteer & Community Services along with Reed Library and Delta Chi as co-sponsors, Operation Breakfast Rescue took place from Wednesday, Nov. 7 to Friday, Nov. 9. The food drive collected breakfast items for families in need and subsequently donated them to Chautauqua Rural Ministries. Rural Ministries is a United Way, grass roots, advocacy agency that serves improvised families and it also meets the needs of the homeless, the working poor and the disenfranchised in Chautauqua County.

Joyce Smith, Coordinator for Fredonia's Volunteer and Community Services, explained the significance of the annual event.

"It's so important to build partnerships, sustainable partnerships. I've been partnering [Chautauqua Rural Ministries] with the last nine years. That's always important to have that consistency that's there," she said. "This past year, I know that it helped over several hundred families. It's so important as far as making a difference. The impact is very positive, and students are providing a positive impact on the community."



SYLVANA DUSSAN/LAYOUT EDITOR

# POLICE BLOTTERS



## UNIVERSITY

### November 4, 2012

4:20 p.m. A door lock in Chautauqua Hall was found to be glued shut. A report was filed.

### November 6, 2012

3:50 p.m. The driver's side side-view mirror was broken off of a car in lot 19A. A report was filed.

6:25 p.m. A vehicle was struck while parked in lot 27. A report was filed.

### November 7, 2012

7:30 a.m. A cell phone was found outside the garage in the services complex. A report was filed.

10:20 p.m. An orange duct tape wallet was turned in to University Police. A report was filed.

### November 9, 2012

2:43 p.m. A cell phone was found in Cranston Marché. A report was filed.

### November 10, 2012

2:08 a.m. A visitor of Nixon Hall was found to be highly intoxicated in the bathroom. A report was filed and the victim was transported to Brooks Memorial Hospital.

4:08 a.m. Broken eggs were found scattered across the area under the McEwen Hall overlook. They were taken as evidence, photos were taken and a report was filed.

5:09 a.m. An unknown subject urinated on the door of 209A Schulz. A report was filed and a statement taken.

### November 11, 2012

1:43 a.m. A female student was found to be intoxicated outside of Mason Hall. A report was filed and the victim was transported to Brooks Memorial Hospital.

**STOP!** Don't read your weekly blotters yet. Go to the Lampoon section in the back for our **Police Blotter guessing game!**

## FREDONIA

### November 5, 2012

5:45 p.m. Officers responding to a call of a subject sitting in a tan Buick in the Dollar General parking lot allegedly drinking beer concealed in a paper bag. Upon arrival, officers observed the Buick pulling out, at which point they pulled it over. The driver, Austin T. Styper, 34, was found to have a suspended license. A search of the vehicle did not net any alcohol. Styper was charged with aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle in the third degree.

### November 10, 2012

11:46 p.m. Theresa J. Cuiplyo, 20, was observed throwing a 20 oz. Aquafina bottle containing a red liquid into bushes on Central Avenue. The bottle was found to contain alcohol, and Cuiplyo was issued appearance tickets for littering, open container and unlawful possession of alcohol.

12:20 a.m. Toni M. Gatto, 23, was observed standing on the sidewalk in front of 26 Water St. with what appeared to be a bottle of liquor sticking out of her pants pocket. Upon approach, officers identified it as a 375 ml. bottle of Captain Morgan's Spiced Rum. After she was transported to the Fredonia Police Department, two hypodermic needles were found in her pants pocket. Gatto told officers that they contained morphine and she had used them earlier with a friend. Gatto is being held on \$500 cash bail.

1:55 a.m. Brian T. Jackson, 21, was observed walking on Day Street yelling and behaving in a disorderly manner. When officers approached to see what was wrong, Jackson admitted that the Gatorade bottle he was holding contained vodka. Jackson was issued an appearance ticket for open container.

3:09 a.m. Anthony T. Schwartz, 20, was observed walking north on Temple Street with an open can of Bud Light beer. He was issued an appearance ticket for unlawful possession of alcohol and open container.

### November 11, 2012

2:44 a.m. Officers responded to a report of a highly intoxicated male at the upper apartment of 50 Day St. who was threatening his roommates and destroying property in the residence. Jason T. Guy, 21, allegedly told two occupants, who had locked themselves in their room, that he was "going to fucking kill them" repeatedly, and was banging on the door. Guy was taken into custody and charged with two counts of harassment in the second degree.

*All information printed in The Leader's police blotter is a matter of open public record. No retractions or corrections will be made unless a factual error is shown. Anyone who is cleared of charges has the right to have so printed. It is the responsibility of the accused to provide notice and proof of the dropped charges.*

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Justice and Hope for Children



[irs.gov/eitc](http://irs.gov/eitc)

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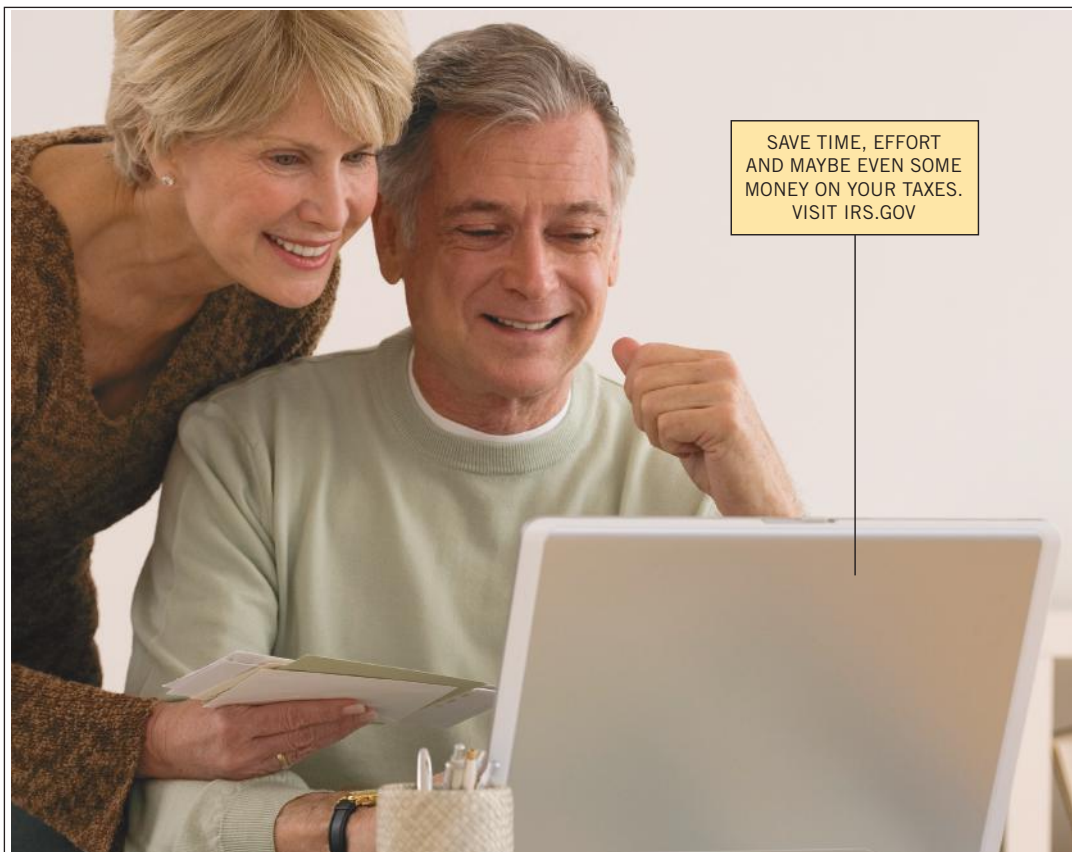
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**Phone:** 917.617.9484

**E-mail:** rk@kkpartnership.com

**Features:**

- 5 Minute Walk to Thompson Hall. Next door to campus and Rite Aid, Tim Horton's and Blasdell Pizza.
- Fully furnished with desks, dressers, dining table, sofa, and large double, queen, and king size beds.
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- Ample backyard and outdoor space

**Layouts:**

- 2 Bedroom – 850 sq. ft.
- 3 Bedroom – 1500 sq. ft.

**School Year Rental Prices:**

- 2 Bedroom \$2850/person/semester
- 2 Bed for 3 people \$2000/person/semester
- 3 Bedroom \$3000/person/semester
- 5 Bedroom \$2900/person/semester
- 5 Bed for 6 people \$2500/person/semester
- 6 Bedroom \$3000/person/semester
- 8 Bedroom \$2950/person/semester
- 8 Bed for 9 people \$2650/person/semester
- 10 Bedroom \$2950/person/semester
- 10 Bed for 11 people \$2700/person/semester
- 10 Bed for 12 people \$2500/person/semester

**Summer Rental Prices:**

- 2 Bedroom \$350/person/month
- 3 Bedroom \$300/person/month



# OPINION

Wednesday November 14, 2012

The Leader A-6

## THE LEADER

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## EDITORIAL WHY YOUR VOTE MATTERS

Four years ago, chants of “yes we can” permeated the Fredonia campus and slogan hot-buttons such as “hope” and “change” reverberated across the country. Four years later, outspoken and enthusiastic support for Barack Obama may have diminished after a contentious first term. But, despite the seemingly widespread public opinion that U.S. youth are becoming increasingly apathetic toward the political and democratic processes, the numbers prove otherwise.

Over the last decade, politicians have made concerted efforts to target younger voting populations, comprehending the weight that the demographic now holds in elections. Forty-six million young people ages 18-29 are eligible to vote, while 39 million seniors are eligible to vote. This young voter population makes up 21 percent of the voting eligible population in the U.S. and, fortunately for President Obama, these younger voters showed up at the polls last week and were the critical factor in determining his decisive win.

According to statistics released by the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE), a nonpartisan, independent academic research center that studies youth in politics, 49 percent of people under the age of 30 who were eligible to vote exercised their Constitutional right in Tuesday’s presidential election, compared to 51 percent in 2008. CIRCLE notes that the 2008 election saw a historic increase in youth turnout, from about 19.4 million in 2004 to approximately 23 million in 2008. In 2012, early returns show between 22 and 23 million young Americans voted, totaling 19 percent of the electorate.

Of this youth voter demographic, 60 percent cast a vote for Barack Obama while 37 percent voted for Mitt Romney. The divisive “battleground” states of Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Florida all went to Obama solely because of the youth turnout and their respective decision, according to CIRCLE. In retrospect, about 66 percent of young voters chose Barack Obama over

John McCain in the 2008 election.

Why are these numbers in these particular states significant? Combined, the four states represent 80 electoral votes, which would have been enough for a Romney victory. In other words, if Romney had taken even half of the youth vote in those key states, or if young voters had simply decided to not show up at the polls, Romney would currently be preparing for his inaugural ceremony in January.

The same stats seem to hold true for Fredonia, as students make up a large amount of the town’s population. Student Relations committee chair and organizer of this year’s Rock the Vote, Justin Dickerson emphasizes the impact of student voting.

“I think it’s really important that we go out and vote. We’re in a county that went blue for Barack Obama four years ago, and that’s mainly because a few thousand college students got out and voted and that really tipped the scales,” Dickerson said, “I’m not saying that I support one party or the other, but the fact that college kids going out and voting changed the vote is really a huge deal. And as soon as they changed the polling place [to be] off campus, it went red again, so that kind of shows you.”

CIRCLE’s statistics noted that 47 percent of eligible youth voters in New York showed at the polls. While New York youth fared much better than states such as Hawaii (31 percent), Arkansas (35 percent) and Texas (39 percent), states such as Minnesota and Iowa saw extremely high youth turnouts with 68 percent and 63 percent, respectively, casting votes.

While Chautauqua county overwhelmingly voted Republican last week, with presidential candidate Mitt

### Does the Youth Vote Make a Difference?

Without young people, Ohio, Florida, Virginia, and Pennsylvania would have flipped from Blue to Red

		Obama	Romney
Ohio	18-29	62%	35%
	30-44	51%	46%
	45-64	47%	51%
	65+	44%	56%
Florida	18-29	66%	32%
	30-44	52%	46%
	45-64	48%	52%
	65+	41%	58%
Virginia	18-29	61%	36%
	30-44	54%	44%
	45-64	47%	53%
	65+	46%	53%
Pennsylvania	18-29	63%	35%
	30-44	55%	43%
	45-64	48%	51%
	65+	43%	57%

CIRCLE #YouthTruth Source: 2012 National Exit Poll

COURTESY OF CENTER FOR INFORMATION & RESEARCH ON CIVIC LEARNING AND ENGAGEMENT

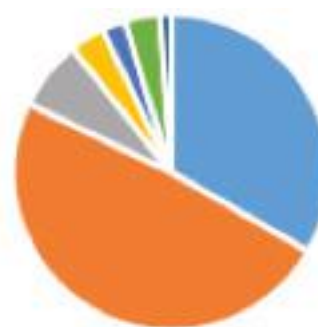
Romney receiving 25,795 votes to President Obama’s 21,815, SUNY Fredonia’s Rock the Vote event emphasized the importance of the democratic process itself regardless of political affiliation or candidate backing. The first-time event, held in Steele Hall on Nov. 3, drew approximately 370 participants and featured performances by local bands and several of Fredonia’s a cappella groups. Guest speakers from the political science department and the community came out to discuss the importance of voting and what it should mean to every US citizen.

“These events are important,” Dickerson said, “because they teach students what’s really at stake and lets them know that it’s important for them to actually get out there and talk and vote and spread their opinions.”

### "Did you vote?" "Why or why not?"

Out of approximately 80 SUNY Fredonia students surveyed, the voting trends are as follows:

- Yes, I voted
- No, I wasn't registered in this county.
- No, I wasn't informed enough about the candidates
- No, I hate politics/politicians.
- No, because my vote doesn't matter.
- I'm not a US citizen
- Other



“How do you feel about the outcome of the election?”



Katrina Johnston senior international relations

"Romney lost my vote and the vote of many others because of his immigration policy and stance on women's rights."



Phil DeMarco freshman biology

"I voted for Romney and was quite sad to see him lose. I don't dislike Obama, I just feel that he has brought this country too far into debt and we needed change. I am just wondering what the economy is going to be like when I graduate in four years."



SARAH SADLER/PHOTO EDITOR

THE NEWLY RENOVATED AND EMBELLISHED DESK OF COPY EDITOR ZAIN SYED.

As far as I know, there has never been a “From the desk of...” that’s actually about a desk. Prepare yourselves, dear readers.

Last week, I went to the ACP conference in Chicago, a journalism convention, on behalf of *The Leader*. I was gone for five days and, though I was looking forward to coming back to Fredonia and the always lovely office of *The Leader*, I was not necessarily excited to sit at my cold and disheveled desk for the remainder of the year, whose barren surface was a direct reflection of my vacant personality and a constant reminder that I am not a real person.

Upon my arrival back at the office on Sunday night, I was feeling battered and broken from four days straight of attending monotonous panels along with being awake since 4 a.m. Sunday morning. Not to mention the hustle and bustle of a big city, of which I am by no means a fan.

However, to my great surprise and astonishment, the desk of a serial killer that I had developed a love-hate relationship with and formed a certain type of Stockholm syndrome toward was gone. In its place was a shrine to all things happy, an altar of hope; a promise for a better future, both for myself and for all those who pass by.

My desk was now covered with things like a tiny

porcelain raccoon, a small metal samurai helmet figurine, a Rococo style painting of a flamboyant man, a salt shaker in the shape of a mushroom, a wooden box with a picture of Orcas on it and a mini *Chicken Soup for the Soul* book, complete with matching mug. These are only half of the items now displayed on my desk, each of which is a special signature left by those who decorated the space.

The reason I know the desk can now become a real space inhabited by human beings is because it is adorned with wonderfully ridiculous knickknacks, trinkets and souvenirs of times gone by. Granted, because the items were gathered from an assortment of locations and people, those times don’t really belong to me. But, over the remainder of the academic year, and as I form an expected bond with every whatchamacallit that surrounds my work space, that is sure to change.

So thank you, Tyler Stanley. Thank you, Sarah D’Hilly. And thank you, Shany Rubinstein, my wonderfully entertaining cubicle conspirator. Thank you to all of my friends who make my life better, even in the smallest of ways.

My new desk made me realize that what I had before was no desk. It was but a plank, a treated piece of wood suspended a few feet above the ground that I just so happened



SARAH SADLER/PHOTO EDITOR

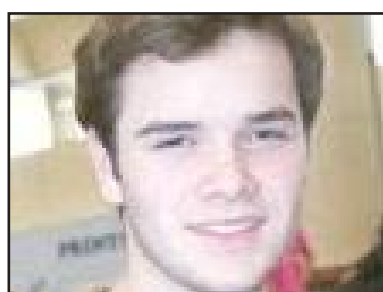
ZAIN SYED EXCITEDLY WORKS AT HIS NEW DESK.

to do a majority of my copy editing upon. But now, thanks to all of you, I am able to work in a happy environment, one that invites people in, not pushes them away. This desk is a desk that everyone should be able to enjoy, a true representation of friendship. My desk is no longer just a desk: it’s a home. And for that, I am forever grateful.



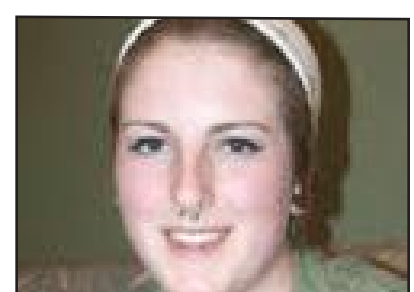
**Lee Coletti**  
senior music business

"I voted for Obama and was very glad to see him get re-elected. He has shown support in many areas that are very important to me, although he has not been the perfect president. I feel he will be able to do more in his second term."



**Cole Janis**  
freshman early education

"I did not vote because I did not turn 18 early enough to register to vote in time. If I were to vote, however, I would have voted for Romney. I honestly feel that both candidates aren't the best choices but I feel the country would lean toward a more republican based presidency opposed to a democratic one."



**Liz Macie**  
junior English education

"I am extremely happy knowing that we have four more years with Obama. Yes, there may have been economic issues while he was in office, but those years gave him time to plug up the sinking boat. Now he has the time to bail us all out. I'm proud to be an American under the control of a man with such high hopes for us to move forward."

# Photo Page



"ALL TIED UP" BY SARAH SADLER/PHOTO EDITOR



"SHADOWS" BY SARAH SADLER/PHOTO EDITOR

IF YOU HAVE PHOTOS FOR THE PAGE, PLEASE SUBMIT THEM TO OUR  
PHOTO EDITOR AT [SADL2171@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SADL2171@GMAIL.COM)



## Hillman Opera premieres duo of one-acts



COLIN FRANK/CONTRIBUTING STAFF

FAMILY AND ASSOCIATES OF BUOSO DONATI EXAMINE HIS LASTING WILL THROUGH VARIOUS REACTIONS DURING THE HILLMAN OPERA SHOWING SECOND ACT IN MARVEL THEATER THIS WEEKEND.

### MAGGIE GILROY

Staff Writer

The Hillman Opera premiered Thursday evening with two of Puccini's highly acclaimed one-acts: *Suor Angelica* and *Gianni Schicchi*. Each opera, both directed by Professor James Ivey, sent audiences through a roller coaster of emotions while keeping them thoroughly entertained.

The evening began with *Suor Angelica*, meaning Sister Angelica, a tragedy that takes place in an Italian convent. Audiences meet Suor Angelica, played by Gabriella Sam, a gentle woman who had been sent to the convent by her family after giving birth to a son seven years prior.

Angelica is visited by her aunt, La Princesa, played by Amanda Bottoms, who informs her that her son had recently passed away due to illness. In her sorrow and despair, Angelica then kills herself using a poisonous concoction she had crafted out of the convent's garden.

The opera is somewhat of an odd juxtaposition of tragedy and beauty, as sorrowful information is delivered to the audience through Puccini's glorious arias.

Playing this role was a potentially daunting task for Sam, who was required to experience a vast arc of emotions, including anger, mourning, sorrow, remorse and joy. Sam made the performance look like a walk in the park and did not let the intensity of emotions she experienced hinder her beautiful voice.

"The sophistication of that music for a young performer is really something to deal with," said Ivey. "Gabriella Sam, playing Angelica, is up to the task."

*Suor Angelica* was followed by the comedic *Gianni Schicchi*, which was well received by the audience, who was in need from some comedic relief after an emotional first act.

Although *Gianni Schicchi* was originally written in 1918, the past weekend's performance was set in 2010 with modern clothing. While this tactic may surprise the audience, it serves to remind us that families will remain to be dysfunctional despite the time period.

*Suor Angelica* and *Gianni Schicchi* were composed as part

of a trio of one act operas, titled *Il Trittico*. *Gianni Schicchi* features the famous aria "O Mio Babbino Caro," sung beautifully by Joan Snyder.

As it is one of Puccini's most well-known arias and has been sung by opera greats including Maria Callas, to perform this aria could intimidate a young actress. However, Ivey was careful to focus on the opera as a whole and not let expectations get in their way.

"All I can do, and all I would say to do, is to maintain the action of the opera and not to try and isolate that as being something iconic," stated Ivey. "The opera doesn't stop, and the action of the opera doesn't stop just because that most popular piece comes to be sung. Otherwise, we're not playing the intention of the opera."

The juxtaposition of beauty and manipulation is also seen with the aria as Lauretta asks her father to relent his control

over the marriage and allow her to marry Rinuccio, played by Lorenzo Parnell.

"It's kind of funny because what she's saying there, if you really play the action of the character, then Lauretta is, to me, being a fussy little child," said Ivey. "Most people think it's this really precious little thing, but she's being this fussy little manipulator to her father. And if we think of it in those terms then I think it's much more interesting than being this very precious thing."

The versatile scenery was rented from Chautauqua Opera and was fitted for both scenes, while still remaining aesthetically beautiful. The working holy water fountain in *Suor Angelica* was an eye-catcher for audience members. Costumes for *Suor Angelica* were rented from D.C. Theatrics while costumes for *Gianni Schicchi* were produced in-house, coordinated by Laurel Walford of the department of theater and dance.

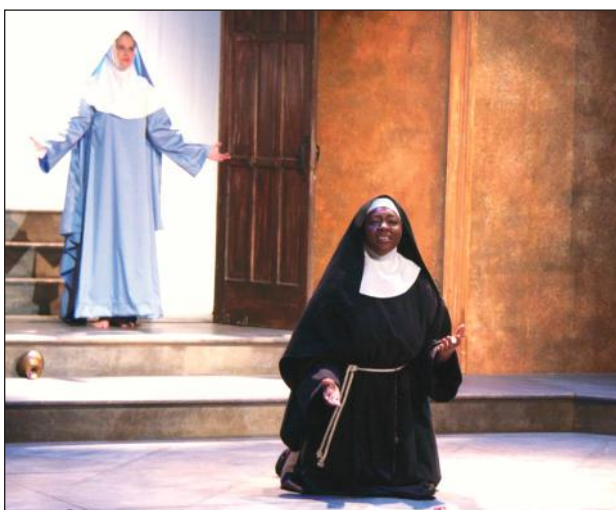
The orchestra, conducted by Dr. David Rudge, featured 50 instrumentalists combined with instrumentalists in the wings and in the orchestra pit.

"Finding the balance has been really difficult at times," said Ivey of the orchestra. Despite the challenges, the opera was a major success and was well received by the audience.

"I liked it a lot. It was really, really well performed," said Evan Gallagher, a sophomore history major, following the conclusion of *Suor Angelica*. I liked the scenery; it was really well put together."

"I know a lot of the different singers in the opera. I'm very proud of them, especially because I've known them for a couple years and I've seen the improvement from when they've been in other previous operas," said Lisa Alberty, a theater arts and music business major. "I've noticed the improvement in their voices and in their maturity."

"What we ask of students in doing this is extraordinary," said Ivey. "What they do in the evenings, in addition to all of the other stuff that they do, is come in here and sing this challenging, difficult, beautiful music. Everybody should come see this hard work."



COLIN FRANK/CONTRIBUTING STAFF

A HOLY CHARACTER FROM *SUOR ANGELICA* ANTICIPATES THE EVENTUAL POISONING OF A NUN DURING THE ANNUAL HILLMAN OPERA SHOWING IN MARVEL THEATER THIS WEEKEND.

# Boss Tweed, the new band on the block



MELANIE CISSE/SPECIAL TO THE LEADER

COLE JARVIS, KIRK EASTERSON, ETHAN WOJCIK, STEVEN KROUST AND NICO ZARCONE OF BOSS TWEED WITH MANAGER CHRISTIAN DRMACICH.

**MELANIE CISSE**  
Special to The Leader

In an instrumental rehearsal studio in Mason Hall, the members of Boss Tweed were in their element. The enthusiastic bunch was refreshingly upbeat and energetic despite the hour and a half practice session. Although they formed about a month ago, the chemistry between them was strong enough so that a stranger to the group would

think they have been a band for some years. Instead, the group of six male members formed as a part of Battle of the New Bands.

Organized by the Music Industry Club, Battle of the New Bands is a competition that first started in 2009. In conjunction with the music business program at Fredonia, the competition allows students the chance to assume roles as managers, and musicians the chance to test their capabilities as a part of a freshly formed band. Within a

two month period, these bands battle it out to the end in a competition where one band is chosen as a winner by the student body. Thursday's Battle of the New Bands competition will debut Boss Tweed, as well as several other new bands in the competition.

The group gets its name from William "Boss" Tweed, the famously corrupt American politician and businessman. Boss Tweed formed out of coincidence; or maybe it was fate that brought them together. Nico Zarcone, Steven Kroust and Cole Jarvis met through Open Mic Night on campus and, from there, went on to recruit the other members who took interest in being a part of the Battle of the New Bands competition. Thus, Boss Tweed was born.

Although their experiences within the business and their musical interests vary, they all share a common interest of a love of music; and this is what draws them together. The band found it a little difficult to encapsulate their style. As lead singer of the group, Nico Zarcone is greatly influenced by the sounds of Jason Mraz. Cole Jarvis, who also sings along while playing lead guitar, cites John Mayer in his list of influences. Cole described their style as, "A mix between light rock, reggae, easy listening and a little bit of pop ... the only way we can really define it is Boss Tweed style."

For music business major Christian Drmacich, being manager of a band is an entirely new but exciting experience. "It's been pretty fun. I like to come see them practice, and see the progression of the style and perfection of the songs," said Christian. His duties include working with the marketing team to promote his group, and getting the band gigs.

"A band is a lot like a committed relationship, or any relationship in general. So, we're at the pre-stages at our love, but we're getting to the point where we're a committed couple," said Kroust.

Boss Tweed is proving to be a successful group so far, and the band hopes to stay together even after the Battle of the New Bands competition.

## One-woman show prepares us for holiday season

**MELISSA RECHIN**  
Staff Writer

Mistletoe, Christmas trees, sparkling ornaments and booming laughter was brought to the Williams Center this past weekend as actress Karen Volpe, proud SUNY Fredonia alumna, put an entirely new spin on holiday traditions. Holding performances on both Friday and Saturday evening, Volpe performed the one-woman show, *The 12 Dates of Christmas* written by Ginna Hoben, for audience members eagerly awaiting the upcoming holiday season.

SUNY Fredonia's former department of theatre and dance professor, Mary Charbonnet, directed *The 12 Dates of Christmas* and is thrilled to be back on the Fredonia campus. "It has been a lot of fun to see folks and mingle with the new students. It's been a very surreal experience," said Charbonnet.

*The 12 Dates of Christmas* was a hilarious and applicable depiction of a humorous journey through the months of an "average" woman's everyday adventures, ultimately proving to be not so average. Endless cups of eggnog (minus the egg), St. Patrick's day one night stands and a Thanksgiving meal of barbecue Fritos and Chef Boyardee are just a few of the adventures that tie together to make one perfect "worthless year." With impeccable humor and vibrancy, Volpe played the role of Mary, a mid-thirties actress from New York City who wanders through life trying to mend a broken heart. All the while Mary faces family obstacles and tries to survive the holidays within a dreadful dating world.

It all began on Turkey Day. With obnoxiously overbearing family members and a fiancé locking lips with another woman behind the Snoopy balloon of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, it's safe to say Mary had very little to thank on her Thanksgiving holiday. In the months following, Mary had turned into an incessant Grinch.

"I used to be the girl with the jingle bell earrings and the leopard print Santa hat," Mary said. Yet she found herself boycotting the entire holiday season and, to her chagrin, even landing a role as the "ghost of Christmas pissed" in the classic *A Christmas Carol*.

After the heart-shattering breakup, Mary found herself thrust back into the dating world again, with her detestable Aunt Kathy and mother hovering over her shoulders. The performance relays Mary's shenanigans date after date, man after man, while she tries to maintain the life she once had. Ultimately, she discovered the true meaning of family, companionship and the gifts each holiday brings. Now a year after her crushing breakup, Mary's heart is finally put at ease.

Conveying numerous characters from an overly peppy sister, Sally, to a handsome, womanizing pediatrician, Volpe took on every aspect of the different characters with impressive



THOMAS WARMBRODT/SPECIAL TO THE LEADER

THE MAIN ACTRESS PUTS MISTLETOE ON HER HEAD AS PART OF THE ACT.

perfection and humor.

"I was just so impressed with her performance," said Breanna Guiffre, freshman musical theatre major. "She was able to change from character to character with the most fluidity and grace."

Volpe was able to share her knowledge and experience of one-woman shows and comedy through a workshop held the Wednesday before the performances.

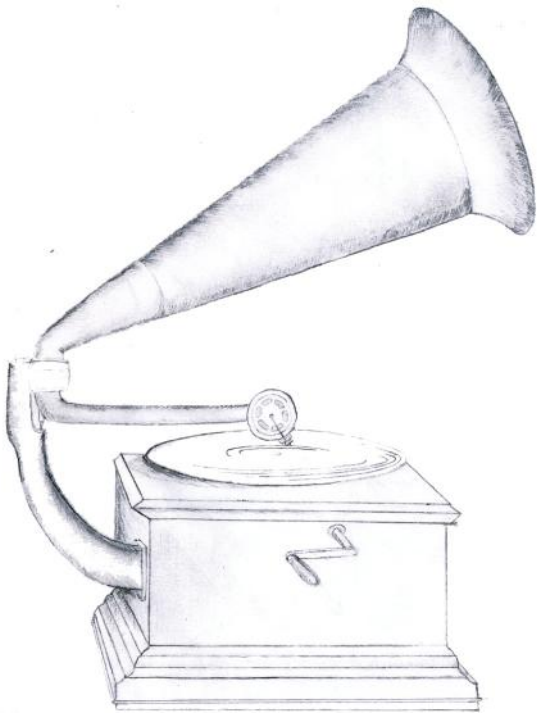
"I always love coming back to campus and teaching the students," said Volpe. In the past, Volpe has taught many workshops on improvisation, but this year she focused more on her successes and life living in Los Angeles.

"She had a really great approach in the workshop; it was just very personal," said freshman musical theater major, Joan Cussack. "She told us how it is in the industry and didn't try to sugarcoat it for us."

Volpe graduated from Fredonia with a bachelor of fine arts in musical theatre and also went on to graduate from the Second City Conservatory in Chicago and Improv Olympic in Toronto. She has gone on to perform in many productions, including leading roles in *Funny Girl*, *Oklahoma!* and *Little Shop of Horrors*. Her other endeavors include a country album and podcast. When asked to give advice to students struggling in the industry today, Volpe explains that persistence is key.

"All you have to do is just keep trying, and that is something you don't learn in all your years of training," Volpe said. "Don't be afraid to change your mind. It's okay to change your direction to fit your happiness. But never stop trying."

Mimicking her character Mary, Karen Volpe proved to be an incredible actress gliding effortlessly through the happiness and joys life's obstacles have brought her.



# The A-Tracks

**EILEEN MOWREY**  
Assistant Reverb Editor

Welcome to week eleven of The A-Tracks, your center for the Fredonia music scene. This week's artist review is yet another fantastic folk artist. Unfortunately, it focuses on the recent disappointment of their cancelled tour. The album review is a return to the radio vaults with a review of Terra Lightfoot's newest album. Please don't forget to join me for the radio show at 1 p.m. on Wednesday afternoons on WDVL 98.5.

## ARTIST PROFILE: The Civil Wars

This week's album review was intended to be a high praise of yet another fantastic folk band, The Civil Wars, focusing on the exquisite harmonies between Joy Williams and John Paul White, a pair whose voices are capable of creating backwoods magic. However, when visiting their Facebook to check our facts, we were faced with some disheartening news.

In a sudden turn of events this past week, The Civil Wars cancelled all of their currently scheduled tours. They posted the following statement to their Facebook page on Nov. 6: "We sincerely apologize for the canceling of all of our tour dates. It is something we deeply regret. However, due to internal discord and irreconcilable differences of ambition we are unable to continue as a touring entity at this time."

They went on to apologize to fans that had already purchased tickets and offered to reimburse anyone who sent them expense receipts. The Civil Wars tried to encourage their fans, saying that they hope to have new music ready for release sometime in 2013. For many avid fans, however, this will barely take the sting off.

It is always disappointing to learn that one of your favorite groups has disbanded, that a preferred artist will cease to perform or that there is trouble in musical paradise. We form a unique relationship with the musicians we follow. Not only does their music become the soundtrack to our lives, but we also feel a special connection to the artist themselves through their music. Every song is like a piece of their life that they are sharing with us, and we get attached.

Fans will have to take The Civil Wars at their word and wait with bated breath for the release of new music, hoping that this is a hiatus and not an end. After all, the loss of The Civil Wars would be a shame to say the least. The raw and woodsy musical style of Joy Williams and John Paul White is enchanting. The haunting harmonies are capable of giving listeners goose bumps while the lyrics warm their hearts. It is music that can be enjoyed at any occasion, by any gender, at any age.

The Civil Wars have experienced no shortage of success thus far in their career. The two met by chance at a writing camp in 2008. While there has never been anything of a romantic relationship between the two, Williams and White agree that the musical spark they felt when they first played together was a connection like none other. The recording of their second show served as their first album, appearing as a digital download on their website.

They released their album, *Barton Hallow*, in February of 2011. Singles from the album have since been heard on popular TV and movie soundtracks, and have been highly praised and promoted by artists such as Taylor Swift and Adele, the latter of whom described The Civil Wars as "the best live band I have ever seen."

In 2012, they won Grammy's for Best Country Duo/Group Performance and Best Folk Album. The duo has always remained just that: a duo. Their voices, combined with White's guitar and Williams's piano, are enough to create an organic, emotional and complete sound that wants for nothing.

The chemistry between Joy Williams and John Paul White has always fueled the success of The Civil Wars. With that in mind, fans have to wonder if the musical quality of the duo would be as good even if they do continue to produce music. If this is the end of The Civil Wars, it is a true loss to the folk community and a disappointment to dedicated fans everywhere. Thankfully, the music they have already created is timeless enough to keep us satisfied for as long as it takes for Williams and White to mend their broken bond.

## ALBUM REVIEW: Terra Lightfoot – *Terra Lightfoot*

Terra Lightfoot is a Canadian guitarist and vocalist that has been experiencing a rise in success following the release of her first self-titled album. The album was released on Sept. 13, 2011, and is a collection of love songs and emotional outcries. Lightfoot has since played with a number of other artists and is about to set out on her first tour. The album's smooth vocals, upbeat instrumentation and combined emotional energy manufacture a quality album that will surely continue to propel Terra Lightfoot into the spotlight.

Lightfoot, 25, has been developing her solo repertoire since she moved to Hamilton, Ontario for university seven years ago. She recently signed with Sonic Unyon Recording Company, through which she released her debut album on both vinyl and CD with the help of three backup musicians. Pete Hall accompanies Lightfoot on drums and vocals, Cameron Malcolm joins in on bass guitar and Adam Melnick completes the group on rhodes and wurlitzer, two different types of electric keyboard.

Lightfoot began working on her self-titled album in the spring of 2009 on Toronto Island with the help of engineer Dale Morningstar. The opportunity to record presented itself when Lightfoot was awarded a \$4,000 grant from the Ontario Arts Council in 2008. Recently, the young Lightfoot has been working in collaboration with a number of other artists on their own projects. She has been playing guitar and singing backups for a solo artist, while also performing with several other artists, including a country band called The Dinner Belles.

Lightfoot's guitar style is composed of calculated riffs and rhythms that mirror her favorite math rock bands like Don Caballero. The instrumentation is combined with wistful and twangy melodies influenced by her work with country artists. Her specialty, as Lightfoot will unabashedly admit, is love songs. She sings from honesty and experience, resulting in raw emotions that connect with the listeners on a personal level. Some of her tracks are inspired by her own trials and triumphs with romance, while others mourn the loss of family and friends.

One track on the album is of particular interest. It is titled "Lucid Dreams" and, in her Sonic Unyon Records bio, Lightfoot explains the story and meaning behind the song.

"I was getting into lucid dreaming while going through a breakup and, some months later, I dreamed that we had been together the whole time. I was trying to negotiate between what I was dreaming and what was actually happening, and every morning I would wake up uncertain about everything. 'Lucid Dreams' was about trying not to go back to that relationship in my waking life."

Within the next year, Lightfoot hopes to complete and release her second album, promote it through a series of national and international tours and appear at a variety of music festivals. She has high ambitions, but every reason to be optimistic. She has the talent and the determination along with a great debut album to get her going.

For more information on Lightfoot, visit her website at [www.terralightfoot.com](http://www.terralightfoot.com), her record company's site at [www.sonicunyon.com](http://www.sonicunyon.com), or find her on Facebook!

The A-Tracks Top Ten combines the top ten singles lists of Billboard Magazine, iTunes, Spotify, Top 10 Songs and Buffalo's KISS 98.5. Using a carefully designed formula that, thanks to a friend, no longer involves a painful amount of math or serious calculations, the ultimate top ten are determined for your listening pleasure.

- #1 "Diamonds" – Rihanna
- #2 "Some Nights" – Fun.
- #3 "Gangnam Style" – PSY
- #4 "One More Night" – Maroon 5
- #5 "Die Young" – Ke\$ha
- #6 "We Are Never Getting Back Together" – Taylor Swift
- #7 "Locked Out of Heaven" – Bruno Mars
- #8 "I Cry" – Flo Rida
- #9 "As Long As You Love Me" – Justin Bieber
- #10 "Ho Hey" – The Lumineers

The Top Ten has finally put a smile on my face. The Lumineers, a folk group I did an artist review on a few weeks ago, squeaked their way into the last spot with their hit single "Ho Hey". Rihanna made a large advance into the number one position while Fun., PSY and Maroon 5 continue to alternate positions within the top three.

**THE BULLETIN:** Do you have a show you want people to know about? If you want people to know where you and/or your band will be, let us know and we'll publish it right here the Wednesday before the event. You can direct all communication to [mowr7594@fredonia.edu](mailto:mowr7594@fredonia.edu). And please, use it but don't abuse it!

# Artists flock to the Birdhaus

EILEEN MOWREY

Assistant Editor to the Reverb

SUNY Fredonia and the surrounding community has long been known for the musical and artistic talent that it produces. However, some people believe that the community does not provide enough avenues through which students and local artists can share their works. Brandon Perdomo is one such individual so, when he moved in to a large home in Dunkirk this year, he and his housemates decided to transform their home into an impromptu art gallery.

Perdomo has always enjoyed the art walks that occur around his hometown on Manhattan Island. When he arrived at SUNY Fredonia, he was impressed by the variety and quantity of talent within the community. What he didn't see was an effort being made to sustain and promote those artists and musicians, so Perdomo decided to create one.

"In Staten Island, where I'm from in New York, they have second Saturday art walks. People open up their commercial spaces or apartments and they open up to local artists that submit their things and music and everything," said Perdomo.

The first event held at the Birdhaus was on Nov. 3 and featured two local artists, three musicians and three short films by a foreign film maker and friend of Perdomo's. The living room served as the art gallery, with pictures and paintings lining the walls. The films were projected onto one of the bare walls in the basement.

The atmosphere was tranquil as people milled around the house, enjoying both the featured art and the pieces that decorate the home. Friends gathered in clusters to discuss the works and the possibilities that such an event could provide for their own art endeavors.

Melissa O'Hara, photographer and former owner of the Green Tea Room, was one of the artists. She uses her photos to express her inner qualities and to organize her thoughts about world around her, creating a deep and personal connection with the beauty of nature. She was extremely grateful that the Birdhaus presented her with this opportunity to present herself as the artist she identifies with. Among her collection was a piece that illustrates her inner demons.

The works of Erik Daneilsen, the second artist, ranged from pastel painting to photography. Daneilsen has been practicing photography for six years and has recently refocused his attention on other art mediums, the foremost of which are pastels. His themes are rooted in nature and spirituality, portrayed through a theme of circular motifs.

One of his art pieces, "Split Eft," is a form of Australian aboriginal art. Daneilsen said, "It's supposed to be a reflection of how things are seen in what is referred to by them as 'dream time,' which is sort of an alternate perception of reality."

The three films were by Nicholas Di Valerio, a French screenwriter, director, and composer. *Café deux Margot* was a short story about a borderline crazed young woman determined to learn French so she can converse with the handsome Frenchman

that frequently patrons the café in which she works. *Senzo Agghunta di Conservants* featured three old Italian grandmothers making homemade spaghetti sauce, bickering and reminiscing the about old times. The last, *L'Anna Che Non Poive*, had no dialogue or music, and was accompanied solely by the natural sounds of the hayfields it captured during the filming. It is meant to be an in-depth look at the relationship between man, nature and the life of their products in a post-capitalism era.

The Birdhaus will be hosting similar events throughout the year on the first Saturday of every month. Perdomo already has several artists in mind to be featured in the coming months. One of these artists is Lizzie Reid, a SUNY Fredonia student and sculptor. When asked if she could see herself using the Birdhaus as an outlet for displaying her works she said, "Yeah, absolutely. I actually think, Brandon and I have been talking, and in the Spring ... definitely!"

With a university so well known for their focus on the arts, it is surprising that there aren't more venues like the Birdhaus in Fredonia. For artists such as Daneilsen and O'Hara, sharing their talent and their hard work with others can be difficult. Hopefully, events such as these will become more frequent, creating a close-knit arts community and fortifying the relationship between Fredonia's artists and the public.

The Birdhaus is located at 925 Central Ave., Dunkirk. Visit the Birdhaus website at [www.brandonperdomo.com](http://www.brandonperdomo.com) for information about upcoming events.

# Baird brings Hollywood home

SEAN LAWLER

Reverb Editor

Marc Baird regaled an enthusiastic audience last Friday with his Hollywood exploits as a storyboard artist, giving Fredonia a taste of the big leagues. Nothing short of enthusiastic and maybe a tad eccentric, Baird showed what goes into being a modern day storyboard artist.

With an intimidating computer rig consisting of a laptop, iPad and a digital sketchbook, Baird displayed his prowess with a pen by freehanding a spaceship (his personal favorite) and overlaying it on a mountainous background. Keep in mind this was all done digitally.

The process of storyboarding is a rather simple one that consists of reading a film script and drawing out the action shot for shot, to create a sort of comic book for the movie. Film crews then take that finished product and use it to visualize the script and map out how the movie will look.

"I see these things immediately; sound can spark an idea."

But one doesn't simply walk into Hollywood and become an employed storyboard artist.

"I was doing storyboards before I even knew what they were," Baird joked as he told how his move to California introduced him to a world veritably full of storyboard opportunities. After a brief stint in advertising, Baird went on to moving pictures. He began with a soap opera and later developed his career as a freelancer.

Baird's childhood was spent sprawled on the floor, drawing endlessly as the grownups passed by. Simply put, he can't remember ever not drawing. He never would have dreamed that his passion was going to take him all the way to Hollywood where he would draw next to directors and walk movie sets with actors.

In a most impressive demonstration, Baird displayed the previously unknown capabilities of a hacked Xbox Kinect. Sitting atop a tripod, the black box, after some tinkering, was able to record the movements of an audience member and translate it to an animation program where it can then be applied to any digital figure.

To watch the new *21 Jump Street* is to see Baird's influence at work. As the storyboard man, he is allowed a certain degree of



CODY CASTRO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

FRIDAY NIGHT'S SUNY WIDE FILM FESTIVAL JUROR PRESENTATION ON STORYBOARDING IN JEWETT 101.

artistic freedom. The highway chase was shown to the audience in Baird's own storyboard animation, then juxtaposed with the final scene from the movie – the similarities tremendous.

Currently, Baird has been working with longtime colleague, director Robert Rodriguez, on *Sin City 2: A Dame to Kill For*, an experience he compared to meeting Harrison Ford for the first time. Ford, after being given an airplane, wanted to get some design ideas, so who else but Marc Baird was approached to draw up a few specs on Ford's new toy.

"I am a total professional," Baird commented. "You know, it

doesn't matter if you're Harrison Ford or the biggest movie star in the world." Ford even asked if it was Marc with a "C" or a "K" for the autograph. When it comes to walking a set with Jessica Alba dancing, Baird is unflappable. If he were to lose his head on set, it very well could cost him his job.

Where others would be humbled by the opportunity to work with such names as Robert Rodriguez and Terrence Malik, it's just another day, another job to the seasoned artist.

# Coochie Crawl stirs up downtown

BRANDON ARMELI

Special to The Leader

The Coochie Crawl swept Fredonia's bar scene last weekend to great avail as participants purchased T-shirts donned with a dancing vagina and drank their faces off. Proceeds were split between the V-Day Foundation, a global movement to stop violence against women, as well as The Agnes Home in Jamestown, a safehouse for women trying to escape domestic violence.

The T-shirts are based off of an original concept by Tyler Gold and was then adapted by Carly Renda into the design that was used. There was a delay with the last shipment of T-shirts, being sent from an area in Long Island that was affected by Hurricane Sandy.

This year's Coochie Crawl was the second bar crawl

sponsored by the Women's Student Union. Last year's crawl title, a nod to Superbad, was the Vagstastic Voyage and also benefited women suffering from violence. Christina Conceicao, an organizer of the crawl, said they had only collected a little over half of the payments from those who had signed up. This is most likely due to a lot of people signing up over a month ago then forgetting all about it, but the group confidently moved forward to meet their goal.

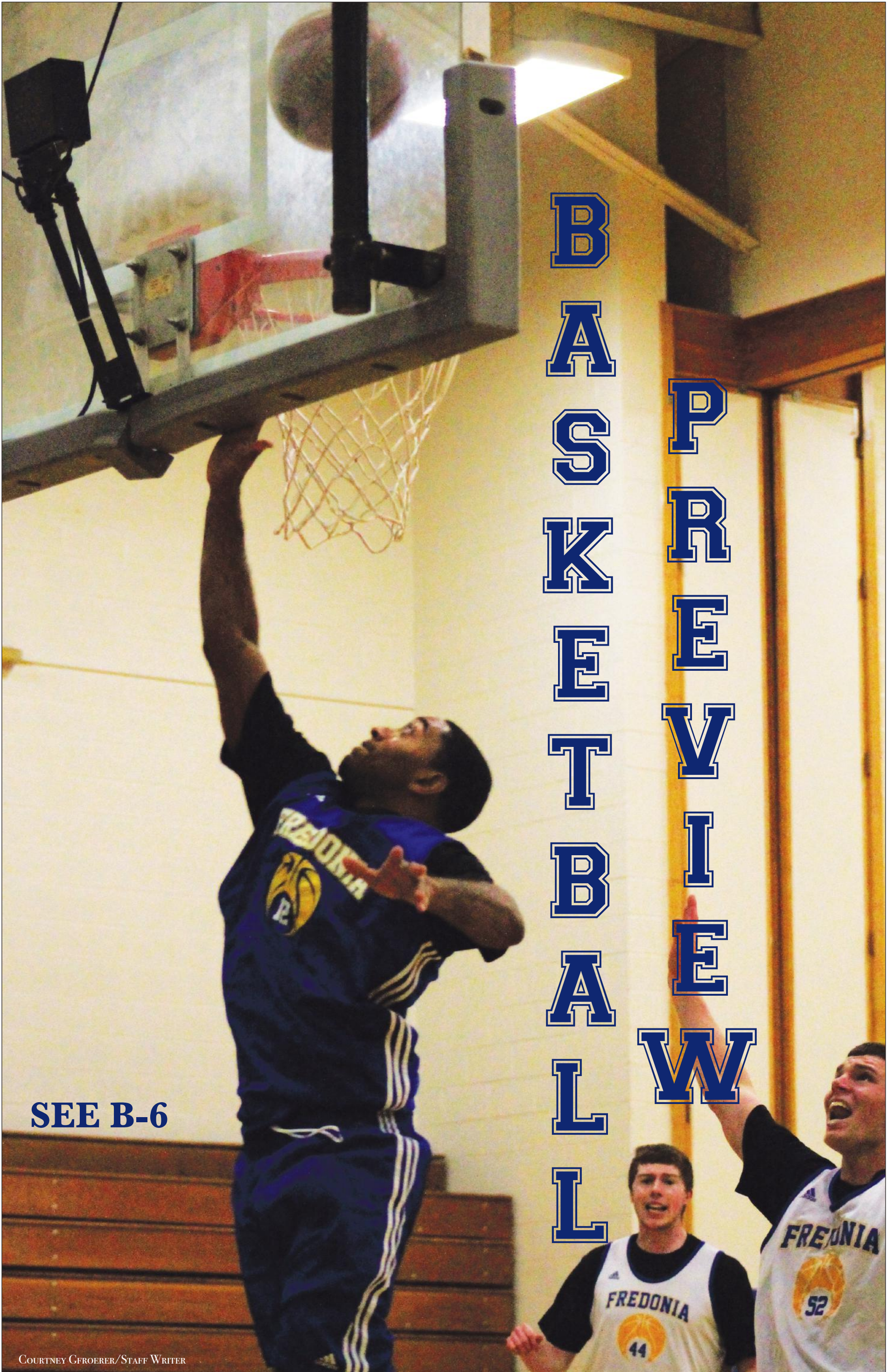
The bars involved with the crawl offered drink specials to those wearing the T-shirts. The crawl began early at 6 p.m. at Heenan's and ended at 2 a.m. after some time at Doons. With only an hour spent at each bar, the night was fast paced and a blast. Of course, no one was required to stick with the main group. So, by the end of the night, there were Coochie Crawl shirts

scattered all over town, with a core group sticking to the schedule.

Pizza was available at 41 West at 9 p.m., which acted as a little halfway-point pit stop. Three huge pizzas were consumed in minutes as hungry crawlers wasted no time in feasting.

It was a safe and fun event, with beautiful outside temperatures in the mid 50s -- a sharp contrast to the 30 degree weather experienced in the days leading up to the event.

The work of event organizers, Christina Conceicao, Jade McGill, Lisa Alberty, Marisa Caruso and Brittany Fischer, has helped bring awareness and funding for a cause that's worth recognizing.



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**SEE B-6**

# SPORTS

Wednesday  
November 14, 2012

B-6  
The Leader

## Blue Devils shoot to improve

**ANDY OLSSON**  
Staff Writer

After an early exit in the SUNYAC tournament last year, the Fredonia State men's basketball team will reload with nine freshmen who are ready to step in. The Blue Devils lost seven players to graduation in the offseason and are looking for their seniors to step up and lead the team immediately. Included with the seven seniors were five of the top seven scorers on the 2011-12 team, so there will be a void to fill before the season starts.

Fredonia's frontcourt took the biggest hit when losing seniors Kevin Mitchell, Damien Goodwin and Julius Bryant upon graduation. These three combined were responsible for 32.1 points and 13.7 rebounds a game last season. Those numbers accounted for 52 percent of the Blue Devils scoring and 40 percent of the team's total rebounding. Add in Leonard Smith's 7.9 points and 4.7 rebounds per game and the four scored 64 percent of the team's points and grabbed 54 percent of their team's rebounds.

Head Coach Kevin Moore restocked his front line with three centers all listed at six feet seven inches. Two freshmen, Mychal Coleman and Matt Deboy, and senior Adam LaQuier will compete for the starting center position. Senior Devin Case is a returning player who will add experience to the front line for the Blue Devils. Case is currently sidelined with an ankle injury, leaving the position open for competition.

"With the amount of new guys on the team, we are all in a similar situation with adjusting to school, being away from home and how much work college ball is," said Coleman. "It might take a little more time but I think that we will all come together and develop a great team chemistry."

Coach Moore will most likely lean on his players returning with experience at the collegiate level. Dalton Kashmer and Amir Billups are senior guards who were big contributors to the Blue Devils' overall effort last year. Kashmer is an all around player that ignites the offensive attack through his scrappy defensive play. In the 2011-12 season, Kashmer averaged 7.1 points, 4.2 rebounds and 1.9 assists per game. Billups is a determined scorer who can beat you in a variety of ways. He will pull up and hit the long ball or take you hard to the cup where he can finish with both hands. Last season, he averaged 8.4 points per game on 40 percent shooting from long range. Look for this backcourt combination to cause opposing teams a lot of problems in executing their game plan.

Ray Parris is a transfer from Alfred State University who will also add some depth to the Blue Devil's backcourt. Parris played for the Pioneers from 2009-11 and was also named to the All-Conference team. Alfred State is a member of the NJCAA in the Western New York Athletic Conference.

"I think we have a team that has all the potential in the world, and we will decide how far we want to go," Coleman said. "I have high expectations going into every season so I will be doing whatever I can to help my team when I get on the floor."

The Blue Devils' season begins Thursday when they



COURTNEY GFROERER/STAFF WRITER

ELLIOT ROGERS FORCES HIS WAY DOWN THE SIDELINE.



COURTNEY GFROERER/STAFF WRITER

AMIR BILLUPS DRIBBLES THE BALL DOWN THE COURT.

travel to face the host of the tournament, the Hilbert Hawks. The following day they take on St. John Fisher College as part of the same tournament. Fredonia's first home game will be this Tuesday when they welcome the D'Youville Spartans to Steele Hall.



COURTNEY GFROERER/STAFF WRITER

SAMUEL RANDALL DEFENDS THE BALL FROM HIS TEAMMATE.



COURTNEY GFROERER/STAFF WRITER

RAY PARRIS WINDS UP FOR A SHOT.

# Women's basketball aims high

**DAVE SANNA**  
Special to The Leader

Last season, the Fredonia State women's basketball team was a small squad, fielding only 11 players total. But senior forward Anna Riley saw that fact as a strength rather than a setback.

"Last year, we had a small team. But we were very close, on and off the court, and I would consider that one of our strengths, which carries over to our team this year," said Riley. "I look forward to competing in the non-conference games and getting some wins to prepare us for our first conference games against the top teams Oneonta [Dec. 1] and New Paltz [Nov. 30]."

Last year's team was inconsistent through the first 19 games and faltered down the stretch a little bit, eventually ending their season in the SUNYAC Tournament to Buffalo State with a 64-56 loss. The first chance for revenge comes on January 19 on their home court. Buffalo State have come into this season ranked 23 in the NCAA Division III rankings, making them an even more formidable opponent than last season. In spite of this ranking and the way last season ended, assistant Coach Damien Goodwin sees no reason for pessimism right now.

"This year will be a great team," said Goodwin. "And with our leading scorer, Becky Hebert, and our guards Jenna Austin and Alex Cassella, we can really make some noise in the SUNYAC."

Last season, the squad started out by losing four of their first seven games, but were able to make a run late in the season to secure a spot in postseason play. As a freshman, Hebert was the team's leading scorer at 20.5 points per game. Austin was a great contributor too, as she led the team with 23 3-point field goals made. So, with a quarter of the roster being freshman, should fans expect a down year for the squad?

"No, not at all," Riley said. "I think that we have a great incoming freshman class along with transfers, and our expectations of them are set pretty high because we know they can perform. They were all the top players on their high school teams, and they are going to be great contributors to our team this season."

When looking at the schedule this season, it's important to note that the SUNYAC tournament has changed. In the past, the top eight teams in the conference would compete, but this year that number has been cut back to six. Players like Riley have noted this change, and she says it's critical to

win conference games.

"Big games that we should be able to call must-wins in the SUNYAC are games against Potsdam [Jan. 25], Plattsburgh [Dec. 8], Brockport [Jan. 15] and [defending SUNYAC champion] Oswego [Jan. 11]," she said. "Obviously, it would be ideal to win all SUNYAC games, but our team's main focus is being one of the top six teams that make it to playoffs."

Coach Goodwin also had some goals set for the upcoming schedule.

"Our schedule is really tough," he said. "In the next two weeks, we have four games, and really need our girls to take care of themselves and not to think ahead about the next game. Our must-win games would have to be our tournament at Penn-St Behrend. I think that tournament will be key in our run to the SUNYAC Tournament."

It's certainly going to be an enjoyable ride watching Blue Devils' women's basketball this year, but challenging at the same time. The team doesn't start conference games until the end of the month, but that doesn't mean they will be standing pat. They will continue to train and practice, with their first game coming on Thursday against Nazareth College at 7 p.m. in Steele Hall.

# Devils have their guard up

**JIM CHRISTOPHER**  
Sports Editor

Hours before their scrimmage against Alfred State, senior guard Dalton Kashmer was in the gym working on his three point shooting. He made it look easy. Three after three after three. Going around the arc with ease as teammate and fellow senior guard Amir Billups tries to shout at him to throw him off. No luck. Kashmer keeps draining them as if they were easy free throws. Billups mentions to him how he can't do that in a real game but Kashmer just shakes it off. It's all in good fun for these two fifth year seniors as they are now staples in the Fredonia State men's basketball program.

It's hard to think of the team without these two key contributors, but it could have easily been that way. Kashmer, a varsity basketball player from Pine Hill, wasn't really considering playing collegiate basketball when he first came to Fredonia.

"I just didn't want to play my freshman year, and my sophomore year I was an RA," Kashmer said. "I did consider myself retired from competitive sports, but my friends were going to try out my junior year and I felt like it was better late than never. So, I tried out and the rest is history."

During his junior year, Kashmer made six starts and was contributing early and often. He followed up with his performance last year, where he was the only member of the team to start all 25 games. Something pretty impressive for a player who was not even recruited to play here. During the year, he managed to average 7.1 points per game and 4.2

rebounds per game. His determination and hard play helped earn him a role as team captain for this season, something he takes a great deal of pride in.

"Being a captain this year has made me become much more vocal both on and off the court. I have always been a lead-by-example guy, so I always want to win a sprint or dive on a loose ball to show the team I am doing what I need to do," Kashmer said. "I used to be a little more reserved when on the court but now I am much more vocal and try to set the example on how to communicate and play college basketball to our very young team."

Kashmer won't be the only senior taking a leadership role for this upcoming season as Billups plans to lead the charge right beside him. Billups expects to be a big contributor offensively. Currently in his fifth year, Billups is considered a senior athletically due to a knee injury that saw him being redshirted his junior year.

When asked if Billups ever thought about ending his basketball career after the injury, Billups was quick with a response.

"Hell no. It was just a long process I had to go through. Doing physical therapy every day, I was just determined to come back strong for the following year. Never would I quit. I don't quit anything. I love basketball too much for that."

Billups' determined attitude could be beneficial for the rest of the team. The Blue Devils are going to need to stay focused throughout the year if they want to contend for the SUNYAC championship. Oswego, the defending SUNYAC champions, are expecting to have a down year after graduating five seniors.

Of those five seniors, one was Chad Burrige, the two-time SUNYAC player of the year and last year's tournament MVP. Just because Burrige is gone, however, doesn't change the goals for this year's Blue Devils squad.

"My expectations of the team this year and every year is always: first – win a SUNYAC championship," Billups said. "We haven't won one in almost 20 years. We have all the tools we need, it's just about putting them together fluently so we work like one unit. As long as we do that, we can get to the SUNYAC championship."

The team also is welcoming back junior guard Joe Monahan. Monahan transferred back to Fredonia this fall after spending a year at Nassau Community College. During the 2010-11 season, Monahan was the team's leading scorer, averaging 12.1 points per game. His addition should be a great help to the offense and his teammates could not be happier that he is back.

"Joe rejoining the teams brings a lot. For one, he knows the offense; he's a great point guard that can see the floor and attack and also score," Billups said. "He can take some of the pressure off of Dalton and I on the perimeter. He can also help teach the new players the system. I'm glad he's back."

The Blue Devils have the potential to make some noise in the SUNYAC, and will rely heavily on these three guards. Their first true test will come Nov. 30 when they play their first conference game against New Paltz.

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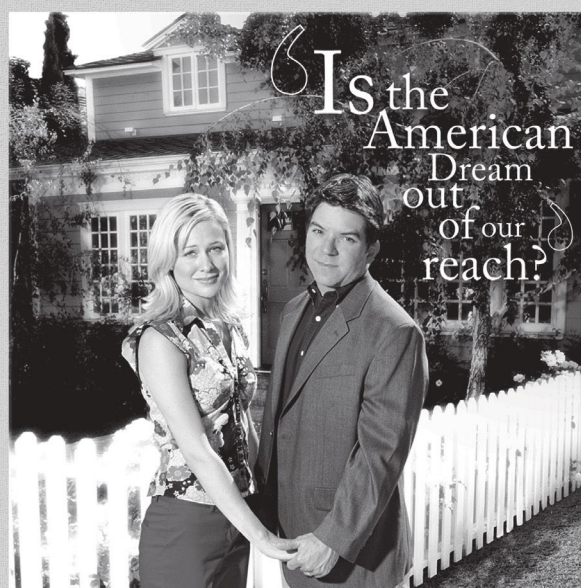
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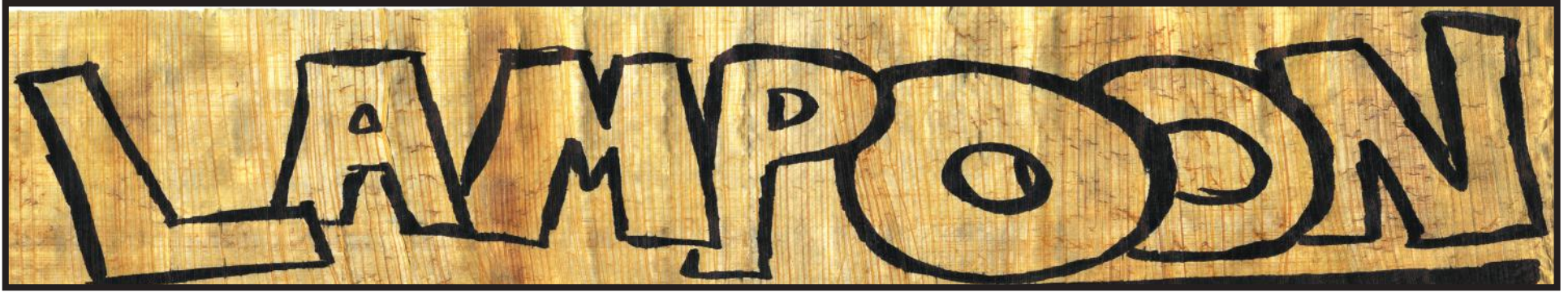
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## Crazy girl actually “goes green”

**ROBIN N STEALING**  
Lampoon Editor

If you are even a half functioning human being then you have probably come across the motto “go green”; it’s on everything from water bottles to bumper stickers to cleaning products. With the new green movement, people are beginning to take notice of their environmental impact. That is, all but the exception of one lowly person.

Angela Kravitz, a sophomore at Clarkson University, may be taking this “go green” movement a little too seriously. Angela, who has been making headlines as of recent, believes that “going green” literally means going green. Many who know her are not sure if this is an act of bringing awareness to conservation efforts or just mere stupidity.

Angela, who declared her favorite color as green at the tender age of three, stated to her suitemates, “Since my favorite color is green, I am going to buy only green products to help protect our environment.”

Her suitemates soon began to realize that she literally meant only buying products that were green in color instead of environmentally safe “green” products. This story then began to work its way up the media totem pole until Fox News got a hold of it, and it went national. The response to this story has caused a mixed reaction among the public. While some are shocked that such a person could exist and function, others say that she is merely bringing awareness to such a hot button issue.

Those who believe this is just an act of ineptitude are disgusted. They are appalled because of all the media attention Angela is receiving but also because she is making the cause look foolish. These people believe that she is mocking a serious issue and does not deserve any recognition, though they do find her actions hilarious.

While some may mock Angela for her stupidity, others have begun to embrace the girl for her efforts of bringing awareness to a cause that she so clearly is passionate about, though obviously misinformed about. She has been heralded by the environmentally friendly publication, Green Garden, as being “the most thought provoking environmentalist this year.” Angela is reported as being ecstatic for her recent fame, only adding fuel to her idiotic fire.

While environmentalists can take both sides, we all should really feel for Angela’s roommate, who has apparently put in a request for a room change, stating, “I could deal with green lamps, bedspreads and towels, but now she is thinking of dying her body green. I can’t handle that level of crazy.”

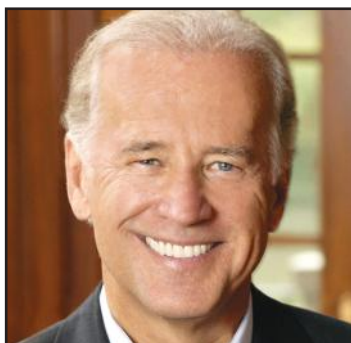
Hopefully, someone will soon explain to Angela just exactly what “going green” means before it is too late.

## Welcome, and happy police blotter games

Here’s how this is going to roll. You are going to think about the question asked **before even looking at the police blotter**, make a reasonable guess, then turn to the police blotter section and count up the actual number of times that specific thing occurred for that week. Then, compare your guess to the actual number of times something happened. While you are going back and forth, feel free to read a few of the articles in the middle and check out the sweet ads. Let’s see how you do.

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“What are your plans for Thanksgiving?”



**Joe Biden**

“To try and eat the turkey the President pardons.”



**PETA**

“In all honesty, we hate Thanksgiving. A holiday centered around killing an animal, no thank you. Though we do like the yams.”



**The Seneca Nation**

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# LAMPPOON

## Big Bird schools Romney in election

SHANYN RUBINSTEIN  
Lampoon Editor

Election results are in, folks. The winner is President Obama, serving his second term in office. While many are not shocked at the news of our president's incumbency, many are astounded at the results for second place.

News outlets are reporting that the presidential second place candidate was not Governor Romney, but a write-in: Big Bird. Surprisingly, the big yellow bird from PBS, or Romney arch nemesis, beat out the projected second place candidate.

As America was awaiting the Florida votes to be finalized, the count of write-ins began to take place. That is, until the vote counters began to take notice in what they first believed was just a prank but what turned out to be an incredibly large number of write-ins for Big Bird. This is

when the write-ins began to be taken seriously.

After hours of counting, it was determined that Romney was, in fact, not the second place loser but the third place loser. Big Bird, the true underdog, was deemed the second place winner in the Presidential election.

This outcome comes as a big upset to Romney's campaign team who was confident that their candidate would take second place at the least. Perhaps the biggest upset comes from the fact that Big Bird spent no money on his campaign while Romney spent millions of dollars on his.

When news broke that Big Bird placed second, Romney immediately went on the defense. He began to call Big Bird out for using corrupt campaign policies stating that, "Public tax dollars were used to fund Mr. Big Bird's campaign." To this, PBS responded with a press release stating, "We understand that it may seem as though we campaigned using public dollars, but we don't feel

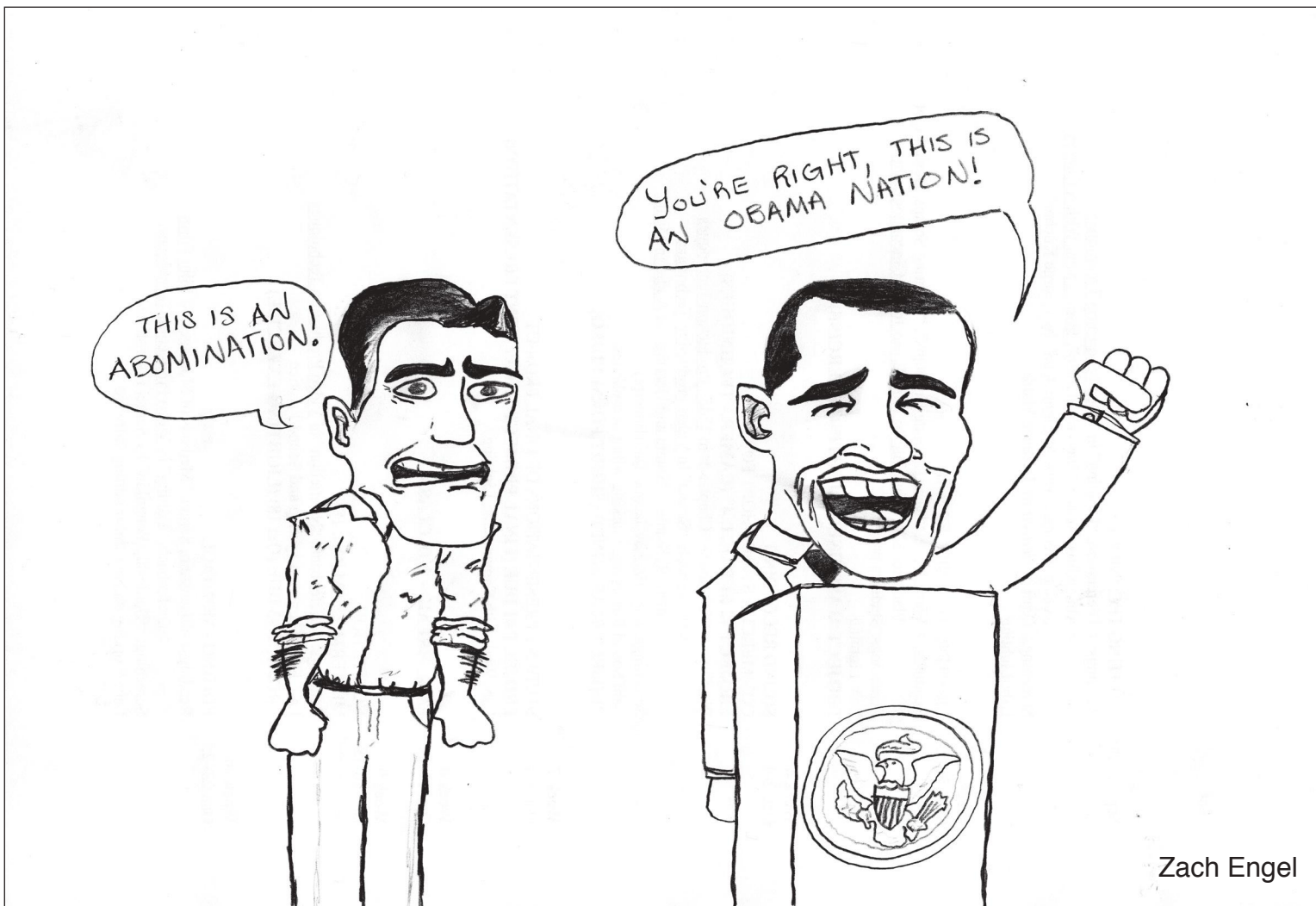
that running our regularly programmed television show necessarily counts as campaigning by any means."

The claims that Romney had made were reviewed by an ethics committee only to be deemed invalid, letting Big Bird remain the second place winner.

PBS is not only tickled by the idea of Big Bird running the free world, but also in the irony of the situation. As many of us remember, Romney talked about cutting government funding to programs such as PBS.

Big Bird is rumored to be appearing on "Anderson Cooper 360" next week to discuss his surprise presidential success. As of last week, the results for the presidential nomination was Obama with 332, Big Bird with 300, and Romney with 206, marking Big Bird as the clear second place winner.

It looks like the letter of the day is "S" for sucker.



"The one day it's okay to be a pig..."