

VAGINA
MONOLOGUES
TAKES OVER MPR
B-1

NEW FITNESS
CENTER UNVEILED
B-6



Comedy headliner shares the stage with Random Acts



MELISSA RECHIN
Staff Writer

Stand-up comedian Mike Birbiglia stumbled onto the stage of King Concert Hall on the eve of Valentine's Day. Birbiglia's introduction to his performance was a humorous blend of slurred speech, unfocused eyes and wobbling legs, giving Birbiglia a unique stage presence.

Many audience members commented on Birbiglia's questionable behavior at the start of his act. While it was hilarious to some and a distraction to others, there is absolutely no doubt in saying Birbiglia's behavior was a little off-kilter.

Despite the audience's hesitation of Birbiglia's appearance, the volume of laughter and applause increased as the performance progressed, leading up to the unexpected finale where Birbiglia brought up Fredonia's own Random Acts to share the stage with him.

"The incorporation of Random Acts was most definitely the highlight of the show. It was great seeing a school organization become involved in a show like this," said Jeff Swift, senior computer science major.

Shortly after coming on stage and playfully making fun of our beloved town of Fredonia, Birbiglia revealed a somewhat mysterious letter that was left in his dressing room before the show. Basically inviting Birbiglia to have a beer after the show and ensuring that the author is "super cute," the letter was signed only with two phone numbers and the letters "M" and "C". With his phone set to speaker, Birbiglia spontaneously called the numbers with the audience as his witness.

Although the first number assigned to the letter "M" went straight to voicemail, it was later revealed that "M" was the original author of the message, belonging to senior member of Random Acts Marisa Caruso. After dialing the second number labeled "C," it was revealed that student Cory Loomis was the other culprit behind the mysterious note because he answered the call and stood up from his seat in the middle of the theater. Birbiglia invited both Loomis and Caruso on stage, after which, a humorous commentary ensued and ultimately resulted in Birbiglia promising to perform with Random Acts later in the show.

Following the note and phone call fiasco, the performance hit a lull that was very unexpected from a comedian with shows on Comedy Central and his own film. For a few minutes Birbiglia actually paced across the stage muttering phrases like, "Well now what do we talk about?" Along with Birbiglia, the audience was starting to get restless.

MELISSA RECHIN/ SPECIAL TO THE LEADER

BIRBIGLIA INCORPORATES FREDONIA'S RANDOM ACTS INTO THE PERFORMANCE.

Continued on page B-2

RecycleMania kicks off annual competition

ANNE RITZ
Assistant News Editor

For the sixth year, Fredonia will be competing in the annual RecycleMania competition. The eight-week competition runs alongside the NCAA basketball tournament. The competition is amongst colleges across the country, battling to have the most recycled material.

"It's just kind of a fun way to get some competition," said Kevin Cloos, Director of Facility Services. "Just to remind everybody what they can do to help

recycling. It's kind of the easy thing, the low hanging fruit if you will."

Cloos explained that the competition was launched back in 2001 and started with Ohio and Miami University to increase recycling. Now, it has grown into a national and international competition.

"What RecycleMania does is they get information basically from Washington on the number of employees and students at all the universities," explained Cloos. "They base the competition on the total weight we collect each week, divided amongst the number of faculty and students that are officially registered, so

it keeps it on a fair basis."

Fredonia competes in the per capita classic division of the competition. Cloos explained that this measures pounds of recycled materials per person. "We just basically have our local trash hauler, Casella, they weigh the dumpster containers before they dump them into the truck and they send me the results at the end of every week. We just track the tonnage for RecycleMania," he said.

Continued on page A-2

Adept adjuncts

Becerra brings the law to campus

CARL LAM
Special to The Leader

Many of our adjunct professors don't just teach at Fredonia; they also have other jobs during the day.

Adjunct accounting and sport management professor Debora Becerra brings knowledge from her professional life to students on campus. Currently in her sixth semester of teaching at SUNY Fredonia, Becerra teaches managerial accounting and sports law and risk management.

The sport management course she teaches deals with the law in regards to athletics. Topics in the course range from personal injury to contracts, and Becerra says, "It's almost like law school in a semester." Her managerial accounting course involves profit, decision making, planning, and working through the numbers.

Becerra received her undergraduate degree at Georgetown University in accounting. She practiced as a certified public accountant (CPA) for many years and decided to go back to school. She went to pursue her juris doctor (J.D.) degree at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law and a master of laws (LL.M) degree at Case Western Reserve University. Her degree from Case Western was in taxation, specifically dealing Internal Revenue Service rules and procedures and corporate and individual taxation.

She currently owns her own law practice in Dunkirk, primarily practicing as a tax attorney. While taxes are her main focus, she also regularly works with business law, estate planning, elder law and additional tax work. Becerra says that everything she does is "very rewarding work."

Many individuals will eventually change career paths like Becerra did. She enjoys working for herself and wanted to stick with the business and tax aspects of law.

"Because that degree was so highly specialized, it made sense to continue and get degree and carve a little niche market for myself," Becerra said with a smile.

For Becerra, she shares her educational philosophy with her students and her clients at her law firm.

"It's one thing to read your textbook and understand the educational theories," Becerra noted. "But I always like to apply them to real life. It helps people to learn if they know that there's a real life applica-



PHOTO COURTESY OF DEBORA BECERRA

tion for it."

Becerra says that she has developed a passion for teaching since starting at Fredonia. Had she not chosen accounting and law, Becerra would have chosen a career in education.

"I just really enjoy interacting with the students because the students are our future," she mentioned. "Education was something that I never thought about early in my life and, as I develop my career, it's something that I took interest in."

If she had the opportunity to teach other courses than what she is currently teaching, Becerra says she would "like to teach a course in business law or taxation."

Though Becerra works the long hours from one job to the other, she truly enjoys working at Fredonia. Becerra's extensive and diverse knowledge makes her a true asset to the business administration and sport management department.

Fredonia competes in RecycleMania: Continued from A-1

In last year's competition, Fredonia placed 78 among 338. Cloos explained that in just New York State, there are about 40 colleges in the competition. "There's only about ten SUNY schools and two community colleges in it this year and we just really play against the SUNYs, because we're such a big organization," he said.

"Usually we're right up there too, which makes me think we're doing something pretty good here for being a smaller school like Fredonia," said Cloos. Fredonia came in second among SUNY schools in the competition last year.

Though the recycled materials are not measured during the rest of the year, Cloos feels that the campus is consistent in recycling efforts. "I think that based on the numbers I see that are fairly consistent, I actually think that continues throughout the academic year. But we can always do a little better," he said.

"We still see recyclable materials in the trash, so we know not everyone is really doing everything they can, whether it's in your office or in a classroom. We're just trying to help remind people in a nice way, a fun way," Cloos said.

Cloos feels that efforts on campus have helped to make the campus more sustainable.

"We had a committee that formed back in 2007 and we really hit things hard. Recycling was one of the main goals, it was kind of an easy one to get that word out there and spread containers around," he said.

"I think we have a strong committee and people that are very interested in protecting the environment and educating people on how to be better. I think we do really well," he explained.

Cloos is confident in the numbers from the trial weeks of RecycleMania. "We're up over 12,000 pounds each week. It's a little less than last year for the start," he said.

"We try to make it easy, you can't walk very far without finding a recycling bin," explained Cloos.

Cloos thinks that beginning numbers being lower is due a combination of fewer students on campus and people becoming more conscious of what they are using.

"I think people are being better, like the printing on both sides, using less paper. People are more aware. I think a lot of the junk mail has fallen off; a lot of it is electronic now. I think as a whole, we're using less material and people are thinking twice about printing something. We're actually reducing our usage on the front, which is a great thing. Our

recycling totals for RecycleMania might be lower, but it's still a great thing."

Cloos feels that there is still an issue of educating people about recycling. "I think one of the big things is, we just have to remind people they need to rinse out the recycled materials, like the half eaten yogurts, or the syrup from a soda can," said Cloos, "I think there's some confusion out there, if you have a can of soda, that little bit that's left is okay, but not half a can."

This causes a problem with contaminating the other recycled materials. Cloos explained that things like food grease contaminate recyclables and when that occurs, they must be tossed as garbage.

"Unfortunately we just don't have the staff to wash our recycling," he explained.

RecycleMania concludes March 30 and the results will be announced April 12.

President Obama advocates policy to help students

SEAN PATRICK
Special to The Leader

College students face many challenges and uncertainties while earning a degree, especially in a time of economic uncertainty. In a hope to alleviate some of these difficulties, policy makers are attempting to make changes.

On Tuesday, Feb. 12 President Barack Obama delivered his fourth State of the Union Address. The president outlines what he believes to be the best action for the United States at this current time. The speech, titled, "An America Built to Last," addressed many topics relevant to the lives of college students and graduates.

"The most daunting challenge can be the cost of college . . . this Congress needs to stop the interest rates on student loans from doubling in July," said Obama, "Extend the tuition tax credit we started that saves middle-class families thousands of dollars."

Obama emphasizes that Americans now owe more in tuition debt than credit card debt.

University innovation

He not only promotes more financial support to students, but highlights the modern university's role in research and work done in the United States, rather than abroad.

"Innovation also demands basic research," Obama said, "Today, the discoveries taking place in our federally-financed labs and universities could lead to new treatments."

These are the jobs that college students will be applying for after completing their undergraduate studies.

"Don't gut these investments in our budget. Don't let

other countries win the race for the future," he said, "Support the same kind of research and innovation that led to the computer chip and the Internet; to new American jobs and new American industries."

Minimum wage

Minimum wage was also a topic talked about in the speech on Tuesday. The current federal minimum is \$7.25, New York state follows in accordance, though some states have a higher minimum for hourly earnings. Obama suggests raising the federal minimum wage to \$9 an hour.

"I think minimum wage getting increased will inevitably lead to higher taxes," said sophomore theater major Jack Hodgins, "that will just lead to history repeating itself and sooner or later it [taxes] will get so high, that no one will be able to pay it and we'll [society will] have chaos."

Many students work minimum wage jobs to pay for anything from day-to-day expenses to college tuition. This increase in wage could have a positive impact on students, though the penalty of the raise in wage could be less potential profits for small businesses and subsequently less room to hire new employees.

"I'm not for raising minimum wage," said childhood inclusive education major Emily Donals, "because the smaller businesses might not be able to meet that standard and go out of business."

Revising the tax code

The president also suggests a revision of the country's

tax code in an attempt to aid the middle class and prevent the wealthiest Americans from using loopholes to become tax free.

"Do we want to keep these tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans?" said Obama, "Or do we want to keep our investments in everything else – like education and medical research ... because if we're serious about paying down our debt, we can't do both."

Regulating dangerous products

Regulation on dangerous products in our market won't only help college students, but will benefit generations to come.

"We need smart regulations to prevent irresponsible behavior. Rules to prevent financial fraud, or toxic dumping, or faulty medical devices, don't destroy the free market," said Obama, "They make the free market work better."

In some political circles, however, this proposal was met with opposition.

"I think that they're [regulations] a bad idea. I think that we should not have them because the government has enough control and I don't feel like giving them more," said sophomore Gabriel Eckmair.

"More government isn't going to help you get ahead. It's going to hold you back ..." said Marco Rubio in the republican parties reply to the speech, "More government isn't going to create more opportunities. It's going to limit them."

Americans will wait to see if Obama carries out this plan and if it will indeed be the best direction for the United States of America.

SA wrap-up

ANDREW LENT
Special to The Leader

The General Assembly meeting begins in its usual fashion. Roll call is completed and the presentations begin hastily. Joyce Smith, Coordinator of Volunteer and Community Services, begins by commending the growing amount of community service performed by students in the past semester. To continue their progress, a new initiative is being placed on extended volunteer positions in the community. Both the Dunkirk Boys and Girls Club and the after school programs are in desperate need of volunteers. Smith also mentions a SUNY program to provide relief aid for the victims of Hurricane Sandy, which will be coordinating student volunteers who are interested in working in the affected areas over spring break. While new volunteers are always welcome to contact the volunteer services office directly, a new feature on the volunteer services webpage now allows for online submission of service hours.

Next on the agenda were representatives of the FSA, who had come to discuss the future of Erie dining hall. The PowerPoint presentation opened by citing the recent 5.3 percent decline in enrollment in Spring 2012 as the main impetus for their proposed re-tooling of campus dining facilities. The loss of expected income from the decline in enrollment has put an unexpected strain on the thinly spread expense budget of the FSA.

Bringing Tim Hortons to the Williams center was a 650,000 dollar investment for FSA but instead of being a new place to grab a drink, it has quickly become a mini-dining hall with over 70 percent of its sales consisting of food. This new competitor, along with Centre Pointe and Cranston Marché, have muscled Erie out of FSA's competitive sales picture.

Erie is only able to attract an average of 534 sales a day, which pales in comparison to the more popular dining options, which average around 1,500 sales a day.

When all is said and done the numbers speak for themselves. The FSA cannot maintain a dining facility that is not making a profit, especially when the facility is the most expensive to operate. The first proposed change would be to move the make-your-own stir fry and the salad bar to the Williams Center, and to add a "Chipotle Style" fast food take out option.

Erie would be "mothballed," until a plausible business plan could be devised for its re-opening and the renovations to Centre point would be completed during the summer. The second option would be to close Erie on Fridays and, to cover the costs, charge an additional \$140 for student meal plans. The second option was brief in both its wording and its argument; the implied conclusion was that both parties would be take a mutual hit if the board elected to take this option.

For those students who have strict dietary limitations, such as vegans, Erie is the only place where they can find the food they can eat.

"The stir fry and salad bar will be moved to Center Point as is," assured the FSA in response.

"We would rather improve something that we have," said Matthew Schneider of the FSA about making the changes.

The decision will not go into effect until fall of next year, and must be decided by the FSA board of directors. After the PowerPoint presentation, the meeting was concluded fairly quickly. Grace Hodges was unanimously appointed to the B&A committee following a semester studying abroad and with that, the assembly was brought to a speedy close.

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UNIVERSITY



February 11, 2013

10:43 p.m. Zachary S. Racha, 19, was issued an appearance ticket for unlawful possession of alcohol when three cans of beer were found in his car.

February 12, 2013

2:38 a.m. An intoxicated male in McGinnies Hall was found to be intoxicated, but refused medical treatment. A report was filed.

11:48 p.m. A phone was found in the Williams Center and turned in to University Police. A report was filed.

February 13, 2013

1:39 a.m. Kyrie E. McNiff, 20, was found to be in possession of marijuana in 205D Kasling Hall. McNiff was issued an appearance ticket for unlawful possession of marijuana.

11:39 a.m. A purse was found in lot 9C and turned in to University Police. A report was filed.

4:20 p.m. A vehicle was struck in lot 9B. A report was filed.

February 15, 2013

2:21 a.m. Joel E. Vandick, 21, was observed urinating on the lawn in front of Hemingway Hall. Vandick was issued an appearance ticket for violation of sewer ordinance.

3:00 p.m. A coat was reported stolen from Mason Hall. A report was filed.

5:07 p.m. Frank S. Maira, 20, was charged with unlawful possession of alcohol after a bottle of liquor belonging to him was seen in plain view during a traffic stop.

February 16, 2013

1:09 a.m. A student was found to be intoxicated in Igoe Hall. A report was filed and the victim transported to Brooks Memorial Hospital.

11:27 p.m. Officers responded to a report of marijuana odor emanating from the area around 205D Kasling Hall. Upon attaining a search warrant, a search of the room yielded cocaine, oxycontin, marijuana, alcohol and a scale. Raj Narine Singh, 19, was charged with criminal possession of a controlled substance in the fifth degree for cocaine possession, unlawful possession of marijuana and unlawful possession of alcohol. Lindsay C. Malone, 19, was charged with criminal possession of a controlled substance in the sixth degree for possession of oxycontin, unlawful possession of marijuana and unlawful possession of alcohol.

February 17, 2013

2:00 p.m. A New York State driver's license was reported stolen from a bathroom in Nixon Hall. A report was filed.

POLICE BLOTTERS

FREDONIA

February 11, 2013

Joshua J. Abbt, 24, was charged with failing to stop at a stop sign.

Robert H. McGinnis III, 22, was charged with speeding in zone.

February 12, 2013

Keith D. Martell, 33, was charged with having inadequate brakes, an unsafe tire and an uninspected motor vehicle. Martell's car was towed and he was given a ride home.

February 13, 2013

Stephen J. Grass, 21, was charged with unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle and performing an improper right turn.

February 15, 2013

2:35 p.m. Merritt D. Wolcott, 21, was charged with burglary in the second degree and grand larceny in the fourth degree.

Antone Aronson, 22, was charged with violation of sewer ordinance.

February 16, 2013

12:14 a.m. Mark K. Gampietro and Matthew S. Dotterweich, both 21, were charged with violation of open container laws.

11:00 a.m. Dawaris Arce, 37, was charged with aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle in the third degree.

10:45 p.m. Joshua J. Prusar, 26, was charged with unlawful possession of marijuana.

February 17, 2013

12:11 a.m. Brian D. Trembath, 23, was charged with violation of open container laws.

2:07 a.m. Carly D. Trivisonna, 24, was charged with disorderly conduct and harassment. Trivisonna was released on \$500 bail.

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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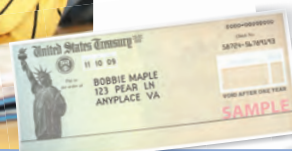
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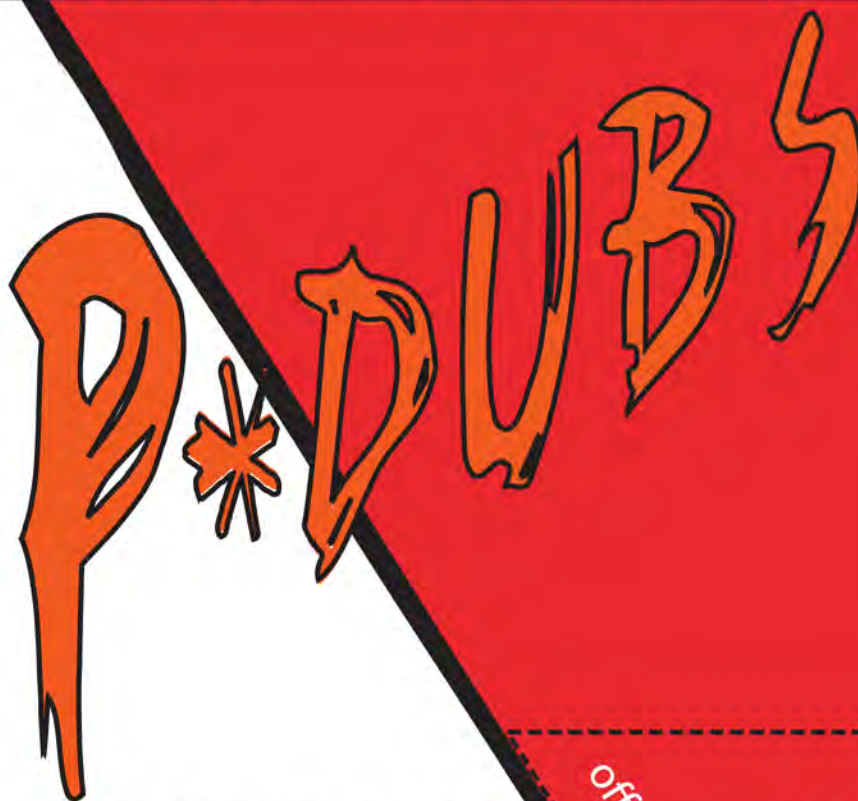
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- 10 Bed for 11 people \$2700/person/semester
- 10 Bed for 12 people \$2500/person/semester

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OPINION

Wednesday February 20, 2013

The Leader A-6

THE LEADER

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News & Advertising Office:
(716) 673-3369

E-mail:
cestock@fredonia.edu
E-mail:
leaderadvertising@yahoo.com

Web Address:
www.fredonialeader.org

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On encountering danger while studying abroad in Belize



PHOTO COURTESY OF SHANYN RUBINSTEIN

SHANYN RUBINSTEIN
Lampoon Editor

It takes months of arranging, organizing and financial-securing to be able to study abroad, but I would bet most would say it is worth all of it. While you may only consider the positives of studying abroad, which there are an infinite number of, there are also possible risks that could be involved. So, what happens when a threat to your safety is made while you are so far from home? How would you handle it? How does the staff you're traveling with handle the situation? What does the school do to let your guardians know everything is taken care of and that you are safe?

These are all questions most would not think of, but maybe it's something that students need to know before embarking on one of the greatest adventures of their lives.

I most recently went on a J-Term study abroad to Belize. There, 30 wonderful girls, including myself, performed a service learning project. With the assistance of four professors, Dr. Jabot, Dr. Berkley, Dr. Magiera and Dr. Rey, who did most of the coordinating, we went to four different schools in Belize City, Belize. The schools ranged from special education, high school and elementary schools.

The second day into our time at the schools, an incident occurred. What some of you may have heard, either through word of mouth or various social media sites, is that there was a threat to our safety because of gang violence nearby and threats to the schools. These threats caused a travel advisory to be set for Belize City by the United States Embassy.

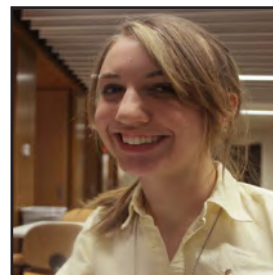
While we were all nervous, especially because of the recent Sandy Hook shooting, we were instantly comforted when we all arrived back at the hotel. When

each school arrived back, there was a sense of calm that came over each one of us. Though we knew we were in good hands, it was still nice to be all together knowing your friends and teachers were truly safe.

The threat on the schools was later revealed to be only rumors. The situation was still handled with great haste. Before any of us even had a chance to feel truly threatened, we were escorted from the school. From then on, our teachers kept us informed on the situation.

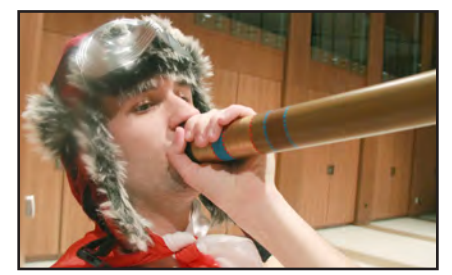
Our parents were soon emailed to inform them of the incident. They were steadily updated on our safety and what our plans were by the Office of International Education. During the three days we were out of school, we spent time lesson planning and reflecting. On the third day, we wound up chartering a boat and headed to the island of San Pedro about an hour away where we observed schools in a more rural setting.

Have you considered studying abroad?



Sara Marszalkowski
freshman mathematics

"I would go to Australia because it would be interesting to see a different way of life and how it is similar to our own even though it's so far away. It's also a place I've always wanted to visit."



Sam Simpson
freshman chemistry

"Australia to learn digeridoo."



PHOTO COURTESY OF SHANYN RUBINSTEIN

The real tragedy of the situation is that we weren't able to spend as much time in our schools. Though we were only there for one day, we all formed attachments to our schools, teachers and students. We were all offered the opportunity to go home if we felt at all uncomfortable. Looking around the room, when Dr. Rey announced the situation to us, in every girl's face, you could see the look of not being able to leave their students or the wonderful country of Belize prematurely.

As a last precaution for our safety, all of us were registered with the United States Embassy in Belize. We also did not leave our hotel until the travel ban in Belize City was lifted. The violence in the city only lasted for a short time, but we were kept out of the city all week to ensure our safety.

When I arrived home, my parents asked me if I ever felt unsafe and without any hesitation, I replied "No, not at all."

In truth, the situation was handled with such poise and consideration, I could confidently say not one girl was scared for her safety. We were there on a mission.

Anna Hourihan, a speech language pathology student had no complaints about her trip.

"My trip to Belize was such a memorable experience. I learned so much in two weeks and created great memories and friendships that will last a lifetime."

The particular trip we went on was accompanied with a class. We had all been raising money, writing lesson plans, gathering resources and getting to know one another in anticipation for this trip for an entire semester.

Going into the schools even for one day proved to be such a learning experience. The lack of resources

and space they have in their classrooms would shock most of you. In particular, my classroom was smaller than most students' bedrooms and it fit 22 kindergartners. Though it was a tight space, the students were still excited to learn and be in school, which

was encouraging to see.

Our weekdays were booked with school activities and planning for the next day, especially when we went back all while our weekends were packed with outings to let us explore the beautiful Belize. Some of our activities included snorkeling with stingrays and sharks, zip lining through the jungle and visiting Caye Caulker a small island about an hour boat ride from our hotel. Our weekend plans were not affected in the least because all of the activities took place far outside Belize City. We got to travel the country of Belize and see some of the sites it has to offer, which proved to be informational and thrilling.

To be able to accurately summarize this trip in one article would prove impossible. It's an experience of a lifetime. I made some great friends as well as learning more than I ever experienced, not just on an academic level but on a personal level as well.

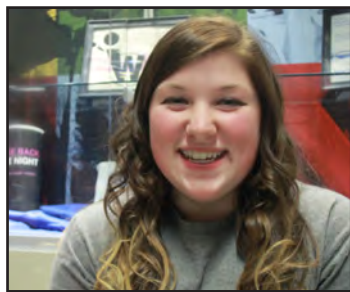
On behalf of the girls who also traveled down to Belize, I would like to say that this was one of the most rewarding experiences of our lives. Though there was a minor incident, it did not deter us in anyway or distract us from our main reason for visiting Belize: to enhance our knowledge and become even better educators by learning from a new classroom environment than what we are used to.

To those thinking about studying abroad – do it. Even if it is just for two weeks, it's worth it. You make wonderful friends and learn so much about the world. It's important to explore what's out there while you're young.

Of course, there will always be some danger associated with traveling; you just need to know how to act to ensure your safety. Dangerous events can happen anywhere, even in the quaint town of Fredonia, so don't let that stop you from going on an adventure and exploring what's out there!

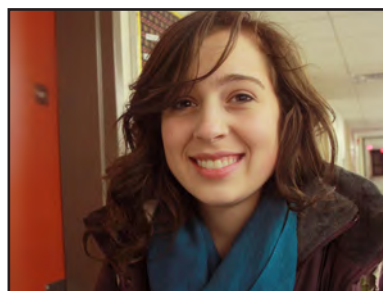


PHOTO COURTESY OF SHANYN RUBINSTEIN



Olivia Fergusson
freshman psychology

"I would love to go to Italy and Greece to experience different cultures."



Kelly Gravel
sophomore music education

"Japan!"



Jamie Sunshine
senior music performance

"I went to Ghana to study African drumming, xylophone and dance."

Photo Page



PHOTO BY BRANDON PERDOMO



PHOTO COURTESY OF SYLVANA DUSSAN

IF YOU HAVE PHOTOS FOR THE PAGE, PLEASE
SUBMIT THEM TO OUR
PHOTO EDITOR AT SADL2171@FREDONIA.EDU

Vagina Monologues raises awareness for women



SARAH SADLER/ PHOTO EDITOR

SARAH MULLEN TELLS A STORY OF A WOMAN THROUGH A MONOLOGUE CALLED "BECAUSE HE LIKED TO LOOK AT IT."

MAGGIE GILROY Staff Writer

As couples exchanged chocolates and flowers in honor of Valentine's Day, over a billion women worldwide were celebrating a different kind of V-Day. This V-Day, which stands for "victory," "valentine" and "vagina," was formed as a way to speak out about rape and sexual assault.

This year, V-Day was marked by the One Billion Rising Movement, a call from Eve Ensler for a billion women around the world to strike, dance, and speak out against rape and sexual assault. Ensler is a feminine activist, known worldwide for penning *The Vagina Monologues*.

Joining this movement was SUNY Fredonia's cast of *The Vagina Monologues*, who broke out in a flash mob Thursday afternoon. Although they faced a few technical difficulties, the cast danced strongly and with conviction, drawing a large crowd outside of University Commons. Dancing to "Run the World" by Beyoncé, the girls paused mid-dance and yelled "One Billion Rising" with their fingers pointed skyward, their cause declared to the campus.

They also displayed a banner, signed and brightly decorated by each member of the cast, explaining their cause. The global movement had 182 countries involved and also enlisted help from celebrities including Anne Hathaway.

Choreographer Ellen Scherer, senior early childhood education major, was eager to participate in the flash mob.

"I miss choreographing, I do it all the time at home and I just haven't really had a chance to do it that much anymore, so I decided that it would be a good idea to do it for all of these girls," Scherer said.

This year also marks the fifteenth anniversary of the creation of *The Vagina Monologues*.

The movement was tied to the "Spotlight Monologue," which is a new monologue Ensler writes each year. While the monologue usually focuses on a different area of the world where domestic violence is prevalent, this

years' monologue focused on rape and sexual assault around the world.

For Kimmy Krenzer, an interdisciplinary studies graduate student in her sixth and final year at Fredonia, the spotlight monologue marks the end of a long journey with the show. Krenzer has participated with *The Vagina Monologues* every year of her time at Fredonia.

"I think that doing the spotlight monologue after doing it the last six years: I've directed the show, I've hosted the show, I've done several other monologues, and doing the spotlight is like the perfect cap to my final year of doing the

show at Fredonia," Krenzer reflected.

"It's just an honor to be a part of it," said Siobhan Hunter of the One Billion Rising Movement. Hunter played "Eve," who serves as the emcee of the show. "Eve Ensler is just so inspiring, so every year when she does something new...it feels amazing to be a part of something that she just created herself that is really, really changing the lives of women all around the world."

"I mean, even on this campus, lots of girls in this cast and lots of girls who see the show are able to speak out about things that have happened to them," continued Hunter. "So, I'm just really happy to be a part of it."

Following the flash mob, the cast continued to spread the movement's message during their performance of *Monologues* that evening. The production took place in the Williams Center Multi-Purpose Room and ran Thursday through Saturday.

Although the production is performed annually and has become a staple on campus, the all-female cast never fails to bring something new and fresh to their audiences each year.

"I am particularly excited about our 'happy facts' this year," said director Jade McGill, senior arts administration major. "They're doing some different stuff that I've never seen 'happy facts' do before. There is one 'happy fact' in



SARAH SADLER/ PHOTO EDITOR

SIOBHAN HUNTER, PORTRAYING "EVE," INTRODUCES THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES.

Continued on page B-2

Vagina Monologues raises awareness: Continued from B-1

particular, that they're doing some audience interactions, which I am really so excited about because it's going to be so funny."

All of the proceeds of the show go to victims of domestic violence. This year, 90 percent of the proceeds will be donated to the Anew Center in Jamestown. The proceeds are generated through ticket sales, as well as fundraising efforts such as the selling of vagina-shaped lollipops and basket raffles during the show.

"One thing that is actually really special ... this year, on the Friday performance, all of the woman who work there [the Anew Center] as well as all of



SARAH SADLER/ PHOTO EDITOR
ALANNA HAZARD TELLS THE STORY OF A YOUNG WOMAN'S EXPERIENCE AT A VAGINA WORKSHOP.

the residents of the center are actually coming to see the show," said McGill. "I don't know if that's actually happened before. I am going to lose it... it's really awesome that they're going to be there," McGill continued. "They need to see that people are there, and that we support them and we know what they are going through, that people want to help ... just to put faces to it. It's going to be heart-breaking, but it's going to be like, 'This is for you. This is why we do it.'"

"We're all very nervous ... this is who we're doing this for," said Krenzer.

For Sherer, the personal impact of the show has spread far past the stage.

"I just got involved this year; I should've done it much sooner. I kind of regret that," said Sherer. "The whole experience with all of these girls has really been great. I've met so many nice and great and wonderful people. For example, next year, I've made two best friends who I'm going to be living with."

"I just think that it's really important that everyone come see this show. If you didn't get a chance to see it this year, we do it every single year, and it's done all over the world," said organizer Brittany Fischer, senior early childhood education major. "You can go to the V-Day website and it will show you every place that is doing a monologue.

"A lot of people, they think within the context of their own community, they don't think about the rest of the world," Fischer continued. "There are issues here, but it is nothing compared to other countries



SARAH SADLER/ PHOTO EDITOR
LAUREN MILLER LISTENS AS HER FRIENDS TELL HER STORY DURING THE INTRODUCTION OF THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES.

where women would be killed for even trying to do this show. I get very upset when people tell me that women's rights are something of the past, because they're not."

Mike Birbiglia shares the stage with students:

Continued from A-1



MIKE BIRBIGLIA PERFORMS STAND UP COMEDY IN KING CONCERT HALL.



MELISSA RECHIN/SPECIAL TO THE LEADER

"I thought he beat his stories dead. He had no idea what to say, making it seem like he didn't have any content rehearsed or even planned. I found it very unprofessional," recalled Chelsea Newton, sophomore video production major.

Birbiglia filled the rest of the allotted time with anecdotes from his current touring show, *My Girlfriend's Boyfriend*, which caught the attention of most of the audience, many of whom were anxiously awaiting the arrival of *Random Acts*. After finishing stories of his wife, Jenny, and the adventures of past girlfriends, Birbiglia welcomed *Random Acts* onto the stage to perform numerous improvised skits based off

Birbiglia's monologues.

Preceding Birbiglia's performance was opener Josh Rabinowitz. The small yet hilarious 24-year-old was named one of Comedy Central's 2011 "Comics to Watch" and also acted as the character "Kent" in MTV's *I Just Want My Pants Back*.

Rabinowitz entertained the audience with relatable anecdotes of college, sex, body image and the constant struggle to fit in with the "cool" crowd.

"I actually liked the opener better. He talked about everyday aspects of a college student's life and made it funny," recalled freshman speech pathology major Hailey Cilano.

Although he's ten years younger and with a lighter résumé than Birbiglia, Rabinowitz was more successful in connecting with the members of the audience and performing scenes that almost every viewer could see him or herself in, according to Cilano.

Altogether, Josh Rabinowitz's performance, *Fredonia's Random Acts* and Mike Birbiglia's improvisation came together to create one interesting and entertaining show. It's safe to say that both the members of *Random Acts* and Mike Birbiglia himself will never have another show quite as eccentric.



The



A-Tracks

EILEEN MOWREY
Assistant Reverb Editor

We're returning back to a more normal format for week 17 of The A-Tracks. This week is all about girl power. Both the artist review and album review focus on new wave, indie rock bands fronted by extremely talented women. Coincidentally, they also both happen to be Canadian. Metric, our artist review, won my heart last semester with their album *Synthetica* and Tegan and Sara, our album review, have kept the hits coming with a brand new album release. And don't forget to join me for the radio show at 2 p.m. on Wednesday afternoons on WDVL 98.5!

ARTIST REVIEW: Metric

It was last semester that I was first introduced to Metric. The first song I heard was "Artificial Nocturne" from their newest album, *Synthetica*. My liking for them swelled as quickly as the opening note of that song. The Canadian indie rock band is the perfect mix between traditional rock styles and new age electronic.

Metric is fronted by vocalist Emily Haines, who plays synthesizer and guitar, and lead guitarist James Shaw, who also plays synthesizer and theremin. They are joined by bassist Joshua Winstead and drummer Joules Scott-Key. The band was founded in 1998 in Toronto, and has since made their home in Montreal, London, New York City and Los Angeles.

Metric has released five total studio albums. Their two most popular have been *Fantasies*, which was released in April of 2009 and the most recent, *Synthetica*, released June 2012. Metric took what is often considered a risky move with their *Fantasies* and released it without the help of a label. It sold on five different continents and hit the tops of radio charts nonetheless, selling over one million singles and 500,000 albums.

In 2010, the album won them Alternative Album of the Year and Group of the Year at the Canadian Juno Awards. Their music has also been featured on the soundtracks of major motion pictures, including *Scott Pilgrim vs. The World* and *Twilight Saga: Eclipse*.

Synthetica, released last June, is a much more electronically driven album than their previous works. It was, in my opinion, an excellent direction for the group to take. Haine's soft and airy voice is perfect for indie pop, but it compliments electronics exceptionally. That said, she has released acoustic versions of most of Metric's songs and they have proved to be equally good, despite showcasing an entirely different perspective of her talents.

Anyone looking for some good indie rock or an exceptional female vocalist would be foolish to overlook Metric. They have mastered the balance between rock, pop, and electronic. From their first album to their last, they won't disappoint.



ALBUM REVIEW: HEARTTHROB – TEGAN AND SARA

"All I want to get is a little bit closer," are the first words on Tegan and Sara's new album *Heartthrob*. With this album, they have certainly gotten a little bit closer to the top of my list. I have always enjoyed Tegan and Sara, but their new album has an aspect of finesse that earlier albums seemed to lack.

Heartthrob is Tegan and Sara's seventh studio album. It was released in its entirety on Jan. 29, 2013, but portions of it had been pre-released earlier. "Closer," my favorite song from the album, was released on Sept. 25, 2012. The music video for the track has exceeded two million views. When the album was released last month, it debuted at number two on Billboard's Top 200 Chart.

The album was recorded almost a year ago, starting in February of 2012 and finishing that May. During the course of the recording process, the twin sensation also shot a series of eight documentary type videos titled "Carpool Confessional." These videos serve as a sort of documentary for the duo's recording process.

Tegan and Sara Quin are identical twins who formed their group back in 1995 in Calgary, Canada. They both sing, play guitar and keyboards, and, together, they write their own music. Their style is defined as indie rock, indie pop, or synthpop. Their harmonies are tight and their lyrics and melodies upbeat and catchy. They are also known for having some very bizarre, but very artistically interesting music videos.

Heartthrob was released by Vapor and Warner Bros Records. It was recorded in part by Greg Kurstin, Mike Elizondo, and Justin Meldal-Johnsen. The two singles from the record are "Closer" and "I'm Not Your Hero." I personally could play "Closer" about a hundred times a day and still not get sick of it.

Tegan and Sara have been around for quite a number of years, but they have managed to never become mundane. Their music evolves along with them and they are always sure to keep it consistent with popular trends without ever losing their own personal style. They are playing a concert on July 13 in Canandaigua at CMAC with Fun. and I would give my left kidney to go.



The A-Tracks Top Ten is back, combining the top ten singles lists of Billboard Magazine, iTunes, Spotify, Top 10 Songs and Buffalo's KISS 98.5.

- #1 "Thrift Shop" – Macklemore and Ryan Lewis
- #2 "Ho Hey" – The Lumineers
- #3 "Don't You Worry Child" – Swedish House Mafia
- #4 "Scream & Shout" – will.i.am
- #5 "I Knew You Were Trouble" – Taylor Swift
- #6 "Locked Out of Heaven" – Bruno Mars
- #7 "Suit & Tie" – Justin Timberlake
- #8 "When I Was Your Man" – Bruno Mars
- #9 "Sweet Nothing" – Calvin Harris w/ Florence
- #10 "Daylight" – Maroon 5

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.

– Funktional Flow is playing Saturday, Feb. 23, at Doon's! Open to all ages, \$2 pre-sale tickets, \$4 cover charge (Musicians have to eat too).

– It's that time again! Sound Services is accepting submissions for their Battle of the Bands competition. The winners will open for the headliner at FredFest! The first preliminary competition shows are Feb. 19 and 20, with the final battle on Mar. 5. Get out and support your fellow students!

English professor debuts book at Buster Brown

KEAH BROWN
Staff Writer

On Feb. 16, just two days after Valentine's Day, a group of students, co-workers, family and friends alike sat in Buster Brown chatting and laughing with one another. Sarah Gerkenmeyer, the woman they were all there to support and celebrate, walked from table to table thanking people for coming. The purpose of the night was to honor Gerkenmeyer on the launch of her first short story collection titled *What You Are Now Enjoying*. In the spirit of Valentine's Day, red tablecloths and red and white curtains covered the room while red and white paper hearts were taped to the windows.

Upon entering Buster Brown, Gerkenmeyer's book was displayed off to the left along with two pamphlets, one from her publisher, Autumn House Press, introducing her book with an excerpt from the story Hank and three short paragraphs with praise for the book. The other handout, "A Homebrewer's Guide to *What You Are Now Enjoying*," was just that: Gerkenmeyer's husband, a homebrewer, paired off each of her stories with the "perfect beer." Next to the display of books was a table filled with assorted snacks, some of which were buttery nipple cupcakes, a chocolate-nut-pretzel and cranberry combination and Jell-O for the guests to enjoy.

The writing process for Gerkenmeyer was a bit

different than for most. "They're from all over. Some of the stories are from back in grad school, which I finished in 2004; they just kind of span the years ever since then. Quite a few of them were written when we moved here five years ago," Gerkenmeyer said.

After all of the guests ate their food and took pictures with Gerkenmeyer, it was time for a reading. Gerkenmeyer stood in front of the intimate and eager crowd with a smile and a nervous chuckle. Gerkenmeyer read a snippet from "My Husband's House" and though it was her first time, she read with the grace and ease of someone who had done so millions of times.

When she finished, the crowd erupted into cheers as she walked over to her husband for a hug and kiss on the forehead.

Angie Sledd, Gerkenmeyer's sister, was very proud of her sister and of what she had accomplished and was glad to have been there for some of the process.

"I was there for a lot of the research for the stories she wrote when they lived in West Virginia and some of the ones written here when I visited her," Sledd said before adding that her favorite story was "My Husband's House." Gerkenmeyer's sister-in-law, Rachael Fai, was also in attendance and said that her favorite story in the collection was "Dear John."

When speaking of the transition from Virginia to Fredonia five years ago, Gerkenmeyer says that a lot of her stories were short.

"They're really short. The strange ones are stories that I wrote after my second son was born a couple of years ago because I was just trying to get back into writing, but I could only focus on shorter stuff," Gerkenmeyer said.

Though, she was the main event of the night, Buster Brown also highlighted both a local photographer and artist. The photographer, Tim, said a few words about portraits and how they speak to him while the artist, Melissa, spoke briefly about the art she was selling and how she got into the business without prior schooling or the desire to go to school. In addition to being an artist, Melissa is also a hairdresser.

Like a lot of writers, Gerkenmeyer pulls from different experiences and says that a lot of the stories are from different phases in her life. When asked about her favorite from the collection, she says it changes a lot.

"They're all my favorite for different reasons. They're like children; I would feel evil admitting to having a favorite one. For tonight, maybe my favorite one is 'What You Are Now Enjoying.' It just kind of encapsulates this surreal experience."

Even though she has just had her short story collection published, Gerkenmeyer plans to continue work on her novel which she started a "really long time ago," and said that the stories in the collection gave her the fuel to go back to it.

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PAC hosts series with stage combat expert



THOMAS WARMBRODT/ SPECIAL TO THE LEADER

PARTICIPANTS STAND IN A CIRCLE AS THEY LEARN ABOUT STAGED COMBAT.

JORDYN HOLKA
Special to The Leader

Last weekend, 18 SUNY Fredonia students gathered in the Dods gymnasium to experience the stage combat expertise of Jacob Guinn. Guinn, a nationally known actor and fight director from Louisiana, hosted two workshops – one on Friday night to teach the fundamentals of stage combat and another Saturday afternoon to expand upon the basics and look at stage combat from a director's perspective. The workshop series was put on by Fredonia's Performing Arts Company (PAC).

Workshop attendees learned how to punch and slap on stage, as well as how to realistically react. They learned about knaps, creating the realistic sound effect upon "striking" one's partner. and that, as Guinn asserted, there is "no victim and aggressor, there's only communication." Throughout the workshops, Guinn stressed the idea of stage combat as a constant dialogue, with both partners constantly engaged and in contact with one another.

Guinn's passion for the stage combat artform shone through his teaching, and all participants were constantly engaged, asking questions and expressing amazement at the introduction of new choreography and ideas.

"The most interesting new concept for me was the idea that combat fighting is an art form," said attendee Taylor Godlewski. Godlewski, a sophomore here at SUNY Fredonia, greatly enjoyed Guinn's dedication and instruction. "I would most definitely take another workshop with him if it were offered – he is so passionate."

PAC anticipated and secured a great turnout at this event. Even from the outset, there were high hopes for the success of this workshop series as many PAC members worked with Guinn over the summer in Cherokee, N.C., on a show titled "Unto These Hills." Deanna Jelardi, a member of the PAC board who previously worked with Guinn and helped coordinate his visit to Fredonia, said, "We've heard that a lot of people have interest in this. We haven't done it in a while. People love to fight and get a little energy out!"

Guinn himself agrees that most individuals love to express themselves through movement, and his form of expression is stage combat. He is very interested in the interpersonal behaviors of his generation of young adults, and commented that, "Generationally, the way that we process art has nothing in common with the way that my father does or my grandfather does."

Guinn believes that stage combat, especially unarmed, allows participants to overcome the tactile gap of today's society, because, in unarmed stage combat, touch and close interaction with one's partner is essential.

"We don't touch each other any more because we're worried about sexual harassment suits, so I'm actively working on unarmed [combat] because it's the most open

frontier-style fighting. He wanted to become proficient in as many areas of stage work as possible because, he says, "I figured that if I could make a living playing story time, playing with sticks and imagination, maybe I should try that."

Today, in addition to being a senior theater major with an emphasis in movement at Louisiana Tech University, Guinn travels around the country giving workshops in col-



THOMAS WARMBRODT/ SPECIAL TO THE LEADER

PARTICIPANTS PRACTICE DIVE TECHNIQUES.

platform I have available to me as a young theater artist," he asserts.

Guinn has been studying stage combat since age 11, when he began training to be his father's assistant professor. His father is a professor at Louisiana Tech University and a fight master with the Society of American Fight Directors. Under his father, Guinn trained every summer from age 11 to 18 in stage combat, pyrotechnics, scene construction, scene development, equine work, classical fencing and

leges and theatrical venues. He has a very clear image of his work and the message he wants his workshops to convey.

"These workshops are my ideas, and the genesis of the ideas comes from a specific place. It's about giving homage back to your teachers. I believe very heavily in the synthesis of ideas."

For more information on PAC and its upcoming events, visit the Fredonia website.

SPORTS

Wednesday
February 20, 2013

B-6
The Leader

New center shines light on fitness



MINJU KIM/ PHOTO STAFF

STUDENTS WORK OUT AT THE NEW FITNESS CENTER WHICH OPENED ON MONDAY, FEB. 4.

KAYLA PATRICK
Special to The Leader

The first week of February could not have started out on a better note as the new state of the art fitness center opened their doors to anxious students.

Located in Dods Hall, the most recent addition to the Fredonia campus drew more than 1,000 students on Monday, Feb. 4, on the first day students had access to the center.

President Virginia Horvath shows her enthusiasm for the new addition and is "excited about the opening and the response of the students ... fitness is obviously important and this is a very visible way to show students that."

Students can appreciate the openness of the new space, as the previous fitness center severely lacked with its dungeon-like, windowless qualities. Across the campus there are murmurs of students first perceptions of the new space, some coming in with mixed reviews.

While the fitness center is much larger, has more equipment, and includes a brand new rock-climbing wall, some students are afraid that it lacks the space for lifting free weights in a safe area. Students will continue to critique the center, though Senior Public Relations and media management major Alyssa Brognano worked at the previous fitness center and believes this will not keep students from experiencing the new center.

"I definitely think the new fitness center will motivate and encourage people to get healthy."

The student center is definitely versatile, and has new biking equipment, twice the amount of treadmills and elliptical machines and lockers to use while at the gym. Students can simply trade in their FredCard for a locker key to make sure that valuables and backpacks safe and secure, to keep their mind at ease and exercise.

Senior communications major and exercise science minor, Jake Liebmman, thinks highly of the new facility as well, and finds it a great place to work on his skills to become a personal trainer.

"I think it's a great facility, it has a lot of state of the art equipment. It's a very versatile gym; anyone can come here to work out," Liebermann said, "There are many different

machines for everyone, it's a great gym."

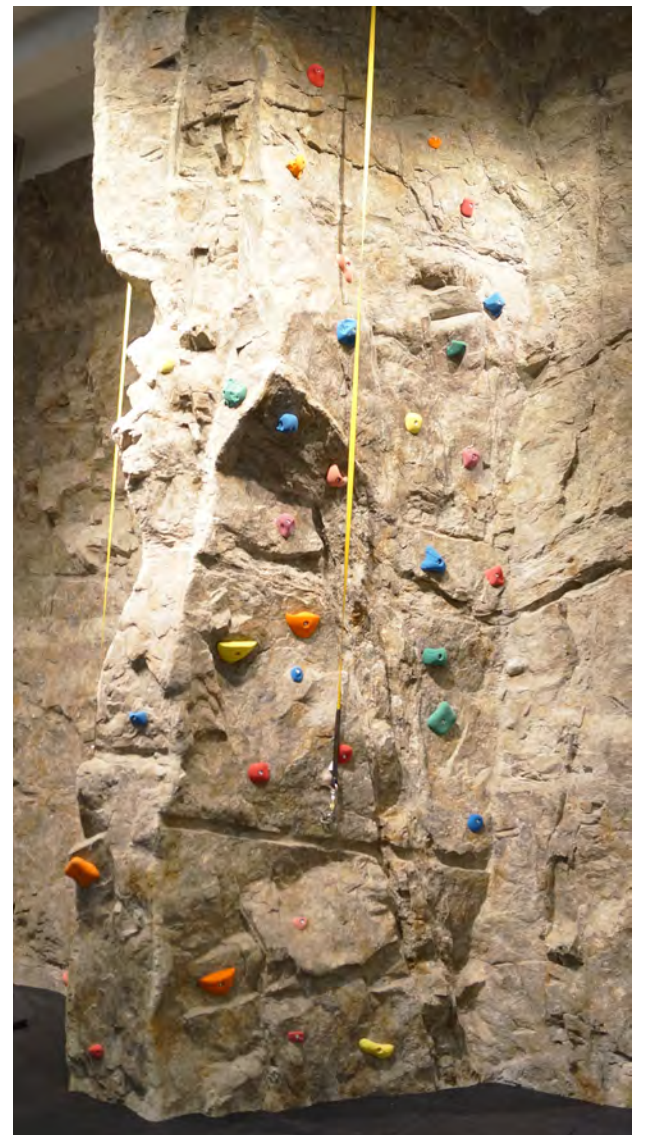
While the student access to gym is free to students, the administration is attempting to figure out a way for faculty and staff to pay a semester fee to use the facility. As the center was paid for by the student fee included in every student's tuition and fees payment, the center was built using student activity money. Faculty and staff are free to access the old fitness center in Dods Hall, free of charge.

A Grand Opening and ribbon cutting ceremony for the new fitness center will be held on Friday February 22, at 11 a.m. in Dods Hall. All campus members are welcome and encouraged to join in the official opening of the facility on Friday, and prizes will be awarded.

The fitness center hours for the spring semester will be: Monday thru Friday, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday, noon to 9 p.m.



MINJU KIM/ PHOTO STAFF
STUDENTS EXERCISE ON ELLIPTICALS IN THE NEW FITNESS CENTER.



MINJU KIM/ PHOTO STAFF
THE ROCKWALL WITHIN THE NEW FITNESS CENTER STANDS TALL AS ONE OF THE MOST INTERESTING ADDITIONS TO THE NEW FITNESS CENTER.

Blue Devils fall short against Buffalo State

Despite the shots that they did make, SUNY Fredonia's men's basketball team was defeated 92-74 by Buffalo State in a home game on Tues. Feb. 12. Nevertheless, the team continues to practice and is optimistic for their future, as the team acknowledged their soon-to-be graduated seniors before the game last Friday.



COLIN FRANK/ CONTRIBUTING STAFF

AMIR BILLUPS SHOOTS A LAYUP.



COLIN FRANK/ CONTRIBUTING STAFF

MATT DEBOY SHOOTS A LAYUP.



COLIN FRANK/ CONTRIBUTING STAFF

ROBERT LYLE STARTS A PLAY WITH DALTON KASHMIR.



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LAMPPOON



LinkedIn is the new booty call

CONNIE CHIWA

Returning editor in chief/badass

Not long ago, a booty call actually required a call; the harsh and sad reality is that this is no longer even a little bit true. First it was AOL, then AIM, followed by MySpace and Facebook – just a little message to pursue a casual encounter – the whole thing really became very impersonal. All that was required was a simple email address and password and you were ready to mate. That was before the LinkedIn approach.

Have you recently been “endorsed” for some of your skills? Have you gotten invitations to “connect” with someone you barely know? If the answer is yes, you’ve got

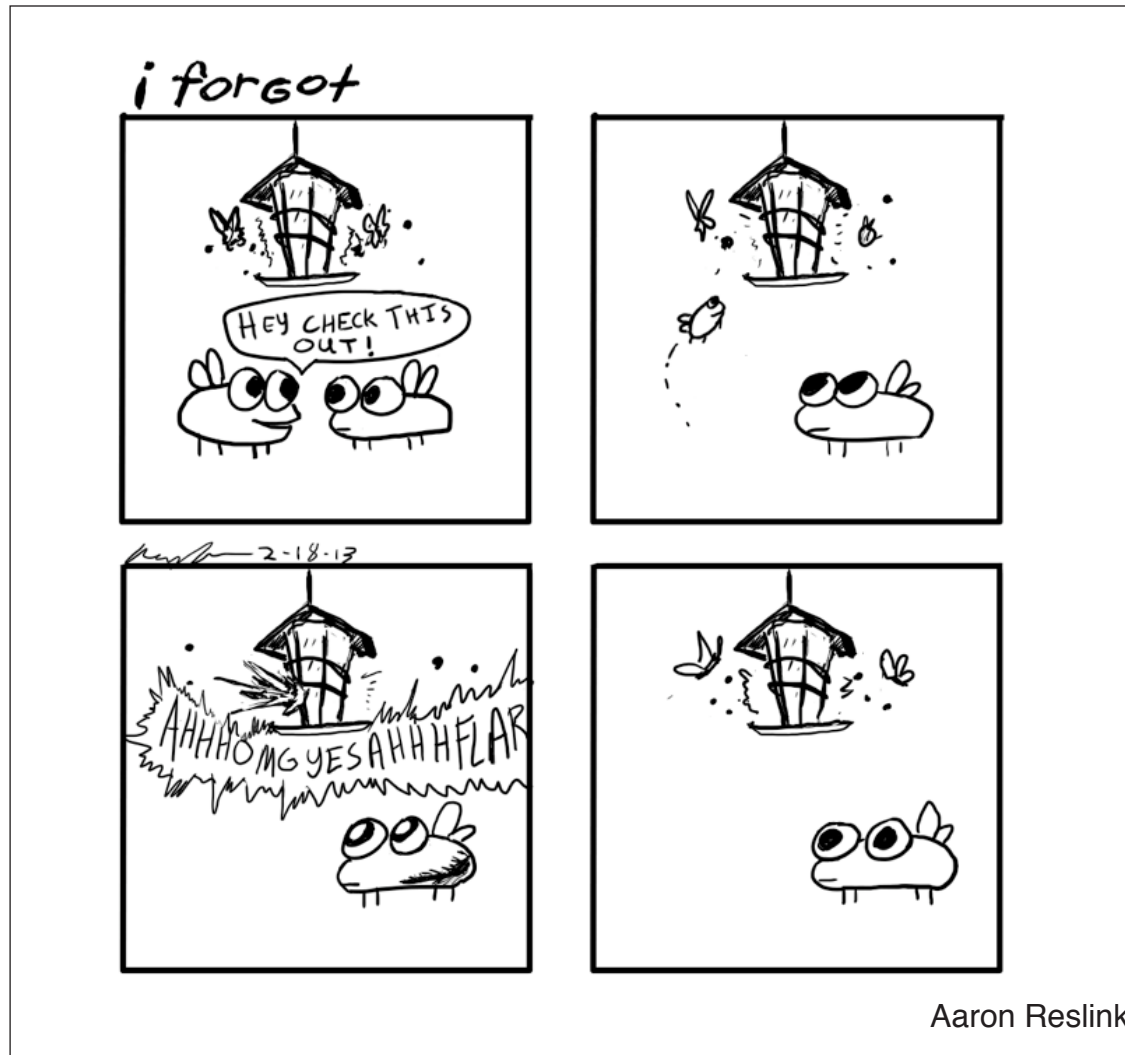
someone that thinks you’re worth hooking up with. Think about it: LinkedIn is a great place to find a hook up. Firstly, you can see the credentials of the people you’ve marked as prey; more importantly, if it ever works out and people asked how you met, you can tell people you met through a business colleague or some other work related thing. If the answer is no, maybe you should change your default photo or perk up your digital resume.

So, before you go searching for potential suitors online, maybe you should think about the consequences. If you continue stalking LinkedIn as much as you do, you’ll develop a reputation, people can tell who has been viewing their profile, ya know. And for goodness sake, quit endorsing people all the time – a move like that will have people

calling you the town bicycle. Did you even look further than the photo for the guy with the intense cheek bones? Guess what. He works at Fred Mart.

It’s the 21st century, welcome folks; a place where you don’t even need to go outside to hook up. All it takes is a quick perusing of the Internet and boom: booty town. So, be careful how you portray yourself in your profile. If your picture is too provocative or your credentials too lengthy, you may be sending the wrong impression, and you definitely don’t want that. So, if it’s a Saturday night and you’re lonely, login and check out what’s out there.

LAMPPOON



“OVERHEARD AT FREDONIA”

Text what you've overheard to: **(716) 202-0661**

“Overheard” was started nearly five years ago as a group on Facebook. The Fredonia chapter was created after the popularity of SUNY Geneseo’s Overheard group began to spread. Now, in a collaborative effort with the Facebook group, The Lampoon will be bringing you the best of SUNY Fredonia’s awkward and otherwise unseemly mouth dribble heard in passing.

Along with posting on Overheard’s wall, you can now text us your quotes to our dedicated Lampoon line (see above). Without further adieu, here’s a highlight of this week’s eavesdroppings:

Tim Horton’s
“D-day that’s the day of Pearl Harbor right?”

Denny’s
Guy: “Oh I’ve been kicked out of here like 10 times already.”

Fenton
Guy 1: So do you have the notes from class yesterday?
Guy 2: So guess who took advantage of the upstairs couch last night...
Ehh? Ehhh?
Guy 3: Can I just get the notes?

Girl 1: “I lost it... I can’t find it!”
Girl 2: *jokingly* “Your virginity?”
Girl 1: “Oh no, that’s all over his dick. I can find that.”

McEwen
Girl to friend: “He wasn’t a creeper or anything he just politely grabbed my ass.”

All content printed here is quoted directly from student submissions on the “Overheard at Fredonia” Facebook wall and text message submissions. All submissions are anonymous, as the names of those who have submitted and the names of the subjects are left out.