

ELEA DER

Issue No. 20, Volume CXX

Wednesday March 13, 2013



Drag never looked so good B-1 ART GALLERY BLENDS TEXTILES WITH SCIENCE B-6



Calzone king arrives in Fredonia



CHRISTINA STOCK/ EDITOR IN CHIEF

THE FREDONIA DOWNTOWN STRIP HAS THE NEW ADDITION OF ZONIES, A LATE-NIGHT CALZONE LOCALE WITH AN EXTENSIVE MENU OF INGREDIENTS.

EMILY PEASE

Special to The Leader

Zonies, an Oswego-based all-calzone restaurant held a grand opening of its Fredonia location last Wednesday. The self-proclaimed "king of calzones" is located in a prime spot on East Main Street in downtown Fredonia. According to their website, www.zoniesonline. com, the small chain first opened in 2006. Since then, they have opened six more restaurants, the Fredonia location being the newest.

With yellow paint, metal paneling and an array of framed cityscapes covering the interior walls, Zonies is certain to stand out. Their menu shows a long list of reasonably priced calzones of a wide variety.

"It's like two meals in one!" student Meghan O'Connell said

while enjoying her own choice of calzone.

The restaurant has everything from a traditional pepperoni calzone to baked potato and fajita varieties. They even have a few with dessert calzones such as cheesecake. With fifty-eight existing kinds of calzones in total and the ability to incorporate any available ingredients into a customized calzone, the new downtown location is sure to satisfy the taste buds of any SUNY Fredonia student.

Zonies provides numerous benefits for every kind of customer. Not in the mood to walk over to the restaurant? They have free delivery. Pulling an all-nighter and craving a calzone? The new dining spot is open from 4 p.m. to 4 a.m. every day. They also have two televisions and a wi-fi hot spot for those who like to enjoy a little technology with their meal.

SUNY Fredonia students Stephen Dewey and Jesse MaKelke

went to Zonies on Thursday evening to try the calzones for themselves.

"We heard about it on Facebook," Dewey said while waiting for his meal. "[Zonies] might take business from P-Dubs for a while," MaKelke added. MaKelke may be right considering the filled booths and constant flow of pick-up orders on the day after the grand opening.

While some students utilized social networking to find out about the new restaurant, others were happily returning customers.

"I'm from Brockport and there's a Zonies in Brockport," said student Erin Moses. "I'm like screaming excited."

The restaurant is conveniently only a 10-minute walk from campus. If you haven't tried a calzone yet, head downtown and see for yourself what the king of calzones has to offer.

Possible change to the Gen Ed program

ANNE RITZ
News Editor

An open forum was held on Wednesday, March 6, to discuss a change proposal in the general education program. The forum was open to campus and community and was intended to gather feedback on the proposal. It was a draft put together by the General Education Revision Committee which is working to create a proposal that will be voted on next year.

Part of the goal in the revisions is trying to get stu-

dents to stop seeing general education as a check sheet and give the program its own identity separate from the major.

Dr. Sherri Mason, leader of discussion forum and head of the committee for General Education Revision, discussed that the program would be focused on interdisciplinary learning.

Freshman courses would center on exploration of self-identity. They would take courses in quantitative reasoning, writing, global cultures and languages.

The following years, students would enter thematic, interdisciplinary clustered courses. Students would

gain multiple perspectives through these courses. Mason discussed that this would open the door for them to be more creative in their clusters and have more diversity.

The senior capstone (separate from the major) would connect students to services learning projects that address real world issues. Mason explained that there would be separate sections for majors and non-majors but staffing would not be changed in regards to this.

She explained that the purpose for splitting up the

Continued on page A-2

Adept adjuncts Music brought Bingham to Mason

Special To The Leader

Some of our most recognized adjunct faculty members come to the university to teach after long, exciting and impressive careers elsewhere. For Thomas Bingham, the path has taken him across the spectrum and now he's an important part of the School of Music.

Bingham is a local of Chautauqua County and graduated from SUNY Fredonia. Oddly enough, he earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in mathematics but not in music. During this time, Bingham began to write music reviews for a number of publications and was invited to a writer's convention in Memphis.

"If they can make a living doing this, so can I. That was the end of my mathematical career," said Bingham jokingly.

As a music journalist, Bingham wrote reviews and articles for about 100 publications. But then, the career path for Bingham diverged and led him to the recording studio. The former head of the sound recording program approached Bingham and asked him if he had ever considered record promotion.

"Hey! I'll give that a shot," Bingham remembered saying as he was taking on another job.

Bingham also started his own record promotion company and produced records for a number of local artists. As if that wasn't enough for Bingham to take on, he joined an Irish folk band playing tin whistle and bodhran. His participation in the Irish folk band lasted for nearly 20 years.

Bingham's friend from the group suggested that they turn to radio to spread Irish music for the community.

"We headed to WCVF with no experience whatsoever. We had no idea what we were getting ourselves into," said Bingham.

His tenure at WCVF lasted approximately 30 years, hosting a variety of shows ranging from blues to rock. Bingham worked tirelessly on radio but thought that he could come up with a concept of his own. In 1998, he launched his show "Scratchy Old Vinyl," which was a mix of all varieties of music, exclusively off of vinyl records.

"This show gave me an identity. I was no longer just this odd fellow that comes in and starts playing whatever he feels like," Bingham said. "I'm now the scratchy old vinyl guy."

The show evolved over time until 2005, when Bingham launched "General Eclectic." The program encompassed an even larger mix of genres than his previous shows. After streaming the show online, the show garnered more success locally and internationally. Bingham retired from the show in September of 2012.

It wasn't until 2002 when Bingham landed his first teaching position at SUNY Fredonia. After so many different and wide-ranging careers, Bingham's wife suggested that he meet with the former director of the School of Music, Dr. Peter Schoenbach, about a potential job. He brought a course proposal to one of their initial meetings, which was based upon American popular music from 1900-1963. Bingham secured a spot in the musicology department and has been here for the past 11 years.



CARL LAM/ SPECIAL TO THE LEADER

PROFESSOR BINGHAM STUDIED MATHEMATICS, YET ENDED UP TEACHING MUSIC AT SUNY FREDONIA.

Inside his office, you will find several shelves, all of which are lined with compact discs. Bingham says he doesn't know the exact number of discs he has but an educated guess would be at least 10,000. The CDs are mostly from his time as a music critic and from doing radio shows.

Bingham teaches several courses, each with its own ethnic focus. He primarily teaches Music of Latin America, Musics of the World and the History of American Popular Music. Occasionally, he will teach an honors course reaching into the fields of blues and multicultural music. He would love to make those occasional offerings into classes on the regular rotation. Bingham would also like to teach courses in European traditional music, American folk music and American country music.

"I've always wanted to teach [a course on country music] because when students find out that it didn't begin and end with Carrie Underwood and Rascal Flatts, they realize there's a lot more going back into the 1920's and earlier," Bingham said with a smile on his face.

Bingham didn't take the easy route to be where he is today. His biggest obstacle was not having the right degrees

"Most of what I have learned has come from listening, reading and research," Bingham stated. "I've learned on my own. The advantage of that is I've gone through the whole bit because I didn't have the idea of needing the particular specialization. I just devoured it all. "

"We're very lucky to have Thomas Bingham teaching here," said Dr. James Davis, head of the musicology department. "He is filling a very important niche because of areas of expertise and if he weren't here those courses would not be taught. I think it's great for the students and the school. "

Students have also found inspiration from Bingham and

"Thomas Bingham teaches his class differently than all other teachers I've had, and I think I have learned most from him," said John Chatterton, junior performance and composition major. "It's because of his class I was inspired to write a ten minute cello choir piece and is so far my best composition yet!"

Junior music education major Kim Howe is currently enrolled in Bingham's Musics of the World class.

"I really like and respect him as a professor because of broad depth of knowledge in world music," said Howe. "It's also great to have a teacher that responds back to us on assigned discussion posts so we get his feedback to our thoughts, ideas and questions."

While Bingham left the field of mathematics behind, he's still passionate about the music that he teaches.

"My hobby became my career by writing reviews and doing radio," said Bingham. "And now it's like I'm living the dream."

Possible change to the Gen Ed program: Continued from A-1

courses is to make them less broad. The new general education courses would go deeper in terms of the information they provide.

"It was already in discussion that this Gen Ed revision committee was going to happen; as we were creating the baccalaureate goals last year, as we were going through the strategic plan this year and the year before. So, it's been in the pipeline for a couple years, essentially since the fall of 2010. We just needed to do certain things before revising the general education program," said Mason.

She explained that the committee was formed over the summer and they were given their change in October 2012.

The ideas for the revisions were a culmination of asking students, faculty and staff what they would like to see, as well as looking at different universities. Portland State College currently has a general education program similar to this model.

'We had all of these pieces that people had voiced in past in venues," said Mason. "We sat down, we were looking at those. We looked at 25 different universities, some in New York State, some across the United States. We looked to see how they did general education, and it was through that, that we came up with Portland State."

Mason explained that another component was looking how students learn and how they take the most out of their classes.

"The other piece of that is literature, looking at what are the best educational practices, how do students learn? How are we going to make sure our students are actually getting something out of the general education?" Mason said.

After research, Mason and the committee all had similar findings. "What's really nice as we were doing these kinds of separately, they all ended up coming together almost to the same final result. Clustered courses are a great way to increase interdisciplinary, as well as critical thinking skills. Having a first year seminar and a capstone experience are fantastic also with regard to critical thinking, but also with regard to student retention and graduation rates," she said.

If voted on, it would start with the students that come in the Fall 2015 semester. Their class is the Class of 2019, and it would follow that group of students.

Mason has set up multiple dates and times through the month of March, as well as an email and Facebook page for the revision committee. "All we're trying to do right now is essentially like a straw poll," she said.



ANNE RITZ/ NEWS EDITOR CHAIR OF THE GENERAL EDUCATION REVISION COMMITTEE, DR. MASON, SPEAKS ON THE PROPOSAL.

She said that about two-thirds of the comments are positive and one-third is not entirely negative, but mostly voicing concerns about issues such as costs and scheduling.

"It's very different," Mason said. "We know, as a species, we see something that's such a big change and we all kind of push back. We wanted to give people time to think about this and adjust to it, but also to get feedback."

Feminist neuroscientist speaks in honor of Women's History Month

ALANNA HAZARD

Special to The Leader

This past Friday, March 8, the Women's Student Union (WSU) and the women and gender studies program at Fredonia celebrated International Women's Day. Giordana Grossi, a feminist neuroscientist at SUNY New Paltz, spoke in honor of Women's History Month at 4 p.m. in McEwen 202.

The lecture, titled "Hardwired Sex Differences: Analysis of a Persistent Claim," drew in a crowd of over 50 students and professors. Kayla Patrick, senior women and gender studies major and president of WSU, expressed her excitement over the event and turnout.

"I'm really glad we had the amount of people we did come out and enjoy the presentation," Patrick claimed. "There was a lot of valuable information in there that isn't really available to the general public."

Grossi opened her lecture with a PowerPoint and the Merriam-Webster definition of the word "hardwired." As the doctor expertly pointed out, the word is not particularly scientific in nature. In terms of origin, for example, hardwired is defined as "Genetically or innately determined." Therefore the word is used by the professor purely as a metaphor.

Amiable and soft spoken, Grossi addressed the scientific claim that men and women are born with distinct differences in brain organization. Drawing examples from The New York Times and texts such as *Principles of Neural Sciences and The Female Brain*, Grossi established a concerning vagueness in this common assumption. Grossi's lecture directly addressed the issue, begging the audience to question whether there is a difference at all.

"Why do people keep looking for these differences?" Grossi persisted.

Although scientific in nature, Grossi's lectures serve multiple schools of thought. Criminal justice professor Melanie Pallone expressed an interest in the patterns of male and female criminals.

"I look at biological and psychological theories of crime behavior. One of the things I question is whether there are gender differences in crime based on anything that may be biological, physiological or psychological in nature," Pallone articulated. "I wanted to hear what she has to say because if, scientifically, we cannot establish a difference, then there has to be some other explanation in the differences in crime rates between men and women."

Jeffry Iovannone, visiting instructor and advisor to WSU expressed how pivotal neuroscience is to women and gender studies.

"So often when we want to impose a kind of power on a particular group or define a particular group as being inferior what's often invoked is science and medicine," Iovannone observed. "These are often discourses that are used to justify social inequity. So, if we're looking at something like gender relations, it's absolutely imperative we also look at the scientific discourse."

WSU worked in collaboration with the women and gen-

ders studies program in planning Women's History Month.

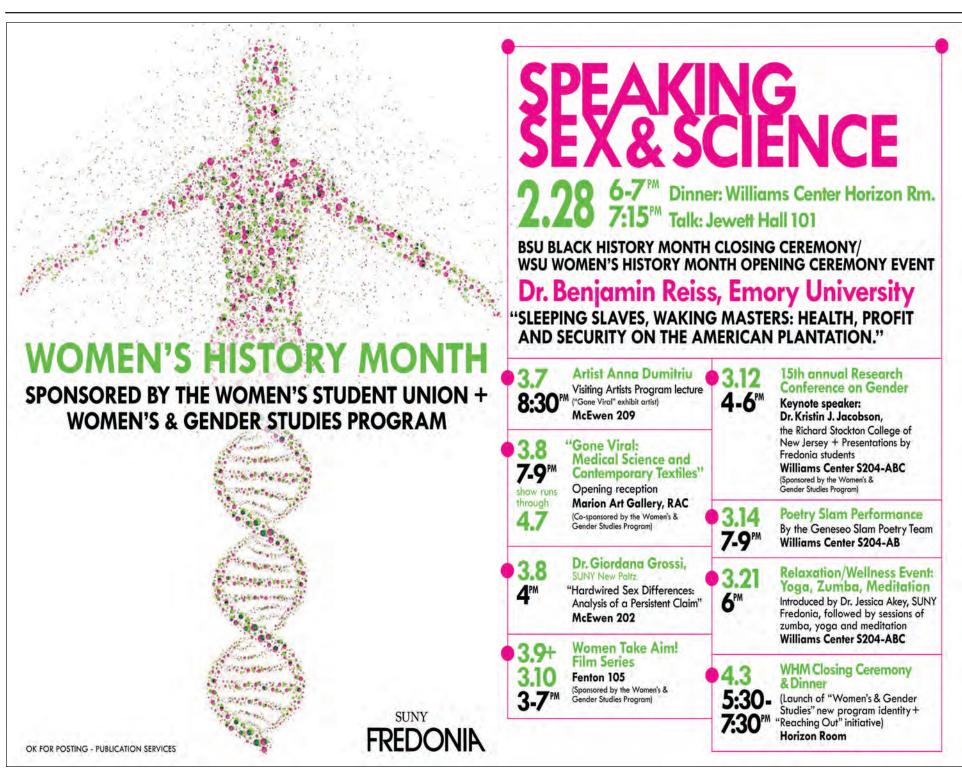
"One of our biggest goals for Women's History Month is to widen the horizon of what you can cover in gender theory and gender studies in general. Because a lot of people have one stereotypical thought of what women and gender studies is really about." expressed Patrick. "And I'm hoping that bringing speakers like this can really help get our stuff out there."

Giordana Grossi's "Hardwired Sex Differences: Analysis of a Persistent Claim" is one of many events planned in honor of Women's History Month. Varying from a research conference on gender to slam poetry, a diverse collection of events are spaced throughout the month. Posters can be found around campus and all are encouraged to attend.



CHRISTINA STOCK/ EDITOR IN CHIEF

Dr. Grossi asks the audience to question current sources on differences between the sexes.



UNIVERSITY

March 5, 2013

5:37 p.m. a black wallet found in Rockefeller. Report was filed and it was returned to the owner.



March 6, 2013

10 p.m. A cell phone was found in McEwen. A report was filed and the owner was advised.

March 7, 2013

9:30 a.m. An iphone was reported stolen from Dods while the victim was playing basketball. Emmanuel Maismet, 17, was charged with criminal possession of the stolen phone.

March 8, 2013

8:45 a.m. There was an altercation between two students in Starbucks. A report was filed and there were no charges.

10 p.m. A laptop and hard drive was found at University Commons. A report was filed.

March 9, 2013

4:11 a.m. A handbag was found on Temple Street with I.D. The owner was notified.

March 11, 2013

3:19 a.m. A vehicle was towed from the Alumni/University Commons parking lot from a 30-minute spot. The owner settled with the tow driver.

POLICE BLOTTERS

FREDONIA

March 8, 2013

Brett D. Mueller, 24, was given an appearance ticket for disorderly conduct.

Kevin L. Mitchell, 23, was given an appearance ticket for disorderly conduct.

Quentin Lawton, 18, was charged with harassment in the 2nd degree.

March 9, 2012

Kenneth D. Nosky, 24, was given an appearance ticket for noise ordinance.

Tyler Snavely, 22, was charged with unlawful possession of marijuana and was issued an appearance ticket.

Emmanuel Guzman, 19, was charged with underage possession of alcohol was issued an appearance ticket.

Conor Dimacich, 21, was issued an appearance ticket for open container.

March 10, 2013

Jackson John, 19, was charged with assault in the 3rd degree and harassment in the 2nd 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.

Students' voices heard at SUNY-wide rally

JENNIFER PETERS

Special to The Leader

Current students, staff and faculty banded together for a rally on March 5 entitled "SUNY Speaks Up" to stress the importance of SUNY education to New York state legislators.

Erik Coler, senior political science major is the communications director for the SUNY student assembly. The rally was held at the University of Buffalo and again in Albany, and the student assembly ensured students that they can participate at either location.

The event at UB was held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Jack Quinn, former congressman and state senator, was supposed to be there discussing SUNY issues but unfortunately was unable to attend following a bad accident that day.

The rally featured a number of student speakers talk-

ing about their personal stories and afterwards, students were enticed to proceed to a phone set-up so that they could make calls to their state legislatures.

"I was really with the happy with the turnout from SUNY Fredonia; we had a number of people," Coler said. "It's not easy commuting forty-five minutes up during the middle of the day for a rally but, from the kind of turnout we had, we were really happy to see the people's enthusiasm. This was a real opportunity for us to govern ourselves and really reach out to our own state legislatures, talk about the government and really change our education."

Coler continued by discussing the significance that rallies such as these carry.

"We had real opportunity to talk about the issues that are most important and bring it directly to the students and the state legislatures," he explained. "Standing up for us is standing up for the future of New York and we are at a crucial point in our history. We can't afford to not invest in SUNY."

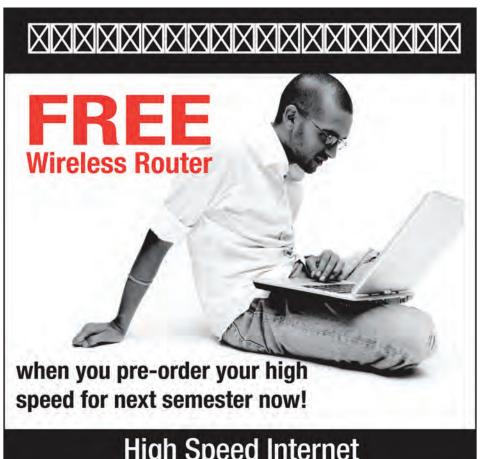
The next issue, according to Coler, is in regard to veterans and the treatment and benefits they recieve following their completion of service and return to civil life.

"It's incredibly important we take care of our veterans," said Coler. "SUNY, while they are doing a great job, we need to do more for our veterans, and we're going to be rolling out new initiatives, new issues, presses, the editorials. We really are going to start reaching out to veterans because SUNY should accommodate for everyone and make it easier for all the veterans who served their country. It's time for us to help them."

For those that were unable to make it to the rally on March 5, there is still time to help and get involved.







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OPINION

Wednesday March 13, 2013

The Leader A-6

THELEADER

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Community shares opinions on Erie closing

While the impending proposal to close Erie looms over the heads of both students and FSA staff alike, the Budget Committee of the FSA Board will not have the opportunity to finalize the decision until this Friday. Since the announcement of the proposal, the student body as well as FSA employees have ensured that their denunciation of the plan has been audibly heard.

A steep decrease in meal sales at Erie, combined with a drop in overall attendance at Fredonia and the unanticipated, surging success of Tim Horton's have led to the dining hall's ominous future.

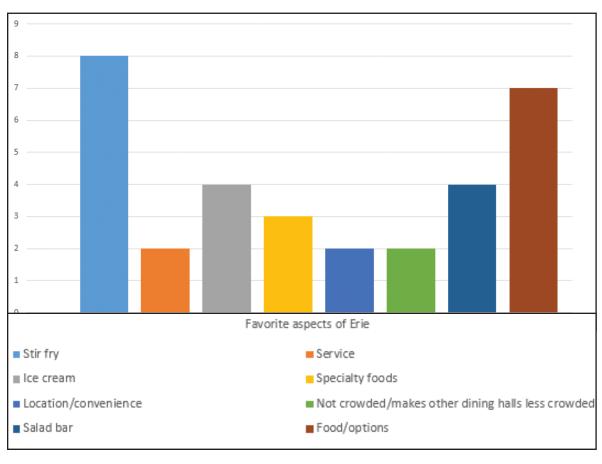
We conducted a survey this week and found that the sentiment of the students is overwhelmingly in disapproval of the proposal. Erie's renowned stir fry station as well as its eclectic food options were among the most

common praises. In fact, support for Erie is so strong in certain pockets of the student population that some of you went as far as to say that you have absolutely no dislikes in regard to the dining hall (though the most common criticisms included overly fatty foods and inconvenient

Opinions on the topic are unquestionably divisive as both pros and cons to the proposal are being heatedly debated amongst those with the ability to speak out. However, as we discuss the calculated business decisions such a proposal will entail, we have largely failed to recognize the human element inherent in his situation.

The Leader recently received a heartfelt letter from Brenda Butler, a cashier at Erie and a staple of the SUNY Fredonia community. An FSA employee since 1979, Brenda reached out to us in the hopes of reigniting the debate from a more personal perspective. Brenda fondly remembers Buffalo Bills players eating at Erie tables when the team's training camp was held in Fredonia. She recalls watching a student romance blossom from an innocent friendship into a loving marriage - a matrimony she became an integral part of.

It is through Brenda's story in which we are reminded that the seemingly inconsequential buildings which compose our small campus are more than brick and mortar projects. Through the years, they become tangible representations of the community itself, an embodiment of the memories made over the course of a career, of four years as an undergraduate, or simply as young lovebirds passing romantic notes using their favorite cashier as a messenger.



Anonymous student responses:

- "Closing Erie would create chaos for other dining halls due to the massive influx of displaces students."
- "If Erie is closed, we definitely need more food options on campus."
- "Love the stir fry, hate the pizza."
- "[I] don't mind it closing, what will happen to Erie though?"
- "Keep it open!"
- "I would be disappointed if Erie closed ... if they had stirfry at Cranston, I don't think I'd be too disappointed.
- "I think instead of closing Erie, it should be open only on the weekends"
- "DO NOT CLOSE ERIE!
- "People would starve if you close Erie. Don't let people starve."
- "It depends on what they're going to do with the space. If they were going to make a positive change with it that's awesome. But I'm torn."
- "[It's a] great place to eat and hang out."
- "Erie 2013 <3"
- "Cheesy Wednesday!"
- "Chicken parm is my favorite

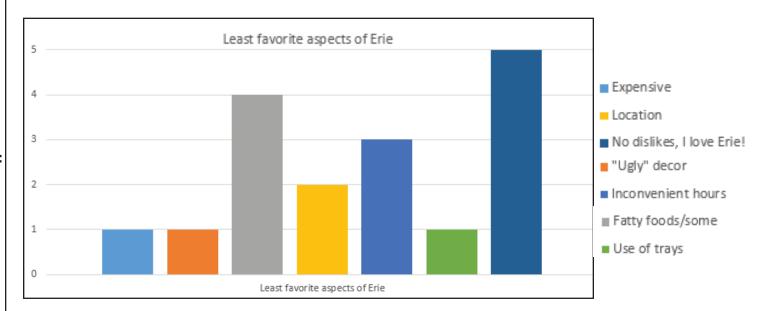




PHOTO COURTESY OF BRENDA BUTLER

Dear Leader:

I have been working for the Faculty Student Association since August 1979. I find it sad to see Erie will be closing. I have many memories of Marketplace at Erie.

I remember working for the Buffalo Bills football team. They used to eat Erie Hall for years when they were training on campus. My daughter, Tara, twice won first place in their Parade on Wheels section of the Bills Parade. She even made it on Channel 4 News.

Though I worked at Cranston, Williams Center, and Gregory Hall, Erie Hall was always my favorite. I became a cashier in 1998. The first year, two students who always came through my register, Colleen Ketterl and Bill Hughey, used to speak to me all the time. First, they were just friends. Then they were dating. Bill hired me to draw [Colleen] a Valentine. Their classes changed to where they didn't see each other as much, so they started writing letters to each

other and would give their letters to me. So, I gave Bill the letters from Colleen, and I gave Colleen the letters from Bill, all while on register. They eventually became engaged. Colleen asked me to draw the "Just Married" sign for them with a sketch of their actual likeness (I'm an artist), which I did. After I drew it, she asked me to stand up in their wedding, which I did. It was in Niagara Falls. They had a daughter, Madeline, a few years later. I was fascinated to meet [Colleen's] grandfather. Colleen's grandfather designed a space shuttle and had pictures of astronauts all over his house in Orchard Park.

Some of the students may complain about our food at Erie. But their parents and most of the older generation always have how good it is. There were four cashiers years ago. There was two that were Monday through Friday, then two on weekends. There were always long lines.

I used to paint Erie Hall's windows for many years during the holidays and spring. There were bands playing for special dinners occasionally.

The rookies of the hockey team used to come to Erie and they all had to hold hands and skip and sing "The Brady



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRENDA BUTLER WINDOWS PAINTED AT ERIE HALL BY BRENDA BUTLER. WINDOWS AT ERIE HALL HAVE ALL BEEN REPLACED ABOUT 3 YEARS AGO.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRENDA BUTLER CRANSTON HALL BEING BUILT LARGER. ERIE WAS EXTREMELY BUSY THEN.

Bunch" and go around the hall twice. It was comical to watch.

In 2008, two student employees of Erie Hall were also directors of the Vagina Monologues, Rachel Hoff and Erika Wolf. There were only two non-students who got a part in their play. I was one of them. I got the part of "Hair." The other was a professor, Cheryl Campo. She had the part of "Woman."

Though I've won recipe contests for the Observer newspaper before, I've never once tried to cook for FSA. I know it is a very hard job.

The closing of Erie isn't just going to affect us in Erie, but many in FSA. Those of us union employees with seniority will be forced to bump coworkers in other halls with less seniority. It'll go right in a domino effect.

I never thought I'd see the day Erie Hall would close. I thought I would be here till I retired.

Sincerely, Brenda Butler FSA Erie Hall cashier

Visual arts seeks new dean; candidate offers ideas

JENNIFER PETERS

Special to The Leader

SUNY Fredonia is in the process of finding a new dean of the College of Visual Arts. Dr. Ralph Blasting is the first of three candidates and has a lot of new ideas to offer Fredonia.

Understanding that arts are in the center of focus at Fredonia, Blasting wants to help create an even better environment and show the students how much the arts can do for their careers. He feels that a strong arts program is beneficial to everyone, not just art students.

Blasting attended high school at West Canada Valley Central Schools, about an hour east of Syracuse. Fresh out of high school, like most young adults, Blasting was uncertain of what he wanted to do.

"When I was a senior in highschool, I thought I was going to do psychology. I knew I wanted to go to college; I knew I wanted to get away from home, but I didn't know what I wanted to study," Blasting said. "I ended up going out to live with an

uncle of mine who lives in Dearborn, Michigan, and I did my first two years at Henry Ford Community College."

After getting involved in the theater club at community college, Blasting found his niche. He then went to Wayne State University in Detroit for his BFA in scenic design.

"They [Wayne State University] had a junior year study abroad program in Germany, so I spent my junior year in Munich and, by the time I got back from Munich, I only needed two more courses to complete my BA in German," Blasting said.

Spending a year studying in Germany is an experience Blasting will not forget. He describes it as one of his greatest memories.

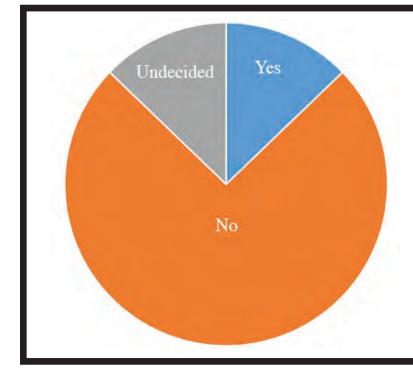
"The best part of my education was going to Munich," Blasting affirmed. "I didn't do well in all my classes; they were all in German, and I was a foreigner and unfamiliar with the area. It was just a fantastic year in Munich, and I lived in the Olympic Village that they built for the 1972 Olympics, which had become student housing."

"I really liked reading plays, studying them and writing

papers," Blasting said. "So, I went to graduate school to do a masters degree in theater history in 1981 at the University of Michigan. Then I continued on for my Ph.D. in theater history and drama studies at the University of Toronto and finished my dissertation in 1989."

Blasting then received a job at Towson University in Maryland, just on the border of the city Baltimore, as a faculty member, where he stayed there for eight years. He was then promoted to a department chair, which led him to work as a dean at Siena College.

Blasting now has a great opportunity to continue his passion as dean of the college of visual arts at SUNY Fredonia. He wants to work with students, help them grow as individuals and make a difference on this campus. According to Blasting, "Students need to see how what they are doing in college will do for their careers. College is the real world."



Do you agree with the proposal to close Erie?

[40 students were surveyed]

Tell us where you stand

www.FredoniaLeader.org

SA wrap-up

ANDREW LENT

Special to The Leader

Thursday's Student Association general assembly meeting began with an announcement from Cassandra Kemp of the course evaluation task force. Cassandra and her task force are in charge of making course evaluations more efficient but need "a more accurate response from the students" to do so.

Last semester's response rate was a surprisingly poor 22 percent. Now, the question for the course evaluation task force is how to improve the response rate of the new digitalized course evaluation forms. The old mandatory written system isn't an option as the process of compiling the information from thousands of written submissions is extremely time consuming. Kemp urged those with concerns or opinions on the matter to contact her by e-mail with suggestions. The potential solution could be to release grades only when a student has completed their course evaluations, a policy which has been successful in extremely high response rates at many other SUNY schools.

Next on the agenda were student fees. Both Dr. David Herman, vice president of student affairs, and Judy Lang, the Fredonia comptroller, spoke to the assembly about increase in both tuition and student fees. A potential 300 dollar increase in tuition may be mandated by the SUNY system. The frustrating reality of this increase is that we have no control over it.

Herman made it plainly clear that, "(We have) no idea how much we're going to get." The money collected could go anywhere in the state and often ends up returning only in small amounts to the campus where it came from. The student fee increase is hoped to be no larger than the normal fee increase each semester of roughly \$30. This students services and program charge funded the improvement of the gym last semester and goes towards new technology, the health services charge, intercollegiate athletic fees, transportation fees, etc.

This coming semester will see a rise in funding for the athletic department. Much of their supplementary funding from the student fee last semester was diverted to fund the new gym construction. This semester, the department will

be able to use \$9 of each student's fee to hire desperately needed coaches and staff. \$1 of the increase will go towards a better alumni operation and the improvement of the alumni database. \$8 of the increase will fund technological improvements for the administration that hope to improve advising. This portion will also help fund a new CRM system which will automatically mail letters, greatly reducing the enormous task of mailing the university's correspondence by hand.

The proposed increase in the student fee is one that is being made while taking the students' concerns into consideration. Several discussion forums are being held where students are given the opportunity to voice their concerns. Judy Long made a short contribution reinforcing the assembly to, "Encourage your friends to take the survey. It gets taken into account in the decision making process."

Justin Dickerson asked, "What is going to happen to fees if a minimum wage increase is passed?"

Dr. Herman replied that the budget office will create a, "rationale expected income plan to plan for this," adding that his office is, "anticipating about a fifty cent increase in minimum wage."

Herman concluded that it will be their primary goal to, "keep costs down," while providing as much as possible with the fees collected. While the annual trend of a fee increase is becoming normal, he urged that costs would remain within the Higher Education Price Index parameters.

The third to present to the assembly was Spectrum, who came to discuss the controversial decision to cancel a headliner for this semesters Fredfest. Their tone was somber. While they did not mention specifics, they did allude to the harsh nature of some of the initial backlash that they have received from the decision.

Their decision was not met arbitrarily. They provided results from a poll given to students regarding the festival which showed that only 19% felt that the headliner was that which they most looked forward to about Fred Fest. The poll was available at many locations on campus at the beginning of the semester, but was only completed by 393 people. Other reasons for the decision were the declining attendance to the concert and the difficult task of providing security which the presenters described as similar to "pulling teeth." A threat

made by one of Lupe Fiasco's crew members last year also influenced their decision to do away with the big-name act.

The new concept for Fred Fest is of a carnival-style. A fenced-in event in Dods Grove would include Dinosaur BBQ, a mechanical bull, build-a-bear workshop and other vendors. The music performance will showcase local bands, most likely the top three bands from the most recent battle of the bands contest.

Justin Dickerson added that Brock the Port is canceled this year which could mean a unwanted migration of party goers from other campuses.

The Spectrum spokeswoman replied that, "We don't know what to expect." This brought the discussion to the subject of unwanted publicity which is so symbiotic to events such as Fred Fest.

Herman, who had remained after his presentation, voiced his hope that, "Maybe we can have a different legacy, other that drinking and going to the hospital."

After the very heated discussion, Tyler Davis was unanimously appointed club sports representative and is the latest installment to the Dorozynski cabinet. Dorozyski went on to remind all in attendance of the important general assembly day that would take place on Saturday to balance the SA budget. She concluded her address with a call for an environmental affairs representative, which would be one of the final positions that she needs to fill in her cabinet.

Justin Dickerson, executive chair of student relations on campus, presented following the president. He announced the release of the general education changes that could potentially be ratified next year. The changes would mean an entirely different CCC system which would provide students with a more comprehensive group of core classes in their freshman year. They are designed to strengthen key aspects of new students abilities in areas such as math, writing, global cultures and languages. Dickerson called on the representatives to take special interest in the upcoming public forums open to student suggestion on the proposed changes calling them, "the biggest change our campus will see in the next five years."

Enactus seeks group awareness through Expo

SEAN PATRICK

Staff Writer

Many student organizations go unrecognized by the student population, even when the actions of these organizations directly impact the lives of that very same population.

Enactus, a business organization on campus formerly known as Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE), does not receive the student support the organization desires.

The group derives its name from the separate components of the word "en•act•us," representing the words entrepreneurial, action and us.

"Enactus is the new brand for SIFE," said Enactus adviser Dr. Susan McNamara. "[Enactus is] a global organization putting entrepreneurial ideas to work to help create a more

sustainable world."

Since the opening of SUNY Fredonia's "SIFE" chapter in 1994, Enactus has been creating programs that benefit the university and community.

"Our whole mission as an Enactus team is to use entrepreneurial action to transform lives and create a better, more sustainable world," said Enactus leadership team member and expo organizer, Will Wickett.

Every project Enactus is working on is interconnected to their overall mission as an Enactus team.

Enactus is currently working on many projects that promote sustainability for future generations.

"Ranging from Recycle Ink," an ink cartridge recycling project to 'Think Before You Act,' a project seeking to decrease destructive behaviors in students by creating SUNY Fredonia's first

> SADD [Students Against Destructive Decisions] group on campus," Wickett said.

In an effort to educate students about the organization's activity, Enactus will host an expo from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, March 20; the expo will take place in the Williams Center Multipurpose Room.

"It [the expo] will be a place for students to find out more information about each of the seven individual projects that we have developed throughout the past two semesters," Wickett said, "And the impacts that they [the projects] have made on our community and the environment."

Wickett highly recommends students attend the expo. "Many students are unfamiliar with Enactus since the name was just recently changed from SIFE (Students In Free Enterprise) this past fall," Wickett said. This is one of the many reasons why students do not know about the group and their notable endeavors.

The Enactus Expo will show projects that impact students. "Some activities will highlight the potential impact of drunk driving," Dr. McNamara said. "Others highlight our opportunities to help the environment and bring art to a city in need of revitalization."

It will also provide the opportunity to network and discuss issues pertinent to students' lives. "It is a great way for students to connect with others on some important issues," McNamara said.

"It is important for students to attend this," said Enactus leader Ryan Couell. "Because the more support Enactus has from everyone around us, the more impactful our projects can become."

Not only will the expo display what Enactus offers the community, but also what they offer members.

"It is an elite group of students who have passions for leadership, entrepreneurship, and creating sustainability," Wickett said. "I believe many students are unfamiliar with it [Enactus] since the team isn't open to anybody. There is an interview process and resume review associated with Enactus and only qualified students will become a team member."

This closed membership may also be another reason that students lack awareness of the organization's rebranding as Enactus.

"I'm hoping that the Enactus Expo will help us achieve recognition by students and community members as well as spark interest in students to join our team," said Wickett.

If you would like to learn more about the Enactus Expo or about the group itself, Wickett encourages those interested to look into their organization.

"I encourage each and every student, faculty and staff member, and community member to attend the Enactus Expo," Wickett said in closing. "Make sure you check out our Facebook page at 'Enactus SUNY Fredonia' for more information about our projects!"



SARAH SADLER/PHOTO EDITOR

MEMBERS OF THE SUNY FREDONIA CHAPTER OF ENACTUS.

A first-person perspective



THOMAS WARMBRODT/SPECIAL TO THE LEADER

SHAMROCK SHAKE WAVES TO AN AUDIENCE MEMBER.

EILEEN MOWREY

Assistant Reverb Editor

"Those legs do not belong to a lady."

If that was your first impression at Friday night's Pride Alliance Drag Show, you were not alone. That said, as the night went on, those drag queens proved that they could pull off a woman better than a lot of ladies.

However, what was most striking to me was not their appearance. It was their talent and tenacity. These were young men and women who were truly comfortable with who they were and proud to share this other side of their personality with their peers.

Leading these brave students into the onslaught of screaming fans was DeeDee Dubois, a professional drag queen from Rochester, NY. Have you ever watched the reverse transformation of a drag queen? I can now say that I have. After the show, I followed DeeDee back to the dressing room and, while he peeled off five layers of tights, he got down to the heart of what drag is all about.

DeeDee started doing drag 14 years ago. How does one get involved in drag you might ask? For DeeDee, it was the desire to make people laugh. There is a common misconception that men and women dress up in drag because they have a desire to be the opposite sex. That is not always the case.

"Some people do drag because they have transgender issues; they hide behind themselves or they're very uncomfortable with their sexuality, so they'll do drag as a way to express themselves," said DeeDee. "I just enjoy being a woman a few times a week."

The drag show is more than just a night of glitter,

glamour and laughs, however. It provides an opportunity for students to experience the LGBT community first hand. It helps people who may not be comfortable with homosexuality to gain exposure in a fun and comfortable atmosphere. It also allows members of the LGBT community to express themselves through a very accepting outlet.

"It gives people the opportunity to hang out with primarily a homosexual crowd, but they have the excuse that it's a show, and then they realize, 'OK, this is really fun!" said DeeDee of drag shows at colleges. "It's really cool when they bring up groups like STEPS. That's really cool because that group was onstage and they weren't in costumes, so you can see who those people are. So, if you're uncomfortable about something and you want to



THOMAS WARMBRODT/SPECIAL TO THE LEADER A PERFORMER DRESSED AS LADY GAGA SIGNS AN AUTOGRAPH.

ask them a question, you know who to go to now."

DeeDee was not the only star of the show on Friday. The students who participated, both male and female, put on an incredible show. The audience danced, cheered and laughed. There was crawling, thrusting, booty shaking, silicon, heels and make-up galore.

The performers did not simply throw on a costume and strike a pose, though. It is clear that these students put a lot of time, thought and effort into their performances. The costumes were fantastic, the song choices were per fect for the occasion and the choreography simply blew me away. There are young men at this school who can dance, shimmy and shake in heels better than I could dream of doing myself.

While every performance was amazing in its own right, a few shone in particular. One queen did a number by Pink!, complete with the bleached blonde hair and a neon pink streak. A king led a group of students in a spunky rendition of the Fresh Prince of Bel Air theme.

Senior animation major March Younglove performed as Shamrock Shake to a mix of Lana del Rev's "Cola," complete with an interruption from his fairy drag mother, Tequila Mockingbird, performed by Nick Bernard.

Two young ladies dressed up as Macklemore and Ryan Lewis and performed "Thrift Shop." The amount of attention to detail that went into their number was amazing. They had a razor scooter, a shopping cart, monopoly

Continued on page B-2

Pride Alliance Drag Show: Continued from B-1

as well as silly string to finish it off right.

A number featuring a Justin Bieber impersonator was nothing short of phenomenal. Not only were the costume and character convincing, but the dance moves were complex and spot on. As this young woman and her backup dancers conquered "Beauty and a Beat," my jaw hit the floor. This was true dedication.

The real show-stopping performance was a Brittany Spears compilation performed by Harrison Schenkel, a junior who has been impersonating the female pop sensation since his freshman year at SUNY Fredonia. His number was arguably one of the best performances I have seen at Fredonia all year.

When asked how he got involved in drag, Schenkel said: "I never thought I would do drag, then one Halloween I saw somebody from the drag show and I was like, 'Well, I want to be Brittney Spears because that's my girl." From then on, Schenkel said he hasn't been able to stop. While drag shows are typically the only times he dresses as Spears, he will be performing at this year's Relay For Life.

DeeDee performed to Taylor Swift's "I Knew You Were Trouble" to start off the show and closed with Kesha's "Die Young." He was a perfect host, encouraging and praising students without being afraid to crack jokes at anyone's expense. He interacted with the audiences so personally that it united the crowd. DeeDee also put everyone at ease with his willingness to make fun of his own age, size and sexuality.

It was clear that those in attendance were enjoying the show. The entire stage was surrounded as people pressed forward for a closer look or to stuff a dollar bill into a

money and second-hand clothing showering the crowd, performer's unmentionable areas. Even the windows on the second floor were filled with onlookers.

> For Liz Macie, a junior majoring in adolescent english education, this was her fifth Fredonia drag show, having missed only one her freshman year. As part of the Pride Alliance general body and an audience member, she was impressed with the show.

> "Honestly, I think this was the best one. We've had some that weren't fantastic, but this one was actually really well done."

> The lights and sound were very well done and the DJ kept the party going. During a 10-minute DJ break halfway through the show, a few audience and crew members even hopped up on stage to give an impromptu dance performance of their own.

> The show ended with an emotional thanks and goodbye to the senior members of Pride Alliance, for whom this was the last drag show they will have put on at Fredonia. I would also like to note a special congratulations and thanks to DeeDee and his husband. The two were generous enough to come spend Friday night with us in Fredonia after having gotten married the day before after 13 years together.

> When I walked into the Williams Center MPR on Friday night, I had no idea what to expect. I felt completely out of my element. As the night wore on, I saw great displays of talent and dedication. I saw people celebrating the LGBT community together in a fun and positive nature. I learned (and saw) that there is so much more to being in drag than I ever imagined. Most of all, I walked away proud to go to a school where students are willing to support and celebrate diversity so openly.



THOMAS WARMBRODT/SPECIAL TO THE LEADER FROSTIE MOCHA PERFORMS DURING THE DRAG

Local band Scotty K to headline Fred Fest



BRANDON PERDOMO/SPECIAL TO THE LEADER

MOOSES PERFORMS AT THE FINAL BATTLE OF THE BANDS EVENT

JORDYN HOLKA

Special to The Leader

While Fredonia may not be bringing in a national act to headline Fred Fest this year, never fear. We've found a quality headliner right here in our own back yard in the form of Scotty K. On the night of Tuesday, March 5, Scotty K, a Hamburg-based pop rock band, beat out Mooses and Nashville Technique in the final Battle of the Bands performance.

This final round was initially intended to determine who would open for the national headliner at Fred Fest. However, in light of recent changes to the structure of Fred Fest festivities, Scotty K will now feature as headliner. Mooses and Nashville Technique will open.

Scotty K is made up of bass player Scott Koepka of

Buffalo; vocalist and guitarist Nico Zarcone, a SUNY Fredonia music business major; drummer Kyle Scudder, a sophomore music performance major here at Fredonia; and lead guitarist Brendan Rogers, a student from the University of Vermont.

The group has a spontaneous spirit that was evident in their performance at the final Battle of the Bands event. The band members danced and joked with the audience, at one point eliciting an emphatic, "I'm okay with Scotty K!" from an enthusiastic audience member. The band performed a 40-minute set of pop music covers with a twist, complete with a jazzy rendition of Jay-Z and Alicia Keys' "Empire State of Mind" as well as an impressive cover of "Plane"

They kept the crowd entertained, dancing and cheering

throughout the entire set.

"We played a lot tighter than we did at the last battle," said Zarcone. "I think we weren't as nervous because we did it before, and we played good. I had fun."

The members of Scotty K have a knack for connecting with their audience members and always appreciate their enthusiasm. "Thank you from the depths of our hearts for coming out, dancing like fools, and doing the chicken dance," offered Scudder.

Zarcone, Koepka and Rogers all attended Hamburg High School where they met and established a musical history together. But it was only within the past year that they became a band and took on the name "Scotty K." When asked why the band is named after Koepka in particular, Zarcone replied honestly: "Because we couldn't think of any other band name."

Scudder was the last member to join the band as their much-needed drummer.

"It's kinda funny ... I needed a pair of drumsticks, and I just asked him randomly if we could borrow his," mused Zarcone. "And then I was like, 'Do you wanna play drums in our band?' And he was like, 'Yeah.' So we just got together, and that's how it started."

Although the band does not have any records or singles out, Rodgers confirmed that they have recorded "Empire State of Mind." They hope to record more songs in the future.

And with this Battle of the Bands win under their belts, Scotty K now must focus on the fast-approaching Fred Fest performance. They are excited at the opportunity to headline such a big event, hoping that it will serve as a platform off of which they can grow a dedicated fan base.

"People can expect to hear some great music!" said Zarcone.

But the band is not about to give away any hints as to what exactly they will be playing. Zarcone said we can anticipate "Anything from smooth jazz chords to the Red Hot Chili Peppers. We like to keep the crowd guessing with what they're gonna hear."

"We're just super thankful and excited about this opportunity," said Zarcone. "It's gonna be a great show with Nashville Technique and Mooses, both really great bands that know how to entertain. We can't wait!"



EILEEN MOWREY

Assistant Reverb Editor

It was a busy week for music in Fredonia. On Wednesday night, Music Industry Club (MIC) put together a show at Doons featuring a number of campus bands and, on Friday, BJ's featured a couple of out-of-town numbers including a group from Chicago. The radio show time is going to be a bit of a 'where's Waldo' experience this week. I can't do it during my regular slot so I will be doing it at a time that is still TBA.

Local and Loud

There is one thing that Fredonia's shows definitely did not lack this week and that is volume. Both Wednesday night's MIC show at Doons and Thursday's Revengineers and Hidden Hospitals show at BJ's turned up the volume. The week showcased new talent, professional musicians and, in some cases, just plain noise.

I showed up to the Doons show a little after the 10 p.m. kick-off on Wednesday, right after Chelsea O'Donnell's acoustic set. The upstairs of Doons was sparsely populated. It seemed as if everyone knew everyone, a sort of gathering of the regulars. Considering so much of the audience was made up of the MIC members and other bands waiting to play, this wasn't too surprising.

The first band I saw was The Brister Boys. These three gentlemen, Sean Lawless, Alex Czechowski and Damien Sprague, had started playing together about two weeks earlier. It was their first gig and, considering how little time they had to practice together, they sounded liked a promising group. Most of their repertoire consisted of cover songs by artists such as Mumford and Sons.

While they lacked some of the harmonies that are characteristic of Mumford and Sons songs, the familiar numbers were met with a positive crowd reaction. There aren't a lot of bands in Fredonia that you can sing along to, so an Americana cover band seems like it will be warmly welcomed. They have a lot of work to do and need to be careful that they choose songs within their vocal ranges but, for a first gig, I was impressed. They hope to get shows at Heenan's and Old Main when it reopens so, hopefully, we will see

By the time 11 p.m. rolled around, there were a good 40 or 50 people in attendance, just in time for Hokan and Friends of the Sun. Consisting of Hokan Cromwell and Colin Gray, it was a set full of some of the happiest and upbeat jams I have heard in a long while. Wonderfully put together and presented with such ease of personality, Hokan and Friends of the Sun were a joy to share the evening with.

While most of the set was spent with Hokan on guitar and Colin Gray rocking a banjo, sharing other percussion between the two of them, the duo threw in a twist at the end. On the last song, Gray took to the keyboard on Cromwell's iPad. It was a very cool addition to the sound and a great idea. It isn't very often that you see somebody jam on

Their music sounded like it belonged on the soundtrack of *Juno*. Between the soft vocals, gentle harmonies and the indie/folk style, their music was all about the fun. They played a great set and I can't wait to hear more from them in the future. Luckily, they have an album coming out on St. Patrick's Day! Been Busy Dying is set to release and will be the first of three albums that have been written.

Next up was Shred Con Queso, who describe themselves as afro beat/reggae/free jazz. I describe them as noise. From their psychedelic outfits to chaotic fallouts at the end of every song, they were less than organized chaos. The musical talent was there to be sure, but the structure was not.

There were guitars, saxophones, trombones, a keyboard, a drummer, a bongo player and probably other things I forgot to list. They would get a good, funky jazz beat going for a bit, and then take turns passing off solos. While some of the volume issue was due to poor sound management, at times it seemed like everyone's goal was to be the loudest. And it wasn't just me. The group of people around me all had their ears plugged. In fact, a lot of people simply left, leaving a thin crowd for the upcoming headliner.

Finishing off Wednesday's show at Doons was Mooses. These guys were great. The had two guitarists, a five string bassist and a drummer. They struck a wonderful balance

and blend with each other, and the guitarists' use of distortion was spot on. The vocals were sometimes a little too soft and could use a little extra enunciation, but the quality was definitely there. Their instrumentation incorporated some really good layered harmonies, too.

In an all instrumental piece, Mooses really showcased their individual talents. Frontman Peter Cahlstadt has a sweet voice and plays a great melodic guitar line. Lead guitarist Jimmy DiMartino was absolutely fantastic, adding layers to the music that really made it shine. Their bassist, in particular, is amazing. It isn't very often that you get a really noteworthy bassist in a college band, but Scotty Gergelis is one for the books. Drummer Nate Jaenecke did an excellent job of wrapping the whole thing up tight.

While, to me, their sound seems very indie rock, Mooses identifies as a psychedelic band. Their reasoning being that they like psychedelic music, and they like the scene associated with it, so it made the most sense. Considering they had songs about tripping on mushrooms while hungover and girls taking ecstasy for the first time, their chosen genre label certainly fits their lyrics.

I was disappointed to see how few people stuck around until the end. While it was late for a Wednesday night, Mooses definitely deserved more of a crowd. I was shocked when they said that the practically empty bar was the biggest audience they had ever played for. This is a group that clearly deserves more attention than they currently have.

While there was a lot to say about Wednesday night's show, there is little to be said for Thursday's show at BJ's. The bar made a big deal on Facebook about getting there early, especially if you were under 21, because the show would be packed. In reality, the bar barely filled up all night. The show featured a Rochester band, The Revengineers, as the opener for Hidden Hospitals from Chicago.

The Revengineers are considered chiptune/ Nintendo rock. Nintendo rock was something I hadn't heard of before, and I had no idea what to expect. It turns out that Nintendo rock means that they use modified Nintendo equipment along with their traditional guitars and drums to create their unique sound. It was different, but good nonetheless. They kept a good, tight beat going and maintained a nice balance with each other. There was an awful, loud and grating static noise that came on every once in awhile. Whether that was intentional or a sound error, I'm not quite sure.

The Revengineers have close ties to Fredonia, seeing as three of their four band members went to school here. It was neat to have a band with local ties opening up for an out of town artist. If you're curious as to what Nintendo rock sounds like, check out the band's website. They released a new EP that you can listen to right on their site.

The headliners, Hidden Hospitals, is a four-piece alternative group from Chicago. The four man band is made up of former members of Damiera and KissKiss. BJ's finally had a band big enough to warrant a merchandise table, but hardly anyone showed up. They were loud, hard fun; the kind of stuff that is most often found at BJ's.

While the music was great, the energy was killed by how long it took for the show to start and then even more so by how long it took for the bands to switch off. It seemed like ages between sets. For how long the audience waited, the sets were not very long either. Luckily for BJ's, that gave people plenty of time to drink.

From the MIC presentation of local bands at Doons to Hidden Hospitals at BJ's, last week was great for music in Fredonia. There was enough variety to be found that there was music for everyone and no shortage of talent. MIC has been doing a lot more showcases this semester it seems, and I hope that trend will continue. Between the more active MIC, MOFO and trusty old BJ's, the music scene in Fredonia might be making a comeback.

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.

- #1 "Thrift Shop" Macklemore and Ryan Lewis
- #2 "When I Was Your Man" Bruno Mars
- #3 "Scream & Shout" will.i.am ft. Britney Spears
- #4 "Suit & Tie" Justin Timberlake
- #5 "Stay" Rihanna w/ Mikky Ekkoe #6 "Harlem Shake" - Baauer
- #7 "Ho Hey" The Lumineers
- #8 "I Knew You Were Trouble" Taylor Swift
- #9 "Radioactive" Imagine Dragons
- #10 "Started From The Bottom" Drake

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.

Illustrious theater alumna revisits Fredonia

MAGGIE GILROY

Staff Writer

There is nothing that excites a student more than seeing someone who has found success doing what they love. And when that student is a Fredonia graduate, it makes the experience even sweeter.

Students of the Department of Theatre and Dance participated in workshops on Saturday held by Jennifer Cody, a graduate of the SUNY Fredonia class of 1991.

Cody has found great success on Broadway in shows including *Cats, Beauty and the Beast, Grease, Seussical, Urinetown, Taboo, The Pajama Game* and, most recently, *Shrek*. Cody has also found success in LA as a voice actress, receiving critical acclaim for voicing the supporting role of Charlotte La Bouff in *The Princess and the Frog*.

Cody is also an active philanthropist, working with foundations such as Broadway Cares, Easter Bonnet Competition and Broadway Bares. Cody is the wife of Hunter Foster and sister-in-law to two-time Tony Award Winner Sutton Foster.

For Cody, the weekend was full of nostalgia as she explained that the Rockefeller Arts Center still smells the same. Throughout the weekend, she tweeted pictures of her walk down memory lane. Cody also attended Friday evening's production of *Stop the World*.

Tom Loughlin, chair of the Department of Theatre and Dance, arrived to the department when Cody was a sophomore. He remembers her time at Fredonia clearly, as if it was yesterday.

"She was this tiny little theatrical powerhouse who had the ability to light up the stage," reminisced Loughlin. "She was also a no-nonsense hard worker. She already possessed good professional habits."

While Loughlin is undoubtedly proud of Cody, he is careful not to take all of the credit for her success.

"It's a very satisfying feeling, to be sure," said Loughlin of watching a student reach success, "but I always temper that with the reality that she has had a number of other teachers and mentors in the business who have also helped shape her talent in many significant ways. I think Jen is someone you don't really 'teach,' you simply offer her as many opportunities as you can to let her talent grow and develop."

At her time in Fredonia, Cody taught dance classes and appeared in productions including *Something's Afoot, The Pajama Game, Anything Goes and The Miracle Worker*, directed by Loughlin.

"I hope Jen has forgiven me by now for the rough audition I put her through for *The Miracle Worker*," said Loughlin lovingly, prior to the workshop.

Although complications caused by weather caused workshops to be cancelled on Friday and be reduced to one day, Cody made sure that she was able to be of help to students with a shortened amount of time. Standing at a petite 4'11, Cody was full of unrestricted energy that was paired with professionalism and seriousness about her craft.

Cody treated each student as a professional, encouraging them to think and work like professionals as well, as opposed to students.

The workshop on Saturday began with a master class,

which simulated an uncombined audition. Students sang either a song or monologue for Cody that was tailored to one of eight shows of her choosing: Hair, In the Heights, Drowsy Chaperone, Mama Mia, Seussical, Lend Me a Tenor, and In the Next Room(or the Vibrator Play). Cody then provided each performer with feedback.

Theater professor Jessica Hillman-McCord and Cody served as a mock audition panel. Students were also able to observe the audition workshop and ask Cody questions in between each performance. Students picked her brain on everything from the difference between acting in LA and New York, to backstage tidbits on working in shows such as *Shrek*.

While Cody's feedback was tailored to each performance, there were several points of feedback the repeatedly resurfaced throughout the workshop.

"Be hungry, not desperate," Cody repeatedly informed students. She credited her success in the business as well as her success in college to her own personal hunger. She also repeated a second mantra for the day: "Comedy is stillness." Her third mantra, "Don't tell; show," advised students in how to properly act a song or monologue in order for the audience to really experience the performance.

Cody also encouraged students to be brave and to "fail big" whenever a line was dropped or a mistake was made, advised students on how to dress for auditions and taught them how to act a song without letting your voice get in the way of the acting.

For Kiernan Matts, a long-time fan of Cody, the opportunity to work with Cody was somewhat of a dream come true. Matts knew her as Little Sally in Urinetown and had the opportunity to see her live prior to the workshop.

"I've been a fan of Jen Cody for probably about four or five years now," said Matts. "I saw her in Shrek: The Musical on Broadway which was a fantastic experience, because I had known her before that. But then seeing her perform live is just amazing."

Matts attended the entirety of the workshop and performed "Try Me" from She Loves Me during the audition workshop. Cody encouraged him to be willing to step outside of the box, assuring him that you don't know that it's not going to work until it doesn't work. While Kiernan said he was nervous, he didn't show it.

"It was just a great experience to work with someone that you look up to so much and who has been successful and who has the same training that you have now," said Matts. "It was great to get to work with someone of that caliber."

Observers couldn't help but smile when the petite Cody stood next to the 6'3" Matts.

After a brief break for lunch, Cody led a dance master class where she taught students the fast paced choreography from The Wild Party. Students had trouble keeping up with the energetic Cody, who taught students the importance of fully performing the choreography with energy as opposed to focusing on getting all of the steps correct.

The dance class was followed by an hour long Q&A session, which gave students the perfect opportunity to pick Cody's brain on everything possible about the business. Cody answered each question as honestly as possible, covering

every topic from headshots, résumés and auditioning to reminiscing about her time at Fredonia.

Cody took the time to laugh about entertaining stories from her career. She laughed as she talked about the Grease lightening car failing to come out in Grease.

"That happens all the time" she explained about mishaps happening in the theater. Cody and Loughlin reminisced about her audition for Loughlin's production of The Miracle Worker

She also told stories of memories of working with her idols, including dancing with Rita Moreno for a one night benefit.

Present at the Q&A was Loughlin, who reminisced along with Cody. Loughlin and Cody laughed over her audition for his production of The Miracle Worker.

"Tom made us find a pen. We would come into the room completely blindfolded ... and we would have to find this pen that he put around in the room," explained Cody. "I wanted the part so bad and I came in and I grabbed a mat and I started across the room like this," Cody said as she demonstrated how she frantically pushed the room around the mat to find the pen.

"I found that pen, man," she concluded the story triumphantly.

"And you found the role, too," Loughlin added.

The Q&A was filled with helpful advice students could apply to their lives and careers.

"You should always do the job that scares you the most," explained Cody. "That's my philosophy, because I think the stuff that scares you has the most pay-off in the end."

Cody, who is also a director, encouraged students to do whatever they are passionate about in addition to acting.

"Make your own path, don't follow anyone else's," she encouraged the group. When asked what she took away from Fredonia and applied to her career, she responded: "everything."

"I took away everything, except when Tom made me take ice-skating my senior year," she explained with a laugh. While it was Loughlin's attempt to help her relax, she accredits it to the reason she hates ice skating to this day.

"Everything you learn here, you use it," she told the group. "Take as much as you can ... it only makes you better."

At the urging of one student, she yelled Charlotte's famous phrase, "Tell her, Big Daddy! Tell her!" to great cheering and applause. She then added a comical story about The Princess and the Frog, explaining that, much to the producers' surprise, she patterned Charlotte's voice after Foghorn Leghorn, the rooster from Looney Toons.

Students crowded around Jen after the workshop, examining her headshot and résumé and further picking her brain with questions. Students left the workshop both learned and inspired and, undoubtedly, as huge Jen Cody fans.

"It's simply fantastic to have someone like Jen come up and share her story, her experience and her talent with our students today," said Loughlin. "I think it helps our students to see the 'Fredonia connection' is real and that Jen is very proud of where she got her first training."

Zweig scholar to deliver lecture

REBEKAH CALHOUNSpecial to The Leader

On Tuesday, March 19 at 7:30 p.m. in Rosch Recital Hall, Robert Kelz from the University of Memphis will give an informed perspective on the complex legacy of internationally famed Austrian writer Stefan Zweig.

Reed Library's extensive collection of Zweig memorabilia has been a point of pride for Fredonia, and a bi-annual convention is organized to bring this fine collection into the spotlight.

His lecture, which will draw upon research concerning the writer's national identity and reputation at the cusp of WWII, has intersecting cultural significances. The writer, who travelled to Argentina and Brazil on the cusp of WWII for reasons concerning his Jewish identity during a time of prejudice in Europe, developed a deep relationship to Argentina as well as Brazil, which he called the "land of the future."

His celebrity status resulted in a warm welcome, and he managed to learn some Portuguese and become semifluent in Spanish. However, because the author shied away from public demonstrations against Nazism, many members of the local community

derided him for doing little to assist his own people.

Eventually, Zweig took his own life along with his second wife around the time of the outbreak of war in Petropolis, Brazil. Kelz's lecture is free and open to the public, and everyone is encouraged to attend.



ROBERT KELZ, COURTESEY OF FREDONIA.EDU

Opera Scenes features students off-campus



DANIEL CANGELOSI/SPECIAL TO THE LEADER

Some of the cast of gallantry, from left to right Lucille Horn, Laura Mueller, Kayleigh Debrine, Jackie Blasting, Zac Delcamp.

COURTNEE CESTA

Special to The Leader

The drag show is not the only place around to see a man in a dress.

Zac Delcamp, a SUNY Fredonia voice student who sang in this weekend's Opera Scenes production of *Gallantry*, seemed to enjoy performing what is originally a female mezzo-soprano role just as much as the audience enjoyed watching. Portraying the role of a 1950's female commercial announcer meant dressing in full makeup, a blonde wig and a pink dress for Delcamp – and he certainly delivered the package well.

It was hard to avert your attention from the protruding chest hair and unshaven armpits, but the ballet slippers and pearl necklace were enough to distract you for more than a moment.

When it comes down to it, any grown male in a dress is bound to get at least one good laugh, but it took a real performance for the kind of roar that was heard in the Fredonia Opera House on Thursday and Saturday.

The audience laughed until they were blue in the face, and they applauded until there was no one left on stage. Between Douglas Moore's satirical *Gallantry* and Mark Adamo's heartbreaker *Little Women*, there were few dry eyes by the end of the night Thursday.

Opera Scenes is an annual event put on by the Student Opera Theatre Association of Fredonia, where students and professors of the college collaborate to re-create operettas, one-act operas and scenes from operas. This year, the production extended for four days.

Little Women followed Gallantry on Thursday and Saturday, and The Vagabond King and Felice were shown on Friday and Sunday. The whole chain of performances ended just as well as it began.

Delcamp was not alone in delivering an exceptional show this weekend. The entire ensemble of *Gallantry* had the tough but important responsibility of complementing the announcer's comical character and played their roles undoubtedly well. The show would not have been nearly as funny without the milkman's exaggeratedly goofy smile.

That's not to say the roles of the doctor, nurse and patient were not done well, because they most definitely were. The contrasting and somewhat staid side-story was what made the humorous commercials so effective.

Dan Ihasz, director of this year's *Little Women* scene, took a gamble and combined parts of the play and the musical of the same name with the opera. The end result was a smooth, heartwarming story of four sisters that all undergo liberating change.

What stood out most in *Little Women* and also in the opposite night's performance of Benton Hess' one act opera *Felice* was the professionalism of both casts. The off-and-on serious nature of both operas was presented with maturity otherwise seen in a professional opera house.

Felice is a fairly new opera and has only been performed twice before in its entirety. The composer is Benton Hess, a distinguished professor of voice at the Eastman School of music in Rochester, who was at Friday night's performance.

Before the show, Hess said that he had expectations based on his knowledge of the excellence of Fredonia's School of Music. He continued to praise the school, the students and the excellent leadership of the director of *Felice*, Dr. Robert Strauss.

"If I hadn't expected a really good performance level, I wouldn't have given my OK to the production," Hess said.

I couldn't help but keep an eye on Hess throughout the performance of *Felice*. During the show, there was not as much change to the composer's expression as I thought there might have been – that is, until the very end when he was markedly overcome with glory and praise. He was the first to start applauding after the final scene and he continued to do so until the cast recognized him and everyone returned the applause.

I got the impression that the audience and I agreed that the performance was outstanding. The opening scene did remind me of Roger and Hemmerstein's *Sound of Music* because of the nun choir, but from there the story followed a young woman composer and her healing power of music. The character of Felice was played by Rachel Greenblatt, a voice student at Fredonia, with the delicacy and passion that a nun in training should have.

Many of the supporting and ensemble roles in *Felice* showed some of the best acting of the weekend. The friends of Felice were always quick to spill their passion for the shipwrecked man and were hysterical in doing so. And then there was that nun who was always keeping people in line – her facial expressions of discipline and sarcasm seemed to come almost too naturally and easily. Overall, the capabilities of the cast of *Felice* were proven to be superior

and made for a memorable performance.

Just before *Felice* on Friday and Sunday was a scene from the opera *The Vagabond King* by Rudolf Friml. Although The Vagabond King was the shortest length of all of the showcased scenes, it did not fall short in talent by any means.

The main character, Villon, was a robin hood-like character played by voice student Colin Mann. In his devotion to do good things for his community, Villon partook in a sword fight that gave the scene its excitement and was one of the only exhilarating moments throughout the weekend, which was a nice touch. Mann's dashing character made for a believable confession of love toward the beautiful Katherine de Vaucelles, played by Shannon Richards, also a voice student at Fredonia.

The cast of *The Vagabond King* deserves a round of applause for their ability to fill in the story and keep the character of early 1900's Paris, where it was all about drinking, flirting and socializing. There was one point where two stories were told simultaneously, and the cast of those in the back and in the dark did an outstanding job of staying out of the spotlight while still supporting the action.

The whole production this weekend was outstanding; the costumes, lights and set designs were flawless. What really made the show, though, were the performers.

It helped that they enjoy what they do, no matter how difficult it may be.

"It's a lot of work but it is also an amazing experience," said Ava D'Agostino, a music education student at Fredonia and member of the *Felice* cast. "It's really actually very fun and positive throughout the whole process."

Cast and crew members had been working hard toward the culminating performance since the beginning of this semester, and even from the end of last semester when auditions were held. This year, over 50 students were involved in the scenes between working hard with music and also putting in countless hours to design set and costumes.

Year after year, the Opera Scenes production has prevailed in its entirety. This time, we all walked away with the image of a womanly man swishing his hips and singing with an eerily soft accent, where a gutsy rendition of an older opera triumphed. Overall, it was a fascinating experiment in music making and a sort of performance we might start to see more often.

Science-based gallery opens in Marion



MELISSA RECHIN/SPECIAL TO THE LEADER

THE MARION ART GALLERY WAS PACKED FOR THE OPENING RECEPTION OF THE "GONE VIRAL" EXHIBIT.

MELISSA RECHIN Staff Writer

The Cathy and Jesse Marion Art Gallery overflowed with students, staff and community members this past Friday night for the opening of the "Gone Viral: Medical Science in Contemporary Textile Art" exhibit. Some soft, live jazz and tasty treats welcomed guests into the gallery to appreciate pieces of textile art infused with biological sciences.

The exhibit, curated by art history professor Leesa Rittleman, was a collaboration of five female artists in lieu of Women's History Month, this month specifically featuring women of science. The artists include Sonya Clark, Anna Dumitriu, Paddy Hartley, Lindsay Obermeyer and Laura Splan, each focusing on a different field of biological and medical sciences. The artists' pieces blended seamlessly together to evoke a sense of femininity and beauty with scientific elements.

"I loved how everything was so feminine and beautiful," recalled photography major Jule Davis. "It was strange because these beautiful things are mixed with the gross parts of science."

Some of the pieces that showcased the beautifully depicted aspects of biology were large patterns of bacteria strains made with crocheted yarn, delicately embroidered microbe cells sparking with glass beads and a quilt patterned with bacteria culture within a petri dish.

Laura Splan, one of the featured artists in the exhibit, who also lectured for part of the visiting artist program, contributed many pieces for the exhibit. One of which, was her acclaimed piece entitled "Blood Scarf," a fabricated photograph of a scarf knitted with blood filled tubing.

"It was very interesting to see this piece up close," said Davis. "When she showed it in her lecture, I didn't realize it was actually tubing within the scarf. Her use of Photoshop is so unbelievably well done."

Among other pieces within the exhibit were life-sized World War I battle uniforms embroidered by Paddy Hartley. This series, entitled "Faces of Battle," was designed and produced in response to the lives of injured servicemen who received facial reconstruction surgeries by Dr. Harold Gillies during the World War I era.

Delicate beadwork was presented with Sonya Clark's beaded row of chromosomes and Lindsay Obermeyer's glass beaded microbes.

"I'm in awe of all the beadwork," said graphic design major Tanya Dellaccao. "Everything is just so intricate and beautiful. I can't help myself from going up close and looking at it the different patterns."

Another featured artist, Anna Dumitriu, originally from London, was also a part of the visiting artist program and held a lecture on the eve of the gallery opening.

"I'm an artist and tend to work embedded in science. I have



MELISSA RECHIN/SPECIAL TO THE LEADER STUDENTS LARA HERZELLAH AND EDDIE KNIBLLE DISCOVER LAURA SPLAN'S INTERACTIVE STETHOSCOPES.

my own collection of bacteria and I guess that makes me sort of a geek," joked Dumitriu.

Like many of the other artists featured in the exhibit, Dumitriu fuels her creativity from the relationship between the beauty of the human body and biological factors.

"The things I create are definitely art and not science because there is no way I can prove this," she said. "It's more of a philosophical idea or process that creates a sublime feeling of beauty and terror."

Working with live bacteria to create textiles, interactive media and performances, Dumitriu classifies her art as "blurring the boundaries between art and science." Showcased in the exhibit were a quilt and dress patterned by the communication signals between bacteria strains and a large crocheted yarn piece mimicking the bacterial patterns found on her home furniture. This crocheted "blanket" was also an interactive piece, for it allowed viewers of the exhibit to pick up a crochet needle and add on their own piece of crocheted yarn.

2004 alumna Allison Lawson, who also contributed pieces for the yarn-bomb event last week, crocheted for several minutes at the exhibit.

"I've been crocheting since I was eleven, and I think it's so interesting that different people can work together to create a piece of art," said Lawson as her experienced hands gracefully crocheted an addition to Dumitriu's piece.

Along with this exhibit in the Marion Gallery, another exhibit which celebrated science resides in Rockefeller. Many staff and community members who associated with the yarn-bombing event also contributed crocheted doilies to complete a large installation, which Leesa Rittleman deemed "algae bombs" in the Emmitt Christian Gallery.

Both exhibits exude the femininity and beauty that can be found within different fields of biological sciences. "Gone Viral" will be shown in Marion Art Gallery until April 8 and the "Algae Bomb" will exist in the Emmitt Christian Gallery until March 20.

Wednesday March 13, 2013

SPORTS

B-6 The <u>Leader</u>

Blue Devils softball look toward a fresh start



COLIN FRANK/CONTRIBUTING STAFF

IZZY SIMON BATS THE BALL AND JESS LAUCK CATCHES IT.

CHRISTINA CONCEICAO

Special to The Leader

With the season right around the corner, the Fredonia Blue Devils softball team is wasting no time getting ready. Their season starts on March 21 against the New England College Pilgrims of New Hampshire. While playing in Clermont, Florida, the Pilgrims' overall record was 20-19 and 11-5 in the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC). The Devils' trip to Florida occurs during the school's spring break.

"It is the way the academic calendar is scheduled. So, we will always travel and do the majority of our traveling over spring break. I try not to pull the players out of classes anymore than we have to, but this year, because we actually do open our conference season while we are on spring break, that Friday and Saturday that we are technically still on break, we open up. I do have to pull them a few days early into midterms week," said Head Coach Nicole Loudin.

Last season, the softball team finished with an overall record of 16-16-1, a conference record of 7-11 and did not make it to the postseason. The season prior to last year, in 2011, the Blue Devils were 26-9 overall and 13-5 in the conference and lost in the final game of the conference tournament. This year,

the Blue Devils are hoping to make a comeback.

"We are going to be much more aggressive on the bases this year. I think our pitchers are in a much better place. We had some injuries last season that kind of hurt us and some different things that we kind of battled with all year. I think with what I have seen so far at practice, our three pitchers came back with a lot of fire and really want to shut people down. That is the way they throw every day at practice, which is good to see," said Coach Loudin in regards to looking towards the new season.

It is going to be a relatively young team this season, with a majority of the players being freshman and sophomores along with seven graduating seniors. However, the young players on the team are just as familiar with winning as those who are older. Two of the freshman girls on the team, twin sisters, Madeline and Megan Medina, played for Hamburg High School, whose team was state runner-up.

"With us seven seniors, it helps a lot," said senior outfielder Katie Bartkowiak. "We have three senior pitchers, two in outfield and two in the infield. And there is really not one player that can't really play. The younger girls have stepped up. The team this year is actually more of a power hitting team, which is awesome. Our whole batting order can absolutely crush the ball. This year we have a lot of potential to go far."



The Blue Devils will open up their home season as well as their SUNYAC conference play on March 29 against the Oneonta Red Dragons. Cortland finished last season 12-24 overall with a conference record of 5-13.

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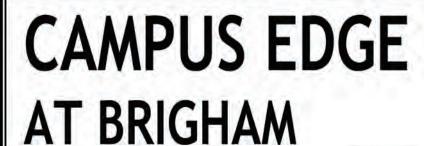
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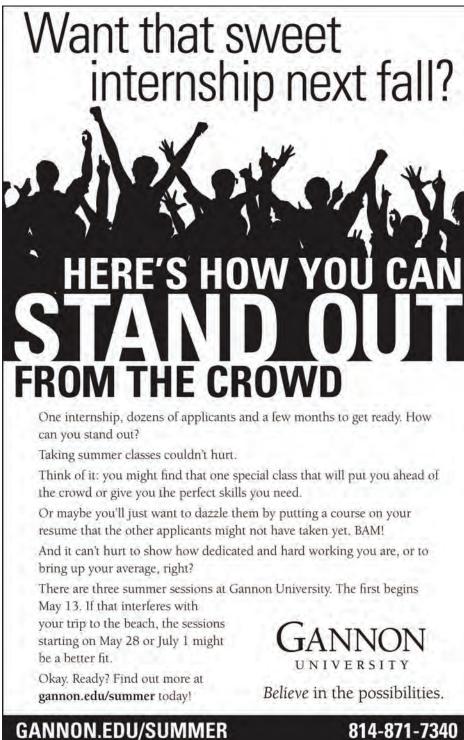
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FRED perfumes: featured fragrances from Fredonia

ROBIN N STEALING Lampoon Editor

Fredonia has just recently announced that it will begin a new business endeavor similar to the FRED cup or FRED stickers, but this time it will be in the form of "FRED perfumes." The Fredonia Public Relations Department announced last Friday that the perfumes will be of iconic scents associated with SUNY Fredonia. They have kindly enough shared some of their ideas for possible perfume scents with us at *The Leader*. So, say goodbye to Chloe or Dior and hello to FRED perfume. Here are some samples of possible scents for Fredonia students to wear next year.

1. Dods Hall locker room – This scent will incorporate not only the sweet sweet stench of body odor, but it also has hints of gym socks. It has been carefully created to ensure that you get all the earthy tones of the locker room. In fact, exercise science students have been wearing this scent for a

week to test it out and make sure it smells like an authentic locker room. This way, when the product hits the market, you'll know it's legitimate.

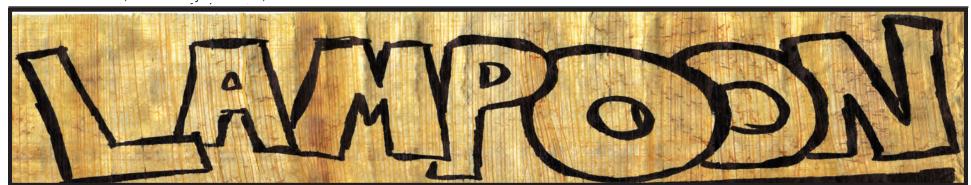
2. Williams Center: Center Point – This is sure to have that greasy-but-in-a-cool way scent to it. When you're walking down the halls in an academic building, the opposite sex will be sure to check you out if you are wearing this fragrance. Its primary aura is that of hamburger mixed with chicken fingers and pizza. There are subtle hints of sour milk and cookies to really bring the fragrance to life. The workers at Center Point think they got the scent so perfect that they thought they were having a stroke when they couldn't stop smelling their place of employment anywhere they went.

3. Dog Food – What would Fredonia be without the iconic smell of dog food? Though the scent can be rare at times when it comes around, everyone's talking about it. Wouldn't you want to be the one everyone's talking about

... in a good way. The fragrance has been checked over by Purina executives to ensure the perfume has the truest dog food scent. And they gave it two paws up.

4. Library Restroom – This fragrance contains the scents of poo, cinnamon and old woman. Now, if that's not a turn on then I don't know what is. The bottle is even going to have a little roll of toilet paper as the cap. The Public Relations Department expects this to be their best seller because of the mass of students who utilize the library bathrooms, so be sure to grab it before it goes.

The Public Relations Department is looking for feedback on their new Fredonia inspired fragrances. They will be holding a public forum to test out the perfumes and learn more about the new project. The forum will be held on March 15 in the Williams Center Horizon Room from 5 to 8 p.m. Refreshments will be provided.





What's your favorite part about St. Patrick's Day?



Mark Wahlberg



Cameron Diaz



Jeremy Piven



Salma Hayek

"I like to get wasted and watch my own movies on silent while listening to my album. It's the Irish way."

"I just love holidays. I love "As a Jew from New York, I like "I don't know what you're talkevery holiday. I wonder if there to stay inside and hide." is a low budget film I could be in about St. Patrick's Day."

ing about. I'm from Mexico."