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B-1

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TO LEAVE
BLUE DEVILS
B-7



Erie Hall to officially close



EMMA BASILE/ SPECIAL TO THE LEADER

FACULTY STUDENT ASSOCIATION OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED THAT ERIE DINING CENTER IS GOING TO CLOSE BY FALL 2013.

SEAN PATRICK
Staff Writer

Erie Dining Center's service to Fredonia students, faculty and visitors of all kinds, including the Buffalo Bills, will come to an end with the recent approval of FSA's 2013-14 budget.

On Friday, March 15, the Faculty Student Association announced that Erie Dining Center will close its doors come the Fall 2013 semester.

"I just want to emphasize that this [the decision to close Erie], unfortunately, is a business decision," said FSA Executive Director Darin Shulz. "We have to break even. We can't lose money. And the problem

is, we did not think it was right to keep a facility open when we have excess capacity ... with Tim Hortons taking as much business as it does. We did not expect that [Tim Hortons business influx] to happen."

For some Fredonians, the end of this legacy will not be easily accepted.

"That [the closing of Erie] would be really unfortunate," said Dr. David Rudge, director of orchestral activities, in response to the proposed closing of Erie. "As a faculty member, it is the best place to eat."

"Just a quick note to say that I love Erie Dining Hall," said Assistant Director of Human Resources for Employee Benefits Laurie Ensign.

The FSA employees who work at Erie were informed

that they have two options: to be laid off or to bump an employee of lower seniority in a different facility.

"It's not the person. We lay off the position," Shulz said.

The employees of higher stature retain the right to take a position for two years after their initial decision, due to a contract the FSA holds with the union (students are not represented by this union).

"Within two years, we always have turn over," Shulz said. "People come and go."

Continued on page A-2

Penal panel speaks on mental illness

EMILY PEASE
Special to The Leader

The Criminal Justice Club (CJC) sponsored an event last Wednesday in the Williams Center Horizon Room which featured eight panel members speaking on the prevalence of mental illness in the penal system. The adviser for CJC, Dr. Melanie Pallone, opened the event with a background about how the mentally ill came to be such a large statistic in jails around the country.

The first panel member to speak was Judge Frederic

Marrano of Lackawanna city court. Judge Marrano, an alumnus of SUNY Fredonia, explained to the listeners that the rules of the court system were much simpler when he became a member of its staff 28 years ago. However, when some lawbreakers became frequent offenders, and with no solution in sight, something had to change.

"The door started to revolve," said Marrano. This new occurrence in the penal system led to the creation of treatment courts. These entities act as a guiding force for mentally ill offenders and help them to get treatment for their issues rather than locking them away time and time again. Marrano went

on to explain how the transition program works and what is required of the offenders. Since the program's inception, there have been 1000 successful graduates.

Another SUNY Fredonia graduate, Judge Walter Drag of Dunkirk city court, elaborated further on the treatment program for mentally ill offenders. His explanation was concise and to the point: the participants in the program are supposed to attend their weekly appointments, getting their education and consistently taking their medications.

Continued on page A-3

Adept adjuncts

Rausa comes home to teach acting

CARL LAM
Special To The Leader

You may have seen her on commercials for Perry's Ice Cream, Independent Health and Time Warner Cable, but the actress on camera is actually an adjunct professor in the Department of Theatre and Dance.

Christina Rausa, who goes by Tina to her friends, is a graduate of SUNY Fredonia and has been an actress, director and producer in Buffalo for over 35 years. She completed one year of graduate school but then decided that New York City would be the place to pursue her career.

Rausa had the opportunity to study at the Herbert Berghof studio for acting with legendary actress Uta Hagen. After being in New York for a time she returned to Buffalo, But not by choice.

"I enjoyed my time in New York, but I had to return due to family issues. But that's usually how it goes," Rausa said. "People go to New York and they have to return because they're not making it and they don't want to starve any longer. They will come back for a family need. I did for a long time because my goal was always to go back to New York. But Buffalo has been really rewarding."

So it has been for Rausa, who has spent time in Buffalo as a producer, director and an entrepreneur—she owned her own theatre at one point. She ultimately found her success on the stage in a very special type of show.

"I think what put me on the map in Buffalo was *Educating Rita* and then I did *The Belle of Amherst*. It was a huge success and that launched my career of doing one-woman shows," Rausa noted.

Her continued excellence in *The Belle of Amherst* led her to perform at the Chautauqua Institute for an audience of about 4,000 people.

As time progressed, Rausa's credits did as well. Nonetheless, Rausa holds a very remarkable achievement in Buffalo.

"I have appeared the most often at Road Less Traveled Productions and I have performed at the Jewish Repertory Theatre. But I have performed on every stage in Buffalo," she stated.

Rausa didn't stop there. She created a program about Susan B. Anthony which lasted about 15 minutes. After the many channels it went through, it ended up being an hour and a half show that led to a multi university-spanning tour.

After a year of graduate school, Rausa had decided then that she didn't want to teach. However, after having now held the role of a professor, she says she regrets that decision.

"I used to lecture here and I'm thrilled to pieces that I get to teach acting now. Teaching acting is my strength," Rausa said. "I really love students because I get to interact with them. Then I can go tell my friends in the outside world that they're good kids. They're smart, bright and excited about their futures."

In addition to her work on stage, Rausa is a massage therapist. She made the decision to go back to school in order to pay her bills.

"I am a licensed massage therapist in New York State. That turned out to be fantastic because I make my own schedule and I have to be flexible [for freelance work]," said Rausa.

Her success in theater wasn't all smooth travels. Many people in the arts experience these types of hardships with their craft.

"In high school, I was branded as an athlete. I was put on every intercollegiate [team] and that limited my time. When you're young, people want to tell you who you are," she said. "I was more of an athlete then, but I knew that I wanted to study theater. I didn't think about going or doing anything else."

The obstacles spanned from high school to her professional life as an actress. Her most notable challenge was to balance family with work.

"The hours are strange; because we're working in a place like Buffalo, we all have to have day jobs and then you rehearse and perform at night," she said. "That's family time and it's not fair to the family."

Although the trek to New York City didn't pan out for Rausa, she doesn't discourage actors from trying their luck in the big market.

"Go! You should go to New York. But the rule of thumb is that it takes ten years to get established in New York. If you really want to be there, you have to stay the course and prepare to be poor," Rausa advised.

She said that there is a way to make it in New York City financially and it relates back to her part-time job.

"Find something you can do, like massage therapy, where you can make your own schedule. Find a skill that you won't have to get tied down to in a nine-to-five job, so you can make money," she said.

In her teaching, Rausa said she often tells all her students to be an individual and put your own thumbprint on your own work.

"Find your own signature; find who you are. If you stand out, people will be interested in you. If you are centered and become your own element, you will make an impression on



COURTESY OF CHRISTINA RAUSA
DEPARTMENT OF PERFORMING ARTS ADJUNCT PROFESSOR CHRISTINA RAUSA.

people," Rausa mentioned.

"Tina has been a mainstay here in terms of her ability to teach introductory acting courses. Tina's very good at what she does; she's personable and outgoing. I think the students get a great rapport from her. She's a great actress, she does a lot of work in Buffalo working for a number of theaters and has kept a lively professional profile," said SUNY Fredonia distinguished teaching professor and chair of theatre and dance Tom Loughlin. "I can't say enough about Tina's work, I think the department would be up the creek without a paddle if we didn't have her to make the contributions that she has, particularly to our non-majors."

Reflecting upon her work in Fredonia and Buffalo, she quickly gave a reason for spending her time here at SUNY Fredonia.

"We're not here to become famous, we're here because we love our work," Rausa said.

Erie Hall to close: Continued from page A-1

Employees bumped from their position will also have the right to bump one of less seniority from their position, and so on.

This ultimatum has been met by resistance from those employees who do not agree with the decision to close Erie Dining Center.

"Closing Erie won't be as simple as they think. Other dining halls are busy enough as it is," said sophomore liberal arts major and Erie employee Valerie Musson. "You can't just shut down a big place like that and expect it to be a beneficial change for everyone ... it's kind of sad they're just giving up on it [Erie]."

Has FSA really given up on Erie? It's seems to be that way, as FSA's plan is to leave the building vacant, ready to become a dining hall at any time, for multiple reasons.

"First of all I want to emphasize, Erie needs to be readily available to serve as a dining hall at a moment's notice," Shulz said. "If something were to

happen to University Commons [or Centre Pointe], a disaster or major remodel, or for whatever reason we have to shut it down ... we cannot serve this campus with just Centre Pointe or just University Commons."

Though Erie is closing, "It's going to enable us to do some new and exciting things," Shulz said. "We're going to have the Mexican grill [where Trendz is now], we're going to be bringing a 'home-style' station into Centre Pointe where we're going to offer 'the best of Erie' ... what was popular at Erie."

The stir fry station will also be brought to Centre Pointe along with an "Asian quick-serve station" which will be an "Americanized Asian," as Shulz said. "Sweet and sour chicken ... fried rice, popular items with the take out type food."

Shulz said the take out food will be, "Not quite as healthy, but it's going to taste darn good."

The renovations to Centre Pointe will happen over the summer, "So students will not be infringed

upon at all," said Shulz.

FSA hopes that students will not be angry that Erie is closing, rather that they will understand that this decision was necessary to support the evolution of our campus community.

"Originally there was another dining hall over in the Andrews complex ... that was closed and taken away in the 1980s or 90s," said FSA Associate Executive Director and Controller Matthew Snyder.

"It's just the evolution/migration, the move to the center of campus," Shulz said. "That's where the hub of our activity is."

Fredonia State is responsible for the decision to do something with the building, as they hold ownership. Students will be able to share their opinion on what SUNY Fredonia should do with the building that will soon be "once known as Erie Dining Center."

••••• What do you think SUNY Fredonia should do with 'the building once known as Erie'? •••••
• Let us know on Facebook or email comments to Stoc7590@fredonia.edu •
•••••

Penal panel speaks on mental illness: Continued from page A-1



BACK ROW LEFT TO RIGHT: JUDGE FREDERIC MARRANO, LIEUTENANT JAMES QUATTRONE, JUDGE WALTER CRAG AND CAPTAIN PATRICK JOHNSON. FRONT ROW LEFT TO RIGHT: CATHERINE NEWTON, DR. CAILLEAN MCMAHON-TRONETTI, YVONNE CALCATERRA AND RACQUEL SPEARS.

“Don’t comply with the rules, and they’ll get a sanction. Comply with the rules, and they’ll move on in the program,” said Drag.

Recently retired jail warden Captain Patrick Johnson provided the audience with numerous statistics regarding the prevalence of the mentally ill in the penal system. Captain Johnson explained that the de-institutionalization of state mental facilities led to the flooding of jails with mentally ill patients. As jail warden for over 30 years, Captain Johnson had the unfortunate task of seeing the effects of deinstitutionalization first hand.

“Jails and prisons were not built to handle the mentally ill ... we were not prepared as a country to take in these individuals,” Johnson said. According to the Captain, the largest mental health institution in the United States is actually a Los Angeles common jail. He also gave the startling statistic that the mentally ill are three times more likely to be incarcerated than the rest of the population.

After three panelists involved in the court and incarceration segments of the penal system spoke, Lieutenant James Quattrone gave the perspective of a first responder. Quattrone, another SUNY Fredonia graduate, is specially trained in what is called crisis intervention. Officers who are trained in this technique have the special tools necessary to help calm and diffuse a situation caused by a mentally ill individual, whereas an untrained officer would end up arresting the individual.

Quattrone engaged the audience by asking them to shout out slang terms that are used for the mentally ill. A few people called out various terms which were followed by a bit of laughter.

“What do you call someone with cancer,” Quattrone asked solemnly. The point was made and Quattrone continued on to give a short anecdote about a woman who is the sister of a mentally ill man whom he had arrested. The unnamed woman eventually persuaded Quattrone to attend a local National Alliance on Mental Illness meeting. This encounter showed him that there is a big disconnect and misunderstanding between law enforcement and mentally ill individuals.

Jamestown’s mental health coordinator and former SUNY Fredonia student Catherine Newton divulged into the perspective of a drug court. She offered the upsetting statistic that 70 percent of people with drug addictions also have some type of mental illness. This fact causes one to wonder why drug courts and treatment courts are not synergistic in nature. Thankfully, that disconnect is changing slowly.

“[Treatment] used to be drugs then mental illness. Now its drugs and mental illness,” Newton said. “We’re working together now and that’s the best thing.”

Yvonne Calcaterra, Chautauqua County jail social worker, emphasized the percentage of mentally ill inmates in the local jail. 150 inmates that are mentally ill equates to between 40 and 60 percent of the jail’s population.

“The three illnesses that we see are bipolar disorder, schizophrenia and major depressive disorder,” said Calcaterra. She also pointed out the high risk of suicide that is prevalent among the mentally ill detainee population.

Mrs. Calcaterra was followed by Racquel Spears who gave a brief explanation of what the mobile crisis service is. The relatively new service is a way of lowering costs and unnecessary visits to the ER and county jail for those individuals who are in crisis. This new program is intended to save money and to provide more help for individuals that need it in the local area.

Dr. Caillean McMahon-Tronetti, Chautauqua County jail’s resident psychiatrist, was not the final speaker; however, her words had a lasting impact. When she began treating inmates in 1999, there were only 25 that were mentally ill. Now, that number has climbed to 150. The doctor went on to describe how government policies are a constraint on treatment. She encouraged the students in the room to take a stand against these policies now so as to avoid the need to fight them in their future careers in the legal system.

“Do not be the victim of policy,” Tronetti pleaded.

The event concluded with a Q&A segment and refreshments. Dr. Pallone thanked the panelists and the attendants for sharing their ideas and expressed her hope that the students would take this information and put it into action.

SA wrap-up

ANDREW LENT
Special to The Leader

The SA meeting began hastily as the attendants sounded off for the traditional roll call. The meeting was without guest speakers, the agenda was mostly regarding releasing extra funds from the allocations fund.

A motion to approve to legislation for the university constitution was passed unanimously. Statute L-21 was passed after a short amount of question and answering from the audience.

Justin Dickerson was interviewed by the representatives for the role of speaker of the assembly for the coming semester. Dickerson discussed his extensive experience in the assembly as the chair of student rela-

tions and as an RA. He was appointed after a lengthy amount of questions from the representatives.

President Dorozynski was successful in passing a motion to send a letter of support to Dr. Herman regarding the budget increase. The assembly approved of the 19 dollar increase unanimously. She also called again for those interested to contact her regarding the remaining positions in her cabinet.

Comptroller Chelsea Patterson presented two organizations that came to request funding left available in the SA’s allocations account. The release of 251 dollars to the Music Industry Club from allocations was denied after a questionable expense was called into question. Money from the fund that was planned to go towards sun glasses for the club was deemed an unnecessary use

of funds, and the doubt about granting them the money grew around this discrepancy. A surprising change in pace for the otherwise accepting representatives who did in fact check the details before releasing funds to the group.

The tonemeister club was more successful in proving itself worthy of SA funds after their deficit of 22.50 was resolved. While some representatives were apprehensive in granting the funds without official confirmation that the deficit had been resolved, the tonemeister club was granted 400 dollars from the allocations fund.

UNIVERSITY

March 12, 2013

6:19 p.m. Possible trespassing of science building. The report was unfounded.

6:19 p.m. A lock was damaged on a trailer. The report was unfounded.

March 13, 2013

2:00 a.m. A change purse with I.D. was found on campus. A report was filed and it was returned to the owner.

March 15, 2013

2:30 p.m. A computer bag was lost in Mason. A report was filed.

4 p.m. an iphone was found in Gregory. A report was filed.

8:54 p.m. Money was stolen out of a dorm in Disney. A report was filed and a statement was taken.

March 16, 2013

2:05 a.m. A non-resident was found in Gregory picking through garbage. A report was filed.

March 17, 2013

5 p.m. A ring was found on the sidewalk between Igoe and Shultz. A report was filed.



POLICE BLOTTERS

FREDONIA

March 16, 2013

Nikoleta Vujovic, 21, was issued an appearance ticket for open container and littering.

Frank Cady, 21, was arrested for open container.

Michael Brown, 24, was issued an appearance ticket for open container.

March 18, 2013

Daniel Rothwell, 21, was arrested for disorderly conduct.

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

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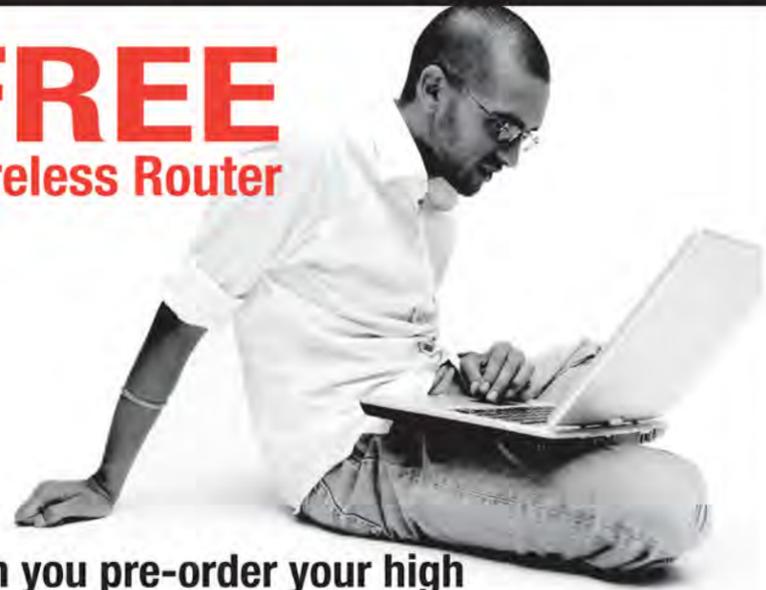


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OPINION

Wednesday March 20, 2013

The Leader A-6

THE LEADER

Vol. CXX, Issue 21
The Leader
Fredonia State Free Press
S206 Williams Center
Fredonia, N.Y. 14063

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The Leader is funded through advertising revenue and a portion of the mandatory student activities fee. It is published by the students of SUNY Fredonia. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means except as may be expressly permitted in writing by the editor in chief. All opinion writings in *The Leader* reflect the opinion of the writer, with the exception of the editorial, which represents the opinion of the majority of the editorial board. *The Leader* editorial board holds its staff meetings, during the academic semesters, bi-weekly on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. The deadline for letters to the editor is 4 p.m. on Thursday. *The Leader* is printed by the Corry Journal in Corry, Pennsylvania and is distributed free on campus and in the surrounding community. Press run is 3,000.



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More state funding essential for 2013-14 SUNY budget

As Governor Cuomo and his administration prepare to vote on the proposed 2013-14 SUNY budget, students across the state as well as prominent faculty unions are gearing up to ensure that the financial needs of the SUNY system and the student population it represents are not ignored for a fifth straight year.

NYSUNY 2020, the five-year initiative signed into law in 2011, stipulates for an incremental tuition increase via a predictable system which allows families to add stability while planning for foreseeable educational expenses. To its credit, the average annual SUNY tuition increase prior to the plan's introduction was 6.7 percent, resulting in a higher tuition cost as compared to the steady \$300 increases implemented by the initiative.

The passage of the bill authorized all SUNY campuses to develop a rational tuition plan which gives the universities the option of raising tuition up to five percent annually for the five years of the plan. Additionally, the bill's "Challenge Grant Program" component allows the four "flagships" of the SUNY system (Albany, Binghamton, Buffalo and Stony Brook) to implement a "Rational Plus Plan" which additionally calls for a possible three percent further tuition increase, subject to the approval of the component's application under the NYSUNY 2020 plan by the Governor and SUNY Chancellor.

These increases are intended to assist the development of the flagship universities into regional economic development generators as well as centers of research. It should be noted

that only students who are eligible for the maximum Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) amount will not be subject to a tuition increase under NYSUNY 2020.

It's no secret that the University at Buffalo is at the forefront of all major political and economic decisions facing the SUNY system. UB is to SUNY what Manhattan is to the state of New York: it's the epicenter through which all surrounding reverberations originate from. Not only is it the leading generator of economic activity for the Buffalo-Niagara region, but it is the region's second largest employer with 10,066 full-time workers and has an estimated economic impact on New York that exceeds \$1.7 billion per year.

Some would argue that any and all decisions that positively impact UB and the other three SUNY flagship schools must in turn have a constructive influence on the rest of the SUNY system; in other words, what's good for the goose is good for the gander. But should the same apply when the goose has nearly 15,000 more undergrads than our campus in Fredonia? The glaring truth evidenced by previous years' budgets implies that Albany has no intention of differentiating the smaller SUNY campuses from the "flagships." As a result, the only way for the smaller schools to obtain the funding we so desperately need for faculty retainment and program expansion, is through the securing of state-financed resources for SUNY in general.

The proposed 2013-2014 budget, not surprisingly, does not account

for the increased costs of attending schools within the SUNY system. Over the last four years, SUNY has lost nearly \$700 million in state support through a series of budget cuts, which when combined with the lack of increased state funding, has left SUNY seriously impaired. Yet it is the students who are forced to pick up the tab, as state funding for SUNY has been cut by \$1.7 billion since 2008 while tuition and student fee charges have only continued to increase.

"In effect, the state has shifted the bulk of the responsibility for public higher education onto students and their families. Today, nearly 75 percent of SUNY's operating budget comes from tuition and fees, compared to a decade ago when 75 percent of its budget came from the state," said Phillip Smith, the president of United University Professions (UUP)—the union representing 35,000 faculty and professional staff at SUNY's 29 state-operated campuses, in an article regarding the necessity of more state funding. "As more and more funding for SUNY is coming from tuition and fees, an even greater financial burden is being placed on lower and middle-income families."

In essence, the vital funding issues SUNY currently faces don't only threaten the program and enrollment expansion of smaller campuses like that of Fredonia, it challenges the very fabric and nature of the SUNY mission statement: "to provide to the people of New York educational services of the highest quality, with the broadest possible access."

Do you
think a
SUNY
education
is worth the
cost?



John Higgins
senior music business

"In comparison to my cousins who are a few years out of college, they have to pay back all of these loans and we talk about classes and they say they don't learn much different [material] at somewhere like Bonaventure or [other] private schools. So our costs compared to that [private school costs] are definitely worth it.



Jillian Johnson
senior speech pathology

"We're getting the same education as private universities but for thousands and thousands of dollars cheaper. A degree is a degree at the end of the day."

From the desk of...

ANNE RITZ
NEWS EDITOR

Eating my way through Manhattan

When it comes to the abundance of food choices in New York City, deciding where to eat can be overwhelming. I have come to find that the best places are not necessarily the most expensive. In searching for food stops, the "hole in the wall" types of places were the most delicious and the most economical.

Arriving after a long drive with the SPJ group, the first priority was finding dinner. We wandered a few blocks up from the hotel and found a Japanese restaurant. The menu had several options and dinner specials, including sushi, soup and several other Japanese dinners.

I chose vegetable tempura that came with rice and miso soup, with a roll of asparagus and avocado sushi on the side. The greasy veggies were delicious and were composed of large helping of fried yams, zucchini and broccoli. This big dinner only totaled to \$12.

The next day after visiting the 9/11 Memorial, we found the closest pizza place. My first New York slice was white pizza, with spinach, mozzarella and ricotta. This large helping was only \$5.

For dinner, after touring CBS radio, the closest place was a small Mexican restaurant. I ordered a burrito; filled with rice, black beans, salsa and guacamole. This filling dinner totaled fewer than 5 dollars.

Friday morning, we woke up at the ridiculous hour of 4:30 a.m. to get to the Today Show. While waiting in line, I ran across the street to a deli for some breakfast. I ordered an egg white primavera, which included egg whites mix spinach, onion and peppers with a side of home fries and toast. My breakfast only came out to \$3.21.

After shaking Al Roker's hand and walking around MoMA for a few hours, it was time for cupcakes. I stopped in Magnolia's bakery and immediately overwhelmed by choices. The cases were filled with cheesecakes, pies, fancy things I've never heard of before, and the special cupcakes of the day. I settled on a carrot cake cupcake for \$3.50.

Next, I walked down 5th Ave and pretended to shop in the amazing stores. Around the corner from window-shopping were several street carts. I ordered a falafel sandwich, complete with veggies, lettuce and tomatoes. This feast was only 5 dollars.

For dinner, we found a block that had several Indian choices. We chose the one that had two men sitting in the window playing music. (Also because they advertised 15 percent off for students).

I ordered a dinner special, which came with soup, bread, an appetizer, the entrée and desert for \$12. The soup was a rich tomato, and the appetizer was a large dumpling filled with potatoes and vegetables.

After the appetizer I was almost already full. My entrée was a light vegetable curry, served with basmati rice and naan bread. Even though I could barely finish, they lastly brought out rice pudding.

My last meal was cheesecake at Junior's. We made a late night desert stop at little aftermidnight. I ordered a slice of red velvet cheese for \$6.95. The large slice could easily feed a few people and I could not get all the way through it. The cheesecake was layered between layers of red velvet cake, complete with cream cheese frosting.

Finding affordable, great meals when traveling can be easy if you know where to look. I only hope that the walking balanced out everything else.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ANNE RITZ



Matt Mincin
senior business/marketing

"I feel like it's worth the cost as long as the student who's attending SUNY Fredonia is utilizing all that they have to offer here. Between the sports facilities, the pool, the gym, things that we don't take into account every day."



Somer**
sophomore PR/theater

"No, it's not worth it. My aunt graduated from here years ago, and when she came here it [the tuition] was like \$1000. And she was a great teacher. It's the same education, but we have to pay \$19,000 more?"



Dan Hahn
senior English

"Personally, I think it's worth it but, to put it into perspective, in England Oxford costs the same amount for residents as SUNY Fredonia costs for residents. So I guess comparatively, you aren't getting as much as other countries with universal education programs. But for an American university, I think SUNY is reasonable."

Photo Page

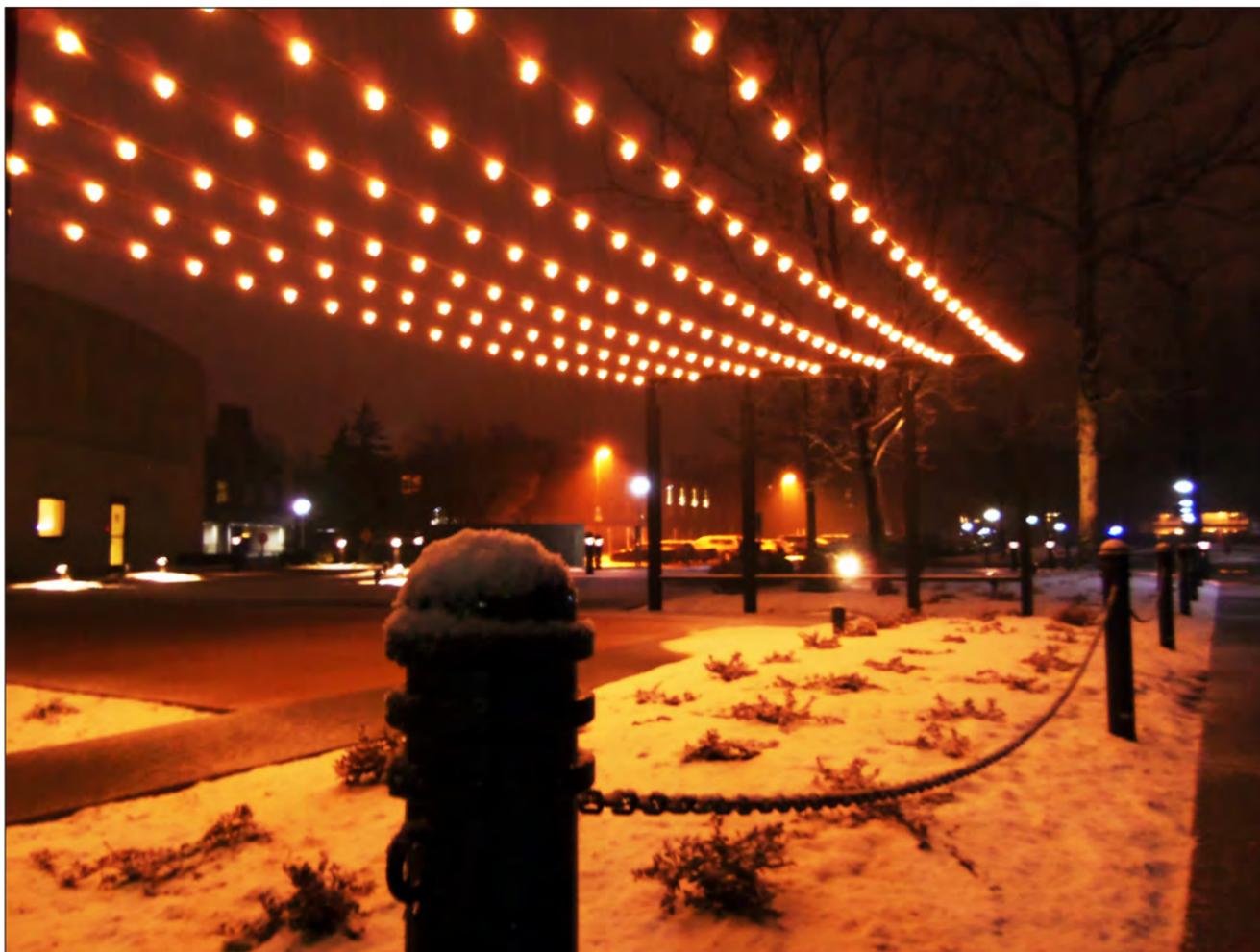


PHOTO BY EMILY PEASE



"CLIMBING ICE VOLCANOES" BY SYLVANA DUSSAN

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

Stop the World takes its final bow in the Bartlett



COLIN FRANK/CONTRIBUTING STAFF

LITTLE CHAP, PLAYED BY STEVE RUSSELL, CONCLUDES HIS SONG "GONNA BUILD A MOUNTAIN," AS CAST MEMBERS SURROUND HIM.

MAGGIE GILROY
Staff Writer

It's a story that's been told countless times before: a restless man gets married and is unhappy with his marriage. He then tries to find happiness through money and sex outside of his marriage, not realizing that he has been looking in all of the wrong places until he is on the verge of death.

We've heard this story before and, unfortunately, many of us have seen it play out in real life. The question is, how do we tell this story in a new, fresh way and still trigger people to learn from it? *Stop the World ... I want to get off!* does just that.

With book, music and lyrics by Anthony Newley and Lesly Bricusse, the small chamber musical utilizes a circus metaphor in order to tell the story of main character Little Chap, played by Steve Russell, and his failure to focus on

the important things in life. Although the show is highly abstract the audience finds themselves relating to Little Chap and the mistakes he makes throughout his life, clown makeup and all.

Directed by Tom Loughlin, the most recent Walter Gloor Mainstage production was performed for the last time this season on Saturday in Bartlett Theatre.

The audience was completely immersed in the world of the circus from the minute they stepped into the theater. With scenic design by Evan Hill and Rachel E. Fischer, brightly colored red and yellow banners hung from the rafters of the theater gave the audience the illusion that they were entering a circus tent. Colorful lights twinkled around the banners and posters of circus freaks decorated the walls.

The Universal Life Circus Troupe entered the theater for a pre-show during the audience's arrival, half an hour prior to curtain. The act featured an eclectic and loveable

group of circus freaks: an overweight dysfunctional couple (Jessica Sabatini and Mark Diven), an energetic acrobat/trapeze artist (Adam Brian Ali), a mysterious tarot card reader (Shelby Converse), a sassy scat singer (Ashley Evans), an engaging levitating wand dancer (Marina Hirschfield) and a juggling singing nun (Mark Montondo). Each act was led by ringmaster Tom C. Sullivan and heckled by a drunken unicycle-riding bum, played by Tom Buckley.

Both daring and comical, the pre-show featured as many elements of a circus Bartlett Theatre could permit. The act ended with a death-defying trapeze act, performed by Ali, mesmerizing the audience. The highly capable troupe fully prepared the audience for the main event, which immediately followed Ali's trapeze act.

Continued on page B-2

Eugene Cross visits visiting writers program, inspires students

MAGGIE GILROY
Staff Writer

A troubled bully, a widower obsessed with watching casino gambling, a neglectful babysitter and a broken-hearted man who turns a blind eye to child abuse. These aren't exactly the types of characters you would expect to come from the mind of Eugene Cross, a writer known for his gentle disposition and bright smile.

Cross visited Fredonia Thursday for the Mary Louise White Visiting Writers series, leading a craft talk, reading his work and answering questions for students. An Erie, PA native, Cross currently lives in Chicago where he teaches fiction at Northwestern University and Columbia College Chicago.

Cross was named one of the 20 best new writers by *Narrative Magazine*, where his story "Harvesters" was named one of their Top Five Stories of 2009-10, and his fiction was

also listed among the *2010 Best American Short Stories*. Cross is the recipient of scholarships from the Chautauqua Writers' festival and the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, as well as the winner of the 2009 Dzanc Prize for Excellence in Literary Fiction and Community Service.

Despite his impressive résumé and extensive list of awards, Cross seemed unfazed by this success and used the work of other writers as an example for his craft talk. Dressed casually in a gray suit jacket and skinny blue tie with dark jeans, Cross's disposition was much more subdued than his violent, dark work.

"I met him at a writer's conference called Bread Loaf and he was actually, I think, one of the first people I met there and I just remember this huge smile," Sarah Gerkenmeyer



MAGGIE GILROY/SPECIAL TO THE LEADER
EUGENE CROSS READS FROM HIS SHORT STORY COLLECTION, "FIRES OF OUR CHOOSING."

Continued on page B-3

Stop the World: Continued from B-1

After the audience was welcomed to the “Bartlett Big Top,” the cast came out into the house to acknowledge the audience and break the fourth wall from the start. The cast was accompanied by a highly-skilled seven-piece orchestra led by Sean Doyle.

Beginning with Little Chap’s birth, the audience was immediately taken on a journey that follows important milestone of Little Chap’s life: learning to walk, graduation, getting a job, losing a job and dating. As Little Chap entered dating life and found it to be unsuccessful, he yelled, “Stop the world!” and the house lights came up and forced the audience back into reality.

This motif repeated throughout the production and frequently jerked the audience back to reality to demonstrate how the world can often be too much to bear. Just as suddenly, the house lights would dim and, just like life, the show went on.

Designed by Emily Redenback and Todd Proffitt, the



COLIN FRANK/CONTRIBUTING STAFF
SCATTERED BRAINS, PLAYED BY ASHLEY EVANS,
PERFORMS TRICKS WITH HER HULA-HOOP AS PART
OF THE OPENING CIRCUS ACT.

lighting was an integral part of the show. It beautifully complemented the vibrant, mismatched, clown-like costumes designed by Eric Robertson. A great attention to detail was shown with each element of the show, from the period appropriate newspaper to the Ken doll donned in clown make-up.

“It was a great set design, I was very impressed with the lighting crew,” said Zora Middleton, sophomore education major “...especially in this space, it’s very well done.”

While plot centered on Little Chap, it also featured a dynamic ensemble that remained onstage with Little Chap throughout the entirety of the show. The cast was required to perform what could be called a marathon that required them to maintain their energy and stamina through the course of the three hour show.

Each member of the ensemble (Danielle Izzo, BJ Hylton, Vaughn Butler, Theresa Egloff, Shannon Cunningham, Rhiannon La Cross, Adelia Gueli, Ryan Glynn and Raphael Santos) played several different characters in the show and remained in character at all times with the audience mere inches away.

“I’ve had no prior knowledge of the show and I just went for it and I was so surprised, I loved everything about it,” Jordan Holmes said, freshman Spanish education major. “It was very entertaining, I felt like I was in it.”

While the show was a commentary on the choices made during life, it was critical of the political climate of the time as well. The play premiered on Broadway in 1962 and was written from the perspective of a time where the nation was plagued with fear and tension caused by factors such as communism, the Cold War, the Cuban Missile Crisis and the ever-present atomic threat.

Along with the political views of the time, there also came views on race and other human differences. The show satirizes everyone and leaves no stone unturned. In a time where our society puts a great emphasis being “politically correct,” the humor of the show contrasts popular musicals of today.

Despite the obscurity of the show, the audience was



COLIN FRANK/CONTRIBUTING STAFF
LITTLE CHAP, PLAYED BY STEVE RUSSEL, GATHERS HIS BELONGINGS ON A PROP POLE DURING THE FIRST ACT

undoubtedly entertained and impressed by its quality.

“It’s so good coming back and seeing the hard work they put in” said Kristen Bowman, a 2012 graduate in music education. “It makes me proud that I graduated from here. Honestly, the music, the acting, everything was phenomenal.”

Fredonia Jazz Ensemble ranks high at competition

MAGGIE GILROY
Staff Writer

The Fredonia Jazz Ensemble is back on the map. The student-run group recently returned from the 54th annual Notre Dame Collegiate Jazz Competition, ranking at the top of the competition from all six adjudicators. It was the first time the group attended the competition since the 1980s.

The group took home four awards for outstanding soloists: Kyle Ohlson on the tenor sax, Ethan Fox on the drums, Ian Liedke on the piano and Evan Sundquist for voice and trumpet. The group also won an award for Best Saxophone Section, which is currently in the hands of lead alto saxophone player, sophomore Miranda Dube.

The competition was invitation only; the Fredonia Jazz Ensemble (FJE) sent in three tracks of their music last year and were picked from only a select number of groups across the United States to attend the competition. Although they faced scheduling issues and the loss of several members to the Wind Ensemble concert, they were able to find people to fill in spots and attend the competition.

“We just had the right people at the right time,” said group director Mike McGeough.

The group left at 11 a.m. on March 1, arriving to Notre Dame at 7 p.m. that night for their 8:30 p.m. performance. They then had to race back home in order to make commitments on campus.

A standout soloist was Sundquist, a freshman music education major with a concentration in trumpet, who is currently in his second semester with the group. He managed to earn an award for outstanding soloist of the group despite splitting his lip during the first song of the performance.

“Backstage, it kind of hit me,” said Sundquist of his nerves during the competition. “Halfway through the first

song I went up for this high F sharp and it was bleeding everywhere. I was like, ‘Okay, how can I play a half-hour set with a bleeding lip?’ But somehow I got through it.”

Sundquist then sang “Darn that Dream,” a Latin jazz standard while Liedke backed him on piano. The piece was arranged by McGeough.

“They blew the house away. That’s what, I think, got us top rank,” said McGeough. “He’s phenomenal,” McGeough said of Sundquist. “He’s like one of the people that’s going to be keeping this band up. Him and Ian are going to be like ‘the guys’... Those two are going to be, like, the forefront of the organization coming up.”

“It was a good experience for networking also,” said Sundquist, who was able to pick the adjudicators brains about music during the competition. The adjudicators were all jazz professors from Michigan and played a set after the competition concluded.

“It was worth the seven hour car ride,” Sundquist said.

For Linda Phillips, the group’s advisor for nearly 30 years, their success is reminiscent of the success they found in the 1980s, which was considered to be the group’s heyday.

“I went in 1986 with the group,” said Phillips, “I was talking to some of the people in the audience and this one guy came up to me, and he said ‘I just want you to know that we came because we heard Fredonia was playing, and they’re always excellent. And so, these guys have put Fredonia back on the map at this Notre Dame [competition].’”

Phillips still owns the awards and trophies from past competitions and displays them all in her office.

“It was like, the little secret of this school,” said McGeough. “They had a top-notch jazz band. And that’s how they would recruit people ... they would go out there and tour just to recruit people to come to this school,” said McGeough.

A graduate student in music composition, McGeough was a member of the group from 2004-2008 during his undergraduate studies.

“When I came here, I got into FJE as the auxiliary percussionist. I didn’t even do anything; I played vibes for one or two tunes,” explained McGeough. “They were just the greatest friends. Right off the bat, they were like ‘let’s hang out.’ Like, freshman your first week, you already have connections with seniors here.”

“It’s the coolest thing in the world,” McGeough continued. “That’s how I’ve always approached it; it really should be like that. Like a family and not just a band.”

“It’s one of those ensembles where you’re just one big, happy family” said Sundquist. “You all get along; you all really know each other really well.”

The group will be performing a ‘mini-gig’ at Doons next week and is currently anticipating a tour of middle schools and high schools throughout the Western New York area, including Webster, Syracuse and Brocton during the week of spring break.

“It’s showing kids that if you want to play, if you’re not majoring in it, you can still do it.” They will be playing a spring show in Rosch Recital Hall in the beginning of April and will also be attending the Dunkirk Jazz Invitational on April 20 at Silver Creek High School, where all the high school jazz bands from Chautauqua county will be attending. They will perform in between each high school set and feature some high school soloists in their set as well.

“It’s nice to finally get back on the map and get in the right track of things,” said McGeough.

The Fredonia Jazz Ensemble will also have a spring concert on Sunday, May 5 at 6:30 p.m. in Diers Hall.

Visiting writers program: Continued from B-1



MAGGIE GILROY/SPECIAL TO THE LEADER

VISITING WRITER EUGENE CROSS SIGNS A STUDENT'S BOOK.

said, co-director of the Visiting Writers Program.

"Every time I run into him now, it's this huge smile," Gerkenmeyer continued. "And I've been talking to students about the presence he has and I think it's hard to envision when you only read his work, because it's so dark. But he kind of rounds it all out."

Although Cross is a native of Erie, this is his first time on the SUNY Fredonia campus.

"I would always pass Fredonia but this is my first time stopping at the campus and I've loved it, I've loved it," Cross said. "I mean, it's so nice, the students are fantastic, so smart, the questions have been wonderful, and [they've been] a great audience."

Cross began the craft talk in McEwen 202 and spoke to students about setting through the use of a story written by fellow Northwestern Faculty member and idol Stuart Dybeck. After a discussion about Dybeck's use of setting, Cross led a writing exercise that required students to write about a place they could not return to, asking them to describe the setting in a way that gives a feeling of impermanence.

He then opened the floor to questions from students, who asked him questions including his own use of setting, rituals he practices before and after writing, and how he uses Erie in his work.

"Fiction writers are liars and thieves," he joked to the students when answering a question about his stories with settings outside of Erie. "You steal and you make shit up."

Cross ended the question and answer session quoting Kurt Vonnegut, "Do awful things to your characters so we know what they're made of." After a look at his writing, Cross has undoubtedly taken this advice to heart.

Gerkenmeyer laughed about having to end on such a dark note. "Dark is cool, take that home with you," Cross joked as the session concluded.

After a brief break for dinner, where Cross was taken to Wing City to devour chicken wings, the group gathered back in the McEwen lecture hall for a reading of his work. Cross couldn't help but rave about the wings to students.

Cross read "Hunters," a short piece about a bar in Erie. The piece was written in the point of view of a grown man reflecting on his life, and how he regrets sleeping with a married woman and failing to prevent her from abusing her daughter.

He then read "Miss Me Forever," which followed the life of a Nepalese refugee living in Erie. It was a brand new work and was the first time Cross had read it in front of an audience.

Cross was inspired to write the piece during his work teaching creative writing to refugees from Nepal, Sudan and Bhutan, which subsequently won him the 2009 Dzanc prize for excellence in Literary Fiction and Community Service. The prize is awarded to writers who use literature in order to conduct some form of community service.

During his work with the refugees, Cross required them to write about their time back home. One exercise required them to write to someone they miss from home. One refugee ended their letter with "miss me forever," which stuck with Cross and became the inspiration for this recent work.

"I really liked it, especially the second story was kind of cool; it seemed very different than what we read about and read for in class, actually," said Sean Dolan, junior adolescent education major in English, following the reading. "It was kind of interesting to see how he chose to say things, and how I had originally read it and thought about it while I was going through it and what he focused on."

"I was a little nervous about the reception of it because it's kind of a new one but it was nice to sort of see people listening, and seeming invested," said Cross, of reading

"Miss Me Forever" for the first time. "So that was good, you know?"

Cross ended each reading with a smile, then conducted a second question and answer session where he ensured each and every student that they had asked a great question. The helpful advice was also intertwined with humor as Cross often poked fun at himself and his writing.

Following the question and answer session, a long line of inspired students wrapped around the lecture hall, eager for Cross to sign their own copies of *Fires of Our Choosing*. The signing took nearly an hour as Cross spoke personally to each student in line.

"I think Eugene is such a good fit for this program," said Gerkenmeyer, "Because he's so sincere about his relationship with other people in general, with other writers, but even more than that with other young writers and students. I think one of the things that's so telling about him was he was so nervous before his craft talk, he obviously knows what he's doing but he wanted to have the best conversation possible with you guys."

Cross left students and professors inspired by not only his talent and advice, but by his humble and gentle spirit.

"You never know what you are going to run into in the publishing world ... It's so important to remember that there are so many people that are just genuine in wanting to tell stories, and wanting to talk about stories, and wanting to help other people to tell stories," said Gerkenmeyer of Cross' humble disposition. "That's why I think he's such a good fit for this program."

Poet Eduardo Corral will visit campus on April 4, 2013 for the second installment of the Visiting Writers Program. The program will take place at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. in McEwen 202.

Fredonia radio nationally recognized for excellence



SEAN LAWLER/REVERB EDITOR

CHELSEA O'DONNELL AND JASON PATON ATTENDED THE INTERCOLLEGIATE BROADCASTING SYSTEM CONFERENCE AND WERE NOMINATED TO WIN AWARDS AT THE SHOW.

GARRETT ROBINSON
Special to The Leader

In the shadow of New York's broadcasting media professionals, Fredonia students left their mark at the 74th annual Intercollegiate Broadcasting System Conference (IBS). Fredonia Radio Systems was nominated for six categories, winning the award for Best Newscast.

Eleven members of Fredonia Radio Systems left town early on the morning of Friday, March 8, headed to Hotel Pennsylvania for a weekend of educational panels, meeting professionals in broadcasting and being recognized for their hard work in the studios here at home.

IBS is a nonprofit educational association and foundation founded in 1940, designed to educate college radio stations and help them grow. Each year, IBS hosts 200 educational seminars coast-to-coast featuring as many as 300 speakers and panel members with a goal to help colleges produce great radio programs. The focus of this year's conference was "new college radio," featuring panels on effective use of Internet radio broadcast, community involvement and much more.

A highlight of attending the conference is the IBS awards ceremony. Students at IBS-affiliated schools may enter to have their broadcasting work judged alongside that of their peers from the around the country. Hundreds of students from across the nation place entries for categories ranging from Best Sports Broadcast to Most Innovative Show in hopes of becoming one of the five finalists selected to be judged at the conference.

Among the Fredonians in attendance, five took home finalist awards in six different categories, and the Fredonia Radio Systems news staff was awarded first place for Best News Broadcast. Students with finalist awards were: Chelsea O'Donnell, Best Audio Radio Documentary; Caitlin Skellet, Best Specialty Program; Jeff Wick and Josh Axtell, Most Creative

Show; Jason Paton, Best Radio Drama, Best News Interview and Best On-Air Personality.

Jason Paton, sophomore radio production major and news director at FRS, accepted the award for "Best News Broadcast" on behalf of his news team. With a natural sense of pride and humility, Paton made sure to recognize his teammates for their contribution to this achievement.

"To get that [award] as news director was really encouraging," said Paton. "It says that we're doing something, if not a lot of things, very well. My staff was really happy to hear that. They really deserved that win."

Chelsea O'Donnell, senior audio production major, program director for WCVF and finalist in the category for Best Audio Radio Documentary, shared her experience at the conference.

"I really enjoyed just being in New York and being in that atmosphere," O'Donnell said. "Meeting the alumni and seeing where they are in the industry is always really cool."

As it turns out, Fredonia radio alumni aren't hard to come by. Paton told a story of how he met a family friend at a dinner that came wearing a WCVF T-shirt. He turned out to be a Fredonia radio alumnus from the 80s, eager to talk about radio and how the program has changed. He later mailed Paton the vintage shirt.

Many graduates have gone on to work for CBS and other stations in the New York area. In this way, the IBS conference has become a link for alumni to reunite with a program they fell in love with and a chance for current students to meet real professionals in the industry they want to work in. In today's job market, knowing the right people can be crucial to success, especially in the highly competitive broadcast media industry.

Students left the conference with more than some new knowledge and a little recognition. They brought home new pieces to life's puzzle and experiences that can't be taken away.

"There are people out there doing stuff just as

good or maybe even better than you are. You want to step up your game. It's humbling," said O'Donnell.

With these newly acquired perspectives they plan to move forward and continue to make Fredonia Radio one of the defining features of our campus and produce great radio programming.

To learn more about Fredonia Radio Systems, you can go to their general body meetings which are held on the ground floor of McEwen Hall on the first Sunday of every month. You can also stop by the station on the second floor of McEwen as someone will always be there to answer your questions.



SARAH D'HILLY/SPECIAL TO THE LEADER
MEMBERS OF FREDONIA RADIO SYSTEMS AND ATTENDANTS OF THE INTERCOLLEGIATE BROADCASTING SYSTEM CONFERENCE.

The Consul: a runaway performance

COURTNEE CESTA
Special to The Leader

Students in Mason Hall can relate to the feeling of apprehension that Joanie Snyder, cast member of *The Consul*, had when she brought back her aural skills to help her learn a very tough role.

Current SUNY Fredonia students and alumni performed alongside the Western New York Chamber Orchestra this weekend for a special operatic production of the show by Gian-Carlo Menotti. It is an American opera that combines the adventure of a fugitive husband with the detail of European political protest in one story that ended in tragedy. It is also the 1950 Pulitzer Prize winner for music and receiver of the 1950 New York Drama Critics' Circle Award for Best Musical.

Staging a concert opera is becoming a frequently utilized form of alternate opera presentation and, as seen this weekend, does not fall short of a complete opera performance. During *The Consul* the stage in King Concert Hall was simple with few set pieces; lighting changes and costumes were used to keep the story vivid, alive and moving. The use of props was also sparse, allowing the cast to recreate the scene and spark the imagination of the audience solely by acting and singing.

"The show relies a lot more on you as an individual rather than the props and set because there isn't really much in those terms," said Mokoto Winkler, a SUNY Fredonia music student cast as the Secret Police Agent. "It's up to us as actors to set up the atmosphere for the audience so they don't realize anything is really missing."

All around, the cast agreed that in this show, self-

determination was key. Joanie Snyder, a December 2012 graduate in vocal performance, played Magda.

"You have to learn to be more independent without relying on the people around you during something like this. It's harder but allows for more expression because you're not doing as much ensemble stuff," Snyder said.

Julie Newell, distinguished professor of voice at Fredonia and director of *The Consul*, defends the staged concert opera and its benefits for the actors as well as the audience. Newell said that instead of focusing on the large set pieces and scenery of a large opera, a concert version puts the focus on the music and fulfills WNYCO's mission of focusing on the music of opera as a beauty and an art form.

This was not the first time that Newell has been involved in *The Consul*. In fact, Newell attended Fredonia where her first major role in the Hillman Opera was playing Magda alongside fellow SUNY Fredonia graduate and current voice faculty member, Laurie Tramuta, who was cast as the secretary.

"I do have a personal attachment to the story, but it's performing in a production like *The Consul* that kicked my career into gear," Newell said.

Menotti's music for *The Consul* is American, which is not an easy task to perform when compared to more well-known operas like last semester's Hillman production of *Suor Angelica* and *Gianni Schicchi*. Because it is not as easily learned, cast members can identify with the kind of "kick" that Newell pinpoints.

"It took a lot more time practicing and getting it in my ear, so it's pushed me in a different direction to definitely work harder," said Cody Ray Caho, current School of Music student cast as Secret Police Agent for a performance later this week in Orchard Park.

"We are working in a professional atmosphere [with WNYCO], and it's interesting because the administration expects a higher standard."

The music may be more complex than a lot of other opera music but has proven to bring benefits in the end. The cast worked together three days a week since the end of January, which is much like the way a professional opera works. The mixture of current Fredonia students and of people who are out doing their own thing has brought together what Newell likes to call, "a dynamic family of Fredonia."

Working hard to meet the demands of this new type of music has already begun to pay off for Danielle Beckvermit, who is cast as Magda in the Orchard Park production. Beckvermit has been accepted to the Chautauqua Institution's Chautauqua Music Festival for this summer with her aria from *The Consul*. Beckvermit will perform in Mozart's *Don Giovanni*.

Featured in the production on campus were current Fredonia School of Music voice students Amanda Bottoms (Secretary), Leslie Ratner, Amanda Conte, Allison Deady, Jenna Margiasso, Tyler Mason-Draffen, Makoto Winkler (Secret Police Agent) and Shawn Romero. Also included are recent SUNY Fredonia graduates Joanie Snyder (Magda), Kyle Sackett and James Wright (John Sorel). Wright is also an adjunct faculty member at Fredonia as well as Canisius College.

Starring in the performance in Orchard Park are SUNY Fredonia students Danielle Beckvermit (Magda), Cody Ray Caho (Secret Police Agent) and Jillian Swanson.

The Consul is directed by Newell and conducted by Glen Cortese, the conductor of WNYCO. It is the final performance in WNYCO's 2012-13 Classics Series Season.

Holocaust Survivor has powerful message for college students

JORDYN HOLKA
Special to The Leader

With the physical framework of the Anne Frank-themed set looming in the background, an inspirational woman sat humbly in a chair and laid the powerful emotional framework for the theater and dance department's upcoming production of *The Diary of Anne Frank*. Holocaust survivor Sophia spoke in the Robert W. Marvel Theatre this past Friday to provide some firsthand insight into the experience of being a young Jew in hiding during the Holocaust.

All Fredonia students were welcomed to attend the lecture, but Sophia, who chose to be identified solely by her first name, was especially interested in speaking with the cast of the upcoming *The Diary of Anne Frank* production.

Sophia was a young Jewish girl living in Holland at the time of the Holocaust. Just like Anne Frank, she was forced to go into hiding at the age of 13. Both girls attended the same Jewish school, although they did not personally know each other. Rather than focusing on herself at Friday's lecture, Sophia really wanted to help the young actors in her audience to understand the intricacy of the truly human characters they would soon be taking on.

She explained that Anne Frank's case was extremely unique, as children rarely went into hiding with their parents. What was even more unique, however, was that Anne was allowed to write in her diary.

"If you went into hiding, you could not write anything so that, when the Germans rang the doorbell, they could not find any evidence that people were hiding," Sophia explained. She believes that Anne Frank's father allowed his daughter to write because he "thought that his hiding place was extremely good and they could survive the war."

When Sophia went into hiding, she was separated from her parents and forced to hide from place to place, in order to evade the Germans and appease whatever family or individual had agreed to take her in.

"If you went into hiding as a child without your parents, you immediately became a psychologist," she said. Sophia talked about the fact that Jewish

children in hiding immediately had to become adults and figure out how not to upset their hiders.

Throughout her lecture, Sophia made sure that she conveyed the innocence and naiveté of the Jewish children at the time of the Holocaust. In speaking with audience member Haley Beauregard, Sophia said that children of that time period never thought about sex or physical romance.

"We didn't even know how to do it then," she joked. According to Sophia, Anne Frank's physical attraction to Peter Van Daan in the play is an aspect added in by romantic Americans.

Beauregard, the senior acting major who will portray the iconic role of Anne Frank in Fredonia's upcoming production, found Sophia's insights and stories extremely helpful in the development of the character in her mind.

"What I've been struggling with personally in rehearsals is acting that age because it's completely different from a 12 or 13-year-old today," she said. "It was really great to hear it from a person's perspective who was that age at that time."

After all of the stories were shared and questions were answered Sophia had an important message she wanted her audience to walk away with.

"I don't want you to be bystanders," she said. "I am on a mission. I am a missionary, really." Changing roles from storyteller to teacher, she instructed her captivated audience that everyone is a global citizen who cannot live in isolation. She pointed out that, while college students today were not alive at the time of the Holocaust, they were alive and part of a society that has experienced 9/11 and other genocides worldwide. Sophia urged everyone in her audience to "prepare the world in your own way."

"The bystanders during the war—that is the most dangerous group," she cautioned. Sophia made it clear that she wanted everyone to get involved and make a difference in any way that he or she could. She explained that even if nobody listens, it would make that individual who decided to speak out a better person.

"When you look in the mirror, you like what you see because you had the guts to talk out," she



JORDYN HOLKA/SPECIAL TO THE LEADER
HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR SOPHIA POSES WITH CAST MEMBERS OF FREDONIA'S UPCOMING PRODUCTION OF "THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK."

encouraged. "You need to have something better than yourself and strive for it ... what a better place this world would be."

Dr. Jessica Hillman-McCord, director of *The Diary of Anne Frank*, was extremely pleased with the turnout and outcome of Sophia's visit.

"It's so crucial for people to have a first hand connection," she said. "It makes people realize how important it is." Hillman-McCord is extremely invested in the educational component of *The Diary of Anne Frank*.

"[Sophia] talked about not being bystanders, and I think that's the entire point of why we do a play like this," said Hillman-McCord. "It's so wonderful that we had such a big crowd and that they took that message away, and that's what we hope they'll do with the production, too."

The Fredonia production of *The Diary of Anne Frank* will be in Marvel Theatre on April 12-14 and April 18-20. Tickets are available through the Fredonia Ticket Office.

SPORTS

Wednesday
March 20, 2013

B-6
The Leader

Track star reminisces on success

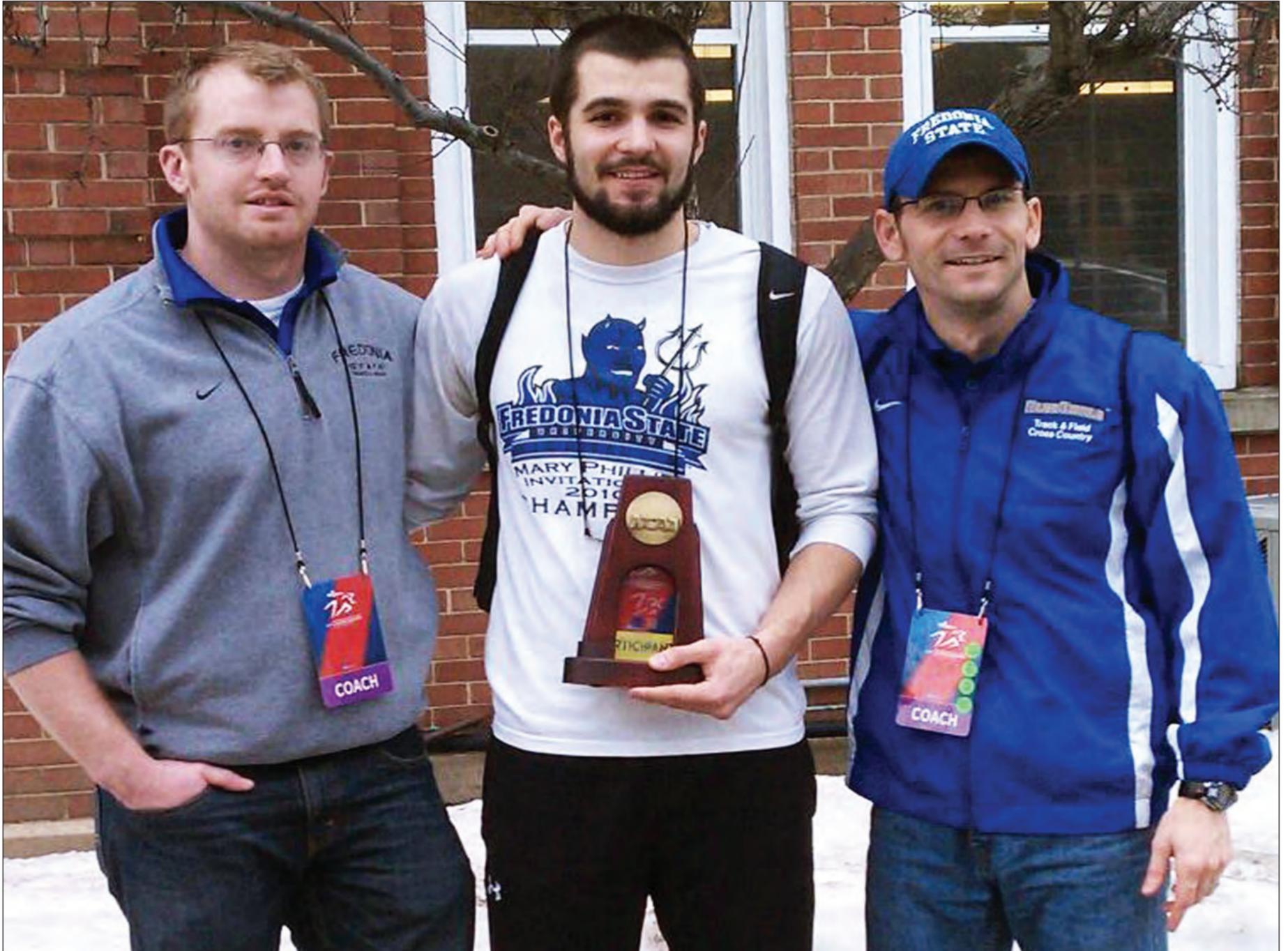


PHOTO COURTESY OF SPENCER LEFORT

ALL-AMERICAN SPENCER LEFORT WITH COACHES JUSTIN MCQUALITY TOM WILSON.

SARAH SADLER
Photo Editor

After earning the recognition of All-American during the men's heptathlon at the 2013 NCAA Division III track and field championship in Chicago, senior Spencer Lefort is nothing but humble about his achievement.

A heptathlon is a competition that is usually composed of seven events. However, after competing in the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) a week before, Lefort competed in 14 events within eight days. After taking third in the ECACs, he qualified for nationals among 13 other conferences. While at these competitions, Lefort broke the SUNYAC, ECAC and school records.

"It was really exciting," Lefort said in regard to the ECACs. "I didn't know I had broken a record until my coach grabbed me at the end of the 1000 meter and told me that I had broke the ECAC record." After finding out the news, Lefort said he was exhausted but thoroughly happy with his accomplishment. Although he didn't have much to say after the race, he still kept a big grin on his face.

Competing in the ECACs and qualifying for nationals was something Lefort always wanted to do.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SPENCER LEFORT

SPENCER LEFORT COMPETES IN THE NAAS.

Continued on page B-8

Spencer Lefort profile: Continued from B-6

However, prior to his time at nationals, Lefort endured three hamstring strains in three years.

His coach, Justin McQuality said, "For someone to come back from one strain and do the things he has is impressive, but to come back from three injuries is simply unheard of and just shows the internal drive he possesses to resist the temptation to give up and continue to fight for his goals."

Lefort's passion for track began his senior year in high school. He had originally played soccer, until a friend mentioned that he would succeed in the high-jump after seeing a picture of Lefort flying in the air on the soccer field.

Today, high-jump is Lefort's strongest event. "I like high-jump and pole vault. When you go over a bar without touching it, you feel happy before you even hit the mat," he said.

One of the biggest lessons Lefort has learned from track is how to interact with people. When there are 80 to 100 people on the team, he mentioned how

important it is to be able to get along with everyone at a polite and professional level.

"I can honestly tell you that I am more proud of his transformation as a more confident, outspoken person than I could ever be by his improved performance," said Coach McQuality. "We talk quite a bit about success being a by-product of our character in my training group and Spencer is definitely a perfect model of someone that worked hard to improve some of his character deficiencies and saw major improvements in his performance as a result."

Although Lefort spends much of his time on the track, he also works hard studying. As a triple major in business finance, accounting and economics, Lefort noted that he had to learn how to balance his time. As a result, he maintains one of the highest GPAs within the 80+ athlete program. He also holds the 2012 Male Chancellor Award and is a member of the 2012 U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association All-Academic Team.

When asked about what advice he would give to athletes who want to accomplish similar goals, Lefort said, "It's important to always believe in yourself and try as hard as you can. If you give up, there is really no chance. You've gotta stick with it."

Lefort is unsure of where he is going after he graduates from Fredonia. He has applied to some graduate schools and jobs and said that he will go wherever he feels fits best.

"It's been part of my routine and life for so long, I can't just stop it," Lefort said.

However, the end is inevitable for Lefort. It's likely that he will stop competing in multi-events like heptathlons and decathlons and focus more on individual events.

In regards to Lefort's future, Coach McQuality said, "My hope for any athlete I coach is that they find something and someone that they can love and are doing the best they can do to be the best person. I have no doubt that Spencer will do that."

Hockey "Superman" prepares to leave Devils

SEAN MCGRATH
Special to The Leader

They don't call him "Superman" for no reason.

Growing up in Calgary, Alberta, Mark Friesen was all hockey, all the time. Born into a typical Western Canadian family, it was as a goalie that he found his calling. He is the definition of a student-athlete; in addition to being the last line of defense for the men's hockey team, he is also a dean's list student.

"I was basically born with a hockey stick in my hand," Friesen said. "I had an awesome childhood with a really supportive family, really supportive parents. I'm really thankful for the childhood I had growing up."

Out of all the positions that any kid could have growing up, Friesen landed on goaltender. Starting off, he tried going with forward, a position that he said he could have just as well played, but he found his true calling between the pipes, suited with large pads, ready to back any team that skated in front of him.

But why?

"My uncle was a goalie. I saw it as a young kid and I wanted to go that way," Friesen said. "I begged my parents to do it, a lot of goalies do. It's not the cheapest thing to do. I'm thankful that I get to [play hockey]."

Now, general knowledge of a map clearly shows that Calgary is not as easy a drive as Fredonia to Buffalo. How did Friesen end up choosing little old Fredonia as the next step of his career?

"I was playing junior hockey in my hometown when TJ, the old Fredonia assistant coach, was on a recruiting trip when we had our showcase weekend," Friesen recalled. "He came up to me after our one game, gave me some information about here, and that started the contact from there."

But that wasn't the end of the contact.

"I was traded out to British Columbia; Coach Meridith called me every morning to kind of just touch base, so my choice to come to Fredonia was through constant contact with coach and his efforts in recruiting me here," Friesen said.

Coming to Fredonia, Friesen was thrown right into becoming a student-athlete, over 2,000 miles from home, and immediately began putting the team on his back, all as a freshman.

But hockey isn't everything. He isn't just a goaltender, he's a student and also a resident of Fredonia.

"My favorite thing here is tough to say, but my favorite thing is the amount of time I get to spend with my teammates on the ice together and off the ice, in the classroom and helping each other with homework. We really build up the relationship with the group of guys you're around," Friesen said.

What he and the other members of the team built is a family away from home.

In his hockey career, as well as any, there are definitely some great experiences you will encounter while being the last line of defense, the final hope, as a goaltender like Friesen.



MARK FRIESEN PROTECTS FREDONIA'S GOAL.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MARK FRIESEN

"Here at Fredonia, in my freshman year, I think a lot of the guys in my class would probably say, we traveled up to Oswego and beating them in overtime and go on to the finals, there were a lot of the fans in the stands that day and they were pretty quiet after all of that," Friesen said. "I'm really glad I got to experience that."

Off of the ice and soon to be away from here as he walks across the stage, Friesen has some commitments that will soon be fulfilled.

Over the past winter break, Friesen took a huge risk in what will soon turn out to be a great reward.

"I was sitting in my apartment here in Fredonia, and I've been debating it for a while now, and my girlfriend and I have been dating for about 5 years now," Friesen said. "I talked to my brothers and younger brother's girlfriend, and as soon as I landed in Calgary, she picked me up, called Tiffany's ahead of time, and put a ring on reserve."

That's right ladies, he popped the question. And just like that, he was locked down for good.

With all that is going on, with graduation on the loom, a new fiancé, and just getting everything set and ready to go, he is still set on continuing his hockey career.

With the student body behind him in support, Friesen

thanks all of the fans who came out.

But there was one thing that Friesen is truly grateful for.

"In between the second and third period, the band plays the Superman theme song, which really means a lot to me. I had a good friend who passed away when I was fifteen, and that's what the Superman on the back of my helmet symbolizes, and I'm really glad they picked up on it, it meant a lot to mean each and every time I came out," Friesen said.

His story refers to his friend and teammate Mike, whom he played hockey with. In 2005, Mike died from a heart defect while on the ice as he was trying out for a team back in Calgary. Friesen had a sudden realization when it all happened, as he looked down at his yellow wristband with his friends name pressed into the rubber.

"I really tried to take it into my life, that you could step on the ice one day and pass away, and I am really grateful that I can put on a jersey and step onto the ice, not knowing when you could pass away," Friesen said.

Throughout the years, Friesen has still remained close with Mike's family, even going as far as having Mike's mother help Friesen out with planning his proposal.

"That made me who I am today," Friesen said.



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Amanda Geiger never saw the drunk driver.

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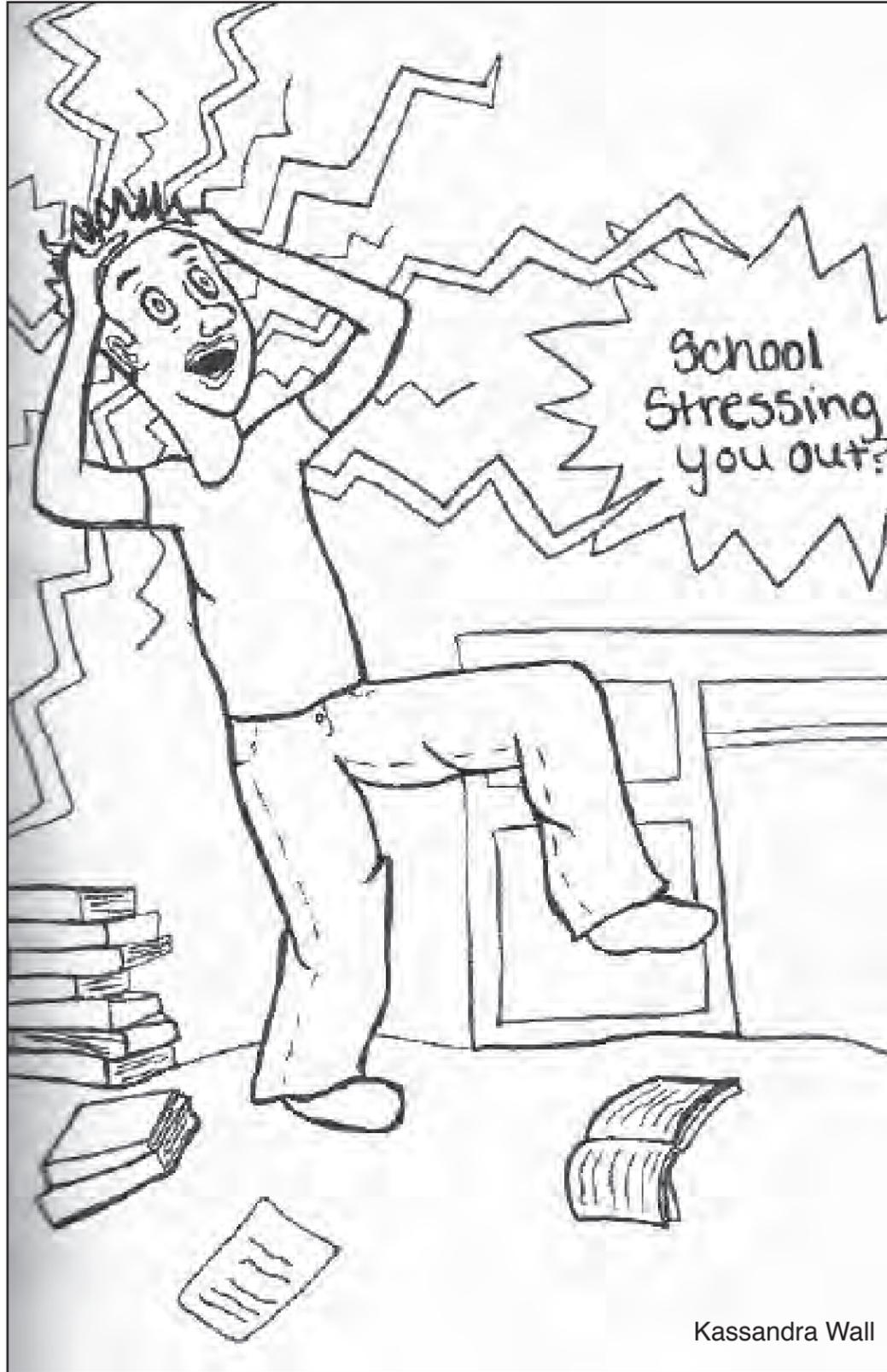
Photo by Michael Mazzaio

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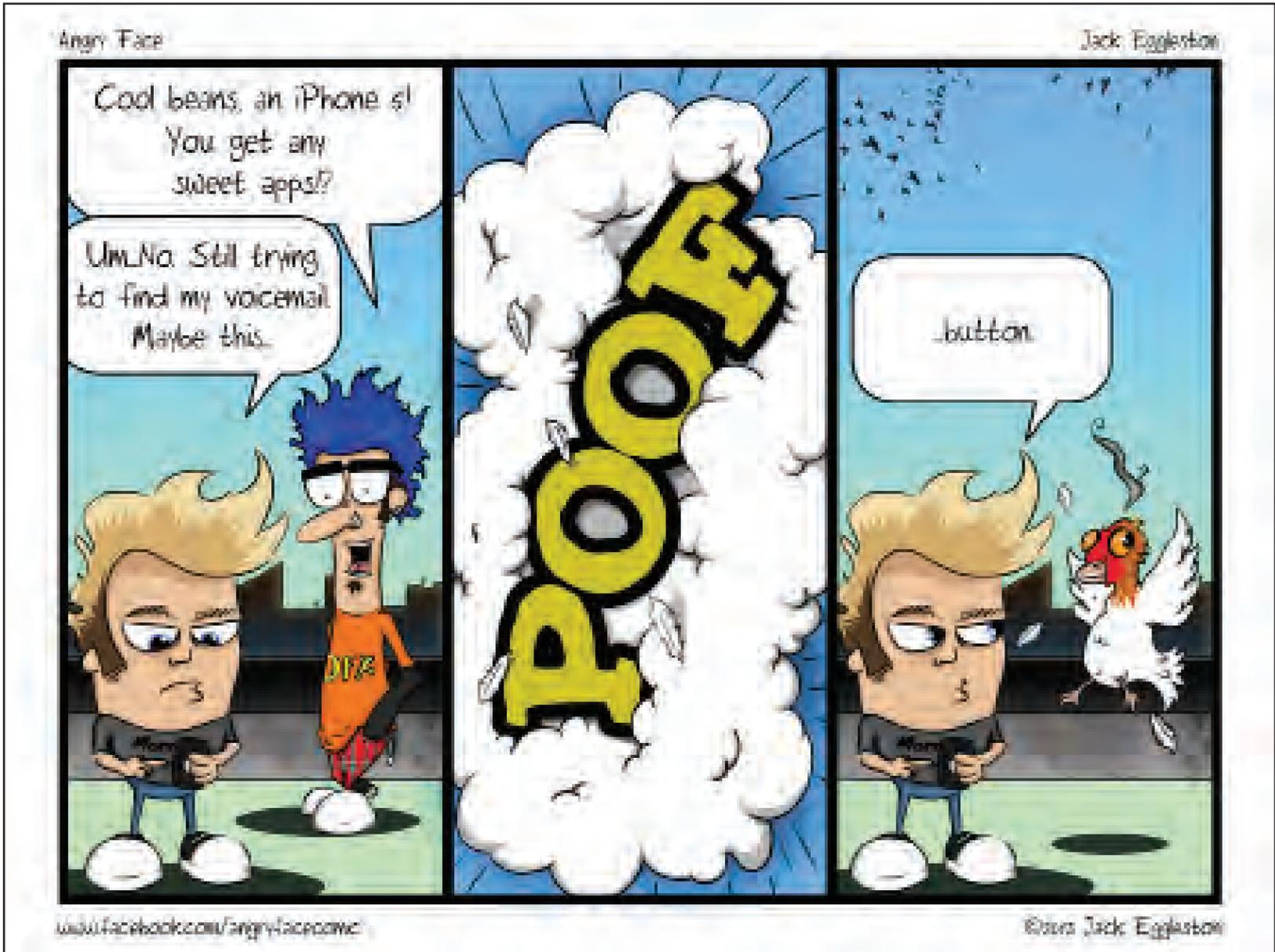


WAMPDOWN

Hey Fredonia, this is how I feel



LAMPPOON



“OVERHEARD AT FREDONIA”

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

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

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

Library hallway
 Girl: “She’s a slutty nerd!”
 Guy: “Nothing wrong with that.”
 Erie Dining Hall
 “Check this out! She put two exclamation points – she wants the D, guys.”

BJ’s
 Girl: “Can I pay in Fred Funds?”

Message in a bottle, found at The Creek:
 “What if Asians are just high all the time?”

Eisenhower Hall
 Girl: “I took my bra off and a bunch of dollar bills fell out.”

In class
 Professor: “Does anyone else see that extra white font? Anyone? I mean I did do acid, but I swear I’m seeing white font.”

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