



COURTNEY GFROERER / MANAGING EDITOR

DANCERS PERFORM IN CHRIS VICTOR'S CHOREOGRAPHED PIECE TITLED, "THE FUNERAL."

'Turn Out for What?!'

COURTNEE CESTA
Assistant Reverb Editor

Megan Klodnicki sat and watched last semester's Orchesis performance, thinking, "You guys could use some ballroom dancing."

This year, she took the stage with

friends, carrying out her vision in a special way.

Last weekend, the Orchesis Dance Company presented their semester performance, "Turn Out for What?!" where groups performed styles typical to Orchesis productions such as hip-hop, acrobatic and lyrical, but also introduced

the audience to the new, rather unexpected dance style of ballroom.

"I've gone to all of the Orchesis performances since I've been here," said junior visual arts and new media major Matt Sean. "You almost know that there is going to be jazz and some experimental stuff but seeing a ballroom dance was

definitely a surprise, especially because I didn't read the program before the show. But then, when I did read a little ways down on the program, I saw why the dance was chosen and what it was for and I was like 'oh, that's a nice gesture!'

See full story on B-2



COURTNEY GFROERER / MANAGING EDITOR

VICTORIA GRAY, DANCING IN "ROCK BOTTOM," PERFORMS WITH A TRIO. THE DANCE WAS CHOREOGRAPHED TO THE SONG "SOBER" BY PINK.



COURTNEY GFROERER / MANAGING EDITOR

"TOO DARN HOT" OPENS THE SHOW. AMANDA SANBELMO AND CHRIS VICTOR PERFORM A DUET IN THE DANCE.



COURTNEY GFROERER / MANAGING EDITOR

SYDNEY THOMAS TAKES CENTER STAGE IN "GUILTY PLEASURE," A PIECE SHE CHOREOGRAPHED HERSELF.



BLUE DEVILS
BASEBALL STRUGGLES
B-8

VISITING ARTISTS TALK
ABOUT STREET ART

B-1



Adjunct Spotlight:

Fredonia alumna, Laurito-Bahgat, provides “real-life, real-time connection” for students

CARL LAM
Senior Staff Writer

This series has introduced you to a number of working professionals in and around Chautauqua County that also find the time to teach here on a part-time basis. Attorney Stuart Shapiro, District Attorney David Foley and local realtor Joann Niebel are among some of the many working professionals. There's also a special connection between the three former profiles: they're all graduates of SUNY Fredonia and, in this issue, another talented adjunct joins that distinct group.

Louann Laurito-Bahgat is a native of Fredonia and an adjunct professor in accounting within the School of Business. She's been teaching here for seven years and actually owns her own firm along with her husband, Hosham Bahgat, who is also an adjunct professor as well.

You've probably passed the brick building, where their office is located, on your walks up and down Main Street to get to Upper Crust Bake House or P*Dubs. The firm Laurito-Bahgat and her husband started back in 1993 has, since then, experienced significant growth.

“From there, we bought out another practice, which was solely a tax practice, and it started from there. It started off with the two of us and now there's 20,” she said.

The accounting firm also provides a number of standard services including tax preparation, financial planning and auditing. If you work locally, you might have actually seen their name on your paychecks also.

“We also have a fairly large payroll practice. We've got a lot of the local market and we're strong competitors with ADP and Paychex in Chautauqua County,” Laurito-Bahgat said.

With over two decades of experience in accounting, Laurito-Bahgat said this wasn't the path that she was encouraged to take at first.

“When I was a little kid, I always loved to play school. My grandmother always told me, ‘You're going to grow up and be a teacher,’ and then I came to college here. I took a couple courses here in education and I realized that I can't write a paper,” she said. “I'm not a writer and education

wasn't going to work out for me because I knew that I couldn't write pages and pages of stuff.”

Her sister was an accounting major and Laurito-Bahgat wanted to know more about the field. She didn't take any business classes in high school and had no idea what accounting was going to be like.

“So I tried education and it wasn't my

different interaction with people. Not that my work at the office isn't refreshing because there's always something different every day,” Laurito-Bahgat said. “I get great job satisfaction at the office and here especially when I deal with students that I know are going to go somewhere and I know they're trying hard.”

As an entrepreneur and a small business

as they do, I don't go home at 5 p.m. and say, ‘Hey, finish up all that work and when you're done, let me know.’ I work with them hand in hand and I think that's why we have a good office as well,” she said. “We all work together and it's not a tiered ‘I'm the boss’ [system].”

Laurito-Bahgat thought back to when she was just beginning the practice and said there's one thing that's led to the success of the firm.

“When we started off, there was just four of us and we just had one filing cabinet. That was all of our clients and somehow we juggled paying the bills and employees on just one filing cabinet,” she said. “I have a whole file room now and how that happened? Hard work. That's all I can tell you.”

Associate Professor Kenneth Plucinski had Laurito-Bahgat as a student years ago and is glad to have her back on the faculty.

“It's great to have someone who is currently practicing as a CPA to be part of your staff because they just add a dimension to the program. It gives us a real-life, real-time connection to the accounting community that we wouldn't have otherwise,” he said.

Plucinski noted that the full-time faculty are no longer practicing certified public accountants and mentioned Laurito-Bahgat's expertise in auditing, a course that's critical for the CPA program here at Fredonia.

“Louann also has a special expertise that is used for a course that she teaches that none of the rest of us have,” Plucinski said. “We each have our specialties but that's kind of a subspecialty. That's important to us because that material is part of what needs to be covered for our five-year program towards CPA licensing.”

Laurito-Bahgat certainly had to explore for herself a bit when she came to college but came out doing what she truly enjoys. Her advice for current students echoes that same message.

“Find what you like, work hard at it, stay focused and know that there's nothing that comes easy for you,” she said. “You'll always have to work at it and even if it looks like someone has it easier than you, they probably don't.”



CARL LAM / SENIOR STAFF WRITER
PROFESSOR LOUANN LAURITO-BAHGAT IS AN ADJUNCT PROFESSOR OF ACCOUNTING IN THE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS.

thing but I took an accounting course and loved it,” she said. “I like numbers and I like solving puzzles. Accounting is about solving problems and you have to be very analytical.”

Fast forward to the present, and she reflects on returning to Fredonia to teach.

“So coming back here and getting this position, it fulfilled the rest of my dream. I didn't become a teacher by my degree but I got to be a teacher later on,” Laurito-Bahgat said.

She starts her day teaching accounting classes at 8 o'clock in the morning and during the peak of tax season works 70 hours a week. However, for her, these are two totally different jobs that provide two very different rewarding outcomes.

“It's a different kind of work than what I do at the office. It's refreshing and it's a

owner, Laurito-Bahgat shares the hard truth about being your own boss.

“I think when anyone starts a business that they have to realize one thing — it's not unlimited vacation, it's unlimited work. Everybody thinks when you own your own business, you're the boss,” she said. “You are — but if you want it to be successful, you have to treat your employees the way you want to be treated and you have to put forth as much work as you expect them to put forth because if you don't, I don't think you get respect.”

She also shared another valuable lesson about owning a business: it's all about how much work you, as the boss, and your staff are putting in.

“I have people working underneath me but I don't expect them to do any more than I'm going to do. So I work as much

Sigma Phi Epsilon hosts ‘Bald for Bucks’ fundraiser

JESSICA COLON
Staff Writer

Members of Sigma Phi Epsilon will be going bald.

Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity will be hosting “Bald for Bucks” on Tuesday, April 29 at 6 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room in the Williams Center.

Sigma Kappa sorority and this year's SA sophomore class representatives will be shaving heads of those who had signed up to prior to the event.

All participants have been raising money since the beginning of February. All money collected will be donated to the Roswell Park Cancer Institute of Buffalo. The donations will fund cancer research and prevention.

The event is open to the public with the purchase of a ticket for \$3. Tickets can

be purchased in the ticket office located on campus in the Williams Center.

“The philanthropy, ‘Goin' Bald for Bucks,’ was started by my high school U.S. History teacher, at Lake Shore Central Angola, NY, in 2002,” said vice president of Sigma Phi Epsilon and sophomore biochemistry major Phil Frankino.

According to Frankino, his U.S. history teacher, Tony George, had a sister, Cathleen, who was being treated for cancer.

“To support her he decided to shave his head with her while she was going through chemotherapy,” said Frankino.

“Some of his students decided to do it with him, and ‘Goin' Bald for Bucks’ was started,” said Frankino.

“Cathleen was receiving treatment at Roswell Park Cancer Institute, which is why all donations will be sent there,”

said Frankino.

Frankino brought this fundraiser to Fredonia last year as a freshman because he took part in the event in high school.

“Holding an e-board position, as vice president of finance, we are always looking for new philanthropies to help the community. Mainly, I wanted to participate in a philanthropy that benefited the local community, so after talking with Mr. George, we decided that we could pull it off here at Fredonia and help Roswell which is located down the road in Buffalo,” said Frankino.

Because this is the second year for “Bald for Bucks” on campus, Sigma Phi Epsilon wanted to get more people on campus involved. Compared to last year, more participants will be shaving their heads. Faculty members, as well as a few women, will be getting their heads shaved.

“As a campus, we are trying to raise \$5,000 this year, doubling the amount donated last year,” said Frankino.

A capella performances, one of which will be by the Guerillas, will take place throughout the night. FSA will be catering snacks and there will also be a signed Sabres hat up for raffle.

“I would highly recommend anyone and everyone to come to this event because everyone has known a loved one who has gone through the terrible battle with cancer,” expressed Frankino. “Not only does it take a toll on the patient, but it also puts a huge stressor on the family members who are by their side, worrying desperately. With everyone's help, we can be one step closer to a cure with more research opportunities.”

Relay for Life raises over \$30,000

MAGGIE GILROY
Reverb Editor

Colleges Against Cancer is currently planning a thank-you event for all who helped to make Relay for Life a success. The event raised \$30,199, and that number is expected to increase after checks from the Student Association come in from events and fundraisers.

“Our event was a huge success,” said co-organizer Amanda Sutter, a junior computer information systems major and co-chair of the April 12-13 event. “We had survivors attend who were students, faculty, Fredonia residents, siblings and parents. Many of them came up to me telling me how much they were enjoying the event.”

Sutter co-chaired the event along with Ellie Brion, a junior education major.

While participants were not required to stay at the event for the entire 12 hours, at one point in the evening there were nearly 500 people at the Relay.

“Our biggest success, in my opinion, was how many people actually stayed throughout the morning,” said Sutter. “Our closing ceremony had 100 people, where in previous years we had at most 30.”

Sutter explained that the one activity that didn’t go according to plan was the Chinese Lantern closing ceremony which had initially been planned to “light the sky with hope” at 3 a.m., but had been postponed due to weather. However, the lanterns will be sent up into the sky at the end of the year/thank-you event. Colleges Against Cancer will announce the date of the event soon.

Although this year’s event only recently concluded, Sutter will soon be beginning plans for next year’s Relay.

“We are hoping that teams who were new to our event this year will be eager and excited to participate again next year,” said Sutter. “They can expect a fun-filled event, but more importantly an event to honor and remember loved ones.”



RACHEL PRYCHODKO / SPECIAL TO THE LEADER
OVER 500 PEOPLE WERE PRESENT FOR THE EVENT.



RACHEL PRYCHODKO / SPECIAL TO THE LEADER
RELAY FOR LIFE WAS HELD ON APRIL 12-13.



RACHEL PRYCHODKO / SPECIAL TO THE LEADER
THE ANNUAL EVENT RELAY FOR LIFE RAISED OVER \$30,000.

Hillel sets up for Jewish History Month

S.L. FULLER
Assistant News Editor

Jewish History Month is nationally recognized in May. But since that month is usually crazy for college campuses, most recognize it in April. Formally known as the Jewish Student Union, Hillel has been holding events all month to celebrate.

“We were originally known as Jewish Student Union for the longest time, but two years ago we changed to Hillel. It’s actually an international organization, so we’re part of a larger group,” said Hillel’s president, senior early childhood education major Brittany Fischer. “I thought it would be a good change because ... I think a lot of people would be scared away by the name ‘Jewish Student Union’ because they think of the religion. We’re a culture club; we’re not a religious club.”

So far, the opening ceremony, a shabbat dinner and a movie viewing have taken place. To finish out the month, Hillel will hold Bin-GLOW on April 23, which is co-sponsored with Latinos Unidos; Matzo Ball on April 26, which will be held in place of a Ga-ga game; Jews Around the World on April 30, which will be an educational and recreational event and the closing ceremony will be another shabbat dinner, which will take place on May 2.

Junior social work major Nathalie Guzman heads community service for Hillel and is also the president of Latinos Unidos. All the clubs affiliated with the Center for Multicultural Affairs are eager to help each other and co-sponsor events.

“I’m not Jewish myself,” said Guzman. “I actually joined the group so I could learn more about the Jewish culture by immersing myself into it. I like learning about [Jewish culture].”

Guzman went on to say how the main goal of Jewish History Month is to raise awareness about the culture. Most people, when they think about Judaism, associate it with the Holocaust and World War II. But Fischer explained that the club purposely tries to stay away from that era when creating their events.

“We actually make a point not to make [the Holocaust era] not what we’re about because there’s so much other stuff,” said Fischer. “But we do try to bring in a Holocaust speaker every year.”

“We do still feel it’s a very important topic,” added sophomore English adolescent education major and Hillel secretary Matthew Rudoy. “[Bringing in a Holocaust speaker] is an opportunity that’s not going to exist anymore in the near future.”

The majority of Jewish History Month events are centered around education in different topics of Judaism. The cleverly named Matzo Ball is a dance that will



COURTESY OF FREDONIA.EDU

include music and food. Jews Around the World is focused on how far-reaching the culture really is.

“All the E-board members will have tables set up, and we all have a different country,” said Rudoy. “We’re focusing on sort of like Russian Jews, Chinese Jews, Iraqi Jews. People who are there get to go around to each table and learn about Jews all around the world.”

Guzman, Fischer and Rudoy all agree that the most important aspect of Jewish History Month is the opportunity to inform people about the Jewish culture.

“People tend to think of the [Jewish] holidays as a certain thing; they only know about the little matzos people eat during the holidays. But it’s not something they eat all the time,” said Guzman. “Other times people think that all the celebrations are just filled

with praying — that’s not always the case either.”

Fischer, who is from Long Island, said she didn’t realize how unusual it was to be Jewish until she came to Fredonia.

“I think diversity in general is important particularly on this campus and in this area. There’s not a lot of Judaism around here,” said Fischer. “We’re on a holiday right now and we’re not allowed off from school. My other friends on other campuses are like ‘Are you coming home for this really important holiday?’ and I’m like ‘I have school.’”

“I think [Hillel’s Jewish History Month events] are just a good combination of fun and educational things about a culture, a religion and a people that everyone tends to have only one idea about,” said Rudoy.



POLICE BLOTTERS

UNIVERSITY

Wednesday, April 16, 2014

A white iPhone was found in Houghton Hall. A report was filed.

Thursday, April 17, 2014

11:39 a.m. A backpack was found in Starbucks and turned in by an FSA employee and the owner claimed it.

Saturday, April 19, 2014

12:19 a.m. A backpack was found outside Mason hall. A report was filed.

10:35 p.m. Marijuana odor was coming from the second floor in Chautauqua hall. Alexander Kriefall, age 19, was arrested for possession of marijuana.

Thursday, March 20, 2014

Devon Wilson, age 20, was charged with burglary in the 1st, menacing in the 2nd and criminal possession of a weapon in the 3rd.

FREDONIA

Monday, April 14, 2014

Jarbari Noel, age 19, was issued an appearance ticket for noise ordinance.

Jacob McCoy, age 21, was issued an appearance ticket for noise ordinance.

Zachary Jones, age 19, was issued an appearance ticket for noise ordinance.

Joel Vandick, age 22, was issued an appearance ticket for noise ordinance.

Sunday, April 21, 2014

Jennifer Sheffield, age 23, was charged with petit larceny.

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

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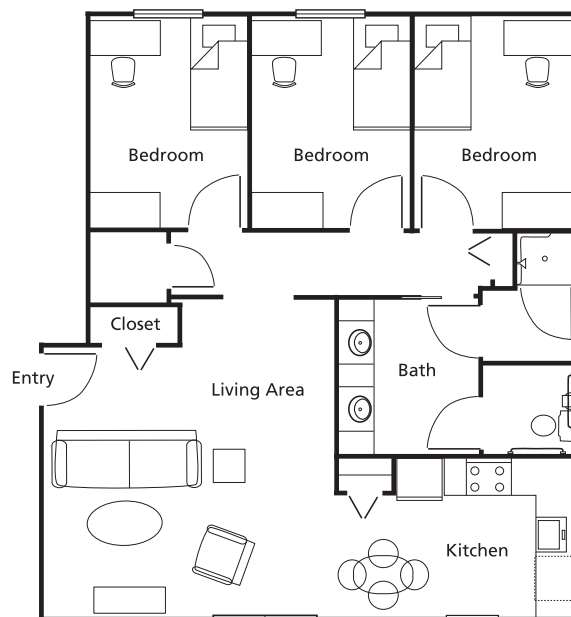


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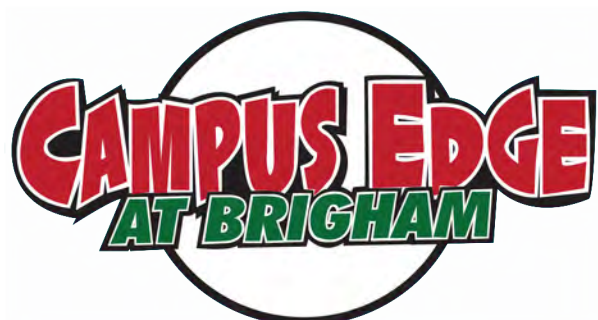
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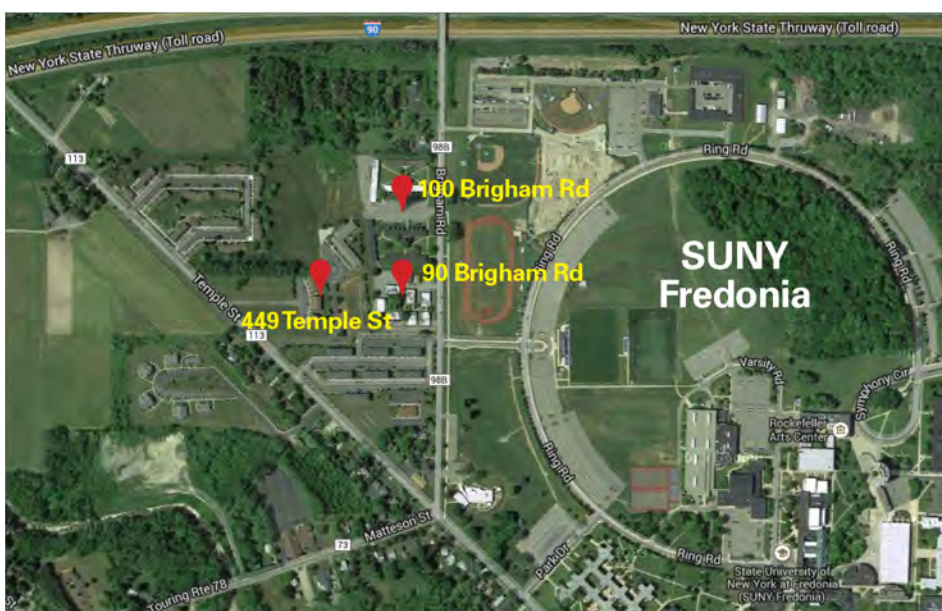


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- Is there a full time office staff available for any of your needs, including a place for all your printing, faxing and copying needs?
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OPINION

Wednesday April 23, 2014

The Leader A-6

Think b4 u txt

New York State has been cracking down on texting and driving recently. In a statement released April 9, 2014, Governor Cuomo announced stricter laws for young drivers who are caught using a mobile device while driving.

While it may seem like common sense not to text and drive, the government is making it illegal. For the first offense, drivers 18-years-old and younger will have their license suspended for 120 days. If they commit the offense a second time, they will have their license suspended for a full year. These new laws will take effect beginning Nov. 1, 2014.

Apart from suspension, laws already in place include maximum fines of \$150 for the first offense, up to \$200 for the second offense and up to \$400 for the third or subsequent offenses.

Though the law is aimed at "texters," the punishments are also applicable for other cell phone usage. According to an article in The Daily Star (Oneonta, NY), "Illegal activity includes using a portable electronic device and composing, sending, reading, accessing, browsing, transmitting, saving or retrieving electronic data such as email, text messages or web pages; viewing, taking or sending pictures; and playing games."

Though it is clear that texting and driving is detrimental to all other individuals on the road, it can be argued that a suspension of 120 days is too harsh for young drivers. Missing the equivalent of 120 days of school or college because of lack of transportation could result in failure. Likewise, missing work because of lack of transportation could result in the immediate firing of an employee. The suspension of one's license for this amount of time could prove to be extremely detrimental. While it is understood that it is the convicted individual's own fault for committing the act, the punishment of a 120 day suspension could be seen as too harsh by some.

While the current millennial generation has a bad reputation for dependence on their phone, adults and baby-boomers are often guilty of this as well. Why don't these strict punishments apply to them, also?

"Operation Hang Up," a strategy created by Cuomo last year to try to discourage texting and driving, was campaigned once again this month.

According to Gov. Cuomo's release, during the last "Operation Hang Up" campaign from Nov. 27, 2013 to Dec. 1, 2013, "State Police issued more than 875 tickets. More than 625 tickets were issued for talking on a cell phone without a hands free device while driving and more than 250 of the



tickets were for texting or using an electronic device while driving."

This causes us to wonder, are they issuing these tickets because there are hundreds of drivers texting on the road? Or, is it another way to bring in money for the state?

While the law appears strict, those who have lost loved ones to texting drivers may feel otherwise. As many accidents are caused by texting on the road, it is clear that guidelines must be made in order to prevent serious injuries or death. However, the level of strictness of these guidelines is up for debate.

Currently there is speculation of the harshness and effectiveness of the law; however, it is much too early to determine whether or not it will make a difference on the roads. It will take several months for the law to be in effect to determine if it truly will diminish the number of texters on the road. Until then, we suggest that you keep your phone in your pocket and eyes on the road.

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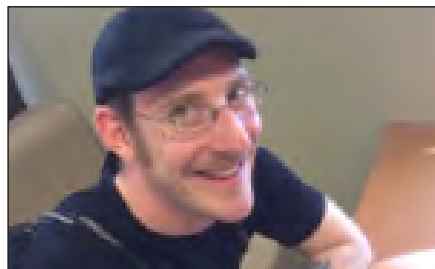
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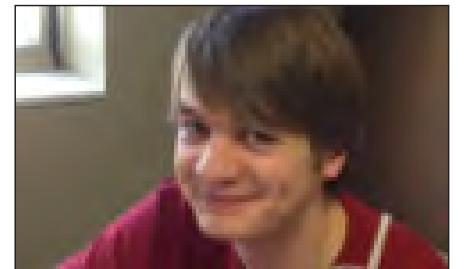
Associated Collegiate Press

What do you think about registering house parties for Fred Fest?



Garrison Koehler
junior business finance

"I think it will be a great way to keep it under control, that way they at least get a call to try and calm everything down."



Matthew Vonderlin
sophomore sound recording technology

"I think registering parties is a good idea because people are going to party and it seems like a good way to keep them under control."

FROM THE DESK OF...

SARAH SADLER

LAYOUT EDITOR

M Y S T O R Y

I walked around campus just as the sun was setting the other day. I took it all in, the way everybody has been telling me. I breathed in the memories of the past and exhaled what's to come in the future.

That's when it hit me the hardest.

That feeling you get when you realize something is coming to a bittersweet end. That pit in your stomach, that ache in your heart and that relentless worry in your mind. Any previous excitement I had about graduating seemed to be clouded by complete and utter panic as I wandered around Fredonia.

I realized that I'm not quite ready to let go of this place. And believe me, I never thought that I would be one to hold on so tightly. I always imagined that I would be the kind of person who would embrace change. I used to think that would be the most courageous thing to do, but you know what?

The most courageous thing a person can do is admit they're afraid.

I'll say it loud and clear: I'm afraid of the unknown. I'm afraid that my final plan of action is coming to an abrupt halt. And for the first time in my life, I don't know what's ahead of me, but I do know what I'm leaving behind.

I could easily talk about all the memories I've made here.

I could write of the numerous times I've spent walking back to Igoe Hall in the pouring rain, my Converse getting more and more soaked with every step.

All the Mondays I've spent creating this very newspaper alongside some of the most dedicated people I've ever met. And the amount of pride it brings me to design every precious page, knowing that I'm part of something so much bigger than myself.

The countless hours spent talking with one of my closest friends at Cranston until we were asked to leave because time had escaped us. He's one of those rare people in the world that just seem to "get it."

I could talk about the moment I realized my roommate was so much more than a best friend — the sister I never had. I believe soulmates come in many forms. She's without a doubt mine.

I could even talk about how the simplicity of photographing my friends jumping into a pile of leaves has become one of my favorite memories of all.

These memories are the easy ones to talk about. I could write pages and pages about all the good that Fredonia has given me, but it's the tough stuff that matters most. It's the stuff that interrupted my idealized vision of how college was "supposed to be."

And I think that's exactly what's getting in our way. We're so caught up in what college is supposed to be like, that we often lose sight of what's actually happening.

For every year that I've been here, I've been given pieces to an overall picture. A picture that I'm still trying to see in complete focus. The greatest, and most difficult, memory I can talk about is how Fredonia has helped me navigate the cracks and crevices of myself.

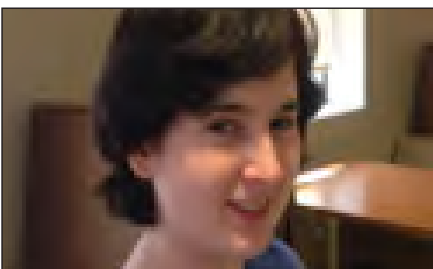
It has shown me exactly where my comfort zone is and just how to get out of it. It wasn't an easy push out of that familiar place either. It was scary, and different than anything else I had to experience until this time in my life.

This lesson came in many forms while I've been at college, but particularly through an unexpected person. A person who made me grow more than I could've ever imagined.

These kinds of people make us see that we're meant for so much more than where we're stuck — showing us that we deserve better. And although their hand may fit effortlessly within our own, it doesn't always mean they are supposed to be permanently laced into our lives.

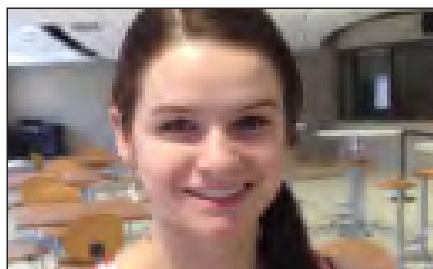
As my walk around Fredonia was coming to an end, I could feel myself loosening my grip. I could feel myself getting pushed out of my comfort zone all over again. I wasn't holding on so tightly to all those memories, the hard lessons learned, but instead, focusing on what's right in front of me.

As I look back on these past years, I know that these are only the beginning chapters to a story that I've just started to write.



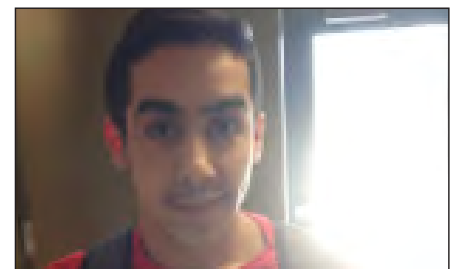
Kayla Brown
sophomore photography

"Even though I don't really party, I think it is a good idea to warn people ahead of time."



Melyssa Shively
junior biochemistry

"I think that it's a good concept, but I don't think they will get the support of people registering their parties."



Cody Castro
junior media management

"I think it is a good idea for them to keep track of what is going on around the town, just to prevent it from getting out of control."

— Photo Page —



MELISSA RECHIN / PHOTO EDITOR

"COMEDY OF ERRORS" WILL HAVE TWO MATINEE PERFORMANCES THIS FRIDAY AND SATURDAY IN THE AMPITHEATRE. SEE FULL STORY ON PAGE B-3.



COURTNEY GFROERER / MANAGING EDITOR

SYDNEY THOMAS'S "GUILTY PLEASURE" OPENS UP THE SECOND ACT OF "TURN OUT FOR WHAT?!" FEATURING A MEDLEY OF SONGS. STORY ON PAGE A-1.



COURTNEY GFROERER / MANAGING EDITOR

FRIENDS AND FAMILY CONGRATULATE ORCHESIS DANCE COMPANY MEMBERS ON THEIR SPRING SHOW. PICTURED ABOVE IS DANCER ADAM ALI. SEE FULL STORY ON PAGE A-1.



COURTNEY GFROERER / MANAGING EDITOR

ORCHESIS DANCE COMPANY PRESENTS "TURN OUT FOR WHAT?!" THE UNIQUE SETTING OF THE MULTIPURPOSE ROOM IN THE WILLIAMS CENTER ALLOWS THE AUDIENCE TO GET AN UP-CLOSE-AND-PERSONAL EXPERIENCE WITH THE DANCERS. SEE FULL STORY ON PAGE A-1.

Out of the gallery and into the streets

Photo installation to be held by visiting artist

HANNA NEUMANN
Staff Writer

The department of Visual Arts and New Media stepped out of the gallery scene and provided a theme focused on urban street art last Thursday.

Associate Professor Dr. Leesa Rittelmann is the faculty facilitator of the Visiting Artist Program, which is required for all art studio and art history majors each semester and also open to the public. Rittelmann, to complement a course she is teaching called "Graffiti, Guerrilla, Street Art," brought in a panel made up of three young artists and filmmakers to SUNY Fredonia to share their experience in the art world — an experience focused on street art.

"VAP lectures often feature mid-to-late career artists with a vast body of accomplished work. I wanted to bring in younger artists who could share the path they're pursuing just out of undergrad and grad school that our students could connect and identify with," said Rittelmann.

The urban art form of street art is a medium that is not always recognized as being part of the art world. Street art, however, provides a larger means of functioning as an avenue of communication to a larger and more accessible audience than art typically found in a gallery. The panel provided various views on street art both locally in Buffalo, New York, and internationally in Manila, a city in the Philippines.

"Although VANM is an academic art department charged with providing students with exposure to traditional fine art media, techniques and history, it's vitally important that students are also exposed to possibilities beyond the art academy," said Rittelmann. "Street art is part of a DIY [do-it-yourself] culture that offers a cheap, relatively easy way for artists to express themselves outside the world of juried art exhibitions," she continued.

Thursday's panel consisted of two filmmakers, project directors and producers of the Filipino Street Art Project, Kim Dryden and Austin Smith, as well as a Buffalo based photographer/street artist, Max Collins. Topics such as the distinction between graffiti and street art, legal issues and the ephemeral nature of street art were covered, along with others.

The Filipino Street Art Project consists of film, multimedia art and community engagement, and it involves a whole lot of creativity.

"We are trying to tap into the creative and sometimes politically-charged art that finds its way onto city walls, subway stops and abandoned buildings," Dryden and Smith state on their website. "By examining

this movement, we ask, 'Why is street art taking off around the world, and especially in developing countries? Why do artists continue their work on the street when they have traditional, paying careers? Why and

the editors and the directors and talking to them. Also getting a better perspective on what they're focusing on and what they experienced when they moved to these areas," said Emily Breedlove, senior BFA sculpture major.

Collins, a recent college graduate, brought a different perspective to the audience by showing his first-hand experience with making street art in Buffalo. Although he is known first as a photographer, Collins has recently been experiencing the expanding art forum of street art in Buffalo.

"I have a conversation with the community," said Collins when talking about his work. Most of his work deals with a social issue that he

is trying to address with the subject matter and location the work is presented.

"I've honestly reconsidered my need to leave the country because of Buffalo. You know, I've heard a lot of hype around Buffalo about being an art community that is growing and becoming a sought out location," said Alex Glazier, a junior visual arts and new media major. "I think Max gave a very good representation of that today. It is interesting how they [the local and international perspectives of the panel] complement each other," he continued.

The panel showed an array of perspectives on the theme of street art that left the audience wanting more.

"I think it's important for students to see in-process work like Kim Dryden's and Austin's Smith's documentary film on Filipino Street Art in addition to the kind of finished works like those Buffalo photographer/street artist Max Collins shared in the lecture," said Rittelmann. "I hope they're inspired to think of the ways they might intervene in mainstream visual culture by creating street art of their own," she continued.

Although the panel has concluded, Fredonia's street art experience is not yet over.

Three student groups in Dr. Rittelmann's

ARTH 440 Graffiti and Street Art course will create their own projects. Their projects will be comprised of portrait photographs of Fredonia students, downtown residents (homeowners) and shop owners. Subjects will be asked to adopt a facial expression reflecting their attitude toward Fredfest.

Although the exact location of these campus projects hasn't yet been determined, installation is scheduled for Wednesday April 30. Collins will also return to install a large-scale installation in the week prior to Fredfest. Keep your eyes peeled and stay tuned.



COURTESY OF LEESA RITTELMANN
EMILY BREEDLOVE AND SHAUNA BECKSTEIN PREPARE A PHOTOGRAPH AT MAX COLLINS'S WORKSHOP OUTSIDE OF ROCKEFELLER ARTS CENTER.

how do street art scenes evolve, and is that okay?"

This project consists of two full-length documentaries, an interactive website and various videos, articles and photos.

But, why street art?

Dryden and Smith focused on street art due to it being accessible, approachable and populist. They emphasized that street art is cheap to make, free to consume, widespread, public and non-elitist.

The international location of this project is the Philippines. Dryden and Smith focus on this location due to it being the fastest growing economy in Asia, the government corruption, as well as it being in a transition of huge sociopolitical change. What they were looking for and asking from the street artists in the Philippines was: who are these artists, what compels them to create, what does their art say and how does it reflect culture? A few examples of street artists that they shared with the audience were Brian Barrios, Lee Salvador and Dee Jae Paeste, who are all from various socioeconomic backgrounds.

"It's like watching a documentary in a real life form because you're meeting



COURTESY OF LEESA RITTELMANN
MAX COLLINS, KIM DRYDEN AND AUSTIN SMITH HOST A Q&A SESSION AFTER THE PANEL DISCUSSION.

“ Why is street art an important topic to bring to SUNY Fredonia? ”
An interview with Leesa Rittelmann

1) It is one of the fastest growing global contemporary art movements both within the "official" art world of museums, galleries and urban art festivals and outside the art world proper as an urban, DIY and guerilla approach to art making that anyone can participate in.

2) Street art is one of the few truly global artistic movements — there are individual artists and collectives in nearly every global urban center — and the only movement that offers disenfranchised citizens and artists to have a voice and visibility within dominant mainstream culture.

3) Street artists are typically young — in their teens and twenties — and as such, produce more innovative and less academically mediated images and techniques.

4) In a world increasingly dominated by corporate advertising, street art is an important venue for artists to intervene in, "take back," or create an alternative discourse in the public sphere.

5) Unlike traditional graffiti, street art is typically intended to be less destructive and more ephemeral. Although many Street artists do still work with spray paint — especially sprayed stencils — many others work in less destructive media, like the wheat paste posters my seminar students are planning to install on campus.

'Turn Out For What?!': continued from A-1



COURTNEY GFROERER / MANAGING EDITOR

"BALLROOM GLAMOUR," CHOREOGRAPHED BY MEGAN KLODNICKI, WAS A PIECE DEDICATED TO THOM DEAN. CHRIS VICTOR AND KLODNICKI BALLROOM DANCE TO A TRIO OF SONGS.

Klodnicki choreographed "Ballroom Glamour" as a dedication to Thom Dean, a SUNY Fredonia student who passed away last November.

Klodnicki had spent two years with Fredonia's Ballroom Dancing Club when she spotted Dean at the Fall 2013 activities night and right away pegged him exactly as the kind of person that many other students saw him as — friendly, big-hearted and open-minded.

"I met him that night and said to him 'you look like you're someone who could waltz' and he said 'oh yeah, sure' like he just thought 'whatever,'" Klodnicki said.

Dean never joined the club, but he did take a one-time lesson from Klodnicki, during which she taught him basic waltz steps and a few turns. After that, Klodnicki joked that Dean would pass the club's room at exactly the same time every week, just as the club was gathering.

"I would joke with him, saying 'you know, it's funny that you walk by at 8 o'clock every week, just as ballroom is starting. Why don't you join?'" Klodnicki said.

Typical to Thom's humor, he would reply with a sarcastic, "I'm sorry that you're infringing on my Tim Horton's time."

As Klodnicki taught Dean, Dean taught Klodnicki. Although it's not exactly Waltz material, Thom was an expert at "Jazz hands," and was persistent that they utilize his best skill.

"Even before I first taught him how to waltz, he said, 'All I know how to do is jazz hands,'" and would show me. And I would just be like, 'No, Thom. Just no,' Klodnicki said.

But, as a tribute to Dean, Klodnicki choreographed the opening of the piece with Thom's favorite dance move.

The show went on with an uplifting feeling rather than sorrowful remembrance, with the audience hooting and hollering

until the end. "Turn Down For What?!" featured two different dances by Fredonia's newest Irish dance company.

The only solo in the show, Orchesis Dance Company member Adam Ali danced in "Something Lost." The dramatic lighting set the mood for the piece where Ali was able to show off his strength through various acrobatic skills incorporated into the dance.

A piece choreographed by senior Sydney Thomas titled, "Guilty Pleasure" was a crowd favorite. Thomas, president of Orchesis Dance Company, performed in the piece herself. Wearing '90s inspired flannel, the all-female cast danced to a mashup of songs by popular artists including Mariah Carey, S Club 7, Christina Aguilera and Avril Lavigne. The nostalgic songs made for an energetic, upbeat opening of the second act.

"300" was created by guest choreographer Vivake Khamsingsavath from New York, NY. The dance featured a large cast of 15 individuals who performed a strong, powerful piece to Kanye West's "Black Skinhead."

Dancers jazzed, hip-hopped and boogied their way through more than a dozen pieces for a packed house each night.

While the Multipurpose Room may not have been the best location for audience seating, spectators didn't let obstructed views impede a good time. Both students and adults sat, stood or climbed to wherever they could, as chairs became stepping stones and the floor became a sea of people, all to compete for the best view.



COURTNEY GFROERER / MANAGING EDITOR

DANCERS PERFORM TO SONGS BY MARIAH CAREY, S CLUB 7, CHRISTINA AGUILERA, AVRIL LAVIGNE, BAHAMEN, SISQO, BRIAN MCKNIGHT AND CHUMBAWAMBA IN "GUILTY PLEASURE."



COURTNEY GFROERER / MANAGING EDITOR

"UP AND DOWN" CLOSES OUT THE END OF THE FIRST ACT OF ORCHESIS DANCE COMPANIES SPRING SHOW, "TURN OUT FOR WHAT?!"

Shakespeare invades amphitheater

KRISTEN SHULTIS
Staff Writer

The amphitheater will come alive with a Shakespeare comedy this week. The Performing Arts Company will put on "Comedy of Errors" in the amphitheater outside Reed Library. This production is about two characters who look for their twins and a series of events occur.

The amphitheater is located between Mason and McEwen Hall. The outdoor venue has much fewer accommodations than the spaces on campus located indoors, causing the company to have to be creative in the staging. Ryan Glynn, senior acting major and director of the production, explained that the show requires some quick paced, as well as surprise, entrances and exits; the amphitheater provides challenges in executing this.

"Since we have no actual stage the audience will see the performers coming down the stairs. Usually these are supposed to be more surprising entrances," said Glynn. There will be many twists and turns in this.

Performing outdoors also forces the actors to tailor their performances to the venue.

"Also, simply by being outside, we've had to work to create a playing style that is very large and broad so we can compete with the vastness of the natural scenery that surrounds us," said Glynn.

The comedy features many fights, in the form of hand-to-hand combat, between the servants and other characters.

"The performers in this production all have certification through for stage combat, and there is a lot of that that occurs in this play," Glynn said.

Glynn explains that this was written as a form of pure entertainment.

"I liken the show to a cartoon TV show all the time, in terms of how broad and outrageous it is ... but rather than

a Saturday morning cartoon, it's more in the vein of Family Guy or Bob's Burgers," said Glynn — "not really a lot of moral high ground."

The play was written to showcase

some of Shakespeare's actors' special talents, and it was originally performed in bars. "This gives you a hint at the type of audience that it was originally written for," said Glynn.

"However there are themes that keep coming up: specifically belongingness," said Glynn. "Every character in this play is bound to one, or more, other characters. They talk about how their identity is based in other people."

The play was deeply influenced by Commedia dell'Arte. The Performing Arts Company is also making some facial prosthetics to suggest the commedia masks that are typically worn when performing in the style of Commedia dell'Arte.

"This is one of the more experimental elements of the production, which is important as this is the PAC Spring Experimental," Glynn said of the prosthetics.

Glynn advises audience members to bring pillows or blankets if they do not wish to sit on the bare concrete seats, and to wear sunscreen as there is no shade. The tickets are "pay what you can" and can be purchased at the ticket office.

"Honestly, the actors go out there and just have a blast. The show is high energy, and crazy funny, and the actors just have a ball with it," said Glynn. "It's great to watch them get so enthused by the material."

This show takes place Friday and Saturday April 26 and 27 in the amphitheater at 2 p.m. with a special pre-show, consisting of a variety of material generated by the actors, at 1:35 p.m. There will be a similar show taking place during intermission.

"This is in the spirit of the plays of Shakespeare's time, where going to the theatre was an event, rather than one show," said Glynn. "Between the acts the actors would play music, juggle, dance or [perform] any sort of exposition of skill. We've gone a little bit further with it, but the spirit is still the same. I think the audiences will really enjoy it."



MELISSA RECHIN / PHOTO EDITOR

ALEXA LINDBERG AND JENNA VZINA REHEARSE THE FINAL SCENE OF "COMEDY OF ERRORS."



MELISSA RECHIN / PHOTO EDITOR

THE CAST OF "COMEDY OF ERRORS" WILL BE PRESENTING TWO MATINEE PERFORMANCES ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY.

'The Shape of Things' to open this weekend

REBECCA HALE
Staff Writer

The final production in the Walter Gloor Mainstage Series, "The Shape of Things," is set to premier this weekend in Bartlett theatre. "The Shape of Things" is a small and modern play with only four cast members, making it a very intimate and relatable show.

The play, written by Neil LaBute, is set at Mercy College in a small town and stars nerd Adam Sorenson, played by Kevin Stevens; Evelyn Ann Thompson, an artsy girl played by Danielle Izzo; Philip, Adam's friend, played by Nick Stevens and Jenny, Philip's girlfriend, played by Taylor Sheehan.

After Adam becomes smitten with Evelyn, they begin dating, but Evelyn convinces Adam to change his lifestyle in order to become more attractive. Philip and Jenny approve and are happy for Adam at first but, after a while, things begin to get out of hand.

Izzo, a junior dual acting and dance major, commented on Evelyn's personality and role within the show.

"She has a fiery personality. She's very passionate about her views as an artist. It's been fun to play Evelyn because of her aggressive personality," she said.

William Verno, a junior majoring in both

business administration and theatre arts, is stage manager for "The Shape of Things," and gave a little insight to technicalities of the production.

"The play is extremely contemporary, so, during the designing process, we wanted to go with a super contemporary theme while still being functional. The principal characters first meet in a museum, so we have an exhibit-like motif and feeling going on throughout the entire show."

He also noted that two unique aspects of "The Shape of Things" include sound design by Colin Braeger and lighting design by Justin Petito.

"The music for this show is upbeat and will certainly have you moving in your seat. With such a minimal set it brings so many awesome opportunities for lighting, and Justin definitely delivers."

Director, Dr. Jessica Hillman-McCord, also commented on the unique set design, which is similar to an art exhibit.

"The set is really a work of art in itself, appropriate for a play which deals with questions about the nature and morality of art."

She also explained why she chose to direct this play as the final Mainstage show.

"Neil LaBute, the playwright, is one of the most exciting contemporary playwrights working right now, so I wanted to direct one

of his plays," she said. "He always writes provocative, fascinating plays that push our boundaries and ask important questions, and 'The Shape of Things' is one of his best works, in my opinion."

Since the play is within a college setting and is about students who all have different personalities, it is very relatable to students at SUNY Fredonia.

"College students would enjoy it because it's about a group of college students," Izzo said.

Sheehan, junior BFA acting major continued. "The style is very conversational and it's very easy to follow along and relates to almost everybody in the cast because every character, to the naked eye, is one stereotype," she said.

"Jenny is the sweet girl next door and Philip is the cool, popular guy. Evelyn is the artsy one and Adam is the nerd, but if you delve deeper into each character, there's so much more depth than that," Sheehan added. "It's almost like there are parts of everybody in everybody else, and with the progression of the play, it's really the ending you're waiting for."

Izzo talked about the underlying themes beneath the seemingly innocent interactions between characters, but said that she didn't want to spoil the ending for anyone.

"It brings up a lot of really good

questions about morality, and I think that's interesting," she said. "It's one of those things where you're gonna walk away from it and question your own life."

The cast has worked hard and fast to put "The Shape of Things" together, as they only began rehearsals after spring break. Good Friday was the first time they were able to put everything together in Bartlett in their first tech rehearsal.

"It's been a very fast rehearsal period, which gives the actors challenges and a sense of real-world rehearsal pace," said Hillman-McCord.

The cast has had help, though, with Verno, Hillman-McCord, costume designer Noel O'Day and various technicians, including scene designer Chad Healy, lighting designer Justin Petito, sound designer Colin Braeger and props by Allen Wheaton and Patrick Fray.

"This has been the fastest experience I've been in but it's really pushed us to get our stuff together," said Sheehan.

"The Shape of Things" will play this Friday, April 25 and Saturday, April 26 at 7:30 p.m. as well as April 27 at 2 p.m.. Next weekend it will play May 1 and 2 at 7:30 p.m. and finally, May 3 at 2 p.m. in the Bartlett Theatre in Rockefeller Arts Center.

"It's literally a roller coaster in every scene," Sheehan promises.

Street style: the bohemian style

ALEXIS FORES
Staff Writer

Name: Eliana Ford
Year: Freshman
Hometown: Chicago, IL
Major: Music Therapy

What are you wearing?

Skirt: Forever 21
Sweater shirt: Forever 21
Jean jacket: Goodwill
Shoes: Urban Outfitters
Headband: American Eagle
Bag: Discovery

Although I do these interviews often, I've never been asked to be a part of a person's blog. Eliana Ford was one of the first who asked me to get footage of the pre-interview for her vlog (video blog) that will be featured on her YouTube channel (<http://www.YouTube.com/user/mylifeaselianaford>). After getting her footage, she was able to tell me her fashion story that she obtained from the Windy City.

AF: What do you classify your style as?

EF: If I had to classify it — I've been thinking about this too — it would probably be very bohemian. I love flowy things and things that kind of just mesh together and I like looking at bohemian clothing.

AF: Why do you dress this way?

EF: I think it is very important, as a musician especially, to be creative in how you express yourself, and I love putting pieces together. And I think it's the perfect way to express myself as a musician.

AF: What are your style inspirations?

EF: Anyone that pops up on my Tumblr feed typically, but also a lot of people back home. Chicago is definitely a great place for style and if I see something I like, I'm like

"Oh, that looks cool," and I try to replicate it in my own way.

AF: What are your favorite stores to shop at?

EF: Goodwill, because I am in college and have no money. Other than that, I love going to Urban Outfitters, Forever 21 and the typical stores everyone likes to go to. But if I spot anything in a store and I can make it work with something I have, I'll buy it.

AF: What is your favorite season to dress for?

EF: Summer because it is so much more inspirational. Just even now [the current weather in Fredonia], I feel like I can wear more of the clothing items I have in general. But in the winter, I feel like a bear and I hibernate my style to keep warm.

AF: What is the one clothing item you can't live without?

EF: Right now, it is the shoes I am wearing. I didn't have these before spring break, and honestly ever since I have been able to dress 5,000 times better. They're from Urban Outfitters, and they're not even mine. My friend was going to donate them, and I told her to donate them to me. Seriously, if you can find the right pair of shoes, you can make 5,000 outfits and be good with your life.

AF: What is your fashion story?

EF: I was always very tomboyish. As a kid, I wanted to look like a boy. But you know as you get older, you want to start looking like how you're suppose to present yourself, but I never wanted to lose that part of me, that different aspect. I don't know how to explain it, but I always knew that I was different. You will never see me in something pink. I love earthy colors. I love being able to be playful with it and messing around with it as well. I've always tried to be free with my style. I love looking at people

and getting inspiration from people who are also free with their style.

AF: What is your opinion on college fashion?

EF: Oh, college fashion. It could either [go] one way or another. There's a lot of people here, especially in Fredonia, that have great sense of fashion. New York is completely different, especially the kids that are from the other side of New York. I see a lot of cool interesting styles. Actually, that has inspired me even more because I've come from a completely different area than most of the people here. But then, there are some styles that should go away, like yoga pants — I'm not even afraid to say it. I think the one thing that people forget is that anyone can look good in a piece of clothing but to really dress for themselves. I think some people tend to forget how their bodies actually look in things because they want to fit in with what's trendy, what is in style and what's cheap and affordable.

AF: Chicago style vs college style?

EF: That is so hard to say. I definitely say that's really hard because everyone is from so many different places in New York. There's so many different cities and everyone has their own unique style. I see it, especially when some people out here are like, "I'm from this city," you can see different types of styles. I think if I had to describe Chicago's style, it's really laid back; it's like the people. We're really laid back people. We're very easy going and steady. And I guess that's how I would describe the style: It's very easy going. I love Chicago. I love the style I've acquired and being home seeing the different styles as well.

AF: Do you have any advice for college fashion?



ALEXIS FORES / STAFF WRITER
ELIANA FORD PRESENTS HER BOHEMIAN STYLE WARDROBE.

EF: Wear what you want. Don't let what other people wear or what you think other people think you should wear affect you because honestly, if it makes you happy, go for it. If you find something that you know will match ten items in your closet, just buy it. If it makes you feel happy, you're set.

Independent production brings the absurd to McEwen

MAGGIE GILROY
Reverb Editor

While the street art panel gathered in McEwen Hall for the Visiting Artist Program, a much smaller, but equally enthusiastic, crowd met next door. The eager audience attended the premiere of "All In The Timing," a series of One Acts by David Ives.

An independent project directed by senior theatre arts major Jessica Ames, the production was produced in conjunction with the Performing Arts Company Thursday and Friday evening.

"All In The Timing" consisted of Ives's five one-act plays performed by a small four person cast consisting of Mike Benoit, senior theatre arts major; Molly Waters, junior acting major; Dominique Kempf, junior theatre arts major and Michael Flanagan, junior theatre arts major.

According to the American Theater Wing, David Ives is an Off-Broadway playwright known most recently for his critically acclaimed full-length play, "Venus in Fur."

For "All In The Timing" Ames chose the one-acts "Sure Thing," "The Philadelphia," "English Made Simple," "Singular King of Guy" and "Philip Glass Buys a Loaf of Bread" out of Ives' extensive body of work. Each one-act utilized the absurd to comment on everyday life experiences including love, second chances and language.

"I chose 'Phillip Glass Buys a Loaf of Bread' first and I really loved it. It was really weird and crazy," said Ames. "It was so weird and it was just so much fun to think about what I could do with it with just this bare bones thing that I had."

Each one-act had an absurdist element to

it, including characters who could re-do their actions at the sound of a bell, a character who was stuck in a world that resembled a state

said Waters. "He doesn't treat them or belittle them at all in terms of their intelligence. He expects you to use it. And Jess really let us

absurdist language."

The cast had a mere three weeks to rehearse working around the busy schedules of the cast and crew as many were involved in "RENT."

"The process was pretty intense," said Benoit. "We rehearsed quite often. Jess was quite enthusiastic throughout the process."

The cast was off-book only a week before the production.

"Half of our rehearsals was work, work, work and the other half was actually a fair amount of play and laughing over the mistakes we made," added Flanagan. "Jess, for every show she directs, she has a quote book of all the stupid things that come out of our mouths, whether it comes from lines or other things, she knows how to make a very tightly knit cast. She knows how to make good chemistry between actors."

Ames reminded Flanagan of one of their acting professors, Edward Sharon, and the advice he gives actors during scenes.

"Everything that she was saying, as far as a direction at some point, it was always effective," said Benoit. "Very specific, very right to the point."

The performance gave the cast and crew an opportunity to see the production in a new light.

"It's always fun to see what the audience finds funny that you didn't realize was that funny during the rehearsal process," said Kempf.

"I think it went really well tonight," said Ames. "I think we were lacking a little bit of people for the audience, but whoever showed up I'm sure they enjoyed it. I've heard a lot of good things, they've been real good."



COURTESY OF MADDY SEDLOR
THE CAST OF "ALL IN THE TIMING" SURROUNDS DIRECTOR JESSICA AMES, CENTER.

in America, an English lesson that resulted in romance, a man who thought he was a typewriter and falls in love with a piece of paper and having an unexpected run-in with a lover, which resulted in a cacophony of language.

"As much as it is absurd, you definitely can make sense of it," said Benoit. "You can make sense out of the situations and the words that he's writing."

"David Ives writes really smartly; he writes for smart actors and a smart audience,"

use that a lot, which, as an actor, is really, really refreshing."

Ames chose to direct the production merely for fun and to find another opportunity to direct before she graduates in May. As Ames aspires to be a director after college, this production gave her more experience beyond the directing class required of theatre majors.

"As time went on Jess really helped us figure out what she wanted out of the process and what some of these things meant," said Kempf. "It was difficult considering just the

Alumni profile: Claire Byrne

From Mason Hall to Driftwood



MAGGIE GILROY / REVERB EDITOR

WHEN NOT TOURING WITH DRIFTWOOD, CLAIRE BYRNE RESIDES IN BINGHAMTON, N.Y. WHERE SHE TEACHES PRIVATE VIOLIN LESSONS IN HER HOME.

MAGGIE GILROY
Reverb Editor

Claire Byrne currently spends a majority of her time in a 15 passenger Ford E-350 with four other musicians. Those musicians are Driftwood, a shanty rock band that currently tours around the country creating a national fan-base.

But, prior to Driftwood, Byrne was just another musician hanging out at the creek and jamming at Coughlan's.

A 27-year-old with an enthusiastic smile and long, curly hair, Byrne is a native of Endwell, New York. She graduated from

Maine Endwell High School before attending Binghamton University for three semesters. Byrne then transferred to Fredonia into the sound recording technology program, seeking a different vibe than at Binghamton University.

Initially a double major in violin performance and SRT, Byrne chose to remain as solely an SRT major after a semester. While a violin student, Byrne studied with Maureen Yuen, who is currently still on the violin faculty.

"I'm really, really glad that I did. It was kind of the extra kick, college level studying, was very different than the other teachers

that I had. It was very rigorous and I learned a lot about playing. But it was too much to do it all," Byrne said in a recent interview about dropping the performance major. "I had to pick."

Byrne currently utilizes the skills she acquired as an SRT major during concerts and recording sessions for Driftwood.

"Although I am not a recording engineer recording albums all the time I apply it all the time," Byrne said. "And then, of course, the lessons and hours and hours of practicing with Maureen Yuen helped me very, very much."

Outside of her classical lessons with Yuen, Fredonia was one of the first places where Byrne began playing recreationally. She frequently jammed at Coughlan's Pub with her first band, Spanish Misfortune.

"That was a really big game changer for me, playing with other people like that," said Byrne. "So many people that not necessarily were [in] the music department, but very much into music."

In June 2008, the week after Byrne returned home following her fourth year at Fredonia, Nate Marshall, a musician Byrne met at BU, was doing a one-week tour of New York State. He asked his friends Dan Forsyth and Joe Kollar to go on the tour with him, and then asked Byrne to join them as well.

"It was kind of a band blind date," Byrne said of the tour.

Although Byrne had seen Forsyth and Kollar play once or twice with their band, Driftwood, she had never met them previously in person. But they picked her up at her parents' house and "we hit it off musically and personality-wise, and so

from then on we became a band."

Since that "band blind date," Driftwood has produced three albums: "Rally Day" (2009), "A Rock & Roll Heart" (2011) and, most recently, "Driftwood" in Dec. 2013. Their music video "The Sun's Going Down," from the self-titled album, recently premiered on <http://www.cmt.com> and their affiliate CMT Edge.

"The video was met with a lot of success, people really liked it. It's been a nice aid in getting some better tour offers and things like that," Byrne said. "It's cool. People think I'm way more famous than I am," she laughed.

On March 19 the group recently announced their partnership with New Frontier Touring. They put over 40,000 miles on their van between 256 tour dates in 2013 and plan to continue touring in the summer.

"I love it and my bandmates love it," said Byrne of touring. "You've got to be willing to compromise all the time and sacrifice things that you want."

To date, the band has yet to miss a show.

When not touring, Byrne also teaches private violin lessons out of her home in Binghamton, New York.

"It takes a hard outer shell and a lot of determination," Byrne says to Fredonia students wishing to pursue a career in music. "If you want to pursue a career in music, be it classically or jazz, there's a number of routes you can take. It's competitive and you can get downhearted sometimes, for sure."

Byrne encouraged all musicians to "keep going" if they feel themselves becoming downhearted.


"It's a rewarding industry," she said. "Why did we all start playing music? Because we really liked it."



MAGGIE GILROY / REVERB EDITOR

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SPORTS

Wednesday
April 23, 2014B-8
The Leader

Last in SUNYACs

*A rough weekend for men's baseball***SEAN MCGRATH**
Assistant Sports Editor

Set to play six games this week, the men's baseball team (8-13 overall, 3-6 SUNYAC) played a home and home game series against the Brockport Golden Eagles (16-10 overall, 8-7 SUNYAC). Tied with Plattsburg, the team currently sits in last place in SUNYAC play.

With snow on Tuesday postponing yet another game this season, they took a trip up to Brockport two days later, losing both games played 4-2 and 14-7. The only win of the weekend came out of game one against the Oswego Lakers.

Despite a one-run lead in the seventh inning, Fredonia could not hold off the Eagles from taking the lead late in the game — a lead that Fredonia could not regain.

Senior Sean Larson took the mound for game one, holding off the Eagles to three hits through six innings, and after striking out the leadoff batter in the seventh inning, he was replaced by senior reliever Kyle Grey after walking the next two batters. Grey would go on to walk the next batter and load the bases. That set up Brockport's Wesley Burghardt to deliver a two-run single to take a 2-1 lead from the Blue Devils.

Fredonia received offensive support from junior Anthony Schiro with a pair of hits, followed by junior Kenny Johnston and senior Matt Casilio with one hit each. Fredonia's two runs came from freshman Mike Prentice, who was hit by a pitch and then later batted in by Casilio, and Schiro,

who ran on a sacrifice fly by Johnston.

Immediately heading into game two, Joey Tingue would earn the loss when Brockport lit up the scoreboard with a seven run ninth inning to take game two, 14-7.

Senior Tommy Morris got the start, pitching for 5.2 innings and allowing 10 hits and six runs. Head coach Matt Palisan would replace Morris in the top of the sixth inning with freshman Cody Herman, who allowed one hit for no runs, one walk and one strikeout.

Fredonia managed to wake up their bats, collecting 14 hits in the game, earning hits from senior Kyle Koslowski with three hits, two hits from Casilio, sophomore Dan Cecilia, senior Bobby Frantz and freshman Liam Kelly. Also getting hits were sophomore Quinn



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BLUE DEVIL JOE KORSZUN THROWS SIX INNINGS IN FREDONIA'S FIRST GAME AGAINST OSWEGO.



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NUMBER 23, BOBBY FRANTZ, BATS FOR FREDONIA.

QUICK HITS:**RECAP:**

Fredonia plays five out of six games this week (one postponed), goes 1-4 in that stretch.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Fredonia finally opens up home play with games against the Oswego Lakers, go L/W/L in three game series.

NEXT GAME:

Today, 3 p.m. home vs Allegheny Gators, Friday, April 25, 3 p.m. at Cortland Red Dragons & Saturday, April 26, noon & 3 p.m. at Cortland.

to end it all.

Now on a two-game losing streak, the Blue Devils faced a three-game homestand against the Oswego Lakers, finally getting to play in a home opener in 50 degrees and sunny conditions this past weekend at Ludwig Field.

Despite a one-run lead early in the game, Fredonia again fell victim to active bats on the opponents side as the Lakers earned consecutive multiple run innings and a two-run seventh inning to hold the Blue Devils to a 7-2 loss in their home opener.

Senior Steve Sturm was given the loss, pitching seven innings and allowing all 10 hits and all seven runs for the Lakers. Sophomore Carl Wolf and junior Evan Carmello each threw one inning each, both hitless and runless.

The Blue Devils batting was solid this game, with Kelly, Frantz and junior Scott Schuster each hitting two apiece, and Koslowski, Cecilia and Lorenzo each earning one hit.

The following day, the Blue Devils continued home play, again against the Lakers, splitting the final two games this week, a 7-4 victory in game one and a 20-4 loss in game two.

Korszun earned the start and delivered six strong innings of pitching, throwing a three-hitter and three runs with three strikeouts to keep the Lakers at bay. Grey would only be relied on for .2 of an inning, allowing two hits but no runs.

Fredonia was awake with their bats in game one, recording 14 hits behind a four-hit effort by Lorenzo, three hits from

Prentice, two from Johnston and Koslowski, and one from Schiro, Frantz and junior Ryan Carmody.

Game two had a much different feel as Oswego buried the Blue Devils 20-4 behind an 18-hit game highlighted with a six-run second, five-run eighth and four-run ninth from Oswego.

Fredonia would burn through seven different pitchers, starting with Herman, switching to freshman Jason Weyman in the second, then junior Ben Senior in the top of the fourth. Tingue took over in the fifth, Wolf in the sixth, Carmello in the eighth and finally junior Matt Tobias in the ninth to finish off the game. Herman was given the loss on the season putting him at 1-1.

Fredonia's offense was led by Mendiola, who notched three hits in four at bats on Saturday.

Fredonia currently sits in last place of the SUNYAC standings, holding a 9-15 overall record, and a 4-8 record in SUNYAC.

The Blue Devils remain at home today at 3 p.m. when the Allegheny Gators stroll into town to take on the Blue Devils. Fredonia then heads out to Cortland this weekend for a Friday and Saturday three-game series.

Danahy, junior Ricky Mendiola and senior Connor Lorenzo each with one hit.

Herman would pitch 1.1 innings before leaving the mound in the eighth inning for Tingue.

Tingue started off strong, striking out the first batter he faced and forcing a groundout on the next batter. With one out remaining in the inning, Brockport's Dan Hurlimann took Tingue over the right center field fence to take the lead 7-6 in the eighth inning.

Fredonia would answer in the bottom of the eighth when Frantz and Kelly hit back-to-back singles to send Frantz home to even the score at 7-7.

The rally, however, would not last long, as Brockport connected for five hits, sending seven runners home to take, and ultimately hold, a 14-7 lead.

Partway through the top of the ninth, Palisan went to his bullpen one last time, switching out Tingue for junior Joe Korszun who pitched the rest of the inning and game.

Korszun would give up one hit and two runs in his time on the mound.

With one last chance to try and tie it up, Fredonia got two straight outs, saw Koslowski hit a single and then a fly ball

Women avoid upset, win two

ALEX KALUZNY
Special to The Leader

The women's lacrosse team has now improved their win streak to three, bumping their record to 11-3 on the season.

Fresh off of cracking the International Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association top 20 poll, the Blue Devils sent a message that they have earned their spot in the rankings by taking Buffalo State and Potsdam 13-7 and 12-11, respectively.

"We're more concerned with where we are going to finish, not where we are now," said head coach Chris Case. "We're looking at getting the conference wins and setting ourselves up for post-season play."

In what could be considered two trap games last week, Fredonia narrowly avoided an upset by beating Potsdam in overtime Saturday morning. Marissa Cussins and Katie Glagolev led the way with a combined nine goals while Kristie Kleine helped create a good amount of offense with four assists and was critical on the defense scooping a team-leading four ground balls. Goalie Christina Mathewson came through in the game with 14 saves.

The Blue Devils were defeated in almost every possession statistic by Potsdam. Fredonia did, however, lead in saves and what was left on the scoreboard at the end of the game. Fredonia played the kind of game that kept them off the



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BLUE DEVIL MARISSA CUSSINS SCORES THE GAME WINNING GOAL IN OVERTIME AGAINST BUFFALO STATE.

penalty sheet. They also won the turnover battle 24-20 leading a cleaner, more disciplined game to defeat the Bears.

On Wednesday, the Fredonia women

took their game north 50-plus miles geographically and kept themselves north of Buffalo State in the standings. The Bengals have recently been receiving

votes and knocking on the door of the top 20 rankings, but that didn't stop Fredonia from prolonging their now four-game losing streak and making their top 20 hopes more difficult to attain.

Cussins kept rolling this season with three goals and Sam Owen also had a hat-trick, as well. Kleine led the team with six points adding two goals and four assists. Fredonia was strong on keeping Buffalo State close in ground balls, losing the battle 22-21 in that category.

On the flip side, Fredonia played another game in which they turned the ball over less than the other team, a credit to their passing and defense this season.

"I think a lot of the girls understand how to play together. We started to gain confidence during that eight game win streak earlier this season. Even the loss against Geneseo, we played well and got beat by a late save and who knows when it gets to overtime," said Case.

What is the key point for the team this late in the season? "We're trying not to lend ourselves to overlooking teams. We are focused on the game ahead and not the next yet," said Case. "We just try to keep tweaking areas so we're not always the same."

Fredonia ends regular season play with two big tests against Brockport and Cortland at home this week. The Cortland game will be at 1 p.m. on Saturday.

Blue Devils split doubleheaders

ZACHARY PINTI
Special to The Leader

With doubleheaders on both Friday and Saturday, the Blue Devils softball team was trying to accomplish something they have yet to do this season: sweep both games. The weekend brought the Blue Devils to 8-13 overall and 5-7 in conference play.

The Blue Devils (7-11) looked to pull out some key wins against SUNYAC rivals Oswego (4-13) on Friday and Cortland (18-12) on Saturday to get back to a .500 on the season. Their first doubleheader on Friday against the Oswego team that had been struggling until this point in the season with only one win in their last 10 games.

In the first game on

Friday, Fredonia started Alyssa Brognano on the mound; she struggled, giving up 7 runs in just over 4 innings pitched. Both teams started strong offensively scoring three runs each in the second inning giving the devils a 4-3 lead.

Unfortunately that would be Fredonia's final lead of the game as Oswego went on 6-0 run to end the game. The offensive onslaught was led by Oswego's Deanna Apps, who went 3-4 on the day scoring two runs, and Ashley Lyman who helped to blow the game open with a three run homer in the fourth inning. The final score was 4-9, Oswego.

Fredonia came out much more ready to play in the second game however, splitting the doubleheader with a 5-4 win on Friday night. It was tight

game throughout but the Blue Devils found themselves down 4-2 going into the bottom of the seventh. In impossible fashion Fredonia pulled off an incredible comeback on the final play of the game.

On their final out, Fredonia's Kim Lotocki was able to drop a single into center field that scored two runs. However, the throw to the plate got away from the Oswego catcher opening up the opportunity for Kate Nicholson to score and end the game.

Both Lotocki and Nicholson played a major role in the second game going 2-4 and 2-3 from the plate, respectively. Kelsey Gannett got the start on the mound and pitched a complete game to improve to 6-5 on the year.

On Saturday Cortland

travelled to Fredonia to face off in a doubleheader of their own. Cortland went into the weekend with a five game win streak.

It was senior day on Saturday at Fredonia's with the team's only graduating senior, Alyssa Brognano, getting the start on the mound.

The Blue Devils were hitting on all cylinders to start the day, scoring seven straight runs (three in the first inning and four in the fourth inning) to start the game. Brognano looked fired up as well, pitching four scoreless innings before giving up two runs in the fifth inning.

Each team finished with 10 hits. Erin Mushtare was 2-3 with two RBI and Kim Lotocki was 2-4 with an RBI and two runs to lead the Blue Devils. The 7-3 was possibly Fredonia's

most impressive win of the year coming against a Cortland team fighting for the lead in the conference.

The second game did not go as smoothly for the Blue Devils as they dropped the game 13-1. The game was actually very close for much of the game, with Cortland only being on top 1-0 after four. But Cortland's Alicia Hibbard took over the game with a three run homer in the fifth inning. Cortland went on to score eight in the seventh inning to seal the blowout. Sarah Salamone pitched a full game for Cortland in the win.

Saturday was also Strikeout Cancer Day and both teams wore themed pink and white t-shirts. Following the game both teams got together for a photo to commemorate the event.

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Sex and the SUNY: The Endless Drought

KELLY CANER
Lampoonist

I distinctly remember confession during Easter season when I was a child. I told a priest how guilty I felt for sexually harassing the AIM social robot, SmarterChild. I cried while confessing how I made sexually aggressive threats to SmarterChild about how I would hump the computer if it did not tell me my horoscope. I remember departing that confession thinking that I would never stoop so low again. Oh, how wrong I was.

Every soul on this campus has lived through their own personal dust bowl at some point. I am currently suffering through mine. The only action I get anymore is when the flies in the shower fall upon my breasts and caress their feelers on my chapped nips, and I violently

swat them away.

Joining the online dating scene is a bigger risk than eating at Cranston's international themed dinners named, "Zwahili Night." OkCupid is the hellhole of all dating websites — most of the users names' are something like, "Cushion4Pushin" with a picture of an obese older man standing shirtless over a dead deer with a beer in his hand. And as I am staring at this majestic photo, a message pops up from another suitor saying, "Hey beautiful, just wanted to say, I admire your child bearing hips."

A part of being hungry for a man's eggroll means that any physical contact with an attractive man is monumental. One time while waiting for my stir fry, a man — so hot that I just wanted him to slab some of his sour cream

between my crunchy taco — brushed my shoulder. We exchanged shy apologies (it was so romantic) and went our separate ways. But I swear to you, I could practically feel my semen-hungry eggs being fertilized when he (my potential future husband) touched me.

Times of desperation can be rocky; there will be serious lows, like using Omegle just to remind yourself of what a man's disco stick looks like, or having to avoid murderous randos from the internet. But hey, it is all a part of the experience, my thirsty friends. So while your good-looking friends are off experiencing the magic of love, you just plop down, log into OkCupid and enjoy chatting with hot French-Canadians. Think that sounds depressing? When it comes to being desperate: the limit does not exist.

Study: everyone except you is doing really well

ANITA TENSION
Special to The Leader

Researchers announced the results of year-long study Friday, which indicated that every one of your peers, except you, is currently excelling in all they do. This includes earning remarkable grades, cultivating meaningful and rewarding professional and personal relationships and forming concrete, failsafe post-graduation plans.

"It's frankly kind of astonishing how incompetent you are compared to your fellow students," said Dr. Marcus Lundgren, the head researcher on the project. "Especially when you consider the fact that everyone you know is hard at work developing valuable, marketable skills and impressive résumés."

Meanwhile, the 26-page report goes on to say you haven't even finished catching up on "Game of Thrones," much less addressed the looming spectre of a world which you, and you alone, are woefully unprepared to face.

Data collected for the study shows that in the amount of time it takes you to watch a single episode of "Parks and Recreation" on Netflix, any one of your infinitely more motivated, organized and attractive peers can graciously and eloquently accept a scholarship, interview for a lucrative and fulfilling job and then top the whole thing off by eating healthier than you.

Additionally, the study projected that while your fellow students will be universally prepared for their finals and thus able to freely enjoy Fredfest, you yourself will be too burdened with the crushing knowledge of your own ineptitude to experience even the vaguest sense of well-being.

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Amanda Geiger never saw the drunk driver.

Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk.



Photo by Michael Mazzeo



U.S. Department of Transportation

