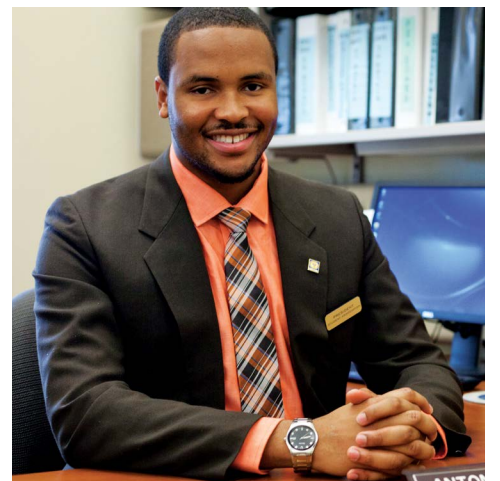


THE PROFILE ISSUE

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State University of New York at Fredonia

THE LEADER



SUNY adopts uniform sexual assault policy

Policy includes Sexual Violence Victim/Survivor Bill of Rights and Uniform Definition of Consent

COURTNEE CESTA
Managing Editor

As colleges nationwide are facing criticism for their sexual assault response procedures, New York's state university system released its own uniform policy last week that will apply to all 64 of its campuses. The prevention and response policy is the first of its kind in the country and will create a safer learning and living environment for students by outlining specific and consistent expectations of safety and responsibility.

The policy includes the following:

An 11-sentence definition of affirmative consent required between participants before engaging in sexual activity

An immunity policy to protect students coming forward to report sexual assault

A uniform confidentiality and reporting protocol

A statewide training program regarding how to address sexual assault incidents

A public campaign to increase awareness

A uniform campus climate assessment and

A uniform Sexual Assault Victims' Bill of Rights that will, in clear and specific language, inform a student of his or her rights following an attack, including the option of approaching State Police.

"Today, SUNY is taking a critical step toward combating the epidemic of sexual violence and misconduct on our college campuses," Governor Andrew Cuomo said in a press release sent last Tuesday. "By implementing a uniform sexual assault prevention policy, we are better protecting our students and our communities and setting an example for other states and schools to follow."

Although Fredonia has followed their own sexual assault protocol prior to the new policy, all 463,000 students attending all SUNY colleges and universities statewide will now be covered under the same uniform set of standards.

Julie Bezek, coordinator of substance abuse and violence prevention at Fredonia, appreciates the positive effect she believes the policy will have after spotlighting sexual violence and its impact on the campus.

"My hope is that this shines a light on these issues so that students are more aware of them," Bezek said. "Maybe students [will] feel more comfortable coming forward — whether or not they choose to take a formal route of going through the legal or judicial system — and that they know that there are resources that are available and what those resources are."

When a case of sexual assault is committed, it is the decision of the victim whether or not to take formal action. Although New York State campus crime statistics report only three cases of sexual assault on campus between 2008-2012, many more have potentially occurred without judicial action. And Dr. David Herman, vice president of Student Affairs, believes even more cases happen off campus.

"I feel pretty good about the policy," Herman said. "I think it's going to raise consciousness a lot. But I also think it's going to be challenging to make sure all of these requirements are in place."

Fredonia previously received a grant from the Justice Department to create the campus' CEASE program on campus, which is dedicated to issues surrounding sexual assault. Bezek and Herman agree that the implementation of the new policy will now provide more tools to help emphasize education and training.

Although the majority of the policy is effective immediately, all campuses have until March to issue an official plan regarding their compliance with the new regulations. Herman says that in the Spring semester, all student leaders, athletes and those involved in Greek life will have to go through training, in addition to all incoming students.

"In the end, it's a case of 'think before you act,'" said Herman. "I hope it causes people to think more before having sexual relations with someone. The results can be pretty serious."

Hanging of the Greens kicks off the holiday season

CONNOR HOFFMAN
Staff Writer

This year was no different than past, as Spectrum Entertainment Board and the Fredonia campus rang in the holiday season with their annual event, Hanging of the Greens. The event was held in the Williams Center Multi-purpose Room and went from 6-8 p.m. It was Spectrum's way of bringing together the community to help celebrate the holidays.

Provost Terry Brown gave a few words before letting a local child, Ella Horowitz, light the tree and kick off the event. As soon as Horowitz hit that switch, the tree instantly lit up, and everyone gazed at the tree with awe and went to the various activities or sat down and caught up with their friends at the many tables in the room.

"A community celebration of the winter holidays," said Brown when describing the Hanging of the Greens. Her favorite part of the event is "the children who are here that are so thrilled to participate."

Horowitz said that she really liked the event and the opportunity to light the tree. Some of the things she planned on doing were coloring, stuffing a bear and eating some of the delicious cookies.

Spectrum planned this event for months and was busy the entire night making sure everyone enjoyed it.

"We start planning it at the be-

ginning of the semester. It's pretty similar every year, so we always have a solid foundation of what we want," said Spectrum Vice-President Anna Jones.

Head of promotions for Spectrum, Stephanie Willis, explained that they plan it so far ahead because of the need to book the room and workers, and get together clubs that want to participate.

The event was provided with many cookies and snacks by FSA, and for the entire event, festive holiday music also warmed the room. This event brought together everyone in the

community from the students, to the faculty, to the town residents and their children.

Hanging of the Greens had

many activities such as the stuff-a-bear, snowflake decorating, ornaments, paper bag decorations, build-your-own blizzard bites and letters to Hope Lodge. Many people participated in those events, but one of the most popular activities was a new addition:

a giant inflatable snow globe that people could take a picture in. The line was so long that it almost went outside the MPR.



RACHEL PRYCHODKO / SPECIAL TO THE LEADER
SPECTRUM HOSTED HANGING OF THE GREENS WITH GAMES, CRAFTS AND FOOD.

What to look for next semester

BRITTANY PERRY
and **MEGHAN GUATTERY**
Special to The Leader and Assistant News Editor

Changes in policies regarding minors on campus:

Fredonia's executive cabinet is currently reviewing revisions to SUNY's existing Child Protection Policy. This policy was implemented in 2012 by SUNY's Office of General Counsel and the Board of Trustees and deals with protecting the safety and well-being of minors on SUNY campuses. Fredonia is currently using the existing SUNY policy and making adaptations to best fit the Fredonia campus.

Following the incidents of sexual abuse at Penn State in 2011, SUNY created the Child Protection Policy to both prematurely avoid cases of abuse, and, in the event that a case does arise, implement action.

The current policy, which is utilized SUNY-wide, divides protection of a minor into two categories: activities that are covered by the university and activities in which the responsibility of a child's well-being would fall on the parent or guardian.

According to the Office of General Counsel and SUNY Compliance Office, an activity is only "covered" if it is sponsored or approved by one of the entities listed in the definition of "Covered Activity" and the responsibility for custody, control and supervision of children involved in the Covered Activity is vested in one of the listed entities.

Some covered activities include research programs conducted on campus that may involve faculty interacting with minors, as well as prospective student orientation. Events open to the public, such as

concerts or athletic events, are not covered under the policy.

The policy also states that anyone over the age of 18 may not be in a situation where they are left alone with a minor. This creates a "grey area" in policy enforcement, since many minors are tutored by those who are over 18 and have one-on-one music lessons with a professor.

The current policy in place requires background checks of all faculty and staff to ensure that none of them have previous sex offenses. The Cabinet is still deciding whether or not students who interact with minors will be subject to these background checks.

An online training module is being improved to support understanding of the new mandates. All Fredonia employees will have to take a module that ensures they understand the rules.

The new policies are going to be stricter and may require the university to re-adjust and re-define the type of events that bring minors to campus.

A decision will likely be reached by the end of the semester.

FREDFit to enforce a healthy lifestyle on campus:

The Blue Devils Fitness Center, Fredonia Let's Move! and the Student Counseling Services have come together to form a new health and fitness organization for Fredonia students: FREDFit.

"No matter what your fitness and health goals are, it is important to us that you realize the immense benefits that living a healthy and well lifestyle can bring, outside of the aesthetic appeal," said Priscilla Cerdas, senior arts administration and psychology double major.

A series of health and fitness

workshops for students will be hosted by FREDFit from Jan. 17-20.

"The workshops will range from all levels of fitness classes, as well as educational workshops on nutrition," said Cerdas. "The four days before classes are meant to inspire, motivate and get everyone moving."

In addition to FREDFit, students can also get involved with the many other wellness organizations on campus. The Blue Devils Fitness Center offers health and fitness advice and competitions, while Fredonia Let's Move! offers online, equipment-free workouts through their social media accounts.

"There are so many opportunities that await the next semester, including the opportunity to be the best version of you, just be sure to hashtag #fredfit in the process," said Cerdas. "You'll be joining a positive and inspiring community."

An official schedule of events and workshops has yet to be completed.

Resolution R-34: Safety of Transgender Students to be presented to administration:

The general assembly of the Student Association approved Resolution R-34: Safety of Transgender Students, a resolution to be sent to the University Senate on Thursday, Dec. 4, which would call for the use of preferred names on FREDCards, ANGEL accounts and class rosters.

The resolution was written by students who cited a safety issue for transgender students, as they are currently constantly forced to "out" themselves, as a main reason to push for the change.

The change first had the support of the rules committee of the Student Association and, as it now

One of the other popular activities was the build-your-own blizzard bites. Participants were given mason jars and then they filled them up with a trail mix. The main ingredients were pretzels, cranberries, Chex mix and chocolate chips. Its line was almost as big as the snow globe's.

Various campus clubs provided each of these activities. The clubs involved this year were the Black Student Union, the Teacher Education Club, the Women Student Union and the Residence Hall Association, with help from two new clubs to the event, the Transfer Student Union and Colleges against Cancer.

"Seeing the kids enjoy themselves and getting to do it for free," said Maegan Kivler, the TSU advisor, when asked what her favorite part was. TSU provided the materials for people to write letters to Santa. "We really just wanted to volunteer and see what it was about and see all the kids in the community have a great time."

Everyone was very happy with both the event and the turnout. Spectrum was especially happy; "I think this year is pretty incredible. I know we're already selling out of things and it's not even 7:00," said Willis.

Most of the people thought the event was very well done and didn't need much improvement. Brown believes the only thing that could have improved it was "Santa himself."

has the support of the general assembly, needs to go to the faculty senate before it can be presented to the administration.

A similar proposal has been introduced in previous years but was denied at the faculty senate.

The resolution was brought to the university senate on Monday Dec. 8, where 40 out of 41 present faculty members were for the passing of the legislation.

Actions taken by student activists:

On December 8, a group of student activists who are representative of the different minority students at Fredonia, met with President Horvath to discuss concerns of minority students at Fredonia. The activists, Courtney Loiacono, Graham M. Caulfield, Amanda Pruden, Cedric Wilson, Skylar Rutkowski and William Webber, voiced their concerns through the form of a document given to Horvath. At the meeting, they were told that the document would be given to other members of the administration.

"Early next semester we will all be meeting, and we (the students), hope that the administration takes these needs seriously and acts accordingly," said Loiacono in a recent email interview.

The document detailed many changes that the activists feel should be made on campus, concerning areas such as the faculty, staff and school employees; residence halls; university police; and medical and counseling services.

Funding posing problem for rising cost of SUNY

MARSHA COHEN
Staff Writer

New York State Assembly members and a senator made their way to the Fredonia campus on Friday, Dec. 5, to discuss the price of a SUNY education, the system's finances and its future. The committee included Sen. Kathy Young, along with assembly members Sean Ryan, Andy Goodell, Joseph Giglio and Fredonia's United University Professions chapter president Ziya Amavut.

Since 2008 the SUNY budget has decreased by \$2 billion, influencing many colleges to make drastic changes. In response, Fredonia recently cut 52 adjunct professors from its 2013-14 roster but is still facing a financial crisis even after raising the cost of tuition by \$300. Ryan, a Fredonia alumnus as well as an assemblyman, recognizes the detriment of Fredonia's move and says that SUNY is the creator of the middle class.

"Adjunct professors are widely underpaid. We have developed this system where schools, like Fredonia, are squeezed so drastically, now they have to squeeze adjuncts," said Ryan.

The panel made a strong effort to devise the best solution for the growing crisis, suggesting a monetary donation drive to target alumni, but recognized that its purpose should not be to offset the lack of state funding but rather to coexist as continuous encouragement.

Goodell has a strong family history tie to Fredonia. Although he attended a private university, Goodell's two older brothers, his youngest daughter and eldest aunt attended Fredonia. His understanding of the cost of college gives Goodell insight as to how Fredonia could best escape this budget crisis.

"The biggest difference in



MARY LAING / PHOTO EDITOR

SINCE 2008, THE SUNY BUDGET HAS DECREASED BY \$2 BILLION, INFLUENCING MANY COLLEGES TO MAKE DRASTIC CHANGES.

the financial structure of the private institutions that I went to is that they have a much, much larger endowment, and they aggressively pursue their alumni for contributions. The day that students walk in they are told that their education relates to the people before them and they have the same responsibility, when they graduate, to contribute to the endowment," said Goodell. "Every single year I get a solicitation to contribute to the alumni fund for Cornell law school and Williams college. My daughter and aunt don't get the same level of solicitation. There is a strong opportunity for your alumni to strengthen the school."

Ninety years ago, Fredonia was wholly funded by the state. But now, only 17 percent of the college is funded by the state. In 2012 and 2013, however, state-aid increased for students attending both four-year colleges and community colleges — something that Goodell says he believes will only continue to increase in years to come. According to Goodell, the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) in-

creased last year for the first time ever as well.

Albany's legislators will soon reconvene to discuss the budget for the upcoming year; local legislators already have an idea of how they will disperse the money.

"We need to get back on track to appropriately funding SUNY, and we need to appropriately fund them in two ways," said Ryan. "One: to retain and appropriately pay current faculty, and two: maintain current facilities."

Fredonia's UUP President, Ziya Amavut, says he believes Fredonia needs to make changes in order to get lawmakers attention and has been pushing for a new computer engineering program at the college.

"We need to get new programs here in Fredonia. For example, New Paltz added engineering fields eight years ago. Right now they have electrical engineering and computer engineering, and so does Oswego. We need to attract other businesses here, such as Samson, Apple or something other than

wine industries," said Amavut.

Amavut is from Cyprus, an island on the eastern part of the Mediterranean sea bordering Turkey and Lebanon. Even though he is not a native United States citizen, he understands the economic woes that many students face.

"What I have figured out in this country [is that] you are in debt as a student. Then you are in debt to buy a house and then to send your kids to school. You are in debt until you retire. That is not right for the young people for this country. We want them to enjoy life and work hard for themselves and to better this country. The way this country does it, it doesn't work like that," said Amavut. "The state is not funding enough. I am against the increase of tuition or debt for students. Honestly I am all for free education, but I am aware of the realities of this country and our job is to figure out a way to make getting a job easier for students."

Fred Fest forum sets ground for conversation

S.L. FULLER
News Editor

Dialogue has started up once again about the future of Fred Fest with the small open forum last Tuesday in Jewett Hall room 101. This forum was not very publicized, so not many people knew it was happening.

All everyone's asking is for a little respect. Just a little bit. From the administrators, to Spectrum Entertainment Board, to local landlords, to police chiefs, to students, to the mayor — everyone wants respect. And in recent years, many have felt disrespected when it comes to Fred Fest.

This disrespect, however, is felt for a variety of reasons. Some students don't feel like their opinions on the matter are being taken seriously, while some students feel like their right to be an independent adult has come under fire. Community members feel that their property and residence is being disrespected and the police feel like their authority has been disrespected.

But if everyone can agree on one thing, it's that something has to give.

Fredonia mayor Stephen Keefe was one of 15 people in attendance at Tuesday's forum. A regular at these forums, Keefe feels the Village of Fredonia and the university must collaborate to solve this issue.

"The college and the community are very closely joined by proximity, and everything else, and I think we need to work closely together," said Keefe. "I think we need to make an environment that's conducive to students' lives. So many positive things come out of having a college in our community. And by far, there's a whole lot more positive that comes out of it than anything negative."

Two of Spectrum's executive board members attended as well: Stephanie Willis, junior public relations major, and Anna Jones, senior childhood inclusive education major. They came to the forum to make sure people were respectful of their on-campus Fred Fest event and to answer any questions.

"We definitely actively pursue making sure the conversation isn't about our on-campus event because that's not the problem right now," said Willis before the forum began. "But we wanted to be here also to make sure if something came up that was centered around what we do, that we can answer it properly and no one else is falsifying information."

"I think the line is very blurred between on-campus Fred Fest and off-campus Fred Fest," added Jones. "It's difficult for our e-board to address these kinds of problems because personally, we all want to fix downtown... but as a college club, there's not much we can do about it. Our main focus is working with administration at this point in trying to better the on-campus Fred Fest... to make it the safest and happiest and use our budget and use our student activities fund."

Unlike the last, massively-attended Fred Fest forum which took place last semester, the conversation at this forum was specifically geared toward the off-campus aspect and ways to prevent chaos and injury. Chief of Fredonia Police Brad Meyers was eager to hear what everyone had to say and was optimistic that this forum would give him some ideas on ways to improve the issues.

"I think that no one wants to see [Fred Fest] cast in a poor light, no one wants to see property damage and more than anything, no one wants to see people hurt or injured or even killed," said Meyers before the forum began. "Maybe I'll come out of [this forum] with 10 or 15 bullet points that we can address individually and extrapolate on to make change."

Some suggestions given by audience members included working with landlords to set stricter policies about their tenants throwing massive house parties, working with Fredonia Central School to help keep high school students out of the village that night, finding a better way to get suggestions from all the students on campus, using media to promote safe behavior and changing the name.

The only issue with these suggestions is that most of them have been attempted before. The university has tried to work with landlords but to little or no avail. The university has also tried to work with the Fredonia Central School in the past, but there's the question: how much jurisdiction does the school have on its students after the school day ends? Last semester, students did have the opportunity to voice their opinions, but the mechanism didn't allow for total efficiency. While no next step was decided upon at the forum, everyone agreed that open dialogue can only bring about good things.

"We have a vested interest not only on campus but off, [and] we're just very interested in the whole topic and what students and community members have to say," said Chief of University Police Ann Burns. "[Open forum] is a good way to have a good conversation."

While the forum did not establish a clear action plan for the future, it laid the foundation for communication between the students, administration and community members that will be utilized when taking action in the future.

"All we're looking for in the community is on certain dates there be a little bit more respect shown," said Keefe. "If we had [students'] respect, everything would just be golden."

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--- POLICE BLOTTERS ---

UNIVERSITY

Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2014

8:30 a.m. The grandmother of a student at Fredonia was told by a source that her grandson was injured and that she needed to send him money. After sending the money, she learned it was a scam. This is a scam that has been popping up across the state. The subject was advised and a report was filed.

1:00 p.m. A subject had liquid poured on his/her vehicle. A report was filed and this is a continuing investigation.

9:36 p.m. A vehicle parked in the load zone in lot 23 was towed. The owner arrived prior to the tow. A report was filed and the service was paid for.

Wednesday, Dec. 3, 2014

5:40 p.m. There were harassing messages on college postings. A report was filed.

Thursday, Dec. 4, 2014

9:30 a.m. Two unknown males kicked a vehicle causing damage. A report was filed and there is a continuing investigation.

5:52 p.m. Christopher W. Rex, age 18, was served with a bench warrant. Bail was collected and the judge was contacted.

9:35 p.m. Two males were skateboarding inside of University Commons. The subjects were identified, advised and warned.

Friday, Dec. 5, 2014

10:57 a.m. A student debit card was found in lot 11. A report was filed.

11:19 p.m. Jerry Garcia, age 18, was arrested for possession of marijuana. His dorm was searched, evidence was seized and an appearance ticket was issued.

Saturday, Dec. 6, 2014

4:01 a.m. A FREDCard and key were found. The owner was notified and a report was filed.

Sunday, Dec. 7, 2014

1:01 a.m. Non-student Chester C. Ott, age 25, was issued traffic and appearance tickets for aggravated unlicensed operation in the third degree and unlawful possession of marijuana. His vehicle was towed, he was arrested and bail was taken.

FREDONIA

Saturday, Dec. 6, 2014

1:10 a.m. Rasean A. Parris, age 23, was issued an appearance ticket for violating the sewer ordinance.

7:25 p.m. Brian F. Lidlow, age 33, was charged with petit larceny.

Rebecca L. Leichter, age 19, was charged with underage possession of alcohol.

Abigail Everhart, age 19, was charged with underage possession of alcohol.

9:25 p.m. Mikayla N. Capestrani, age 18, was issued an appearance ticket for violating the sewer ordinance.

10:40 p.m. Jessica O'Leary, age 18, was issued appearance tickets for pen container and underage possession of alcohol.

11:21 p.m. Tadd Beattie, age 20, was issued an appearance ticket for underage possession of alcohol.

Sunday, Dec. 7, 2014

Melendez Nemesis, age 20, was issued traffic tickets for aggravated unlicensed operation in the second degree and an issue with a headlight. Bail was set at \$350.

Mikhail M. Atkins, age 23, was issued an appearance ticket for disorderly conduct.

Robert A. Frantz, age 22, was issued an appearance ticket for violating the sewer ordinance.

Scott A. Schuster, age 22, was issued an appearance ticket for violating the sewer ordinance.

1:23 a.m. Christopher W. Rex, age 19, was issued appearance tickets for littering, open container and underage possession of alcohol.

5:45 p.m. Ashley L. Campbell, age 18, was charged with larceny and possession of marijuana.

5:45 p.m. Thomas E. Gould, age 19, was charged with 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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Givner's interests span farther than education

S. L. FULLER
News Editor

Did you know that Dr. Chris Givner, dean of the College of Education, likes hip hop dancing? Did you know that she was a bra-burning hippy in the '70s? Sure, it's her job to oversee approximately 1,100 students and 29 programs, but there's a lot more to Givner than meets the eye.

After moving from Pennsylvania, to Vermont, to California, and having a plethora of life experiences, Givner is content where she is and who she is.

"I grew up in Warren, Pennsylvania which is just south of here," said Givner. "In the course of my career, I went from ... Pittsburgh, that's where I got my PhD, and then I went to Johns Hopkins in Baltimore, and then we went from Baltimore to Vermont for four years, and then my family went out to Los Angeles for 11 years."

Givner is currently in her 11th year as a dean at Fredonia. Actually, she was the founding dean who helped create the College of Education. But when she was younger, Givner never wanted to study education.

"When I was in high school, I thought I wanted to be a psychiatrist or medical doctor of some kind. I was the valedictorian from my high school class of 464 [students]," said Givner. "And so

I went to Allegheny College in Meadville [Pennsylvania] as a pre-med student. And when I got there, I majored in psychology, and I decided that I was much more interested in the social sciences and getting out and doing service learning. So then, when I decided not to do medicine, I decided that I would get my bachelor's degree and then go on and do a graduate program in special education."

Givner was in her 20s — and in college — during a very pivotal era in history. She faced many social struggles, as many did in the '70s, but she aimed to keep positive throughout.

"I was a hippy. I graduated in 1971 [and] I was part of a generation of women who burned their bras," said Givner. "I protested my senior year of high school so that we could wear pants and not just dresses."

Givner was quick to add with a laugh that she asked for her principal's permission to hold the rally before hand.

"[In] my 20s, I think the challenge was — my husband and I were together, I was 21 when I met him, so I've been married a long time. And he's African-American," continued Givner. "So I think the biggest challenge was trying to negotiate how to be a couple in a time when there was a lot of prejudice and discrimination. Trying to be just positive and have a good attitude toward how we went for-

ward to face challenges that were very disturbing in a way that made us feel stronger and made me feel good about my life — that was a challenge."

Givner's good attitude has seemed to remain with her throughout the years. Her life has brought her many joys, but none greater than her son.

"I think being a parent is one of the most precious things we do being a human being," said Givner, getting teary-eyed at the thought. "And I would say professionally, I'm a blessed woman. I've had so many wonderful, wonderful experiences. I feel like I've kind of been open to the possibilities and I've had a supportive husband. People disappoint you and you have to rise above that and realize that in the end, most people are really wonderful."

Givner seems like the kind of person who loves life and loves to embrace the bad with the good. However, she has so many interests that maybe she needs multiple lives to have time to live out every dream.

"If I had multiple lives — I love to dance. I love to dance. Any dancing," said Givner with emphasis on the word "love." "I can do a little bit of hip-hopping, I love ballet, and I've been a dancer since I was three or four. I just love to dance."

"The other thing I think my hidden talents [is, is that] I like to



Courtesy of Chris Givner

paint and sketch. But I never get to do it right now," continued Givner. "I love to crochet. And I'm a filmy. I love classic movies. I really like to critique movies. And I love to sing. I don't get to do that very often with groups and stuff. And I love to garden, I'm an avid reader. I love technology. That's not really

a hidden talent, everyone knows that about me."

The dimensions of Givner's personality goes on and on.

Blasting goes from building scenery to academia



Courtesy of Ralph Blasting

S. L. FULLER
News Editor

"This might be too stereotypical 'arts profile,' but I'm a horrible athlete," said Dr. Ralph Blasting, dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts. "I did play on a sports

team in high school, which people don't believe. I was on the football team. I was not any good. I played left guard and if you're a guard, you just kind of scrunch down and people run over you."

Blasting has always been an arts person. In elementary school, he

played an instrument, sang in chorus and got involved in plays whenever he could. And when he realized it was possible to major in theatre in college, Blasting was sold and, as they say, the rest is history.

"I really love the arts," said Blasting. "This idea that Fredonia had to pull these four large divisions — three big departments and the Rockefeller Arts Center as a producing organization — and make them their own college is just everything that I love to do."

Growing up in a small town near Herkimer, New York, Blasting said his favorite part about being in his 20s was going to college and leaving his hometown.

"The best part about being in my 20s was being away from home. And I don't say that to be disparaging about my family," said Blasting. "I just wanted to go away from that little town and away from all those people and do something more on my own. I would say the best thing was being away from home and being able to make my own decisions and make my own mistakes."

While he obtained a bachelor's of fine arts degree in scenic technical theatre from Wayne State University in Detroit, Blasting spent his four undergraduate years working in the scene shop. But after a while, he realized he was a little bit different than the rest of his peers when he became the go-to guy when someone

needed help writing a paper.

"I guess one of the things that was a little bit different about me is ... I really liked going to class and writing papers. And many of the people that I was working with did not like going to class and writing papers — they just liked building things," said Blasting. "So I guess I was known [as] the person who could help people out with their papers that were due the next day on Shakespeare."

"And it turned out that that's part of the reason I, in graduate school, switched over and I got my Ph.D. in theatre history," continued Blasting. "I really enjoyed doing the research and the writing. I still enjoyed working in the theatre in the scene shop, but I didn't think I wanted to do that for the rest of my life all the time."

Because of this change of heart, Blasting empathizes with the students he teaches at Fredonia who may feel hesitant when thinking about the future.

"I would say the worst part about being in your 20s is just uncertainty; not knowing if you're going to do okay in what you're trying to do," said Blasting. "In the class that I teach ... I keep emphasizing there's a lot of jobs in the arts. It's a big industry. But it's very difficult to see exactly what the path is from the class you're taking right here — the degree you're getting right here — to a real, reliable job. And they're there."

But there's nobody who can tell you what's exactly the way to get to it."

Blasting's journey has turned out to be a very satisfying one. But, he didn't totally leave his affinity for building sets, and other handy work, behind him.

"I used to think I didn't have a hobby. But I asked myself, 'if I have a free Saturday, what do I enjoy doing?' And it turns out that my hobby is small home repairs," said Blasting. "I don't look at putting on a floor or doing some painting or fixing a faucet as a job that I really wish I didn't have to do. I actually like doing it. So that's my hobby. It's a very useful hobby because you save a lot of money."

While his daughter lives in Arizona, Blasting enjoys his home with his wife, Laurie Detenbeck, who is a part time teacher at Fredonia, and two cats named Artemis and Larry. He says his calm homelife truly balances out his demanding job as dean. But don't let Blasting fool you into thinking that he's a boring guy outside of the office. In fact, he sent this email the day after his interview for The Leader:

"Yesterday was fun. Thanks. I thought of something unusual. I've been to Minsk three times, with students, to restore abandoned Jewish cemeteries. That's another story for another day..."

DEANS

Kijinski's passion for reading leads him to Eliot and Dickens' writings



Courtesy of John Kijinski

CONNOR HOFFMAN
Staff Writer

Did you know one of our deans is a former track runner? That dean is none other than John Kijinski, of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Kijinski may no longer be a long distance runner, but he keeps up on fitness by riding his bike to work every so often. Being a long distance runner is one of the various things in his exciting life that led him to Fredonia.

Kijinski is very happy with his job at Fredonia. He believes his glory days are right now because he's doing what he likes, and he feels great. He mentioned that his favorite experience before and after becoming a dean has been "working with the students" and that "people get into this profession because they want to work with ideas and want to work with students."

Before Kijinski came to Fredonia, he used to be the dean of Idaho State University's College of Arts and Sci-

ences, where he stayed for 22 years before moving to Fredonia. Before that, Kijinski got his bachelor's degree in English from Ohio State University, a master's in English from the University of Chicago and a Ph.D. in English from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Ever since he was an undergraduate English major, Kijinski wanted to be a professor, with no thought about being a dean — which, in Kijinski's experience, is a position that he said often goes unrecognized.

"I could tell you right now who the chair of the English department was at Ohio State when I graduated. I could tell you who my thesis advisor was there," joked Kijinski. "But if someone said, 'Tell me the name of your dean and I'll give you a hundred dollars,' I have no idea who the deans were there.

"It's a logical progression; if you're dedicated to a particular liberal arts and sciences discipline, and you're also good at talking with people and managing that, it makes sense to move to the dean's position."

Kijinski felt that the best part of his twenties was pursuing his education further.

"I think I must romanticize my

own 20s because I think it was all great." He mentioned how he was able to not have to worry about debt from his education due to his wife always being willing to work.

One of Kijinski's favorite experiences before he became a dean was when he did research at The British Library in London.

"It was holding [a] letter George Eliot and Charles Dickens were writing to each other," Kijinski said. He worked in the manuscript collection for a month on a grant.

When Kijinski is done with his day at the office, he goes back to his house that he has in Fredonia with his wife Karen. He also has two daughters; the oldest Katherine is in graduate school, and the youngest Margaret is in college.

Kijinski enjoys doing a multitude of things when he's not being a dean. Some of these activities include biking, running, walking and reading. He loves reading so much that he made sure to mention it twice during a recent interview and jokes about how he reads all the time.

It was this love for reading that led Kijinski to get where he is today.

Boisjoly's affinity for leadership stems from undergrad

CONNOR HOFFMAN
Staff Writer

Russell Boisjoly, the dean of the School of Business, has always loved teaching business. Reminiscing about his life story glued a smile to his face the whole time. Boisjoly has always been a leader and has lived an eventful life along the way to becoming the dean of Fredonia's School of Business.

Boisjoly received a bachelor's of science degree in Industrial Management from the University of Massachusetts at Lowell, an M.B.A in Finance from Boston University and a D.B.A in Finance from Indiana University. He also used to be the dean of the School of Business at Fairfield University and Adelphi University.

"I'm a leader now, and I was a leader then," said Boisjoly. "I was an officer in two student organizations. We have graduate student assistants around here who are graduate students; I was an undergraduate version of that. I was a student assistant."

Boisjoly said some of the duties of a student assistant at the University of Massachusetts at Lowell were to correct papers for the faculty, watch the students during an exam to make sure they weren't cheating and prepare handouts for the faculty.

Even though he was such an active leader among his peers, Boisjoly said he looked different in college. After pulling out an old yearbook and flipping to his picture, he

laughed and said that most of his friends wouldn't recognize him in his younger days. He looked so different with very dark brown hair and had a very long and thick dark brown moustache.

Boisjoly had an eventful youth with some tough times in his 20s, pursuing his doctorate, and his glory days in his 30s.

He began to laugh when he remembered having to study 24 hours a day and seven days a week. He began his doctoral program when he was 22, finished first when he was 25 and then a second time when he was 27. But in his 30s, Boisjoly was able to enjoy being single after getting divorced.

"I did all kinds of things that I never thought I would do. I experienced a lot of good things," he explained.

He loved to road race bicycles but was never a formal competitor.

"Every night I used to ride my bicycle around the Charles River basin, which was 20 miles, and I would do it in an hour," Boisjoly said. "Anyone who ever tried to pass me, I'd pass them back, and they would never catch me."

There are many things that Boisjoly enjoys to do when he's not spending his time as a dean. He likes to play golf and go to flea markets and auctions. The main things that he looks for at auctions are the bargains and the things that aren't sold anymore, which, in his opinion, are the hidden treasures. He also likes to make things such as picture frames,

repair things like lamps and other furniture around the house, and practice a little wood-working, too.

One of his main hidden talents is being an auctioneer. Boisjoly is a licensed auctioneer and, when he is not too busy, donates his time for charity auctions.

"It's whatever they have; it could be: furniture, jewelry, a diner where a chef comes to your house and cooks a dinner for eight," said Boisjoly explaining some of the things he auctions off. Boisjoly really has a knack for auctions.

"One auction that I took over was making around \$1,000, the first time I did it they made \$4,000, and made \$6,500 the third time I did it," Boisjoly said.

After a day at the office overseeing the school of business, he goes home to his wife and two rescue dogs. Boisjoly has lead a very interesting life and its interesting to see how he got to where he is today.



Courtesy of Russel Boisjoly

FROM THE DESK OF MAGGIE GILROY EDITOR IN CHIEF

Dear freshman Maggie,

Right now, you are terrified. Although you were perfectly comfortable switching from your small rural middle school to a larger inner-city high school, leaving that high school and heading to Fredonia is much more terrifying. You became comfortable at Binghamton High School. You found your niche, and you grew up.

Well, I'm sorry to tell you that you're going to feel that way once again — but much deeper. As it is much harder to find a niche in a school with roughly 5,000 students than at a school with 1,800 students, it's even harder to leave that niche. But the comfortability I feel now is a sign of a great learning curve. When you are in my position you will look back at your freshman years and realize the great depth of knowledge you have learned.

You're currently a BFA acting major. You knew that you liked theatre and were going to figure out your path from there. Well, let me tell you, that path is not in acting.

You will be both unhappy and unsuccessful in the acting major. But, that's okay. It will only lead you to a field you are much happier in. When you meet with Dr. Ivey for your jury feedback and he says, "You know this was bad, right?" it will be the best thing anyone could say to you. It will give you the motivation and energy to explore other fields.

When the Spring semester rolls around and you start visiting the tables of various clubs at Activities Night, looking for some sense of direction, be sure to visit The Leader. Don't worry that you

don't have a friend to join with you, just join it. You will make friends there later.

When you receive an email about The Leader's Open House, don't think twice about going. Yes, that means you will be walking to the trailer outside Dod's Hall alone — but go anyways. It will give you opportunities you could have never imagined and turn you towards an entirely new direction.

In addition to being unsure of where you want your professional life to lead you, you are going to be very lonely in your personal life for a period of time. Finding friends will take a lot of time, and, with your high school friends scattered all over the state, you are going to be looking to Fredonia to fill the void your friends left.

Well, guess what?! Those holes are not going to be filled. No, I'm not saying you won't have friends. You will have some of the best friends you've ever had. You just will have friends who are entirely different from anyone you could have imagined. You never would have been able to predict that you would call both the director of the Vagina Monologues and the captain of the women's rugby team your best friends, but you will learn to love even those who are the most opposite of you. Don't judge anyone before you get to know them.

Speaking of personal life, dump that boyfriend. College is a time to focus on yourself, and you will be happy when you are able to. Oh, and take care of your body. Work out, eat well and stop buying pizza logs. Working off the freshman fifteen is much harder than it is to put it on.

Throughout your college

career, you will come across various unexpected opportunities. Go to the workshops, sign-up for the articles, apply for the internships and, when the time comes, swallow the nervous lump in your throat and run for Editor in Chief. Sorry, you're not the smartest or most talented person here. But if you do the work and seize every opportunity that is presented to you, you will reap the benefits. You might not be able to envision yourself in these positions, but just take a chance and be brave.

Your freshman year will be one of the most challenging, but I promise that all of the tears and effort invested into your college career will be worth it. Make sure you put in your best effort, pay attention in class, spend less time on Facebook, clock into work on time and try your best to be nice to everyone you meet.



COURTESY OF MAGGIE GILROY
SAYING OUR FINAL GOODBYES BEFORE HEADING FOR FRESHMAN YEAR AT FREDONIA.

Well, freshman Maggie, that's all I have for you. I only have about four years of advice to pass on to you. I'm not going to give you any advice about the "real world" because, well, I'm not there yet. The fact of leaving this campus, exiting my positions, and saying good-bye to my friends scares me more than anything I have ever experienced. Graduate

student Maggie hasn't contacted me yet, so I guess I'm just going to take my own advice and be brave.

Fondly,

Senior Maggie



COURTESY OF MAGGIE GILROY
AN OPEN MIND HAS BROUGHT FOUR DIFFERENT FRIENDS UNDER ONE ROOF.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

MAGGIE GILROY
Editor in Chief

This year, both President Horvath and the social media team have put an emphasis on storytelling as a theme for the year. We were inspired by this new focus and wanted to further our own emphasis on storytelling. We decided to seek out the stories of those on campus, with an eagerness to learn about the stories beneath the surface of the students, faculty, staff, and even animals, of Fredonia.

This past week spent preparing the issue was both unique and exciting as many writers and editor approached me, eager to share the new information they learned about a familiar face on campus. Who knew that Dr. Herman was a fan of spelunking, or that Dr. Givner could be brought to tears when speaking about her son? We were moved by each and every story we told and are honored to have been entrusted with sharing them with the campus.

This issue contains 24 profile stories, however we are fully aware that they only skim the surface of stories within Fredonia. They have only deepened our passion for telling these stories and triggered us to want to tell more. We look forward to returning next semester and sharing your stories with others.

Do you know a person on campus whose story needs to be told? Email us at gilr3446@fredonia.edu!

De-Stress for Success

The Counseling Center, along with other groups on campus, is hosting “De-Stress for Success,” an initiative to encourage students to relax during dead week and Final Exam week. Make sure to check out some of the programs and workshops designed to help reduce stress in a healthy, productive manner and gain focus to succeed. All events are free and open to students.

Zumba

Monday, Dec. 15 & Tuesday, Dec. 16 ❄️ 11 a.m. - noon ❄️ Dods Hall Gym
Dance away stress with a free zumba class

Paws to Relax

Monday, Dec. 15 & Tuesday, Dec. 16 ❄️ noon - 1 p.m. ❄️ Reed Library
Pet and play with a certified therapy dog

Calm Down & Warm Up

Wednesday, Dec. 17 & Thursday, Dec. 18 ❄️ 11 a.m. - noon ❄️ McEwen Hall lobby

Balloon Animals

Monday, Dec. 15 7 p.m. - 8 p.m. & Tuesday, Dec. 16 ❄️ 11 a.m. - noon ❄️ Reed Library
Free balloon animals from Brittany Georgalas

Yoga

Monday, Dec. 15 ❄️ noon - 1 p.m. ❄️ Dods Hall Gym
Free yoga class, learn how to stretch away the stress. Mats will be available or you can bring your own

Glow & Flow Yoga

Tuesday, Dec. 16 ❄️ 8 p.m. - 9 p.m. ❄️ Alumni Hall Lobby
Free yoga class under black lights and with glow sticks. Mats will be available or you can bring your own

Healthy Bites

Thursday, Dec. 11 - Friday Dec. 19
The Student Health Center will be offering free healthy snacks. Healthy snacks will also be available Dec. 17 & 18 in McEwen Hall from 11 a.m. - noon

Relaxation Kits

Monday, Dec. 15 & Tuesday, Dec. 16 ❄️ noon - 1 p.m. ❄️ Reed Library
The Student Health Center will be offering free relaxation kits

Quiet Study Areas

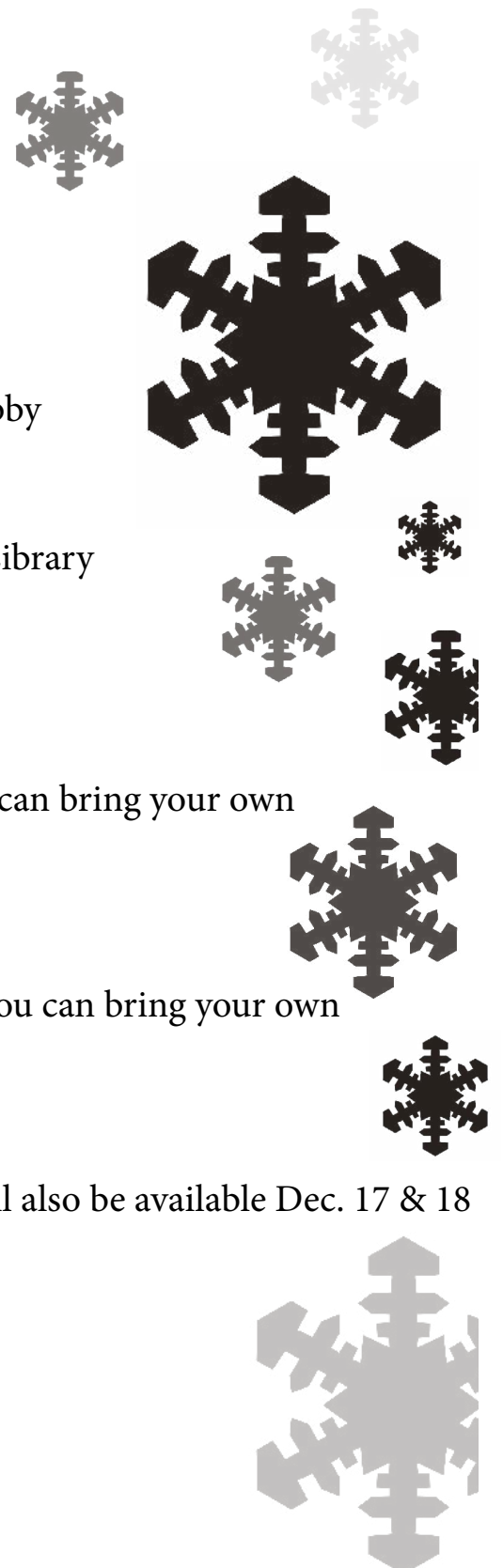
Reed Library has designated a quiet study area in the Reed Library Classroom (1st floor Carnahan-Jackson Center) 2nd and 3rd floor of the Carnahan-Jackson center from Monday, Dec. 8 through Thursday, Dec. 18 during the library's extended hours. In addition, the Williams Center has designated quiet study areas: Monday, Dec. 15 through Thursday, Dec. 18 ❄️ 9 a.m. to 11:45 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, 9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m. ❄️ Williams Center ❄️ Rooms: G103C, S204E and the Multipurpose Room

Exam Study Break

Tuesday, Dec. 16 ❄️ 7 p.m. ❄️ Williams Center: Multipurpose Room ❄️ Sponsored by Spectrum

Stress Free Zone

Thursday, Dec. 11 - Thursday Dec. 18 ❄️ Reed Library Lobby
Take a timeout from your hectic schedule and relax with various stress relieving activities including: coloring, crafts and games



THE LEADER

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OPINION

Wednesday, December 10, 2014

The Leader A-6

In the popular interview television show, interviewer James Lipton interviews actors and actresses in order to discover aspects of their private and professional life that are not well known to the public. Lipton utilizes the Pivot Questionnaire, which originally came from French series Bouillon de Culture. We, the staff of The Leader, decided to take the survey ourselves in order to discover more about ourselves and each other.
(Source: <http://www.wowzone.com/pivot.htm>)

MAGGIE GILROY
Editor in Chief

1. Awesome
2. The "r" word, the "c" word, and the "f" word (in regards to homosexuality)
3. Seeing a really good theatrical production, being around productive people,
4. When people don't look out for each other, narcissism, when someone doesn't admit a mistake, long fingernails.
5. "F*k." It can be used as a noun, adjective or verb and I use it for all of them.
6. The sound of an orchestra tuning, applause, a really good laugh.
7. The sound of a plastic fork scraping a foam dish, mouth noises, live accordion...
8. I'm starting to think that if my journalism career doesn't work out, I would love to be an English teacher.
9. A middle school bus driver. I commend anyone who can drive a vehicle containing middle schoolers.
10. "You made it by the skin of your teeth!" or "Would you like to meet your great-grandmothers?"

COURTNEE CESTA
Managing Editor

1. Christmas!
2. Moist, crust, chunk...should I go on?
3. Motivated, successful people. Them and a good, old fashioned love story.
4. Fake people.
5. Shitf*ck. there's power in numbers!
6. The pages of a book!
7. Does anybody like nails on a chalkboard...?
8. I would like to be a film composer!
9. A librarian. Despite my friends argument that it's a green card to "be mean to whoever you want without getting in trouble," I hate the feeling of dry hands. And I imagine working with paper all day makes for dry hands.
10. Nothin' beats Robin Williams' answer to this question, of "There's seating near the front. The concert begins at 5. It'll be Mozart, Elvis and anyone of your choosing. Or if Heaven exists it would be nice to know there's laughter. That would be a great thing to hear God go, "Two Jews walk into a bar."

5. Favorite? There's one? Uhhhhhhhhhh.....f*cktastic
6. GOALLLLLLLLLLLLLLLAZOLLLLLLLLLL!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
7. Screeches
8. Musician
9. Sign twirler
10. My name is Elmer Ploetz. Let's have a cup of coffee and talk about everything.

1. What is your favorite word?
2. What is your least favorite word?
3. What turns you on creatively, spiritually or emotionally?
4. What turns you off?
5. What is your favorite curse word?
6. What sound or noise do you love?
7. What sound or noise do you hate?
8. What profession other than your own would you like to attempt?
9. What profession would you not like to do?
10. If Heaven exists, what would you like to hear God say when you arrive at the Pearly Gates?

MELISSA RECHIN
Layout Editor

1. Nectarine
2. Moist
3. The smells of film developing chemicals
4. When toilet paper is on the wrong way
5. T*tty F*ck
6. The shutter of a camera
7. Silverware on plates
8. House-flipping
9. Clown-ing
10. Not necessarily what he'd say, but I'd like a fist pump and maybe a slice of pizza.

ELMER PLOETZ
Advisor

1. Said.
2. Stated (those two words are for the Journalism majors).
3. Music!
4. Willful ignorance.
5. WTF. Just the initials..
6. The sound of hounds baying.
7. Dentist drills.
8. Actor.
9. Dishwasher.
10. Damn, you made it after all!

SEAN MCGRATH
Sports Editor

1. Serendipity
2. Moist
3. Music (preferably hip-hop/rap)
4. No coffee

Who is the first person that comes



Alejandro Hidalgo
freshman, finance
"Ralphie Rivas"



Allie Gorka
sophomore, marketing/sports management
"Anthony Mercedes"

15 Shades of The Leader

S.J. FULER
News Editor

1. Loquacious
2. Worm
3. Live music played on real instruments, especially really good blues electric guitar
4. Crowds
5. What the actual f*ck - do phrases count?
6. The cello playing in its lower-middle range
7. All loud, sudden noises. All of them.
8. Something science-y. But I'm horrible at science so...
9. Custodial work on the New York City subway
10. Nothing. I just want him to give me a high five.

JORDYN HOLKA
Reverb Editor

1. Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious
2. Literally - It's literally, like, so overused ...
3. Organization, being around passionate people, visualizing what I want to accomplish with my life
4. Rude and/or impatient attitudes
5. Fudge balls! ... I have integrated it into my everyday speech and find that it is highly effective.
6. Keys clicking on a keyboard
7. The sound people make when they're hocking a loogie - It makes me gag
8. Forensic psychologist - I am fascinated by people's minds, especially those of criminals.
9. Surgeon
10. "Welcome to Heaven, the 24/7 Disney World!" If I heard that, I would die and go heaven all over again.

ALEX KALUZYNY
Social Media Manager

1. Luscious. Usually I say it out of context to food like Duff's wings. Sounds better than perfect.
2. Impossible. Or the phrase, "I'll do it." Pisses me off for no reason. I'll figure it out or learn from it.
3. Creatively...people saying I cannot do something or when I am angry. Or the music of my mood.
4. Trying too hard to find the perfect way to say something or over-thinking.
5. I use the phrase "fucking a" way too much. Sometimes in a Boston accent. No idea what the "a" is, either.
6. Any sort of hockey game sound effect.
7. Something squeaking or a kid throwing a tantrum in a restaurant/store.
8. Chef or some Culinary Arts study.
9. Custodian and dishwasher. Five out of six years of seeing any/everything is enough for me.
10. "The nearest hockey rink is over there. The Zamboni comes on in an hour. There's Molson behind the bench. Let me know if you want in on the pond hockey tournament."

EMILY WYNNE
Copy Editor

1. Repulsive
2. Wean
3. Intelligence, ambition, and coffee-
4. Smelly people
5. Ballsack
6. Book pages flipping
7. A knife or fork screeching against a plate
8. Anything related to math
9. "Welcome to Heaven. We have unlimited books, coffee, chocolate, and vodka."

SAM SIMPSON
Web Editor

1. Gucci
2. Bazinga
3. A challenge
4. Not enough food
5. Shitski
6. Leedle leedle leedle lee
7. Loud singing in public that isn't Christmas carols
8. Heart Surgeon
9. Plummer
10. The beer is free

RILEY STRAW
Copy Editor

1. "Problematic."
2. "Feminazi" and "thimble."
3. The things I understand the least. And sometimes money.
4. A lack of acceptance, poor style and religious fanaticism.
5. "Goddamn."
6. I like the sound of keyboard strokes.
7. The grumbling of my tummy in a silent situation, or any noise that a baby could make.
8. Sword-swallowing.
9. I bet being the president would suck.
10. Hopefully nothing. Editors don't like to be proven wrong.

MARY LAING
Photo Editor

1. "Illuminate"
2. "Decapitated"
3. Spoken word poetry.
4. Professors who don't use Angel
5. Any of Jim Lahey's shitisms.
6. The distinct hush of Winter I hear when standing in the woods very still. It's like hearing the absence of sound.
7. '80s synth.
8. Folk singer/musician.
9. Middle school teacher.
10. "How 'bout a beer?"

CHRISTOPHER SANCHEZ
Advertising Sales Manager

1. Happy!
2. It's more of a phrase but I hate when people say "that's so gay" or retarded.
3. Positive energy and the collaboration of others thoughts and ideas
4. A lack of drive or ambition.
5. Fuck but I love them all equally.
6. The sound the cork makes when you pop open a bottle of wine, it's beautiful!
7. Styrofoam rubbing together.
8. I've always kinda sorta wanted to be a dancer, like a hip hop back up dancer lol. Check me out on beyonces next world tour.
9. Anything custodial, I'm a germaphobe and I hate cleaning up after other people.
10. "I'm surprised you got in!" To which I would respond "Me too!" Then we'd laugh together and have a mini beer from Magill's.

RYLI CHIMEL
Business Manager

1. Optimism
2. Not sure
3. The thought of a beautiful outcome
4. Hatred, racism, ignorance, body odor
5. F*ck (although I should stop saying it so much)
6. Nature sounds - from a quiet night in the country with crickets, to the ocean waves crashing
7. People snoring - the actual WORST
8. Interior Design; Architect; FBI agent (inspired by my new love for the show The X-Files)
9. A politician
10. "Don't sit down just yet. It's time to travel luxuriously to all the places you've ever dreamed of (because this is Heaven, duh). When you get back, Fox Mulder, Don Draper, and Jesse Pinkman will be waiting to buy you a drink at the bar."

LEO FRANK
Lampoon Editor

1. "Defenestrate," because it's so cool that there's a word for throwing someone/something out a window.
2. Cheesesteak.
3. Coffee.
4. Cynicism and unwarranted anger.
5. All of them at once.
6. Rustling paper.
7. The sound of someone sniffing, like, really hard.
8. Mailman.
9. President.
10. "I like you and you are good. Thanks for not sinning too hard."

to mind when you think of Fredonia?



Leron Wellington
sophomore, theatre arts
"President Horvath"



Nia Ferguson
sophomore, acting
"Me"



Chris Scott
senior, video production
"Tom Sullivan"

Miss Delta Chi raises over \$1,000



Courtesy of Gregory W. Pardner Jr.

COURTNEE CESTA
Managing Editor

The brothers of the Delta Chi Fraternity didn't let the snow day hold them back. The Miss Delta Chi Pageant, which was originally scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 18 and therefore cancelled due to the snowstorm,

was successfully rescheduled for last week. The event benefited the Jimmy V Foundation for cancer research and raised \$1,100 this year, which, according to organizers, was the most successful pageant since the event started six years ago.

Nearly 150 tickets were sold, on top of the \$130 in raffle

ticket sales from gift baskets that were donated by groups including the Delta Phi Epsilon, Sigma Kappa and Sigma Gamma Phi.

The pageant included six contestants who were judged on categories including formal wear and knowledge of a cancer of their choosing — O-

ivia Phillips was crowned this year's Miss Delta Chi, with Sara Tichman as runner up, followed by Whitney Tracy. Other contestants included Katie Hayes, Sara Dix and Hannah Mae Smith. Entertainment was provided by DJ Moreno.

"The Delta Chi Fraternity is beyond grateful for the success

of this year's event and extremely satisfied of the amount raised towards a great cause," Gregory W. Pardner Jr., fundraising chair for the event said in a press release. "We hope the people of the community continue to help us make this a prosperous and continuous event!"



Brittany Lietz didn't think that indoor tanning could hurt her.

She didn't know UV light from indoor tanning can actually increase your risk of melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer.

Brittany, a frequent indoor tanner since she was 17, was diagnosed with melanoma when she was 20.

She is a melanoma survivor, but current estimates show that one person dies from melanoma about every hour.

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Indoor tanning is out.

To read Brittany's skin cancer story or to learn more about protecting your skin go to www.aad.org/media/psa



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Alumnus spearheads redesign of university website, commercial

Website puts emphasis on storytelling

MAGGIE GILROY
Editor in Chief

Students returning for the Fall semester were greeted by a series of changes made to the “look” of Fredonia. The recent rebranding calls for the university to be labeled by a single name: State University of New York at Fredonia, or just simply, “Fredonia.” A new logo graced the campus, while the unified name brought a sense of solidarity to the university.

While current students are surrounded by evidence of the newly transformed campus through signs, merchandise and advertisements, those off-campus can also witness this transformed Fredonia through the re-vamped university website, <http://www.fredonia.edu>.

Department of communication alumnus Nick Gunner spearheaded the re-design of the website, in collaboration with Fredonia’s marketing team. The process began in January of 2014 and took the entire semester to build, be approved, receive feedback and go live.

The new brand, led by director of marketing and public relations Mike Barone, and logo, led by Patty Herkey, were unveiled simultaneously with the new homepage.

“That homepage is just the first little sliver of a much bigger undertaking, which is to re-design the whole website, right down into the department pages,” Gunner said in a recent interview.

Gunner, Assistant Webmaster/Social Media Manager and self-described “digital storyteller,” began this re-design with the homepage, as it is the most-visited portion of the website. Main features of the website include its mobile friendly design — which allows it to be viewed on a screen of any size — as well as its emphasis on storytelling.

“It’s important to have that pathos appeal, to give that validation, that good feeling,” Gunner said of the storytelling emphasis. “Yeah, we can say all the reasons why we’re a great place, but here’s proof. Here’s some stories.”

In order to do this, the new media team, led by Gunner and

comprised of mainly student interns, has focused on telling the stories of individuals on campus through the website’s blog. Unlike previous years, the team will not be covering campus events — they will solely seek out and subsequently tell stories about individuals.

Coincidentally, at President Virginia Horvath’s all-campus meeting, just days before the first day of classes for the Fall semester, she announced that her mission for the year would be to uncover stories of individuals on campus. As Gunner and Horvath had not previously planned this, it is what he calls a “happy accident.”

The new media team published 50 stories during the fall semester alone.

“The best part about it is watching the progression of the first blog post to the fifth blog post,” Gunner said, “to see how, with a little feedback, how they’re evolving and getting a little more adventurous and pushing themselves a little more. It’s cool.”

Gunner is a graduate of the class of 2011 and remained in the

Fredonia region after his marriage following graduation. He and his wife, a local Spanish teacher, currently live local to the university. After working at a company in Jamestown and then starting his own company, Gunner applied for, and received, the position of Assistant Webmaster/Social Media Manager.

His experience with Fredonia Radio Systems is what Gunner credits as the greatest influence for where he is, professionally, today. He continues to work with members of FRS, who have lent their voices and equipment to the production of the university’s most recent commercial.

In addition to the home page, Gunner led the production of the commercial. The commercial is currently being screened on television and before every movie at all Regal theaters in the Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse and Ithaca areas.

“We’re adapting to the workplace and to the world. We have built up an incredible portfolio of programs at Fredonia that people don’t necessarily know us for,”

Gunner said.

While Fredonia is known for its strength in music and the performing arts, its science, technology, engineering and math (S.T.E.M) programs are not as well-known. However, Gunner’s concept in shooting the commercial is to establish Fredonia as not only a S.T.E.M. school, but a S.T.E.A.M (science, technology, engineering, arts, math) school.

“Adding that little extra creativity — that’s something the business community seems to want really bad,” Gunner said.

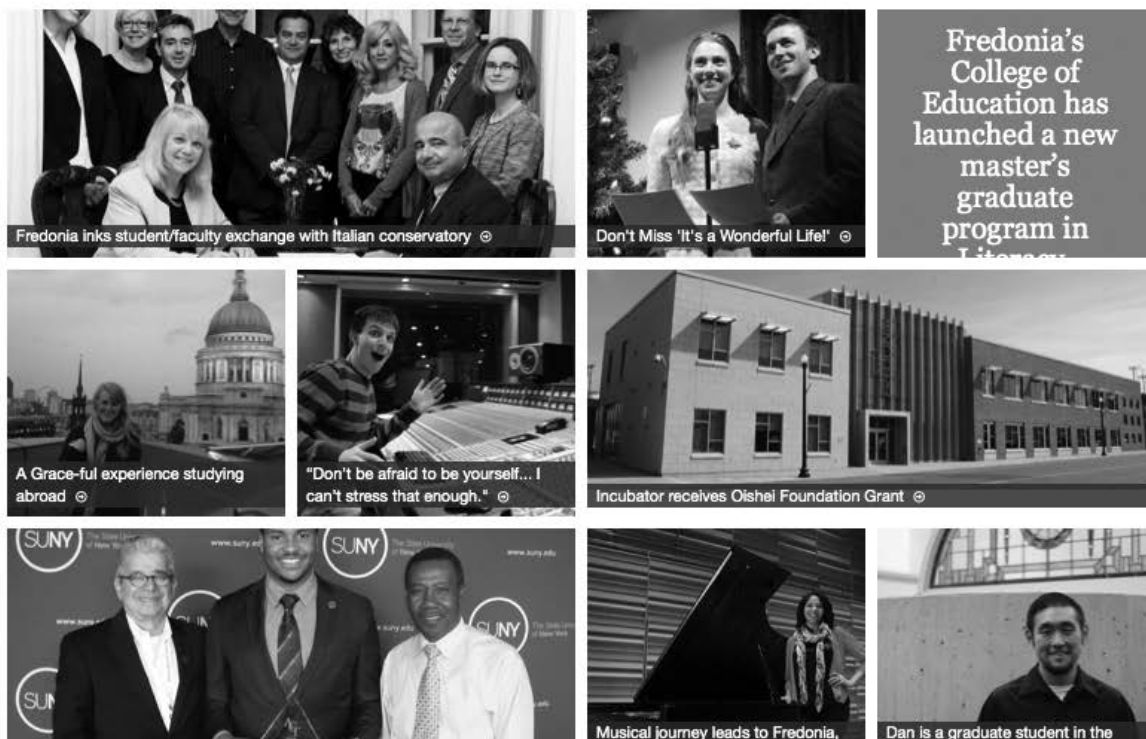
The commercial was shot and produced in a mere two and a half weeks.

Fredonia’s new image is constantly changing and evolving, along with the website. Gunner is currently working on changing the platform that his team uses to manage the website, beginning in the Spring semester. His goal is to have everything off of the current platform by January of 2016.



Glimpses of Fredonia

News Blog Calendars Maps



Regulier exits SA position, reflects on college career



Courtesy of Antonio Regulier

MARSHA COHEN
Staff Writer

Sitting outside of McEwen G24 at his last General Assembly meeting as president of the Student Association, senior Antonio Regulier is bombarded by students congratulating him on a job well done or just looking to say “hi.”

It is not uncommon to hear about the numerous activities that Regulier has participated in or the large amount of awards that he has won during his time at Fredonia — Regulier has been the recipient of the 100 Black Men of America Future Leader Scholarship, the

SUNY Association of Council Members and College Trustees Award for Excellence and Student Initiative Scholarship, Robert E. Coon Recognition Award (top junior award for academic excellence and student leadership), and the Mamie and Ira Jordan Minority Scholastic Achievement Award.

Regulier’s extra curricular activities include being a College Student Ambassador and a Global Student Ambassador. He has also been a member of Fredonia’s Mock Trial team, had a heavy involvement in SA, been Amnesty International’s president since fall of 2013, a crucial member of

the Black Student Union and this year’s homecoming king.

As a Keeper of the Dream Scholar, Regulier saw the recognition as a launching pad to get involved and initiate change on campus.

“[Keeper of the Dream] is not just a way to provide financial support, it also builds leadership capability and motivates you do something on campus. I was nominated for a committee my sophomore year, which was the Engage the Community sub-committee and it took off from there,” said Regulier.

It was from that point on that Regulier began to get involved in

various clubs on campus. But being a “member” was not enough for him.

“I was always a member of BSU, but it wasn’t until the fall of 2013 that I entered under the administration of Erin Dorozynski [former SA president], I was chair of Diversity Relations and then I was featured in the Fredonia commercial,” Regulier said. “I don’t want to call it a domino effect, but there were other several contributing factors.”

After graduating high school at the top of his class, Regulier planned to take a break from all the hard work he did in high school. But instead, he saw a need in Fredonia that could not be ignored.

“I grew up on Roosevelt which is one of the poorest neighborhoods on Long Island. So we struggled immensely with our school system, with our administrators. I identify with needs like that; we want to make a change. Minorities are not sought after sometimes. Minorities tend to have the lower hand. The only way I saw that we can change that is by getting involved. I saw that need and I knew that I had to be the one to fill it. I wanted to be a voice, I wanted to affect change,” said Regulier.

Regulier’s drive and passion for change has rubbed off on some of his colleagues.

“I met Antonio during Multicultural Weekend in 2011, and we became friends instantly. We jumped on stage together that

weekend and made a pact that we were going to change this campus,” said Rachel James, a senior public relations major and vice president of Black Student Union.

James took over Antonio’s role as chair of public relations when he stepped into his role as the SA president. She admitted that she had some big shoes to fill when Regulier left the role.

“Antonio is very popular on this campus, so he was able to get the word out a lot. A lot of his friends came to his events, so I knew that I had to be just as social as him to get the word out,” said James.

The night when his SA presidency came to a close, Regulier could have patted himself on the back, saying “well done, I’ve accomplished what I needed to accomplish.” But, he chose to look ahead.

“My mom’s one of those people who doesn’t like exaltation. She has taught me to be humble. Stopping is not an option because the moment you stop you become complacent. Once you get complacent is the minute you give up, and once you give up you start losing — and once you lose you’re done ... It gets hard, you lose family members, you struggle financially, you have relationships that either end well or badly. You have experiences that test your character, but they make you a better wholesome person,” said Regulier.

Herman reflects on 45 years in student affairs

MAGGIE GILROY
Editor in Chief

“I’ve been spelunking, do you know what spelunking is?” Dr. David Herman asked when listing off his various hobbies. He will happily explain that spelunking is the act of exploring caves and list the different aspects of a cave.

Herman, the Vice President for Student Affairs, has had a 45 year career working in student affairs. Recent events pertaining to student behavior have caused Herman’s name to be synonymous with the generally unpopular changes, causing many people to expect the worst when they see his name in their inbox.

Despite this, Herman feels that disciplinary action is only a small portion of his job.

“I’ve always said that if more than 10% of my job is spent on conduct then I’m doing something wrong,” Herman said.

Herman was born in Pittsburgh, Pa., however his father’s job at a railroad caused him to travel with his family to 19 places in his first 22 years of life. Locations traveled included Pennsylvania, Ohio and New Jersey, however he spent the latter portion of his highschool years in Hamburg, N.Y. And as this was the longest he had spend in any one place, Herman considers Hamburg to be his hometown.

He did not let this un-traditional lifestyle affect his involvement in each community he lived in.

“My mom and dad kept me very involved so wherever I was, I was very busy with scouts and

sports and different church-related activities,” Herman said.

Herman attended Penn State for his undergraduate education, then Kent State for his Masters and Doctorate degrees. Herman, who comes from a family of scientists, majored in geophysical sciences during his undergraduate career, however his experience as a Resident Assistant caused him to pursue student personnel and counseling for his master’s degree and higher education administration for his doctorate.

“I was going to go work for Chevron Oil when I graduated, but I asked them if I could take a year or so for my master’s but they encouraged me and said ‘sure, go ahead.’ But I was kind of burned out on science by then and thought I needed a year or two to work with humans,” Herman said.

Herman attributes his college experience, and his job as an RA, for inspiring him to pursue a career in higher education administration.

Herman’s career in higher education administration took him from Penn State to Kent State, then to the University of Maryland Baltimore County and Oakland University.

“I kind of worked my way up through the Residence Hall, where I eventually took on other things: judicial affairs, counseling center, health center, enrollment, athletics and slowly took on more areas,” Herman said.

Herman arrived at Fredonia in 2001 — the smallest campus he has worked at.

“I thought it was a chance to have a more personal impact on students and have a better relation-

ship with students in far as being able to learn and grow together,” Herman said. “So, I think one of the most impressive things, besides the people you are working with, is also the students.”

Amongst the skills Herman has learned during his time in higher education is bird carving, which he took a class in while in Michigan.

“I stain glass, I enjoy golf, I enjoy gardening, I enjoy travel,” Herman said of his many hobbies.

Favorite travel places have included Austria and Canada, and he hopes to visit Ireland one day to retrace his roots. His interest in the sciences resurfaced in his enjoyment for outdoor activities such as fishing, camping and repelling.

“When I was a geology major we went on lots of field trips all over the country all over the United States with geology students,” Herman said.

Herman’s children have remained in Michigan; his daughter currently works as a teacher and his son works in computer information systems.

And while Herman currently has three grandsons, he will welcome a fourth planned for Jan. 5.

“That’s been a very fun time, being a grandparent,” Herman said. “It’s very exciting to see their energy and enthusiasm.”

After 45 years in student affairs, Herman said that he has had a hard time stopping.

“A lot of people are surprised



Courtesy of Dr. David Herman

how much I really enjoy my work, because they see student affairs as so complicated,” Herman said. “They wouldn’t want to deal with some of the problems we have to deal with. But I enjoy the challenge of that.”

Despite the many challenges Herman faces, he feels that higher education has made him a better person.

“I think working at a college has enriched me as a person,” Herman said. “It’s made me aware of things I never knew. College raises your consciousness, whether you’re a student or a faculty member, you learn from each other. And, for me, college has just been a tremendous career.”

Pet profile: the First Puppy

AMANDA DEDIE
Staff Writer

An official purebred title is a name that a dog breeder gives to their new puppies based on where they were bred and other information. Usually, you can learn a lot by knowing a dog's purebred title. So what, then, can you infer about a dog officially named Winifred Jade Hatteras Girl of His Precious Paws of Olde Forest?

Or better yet, what can you learn from the dog's more fondly known name: Freddie?

Freddie is a 7-month-old Biewer Terrier from Greensboro, North Carolina. She is family to President Virginia Horvath and honorary campus mascot, as well as a friend to all of the Fredonia community.

Weighing in at around seven lbs., she has tri-colored markings of black, white and brown. Her hair is only a few inches long but can grow to the floor, and she has a tail curled like the handle of a teapot — matching the teapot collection in President Horvath's sitting room. She also has hair, not fur, so if you're allergic to dog fur, no worries — you can still partake in the campus-wide love for Freddie.

Freddie is an extremely smart puppy for only being seven months old. Her treats are sometimes put into a plastic

puzzle, where there are compartments hidden under blocks that Freddie has to move with her mouth. She then eats the food, turns the top part of the puzzle with her nose to get to more hidden compartments and reveals more treats!

"I've never had a dog that could do that kind of thing before," said Horvath. "When you think of how you teach a dog ... how do you teach a dog what to do? But she knows what to do. She figured all this out."

When she's not spending her time frolicking around campus with her mom, Freddie likes to chew (especially on antique furniture), watch birds and squirrels, have her belly rubbed and play with her puzzles.

Not even a year old, there's so many new things for a puppy to discover. For example, this is Freddie's first time experiencing the seasonal changes. In the summer, she enjoys the warm weather. In the fall, Freddie likes to chase every single leaf that blows across her path. This past winter, especially during the one week snowstorm, Freddie discovered how much she likes to play in the snow. Is there anything this dog doesn't like?

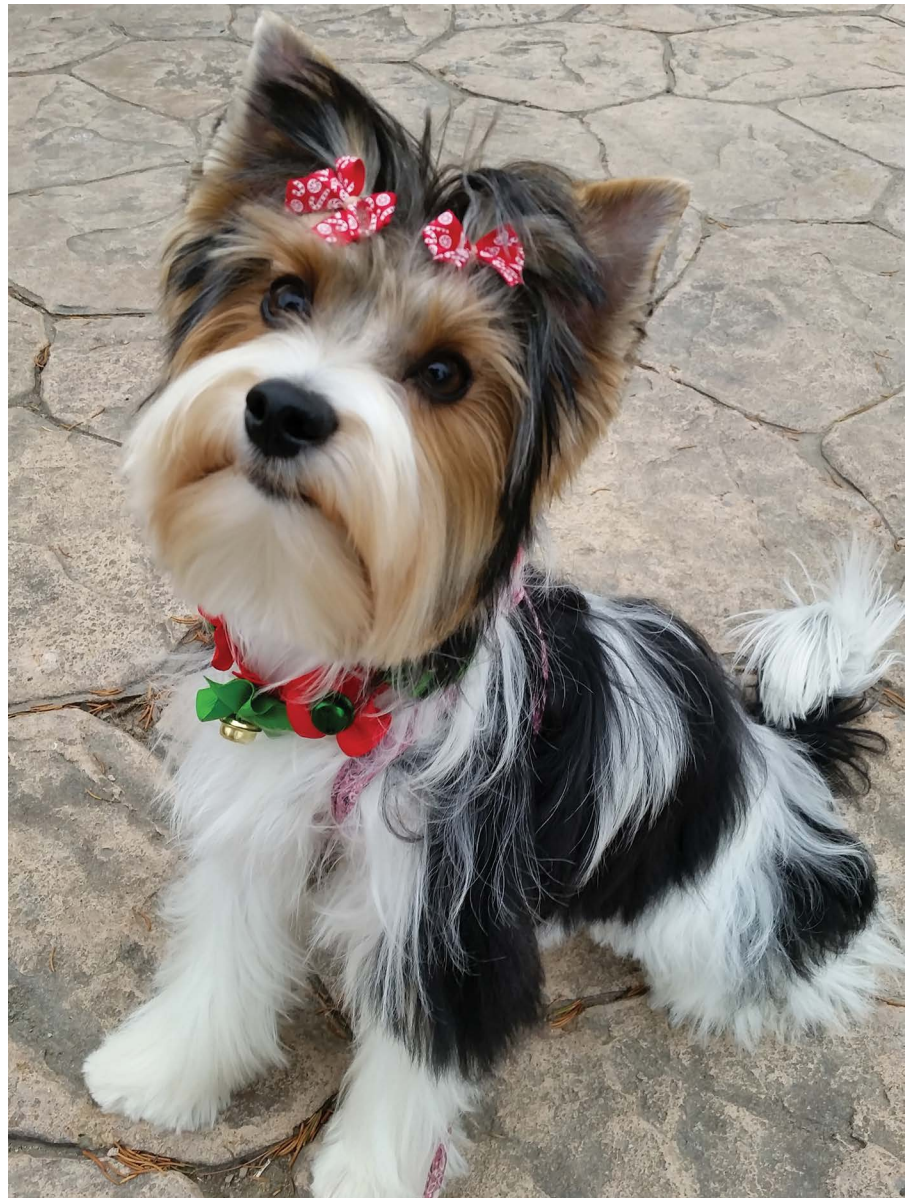
"She's very sweet. She's calm. She's also very curious about things. She likes people,

which is good," said Horvath. "She is just a sweet little girl."

Even then, Freddie likes to get into her fair share of trouble. According to Horvath, Freddie likes to turn over the area rugs in the kitchen to chew the backs off of them. She also likes to play "Find the Puppy," a game which includes running into a room, having her mom come after her, then running out and into a different area of the house. This game is one of Freddie's favorites, especially when it's bedtime.

But what does Freddie like the most? Other than her mom, of course, Freddie absolutely loves the people of Fredonia.

"This is the only home she's ever known," said Horvath. "She likes seeing the number of people that we see here. Students are very nice to her. She seems comfortable with students, happy with students. She likes being held."



Courtesy of President Horvath

She likes when students come and about this home." over to the house. That's what she really likes about Fredonia



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PEACE RALLY

On Dec. 5, the Black Student Union, Center for Multicultural Affairs and the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion held the Justice for All - Peace Rally. An email, inviting members of the student body to join the rally, said "we will walk along ring road to the clock tower in reverence of the lives cut short due to incidents of racial oppression and/or police brutality, such as the recent cases of Eric Garner and Michael Brown." The group met at the Peace Pole in front of Mason Hall at 2 p.m., then walked along ring road to the clock tower where they observed a moment of silence. The peaceful rally was open to all members of the community.

All photos taken by Mary Laing / Photo Editor



Steinberg reaches 44th and final year of teaching

REBECCA HALE
Assistant Reverb Editor

Anyone who knows anything about the Department of English — as well as many outside the department — here at Fredonia knows Dr. Theodore Steinberg. He has been a part of the Fredonia family for 44 years, and at the end of this semester, he will be saying goodbye to the university and hello to a new chapter in his life — retirement.

Dr. Steinberg has helped shape the English department into what it is today, as he created many of the courses that he has taught for years, such as medieval, renaissance, Greek and Roman literature. It's Steinberg's love of literature that influences his unique teaching style.

Any student who has taken a class of Steinberg's can quote his catch phrase, taken from Philip Sidney: "Literature should both teach and delight."

"I truly believe that if you study literature in the right way, it should make you a better person," Steinberg said.

Going along with literature, Steinberg also has a passion for language and can read and write in many languages, including Hebrew and Greek. He attributes his passions to a former teacher from when he was very young.

"In the second year of middle school, I had a really good English teacher, and she got me hooked," Steinberg explained. "She just was

so enthusiastic about literature, and I sort of fell in love with language. I thought it'd be nice to spend my life with books."

That was when Steinberg decided to devote his life not only to teaching but also learning.

"I have a wide range of interests: literature, language, science, music, politics. I try to do some of everything," he said. Steinberg also has a great passion for music, both listening and playing. He plays piano, and he used to play viola — something he says he wants to take up again in his retirement.

Some students who may not know Steinberg well may also find it surprising to know that he has also written six books, mostly about literature. He is currently working on a seventh, about Yiddish literature, that he hopes to finish within four years.

Steinberg has taught exclusively at Fredonia; he began working here immediately after receiving his degree from Johns Hopkins University and his Doctorate from the University of Illinois. Steinberg says he never had a need to teach elsewhere, because he loves Fredonia.

"One of the things I really like the most [about Fredonia] is the sense of community we have here among faculty and students and even the administration," Steinberg said. "Our students are just good people."

Still, though, he feels guilty about retiring and leaving behind so much, Steinberg said. "It's just time to make room for other people."

He has three children and five grandchildren, who live in New York, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. He plans to spend more time visiting them, as well as traveling with his wife to places like Costa Rica, Israel, Greece, Italy and Scandinavia.

Just one example of how Steinberg has impacted his students is senior English major, Ricky Nolan, who recently changed his major from international studies after taking a class with Steinberg. Nolan is currently taking three of Steinberg's classes.

"I want to get my Ph.D. in English and medieval renaissance studies, and I want to teach at a collegiate level because of him," Nolan said. "How I see myself teaching is going to be very similar to how he teaches."

Nolan said he loves Steinberg's open-discussion style of teaching, and the way in which he engages his students, even in a class like Epic and Romance, in which many students dread reading texts like The Iliad or The Odyssey.

"Steinberg incorporates so much more. He was the one who made me aware that you can tie so much more into literature that just looking at the text itself."

Nolan knows that the department won't be the same without Steinberg, but he hopes that if he ever returns to Fredonia to teach, he can fill Steinberg's medieval literature shoes.

"I think there's going to be a big vacancy," Nolan said. "No one



REBECCA HALE / ASSISTANT REVERB EDITOR

AFTER 44 YEARS OF TEACHING EXCLUSIVELY AT FREDONIA, STEINBERG LOOKS FORWARD TO A NEW CHAPTER IN HIS LIFE.

approaches the material in the same way; no one carries the same focus that he does."

Nonetheless, in his 44 years here at Fredonia, Dr. Steinberg has

striven for and achieved instilling in his students, "a love of learning, and [the ability to] turn that learning into action."

Stonefelt recognized for contribution in music



Courtesy of Roger Coda

KORRI BARKLEY
Staff Writer

"The more you know, the more you can do."

Karolyn Stonefelt, head of Fredonia's percussion area, has immersed herself in many areas, both inside and outside of music, and has proven these words of hers to be true. But it is because of her work, within the field of music, that Stonefelt was recently appointed as a State University of New

York Distinguished Professor.

According to documents released by Nancy L. Zimpher, Chancellor of the Members of the SUNY Board of Trustees, "the distinction is attained through significant contributions to the research [of] literature or through artistic performance or achievement in the case of the arts. The candidate's work must be of such character that the individual's presence will tend to elevate the standards of scholarship of colleagues both within and beyond [this]

person's academic field."

Stonefelt was chosen for the Distinguished Professorship, as she has a highly reputable presence in both national and international settings of the arts. She began her endeavors as an undergraduate at Baldwin Wallace University Conservatory of Music, studying percussion. During her years as a student, she spent her summers in Aspen, CO., where she was principal percussionist in the Aspen Music Festival Orchestra — an event that helped her recognize her true potential.

After that, one thing led to another.

Immediately following her undergraduate studies, Stonefelt participated in numerous orchestral ensembles throughout the United States, including the Baltimore Symphony, where she served as one of the first full-time female percussionists to be on contract with a major symphony orchestra.

"Getting a job with the Baltimore Symphony was one of the most significant moments during my career," Stonefelt recalled. "During that time, they were only hiring women as extras, so that was certainly a key landmark for me."

Following her time at Baltimore, Stonefelt moved to the New York City, where she performed in over 20 Broadway and Off-Broadway shows. Some of her most memorable and exciting experiences were in the Off-Broadway scene, including "Wanted and Promenade" from the Judson Poets' Theatre; "From Berlin to Broadway" with Kurt Weill, supervised by Lotte Lenya, Weill's wife; two of the longest running Off-Broadway productions, "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown" and "Dames at Sea;" and two of the shortest runs, "Ambassador" and "Good

News."

In 1982, Stonefelt felt it was time for a change.

"Crime was high [in New York City], the economy was awful and the shows closed," Stonefelt said, explaining her reasoning for deciding to leave the city and move to Indiana.

For the following 10 years, she studied ethnomusicology and jazz history at Indiana University and received her Doctor of Music in Percussion Performance degree in 1992.

Throughout the pursuit of her doctorate, she performed in Germany, France and the former USSR with the Stuttgart Opera Orchestra, while holding positions as an Associate Instructor of Percussion at Indiana University and Lecturer in Percussion at Fredonia.

One year later, Stonefelt received the Fulbright Senior Scholar Research Grant to Ghana, West Africa. While there, she worked with the Ghana Dance Ensemble studying xylophone styles of the Dagara people, as well as various indigenous drumming patterns of Ghana. According to her biography on Fredonia's School of Music page, "In return, Stonefelt was able to share her knowledge of contemporary music through a course that she taught at the University of Ghana at Legon on music in the twentieth century."

The same year (1992), Stonefelt joined the Fredonia School of Music as a faculty member.

With her passion for ethnic culture and percussion instruments, Stonefelt has enhanced the school's multicultural awareness and world music performance by initiating African xylophone and drumming style classes, Mexican Marimba Ensemble and creating a program for students to travel to Ghana

for three weeks to learn the language, history and life lessons that are passed down through West African music and dance tradition.

Due to the recent Ebola outbreak in West Africa, this year's trip to Ghana has been postponed. Instead, Bernard Woma and members of the Saakumu Drum and Dance Ensemble will visit Fredonia on Jan. 13-16 to bring the Ghanaian culture to Fredonia.

Participants from all backgrounds are welcome to attend the six-day intensive workshop of traditional drumming, gyil (African xylophone), song and dance, culture and history.

The schedule will accommodate professional educator's schedules, as 37.5 credit hours of continuing education will be awarded. The workshop will also count as a three-credit undergraduate music course.

"My goal was to have a cultural experience — an alternative way of thinking and learning about music," Stonefelt explained. "For any musician, things that deal with rhythmic divisions can only enhance our understanding of rhythm and how we play. Playing with your hands on a drum in front of you, it's pretty hard to separate yourself away from the feeling of the music, so we begin to internalize rhythm. The dance incorporated into the classes also gives you body movement-awareness."

In addition to teaching, Stonefelt is the timpanist with the Western New York Chamber Orchestra and the percussionist for Fioretto, a Finnish ensemble dedicated to performing medieval and renaissance music.

Robert Geffert: always looking on the bright side of life



JORDYN HOLKA / REVERB EDITOR

ROBERT GEFFERT HAS BEEN BRINGING SMILES TO STUDENTS SINCE 2005 WHEN HE SECURED A JOB AT UNIVERSITY COMMONS NINE YEARS AGO.

JORDYN HOLKA
Reverb Editor

Robert Geffert lives his life by a Monty Python-inspired mantra: "always look on the bright side of life." Many of us know Geffert as the sweet cashier who works in the dining halls on campus, always addressing us by name and wishing us the happiest of days upon our departure from his cash register.

Geffert began his career at Fredonia nine years ago, when he secured a job through the resource center at the time the school was hiring an all-new staff for the newly remodeled University Commons.

"I have my job through the resource center because I'm actually fully disabled, so I'm just lucky to have any job," said Geffert.

Throughout his time at Fredonia, Geffert has worked at Erie Dining Hall and Cranston Marche,

and is now in the beginning stages of becoming a regular worker in the C-Store.

Students love going through Geffert's cashier line, because he is always so kind to interact with.

"Whenever I go into Cranston, he's always smiling, and he's one of my favorite people to see!" said Kelly Jacuzzo, a senior speech pathology major.

"Whenever I see him, he brightens my day," added Ali Shanahan, a senior double major in speech pathology and Spanish.

And the warm feelings are reciprocated, as when asked what his favorite part of his job is, Geffert replied, "It's probably going to sound hokey, but you kids!"

He said that "the kids and the community" are his favorite things about Fredonia overall. "They're just nice," he added.

Although he really only comes to campus for his job, Geffert said

that he has participated in a few on-campus events throughout the years, such as an event aimed at promoting marriage equality that took place on campus fairly recently.

In his free time, Geffert watches sci-fi "how it's made" specials on the science channel. He also teaches about computers, as well as tutors at the library in Silver Creek. He is passionate about computers, which was his topic of study when he attended Jamestown Community College for computer science as a young adult.

When asked what is the one thing he wants Fredonia students to know about him, Geffert thought for a minute, before replying simply, "Disabled people — we can do just as good as anybody else."

Julie Newell: the face behind the opera

KRISTEN SHULTIS
Staff Writer

Every day we go to events around campus, but we don't always know the names and faces of the people behind these events. One event that is usually popular is the Hillman Opera, but unless we are involved in some way, we may not know the producer of the opera. Her name is Julie Newell, and she is also on the voice faculty here at Fredonia.

Aside from being producer for the Hillman, Newell is the director for Fredonia's opera program, spending time directing productions with the Student Opera Theatre Association (SOTA) and the Western New York Chamber Orchestra (WNYCO) — a group for which she serves as a volunteer executive director — as well.

"My role as a producer and stage director is something which working at Fredonia has uniquely provided me, and in a truly exciting environment," she said. "It is so rewarding to work with student

singer/actors! Part of the rehearsal and production process is to introduce students to an expected professional system — whether their



Courtesy of WNYCO

professional goal is to sing full-time, to teach at the university or public school level or to participate in any one of the many associated professional possibilities which intersect

with the operatic art form."

Newell got her start right here at Fredonia, where she received her bachelor's in vocal performance and music education. While at Fredonia, she was also in Hillman productions of Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Mikado" and "The Yeoman of the Guard." Her career has come full-circle, as Newell is now the producer of the company of which she was once a member.

After her graduation from Fredonia, Newell went on to receive her master's of music in vocal performance from Syracuse University, where she attended with a full scholarship and had a very prestigious voice teacher, Helen Boatwright.

Newell has since worked as a professional singer for 15 years and had roles in operas including "La Boheme," "Carmen," "Turandot," "The Magic Flute," "Othello," "Falstaff," "Die Fledermaus," "The

See Newell page B-4

The captain of Centre Pointe: Matt Stinson



JORDYN HOLKA / REVERB EDITOR

MATT STINSON HAS BEEN WORKING AS AN FSA CASHIER SINCE 2011..

JORDYN HOLKA
Reverb Editor

Captain America is his favorite superhero, and Fredonia is his home. Meet Matt Stinson, the Centre Pointe cashier who encompasses so much more than simply his infectiously pleasant demeanor.

Stinson has been working as a cashier with FSA since March of 2011, beginning just six short weeks after losing his previous job when the Dunkirk branch of Blockbuster shut down in February of 2011 due to lack of business.

Having grown up in the town of Fredonia and spending time on campus as a child with his father, a former English professor, Stinson is no stranger to the Fredonia way of life.

"I think there really is a warmth to Fredonia — everybody acts as a community. It's a friendly place," said Stinson. "It feels like home, really; for me, it is home."

Stinson loves the Fredonia community and works to be an active force in making it a positive and joyful environment.

"I really feel like it's my job to do the best I can in everything and treat everyone politely, fairly. I always want to treat people how I would want to be treated — that's something that's really important to me."

This attitude shines through in Stinson's work, as he is always pleasant in all of his interactions with any and all customers who come through his cashier line.

"He's so happy, no matter what time of day it is. I actually find myself going out of my way to go through his line when I see he's working," said Laura Werwinski, a sophomore public relations major. "I can always count on him to tell me to have a good day, and it always does make my day a little better."

Beneath that exuberant exterior, there is a man with thoughts and emotions other than pure, customer service-approved bliss.

"Undereath my personality, I'm actually pretty shy; I'm pretty self-conscious at times, but I try to just work through it and do the best I can," said Stinson.

He said that he maintains his air

of seemingly infinite positivity through the practice of deep meditation each afternoon before he comes into work for the evening. He also names sufficient rest as a major contributor.

When asked if he has ever even wanted to get angry with a student or other customer while on the job, Stinson quickly replied, "Oh, no — I'd feel horrible about that!"

Outside of work, in addition to his meditation, Stinson likes to play guitar and collect comic books.

"My favorite series of all time is Captain America," said Stinson.

When asked what else the students who see him every day might not know about him, Stinson replied, "One thing people might not know is that I have a learning disability, so it's harder for me to multitask — I sort of have to really hyper-focus. So I always want to be really pleasant and easy to get along with people, but at the same time, I sort of have to really hone in on what I need to do. It has its challenges, but I think in some ways it has shown me resilience — to try to always do my best and to try to always be fair and kind to everybody."

With an outlook like that, it is no wonder that Stinson is such a joy to be around. He is able to take the role of cashier, a role that could be simply background noise in a student's day, and turn an interaction with him into a notable experience.

"I love interacting with all types of people — students, faculty, staff, older people, younger people, everybody, really! I really do enjoy interacting with [students], and I look forward to seeing them whenever I do," he said.

Overall, Stinson chooses to live his life by a mantra of "keep moving forward."

"I know all of us might think of bad things that have happened or mistakes we have made," he said, "but, hopefully, we just learn from them and then keep trying to grow and improve as people."

There really is a lot to be learned from Stinson about life and positivity. Oh, and something else we can learn from him — his expert opinion on the best snack to grab at Willy C. The answer: the Buffalo chicken sandwich.

Newell:

continued from B-3

Marriage of Figaro” and “Cosi fan tutte,” just to name a few. She has also had the opportunity to travel around the country, but has not avoided singing a few times closer to home at the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York City.

And although she has traveled nationwide, Newell says her heart is still with her students right here at Fredonia.

“I am the ‘glue,’” Newell said. “Sometimes a problem solver, but mostly someone to offer support of the excellent work of both the faculty and students. The teaching element of serving as producer is to offer a process which mirrors, as closely as possible, a professional audition, rehearsal and performance schedule and ‘philosophy.’”

Newell attributes the talent and success of singers at Fredonia to the high caliber of the voice faculty. Meanwhile, Newell’s students say that she is to thank for their growth over the years.

“[Newell] is an amazing artist and person and has helped me grow as a student. She is also one of the hardest working people that I know,” said Morgan Hartley, a junior Music Education major who is Newell’s student.

As for Newell’s favorite opera, she had this to say: “You asked me what my favorite opera is — and that is truly impossible to say — but for pure love of the music, ‘Boheme’ and ‘Marriage of Figaro’ — but other operas I’ve been in and adored include ‘Turn of the Screw,’ ‘The Rakes Progress’ and ‘Ariadne Auf Naxos.’”

The next time you go and see an opera, whether a WYNCO or Hillman production, you will know the name of the woman working behind the scenes.

BRIONA SAAS
Special to The Leader

The freshmen at Fredonia are not as well known as other students. They haven’t been here for very long and haven’t met everyone yet; however, despite their age, one can still learn from them.

Shane Meenaghan is from Buffalo, N.Y.; he is an 18-year-old freshman at Fredonia who has a passion for teaching. We can learn a lot from Meenaghan, as he is a very welcoming person who greets everyone with a smile. He came to Fredonia because the school has his dual major — early childhood and childhood education with a concentration in biology. His favorite class he’s taking right now is his education class; it has a field placement, which allows him some hands on experience with his major.

Meenaghan is motivated by helping other people, which is why he is so passionate about his major. He wants to see more kindness in the world because he believes it’s such a simple thing to change.

“There’s always room to improve,” Meenaghan said.

He hates to see people suffering, especially if he feels like he can’t help them. Meenaghan remains positive and enjoys the little things in life. Meenaghan is a good listener and is always there for his friends, who describe him as organized, funny, laid back and a self-motivator.

Meenaghan is very wise. One of his best pieces of advice to give is, “Something that

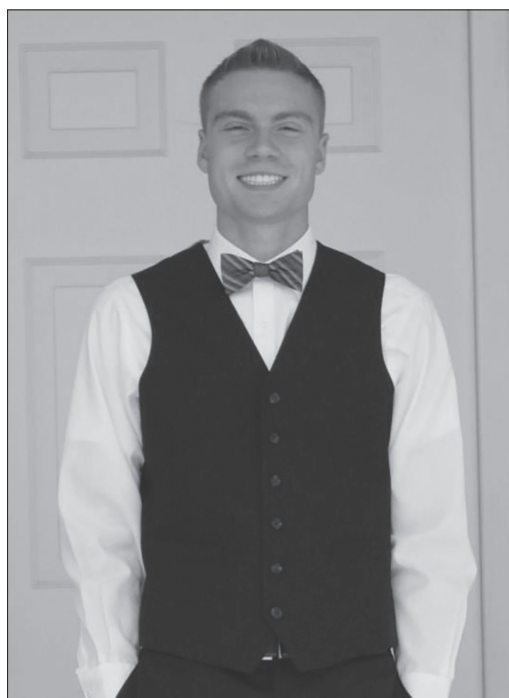
you think is so important today won’t matter tomorrow.” Meenaghan has learned a lot through personal experience, and was influenced by a lot of people throughout his life. His parents are very hard-working and have taught him how to live, and not live, life.

Meenaghan learned many values, including the appreciation of family, from his grandma. His best friends, mother and stepfather have taught him how to enjoy life and understand that there is time for work, but there is also time for play and to live in the moment.

Meenaghan’s art teacher from high school taught him there is always room to give back to people. The best advice was given to him on a stressful day by his best friend’s mom. She explained that her late husband worked hard and enjoyed very little; he made money, but it didn’t make up for the life he lost because of working so hard. This taught Meenaghan to spend more time enjoying family and doing things — not to stress about money. Meenaghan learned to enjoy life this way and understands now that time is more valuable than anything; give someone your time rather than money, he said in a recent interview.

Meenaghan enjoys life by doing the things he loves with people he loves. Meenaghan loves adventure; his favorite memory was taking a boat to an island in Mexico on Thanksgiving — he and his family hiked

Freshman profile: Shane Meenaghan



Courtesy of Shane Meenaghan

to and swam in a waterfall in the jungle the whole day. They spent the night laughing and enjoying each other’s company. Meenaghan enjoys other exciting things, as well, like cliff jumping and climbing mountains with his family. When he’s left feeling bored, he finds himself going on walks outside or going on some kind of adventure.

Just like any student here, you can find Meenaghan hanging in the Williams Center with his friends; he hates the cold weather and snow like all of us, too.

What makes Meenaghan stand out from the rest of us is his passion and compassion to do good for others. The fact that he can spin a basketball on his finger is pretty cool, too.

Adjunct profile: Ray Rushboldt

REBECCA HALE
Assistant Reverb Editor

Enter the office of Raymond J. Rushboldt, adjunct professor, and you will see nothing but books. Textbooks and reference books on history, U.S. government, European politics, the list goes on — the books line a shelf covering one entire wall of the small office, the other wall housing a desk peppered with student essays and papers, and the far wall housing a window overlooking Ring Road. Still, more books are stacked high upon the floor next to the window, signaling to anyone that the man dwelling in this office is very educated.

Now, if you have the gall and navigational skills to trek up to the third floor of Thompson Hall and wind your way through the warm hallways until you find the Politics and International Affairs Department, it may behoove you to strike up a conversation with this 48-year-old man.

Rushboldt grew up right here in Dunkirk and is an alumnus of what was formerly called SUNY Fredonia, where he double-majored in Politics and International Affairs and History, and received the Dawley Award for “Outstanding Senior in Politics.”

Afterwards, Rushboldt attended graduate school at the University at Buffalo, where he completed a three year Social Science Divisional Assistantship and received his Master of Arts.

After completing graduate school, he decided to accept a job teaching at

St. Bonaventure University and, later, Jamestown Community College. Finally, in 1994, Rushboldt returned home to accept a job teaching here at Fredonia.

Rushboldt is immensely invested in his students, his community affairs and the university. Still, it’s hard to believe that a person as tenacious as himself was unsure of his career path even through college.

“I’m a ‘roll with it’ kind of person,” Rushboldt said, admitting that he didn’t know what career path to choose until graduate school.

“I always wanted to do something in politics, I knew that much,” he said. His decision was ultimately torn between history and political science.

Now, in his 20th year of teaching at Fredonia, Rushboldt is the second-longest serving professor in his department. He holds many titles including Chairman of the SEFA (State Employees Federal Appeal) campaign, Co-Director of the SUNY Model European Union and the official signer of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

He also serves as adviser of the Alpha Phi Omega fraternity, the College Republicans, the College Democrats, Blackhorse Rugby and the Political Science Association. In addition, he serves on the boards of United Way, County Youth and the Dom Polski Club, as well as being a member of the College Senate.

“Everybody knows Ray because he’s such a helpful person,” said Alex Caviedes, an associate professor of Politics and International Affairs. “When I

first came here, he was the faculty advisor to nearly every club that had anything to do with political science.”

Caviedes calls him “by far, the most invested person in WNY,” explaining that he is “tremendously involved in the social fabric of Dunkirk.”

Many people both inside and outside the department know Rushboldt for his fierce involvement with the community, his famous “Rushboldt Stories” and his intense and passionate personality.

Joe Drake, a sophomore video production and political science dual major, has taken Rushboldt’s Elections in America class.

“He’s really knowledgeable about everything he’s teaching, and he’s super into it,” Drake said. “He’s always moving and getting in students’ faces to make sure they’re into it, [too]. He’s really engaging, [and] he condenses everything from the book and makes it much easier to understand.”

However, whenever he isn’t being a politically-involved busy-body, Rushboldt loves gardening, cooking, golfing and going to the casino. One of his dreams is to work in a greenhouse after he retires — if he retires, that is.

“I don’t know if I ever will!” Rushboldt exclaimed. “I can’t imagine that if they gave me the opportunity to teach a class [that I would pass it up]. I’d do it until I die. I don’t think I’d ever really walk away from this place.”

He says that he will formally “retire” in the future, but he would still love to do work on the side. Of course, Rushboldt still has a lot of working

years left in him. He also jokes that once he does retire, he will have a lot more time to brush up on his golfing skills.

“I wanna be good enough when I retire that other people don’t mind playing with me,” he says.

Rushboldt admitted another dream of his:

“[One] crazy thing that I always thought about doing that I don’t think I ever will do is running for office,” he said. Still, Rushboldt joked that even if he did run for office, he would not be considered partisan enough to get votes.

As a professor, Rushboldt understands that many students have other things on their plate besides getting involved in politics, and he knows that this is the reason why the voting rate is so low for the younger age-groups. He just wants his students to be informed and to be passionate.

“As a teacher and an adviser, my goal is for [my students] to find something that they’re interested in and to teach them that the job they pick should make them happy,” he said. “That’s all you can really hope for.”

Rushboldt has traveled all around Europe with his students as a part of Model European Union’s annual simulation, including Turkey, London, Ireland, Belgium and France.

Mohamed Sadek, senior computer information systems major, had the opportunity to travel to Belgium with Rushboldt and the MEU last semester.

“[Rushboldt’s] a cool guy,” said Sadek. “I can’t tell you anything but



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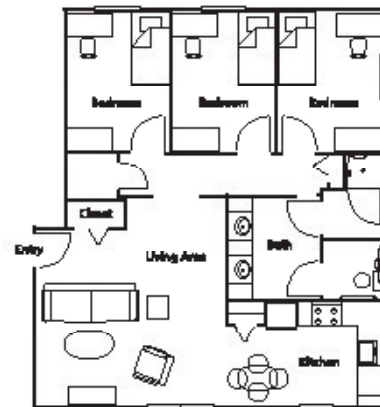
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From the Conservatory of John Hopkins University to Fredonia: the Markhams

AMANDA DEDIE
Staff Writer

Michael Markham and I-Fei Chen-Markham are both Fredonia professors and one of the handful of married couples on campus. And although they didn't meet through Fredonia, their lives and love have brought them here together.

Both individuals work for the School of Music, though they reportedly don't often cross paths during the day. Michael is a professor of music history, instructing Music Major Survey as well as other music-related seminars and, therefore, spends all day teaching. I-Fei, on the other hand, is a staff accompanist and clarinet professor for the School of Music and spends much of her time rehearsing with students.

The two met in 1994 at the Peabody Conservatory of John Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland, and although they then went on to obtain different degrees at different universities, they continued dating long distance and communicating cross-country. They eventually reunited and married on July 18, 2003 — nine years after they met.

"I was second year, and she was first year [when we met]. I was a lazy slob, and she was an annoyingly ef-

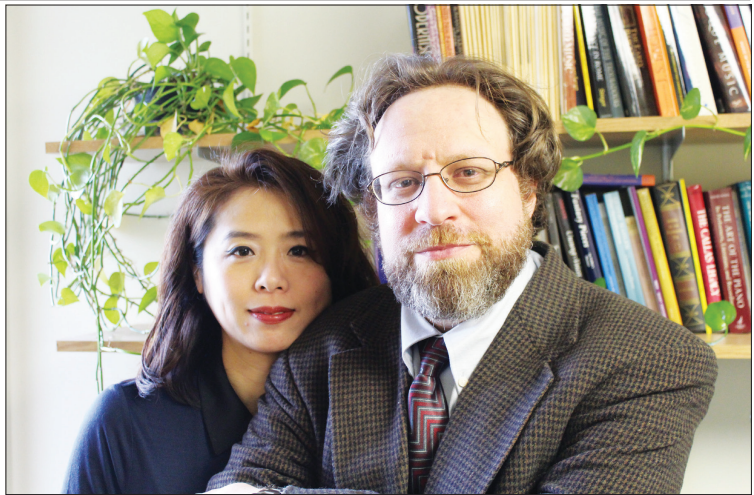
ficient nerd who was always wagging her finger at people who weren't working hard enough, so I didn't really like her much," said Michael. "She was like Hermione Granger: she was always nitpicking. I was like, 'What a nerd!' We started dating maybe a year-and-a-half later. I don't know how it happened. We just kept hanging out, and then we decided that whatever we were doing was a date at that point," laughed Michael.

The Markhams agree that binge watching TV shows on Netflix is what they most enjoy doing together. They're currently watching "Hannibal" — "She likes really gory stuff," shared Michael — but they've also made their way through "Deadwood," "Homeland," "Dexter" and "Breaking Bad."

"We love to go hunting around for old used books or records," said I-Fei via email. "We used to do that a lot when we lived in Berkeley, but we still try to find time to do that here and in Buffalo or Toronto when we can."

Although Michael didn't appreciate I-Fei's quirkiness when they first met, the couple agrees they've come to love certain qualities about each other.

"Unbelievable stamina and patience," said Michael, describing I-Fei. "She's probably the only human being in the world able to put up with me and



Courtesy of the Markhams

could do what she does here. She's playing 60 students juries — that's 60 sets of music she has to learn and rehearse with them. It's incredible. There are few other people on the planet that could play that much at that level without falling apart."

He joked, "She's like 'the Terminator.' She likes to cook. She does all that and still manages to come home and cook really healthy Taiwanese food, which is probably the main reason I'm under 300 pounds."

I-Fei replied, "What I like the most about Michael is that he is a perfectionist," despite his initial comment

of being a self-proclaimed slob.

The interviews, which were conducted separately, just continued to show how alike and on the same page Michael and I-Fei are. Both of them, not knowing the opinion of the other, had the same idea of a perfect date.

"We'd probably go back to San Francisco. She loves it there. We'd just wander the city and visit all the old haunts, like the bookstores," said Michael.

Similarly, I-Fei said, "Our favorite date in the past was to go to Andrew Molera State Park in California. We would love to go back there and hike

around. [There are] big cliffs along the beach. [It's] very cold and rocky but very beautiful, and no one is around. It's very quiet and empty."

Maybe California can be planned for their anniversary next year. But in between anniversaries, how do they keep romance alive, despite their busy and conflicting schedules?

Michael replied, "We make sure that at the end of a long week, there is a moment where we are alone, the world is shut out and there's a certain sense of breathing out and knowing that we are supposed to be there."

FREDONIA POWER

Two cultures, one relationship: the Bentons

BRITTANY PERRY
Special to The Leader

Two Fredonia professors, Dr. Bond Benton, a Missouri native, and Dr. Daniela Peterka-Benton, who is Austrian-born, are a perfect example of how a mixture of cultures is not only a positive thing when it comes to marriage, but can also be helpful in the academic setting.

The two moved to

met for the first time when Benton was visiting an acquaintance of the then-Peterka's in Austria — a week before she was set to move to the States to be a graduate student.

"My friend had put together a welcome party for him, and she wanted to have a barbeque so we had to assemble a grill," Peterka-Benton said. "Over this horrible task that took us an hour or so — with a lot of cursing — we started talking and realized it was kind of nice, and that's how it started."

The two moved to

the unfamiliar area of Western New York after completing graduate school at the University of Vienna.

"When we were searching for jobs, we were looking for places that had two positions that sort of matched what we do. There were two positions that were open at the same time that perfectly matched what we were looking for," Benton said. "We didn't know anything about

Western New York when we moved here.

Thank God for Wegmans if you're an international family. We can get about 85-90 percent of what we can get in Austria. It's not perfectly the same, but it's close enough that you don't really feel like you're missing too much."

The two began their careers at Fredonia in 2010.

Although they have different areas of study, (Benton is a professor in the Department of Communication and Peterka-Benton is a professor in the Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work and Criminal Justice department), they have often collaborated with research and academics.

They co-taught a class called Crime and Media, where Benton focused on how crime is portrayed in the media and Peterka-Benton focused on the accuracy of crime portrayals in the media and the implications of crime portrayals in the media.

"Communication and crime are tied together, so it works out really nicely," Benton said. "We have completely complementary teaching styles."

Some of their collaborative research included a paper on the treatment of hu-

man trafficking in superhero comic books, the effects of cultural collectivism on terrorism favorability and are currently working on a project that examines the movie "300" and how the Greek phrase "Molon Labe" has become important to the far right-wing fascist movement overseas.

Despite living in the United States, Peterka-Benton still keeps her Austrian heritage alive.

"We are raising our children as bilingual; I speak German to them," she said. "I try to keep certain celebrations alive during the year so that they know what they mean in Austria. We try to go back to Austria every year so they don't lose their connection to their homeland."

Both have said that as much as multiculturalism can be a blessing, it can also present many obstacles.

"It's challenging in some sense. We have different ways of communicating, and this can create tension and sometimes hurt feelings. Negotiating is something we still struggle with a little," Benton said. "The struggle is something that has not only helped our relationship, but in my teaching. I focus a lot on international issues in my classes. Multiculturalism requires commitment and a lot of hard work, and I think that is something that has benefitted us."



Courtesy of Bond Benton

A true Fredonia family: Jeff and Moriah Keddie

S.L. FULLER
News Editor

The Keddies are extremely busy people.

Jeff Keddie is the assistant manager of the Fredonia commissary, which includes the central prep kitchen and the bakeshop. His wife, Moriah, is the executive assistant and dining services supervisor, also at Fredonia. They also have three cats named Mia, Marsala and Meesha.

But those aren't even the things that keep them the busiest. The two things that have the Keddies most out-of-breath are their two kids: Zoey, who is 2 and a half years old, and Gavin, who was born just a couple weeks ago on Nov. 26, the day before Thanksgiving.

In order to tackle so many duties, teamwork is essential. Jeff and Moriah each said that the other has a quirky trait that neither one could live without.

"The one thing that really sticks out is that [Moriah] likes [everything] tidy and in its place," said Jeff in a recent email interview, "which is good most of the time!"

"I always joke that Jeff acts like a child, but that's what makes him such a great dad," said Moriah. "He loves playing silly games with our daughter and even plays with all the girl toys, like dollhouses, and does dress-up with Zoey."

The Keddies met while working at the same restaurant, and they have been married since July 25, 2008. Both Moriah and Jeff come from big families, so they ended up with nearly 250 guests.

When asked to describe his and Moriah's wedding, Jeff said that the words "large" and "overwhelming" came to mind.

"I kind of regret not eloping like Moriah had wanted," continued Jeff. "But we had a lot of fun."

Family is an important aspect in Jeff and Moriah's life. In fact, any spare time is dedicated to family.

"We are very family-oriented, so most of our free time is spent with family and close friends," said Jeff. "I am a trained chef, and my wife is a really great cook, so we like to host dinners and small parties."

"We have a very active two-year-

old daughter, so most of our free time lately is spent building lego castles, blanket forts and helping her glue things on paper," added Moriah.

Always seeming to have a positive attitude, the Keddies say that even when they're working and not enjoying free time, they're still making the most of it.

"I love my current job position. I like to have fun at work and make it an enjoyable work environment for myself and my staff so that everyone can look forward to coming into work," said Jeff. "My job also gives me the best of culinary arts and baking, which fits my degree of culinary certification."

"My position is perfect for me," said Moriah, who is currently on maternity leave. "Although most of my job duties are in the FSA office, I also work in the dining halls and Starbucks as needed. My job allows me to multitask and work in a variety of settings, which always keeps work interesting!"

Even though both of their



Courtesy of Jeff Keddie

jobs are related, the Keddies often work on different days and at different times. But when they do end up working on the same days, they try to meet up and eat lunch together.

Their children may be young, but Jeff and Moriah really like Fredonia and wouldn't mind a bit if their children decide to attend one day.

"I graduated from Fredonia and had a great college experience," said Moriah. "Depending on what our children decide as a major, I think Fredonia would be a great option, and it would be nice to have them so close to home!"

couples

A musical collaboration: the Gray-Antonacci duo

COURTNEE CESTA
Managing Editor

For School of Music professors Casey Gray and Tim Antonacci, there's power in numbers.

"We want to go somewhere where we can make a difference together — use our skills together," said Gray, to which Antonacci added, "That's the key."

As partners, the two finish each other's sentences, compliment one another and laugh together. They've also been racking up a laundry list of collaborative performance experience since they first met as students of the School of Music in 2009. At the time, Gray was working towards a Master's in vocal performance while Antonacci was finishing his undergraduate work in music education.

"I gave him a taco," Antonacci said laughing, handing his thought over to Gray, who finished with, "When I was a poor grad student."

Gray now teaches voice classes and Antonacci teaches music education, both at Fredonia. The two have been dating for five years.

And aside from teaching in the same department, Gray and Antonacci collaborate on musical productions at the First United Methodist Church at Fredonia, the Chautauqua Youth Chorus, as well as the School of Music and on outside productions — experiences that are enhanced by their relationship.

"I like that, for the most part, I know what he's thinking," said Antonacci. "If you can have a creative team where you know what everybody's thinking, it makes things go so much smoother. And Casey compliments all the things I suck at, basically."

After minutes of charming banter, Antonacci decided that his degrees in music education and music composition, both from Fredonia, allow him to

bring skills in education, history, theory and composition to the table.

On the other hand, Gray says that his undergraduate and master's degrees in voice performance, first from Bethany College and then from Fredonia, have provided him with knowledge of vocal performance and collaboration. One thing they agree on: their diverse music abilities comfort one another; when one falters, the other steps up and provides stabilization.

"So, when I'm conducting a choir, Casey knows when to pick the singers up basically," Antonacci said. "I know what he's going to have troubles with, and he knows what I'm not going to want to do, so it works out."

"And we know what each other is thinking a lot [of the time] so that we don't even have to ask or say that kind of stuff. We just know. And I like that we know exactly what each other's abilities are and what the limitations are — even though we push them sometimes," said Gray.

When not working together, Gray accompanies nearly 20 vocalists in the School of Music, and Antonacci teaches music lessons at an after-school program in Jamestown. Because of the amount of time Gray spends away from home and with students, he appreciates that Antonacci recognizes the field's time commitment, which is something he doesn't think he would find in a partner not involved in music.

"It's so nice having each other who understands. When I call and say, 'I have to be here an hour later,' he knows how it goes," said Gray.

And that's where Antonacci returns the favor, providing support to Gray through his busy days.

"I like to ground him when he's overworked," Antonacci said. "I think that's what we do really well. We ground each other."

The couple's mutual support is

recognized by fellow collaborators as well as students, who say that their energy creates a great work environment.

"They are both dedicated to their church and the music that fills it," says music education student Meredith Smietana who has worked with both Antonacci and Gray. "They are a power couple that is productive and always professional. It's great having them in the same workplace. Not only are they supportive of their students, such as myself and colleagues. They are extremely supportive of each other."

Aside from their music, the couple is energetic and charismatic with such high spirits that it's hard not to smile when talking to them — as evidenced with a play-by-play of their most-fond memory.

"Shortly after Casey's graduate recital, we were cleaning our apartment getting ready to move out, and Kristen Bowman, who was our roommate at the time, wanted to help," Antonacci began. He continued to explain that in passing, they asked Bowman, who was a fellow music education student to clean the kitchen — something they perceived as a simple task.

"Fast forward a couple weeks," Antonacci said. "Our landlord says 'there's just one problem. The basement is flooded and I can't figure out where it's coming from.' Then I realized that we had a pound and a half of meatballs left over from

the recital, and in the process of cleaning everything, Kristen had flushed them down the toilet, thinking that's what you do as a kid with cereal."

The lodge caused \$162 in damage.

"It was one of our favorite memories because we lived off campus together ... And after a year of living together, at least we didn't flush the meatballs down the toilet," the couple agreed.

As for the future, neither Gray or

Antonacci know, exactly, what is next, but their goals surround utilizing their partnership and working together in the same department at a university.

"We can cover all aspects of the music core," said Gray, reiterating that "Tim has the ed., the history and theory. I have the performance, the piano and voice. We've always wanted to collaborate."

"And together," Antonacci said, "we make up a pretty good ensemble!"



Courtesy of Casey Gray and Tim Antonacci

WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 10, 2014

SPORTS

THE LEADER
B-8

COURTESY OF FREDONIABLUEDEVILS.COM

More than just a mask: Fred Blue Devil

BRITTANY PERRY
Special to The Leader

You've seen him at various sporting events and bust a move at the 2012 flash mob, but how well do you really know Fred Blue Devil?

Fred comes from Blazes, N.Y. but considers himself a true Fredonian. He migrated east to attend college at Fredonia, where he earned a degree in education and minored in theatre. Fred claims that the top-notch education, affordable tuition and great atmosphere made him realize that

Fredonia was home.

Not long after his arrival at Fredonia did Fred find his calling in being a mascot.

"I was chosen to be the mascot at Fredonia State following a tryout. The scouts had followed my progress through the high school ranks. I wanted to focus on academics, and turned down a few athletic scholarships and chose a Division III school — Fredonia," Fred said. "I was invited to a mascot tryout in Steele Hall. It was pretty competitive — the San Diego Chicken, Philly Phanatic — all the big names were there.

But since I was born blue and had oversized, cartoon-like features, and the school nickname was the Blue Devils, I was a slam dunk for the job — pun intended."

Fred represents 17 varsity teams and tries to enhance the fans' experience in any way he can. When Fred isn't promoting school spirit, he enjoys singing, songwriting and spending time with his younger brother, the Duke Blue Devil, and his cousin, the Demon Deacon, at Wake Forest.

Our Blue Devil has recently experienced a great change in his life: a new name.

Fred was formerly known as "Mike" in March, during the second annual SUNY Mascot Madness, a SUNY-wide competition to see which school had the best mascot.

This was Fredonia's first year participating in Mascot Madness. At the time, "Mike" made it to the Elite Eight before losing to SUNY New Paltz's "Hugo the Hawk."

"The amount of voting and support that took place from the campus and athletic department was amazing," said Matthew Palisin, the head baseball coach. "Hopefully, we'll see Fred at more

home games and active at different events. I hope that we can get more awareness out about Fred so we can advance further in Mascot Madness, if SUNY decides to do it again."

Fred was chosen as the official name of the Blue Devil after Mascot Madness via an online poll.

"He's a hard worker and does the best he can. Despite the fact that he's named a Devil, he really is an angel," Palisin said.

Blackhorse alumna competes in Dubai for Olympic qualifier

MAGGIE GILROY
Editor in Chief

When Danielle Miano stepped onto the rugby field at Fredonia in 2003, she did not expect it to lead her to a professional career with the USA Women's Eagle Sevens. However, that career has taken her across the nation and now to Dubai, where the team is competing for a spot in the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

"It's definitely been a long, long journey," Miano said in a recent phone interview. "As soon as I found out that rugby was going to be an Olympic sport for Sevens, I wanted to get involved in any way I could right away."

Following her graduation from Fredonia, Miano played with a team in Boston and then the sevens club with the San Diego Surfers. Miano was then invited to play in a scrimmage against Brazil's team, which led her to an invitation to play with the USA Women's Eagles Sevens

team.

Miano is currently a resident of San Diego, California, where she works as the account manager for electronics manufacturer SEACOMP. She credits her flexible employer as one of the reasons she is able to both maintain a full-time job and train with the team. She trains two full days a week with the team at the Olympic training center; however, when not practicing with the team, she completes the workouts on her own — often starting as early as 6:30 a.m.

Miano studies recordings of the practices to ensure she is up-to-date with the team. Miano said that, if chosen for the Olympic team, she will train full-time when it comes closer to the Olympics.

With over a decade of experience with the sport, Miano has observed heightened popularity and transformation of the sport first-hand.

"The program has changed so much; kids can get scholarships now for rugby," Miano said. "I got a flyer

in my dorm room."

While Miano learned many valuable skills as a member of Blackhorse Rugby, she credits her passion for the game as being the most valuable result of her time with the team.

"I think the most important part about having played for Fredonia was just falling in love with the sport itself," Miano said. "Rugby is such a team sport and the people — the girls that I've played with and my coach at the time — were so passionate about the sport and so dedicated to making an incredible and really competitive team, and [to] being really good. So having all of us come together and really dedicate ourselves physically and emotionally to a team we really care about, I [like] the part of really appreciating what it means to be a part of a rugby team, and being a part of a club that really cares about its sport."

Miano joined the Blackhorse Rugby team with no prior rugby ex-

See Miano page B-10

Mike Lust: barista by day and
Maximum Force Wrestling North
American Champion by night**MEGHAN GUATTERY**
Assistant News Editor

He is there when you go in and order your grande peppermint mocha latte.

He is the tall, muscular, blonde barista behind the counter at Starbucks on campus.

He has also been a Maximum Force Wrestling North American Champion.

Last year after spraining my wrist, Mike McNaughton asked to sign my cast while he rung up my order at Starbucks. He signed it, "Mike Lust." When I asked if that was his nickname, he replied with "No, that is my wrestling name."

Every child grows up with a favorite television show. For most of us, it is something along the lines of SpongeBob Squarepants or Thomas the Tank Engine. For McNaughton, how-

ever, it was wrestling.

"I was 3-and-a-half years old. I was sitting on my grandfather's lap and he said to me, 'Watch this. This guy can save America,'" said McNaughton. "That guy was Hulk Hogan."

Young McNaughton had no issues replicating the moves he saw on television.

"I was the guinea pig for all the new moves the wrestlers came out with," said his younger sister, Alicia McNaughton. "The jack-knife will forever haunt me."

While McNaughton grew up with a passion for wrestling, soccer and hockey were his sports in grade school. It was not until about 18 years ago when it finally hit him that wrestling was more than an obsession on his television — it was what he wanted to do.

See Lust page B-10

Track Profile: Chris Shartrand

DYLAN FORMAN
Staff Writer

Since the day he arrived on Fredonia's campus, Chris Shartrand has been among the top distance runners that the school has to offer. In the words of head coach Tom Wilson, "Chris has been driven to succeed since day one, both academically and athletically." Along with his athletic prowess, Chris has been one of the top students, as he has earned several SUNYAC All-Academic honors.

In the three years he has been running in a Blue Devils uniform, he has evolved into one of the best 3000m Steeplechase runners in the SUNYAC Conference. His personal best of 9:36 earned him third place at last year's SUNYAC Outdoor Track & Field Championships.

Chris has also excelled in the 5000m, with a personal best of 15:04. With this time, he was able to finish fourth at last winter's SUNYAC Indoor Track & Field Championships. He will surely be looking to break the 15-minute barrier this coming season. This would make him one of the top 5K and Steeplechase runners in the school's illustrious history.

"He has matured into one of the strongest and most consistent runners I've ever coached," Wilson said. "His

ability to trust our system and training methods has put him where he is now. I am very

a great leader — not everyone likes how straight forward he is, but everyone respects him."

Whittemore also spoke briefly about Chris' training this year.

"Chris has been training really well. His workouts this year have been extremely consistent and consistently faster than last year," he said. "As a runner, he just trains consistently and is very dedicated. His talent lies in his ability to handle high mileage for long periods of time, coupled with a high pain tolerance."

Coach Wilson also spoke about goals that he's encouraging Chris to reach as he finishes his running career.

"My goals for him are simply to finish his career with no doubt, no shoulda, coulda and woulda," Wilson said. "Be successful in every race he is in and everything he takes on in life."

excited to see what this track season has for him."

Former teammate and current assistant coach Steve Whittemore also praises Shartrand.

"He is a great teammate in the sense that he is blunt and will tell anyone how it is. If anyone is doing something wrong, or if he has an issue with someone, then he tells them. I think that makes him



Courtesy of Kris King

Track season preview

With the indoor track season on the horizon, both teams will be looking to finish atop the SUNYAC Conference. And according to Coach Wilson, "We finally have the talent and depth to achieve this."

Leading the way on the track will be the distance crew, which consists of Zakk Hess, Chris Shartrand, Kyle Collins and Cody Martini. Hess, a 4:16 miler, will be looking to battle for the 5K title after finishing fifth at the ECAC Championships with a time of 15:02.

Also, junior standout Collin Mulcahy will be returning from injury and looking to improve on his 4:13 Mile time from last winter. He has also run an outstanding 1:52 in the 800 meter run.

Returning for his junior year is Eric Williams, who has lead the sprinters since he stepped foot on campus. Last winter, Williams finished second in the 60 meter hurdles with an impressive time of 8.38 seconds. His personal best for the race is 8.26, which he has a great chance to improve upon once he gets back to the starting blocks. In his freshman season of outdoor track, Williams captured the SUNYAC title for the 110 meter hurdles with an incredible 14.73 seconds.

With the team goals of winning the SUNYAC Championships, several individuals (including Hess, Mulcahy and Williams) will be looking to qualify for the prestigious NCAA DIII National Championships, a feat not accomplished since Fredonia's top middle distance runner, Nick Guarino, was crowned the

National Champion for both the Mile and the 800m in the same season. Coach Wilson is very optimistic regarding individual qualifiers and stated that "anyone can qualify if they possess the will!"

Coach Wilson also spoke in detail about the women's team.

"The women will be driven by youth the entire season. We are looking for strong showings from Anna Dambacher (2014 Outdoor NCAA Qualifier) and multiple school record holder to guide the way for our youth in the 60m, 200m and 400m dashes," Wilson said. "Senior captain Hailey Griewisch will kick off her final indoor season in the 60m hurdles. Laura Morrison is coming off a very strong outdoor season in the 800m and will look to start off right where she left off, setting school records Saturday in the 800m.

"The field events will be a new look for the Blue Devils. In the throws, Niki Desens will be guiding freshmen Rachel Williams and Anneliese Bienko to their first college performances, while junior Olivia Kurbs will guide three new freshman vaulters. Kristen Sawyer, Julia Schreier and Jen Wasielewski. We put in a ton of work last year recruiting the best female athletes we could, now it's time to see what they can do. We are very excited to see how this young team molds together this weekend!"

The indoor track season begins when the Blue Devils travel to Kent State on Friday, Dec. 5. The SUNYAC Championships will take place on Feb. 27 at SUNY Brockport.

Rich Norton: journey-man and women's assistant coach

QUINTIN JAMES
Special to The Leader

Rich Norton is a classic example of a guy trying to lead his alma mater back to a championship. Norton graduated from Fredonia in 1987 and has spent 30 years teaching different levels of organized basketball. His most recent coaching job was as head coach in the Silver Creek school district for the last nine years, during which time he won over 70 games. Now, as the assistant coach for the Fredonia women's basketball team, he's ready for the challenge of building this program up again.

Norton grew up and went to college in Fredonia, so it is anticipated that he will be a great recruiter, able to really help get new talent in to create some wins for Fredonia. He also knows a lot of people nearby and can, therefore, be a big asset in persuading players to commit to Fredonia.

When asked about why he

chose to return to Fredonia, Norton said he coached at a local high school, but his heart was always at Fredonia. He's glad he returned to the program because he grew up here, and it was a great fit for him.

Norton has been coaching basketball for 30 years, so his wisdom and experience with the game can rub off on the players and coaches and turn them into better players and people.

The season hasn't started out perfect for the Blue Devils, but Norton is very optimistic about the season and the upcoming seasons. He said it's tough to replace two thousand point scorers, but they know they'll have growing pains, and the goal is to make the playoffs. The team is going in the right direction, and all the early season struggles will lead to success in the long run. Norton said that different roles for different players have the Blue Devils adjusting and trying to succeed.

When asked about some things to look out for, Norton men-

tioned starting the SUNYAC part of their schedule and bringing in potential new recruits. Norton said this year should be a good year for recruits, as a lot of good talent is interested in joining the Blue Devils. He wants to sign a couple of players by New Year's Eve and get a good recruiting class in place.

Norton's goals this season are to make the playoffs, but if that doesn't happen, then he aims to have the team be competitive and have the players improve in all areas of their games. He wants to help Coach McDonald build a good program and have a foundation in place to have Fredonia be a force in the women's division for years to come.

Norton's Fredonia ties will do nothing but help the team and the school. His wisdom and knowledge will do wonders for the young Blue Devils, and he will be an important piece in Fredonia's success down the road.



Courtesy of fredoniabluedevils.com

Lust: *continued from B-8*



Courtesy of Mike Lust

"I was watching WrestleMania 12," said McNaughton. "It was Shawn Michaels versus Bret Hart in a 60-minute Iron Man match. It was 0-0 and they had to go into overtime, and Shawn won. He said, 'The boyhood dream came true.' That was my defining moment."

McNaughton was hooked.

While setting up for a show in early 2010, McNaughton was approached by a Rochester Hall of Fame wrestler by the name of Hellcat.

"Do you have gear?" said

Hellcat.

"I have gym shoes and shorts," said McNaughton.

"Okay. You're going to train," said Hellcat.

That interaction was the start of an incredible journey for McNaughton. It was the beginning of a legend — the beginning of Mike Lust.

"I would like to say Mike Lust, King of Cocky, is Mike's alter ego," said Alicia. "But honestly, he's so much like Lust. On an everyday basis he may not carry that big ego around but it's

definitely there. The character couldn't fit him better. I feel like as soon as his music begins playing and he makes his entrance, all of his conceited traits shine through."

But most important to McNaughton, above the screaming of the fans and the rush of adrenaline he gets when he's in the ring, is his family.

"He has a huge heart with family on the top of his priority list," said Alicia. "He's there whenever you need him, regardless of the time. That's just how Mike is. A little over a year ago

I got married and he walked me down the aisle. I know traditionally the girl's father walks her down but, what's the definition of a father? I think it's the guy who's in your life and never leaves your side; the one stable guy in your life that didn't ever come and go. Mike was that guy."

On July 5 in Dunkirk, New York, McNaughton and his partner Ethan Wright, known as "The Industry," took on former WWE Wrestler Tatanka and his partner Primal Warpath in an effort to steal their MFW Tag Team Champion-

ship titles.

The Industry was victorious.

The team held the championship titles for 91 days before being defeated at the MFW Maximum Impact 2014 5th anniversary show.

So, after you ogle at the strapping man behind the counter, the one who always puts just the right amount of caramel in your latte, do not forget to say "thank you," because you could end up in a swinging neck breaker before you even take your first sip.

Miano: *continued from B-8*

perience. She credits her memory of playing a sport "when it wasn't even popular," prior to its rise in popularity amongst collegiate athletes and its inclusion as an Olympic sport, to the fire she feels while playing the game.

"I think if I had not found rugby at Fredonia and found such a great group and a great club to begin with, I would never be where I am," Miano said. "Maybe I would have found it eventually, but having played for a club that everybody cared so much about, I think that was really great to be a part of."

"Stubs," Miano's Blackhorse coach, is one figure Miano credits to her success in the game.

"Our coach 'Stubs' was the first coach I had that really ever believed in me and told me that if he put

rugby ball in my hands at fly half I would be unstoppable," Miano said. "Having someone that encouraged me and helped me see my potential gave me the first drive to prove I could be the best."

Miano periodically reaches out to current Blackhorse members, holding clinics and remaining in contact with current team members. She also makes an effort to view tournaments Blackhorse has competed in, including tournaments in Savannah, Georgia and Saranac Lake.

"I drove from Boston to Fredonia to have a day with them," Miano said of a clinic she held two years ago.

While Fredonia's name may not carry to the Olympic Training Clinic, Miano is doing her best to represent

Fredonia and Blackhorse.

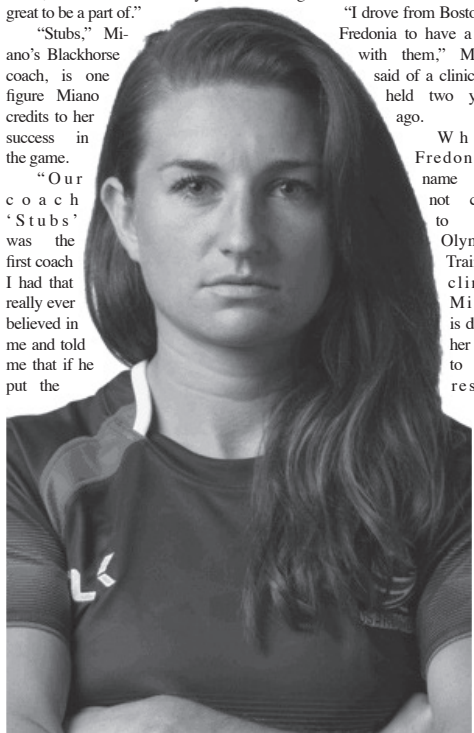
"It's not on the map very much," Miano said about Fredonia, "I'm just really proud to be able to represent Fredonia and the club itself because it really did play such a big role."

According to usarugby.com, the Women's Eagles Sevens finished seventh at Emirates Dubai Rugby Sevens, which took place Dec. 4 and 5. It was the first leg of the 2014-15 World Rugby Sevens Series. There are three events from which the Eagles can qualify for the olympics; those teams ranked one to four in the final rankings of the 2014/5 IRB Sevens World Series will qualify directly for a quota place for their NOC to the 2016 Olympics.

"You've just got to be ready and willing to work really hard," Miano said of her advice for current rugby players. "Especially from a school that maybe doesn't have as much recognition. I was a pretty decent player at Fredonia, but nobody knew who I was when I graduated. So I had to work my way through the circuit; I'm 29, and I just got invited to the USA team. Even if you get rejected, even if you get injured, how hard you work will reflect how far you go."

Miano is waiting to find out if she will make the Olympic team.

"It's been a long journey, and it's not over," Miano said. "I really want to make the team that goes to Rio. I have a lot of work ahead of me. I still have to prove myself. I'm still kind of low-man on the totem pole — I still have to prove myself. The strongest shall survive, and you've got to be ready and willing to work really hard."



Courtesy of Danielle Miano



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Meet "The Fastest Longboarder"

ANITA TENSION
Special to The Lampoon

"Sometimes all you want to do is just get on your board and go, you know?"

These are the words of a Fredonia longboarder, known simply as the "Fastest Longboarder" because he rides his longboard so fast. Estimates place his average velocity somewhere between "very" and "super" fast. He goes faster than all the other longboarders, who are slower than him, because he is the fastest.

He even goes too fast for anyone to see what he looks like. The Fastest Longboarder is familiar to most Fredonians only as a sudden blast of wind, a cloud of settling dust and leaves, and the rapidly receding sound of clattering wheels and a Doppler effected shout of Wa-hoo. (It is Dopplered because the longboarder is very fast — so fast, in fact, that one time a police officer told him to slow down, which meant that the police officer thought he was going too fast, which was crazy because police cars are fast but not as fast as the Fastest Longboarder, who outpaces even trains, so very super-very fast is he.)

Sophomore and other, inferior longboarder Ryan Lenz, 20, told the Lampoon that the Fastest Longboarder is "indisputably faster than anything

else in this town, and probably the state, and maybe even in Pennsylvania, too," adding that he was "definitely faster than most cars without even trying a little."

Indeed, all of Fredonia's longboarders agree that the Fastest Longboarder is the speediest dude in all the land. Many attest to his ability to outstrip deer, racehorses and even cheetahs. His consistently and insanely high speeds have earned him many nicknames, including "King of Longboarding," "King of Going Really Fast" and "King of Going Really Fast on a Longboard."

Because he is so fast, women adore him and his ability to go really fast all the time. They love the way he is faster than the other longboarders. But he can't ever truly love any of these women, because he is married to the game (i.e. the game of going exponentially faster on his longboard than anyone else goes on theirs).

Also, the unsurpassed Fastest Longboarder is given money and all the trappings of a divinely-selected king, on account of the superlative speed with which he rides his longboard.

President Virginia Horvath has announced that the Fastest Longboarder can literally just have his degree whenever he wants it.

The important thing to remember now is that no matter what happens, I will always love you

THE GHOST OF FREDFESTS PAST
Special to The Leader

Many a word has been banded about between friends and university officials these past weeks, and the prevailing opinion seems clear: I, the Spirit of Fred Fest, may not be long for this world. And if, by some unlikely confluence of forces, I live to draw breath in the year 2015, I shall be a shadow of my former virility, faint and ill-defined.

Hush, hush child. Wipe away your tears. This is simply the nature of the world: things grow, live, flourish — and then yes, child, things die. This is something we must learn, something we must accept. Life can not be a static thing, child, and it is not something you or I or anyone can ever truly hold and call our own. A life is not a possession, but a swift current into which we briefly slip until, at the end, we are deposited once more into the wide-open enormity of the sea.

"But what consolation can this be?" I hear you cry in protest. "How can we be expected to go on, knowing there is no light at the end of the tunnel, as there always has been since first our ancestors paced Fredonia's fabled halls?"

To this I say there is but one solution, and it is this: love. The place in this world which I relinquish will come to be occupied by another someday, and you shall

love those parties that replace me with the full force of all that is in you. You will cherish them, revel in them, learn from them, teach them, nurture them until they are strong and can walk freely and with strength through this world.

But, child, what is important to remember now is that no matter what happens — if we meet again come May, or if I succumb to the forces conspiring to take me from this world — I will always, always love you.

And I will remember you, even when I have no mind left with which to remember. We will remember each other, and in this memory we will be together, united by our occupation of the same moment in time.

I will not be gone from you: I am there in every pong ball's glittering arc, in every 10 a.m. glass of boxed wine; I am there, reflected in the shattered screen of every dropped iPhone, lingering in every cloud of sweet smoke.

Ah, child, the time draws near. Death creeps soft-shoed up the stairs to my chambers. Tell Cortaca I'll be waiting at the pearly gates with bells on.

Come here, child. Lay your head on my shoulder. There, there. One day, we will stumble down the Great Temple Street in the sky, together again. My eyes may close. But other eyes will never cease to open, look around, and realize that they fell asleep with their shoes on and a calzone in their bed.

Being awkward:

The Stairs

AWKWARD ANNIE
Staff Lampoonist

I never knew how out of shape I was until I started having all of my classes in Thompson on the third floor. I live on the third floor in my residence hall, but nothing compares to the dark stairway of hell leading up to the highest peak of Thompson. By the time you reach the bottom of the stairs from wherever you were just walking from, there is a moment where you second guess even going to class because you know how winded you are about to be after crawling up the slip proof steps.

The other day I was running late to my Psychology class and, as I was passing the parking lot to the door of Thompson, I saw a man who looked like he was in a hurry coming up close behind me. He was dressed like the ultimate hipster with a skinny tie, blazer and the thick rimmed glasses to match. He walked in right behind me and I held the door for him and the look of "I'm so late" painted his red face. He gave off a student teacher vibe and I imagined he could have been late to a class he had to TA. As I made my way to the stairs, I realized he was following me and I already felt bad because I was gonna be so slow.

As I started ascending, I could hear gasps and wheezing behind me and it stunned me a bit. With every step, I could hear his struggle trying to climb up the flights and had to fight back laughter as he started getting louder and adding, "Oh God" to the mix. This guy sounded like he was running in a marathon and pulling up the tail end of a 5K. When we got to the third floor, he sounded like his hands were on his knees and he was counting his pulse and checking how well he did on his run. I half expected a team of people to rush to his aid with water and a towel to wipe the sweat from his forehead.

I kept going on my way to the lecture and heard the heavy breathing subside and knew that he had gone in a different direction. I have a feeling that he didn't know he was being that loud, but for me and the two people in front of me, it was a weird way to end a Wednesday. I think I want to do that to someone I'm walking behind and see what their reaction is just to make them feel the awkward.

Meet 'that puddle that's outside the second-story door to the William's Center and has been forever probably'

ANITA TENSION
Special to The Lampoon

You're leaving the Williams Center, headed for the library. You decide to take the bridge from the second story to expedite your journey. You push through two sets of heavy double doors, step outside and stop — your foot, it's cold. And wet. And wholly submerged in four inches of the rankest, most vile black shitwater you've ever laid eyes, much less a whole foot, upon.

Congratulations, you've just met a beloved fixture of the Fredonia community: That Puddle That's Outside the Second-Story Door to the William's Center and Has Been Forever Probably.

The Lampoon sat down with the puddle last week to discuss its time here in Fredonia.

It was a typical cold Fredonia day, and the puddle was beginning to freeze over in places, a fact of

which it seemed endearingly unaware.



Maggie Gilroy / Editor in Chief

"Let's see," it said, the wind gently bobbing one of the many, many cigarette butts floating in its oily pseudo-mud. "I think I came to Fredonia with either the first

or second rain to ever fall on the steaming barren igneous rock 3.8

and gone, including some on the bridge, but none have endured so much or for so long.

"I actually — and I don't let myself brag about this often — but it was actually me who fostered the formation of our earth's first multicellular organisms in my sluggishly lapping ripples," said the puddle with a self-deprecating plorp noise. "Of course, they all died — I'm highly, highly toxic, you see — but the first ones were all me."

The puddle has stated that students and community members should feel free to approach it whenever they want.

"You can always find me in my spot," it said. "I've been here since the earth's formation, and goddamn it, I will be here until the end of days."

billion years ago during the Archean period."

And since then, the puddle says, it's simply spent its days accumulating water, leaves and gar-

A note to our readers

This issue marks the last one with our current Managing Editor, Courtnee Cesta, as she graduates at the end of this semester in order to enter a full-time job as a producer with News Channel 9 in Syracuse, New York. We, the staff of The Leader, would like to express our gratitude and well-wishes to Courtnee as she departs our Leader family.

Dear Courtnee,

My first memory of you was when the word "Back" was incorrectly placed in a headline for your article instead of "Bach"; unbeknownst to you, I believe that this was actually my fault at the time, as I had just started editing for The Leader, and I totally didn't even realize. Sorry! Your writing skills, your editing skills, and your kindness will be sorely missed at The Leader. Thanks so much for everything, and good luck!

-Riley Straw

I'm actually really envious of you, Court. You got a job straight out of college! Who does that?! Phenomenal people, that's who. I only met you this semester but I know that you SO deserve this, and I'm honored to have worked with you. Don't forget us little people when you reach the top!

Best wishes,
Ryli Chmiel

Courtnee,

It took every semester except this one for us to work together and get to know each other, and for that, I am bummed to see you going just one semester early. It's been so enjoyable working beside you; and helping me drive Maggie insane. While I say I am bummed to see you go, I am also excited to see what you accomplish ahead, as I have watched your work get better and better over these three and a half years. Keep climbing and stay in touch.

Best, Alex Kaluzny

Dearest Courtnee,

Although I get sad each time I think about the fact that you are leaving, I also keep thinking about how AWESOME you are, and that makes me happy again. I am so proud of you and so proud to know you — you're going to do great things, and it's an honor to have worked on The Leader with you. I have humongous gowabungous shoes to fill next semester, but I am making a promise to you that I won't let you down! So, go out into the world and kick some journalistic butt, lady!

Love, Jordyn

Dear Courtnee,

It's upsetting that I've had so little time to get to know you here, but I am so proud of you in making this decision — you are definitely a person who deserves an opportunity like this. Last year when you were Maggie's assistant, I always admired your tenacity and constant willingness to take on multiple stories per week, and any writer-less story. You are so involved, and your passion for the things you care about shows. I know it's hard to say goodbye early, but my advice to you is, embrace it! I'm sure you'll fall in love with your new job and you'll be one hardass reporter!

Best regards, Becca

Court,

Who is going to yell at Maggie with me at 3am when she's attacking the layout with obnoxious strokes? Thanks for being a true and loyal journalism nerd with me and putting up with all the shenanigans our professors put us through (specifically Elmer.) It's so hard to say goodbye to you this early, but I am extremely proud of you and your big girl job. You have given me so much as not only a managing editor and fellow coworker, but as a friend, and a great one at that. I am truly one of your biggest fans. I wish you all the luck in the world for your career as a kick-ass producer; your name will be in lights one day, I promise you that. Say hi to the big guys for me and as always, stay fabulous.

Peace and love, Mel

Court,

Remember when you were hesitant to step into the Managing Editor position? I can't believe that you thought twice about it — you have done such a wonderful job. You have done beautifully at not only your job, but have made my job so much less stressful and much more manageable. You have been a shoulder to lean on and not only a great co-worker, but a great friend. I have enjoyed laughing with you in the office and appreciated your commitment to making sure we stay on track. I will forever be thankful for the two hours you spent with me in the waiting room while I got rabies shots, and have loved our heart-to-hearts.

You have given us all hope that there is life after college, and I am so proud of you. I have to stop writing this before I start crying with you sitting in our office across from me. Good luck and stay in touch — we are all cheering for you.

Love, Maggie



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