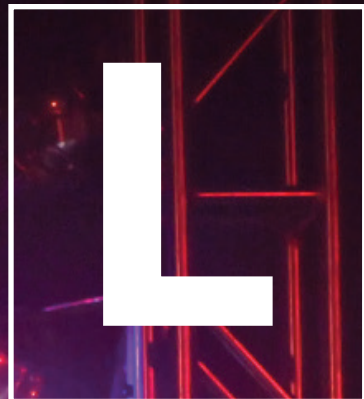


THE LEADER

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Bethany Clancy/Special to The Leader

Clown craze causes chaos across campus

Kels the Klown speaks

COLIN PERRY and CONNOR HOFFMAN
Editor in Chief and Managing Editor

Kelsey Martinez says that she's always been terrified of clowns. According to her, the media and film industry instill a negative image of them on people.

"I never really had any encounters with clowns. I never even met a clown in real life," she said. "I guess just seeing all the negativity in the media, I had to get over my fear."

For some people, getting dressed to go downtown means just putting on some makeup and a new top. But Martinez often takes it a step further. A Fredonia native and 20 year-old massage therapy student, she dons face paint and dresses up in colorful outfits to assume her playful alter-ego of Kels the Klown.

"I go take a walk in the park or I go downtown. I don't try to hide anywhere, I don't try to be anywhere creepy," Martinez said. "I go do what I would normally do, but in exaggerated clothes and an exaggerated face."

But it's those exaggerated features that have people all over America on edge. According to a report by CBS News, dozens of clown sightings have been reported across the country since August, beginning when South Carolina police received reports of a clown attempting to lure children into the woods. Those reports remain unconfirmed, but from there, dozens of towns experienced their own moments of clown-induced-panic, mostly stemming from schools and colleges.

On Monday, Oct. 3, Martinez was walking around Barker Commons in full costume when senior marketing major Sarah Kelly and her boyfriend drove by.

"We were driving back from Westfield, and we saw the clown walking down the street. We went around the block at Barker Commons, because [my boyfriend said], 'We have to take a video of this,'" Kelly said.

The video, uploaded to social media shortly thereafter, launched a firestorm of panic and paranoia across Fredonia, as many students came to believe that the nefarious clowns they'd heard about would soon terrorize their town.

The reactions were intensified the following evening when President Virginia Horvath sent out a campus-wide email addressing students' clown concerns.

She described how social media posts had spread false information about fires and vandalism, while others attempted to initiate "clown hunts."

"Let's not do this to each other," Horvath said.

"Some Fredonians' comments on social media jokingly referred to the response last night as 'clownpocalypse' and 'clowngate,' suggesting that perhaps the appearance of the clowns was a hoax, intended to scare people and get a widespread reaction," Horvath continued. "It's a cruel one, given the tension we feel in our culture right now when strangers act in odd or suspicious ways. Let's not feed that uneasiness and create panic here."

While the tension seems to have subsided in Fredonia, news reports persist across the country of clown sightings every day. University Police Chief Ann Burns said that this recent wave of clown-induced panic reminded her of other moments of mass hysteria from the past.

"I remember back in the '70s and '80s, there was a slasher guy sometime around Halloween that was supposed to go to a girls' dorm in the East somewhere," Burns said. "He was going to break into the residence hall and kill all kinds of girls ... and it caused panic, but it was not real."

Burns said that there is a town rule that forbids the wearing of costumes. Titled "Masks and Disguises," section 213-7 of the Fredonia Village Ordinance says that "No person shall wear any mask, false face or other disguise in any public place in the village except on a holiday or public parade."

For Martinez, clowning has nothing to do with scaring people; between going to school full-time, working and raising a daughter, dressing up in costume is her time to have fun and "goof off." She also said numerous times that she wants to demonstrate to people that, in light of recent reports, what's really scary isn't a clown.

"I want to show people it's not the clown that's bad. It's not the outfit, it's not the makeup, it's the person underneath, and it's what their intentions are," Martinez said.

Martinez said that being dressed up allows her to "feel free," and that she dresses up in other outfits as well.

"But the only thing that sparked anyone's interest was the clown outfit," Martinez said. "People



are more willing to bash and hate things that they don't know and they don't understand and they don't want to take the time to acknowledge that, but they're A-OK with spreading the fear."

Martinez said that she has received threats of rape and violence while in costume, but she remains undeterred in her clowning. She said she hopes to attend clown college and invited anybody with an interest in clowning to join her downtown.

"I will respect what everyone else has to say, but I'm not going to stop just because they're harassing me," Martinez said. "I do apologize for frightening any families, because I do have a kid, and I know how that might have looked, but I won't stop dressing up and being me because someone's afraid of me."

Daniel Salazar/Staff Illustrator

Kathleen “Kay” McDonough, 1954 - 2016

COLIN PERRY and CONNOR HOFFMAN
Editor in Chief and Managing Editor

Kathleen McDonough had a hypothesis to test, and as fate would have it, she had found the perfect partner in crime.

She was standing in an elevator in McEwen Hall with communication professor Tracy Marafiotte and Marafiotte’s toddler son Elias when she remembered hearing somewhere that the ride down would feel completely different if you spread out horizontally instead of standing up.

“So she laid down on the elevator floor, and he laid down right next to her, and they just laid down three flights,” Marafiotte remembers with a laugh.

It probably occurred to McDonough somewhere between the third and first floor that there actually wasn’t much of a difference at all, but she and Elias remained faithful to their experiment until its natural end. The fun was worth it regardless, as was the chance to guide yet another student on the path to greater knowledge.

McDonough, a communication professor and former department chair known simply as “Kay,” died on Oct. 3 after years of battling cancer. She was 62 years old.

If McDonough was not destined to end up at Fredonia, then it was certainly good luck. A native of San Rafael, California, she was born into a family where it was “always understood” that she would go to college, according to communication professor Laura Deen Johnson. However, the “what for” would remain a question.

She was passionate about film, but felt compelled by pragmatism to think of her future employment opportunities before ultimately deciding to pursue something else. She loved European history and even completed the coursework for a doctorate, but didn’t have the time to cross the finish line.

According to Johnson, it was the joy McDonough felt when she was working with young people that led her to teaching children and kindergarteners all around the world, in places like Indonesia and Italy. That life may have been enough for McDonough were it not for one bad flight home.

According to Marafiotte, McDonough was on a long return trip back to the U.S. when her plane started experiencing serious difficulties. This was not just everyday turbulence; thousands and thousands of feet up in the air, McDonough thought that she was going to die.

There’s no way of knowing what happened exactly, but according to Marafiotte, it was in that moment McDonough made a promise to herself: if they managed to land that plane and she survived, she was going to go back to film school like she had always

wanted, and she was going to be a college professor. And that’s exactly what she did.

McDonough joined the Communication Department in 2000 and helped continue the department’s tradition of offering courses in documentary filmmaking, according to communication professor and then-chair Ted Schwalbe.

Over the course of the next decade, she taught students not just the basics of film analysis but how they could create them on their own. Amber Rinehart, a former adjunct professor of the Communication Department, who also graduated from it with two majors, first met McDonough as a sophomore with an idea for a documentary film.

“I knew she taught documentary filmmaking, so I just walked into her office one day and introduced myself and asked if she could help me sort out ideas for a film,” Rinehart wrote in an online message. “Having never met me before, she sat down with me and talked me through my ideas and how I could make them into a film. That was our first introduction, but she helped me with just about every film or creative project I ever worked on after that.”

According to Rinehart, the very same documentary they discussed in their first meeting turned into her thesis documentary for graduate school. Of course, McDonough watched it and offered her critique before Rinehart submitted it to film festivals.

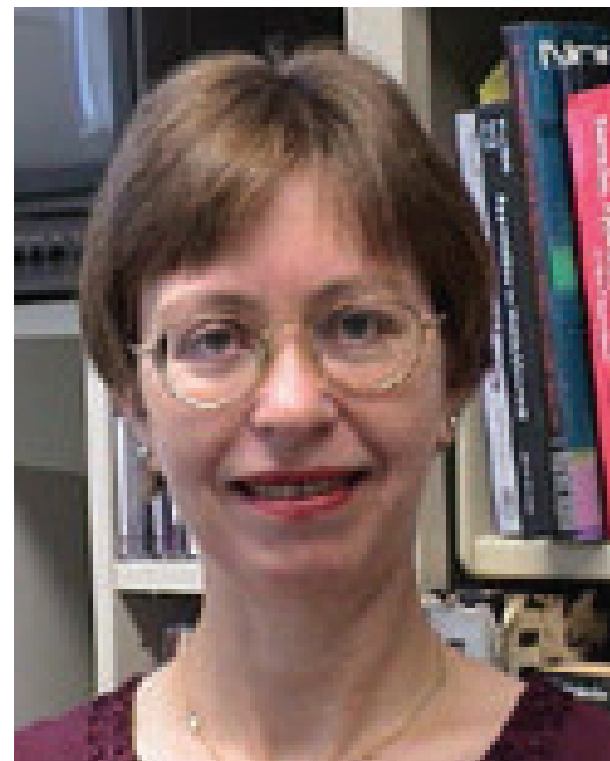
“Kay was always there for her students, even if you were not in one of her classes. She was kind, intelligent, passionate and always willing to help out any way she could. Whether it was questions about filmmaking or teaching, she was always there for me and for anybody else who needed her,” Rinehart said.

McDonough was recognized by colleagues and students for her fairness and her playfulness in equal measure. According to Fredonia graduate Gavin Mevius, one striking moment came on a night when his classmate Kevin Foley needed the Sheldon Computer Lab to stay open longer than usual. McDonough said that if Foley could beat him in an arm wrestling contest, she would oblige.

“I’m pretty sure she won, but kept it open regardless,” Mevius wrote on Facebook.

Of course, McDonough was more than just a professor. Johnson remembers her as a lover of great wine (naturally, from California); Marafiotte recalls she was proud of her baklava and a big enough foodie that she began a tradition when the department was interviewing potential new hires.

“We would get to the end of the interview, and we always had a pretty comfortable rapport ... and she’d go, ‘We have one final question, and this could



Kay McDonough.
Courtesy of the Communication Department

be sort of a make or break thing for you,” Marafiotte said. “Now, we have a lot of department get-togethers, so what we’d like to know is if there’s a potluck, what would you bring?” That was always the question that Kay would ask ... That was just Kay.”

Being a Californian through and through, McDonough also had a longstanding rivalry with Schwalbe over their alma maters; Schwalbe’s graduate work was done at the University of Southern California, whereas McDonough was, according to Schwalbe, a “UC-Berkeley Cal fanatic.”

“We had a bet every year that she was here as to who would win the Cal-USC football game, and I must say that I got a lot of free cups of coffee thanks to Kay during those years,” Schwalbe said, laughing.

“She cared deeply about her students,” said Mark Kiyak. “I can only hope that my students care about me as much as they care about her.”

In 2012, Schwalbe stepped down from his second tenure as department chair, and McDonough was elected to replace him, going on to be (in his words) “outstanding.”

“Kay was always a person of the highest character,” Schwalbe said. “She was always a fair person, she made good decisions for the right reasons, and she treated people well. I knew she would make a good chair, and she did.”

Carl Lam, an adjunct professor in the Communication Department, as well as one of its graduates, first met McDonough when she had just been appointed to the position. Lam, who graduated from Fredonia with three majors (audio/radio production, journalism and music) and 200.5 credits, would end up paying McDonough semiannual visits every semester so that she could first win, then sign his form to go over 18 credits.

“It showed that she never wanted to limit what I could do,” Lam said. “There were doubters that said, ‘You would be insane to take 28 credits.’ It was the validation that someone believed in me, and that she wasn’t going to let a number be limit of what I could do academically. That meant a lot to me. Regardless of what I was expected to do, or what they wanted me to do, she was going to be on my side.”

Johnson said that McDonough was always focused on what was best for both students and for her colleagues in the department.

“I always felt that she supported me in all of my work and activities, and I think she did that with everyone,” Johnson said. “She loved academia so much that she wanted it to be a positive environment, so that everyone could have that experience.”

Current chair of the Communication Department Mark Kiyak said that he and McDonough used to talk about its direction together and that she was a “very compassionate person.”

“She cared deeply about her students ... She



McDonough arm wrestles student Kevin Foley to keep the Sheldon Lab open. Courtesy of Gavin Mevius

loved teaching, and she dedicated her life to teaching film,” Kiyak said. “I can only hope that my students care about me as much as they care about her.”

Her tenure as chair, however, would be cut short just two years later. According to Johnson, she had previously successfully dealt with melanoma of the eye, but a mysterious walnut-sized bump on her neck evaded the doctor’s concerns until another showed up. It was first diagnosed as thyroid cancer which had spread, then salivary gland cancer, before finally settling on the rarely seen hyalinizing clear cell carcinoma. Johnson said that the top expert in the world for HCCC had only studied 40 cases.

Following the Fall 2013 semester, McDonough went away on medical leave to seek treatment. While her sister and brother-in-law had initially flown to New York to care for her, work meant they couldn’t stay forever. Johnson was helping McDonough run errands, whether it was shopping or driving to appointments, and others joined in to what ended up being known (to some) as “Kay’s posse.”

“There were about 20 people that were driving her,” Johnson said. “It included a dean, a lot of faculty members and good friends from the community.”

McDonough continued numerous treatments over the last two years, fueled by the frenzied

research of Johnson and others and by miraculous stories of treatment like that of former U.S. President Jimmy Carter. Calls were made to Germany and all across America. Earlier this year, she had been given a terminal diagnosis; however, a new clinical trial also gave her reason to hope. Even better, the trial would end up returning her to the place she loved: California.

“Just before she went to California, she went through a huge upswing and was very positive, and actually drove a few people to Roswell [Park Cancer Institute] herself,” Johnson said. “That gave me great hope, that she was going to be able to beat this thing.”

McDonough moved for what would be the final time back to her home state to participate in the trial. According to Johnson, “As things unfolded, it went very quickly, and ... she was at peace.”

According to Kiyak, there are no current plans for a funeral, but he has entertained the thought of a Communication Department potluck in her honor — a fitting send-off if ever there was one.

The outpouring of fond memories and grief across Fredonia and the country is one illustration of how great McDonough’s impact was, as are the numerous students who went on to pursue their own passions because she pursued hers. And, of course, many of McDonough’s lessons continue to transcend textbooks and curricula.

“Looking back, I now realize that my biggest lessons I learned from her were not just about documentaries or teaching, but about life,” Rinehart said. “She taught me kindness and to always be the kind of person that walks [through life] helping others. She was a role model to so many in so many ways.”



McDonough and Laura Johnson on a road trip with Ann Carden in 2011. Courtesy of Ann Carden

Presidential speechwriter Smith speaks on campaign history

JAMES LILLIN
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, Oct. 5, Fredonia's ALL IN Democracy Challenge Committee continued its steady march of events to drum up political involvement on campus with a lecture from Craig Smith, a former speechwriter for President Gerald Ford and consulting writer for President George H.W. Bush.

All throughout his lecture, Smith was able to weave a compelling tapestry of the history of speechwriting in America, from its foundation to the current election cycle, beginning with the first president to ever employ a speechwriter, George Washington.

"If you look at Washington's inaugural, it's fairly high-minded," said Smith. "Washington was really speaking to the members of Congress, his cabinet and the wealthy white landowners who made up the voting population. Washington's second inaugural is two paragraphs long, the shortest inaugural in history."

Smith seemed to demonstrate a remarkable knack for engaging and playing with the much younger crowd, working in plenty of topical references, like his allusions to the recent smash-hit musical "Hamilton."

"Hamilton, of course, wrote everything for Washington in hip-hop. That's why it works," said Smith. "Lin-Manuel Miranda could never have written it if Hamilton didn't write in hip-hop."

Smith drew plenty of parallels between past campaigns and the current election cycle, particularly between the emotional fury of Andrew Jackson and Donald Trump.

"[Jackson] was not well educated, and he wasn't a good writer," said Smith, "but he changed the

landscape of campaigning forever."

Smith's wealth of knowledge and even-handed approach struck a chord with many students who appreciated his passionate yet calm demeanor when discussing campaigns of the past and present.

"I think that Craig's talk is more relevant now than ever simply because of his bipartisanship and ability to see multiple perspectives," said senior English and international studies major Zachary Beaudoin. "In a time where the country is so polarized, I think it is important to hear stories from Craig and for people to understand that politics isn't just black and white. He indicated that he doesn't like Trump, but he was always respectful and calculating in his responses."

Smith was first hired by President Ford after hearing a particularly lackluster speech and sending in a five-page rhetorical criticism of the speech to the White House, not expecting to get any response, much less a job offer.

"His story about helping President Ford find his presidential voice was one of my favorite moments," said senior history and adolescent education major Jefferson Dedrick. "That story, and many that he shared, showed the real difference any of us could make in our political system."

Smith was adamant that the importance of a speech can stretch beyond just rhetoric, as he recounted the story of President William Henry Harrison, whose massive inauguration speech towered over all previous presidential inauguration speeches, prompting his advisers and writers to beg him to cut it, which



Craig Smith speaks on presidential speechwriting.
Andrew Camera/Staff Photographer

Harrison flatly refused to do.

"He got up to deliver his address, and there was a cold rain in Washington," said Smith, "and spoke for 75 minutes, the longest inaugural by far. He caught a cold, it turned into pneumonia, and he was dead a month later. So, listen to your speechwriter."

Smith was met with a long stretch of applause at the end of his lecture, with students flocking to him afterwards to shake his hand and get in a few more questions.

"This was undoubtedly my favorite guest lecture in my three years at Fredonia," said Dedrick. "I hope that people will take this interesting election year to come out and learn about the candidates with the Fredonia ALL IN Committee. And above all else: vote."

SUNY offers study abroad program in Cyprus

CAMRY DEAN
Staff Writer

Starting in Spring 2017, SUNY students will have the opportunity to study abroad in Cyprus at Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) for either one or two semesters. EMU is located in Northern Cyprus and just found itself ranked within the top seven Turkish universities in the world.

Cyprus is a small island in the Mediterranean located near Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon and Egypt and is surrounded by blue water and breathtaking views.

The university is entirely English-speaking and home to students from over 100 different countries, making it a truly international experience for any student.

Offering courses in programs such as the arts, business, communication, natural sciences, computer science, health sciences and services, social science, humanities and the Turkish language, EMU can be the study abroad university for anyone.

"This is really good for Fredonia students because if you're a biology major, you could take those courses in a different country, entirely in English," Assistant Director for Study Abroad Erin Willis said. "Students can also focus on Turkish language, which is great because it's considered a 'critical need' language by the U.S. government."

Though the program is being offered through Fredonia, it's open to any student in the SUNY system.

"It's great because it means we could send other SUNY students on the program," Willis said. "For example, if a UB student studying architecture wanted to study abroad, they could potentially take courses at this institution in their field."

Because it's an exchange program rather than a study abroad program, students will be able to study in Cyprus at a lower cost than most programs.

While studying at EMU, students will be living

in residential dorms along with other EMU students, adding to the international exposure.

"Only about 2 percent of American students study abroad, and that's really low," said Willis. "As the world is becoming more globalized, it's important for us to have some cultural competence. There are so many skills you gain from studying abroad, and they might not be learned in the classroom."

"It humanizes the world, and we really need that now," Willis continued. "We need to have more acceptance, more understanding. It makes us better people, and it makes students more marketable and more professional. It makes you a better-rounded person."

For more information, students are encouraged to check out Fredonia's study abroad page, EMU's website or reach out to Erin Willis directly.

Feeding Fredonia Challenge returns to campus



Alissa Salem/Staff Illustrator

CAMRY DEAN

Staff Writer

The Feeding Fredonia Challenge began this Monday, Oct. 10 and will run until Friday, Oct. 14.

The campus and community-wide food donation drive, which first started in October 2014, will benefit the Fredonia Food Pantry at the First United Presbyterian Church of Fredonia.

Pastor Cynthia Wickwire Lundquist of the Presbyterian Church encourages all students, faculty and staff members to help those in need throughout the community this week by donating any non-perishable items.

While all donations towards the pantry will be accepted, food items such as canned fruits and vegetables, rice, soup, pasta, peanut butter, cereal, coffee, dry milk and canned meats are recommended.

The food pantry works directly with the Chautauqua County Rural Ministries in Dunkirk to

provide food on the third Saturday of every month to those in need, including students in the campus community.

“The big effort we’re working on right now is trying to get the word out to SUNY Fredonia students. The pantry is also available to them,” Lundquist said. “Many of us remember what it was like in school, and that’s part of the community that we haven’t been able to reach yet.”

In two years, the pantry has been able to give over 700 bags of food to those in need, including families with small children, working families with no fixed income, and elderly community members who have expensive medical bills.

Pastor Lindquist said that the pantry is not government-run, and the church only asks for your name and address when visiting, strictly for statistical reports for the Rural Ministry. No photo ID is required.

“If someone comes and they say they need food and they’re from Fredonia, we’ll give it to them,” said Lundquist.

Two years ago, 15 to 20 percent of the food pantry assistance provided by the Rural Ministry for those in need were Fredonia families, and since then, the pantry has opened up and receiving food has become more accessible.

While Fredonia rests 2.8 percent above the average families living below the poverty line, the need for donations is high, and the efforts are coming from the entire community.

Last year, Fredonia Central School collected almost 3,000 pounds of food, and there are currently 75 to 80 local businesses that are accepting donated food items.

Volunteer and Community Services Coordinator Joyce H. Smith and campus volunteers

have been working strenuously to get the word out to aid the First Presbyterian Church and the Fredonia Food Pantry.

Volunteer and Community Services intern and senior marketing major Courtney Winter has been able to experience the project from both a volunteer and student perspective.

“As a student, I want more students to become involved, and that’s why I became involved with this internship. I feel like having volunteer experience is beneficial, no matter what their major is,” Winter said. “I just really want to help promote volunteer community service because I want more students to become involved in events, such as the Feeding Fredonia Challenge.”

“I know that Fredonia is a very small place, but then when you venture out to places that need volunteers, that need that kind of help, it’s really rewarding for the individual to give back.”

The donation drive, which is a community-wide effort, is accepting donations in small, marked boxes from the Fredonia campus community with seven locations on campus, as well as a box in each of the lobbies of the Residence Halls.

Boxes are located by the cafes in Fenton, Thompson, McEwen and Mason Halls, as well as the main entrance to the Williams Center, Room 221 of the Science Center and Dods Hall.

Hoping to collect over 5,700 pounds of food for families in need, students, faculty and staff are all encouraged to do their part.

“We need to build sustainable community partnerships,” Smith said. “It’s important that we, on campus, give back to the community, and Feeding Fredonia is certainly one way to give back to those families in need.”

Brown Bag recap

DAN ORZECOWSKI

Special to The Leader

Taking the CCC-required science courses can appear to be a waste of time for many non-science majors. Why would a history major ever need to know the process of photosynthesis?

This year’s Brown Bag Lecture Series is titled “Detours on the Information Highway.” This month’s lecture, titled “Communication in the Sciences,” was held on Oct. 5, and featured physics professor Michael Dunham and biology professor Nick Quintyne trying to answer just that.

Biology professor Scott Medler said “there is a gap between the scientific community and the public” during the opening remarks he gave. He explained that science is often misconceived.

“Science is not just a collection of facts, but

a process to get those facts; and that’s not always understood by the public,” said Medler.

As a professor of an introductory science class, Dunham has numerous students who are not science majors. While teaching his first semester in Fredonia, he has made an effort to offer skills that all of his students can benefit from in the future.

According to Dunham, there are many perks to taking science classes. A student will recognize the effects of science throughout their life. Science can also lead to conserving money and voting in elections while being more knowledgeable on political issues.

However, the most important advantage according to Dunham is educating yourself. “There is little reward for regurgitating facts, but more for critical thinking,” he said.

Critical thinking, according to Quintyne, allows the public to be skeptical. In his PowerPoint, titled “This Presentation May Cure Cancer,” he explained that the media and social media are often the outlets for scientific information, rather than scientific documents.

Quintyne said these media outlets will misuse scientific data to sensationalize articles. As an example, Quintyne pulled up an article from his own Facebook feed called “Your Professor might be worse than a Carcinogen.” According to Quintyne, the original study did not have a hypothesis.

The study surveyed 3,000 men. Of this 3,000, 11 of them had glioblastoma — a rare form of brain cancer — and out of these 11 men, six of them had received higher education and five had not. The title stretched the truth, and there was no proven correlation between higher education and cancer.

“This doesn’t mean you should not trust science,” Quintyne said. “You can’t have the big picture obscure the small picture.”

Dunham and Quintyne both believe that by taking science courses, students strengthen their ability to challenge ridiculous claims made by the media.

The next Brown Bag Lecture is called “The Impact of Technology on Teaching and Learning,” and it will be held on Nov. 2 in the Williams Center Room S204 from noon to 1 p.m.



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Ivani the Great

International politics professor receives President's Award

JORDAN PATTERSON

Assistant News Editor

Late Thursday afternoon, the campus was emptying. Most professors and student had left, but Ivani Vassoler-Froelich was still there, busy as usual.

Vassoler, a professor in the Politics and International Affairs Department, received the 2016 President's Award for Excellence in Teaching last spring. She will be giving a speech titled "Americans in Brazil, Brazilians in the U.S: A Two-Century Long Relationship," on Oct. 18th.

Sitting in her small office in Thompson Hall, she spoke about her upbringing.

"As you can see, I have an accent," she said.

Vassoler was born and raised in San Pablo, Brazil, where she grew up with three sisters.

Before becoming a professor, Vassoler was a journalist in San Pablo and reported for the Eldorado News.

Upon coming to the U.S., she pursued a career in education and attended schools such as the University of San Diego and the University of Maryland.

"I changed my career from journalism to political science," she explained. She referred to her time as a journalist as her "other life."

While she was studying political science, she remained in the journalism field, and was the American correspondent for the Eldorado News. During this time, she covered the 1996 Olympics, presidential elections and the fallout of 9/11 when she was living in Washington, D.C.

Vassoler, being a political science professor, weighed in on the current state of the election.

"I think it's an election that, unfortunately, for many people in the U.S. ... they are not, I think, able so far, to reach the public interest about the issues that are important to Americans. Most of the campaign itself has been about personal issues," Vassoler said.

Vassoler contrasted this election with the 2008 elections, and she noticed the declining interest with her students. She recalled that some politically savvy students were involved so much that they would take busses to participate in the presidential campaign. According to her, Barack Obama's slogan "Yes We Can" was something younger people to could relate to.

"At least there was a candidate that motivated people to act. There was enthusiasm, which I don't see now. Perhaps I am wrong," Vassoler said optimistically.

Vassoler admitted that Bernie Sanders sparked similar emotion in students and young people, but the enthusiasm is missing since his departure. "The message is not there," Vassoler added.

Vassoler has been with Fredonia since 2003. She has maintained her enthusiasm and passion for teaching through her long tenure at Fredonia, even

through tough times.

Vassoler's husband, Lazlo Froelich, who she was married to for 20 years, passed away five years ago due to heart complications. The two of them met in Mexico City when a mutual friend set them up. She referred to it as being "very romantic."

One of her biggest contributions to Fredonia is her coordination of the interdisciplinary major in International Studies, until she stepped down before the Fall semester and passed it down to Associate Professor Alex Caviedes.

Caviedes was more than pleased that Vassoler had been awarded the President's Award for Excellence.

"Oh, I think it's absolutely merited," Caviedes said.

Before the interview, Vassoler rushed back to her office, where she was met by two students. The students were seeking a signature for a release form, but she didn't sign the paper immediately. Instead, she made sure she knew everything about the club they were representing before she signed it. She wasn't being difficult; she simply cared about the two students.

According to Caviedes, who has worked with Vassoler since he was hired in 2005, this is one of her most admirable aspects.

"I think one of the difficult things for me to, probably, follow in her footsteps is I get a really strong sense of care," Caviedes said. "Students always feel that she cares passionately about the subject that she teaches, but that she also cares passionately that students are learning important issues, but then moving on and being able to apply these."

Caviedes mentioned one other thing that he



admires of Vassoler is her commitment to the students. According to Caviedes, Vassoler frequently encourages her students to present their research at academic conferences, which includes applying and traveling to the conference. During this time, she mentors the students through the process.

"I envy her in this regard, and she is unique in our department in this respect, and probably only one of a few professors on campus for whom this is a regular practice," Caviedes said.

Professor Ivani Vassoler-Froelich.
Corey Maher/Photo Editor

Police Blotters

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.

UNIVERSITY

Monday, Oct. 3, 2016

12:30 a.m. Riley Baracscai, age 19, was arrested for unlawful possession of marijuana.

Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2016

9:04 p.m. There was a check performed of two subjects on Three Man Hill. One was found to have an active JPD warrant. The JPD was contacted, and they declined to transport the subject.

10:50 p.m. There was reportedly a larceny of the soccer field lock. A report was filed and information was taken.

Thursday, Oct. 6, 2016

12:47 p.m. Keys were found in the Science Center. A report was filed.

12:10 p.m. Items were found in the Reed Library "Electronics" room. A report was filed.

Friday, Oct. 7, 2016

8:50 p.m. A student in a costume was reportedly scaring a student. A report was filed.

Saturday, Oct. 8, 2016

2:34 a.m. Thomas Lancie, age 19, was arrested for possession of alcohol and another NYS DL during a traffic stop. He was issued an appearance ticket.

3:31 a.m. A shirt was found by the Escort Bus Driver. A report was filed and the shirt was stored.

9:06 a.m. A coin purse with money and multiple cards was found outside of Chautauqua Hall. A report was filed.

FREDONIA

Monday, Oct. 3, 2016

4 p.m. Armando Torres, age 27, was arrested for petit larceny. He was issued a summons.

Friday, Oct. 7, 2016

2:31 a.m. Dylan Munson, age 21, was arrested for violating the noise ordinance. He was issued an appearance ticket.

1:07 a.m. Austin York, age 18, was arrested for violating the sewer ordinance. He was issued an appearance ticket.

11:30 p.m. Lukas Bartone, age 21, was arrested for violating the noise ordinance. He was issued an appearance ticket.

11:30 p.m. Michael Dill, age 21, was arrested for violating the noise ordinance. He was issued an appearance ticket.

11:30 p.m. Brandon Richardson, age 21, was arrested for violating the noise ordinance. He was issued an appearance ticket.

11:30 p.m. Trevor Smith, age 21, was arrested for violating the noise ordinance. He was issued an appearance ticket.

11:30 p.m. Jordan Giordano, age 20, was arrested for violating the noise ordinance. He was issued an appearance ticket.

11:30 p.m. Zachary Earle, age 21, was arrested for violating the noise ordinance. He was issued an appearance ticket.

Saturday, Oct. 8, 2016

12:21 a.m. Gerald Crise, age 62, was arrested for criminal possession of marijuana in fifth degree and littering. He was released on bail.



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Life's a drag

BETHANY CLANCY

Special to The Leader

For over 10 years now, Fredonia's Pride Alliance has been throwing drag shows. It's a great event that gets the queer community together each semester, and on Friday, Oct. 7 in the Williams Center, many entered with high energy, anticipating the start of the show by singing and dancing along to the music.

Hosting the show was Countess Mascara, who strutted around the stage to a trap remix of Adele's "Rolling in the Deep," which got the crowd going wild.

Things moved along promptly, jumping into a memorable first performer, R.O.B., who strutted the stage in a unicorn onesie to Sir Mix-A-Lot's "Baby Got Back." This was only one of the many incredible performers at the drag show.

The crowd was really drawn into the acts done by Androgynous Andy's Twenty One Pilots medley, Tess Tickles' Fergie mashup, and Jack M Hoff's Nick Jonas mashup, just to name a few.

It's no secret that Fredonia loves their alumni, so much that they had an alumna come to Friday's event to judge the performances.

Graduating in 2015, guest judge Golden Delicious didn't get her start in drag until after her time spent at Fredonia. Focusing on the fact that Countess Mascara is her drag mother, a term meaning

an experienced drag queen who acts as a mentor and guide to a younger, up-and-coming, less experienced or apprentice drag queen, it is no surprise that her performance was phenomenal.

The time in between acts seemed to be a crowd favorite, and it gave everyone a chance to get up on stage to dance and strut as they pleased. It also gave the judges time to think about and discuss the first set of performers.

Competitions for the attendees had also taken place. The "twerk off" seemed to be a favorite amongst the crowd, but a "strut off" also occurred.

Before the next set of acts, the 2014 champion, Claire Voyant, made an appearance during which she danced to a very fitting song for her, "Dancing Queen."

Finally, after a full night of high energy performances, came the time that everybody was waiting for: the announcement of drag king and queen. This year's winners were R.O.B. and Expira Mentame.

All contestants excelled in their performances, but these two really captured the judges along with the audience's attention.



The host for the night, Countess Mascara, performs to Adele's Rolling in the Deep. Corey Maher/Photo Editor

After the event Abigail Truax, a junior musical theatre major, had a lot to say about the drag show and drag races in general.

"I'm definitely a drag enthusiast," said Truax. "I really enjoyed the turn out for drag kings this year, usually people overlook the fact that drag kings are a thing, and it was great to see people recognizing that there are more ways to enjoy drag."

She also mentioned that all of the performers had very high energy and how great it was to see alumni judging this year's show.

"It really shows that drag can turn into something more after you do it in college," said Truax. Her favorite contestant performer was Lolita Trippin, and she loved the fact that Claire Voyant made a return to the stage.

After a successful drag show this semester, anticipation is already in the air for the Spring semester.



Drag King R.O.B. twerks to "Baby Got Back" in their unicorn onesie. Corey Maher/Photo Editor



Victor Enrique and Vanessa Leounis open the show. Corey Maher/Photo Editor

Fall fun for all

First Harvest Fest is a hit

MOLLY VANDENBERG
Staff Writer

It may have been a gloomy weekend in downtown Fredonia, but that didn't stop Fredonia's Habitat for Humanity club from putting on their first annual Harvest Fest this past Saturday, Oct. 8.

Despite the rain, club members had to deal with during set up, the weather cleared up just in time for the festivities to begin.

"We worked for two and a half hours in the rain setting up, which was unbelievable, but throughout that time I was never worried. I knew that the rain was supposed to clear up and it ... cleared up right when the event started," said junior early childhood/childhood education major and Habitat for Humanity president Shane Meenaghan.

So, the festival began in good spirits despite dealing with a little bit of rain. From multiple craft tables, lawn games, live music provided by Fredonia Radio Systems, dance performances, concession stands, pumpkin sales and a basket raffle there was something fun for all age groups to enjoy at the Harvest Festival.

Craft station tables were set up aiming to attract both younger and older crowds. It was definitely a family-friendly experience for all.

"I loved seeing all the children running around happy and excited to do the crafts... They were dancing around to the music... it was just an awesome experience to see the young and old of our community coming together and helping raise money for such a good cause," said Meenaghan.



Craft booths at the Habitat for Humanity club's first Harvest Festival.
Kelsie Abbt/Special to The Leader

It was slower during the early hours of the festival, but it's important to remember that this was a first time event for the club, similar to a trial-run. They only had a month and a half to plan and attempted to reach out to as many business and local schools as they could during this short amount of time. However, club members were still happy with the turnout.

"For a month and a half of planning [and] for all of what my e-board, my planning committee, our assistants and our general body did to help make this run, it went amazingly," said Meenaghan.

People were drawn to the Harvest Fest that didn't know anything about the club and their efforts. It was a great opportunity for Habitat for Humanity to spread their message and share their overall goals with the local community. It was also a chance for Fredonia clubs to really work together and collaborate on something so positive.

"My favorite parts of the Harvest Fest were the

outstanding musical performances and the collaborative efforts of Habitat for Humanity alongside [the] Fredonia radio station and several other campus groups all to help out the Chautauqua County Habitat for Humanity Chapter that we've been working with at our current Silver Creek build site," said junior audio/radio production and journalism major Melissa Fuchs, who is involved in both the Fredonia Radio Station (FRS) and Habitat for Humanity. FRS sold record bowls at the festival to help fundraise.

The exact amount raised is still being determined by Habitat. All proceeds are for the local Habitat for Humanity Chautauqua Affiliate. This money will go towards current house construction in Silver Creek and other possible future projects.

The Harvest Fest is going to become an annual event so if you missed it this time around, make sure to keep an eye out for the festival next year and the years to come.

'SEVEN' is eye-opening look into abuse

SHENECA SHARPE
Staff Writer

The play "SEVEN," composed of monologues based on the interviews of women from all corners of the world sharing their personal experience of abuse, hit Rosch Recital Hall on Oct. 8. The monologues were recited by Jamestown and Fredonia leaders in community and education, such as President Virginia Horvath and environmental sciences professor Sherri Mason.

It was an intimate setting where the people reciting the monologues sat down in chairs and read these experiences for the audience to listen and to feel a sense of empathy for these women.

The first act of "SEVEN" was the personal accounts based off women who reside in seven different countries. Some of the stories that were shared included sexual, emotional and often physical abuse.

The performances in the second act were especially moving because they were the stories of women who live in the Chautauqua County area. These women had to read their own personal stories for everybody to hear and to, hopefully, understand. There were a lot of tears shed from the women on stage and even amongst the audience members. It was so moving that not many students were willing to give their comments on the play.

"The lesson here is that people like this find recovery at the end. It's not this hopeless journey. At the end, there is a breaking point and a place for them to find themselves," said Chelsea May, a junior majoring in biology.

There were stories about women pending mass amounts of money on crack cocaine and not being able

to come home unless they had drugs, having affairs because after their sexual assault they didn't feel worthy of someone loving them, or losing their child to CPS because of the abuse that would go on in the home.

"It leaves a really powerful message that there's a lot of hope for these people with these amazing stories. I felt very connected to a lot of people that were on the stage," said May.

"SEVEN" was an eye-opener to the world of abuse that most people ignore. It helped create a conversation of how to end the cycle of abuse for not just women, but for any gender. It's in the hopes that plays like this can continue to start the conversation and to hopefully end it as the cycle of abuse ends too.

Don't think, just dance

Recapping Fredonia's first Dance-A-Thon

ZOE KIRIAZIS

Special to The Leader

Fredonia's Student Dance Organization held its first annual Dance-A-Thon on Friday Oct. 7 in Steele Hall's Fieldhouse. Dance-A-Thon is a charity event for the Dizzy Feet Foundation created and founded by 'So You Think You Can Dance' judge, Nigel Lythgoe.

The night was filled with an array of dance styles: hip-hop, musical theatre, jazz, modern and line dance, to name a few. Student dance groups, such as Orchesis Dance Company, Note Worthy Show Choir, Envied Xpression and Fredonia Dance Team performed and taught various dance workshops throughout the night.

Senior dance major Molly Carriero came out to teach a short line dance sequence in appropriate cowgirl boots. Junior musical theatre major Eva Mancarella held an exciting and sweat-worthy Zumba class. Non-stop music throughout the night allowed people to dance as freely as their bodies allowed.

Numerous clubs on campus that members of Student Dance Organization are a part of were able to donate a wide variety of raffle baskets to select from. A game basket from Black Student Union, a "Netflix and consensual chill" basket from S.T.E.P.S and a "cozy night in" basket from Fredonia Radio Systems were a few of the many selections. Local businesses around Fredonia and Dunkirk, such as Wing City and Lena's Pizza, showed their support and contribution with gift certificates.

Dance-A-Thon was an event to demonstrate that anyone can dance. Sophomore theatre arts major Kristine Sodergren talked about how important dance is in her life and in her group, Note Worthy. "I was never really the best dancer, but I



Fredonia's Irish Step Team poses within the photobooth set up at the Dance-A-Thon. Corey Maher/Photo Editor

had fun doing it ... If you want to dance, just do it," she said, smiling.

Senior dance and public relations major Nicole Miller described the event as a complete success. As part of the Student Dance Organization executive board, she went through the process of reaching out to different clubs across campus to donate to the cause.

The end result with donations, performances, attendance, and dance involved surpassed all expectations. Miller confirmed that Dance-A-Thon will make another appearance to Fredonia's campus next year.



All' amore perform at BJ's. Corey Maher/Photo Editor

Hundred Plus Club & All' amore at BJ's

LERON WELLINGTON

Staff Writer

One of the best things about Fredonia is the wide array of music it has to offer. We might be in a somewhat secluded location, but we get some of the newest music from all over.

That was definitely the case on Oct. 5, when Buffalo band Hundred Plus Club performed with local band All' amore, who started the night off.

Hundred Plus Club, an alternative/indie rock band who, according to Patrick Walker, are known for their "effortless sound," performed their dance rock music, which the crowd bobbed to as the night went on.

All' amore set the stage first and played crowd favorites like "Gumdrop" and "Piper and Alex."

The band members Rafi, Josh, Burak and Zain have known each other since high school, but it wasn't until last year that they said "Yo let's play some music!" according to Burak, the band's drummer. Most of the band members attend UB and have been performing around the campus and in Buffalo.

While it was the band's first time performing here, they had the crowd jamming along with them. Although Buffalo might be a bigger city, the band enjoyed the "small town atmosphere." In particular, Rafi said, "We are having a good time here. Fredonia is a great music scene." In their short time here, they met with All' amore, talking about music and then performing

with one another.

Walker, a senior music industry major, contacted Hundred Plus Club and brought them to Fredonia to perform. Walker has followed the band since their start and found interest in them because he thought they would "bring a breath of fresh air to western New York." He said, "The whole point of it is to bring talent to a place where it will be appreciated."

The band performed some of its newest music with songs entitled "Butterfly" and "Mildly Impressed." The chill and lax quartet transitioned from song to song easily through the night, keeping the audience captivated the whole night. Nia Ferguson, senior acting major said, "There music is really easy and fun to dance to, which I really liked."

Sarah Moebius, senior musical theatre major said, "The band was pretty good. I'm glad we have a place in Fredonia to chill out and listen to new music once in awhile."

The band has just released an album, "For You," and is currently performing around western New York. When it comes to local music, Fredonia is the place to be. Students can definitely expect more music at BJ's to come this year.

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Rhythm and Brews offers a relaxing time

AMBER MATTICE

Reverb Editor

There are few things that go together better than coffee and good tunes. That is one of the reasons why Rhythm and Brews is so appealing to so many.

On Oct. 8, Music Industry Club hosted their first Rhythm and Brews of the year at “The Spot” in Tim Hortons. There will be several more throughout the semester, and the first one was a good representation of what they hope to achieve.

“We tend to favor acoustic acts and much mellower acts here, so I just try to figure out what would work together and what music would work together and just try to make a complete set out of it,” said senior music industry and audio production double major Kris Harris.

The music certainly flowed together while remaining different enough to let every musician stand out.

Rhythm and Brews featured artists Olivia

Mancuso, Liam Jones and Kyle Osmun. Each had a unique sound and even their instruments varied as Mancuso played a keyboard, Jones a guitar and Osmun switched between a ukulele and a guitar.

The combination of their music with the general hum that comes with the business of Tim Hortons created an atmosphere that many could enjoy.

“You really get a wide variety of performers, which is cool. And you get to hear what people are doing creatively around campus that you wouldn’t get to otherwise,” said Mancuso, a sophomore sound recording technology major.

Despite the intimacy of the setting, with Tim Hortons being so small and the acts featuring such chill music, the audience erupted in claps and cheers after the musicians were done with a song. The support for each artist could not be missed, and everyone in the room seemed to have a mutual appreciation for the

music and the event itself.

“I really like that there is a lot of opportunity to perform, and there is a lot of talent here, so it’s good that there is an outlet for that,” said Osmun, a freshman audio/radio production major. “I also think it’s good that it is something there isn’t a lot of commitment to, you can kind of just come and have a good time and get food ... It’s more of a relaxed environment.”

Music Industry Club is hoping to continue to bring in good music for Rhythm and Brews as the year progresses. Its goal is to branch out and attempt to get more acts to come in from Buffalo and Pennsylvania to give a wider variety to the event.

It’s a great way to listen to music and stay warm as the temperature drops outside, so be sure to keep an eye out for the posters on campus announcing the next one.

Review: ‘Atrocity Exhibition’ by Danny Brown

ANDREW RICHARDSON

Special to The Leader



Courtesy of Warped Records.

On Sept. 27, Danny Brown shocked the world by releasing his new album “Atrocity Exhibition” three days earlier than expected.

His devoted fan base jumped for joy when they could finally get their hands on new material from the underground hip hop sensation. They were practically

pouring over with anticipation, since this is the first album he has released since 2013’s, “OLD.”

This brings us to the new album “Atrocity Exhibition,” which has a similar feel and subject-matter as its predecessor, 2011’s “XXX.”

Brown turns in a banger on the song “Really Doe.” It’s a very simple beat with ‘90s tempo. Over it is a sound that can only be described as eerie twinkling, like the one you would expect to hear when a killer clown is chasing you in the movies.

The features really make this album. Kendrick Lamar, Ab-Soul, and Earl Sweatshirt? Their raps are scary good. The transition from “Really Doe” to “Lost” is an absolutely amazing example.

You hear Sweatshirt’s voice fade into a crackly record sound. This fits perfectly into “Lost” because the sample voice sounds like something from Tiny Tim.

Brown throws that sample on a ‘90s tempo beat and starts stacking up similes and metaphors like he was MF DOOM. An example: “I’m like Spielberg / With ill words and hoes on that curb / Gotta screw loose, I’m cuckoo, mentally disturbed.”

His flow is so crazy on this song he actually splits “mentally” into two words, making piecing the words together like a rewarding puzzle one must solve.

“From the Ground” has easily one of the greatest, most eerie opening to any song ever. Brown incorporates the theremin into this, along with a weird

clapping. This lasts for a short time, then it transitions to the most beautiful sounding voice and beat on the album.

Kelela, the owner of this breathtaking voice, sounds exactly like the singer on The Notorious B.I.G.’s song “Hypnotize.”

After the transition you hear snoring and chimes blowing in the wind like time is moving past him. Brown approaches this song with his calm reflecting flow. It’s very monotone but remains energetic because of how good the lyrics are.

A couple lyrics from the song read “Told myself back then / When I used to ride a Schwinn / Now I’m on a tour bus / Going places I ain’t never been / Wrote my rhymes down on a paper bag / That was way back / Having dreams of a Cadillac Dog / I had to bounce back.”

“Get Hi” does a great job at setting a tone. The beat is ridiculously atmospheric and hazy. Cypress Hill’s B-Real delivers a dope chorus.

This album is Brown’s best work. The consistent horror themes throughout this album make it truly unique. The structure of fast, hard hitting tracks is almost reminiscent of Madvillain’s “Madvillainy.”

This is a superb way to show the horrors of Brown’s substance abuse through outstanding production and even better lyrics.

October

10/12-11/18

Marion Art Gallery

Kahn & Selesnick:

“Truppe Fledermaus and the Carnival at the End of the World”

10/19

Tomoreaux with Holland Purchase and Mooses

From 10 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Admission is free for anyone 21 and up. For anyone under 21 it is \$3.

10/21

“Dido and Aeneas” and “The Medium”

From 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. in Marvel Theatre

The Hillman Opera is pairing these two classic works for a night of emotional and moving theatre. Tickets are \$10 for students and \$20 for the general public and are available in the ticket office.

“Godspell”

From 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. in Bartlett Theatre

A compilation of different parables told through the use of games, various storytelling techniques and even some touches of comedy. Tickets are \$12 for students and \$25 for the general public and are available in the ticket office.

1970s Fredonia Jazz Ensemble Alumni Concert

From 8 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. in Rosch Recital Hall

Admission is free

10/24 - 10/26

Haunted Gregory

From 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. each night in Gregory Hall’s basement. The event is hosted by the Residence Hall Association and all proceeds are donated to the Lakeshore Humane Society and the Military Hero Foundation. Admission is \$2 for the first night and \$1 for every night after or you can donate a canned food item each time for the local soup kitchen.

10/27

Here For The Boos

From 10 p.m. to 12 a.m. at EBC West

The event will feature The Rifts, Feverbox and CEO. There will be a costume contest and free shots. Admission is 21 and up only and \$3.



Campus Visit:
Tuesday
October 18
online.citi.com

Presentation, Williams Center S-204

Tuesday, October 18, 5:00 p.m.

- Join us for a presentation by Citi representatives to share information about their summer internship program, as well as their entry-level job opportunities for seniors.
- Internship application deadline is October 31—description available in FREDNetwork!
- Citi has recently hired several Fredonia graduates and plans to hire more!
- Open to all business majors.
- Pizza and pop will be served.



Campus Visit!
Wednesday
October 19
www.people-inc.com

Information Table, Café McEwen

Wednesday, October 19, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Presentation, Williams Center G103-B

Wednesday, October 19, 1:00 p.m.

- Join us for a presentation by People Inc. representatives to learn about jobs and internships with one of the largest human service organizations in Western New York!
- Open to all students in any major!
- Pizza and pop will be served.

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From the Desk Of Rebecca Masiker, Graphics Editor

Coming from a small town, I'm constantly asked what graphic design is, how I got into the major, and where I will find a future position.

Growing up near a farm in the country, I was encouraged by my surroundings to appreciate and focus on the small details of life. This has resonated in me through my focus in the arts. Starting at a very young age, I created illustrations of the outdoors, animals, people, and more. Fortunately, I always kept a pencil and paper on hand in case of inspiration. Unfortunately for my teachers, this would include sketches in the margins of notes and tests.

Cassadaga Valley Central School is where my interest in art blossomed. The art teacher and band director there had a greater influence on me than any other educator at the school. They supported my decision to pursue an art career through understanding of my passion and ambition to succeed in the field. Half of my daily schedule included art and music classes for this reason.

It should be mentioned that graphic design was not the only field I explored. I also considered art education, art therapy, and drawing and painting. After doing a great deal of research and seeking the advice of my art teacher, I set my heart on graphic design. I went as far as doing my eleventh grade career project on the topic to fully grasp what I was getting into.

I had no idea.

Although I was accepted into Fredonia while still a senior at Cassadaga, I chose to attend Jamestown Community College (JCC) for my freshman year before transferring for the remainder of my college career. I spent my freshman year at JCC to grasp the

foundations in art and transition from high school to college education. With the foundation courses under my belt, I thought I had a grasp on what graphic design was. However, it wasn't until I entered the Visual Arts and New Media (VANM) Design Program at Fredonia that I really began to understand.

At Fredonia, each of the graphic design courses I've taken have asked the same two questions: "What is graphic design?" and, "Why are you in this field?" To me, a graphic designer is an artist who both creates imagery and tackles visual problems, dissecting them until the task at hand is completed. During their investigation, multiple perspectives are taken into consideration based on how their imagery and typography will be viewed. Designers do not just solve the problem. They evaluate the entirety of the subject and analyze each component, discovering that there is not just one simple problem, but several elements to focus on.

As to why I chose graphic design, I enjoy constantly learning and being challenged. I did not choose this field to "earn money in the arts," as I fully understand how competitive it is. My passion includes working in design with a diverse team to create a cohesive end product. Art has been a positive influence in my life, and I would like it to be the same for my clientele.

The VANM education and faculty at Fredonia have pushed me beyond my perceived limitations. Now, as a senior graphic design BFA major at Fredonia, I better understand the design process and its meaning. I always ask questions, evaluate the subject thoroughly and go through the design process in its entirety.



There is no such thing as an average work day in this field. This year, I can usually be found in my cubicle at The Leader office using Adobe products to create advertisements for clients, spending the night creating designs for my Graphic Design V and Typography III courses, and even coding through my Web Programming I course to increase my skill set for when I graduate in May. The daily routine of a graphic designer isn't stagnant. Our position and agenda encompass a broad range of tasks focusing on design creation and decisions. I enjoy the flexibility and different paths within this field.

I am confident, secure and happy with the degree choice I made. The idea that always pushed me when I doubted myself was the famous Confucius statement, "Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life." Whether it is designing for a client, working with a great team to explore new ideas or even reading an art historical analysis, I am where I'm supposed to be.

Editorial: State-mandated mental health education is long overdue

Governor Andrew Cuomo recently signed a law requiring that New York's public schools will have to include information on mental health in health classes. It's a long overdue addition, one that frankly should have come much sooner.

Students are generally not educated about the importance of mental health, and if they are, it's almost always insufficient. Placing the topic in the curriculum alongside information on alcohol, drugs, tobacco and cancer prevention means that knowledge of mental illness is just as important as knowledge for any of

those things.

Now that schools are required to teach about mental health, students will become better at recognizing the signs of mental illness and more comfortable talking about their own potential problems. If a student might need to seek treatment, it'll become more apparent to them how they can and why they should.

In time, the toxic stigmas surrounding conversations about mental health could begin disappearing as these adolescents grow older. People

will mental illnesses are rarely spoken about as being "normal." They're instead consigned to being "crazy" or "damaged," but this new law directly challenges that idea by recognizing mental health for what it is: part of your overall health as a person.

If there is a downside to any of this, it's that the law won't start affecting curricula until 2018. Still, the fact that the step's been made to elevate the topic in the first place is an achievement worth celebrating.

Campus View: It's time to have conversations about racism

SHENECA SHARPE

Staff Writer

As someone who has been living in Fredonia for a year and half, a lot of my opinions have changed about what I naively thought about the town. I thought it was a simple town that didn't have any discriminatory feelings or ideas about people of color, and I was sadly wrong. Anywhere in the world you'll find discrimination based on race, economic background or religion, but I wasn't expecting this much from an area where I'm trying to get my education.

I tried to figure out if I was the only person of color who felt this way, and I wasn't. Many of my peers who go to Fredonia have seen and/or been in a situation involving discrimination or racism. I was wondering, "Well, why was this the case? What makes my skin color so threatening that makes some white people feel that I'm always up to something?"

There was a situation in Walmart where I was buying a small bag of toiletries, and as I was leaving the store, I was asked for my receipt. At first, I was okay with it. While the employee checked my receipt, I noticed a white man walk right past, and the second employee that should be checking everyone's receipts didn't check his. This was the first time I had been asked to show my receipt. Also, this was the first time I tried to walk out with a hoodie on my head and my hand in my pocket, simply because I was cold.

Now, why did I have to be stopped with one bag while a man with an opposite skin tone walks past with 20 bags? To me, I was just cold and had a hoodie on to keep warm. But to most, I look suspicious.

My account isn't the only one. There are many in Fredonia who don't feel like Fredonia is home

because of the discrimination we feel entering campus or even while off campus.

"I was sitting in a classroom, and the topic of discussion for the day was 'poverty,' then eventually it turned into 'poor minorities,' then suddenly it became 'poor black people on food stamps.' Out of nowhere, the professor pointed me out and asked, 'Why is there poverty in the African American community?'" said senior social work major Maimouna Sylla. "To some people, the professor asking me that question isn't a big deal. However, for me it was extremely offensive, and I didn't even know how to defend myself. Why did he ask the only black person in the classroom that question? Why did he just assume I knew the answer to that question?"

Racism and discrimination is real in the world, but it's also very real on this campus. That's what most people who aren't faced with this issue seem to forget. It's an everyday thing for people of color; it affects the way we talk, the way we dress and even the way we walk. Recent events in the news show black people getting shot because of the color of their skin, and we just simply don't want to become the next hashtag. It's so easy to ignore the problems that you don't face with the switch of a channel or a flip in the page of a newspaper.

Senior music business major Eann Robinson said that he often hears "racist comments" in downtown Fredonia, including slurs.

"Knowing that we are in a predominately white area, you almost feel helpless and feel like, 'If I speak up and things turn left, will I be protected? Will I be the

victim or the person who is causing trouble?' I almost feel unsafe and unrepresented in the Fredonia area," said Robinson.

President Virginia Horvath believes that this issue needs to stop and that leaders of the school need to learn that things they say or do can be racist and discriminatory.

"I don't want that to be the experience that people have here. I also feel, 'What can we do?' I was given a very specific list of the things we have to do and not continuously talk about. We also need to look at the different perspectives because for most white Americans, they don't think about race, and we need to look at the way white privilege gives white Americans the freedom to not think about the things that other people face," Horvath said.

Horvath added that the University is talking to local business owners about how to be more welcoming toward people of color as well as to professors.

"Some professors are unaware of the things they do say, so we need to work on the mechanisms on reporting these behaviors so that they can improve on them," said Horvath.

There's no excuses for the fact that people of color don't feel safe and when there's more focus on the color of our skin then the brains we have. People of color are just like everybody else, yet we're treated as animals because of our skin tone. It's time to start the conversation to end racism and discrimination, first on our campus and everywhere else, once and for all.

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- *8th (Thursday)
- 14th (Wednesday)
- 22nd (Thursday)
- 28th (Wednesday)

OCTOBER

- 5th (Thursday)
- 11th (*Tuesday*): Clinic before Fall Break!
- 19th (Wednesday)
- 27th (Thursday)

NOVEMBER

- 7nd (Wednesday)
- 10th (Thursday)
- 16th (Wednesday): Clinic before Thanksgiving Break!

DECEMBER

- 1st (Thursday)
- 7th (Wednesday): LAST REGULAR CLINIC
- 8th (Thursday): REFILLS & EMERGENCIES ONLY



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**Pep Rally will be held in
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The youth vote matters

CONNOR HOFFMAN

Managing Editor

Registering to vote is such an easy thing to do, and there should be no excuse as to why you didn't register. Voting is one of the most sacred duties in America, and please, for the love of God, take a few minutes out of your day to register to vote. Don't listen to your friends that tell you that your voice doesn't matter because, trust me, the youth vote matters.

The deadline to register to vote in New York state is Oct. 14, and there are several ways that people can choose to register to vote in New York.

One way to register is to use <https://dmv.ny.gov/mydmv/mydmv> to create an account using their New York driver's license, permit or non-driver ID. Then, they can sign in and complete the voter registration form online.

Another way to register to vote is to download and print the voter registration form. Then, they must fill the form out, and it must be postmarked by Oct. 14 and received by Oct. 19. Also, people can go to their local county board of elections office to receive a

registration form.

Many 18 to 34 year olds believe that their vote or voice doesn't matter, but that's simply not true. The Millennial voting bloc has overtaken the Baby Boomers voting bloc, which consists of Americans between 52 and 70 years old, as the largest voting bloc in the country, according to the Pew Research Center. The Millennial voting bloc may now outnumber the Baby Boomer voting bloc, but the Baby Boomer voting bloc has more people registered to vote and more politically active people.

In the 2014 election, 42.2 percent of 18 to 24 year olds reportedly registered, and 56.4 percent of those that were 25 to 34 years old registered. Of those 18 to 24 years old registered, only 17.1 percent voted, and of those aged 25 to 34 years, only 27.6 percent voted.

Look at how much stronger the turnout was for those 65 years and older in the 2014 election. The turnout of voters between 65 to 74 years old was 61.2

percent, and the turnout of voters 75 years and older was 56.9 percent.

Now, consider the fact that some of the most prominent issues focused on during the last few elections were Social Security and Medicare, two issues that seriously affect this voting demographic. Millennials are always complaining about the fact that they feel their voice isn't heard or that the system is rigged, but they haven't even begun to exert their tremendous electoral power.

If the Millennial voting bloc would turnout in this election and future elections, they could finally force the politicians to tackle issues that affect them, like college affordability, student loans, their role in the economy and many other issues. The Millennial Generation must decide that it is their time to step up and reform our government. So please, register to vote. It won't take up much of your time.

Verbatim

"What do you think of the clown sightings?"



Bailey Bass, junior theater and public relations

"I live off campus right near downtown, so I was a little scared, but then someone said it's just some college students screwing around."



Mike Freeman, sophomore communication

"It's kind of a joke. I don't make too much of it, everyone makes a big deal of it but I write it off."



Richard Bisso, senior English

"I haven't heard too much about it. It's unfortunate that that's what's happening, but hopefully it eventually stops happening."



John Boughton, sophomore theater

"I think it's so freakin' funny!"



Jimmy Morgan, sophomore business

"Strange, not very concerning, irrelevant."



Olivia Chillemi, senior marketing

"I think it's pretty scary, but I think we haven't had too many of them, so I don't think we have too much to worry about."

Fredonia swimming and diving expects strong season

BROOKE ATKINS

Social Media Manager

With the cold weather outside slowly approaching, Fredonia students can stay inside, and stay warm all while watching swimming. Yes, that's right — swimming season is here.

After ending last year's season on a high, the Fredonia swimming and diving team is expecting big accomplishments this year. With six freshmen joining the team on the men's side and six on the women's, there is a lot of new talent and potential.

A new season means new goals.

"A top goal for this season is to see all the players times improve, and have some swimmers and divers go to nationals," said Coach Arthur Wang.

After a long off-season, the swimmers began preparing as soon as they got back to school.

Wang explained what they have been doing to prepare.

"The swimmers and divers have been in the gym and in the pool practicing almost everyday," said Wang.

Wang went on to explain that the swimmers are instructed to swim and workout as much as possible over the summer, in order to come back stronger and put on some muscle. With the prep for the season started, Wang said he hopes "to see top two finishes for the men, and top five for women."

After finishing his senior year strong last year and being a captain, Will Baker has returned as the volunteer assistant.

"It is definitely a different feeling not getting back into the pool to do what I love, but now I get to help others improve while still being involved in the sport," said Baker. "I couldn't ask for any more."

When asked how the team is looking, Baker explained that the incoming freshman are strong and will only develop further as the season continues.

He went on to add that the returners are a dominant force, as well.

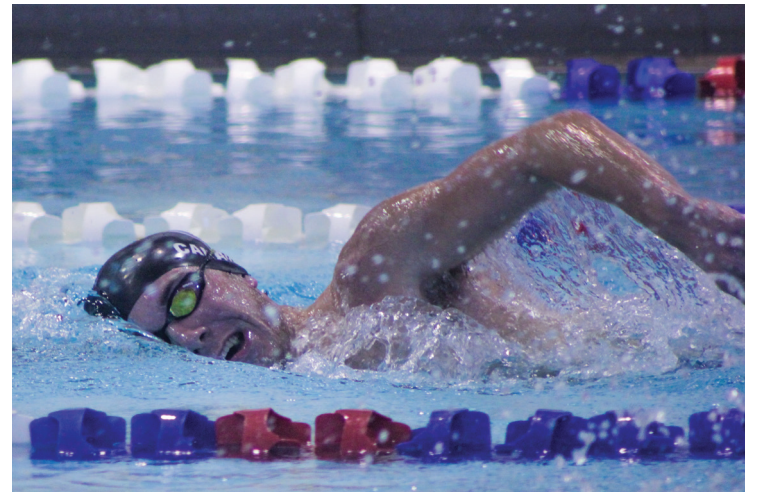
The fans should keep a close on this year on the diving side of things, as Arron

Carlson and Meghan Bartlett are expected to do big things. Both Carlson and Bartlett were national runner ups last year. Carlson is in the running to break more school records.

With a new season's start comes a senior's last season, and Troy Lubanski is one of those seniors.

Lubanski reflected upon some of his goals for the season.

"I have high hopes to build off of my strong season from last year, and I am excited for future races



because they are some of my lasts," said Lubanski.

Senior year comes with a lot of lasts and a lot of time spent reflecting upon the last four years.

"I am ready to start the season with my teammates and finish strong doing what I love," Lubanski said.

Fredonia will hold a home meet on Oct. 22 vs Ithaca College at 1 p.m.

Julian Canavan competes in the Men's 1000 Yard Freestyle.
Corey Maher/Photo Editor

Bills Update: No Dareus, no Watkins, no problem

CURTIS HENRY

Sports Editor

Only three weeks removed from being on the hot seat, Rex Ryan is fast becoming one of the mid-season favorites to win the NFL's coach of the year award. This may be a slight exaggeration, given the fickle nature of football and how many games remain to be played, but the argument can be made for Ryan.

After a 0-2 start against the Jets and Ravens — teams with a combined 4-6 record to this point on the season — the rally cries were out to fire Ryan. Why wouldn't they be?

Here we had a high-profile coach with multiple factors working in his favor. He had the most talented Bills roster of the century at his disposal. He had a full year's worth of games to have implemented his system. He had a favorable schedule and a chance to end the longest playoff drought in all of professional sports.

Ryan's world proceeded fell apart. A myriad of bad coaching decisions, injuries and further question marks began dominating all discussion regarding Ryan. People wanted him gone after a futile effort during his team's first two games.

Three weeks ago now seems like a lifetime. Ryan is the savior of the Bills, who now sit at 3-2, after underdog victories against each the Cardinals, Patriots and Rams. He's getting high praise for the Bills recent performances, as he should.

Every decision that Ryan has made in the last three weeks has worked. In the wake of firing Greg Roman, the offense has woken up. The defensive adjustments that he has made have worked, stymying opponents to an average of 12 points allowed per contest over the last three contests. LeSean McCoy looks like the running back that dominated the league from 2012 to 2014.

Oh, and it's worth mentioning that Ryan is working without his best player on each side of the ball. There's a chance Sammy Watkins doesn't suit up again this season due to a lingering foot injury, and Marcell Dareus missed his fifth consecutive game after injuring his hamstring in practice last week in what was slated to be his return after a four game suspension.

Despite the absence of their two stars, the Bills

have found stars elsewhere on the roster. The play of McCoy has been somewhat expected. However, the outstanding play of players like Lorenzo Alexander, who leads the league with seven sacks, Zach Brown, who is top five in the league in total tackles, and Mike Gillislee, who has been a valuable spell running back to McCoy, has gone under the radar.

The Rex Ryan renaissance is in full effect and the Bills have two games in the next two weeks that most fans feel they should win. If all goes well in Buffalo, the Bills could have their most important game in more than a decade when the Patriots come to town in Week 8.

The idea of a 6-1 Patriots team vs a 5-2 Bills team with first place in the AFC East would be more than enough reason for Orchard Park to get rowdy. For the time being, this is all speculation.

With regard to the immediate future, it's on to San Francisco for a Bills team that is currently one of the hottest in football.

Men's soccer team rebounds to snap two game losing streak

QUINTIN JAMES

Staff Writer

The Fredonia men's soccer team, coming off of a thrilling home win against Buffalo State, was looking to continue their conference success and keep playing at a high level this week.

This year has been very different for the Blue Devils, as they've been playing well and finding themselves in a good position as the season soon comes to a close. Senior midfielder Bryan Sibble credited the team's unselfish attitude this year.

"We are more of a team now," said Sibble. "Last year, we were too focused on the individual, but this year we've realized we can't be successful without one another."

The Blue Devils had a three game road trip to Alfred, Cortland and Oswego, which had a lot of implications for playoff standings, and it was an important trip for Fredonia, with the season being this far along.

The first game on this road trip was against Alfred State. Freshman Matt Casey scored his first collegiate goal in the 31st minute to tie the game at one after Alfred scored in the third minute of the game. In the 60th minute, however, Alfred State would take the lead and hang on for the non-conference win.

Fredonia was outshot 15-6, and coach PJ Gondek said the team got off to a slow start but battled back to make it close. "In the second half, we tried to press to get the tying goal. We had one cleared off the line and another off the side [of the net]."

The Blue Devils were put to the test the next game, as they had to travel to face the number four ranked team in the National Soccer Coaches Association of America East Region polls, rival SUNY Cortland.

Fredonia again got off to a slow start as Cortland scored in the third minute on a two on one opportunity. They would score again the 29th minute to double their lead on the Blue Devils. Fredonia would get a goal back in the 35th minute, but the comeback attempt failed as they would fall to Cortland 2-1.

Assistant coach Kendall McFayden said he wasn't worried about the two game losing streak.

"First and foremost, we have to leave those losses in the rear view and concentrate on our next match," said

McFayden. "We have to know that we can't give up a two goal head start and expect to come back every game."

Bryan Sibble also mentioned the fact that they need to play with more energy in the beginning of the game.

"We need to stay focused throughout the entire game and come out strong early. In our past two loses, we came out slow and gave up early goals. We have the ability to comeback, but we can't rely on it," Sibble said.

The last game on the road trip was an important game against Oswego State. The Blue Devils wanted to come out and get at least one win on this trip. Before the game, Coach McFayden talked about what they needed to do to execute the game plan. "We have to do what we do best, which is put the other team under pressure early and not allow them to play. We have to dictate the tempo of each game," he said.

They certainly knew the game plan and came out a different team than the previous two games. Freshman goalkeeper Ty Bentham made four saves for his second collegiate shutout. Fredonia opened the scoring in the 22th minute off a corner kick by Sibble that was finished by junior David Trabold. The assist was Sibble's team leading sixth assist.

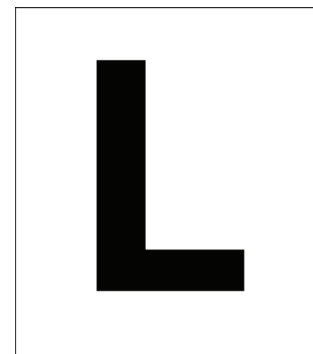
Fredonia added another goal in the 65th minute by junior Ryan Ross and they walked out of Oswego with a 2-0 victory. That victory improved Fredonia's record to 9-4-1 and 3-2 in conference play.

The Blue Devils returned home to play their last two home games of the year against SUNY Potsdam and Plattsburgh State. Coach McFayden said they have to treat these games like the playoffs.

"The next three weeks are very crucial for us. If we want to accomplish our goal of making the playoffs, we have to make sure we approach each game as if they are a playoff match," said McFayden.

The players are excited for the stretch run and look to clinch a playoff berth soon.

"SUNYACs are everything to us. We're in a good spot right now, but we have some work to do to secure our spot in playoffs. Also, we would like a home playoff game, so every match is being treated as a must-win," said Sibble.



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Lampoon Investigation: Are hurricanes bad for you?

*Hurricane Matt savages and ravages,
but how dangerous is he?*

PATRICK BENNETT

Staff Lampoonist

This past week, Hurricane Matthew has ravaged the countries of the Caribbean and the southern coast of the United States. The Lampoon stood in front of the television screen, scratching their chins and thinking to themselves, “Are hurricanes harmful to your health?” Staff member and pseudo-science extraordinaire Theodore Carlsbad was sent down to Florida to find the truth.

As Hurricane Matthew was set to destroy communities, Carlsbad took an Uber-boat to a Floridian general hospital for cold-hard answers. While on the way, he was almost swallowed whole by a family of gators. The driver of the boat pointed out that the incoming weather had this effect on swamp creatures.

“Me and my wife, Donna, moved down here around 30 years ago. We’ve always noticed that the gators act a little more peculiar when high winds are a-coming. When the skies turn black, that’s when the swamp people holler the loudest,” boat operator and chewing tobacco enthusiast Hanky Spamoni said.

Carlsbad arrived at CatchaHootchie General Hospital mid afternoon and sought out the head doctor, Julius Palmer. Palmer had some serious concerns about Hurricane Matthew.

“Every time a hurricane comes through, I worry for the people of Florida. They’re already stressed as it is, evading families of gators and their mortgages,” Palmer said before receiving a text.

“Ugh, my wife has been hounding me about this 24-piece designer knife set, and I’ve about had it. Pass me a beer out of the mini fridge please,” he said in between checking on patients.

It was true. The hurricane had affected the people of Florida psychologically, physically and social media-wise.

In terms of psyche, people became super paranoid. Palmer described these paranoid people as “wavy” individuals, scared of losing their Priuses in high

tides.

Physically, the population became

heavier by drinking gallons of Mountain Dew and eating Taco Bell’s famous Gordita Crunches. Floridians successfully waved goodbye to their beach bodies and gained over 100

pounds each, rendering them immobile and less aerodynamic during high winds.

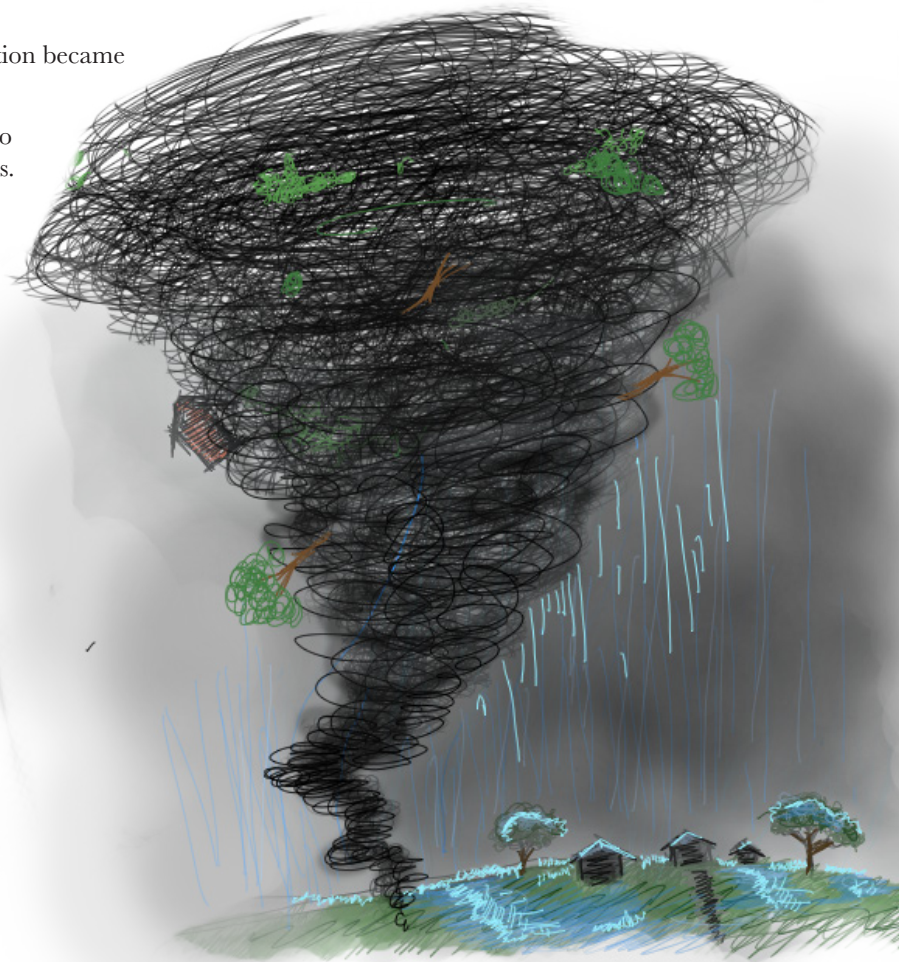
“My family always drank water and always ate a strict vegan diet. Once we heard news about the hurricane, my dad said we needed to switch to this diet. I almost emancipated myself from them, but to be honest, I love the Gordita Crunch. I’m going to get married to one!” tween and registered Taco Bell-lover Mary Papyrus said.

On social media, people couldn’t handle their click fingers and

constantly shared memes they deemed “hilarious” when, in fact, they were stale and uninspired.

“My house that my great-grandfather built with his own hands was absolutely destroyed by Hurricane Matthew. However, the meme I shared on Facebook about Matthew’s eye resembling Harambe got me a bunch of likes and shares, so it doesn’t matter,” pipsqueak Devónte Magnolia said.

Carlsbad started to succumb to the pressures of being in Florida. The Mountain Dew, Taco Bell, crooked doctors and ungrateful children prompted him



Madison Spear/Staff Illustrator

to resort to the “Miami technique.”

The Miami technique was an ancient process first invented by want-to-be-divorced dads of Middle America. Dads would move to Miami without notice from their families and dive into a pool of bottomless Mimosas and drug cartel heists.

Carlsbad was never heard from by the Lampoon ever again. Hurricane Matthew was eventually noticed as an extremely unhealthy hurricane for the people of Florida.

Make America Bald-Win again

Trump gets dumped for 'SNL' caricature artist

EMMA PATTERSON

Staff Lamponist

It seems Hillary Clinton isn't Donald Trump's only competition this election season. After Alec Baldwin's spot-on impersonation of the Republican Presidential nominee in the season 42 premiere of "Saturday Night Live," Trump supporters everywhere have abandoned their leader in favor of Baldwin's "more bigly" version of Trump. Scared and confused, the Lampon caught up with some of these ex-Trump supporters at last week's Baldwin Rally in an effort to figure out what the hell was going on.

"As soon as he walked onto the stage, I knew," said one woman. "He's truly the most presidential looking man-thing I'd ever seen, and probably will ever see." She merely shook her head when we tried to explain that Baldwin was an actor.

"He just glowed up on that stage," she said, her eyes bugging out slightly. "Like ... his face. It radiated brilliance. I saw him and I thought, 'This is the man I want handling nuclear codes.'"

Terrifyingly, this woman was only one of many spirited and semi-drunk Baldwin supporters at the rally.

"It's like Baldwin knows what I'm thinking," one man shout-spoke, his face inexplicably covered in barbeque sauce. "One second, I'm sitting in my recliner,

thinking, 'You know, someone has to be held accountable for the mess this country is in,' and then I turn on the TV and Baldwin was talking about how it's all Jina's fault. Well, it all made a lot of sense to me."

When prompted as to what his opinion was of the end of the fake debate, he simply shrugged and said, "I had to change the channel. Diners, Drive Ins and Dives was on."

Baldwin supporters, if anything, are certainly loyal to their new leader.

"People say he looks constipated most of the time," one particularly orange-faced man said, his sandy hair unconvincingly covered with a "Make America Bald-WIN Again" hat. "But he's not. His brain is just so clogged with ideas, you know; good ideas, too, but they're secret, he can't tell you."

This mysterious man who seemingly had trouble forming a complete sentence was clearly one of Baldwin's biggest supporters.

"He has the best temperament," he said of Baldwin, who, we feel the need to remind the reader,



Edward Gallivan/Staff Illustrator

was literally impersonating Donald Trump.

Baldwin recently released a statement in which he emphasized his detachment from the actual election.

"I was playing a part, people," he said, looking acutely terrified. "Please don't do this. I'm just an actor. I'm not qualified for this!"

The Lampon's Guide to Halloween Costumes

D. ZBORNAK

Staff Lamponist



Madison Spear/Staff Illustrator

With Halloween drawing near, most of us are racking our brains for costume ideas. In this age of ingenuity, we strive to impress our peers with our creativity and innovation, but sometimes we hit a wall. Never fear: here are a few ideas to awaken your Halloween spirits.

Clown

The recent clown sightings happening all over the country provide a brilliant opportunity for the

apparel designers among us. Since the U.S. has declared open season on clowns, now is the perfect time to sharpen your hunting skills. Clown hide makes great costume material because it's multicolored, eliminating the need to spend money on brightly colored fabric. Even better, being that these are real clown skins and hair, this costume is 100 percent organic.

Plywood

This is a great costume idea for friends travelling in groups. Each person dresses up as a piece of plywood with the intent of performing the once-infamous "planking" position. In the spirit of Fredonia's past, it is strongly suggested that you perform this act between Willy C and the library. The Ghost of Bridges Past deserves one last Halloween hurrah.

Fat Beach-goer

Let's say you're not the active partying type, but you still want to show some imaginative Halloween spirit. Then this costume is the perfect fit. Meteorological reports show that we are currently experiencing the warmest summer and autumn in history. Take advantage of this by laying outside on your lawn chair with a generous layer of tanning oil on your big ol' beer gut. And hey, in addition to making a great costume, it could add some nice flare to Fredonia's marketing if the FREDlanthropy camera crew gets you in a few of their shots.

Anti-Health Inspector

In order to effectively pull this one off, you will need to station yourself at Sunny's. This legendary college hot spot's history of grossness is so consistent that the manager was forced to admit they intentionally keep the place filthy because they like the humble "freshman mating ground" vibe it gives off. Therefore, it is your job as the anti-health inspector to make sure the facility meets state grime requirements. Make sure the floors have the ideal level of stickiness, and that the booze is watered down sufficiently to ensure our colleagues of their prized mediocre Halloween party experience.

Angel

Or more specifically, ANGEL. Now you might be thinking, "How does one dress like computer software?" This is actually easy as long as you prepare in advance. Make sure to stock up on textbooks from various majors, as well as your typical office supplies. You will be handing these out in place of candy. Then, on Halloween night when students are actively trick-or-treating, keep all of these items in your dorm/apartment and allow no one to access them. Students will be hopelessly confused because they are familiar with you, know you have what they came for and have relied on your consistency for years. When prompted, you will tell them you ended your services as of Oct. 1.

Opinion: Bills should call it quits before it's too late

Fans to team: 'We can't take being hurt again'

JACLYN SPIEZIA

Special to the Lampoon

As all of you know, Buffalo, New York is home to the Buffalo Bills football team. What some of you may not know is that this is not a fact to really be proud of. Well, at least it hasn't been in almost a decade.

The Bills, somehow still supported by a faithful fanbase, always seem to disappoint. And so, it was not a surprise when the Bills tragically lost their first two games at the start of the season. An optimistic fan might argue that those two games could be turned around if they came back and won two games.

However, being that both teams were teams that the Bills were projected to win against, and that the two games after were ones in which they were projected to lose, many Bills fans started to lose hope. Except the Bills actually won the next two games.

That optimistic die-hard fan must be excited now that the Bills are at a .500 percent, but let's take a moment and think. When was the last time the Bills made it to the playoffs? Oh, yes — 1999. Now that the Bills have built up this momentum after winning two games that weren't projected, people may believe they have a chance. But do they really have a chance?

We don't want the public to get too excited at what could have been a lucky

fluke. We also don't want the Bills to get too excited and embarrass themselves after such a great turnaround. We believe that the Bills should just call it quits now before they get ahead of themselves and disappoint as usual.

It's not because we don't believe in them ... well, actually, it is, but it's also because time and again, they have failed us. Ending things in a tie is better than continuing on false illusions of a chance at the playoffs.



Edward Gallivan/Staff Illustrator

Death by debate

47 percent of voters reportedly die of boredom after VP debate

TRAVIS LEFEVRE

Lampoon Editor

The vice presidential debate finally received some mainstream attention and proved once and for all that these debates should remain irrelevant.

With such an intense election season, people from all over the world tuned in hoping to see Clinton and Trump's Mini-Me's debate like their masters. Instead, what viewers got was 90 grueling minutes of

"emails" this and "that's not true" that. In fact, all hope for high voter turnout was lost after the debate, with almost half of registered voters dying of boredom.

"I looked over at my dad to see how he felt about this here debate, and he was damn near dead," said Lynn Skinn, a resident of Sweet Home, Alabama. "I threw him into the bed of my pickup o'er there and went down the street to my cousin, a self-certified doctor. My pops died before we got there. Guess he was bored to death."

The same sob story is being heard all over the country with people dropping dead left and right, Republican and Democrat alike. 47 percent of registered voters have passed away from the effects of a normal debate.

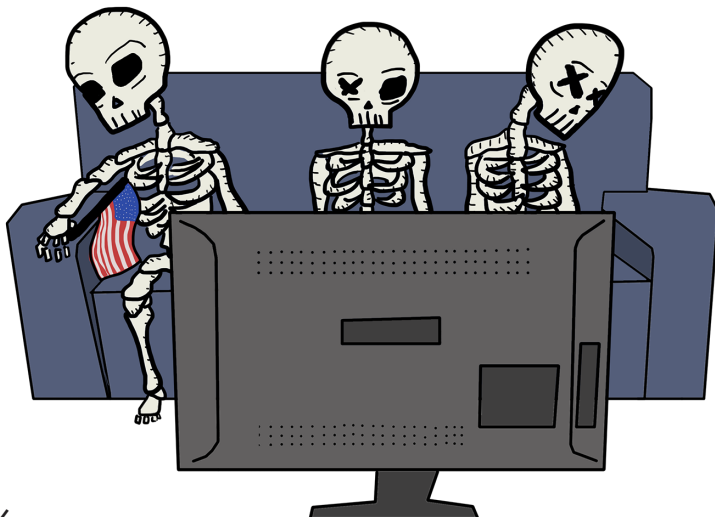
"It all happened so quickly. One moment, she was intently watching the debate, and the next moment, he's just not moving, blankly staring into an abyss," said Dom I. Crate, whose wife fell victim. "She

got up and changed the channel, but it was too late. She flipped the switch and dropped dead right there. On the bright side, she managed to put on ESPN."

Not everyone felt the effects of the debate in the same way, with some reports coming out that half of the victims died of pure shock that there was an ordinary moment in this election season.

"When people get exposed to one thing for so long, something new can be shocking," said Polly Ticks, a representative from LoGrasso Hall. "This whole election season has become so crazy that just any hint of normality could literally kill someone due to shock. Trust me, I read about it on WebMD, so it's gotta be true. It may also just be cancer, but that's also from WebMD."

Side effects of the debate have been reported and include explosive snoring, impulsive grumbles of disagreement and a sudden urge to change the channel to Freeform to watch the rerun of "Jumanji."



Leslie Martinez-Garcia/Staff Illustrator

Horoscopes

ALBERTO GONZALEZ

Special to the Lampoon



It seems as though this week is getting worse and worse, and that is because it is. Hey, at least you're not having as bad a week as Donald Trump.

Aries



It is flu season! You just like many others are more than likely taking the risk and not getting inoculated. As the great Aubrey Grahama once wrote down, "If you're reading this it's too late."

Taurus



After many weeks of feeling lost, this week will seemingly fade into ambiguity as you will continue to feel lost. Look forward to continuing your journey into the unknown.

Gemini



You keep encountering things that are for children, this is because you're a giant kid. Go buy yourself the nicest toy possible and use the Williams Center Multi-purpose room like it's your own personal room.

Cancer



Your workload is seemingly never ending and is making you feel like there are not enough hours in the day. The best solution for you this week is to not sleep at all. Get out there, do your work and remember: sleep is for the weak.

Leo



I think you and I both know what I am talking about when I say three words: on the left. It is probably best if we just leave it at that.

Virgo



You will find success in your future if you spend more time in the library, but you are a rebel! So you should see what happens if you spend more time just outside of the library, just sort of awkwardly hovering there.

Libra



You have been dealing with some really heavy stuff lately, and you decided the best thing to do about it is internalize it and act like everything is fine. Unless you work it out it you're going to make a huge error by this time next week.

Scorpio



You care way too much about other people! Stop that! It is nice to do that, but have you ever thought about yourself? In an effort to put yourself into the shoes of others, try to only care about yourself for a week and see what happens.

Sagittarius



Many others perceive you as being just as cold as the day you were born. You will bump into someone that is going to warm up your day. You should walk around looking to see if bumping into people will warm up your day.

Capricorn



You have been grappling with a very big decision, and the time to make it is now! Choose your second option; whatever it is, that is the correct decision.

Aquarius



You encountered someone who was very rude to you last week. You will continue the rude train in an effort to give back to the community.

Pisces



Fredonia's Irish Step Team performs at the Dance-A-Thon.
Corey Maher/Photo Editor



Alexis Moreland chases after the ball.
Fred DiLorenzo/Special to The Leader



President Horvath reads as Inez McCormack (Northern Ireland) & Cedric Howard reads as Mu Sochua (Cambodia).
Corey Maher/Photo Editor



Swimmers take their mark.
28 Corey Maher/Photo Editor



All'amore bassist Taylor Graham performs at BJ's.
Corey Maher/Photo Editor