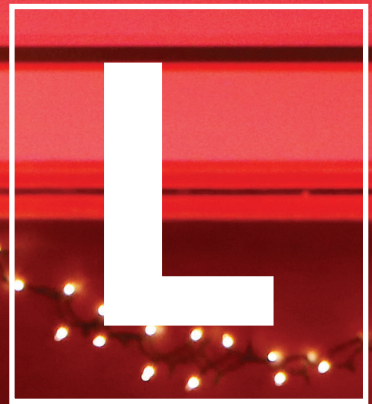


THE LEADER

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THE LEADER

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Some Like it Hot performs at their Fall show.
Andrew Camera/Staff Photographer

SA elections yield new president, continuation of mandatory activity fee

JAMES LILLIN
Staff Writer

For the first time on Nov. 8 and 9, elections for the Student Association moved from voting booths in the Williams Center to an online poll distributed by SurveyMonkey, with over 1000 students sending in their vote over the web. Running unopposed were sophomore political science and journalism major Joshua Ranney and junior early childhood education major Katherine Grabowski, who will be taking over the roles of Student Association president and vice president respectively next semester.

Ranney brings a wealth of past experience in SA to their new roles at the top, having been involved since last Fall as a class representative, class president and in the current position of chief of staff.

Grabowski has been involved with SA only since the beginning of this year, but quickly gained a deep respect for the group of student representatives.

"I started going to the General Assembly meetings when the semester started," said Grabowski, "and I got a feel for how different positions work and the different types of committees we have. It really opened my eyes to how much SA contributes to student life."

Ranney and Grabowski are taking over SA just as the recent vote on whether or not the Student Activity Fee should be made voluntary, which according to some could have devastated SA by leaving it without required funding, was settled in favor of the fee remaining mandatory.

"Katie and I are thrilled that the Activity Fee Referendum was voted mandatory," said Ranney. "We were able to avoid the possibility of cutting some groups or other great things that the campus offers and that students depend on. I know everyone in the Student Association is proud of all the motivated and concerned student leaders who campaigned for the fee to continue as mandatory. It is because of them that Fredonia continues to be a place that thrives because of those who love it."

Ranney and Grabowski both view SA as a vital part of the campus' culture, with Ranney particularly proud of the recently passed Resolution R-38, which aimed to combat discrimination on campus.

"Recently SA has made achievements in approving Resolution R-38, making it mandatory that all SA members receive bias and sensitivity training," said Ranney. "We hope that this enables people to be aware of biases or micro-aggressions when it comes to race."

Both of them also agree that fostering communication between SA and the clubs that it supports will be a central focus of their upcoming term.

"I want to make SA as connected as humanly possible with each and every individual club on campus," said Grabowski.

"Communication has been something that has been on a few of the past presidents' 'to do' lists," said Ranney, "but going around to groups and listening to what concerned students have to say, we have heard that this is still something we need to work on. So we can't just say, 'that's enough' or 'it's been addressed.' We will continue to work to improve this until we know that we are serving those we represent the best way possible."

Ranney and Grabowski hope to meet the challenges faces SA as a united team, fueled by their mutual admiration for Fredonia.

"I love the opportunities Fredonia has provided me," said Grabowski, "from clubs, to work, to field experience, to classes. The longer I am here, the more and more I feel like I truly belong."

"My favorite thing about Fredonia is the people," said Ranney. "Everyone I have met at Fredonia has had a warm personality, and it's hard to find anything but a friendly face. Whether it's President Horvath, the FSA worker you see at Cranston or Tim Hortons every day, or the classmate in the library, you never seem to get anything less than a smile."



SA President Josh Ranney and Vice President Katie Grabowski.
Corey Maher/Photo Editor

Both see Fredonia as a campus filled with passionate teachers and a wealth of opportunities, but one which still needs SA to thrive.

"Without SA, I truly believe students would not receive the various opportunities they have here at Fredonia, because clubs would not receive the funding they do to put on such incredible events," said Grabowski, "and the way in which clubs would run would not be as smooth and efficient as they run now, because they would not have the well-thought-out structure that SA has designed for them."

Students react to election results with surprise, concern

DAN ORZECOWSKI

Staff Writer

The night after the election, students poured into the Williams Center to discuss the electoral results together at an organized, open meeting. For many, the presidential election caused distress and concern.

Voices were choppy, and tears were shed. Students often stumbled and paused as they spoke — a clear indication that students were stunned after Republican nominee Donald Trump was announced the next president of the country.

The talk was held to offer people, of all political affiliations, the chance to voice their opinions in a safe and open environment. Members of the Black Student Union, Pride Alliance, Fredonia Feminists, Writers' Ring and Sigma Tau Delta felt the need to give students an opportunity to get personal thoughts off their chests.

Grief, anger and the need for unity were all expressed. Some students said they were so shaken up that they didn't attend classes.

An outrage erupted toward the possibility for a reversal of several standing policies. Students were brought to believe that their human rights now have marginal meaning. They told each other how they're afraid and uncomfortable in their own communities, especially now that Trump has won the election.

A member of the Black Student Union bitterly said that "the fact that I'm fighting the same fight that my grandparents fought is just sad."

Another student said she could no longer consider herself an American.

Toward the end of the discussion, a student requested to hear viewpoints from anyone who had voted for Trump. Even though she assured that the room was a friendly and tolerant place, nothing was said in support of the president-elect.

Despite the silence, at least one Trump advocate was present. Isaiah Eisenhauer couldn't relate to what the rest of the room had to say. Regardless, he remained silent during the discussion. "Everyone would've held resentment against me if I said anything," he said. "I've been called a racist all day."

Eisenhauer said that even though he was "shocked and excited" about the election results, he has kept to himself. "I thought people were wrong to assume people are racists just because of how they voted. The campus reacted exactly how I thought it would, and that's my favorite part," he said.

Embedded in the pool of students sat President Virginia Horvath and Vice President for Student Affairs Cedric Howard. Both of them issued emails to the campus community in response to the election.

In her email, Horvath called for students to be helpful to one another. She praised the ALL IN Challenge while saying "it was a successful event in deepening students' connections to the political process."

Horvath continued in her email by asking students to "keep the spirit of a safe and inclusive community and help everyone find a way to work and have a voice in the new direction of our country."

Similarly, Howard's email insisted that "this is a time for us to set an example of civility and compassion for others to observe."

Horvath gave closing comments at Wednesday's discussion. In a shaky voice, she told everyone to seek out the positive in the situation. In her remarks, Horvath refused to say Trump's name.

In contrast to the rest of the room, Eisenhauer found this humorous. "I thought it was funny to see people crying over the election and how [Horvath] couldn't say Trump's name."

If it hadn't been for the group who reserved the room after the discussion, the talk would have gone beyond its scheduled time slot. An hour and a half wasn't enough time for every student to share their thoughts.

When the time was up, students exited the room only to form more conversations right outside the doors.

For some, the 2016 presidential election results stirred a hornet's nest. For others, the results led to a sigh of relief. Despite the unbalanced political participation, Wednesday's discussion demonstrated a peaceful congregation.

Walk-in counseling services are offered at the Counseling Center in LoGrasso Hall from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



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Mock This!

Mock trial team goes undefeated for first time in Fredonia history

DAN ORZECOWSKI

Staff Writer

Fredonia's mock trial team placed first in Ithaca College's third annual Bomber Blitz Tournament last week. This was the first time in Fredonia's history that the team won a tournament.

The Blue Devils' Advocates underwent an undefeated journey while squaring off against Colgate University, Ithaca College and St. Bonaventure University. Before going 7-0, fourth place was the highest ranking the team had received at a tournament.

Mock trial consists of teams of six to 10 students playing the roles of attorneys and witnesses in a civil and criminal cases. Teams across the country are issued the same case by the American Mock Trial Association to work with for the season. The simulation is presented before a panel of practicing judges and attorneys.

The program allows students to learn about legal concepts and how to effectively offer a persuasive argument. Since 1999, Fredonia has been participating in the mock trial program.

The president of mock trial, political science

major Brenna Sanford, couldn't be anymore satisfied with the team's recent victory. "It was awesome. It sounds really cliché, but we weren't only happy for ourselves, but happy for our school because it helps spread the word for mock trial. It's the farthest we've ever gone."

This is Sanford's third year involved with mock trial at Fredonia. Her freshman year, in 2015, the Blue Devils' Advocates made it to the regionals and Opening Round Championship Series for the first time in school history. At the 2015 ORCS, Fredonia placed 18th out of 24 teams.

Nationwide, there are more than 650 teams competing to make a spot in the national tournament. After their recent win, the Blue Devil Advocate are aiming high.

Sanford plans on pursuing law school in the future. Even though mock trial is inclined to those interested in law, all majors are welcome to join the team. "We also have business majors, theater majors and education majors, and our adviser, David Kaplin, is in the English Department," said Sanford.

The team dedicates a lot of time toward practicing. "Once everybody gets a hang of what mock



Members of the mock trial team after their win. Courtesy of Mock Trial

trial is, we assign roles. Then we critique one another," she said. "The main thing we do is repeat and practice, and that's how we improve because everything has to be completely memorized."

The 10-member club faces recruitment as somewhat of a struggle. Sanford notes that joining the team is a big time commitment.

Right now, there's only one team. The last time Fredonia had two teams was in 2015.

"Another team would be somewhat beneficial because we can try out different strategies and have more competition experience," Sanford said.

Police Blotters

UNIVERSITY

Monday, Nov. 7, 2016

3:15 p.m. An individual was being harassed by a roommate. A report was filed and a statement was taken.

Friday, Nov. 11, 2016

8:39 p.m. Griffin D. Lynch, age 18, was arrested for unlawful possession of marijuana.

8:39 p.m. Daniel W. Calderone, age 19, was arrested for unlawful possession of marijuana.

8:39 p.m. Bryan S. Kurkoski, age 18, was arrested for unlawful possession of alcohol.

Saturday, Nov. 12, 2016

6:10 p.m. William S. Deweese, age 56, was arrested for unlawful possession of marijuana and loitering on school grounds.

Sunday, Nov. 13, 2016

7:33 p.m. Two males were reportedly jumping on furniture in University Commons residence lobby. The suspects were gone on arrival and the desk attendee was advised.

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.

Affirmative Action: yes or no?

Professors to debate tonight

CAMRY DEAN
Staff Writer

Tonight, Wednesday, Nov. 16, the Philosophy Department and the Philosophical Society will be sponsoring a debate titled “Is Affirmative Action Justified?”

Affirmative action can be described as “policy of favoring members of a disadvantaged group who currently suffer or historically have suffered from discrimination within a culture,” and the debate will revolve around whether or not affirmative action is appropriate in employment and college settings.

Stephen Kershner, the chair of the Department of Philosophy, will be debating against affirmative action.

In an article written for the Dunkirk Observer in September, Kershner explained the reaction of affirmative action for past injustices.

“Rice University professor George Sher recently argued that universities are not really interested in diversity because it promotes various ideas or perspectives. There are a lot of different ideas universities could promote via preferential admission,” Kershner wrote. “The choice to largely favor two minority groups, [blacks and Hispanics], and sometimes women is not about ideas or perspectives, he notes, but rather about making up for past injustice.”

If compensation is in fact owed, Kershner also believes that it’s impossible to determine the amount and believes a monetary compensation would benefit groups better than affirmative action.

“Even if compensation were owed and the amount discoverable, it is fairer and efficient to pay it via money than affirmative action. It is fairer because many blacks and Hispanics do not go to universities or apply for jobs that have affirmative action, and it is unfair that they get little, if any, compensation. It is more efficient because selecting less talented people is costly,” Kershner wrote.

Kershner also believes that standards are being lowered for affirmative action, and he doesn’t agree with them.

“The general concern is the idea that we are going to use different standards, and what seems to mean a lower set of standards, for some individuals who are applying for a job, position or for an educational spot,” Kershner said.

Kershner also wrote in his article that “lowered standards for university positions or jobs is not an appropriate response to past injustice.”

Opposing Kershner, Robert Dahlgren, the chair of the Curriculum and Instruction Department, will be presenting a case in favor of affirmative action.

For 13 years, Dahlgren has taught in public schools and is now working on his 12th year at the university level and he believes affirmative action policies are crucial to diversity and opportunity.

“What I’m going to try and explain [at the debate] is the policy itself, where it comes from and that it merges from the civil rights struggle,” Dahlgren said,

“it’s written into the Civil Rights Act signed by President Johnson in 1964 and that it’s thoroughly integrated into the fiber of employment law and education law.

“We essentially do it for three reasons,”

Dahlgren continued. “We do it because we think it’s consistent with American values, trying to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. We do it because we think it’s fair, and I know that there are objections to that and the reason why it’s controversial. My third point will be that we think diversity in a positive thing.”

Dahlgren plans to use examples from his years in education to solidify his case.

“There are times where we need to note differences between people, to discriminate. It’s something we need to do called ‘positive discrimination,’” he said.

Positive discrimination, like affirmative action, is giving opportunity and advantages to marginalized groups.

“On a campus [like Fredonia], it benefits all of us to be around people of a diverse group, not just of diverse ideas,” Dahlgren said. “It’s one of the reasons I like doing debates like this is that we share differences in ideas but also differences in experience and perspective. I think the research in education supports that idea, that our students benefit from [diversity].”

The debate will be held in the Science Center, room 105, at 7 p.m. tonight.



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FREDChef invites students to showcase culinary skills

LERON WELLINGTON

Staff Writer

Let's face it: everyone loves cooking shows. The nearly impossible challenge of making a dish out of unexpected ingredients in a limited amount of time makes for great television. But what is better than seeing the competition happen right before your eyes?

On Nov. 16 at 4:30 p.m. in the Williams Center Multipurpose Room, four teams of three students will compete for the glory of being named the winner of FREDChef and a Fredonia gift card.

The teams have 1 hour and 15 minutes to make one dish that will be judged by a panel of students and faculty on flavor, appearance, consistency, presentation and originality.

"I signed up to compete in FREDChef because it was brought up in our Italian cooking class, and I thought it would be a really fun opportunity," said Brianna Condon. "Since I am graduating this semester, I wanted to make sure I participated in a lot of different, fun Fredonia activities before I graduated!"

The teams have been given a list of

the available ingredients in the pantry provided for the event, so they have been able to brainstorm and practice cooking with each other.

While the clock ticks down as students come up

with a main dish, judges will be interviewed and campus groups will perform to keep the audience entertained.

Kathryn Thies, the Special Programs manager, said, "Seeing the students work together and the capacity that they work to create a dish out of ingredients that do not necessarily go together is really cool."

The Director of Dining Services, Dean Messina, has been planning the event and is excited to see what dishes students come up with. This being his third time planning the event, he said, "The food that is usually presented to us is restaurant quality. Even though this is a competition, I think that they are all winners in my book. It's really fun, and I enjoy doing it every year."

Students are welcome to see this free and entertaining event, and everyone is encouraged to root on their favorite teams as they fight for the name of the FREDChef champion.



Leslie Martinez-Garcia/Staff Illustrator

November

11/9-11/18

Marion Art Gallery

Kahn & Selesnick:

"Truppe Fledermaus and the Carnival at the End of the World"

11/16

U.S. Premiere of Denny Laine's "Arctic Song"

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

Denny Laine himself will be performing the songs alongside Fredonia's very own student musicians. The musical touches on the ever-growing problem of global warming in today's society.

Admission is \$10 for students and \$15 for the general public.

Kill The Clock with Rescue Dawn

From 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. at BJ's

Join Kill The Clock for their EP release show with special guests, Rescue Dawn, from Buffalo. There will be new merch and new music.

Admission is free for anyone 21+ and \$5 for anyone under.

11/19-11/27

Thanksgiving Break

11/29

Orchesis Dance Company Presents: Full Circle

At 9 p.m. in the Williams Center MPR

Orchesis will be putting on their fall show which will include many forms of dance such as contemporary, hip-hop and even swing. Parental guidance is suggested. Tickets are \$4 for students and \$8 for the general public.

11/30

Passed Out with Total Yuppies

From 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. at BJ's

This will be the last BJ's show of the semester and will feature the Buffalo emo/pop band Passed Out, who will be making their Fredonia debut, as well as Total Yuppies, a garage/pop fuzz band from Rochester.

Admission is \$5 for anyone under 21 and free for anyone over.

The Man Who Came to Dinner

At 7:30 p.m. in Marvel Theater

The holiday classic will run for exactly one week until Dec. 4 and is being directed by James Ivey.

Tickets are \$12 for students and \$20 for the general public.

'Dog Sees God' features grown-up Peanuts gang

ZOE KIRIAZIS
Staff Writer

The Performing Arts Company opened the second show in its season this year with Bert V. Royal's "Dog Sees God: Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead."

Charles M. Schulz's famous comics of Charlie Brown and the Peanuts gang are revamped for the show. The characters are grown up facing hardships, battles and moments everyday teenagers might experience. Names in the show suggest who each character is through speech, appearance and mannerisms without ever explicitly stating their original names from the comics.

Schulz passed away four years before "Dog Sees God" premiered but was honored in this production by sophomore theatre arts major Jared Eichel who, throughout the show, discreetly portrayed CB's, or Charlie Brown's, pen-pal, C.S. Eichel was found on the opposite end of the story's action, watching the characters and stories he created grow up and adapt.

"Dog Sees God" handles a lot of heavy, life situations, such as child sexual abuse, suicide, homophobia, body image, bullying, self-harm and sexuality. In her directorial debut, sophomore theatre arts major Sydney Caprio demonstrated the use of a minimal set, natural lighting and light staging.

Although this show handles mature content and topics, the comic relief naturally came through with character interactions. Caprio discussed that the situations presented in the script and on-stage happens every day around the world.

Out of all the childhood characters that could be written as grownups, Caprio believes that it is easier to see yourself growing up through the Peanuts Gang than any other childhood classic. "Taking the Peanuts characters and making them grown up ... it was watching yourself grow up. Suddenly you think about how they were children ... and now in high school, think about how you were in high school," Caprio explains. Schulz based the characters in Charlie Brown on many of his friends and family when the comics first began in the 1950s.

CB, portrayed by sophomore musical theatre major Tyler Hecht, begins the play by losing his dog and asks numerous times "What do you think happens when we die?" to his friends throughout the show. Hecht established the aura of CB with each stage of grieving as the story moves along. CB takes us on the journey of what it means to find yourself and grow up



The cast of *Dog Sees God*.
Corey Maher/Photo Editor

from a child to a young adult.

One of the most prevalent storylines than any other plot in "Dog Sees God" is sexual identity.

Matt, played by senior acting major Andrew Vertucci, demonstrated the truth and honesty of what homophobia looks like in America. Matt throws around homosexual slurs, bullies the character Beethoven, portrayed by sophomore musical theatre major Noah Barnes, and becomes disgusted by the thought of anything that relates to the LGBTQ+ community.

In Barnes' interpretation of Beethoven, he and CB have a stand-off about the bullying Beethoven has experienced: avoiding the cafeteria for two years, not using the bathroom in school, physical attacks and living in fear because of his sexual identity. A chill filled the audience as Barnes delivered Beethoven's heartache story of being sexually abused by his father who went to jail and the bullying he has continued to live through.

The situations Beethoven discussed in the show happens every single day in schools across America, and he became the voice for those who have been silenced.

The relationship between CB and Beethoven broke boundaries and added a unique element to the performance. Their relationship developed both emotionally and physically; they didn't focus on the labels or defiance of what the other characters thought. Through Hecht and Barnes' perception of their respected characters and Caprio's direction, they were able to accept the good and bad moments together. They had each other no matter what people said or did.

Matt is inspired by the character Pig-Pen, the

character who was always dirty in the Peanuts comics. Vertucci explained that in "Dog Sees God" the dirtiness of Matt was internalized. He described that, with all the negativity Matt brings, it is hard to find the moments where Matt is redeemable. He is the face and persona of what homophobia is defined as in society. "Hopefully one day people like Matt and characters like Matt will only [exist] in stories and not in real life," Vertucci explained. Vertucci and Caprio said that the issues and battles these characters' experience are more prevalent now than when the show first premiered in 2004 in New York City.

As heavy and as drama-filled as this show is, the comedy and laughs came from characters such as Buddhist pothead Van, portrayed by junior video production major Corey McCrea; best friends Tricia and Marcy, portrayed by junior musical theatre majors Anna Stewart and Maggie Austin; and progressive and imaginative CB's sister, played by junior musical theatre major Carly Censi.

Van's sister, played by junior musical major Michaela Tramuta, gave her advice as the beloved Lucy from the comics with one of the major themes of the show: "Love and hate are the two closest emotions." CB is able to see for the first time that there is a light at the end of the tunnel. CB demonstrates hope for anyone going through bullying, sexual exploration and feelings for someone that society might not approve of for not only himself, but anyone.

Play on Words brings book club approach to drama

AMBER MATTICE

Reverb Editor

Clubs are an integral part to any college campus, as they give students a place to pursue their passions around people whom they might never get a chance to talk to otherwise. When a new one is made, it paves the way for more students to find their niche around people who share the same interests.

Play on Words, a recent addition to the campus, is essentially a book club for plays and has many students excited to see where it goes. It was created by Bailey Bass, a junior double major in theatre and public relations, because she wanted to read more plays and planned to do with a friend over Skype. She decided to invite a few friends from Fredonia, and thus a new club was born.

“We read a play a week and have a weekly discussion on that play. This is an important addition to the Fredonia campus because it allows students to explore plays in a dramatic and literary sense and allows discussions for social and political conversations relating to the play,” said Bass.

The club is open to all majors and encourages students to dive into literature and theatre that they

might not experience anywhere else.

“I think what makes it unique is that it’s so flexible. The club doesn’t serve just one purpose,” said John Boughton, a sophomore theatre arts and video production double major and vice president of Play on Words. “Sure, it helps theatre majors expose themselves to new material. But the purpose of theatre, or what I think it is, is to get people to question society and its issues. So for students outside of the Theatre Department, they can gain new perspectives on ideas or issues because of the plays we read.”

Despite the club being so new to the campus, Play on Words has a lot of plans for the future. They will be hosting movie nights that correspond with the plays they will be reading and are planning for an Open Mic Night event in the future where students can come and read original works.

They are also working closely with Writer’s Ring and are hoping to get in contact with playwrights to talk over Skype about their plays and accomplishments.

Play on Words already has a fairly big membership and is hoping to get more people to join and get excited about plays.

“I really hope students make new friends and form new perspectives. I know I keep saying that, but



Alissa Salem/Staff Illustrator

it’s important to see all sides of the story sometimes and plays do just that,” said Boughton. “It seems [like] a great club with a great atmosphere, and I think, even if you’re not into theatre that much, theatre is just life shown to you through a performance, or in this case, reading. So if you think life is cool, then join our club.”

The club was formed in the hopes of getting more people excited about something like theatre, both in practice and in literature, in an environment where everyone within and outside of the major feels welcomed. It could be a great way to get involved on campus and delve deeper into the realm of literary drama.

Rhythm and Brews pairs unexpected genres with acoustic performances

BETHANY CLANCY

Staff Writer



Cheyenne Bruyere performs covers on her ukelele.
Bethany Clancy/Staff Photographer

Saturday afternoon, Music Industry Club teamed up with Sound Services to put on Rhythm and Brews, a monthly event where three acts offer acoustic performances at The Spot in Tim Hortons.

Julia Mason, a sophomore music industry major, booked JoyBox, Cheyenne Bruyere and Sleepfirst, who came all the way from Buffalo.

JoyBox, made of freshman applied music major Tyler Will and freshman sound recording technology major Jaden Zhang, opened the show with acoustic original emo songs. Being a fairly new band, they gained some new fans at this event.

Up next was Cheyenne Bruyere, a junior music industry major. She won over the audience by playing ukulele covers of “Anna Sun” by Walk The Moon, “Northern Wind” by City and Colour, “What You Know” by Two Door Cinema Club and her own rendition of Adele’s “Send My Love” and “Unthinkable” by Alicia Keys, which she dedicated to her girlfriend who was happily watching.

Closing out the acoustic event was Sleepfirst, an emo/pop-punk band consisting of Brad Ziolkowski,

Nick Terlecky, Greg Vinal and Michael McKerracher. All members come from different parts of Buffalo and even Canada.

“It’s the love of music and playing music that brought us together,” said guitarist Brad Ziolkowski. This was their first time doing an acoustic set, but they all said it was a success.

Nick Terlecky, the vocalist, played never-heard-before Sleepfirst originals and a cover of “Shed Your Skin” by Title Fight. Making jokes in between songs to calm his nerves, Terlecky interacted with the crowd and advertised their show happening later that night at Spirit Brew.

“Our music is really difficult to play acoustically because of the type of guitar playing we do. I think it went really well, better than expected since we’ve never done anything like that before. The guys and I talked after the set and are now thinking about putting together a full band one,” Ziolkowski commented. They currently have two EPs out on Spotify and Bandcamp and are working on a third, expected to be released in the spring.

Put on your house colors and brandish your wands

'*Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*' hits theaters

MOLLY VANDENBERG

Staff Writer

If you're a "Harry Potter" fan, you're also probably familiar with the textbook "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them," written by fictional character Newt Scamander, which is a required textbook for all first-year Hogwarts students. J.K. Rowling published a reproduction of Harry's own textbook in 2001 as a companion to the book series.

On Nov. 18, a movie adaptation of "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them" will hit theaters. This project will be Rowling's debut as a screenwriter. The movie is directed by David Yates, who also directed the last four "Harry Potter" films.

This will be the first movie in a new series of five films as a spinoff to the original "Harry Potter" film series. There are hints throughout the movie that it is a prequel.

"Fantastic Beasts" takes place in 1926 with Newt Scamander, played by Eddie Redmayne, having just finished a global expedition to find and document a remarkable display of magical creatures. Scamander is a scatterbrained scientist with a very likeable screen presence.

As he arrives in New York City for a brief stop, he comes across a no-maj (American slang for "muggle," which means non-magical folk) named Jacob,

a lost magical case and the escape of some magical beasts. As you can imagine, this creates trouble for both the wizarding and no-maj worlds. Scamander must scramble to track down and recapture the escaped creatures.

So far, the film has stellar reviews. According to a film review from *Variety*, "Fantastic Beasts" does double-duty as yet another imagination-tickling fantasy adventure and a deeply troubled commentary on tolerance, fear and bigotry in the world today."

Because the film has been designed for the most devoted of "Harry Potter" fans, it may be confusing for newcomers, but those who stick around will appreciate that the film never talks down to its audience.

According to a film review from *The Guardian* titled "J.K. Rowling Goes Steampunk," "Fantastic Beasts" is a rich, baroque, intricately detailed entertainment with some breathtaking fabrications of prewar New York City."

Furthermore, the on-screen magic is as familiar as ever. "The muggle or no-maj world we are seeing is a century old [compared to the original Harry Potter films], but the basic language and furniture and procedure of magic is not in anyway older or rudimentary. It is the same thing. They have moving pictures on newspapers in the same way as the present day. As ever, magic is a state within a state, a secret in



Mitchell Paddy/Staff
Illustrator

plain sight, and part of the fun is being let in on the secret."

But there are some differences and expansions to Rowling's wizarding world. There is a scene in a speakeasy where someone orders "six shots of giggle-water." "Giggle-water" was never mentioned in the book series. It'll be interesting to see what new magic and special effects we get to see in "Fantastic Beasts."

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Conservative Corner: Why Hillary Lost

CONNOR HOFFMAN

Managing Editor

Donald J. Trump will be our next president. I never thought I'd have to use that sentence, but like everyone else on Tuesday night, I was indeed wrong. Now, many of you may be wondering why Hillary Clinton lost to Trump on Tuesday, but the signs couldn't have been more clear from the beginning. Clinton lost because the voters in this election wanted an outsider, and Clinton is nothing if not a symbol of the establishment.

Trump won on Tuesday with 290 electoral college votes compared to Clinton's 228 electoral college votes, according to NBC News.

The first sign of Clinton's weakness for the Democrats should have been after she nearly lost the primaries to Sen. Bernie Sanders. Sanders represented a true outsider and really excited the Democratic base, and he would have been a much stronger candidate for the Democrats to have run against Trump.

Also, the fact that her campaign basically rigged the entire Democratic primary and even colluded with the media to win the Democratic nomination, as shown with the WikiLeaks email leaks, really hurt her appeal with the base. The Democrats

attempt to coronate Clinton as president seriously backfired.

The economy was the main issue that this general election was being fought on, and Clinton seriously screwed up trying to make this election a referendum on Trump. In fact, her sole focus on Trump probably only encouraged the swing state voters to think that she didn't care about their economic issues.

The Trans-Pacific Partnership and the North American Free Trade Agreement, two crucial free trade agreements, were two issues that seriously made Clinton look inauthentic. Clinton tried to disavow both of these trade agreements, but her criticism of them seemed quite fake, as she was involved with NAFTA in the 1990s and she called TPP "the gold standard in trade agreements" before she changed to being against it.

Clinton's lack of charisma is another huge reason she lost. She was not able to excite the Democratic voters in key swing states like Obama did in 2008 and 2012. This woman tried to campaign as being a third term of Obama, but that's not what the voters wanted.

Just take a look at voter turnout in the key swing states of Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Michigan in the 2008 and 2012 election compared to the 2016 election.

In 2008, Obama received 2,872,579 votes in Michigan, 1,677,211 in Wisconsin and 3,276,363 in Pennsylvania, according to CNN. In 2012, Obama received 2,561,911 votes in Michigan, 1,613,950 in Wisconsin and 2,907,448 in Pennsylvania, according to NBC News.

In the 2016 election, Clinton only received 2,267,373 votes in Michigan, 1,382,210 in Wisconsin and 2,844,705 in Pennsylvania, according to CNN. Trump very narrowly won these swing states because Clinton could not excite her base.

Keep in mind, Sanders beat Clinton in both Wisconsin and Michigan. In fact, the conventional media wisdom had projected that Sanders was going to lose Michigan, and just like Trump, he came out with a "yuge" surprise win. Shouldn't that surprise win have shown the media and the pollsters that the voters in the Midwest were quite volatile and unpredictable this election season?

Editorial: SA should continue making strides to serve students

The Student Association has made great strides toward fulfilling their mission of representing the interests of Fredonia's students this semester, but there's also work that ought to be done as the year goes on.

As reported in this issue of *The Leader*, students will have a new SA administration next semester, led by President Joshua Ranney and Vice President Katherine Grabowski. In a departure from the competitive elections of years past, the winning ticket ran unopposed and garnered 1,319 votes per SA. Meanwhile, the Student Activity Fee was voted to remain mandatory with 1,327 votes in favor and 163 votes for a voluntary fee. This is the right decision, as it enables Fredonia to have a vibrant campus where clubs, and the people in them, can flourish.

By SA's count, the total number of votes cast this year adds up to 1,490, or less than one third of the student population of Fredonia. That might not seem

like very much, but SA made a greater effort this year to earn a mandate, sending every student an email with a link to the poll. There are many reasons roughly 70 percent of Fredonia's students might not have voted, but accessibility was not one of them.

One of those reasons might be a lack of interest in the issues that the SA votes on. If people are uninterested, then they have every right to exclude themselves from student governance.

However, another reason there's a lack of participation may be a lack of knowledge of what SA is or the purpose it serves. Students may not know who represents them at General Assembly meetings, or even that they are represented, period. SA representatives are obligated to serve their constituents, but there's an undeniable disconnect between those who are in-the-know and those who aren't, one which must be addressed if SA is to even remotely accomplish

its mission.

Some may argue that students who care enough about issues facing the campus usually make the effort to make their voices heard, and that may be true. But it's troubling to potentially allow a small group or groups of students to define the conversations that the entire student body should be having together.

The real work of the new administration, and of every other elected member of SA, does not stop when the votes are counted. Now is the time to earn an even greater mandate and to truly represent the interests of Fredonia students. At the same time, students who are interested in being represented also need to make the effort to involve themselves in the process and to contribute to the conversation on their own. It is a lofty goal, but greater participation is the key to a greater SA.

Verbatim

“What are you thankful for?”



Finn Dowling, junior sound recording technology
“I’m thankful for the network of support that I’ve found at Fredonia.”



Samantha Ticker, junior theatre production
“I’m thankful for my mother and my twin brother.”



Teddy Blair, senior theatre arts/art
“I’m thankful to have a supportive network of friends and family who are always there for me when I’m struggling or having a hard time.”



Claudia White, senior environmental sciences
“I’m thankful for the hat that’s keeping my head warm right now.”



Christian Pacheco, sophomore molecular genetics
“Family, health and the sun.”



Frankie Mulkey, sophomore political science
“I’m thankful for my mom, because she’s always been supportive.”

Hitting the ice for stroke awareness

Men's hockey team raises \$9,000

CURTIS HENRY

Sports Editor

The last time that the Fredonia Blue Devils played the Potsdam Bears in January, Rick Rivera was in attendance. His wife, Dana, was in attendance as well. The two were there as parents paying support to their kids, which is nothing out of the ordinary in the world of sports.

What is out of the ordinary is that the two had flown in from their home in Los Angeles within 24 hours of the puck drop. More extraordinary is the fact that it was only the second time they were in such a scenario, watching their sons compete as opponents rather than as teammates. At the time, the younger of the two, Luke, was a freshman here at Fredonia. The eldest brother, Jake, was a senior at Potsdam. Each was donning the number 23.

The brothers had essentially grown up on the ice; Jake began playing hockey at age 5, Luke at age 3. In their combined four decades playing the sport, this was only their second time matched up against one another in a competitive setting.

Faced with the moral dilemma of neutrality, their father never plans to reveal who he was rooting for on that night in January.

"We showed up and sat at center ice," said Rick Rivera. "I sat with the left foot on one side, right foot on one side, and watched.

"As for who I was cheering for on the inside, well, I'm probably best off taking that one to the grave," he concluded with a chuckle. That meeting between the brothers Rivera ended up with Luke's side winning to even the series between brothers at 1-1.

Fast forward to Friday night. The Rivera clan was back in town for another meeting between Fredonia and Potsdam. This game only featured one of their sons — Jake having graduated last year — but the game was still just as significant to the family.

The end result of Friday night's game was a 4-1 victory for Fredonia, but the story of Friday transcends all action on the ice.

Friday was stroke awareness night for the Blue Devils, the first event of its kind to take place in the Steele Hall ice arena. The fundraiser was thought of and driven by none other than Luke Rivera, who was instrumental in orchestrating the event. Similar to the annual "Pink the Rink" game, the game featured unique jerseys for the Blue Devils. These in particular

were red and white with a digital camo pattern, the camo to pay homage to Veterans Day, which coincided with Friday's game. The jerseys were a group effort in designing, headed by Marcus Ortiz, Hunter Long and Luke Rivera.

"A majority of this was Luke's doing," said head coach Jeff Meredith. "Of course he had a lot of help with this, but it was driven almost entirely by the players, and Luke has been the most instrumental."

The thought of having a stroke awareness game was of personal accord to Luke after Dana suffered multiple strokes on June 29, 2009.

"I know people affected by this, mainly my mom, and you just don't see the exposure to [strokes and stroke awareness] like you do with breast cancer and other stuff like that," said Luke Rivera.

Two strokes within one hour left half of Dana's body entirely paralyzed. The strokes came as a shock to the family, who never imagined such a health lapse occurring to someone who maintains a physical standard as high as Dana's.

"It was really unexpected," said Luke Rivera. "My mom has always been sort of a health nut, and she's always been in good shape. She prides herself in it."

The stroke was an apparent result of a patent foramen ovale (PFO), or a hole in Dana's heart. As many as 20 percent of Americans carry this trait, but most go unaware of the condition. In rare cases, however, a PFO can cause a stroke by allowing clots into the bloodstream of the body. After the strokes and her diagnosis, Dana underwent surgery to correct the problem and has been spreading awareness of the issue ever since.

Due to her physical conditioning and work



#21 Bobby Polachek controls the puck.
Mary Ann Wiberg/Special to The Leader

ethic, Dana's recovery from the stroke was remarkable.

"I really dodged a bullet in a lot of ways because I was in good shape," said Dana Rivera. "It took me about four and a half months to recover from the paralysis, and it was about a year before I said, 'Wow, I really feel like I'm me again.' I was lucky. For everyone, it's different."

For the human body to overcome something like paralysis to one side, a lot of re-learning has to take place. This occurs through the brain's neuroplasticity, or its ability for each hemisphere of the brain to learn the duties of the other. In extreme cases, such as Dana's, all facets and actions of everyday life need to be re-learned by the opposite side of the brain.

"I made it known that I wanted to wear high-heels and wedges again," said Dana Rivera. "I wasn't going to stop pushing myself until I was able to do that."

Although hard times fell on the Riveras in the immediate aftermath of Dana's strokes, the family had a positive outlook in the months following.

CONTINUED ON Page 15



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STROKE AWARENESS

“Because of Dana’s desire and determination, it wasn’t really a change in the house,” said Rick Rivera. “It was just a goal she had to achieve, and she worked relentlessly to achieve it.”

“When Dana had the stroke and started her recovery, it definitely set a greater standard of capability for Rick and the kids,” said Sam Bachner, Dana’s father. “It gave the whole family a certain degree of pride. Dana, in particular, has since made it her mission to go to a number of different hospitals and facilities to work and talk to people and spread awareness about this issue that she cares about, and it’s really beyond the norm.”

As of game time on Friday, donations toward the stroke awareness event approached \$8,600. Donations came in a variety of forms, ranging from a GoFundMe page to sales of stroke awareness bracelets.

A good majority of that was orchestrated by none other than Dana’s mother and Luke’s grandmother, Arlene Bachner.

“My grandma has actually been really important with regard to how much money she’s raised,” said Luke Rivera. In total, he estimated that \$7,000 of the \$8,600 raised before Friday was facilitated by his grandmother and her contacts all over Los Angeles.

“It’s a good cause, and it’s important to the family,” said Bachner of her contributions.

In addition to the jerseys and donations, a ceremonial puck drop took place moments before the game. Dana was granted the opportunity to walk out onto the ice and take part in it. When she first heard of this being the plan, she was no less than ecstatic.

“Really, it meant a lot to me because my son organized and orchestrated the whole event,” said Dana

Rivera. “I’m a proud mom.”

“I just thought about how at events you usually have someone do the opening pitch or coin toss. I thought, ‘Why not do a puck drop?’ and we went with it,” said Luke Rivera.

In addition to the GoFundMe page, ticket sales, bracelet sales and other donations, Friday’s game featured a silent auction and a 50-50 raffle. The totals in money raised peaked at more than \$9,000.

The 4-1 victory over Potsdam capped off a perfect event for the Blue Devils and the entire Rivera family.

“There’s no secret about who I’m cheering for tonight,” said Rick Rivera prior to Friday’s game. It’s safe to say that he, along with most other Blue Devils, left Steele Hall on Friday night entirely satisfied.

Women’s basketball prepares for successful season

QUINTIN JAMES

Staff Writer

A new year means a new season of Fredonia women’s basketball, and this year, there is a different vibe around this time. Coming off a season where they went 19-8 and won their first home playoff game in school history, Fredonia looks to build on that success.

Even though they made it to the semifinals last year, the Blue Devils are very confident coming into this year and look to bring a championship to Fredonia.

Head coach Linda Hill-MacDonald explained that she is confident in her team’s ability and that she knows the high expectations they have. “With the veterans we have on the team, we understand what it takes to get back to the playoffs or do better,” she said.

Hill-MacDonald also mentioned that the pressure is something the team knows is on them this year. “I hope they play better with the pressure on. Pressure

can help them or immobilize them, and it’s important to keep it in perspective.

“The team is like a sisterhood this year, and they must be hardworking and use teamwork to repeat the success from last year,” said Hill-MacDonald.

In an always tough SUNYAC conference, the Blue Devils must rely on their senior class, which has a huge responsibility this year with new freshman and transfers coming in. They will be expected to lead by example and show the new girls how to work.

One of those seniors is Alexis Cheatham, who won the female Rookie of the Year as a freshman. Years later, she’s being counted on to lead this team not only as their starting point guard, but their leader.

Cheatham explained that she knows the team has high expectations. “Our goal this year is to win

SUNYACs,” she said.

She understands the pressure this year but says the team is doing just fine handling the extra expectations.

“I think our team is handling the pressure well. We’re obviously not at the level of how we were last year in the playoffs, because it’s still early in the season. I think the freshman and transfers are still adjusting, but they are getting better and better each day,” said Cheatham.

With the team and coaching staff focused on the task at hand, this season looks to be a very exciting one for the Fredonia women’s basketball team.

Bills Update: Bye week comes at perfect time

CURTIS HENRY
Sports Editor

There are roughly seven days throughout each season when it isn't overwhelming to be a fan of the Buffalo Bills: the bye week. The bye is a good time for fans to sit back and relax, and it's a good time for teams to rest and get healthy. For the Bills, this year's Week 10 bye couldn't have come at a better time.

Coming off of a devastating loss to the referees — er, I mean the Seahawks — in Week 9, the Bills' bye week is a perfect break after the team's current three-game losing streak. An ugly loss to New England in Week 8 was sandwiched between two losses to Miami and Seattle, a pair of games that most think the Bills should have won.

The bye provides a perfect opportunity for a depleted Buffalo squad to get healthy in advance of next week's bout with Cincinnati, another team that has underperformed to this point in the season.

Despite LeSean McCoy's performance on Monday night, it's hard to say with authority that he was 100 percent; Marcell Dareus is dealing with lingering injuries of all sorts. Additionally, guys like Lorenzo Alexander, Jerry Hughes and Charles Clay were only able to practice in limited capacity for the entire week leading up to last Monday's game in Seattle, and the bye provides a perfect chance for those guys to get to full strength.

Lost in all of this is perhaps the biggest footnote of all. A bye week in Week 10 inches Sammy Watkins closer to being healthy as he attempts to return after being placed on injured reserve early in the season. Watkins is officially eligible to return from the temporary injured reserve in Week 12 when the Bills will play host to Jacksonville, and every passing week breathes new hope for the Bills' star receiver. It was reported early last week that Watkins had gotten rid of the walking boot he has needed in recent weeks, a good sign for Bills coaches and fans alike.

However, the return of Watkins may not mean much for the Bills. The team sits at 4-5 and is out of sight in the playoff picture thanks to the strongest division in football: the AFC West. Buffalo will, presumably, have to beat out one of Oakland (7-2), Denver (7-3), and Kansas City (7-2). The outlook for the Bills ending the drought has to be less than optimistic, seeing as the three teams they're chasing have consistently done the one thing that the Bills can't: win the games they're expected to.

For the Bills to qualify for the playoffs for the first time since the turn of the millennium, they'll have to go on one hell of a run in the second half of 2016. Buckle up Bills fans, it's (probably) gonna be a hell of a ride.

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Hillary Clinton announces presidential bids in 2020, 2024, 2028, and so on

ALBERTO GONZALEZ

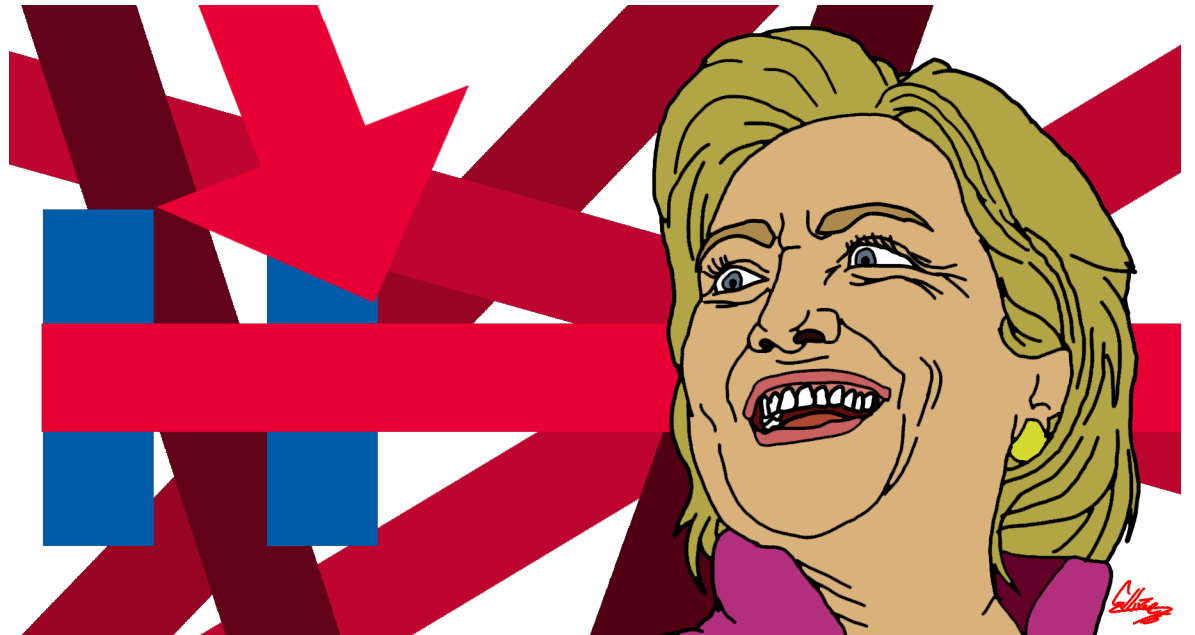
Special to the Lampoon

In grandiose fashion, Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton lost her bid for the White House last week. After giving her concession speech, she seemingly disappeared from the public spotlight. All of the pro-Clinton individuals of the country need not worry, however. She does not stay down after losing.

A random hiker spotted the Clintons wandering the woods this past Thursday, and that is when she made the announcement to a moderate crowd of one (plus baby). She went on to tell the hiker that she planned to run again for the presidency in 2020.

After taking a picture and thanking Hillary for her time, the hiker then proceeded to continue on with her routine. It was not thirty seconds later that she found the former First Lady close behind her speaking loudly, as if to a non-existent crowd of millions, of her plans after that to run for 2024, and if that didn't work, her plans to run again in 2028.

All while former president Bill Clinton followed, phone in hand, live streaming on Periscope. The hiker began to worry for the unsuccessful Democratic nominee after she got to the election of 2052. Hillary started laughing hysterically while contemplating her own mortality and if technology will have advanced enough to be able to implement "Pokémon Go to the Polls."



Edward Gallivan/Staff Illustrator

At this time, paramedics were called about an apparent mental breakdown in the woods, all while Bill stood idly by, live streaming the whole event, with an eerily blank smile plastered on his face.

Since this incident, Hillary has claimed that anyone who has been putting her mental health into

question is nothing more than a conservative conspiracy theorist and that she was doing nothing more but a sleep deprived practice of her announcement speech, which she plans to give during the inauguration of president-elect Donald Trump.

Samsung unveils Galaxy Note 8, featuring less explosions

D. ZBORNAK

Staff Lampoonist

In light of Donald Trump's election as president, Samsung has announced the production of the new Galaxy Note 8. This version will have a significantly lower explosion rate than the infamous Galaxy Note 7. Samsung employees engineered and produced this model so as to not see their own bomb-like product utilized in the rising number of violent attacks on a predicted by 90 percent of Americans.

The results of the 2016 presidential election were nothing short of terrifying for many U.S. citizens. Trump's win was followed by a sudden spike in hate crimes and left people across the country fearing for their safety.

It's common knowledge that hate groups from anywhere will get creative in order harm their targets

of interest. Samsung heard our cries and responded by releasing the Galaxy Note 8. This version, unlike its predecessor, is almost guaranteed not to explode, which eliminates the possibility it being used in any sort of attack.

This action by Samsung was a small but appreciated gesture in the eyes of American minorities. Upon interview, one individual said, "We really appreciate what Samsung has done. It's clear that they have concerns for public safety. In the midst of all the swastika graffiti littering my neighborhood and black baby dolls hanging from ceilings across the country, I can take refuge in knowing that at least my car won't get blown up by Ann Coulter throwing her phone."

The ever-clueless Trump himself got word of Samsung's newly released model and gave his praise to the company.

"Samsung is great. They're really great people.

I love how a company working under my lead is so concerned about the safety of my citizens and not just the growth of their business," the president-elect said. "As a matter of fact, to show my appreciation, I'm spending my first billion of America's tax dollars on advertising for Samsung."

Samsung is getting widespread praise for their efforts to combat domestic terrorism instigated by Trump himself. While the new phone does little to heal the emotional trauma, innocent Americans can rest a little more peacefully knowing that if they are harmed, at least it won't be from an inconspicuously placed mobile device blowing an additional orifice through their bodies.

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'What the Fuck?' Nation Asks Self

KILGORE TROUT

Guest Lampoonist

Since the shocking victory of Republican nominee for president Donald Trump's campaign last week, reports confirm a sizeable increase in the number of Americans citizens turning on the TV, scratching their heads for a moment, then exclaiming angrily, "Is this a goddamn joke?"

For the first time in its history, the U.S. will be led by someone with no prior government or military experience, a fact that caused millions of Americans to cradle their heads in their hands for a little while, then say under their breath, "I can't believe I live in this fucking country."

Trump's victory is especially surprising given that every major news outlet and poll predicted his loss to Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton. It is also surprising given that he repeatedly questioned President Barack Obama's birthplace and citizenship, was heard in leaked footage from "Access Hollywood" bragging about committing sexual assault, has not released his tax returns, argued that women should be punished for having abortions, said that global warming is a hoax invented by China, refused to say whether he would accept the results of the election if he lost, refuses to denounce the support of various white supremacist groups, admitted to taking advantage of tax loopholes in order to not pay income taxes, is currently being sued for his involvement in for-profit non accredited "school" Trump University, claimed that Obama literally founded ISIS, suggested that he would date his daughter were she not his daughter, publicly mocked a disabled New York Times reporter, defended the size of his penis in a Republican primary debate, criticized Sen. John McCain for being captured by North Vietnamese forces during the Vietnam War, continues to feud publicly with Rosie O'Donnell, tweeted (among other things) "I have never seen a thin person drinking Diet Coke," had to have his Twitter privileges taken away from him so as to not say anything offensive, and was inducted into the WWE Hall of Fame in 2013, all facts that inspired American citizens to say to themselves and to each other for the last 18 months, "This man will definitely not become president."

Trump's rise was reportedly even a surprise to the campaign, and the president-elect is now in the midst of hiring more than 4,000 people to fill various roles in the Trump administration. Per the Wall Street Journal, Trump aides were unaware that that "the entire presidential staff working in the West Wing had to be

replaced at the end of [Obama's] term."

However, some key appointments have already been made: Republican National Committee Chairman Reince Priebus has been named Chief of Staff, while Breitbart News executive chairman Steve Bannon has been named "chief strategist." Sources confirm that Americans who just read this last paragraph responded by slamming their fists on the table and saying, "Are you fucking kidding me? Newt Gingrich is going to be Secretary of State?"

Democrats across the country have been reeling since Clinton's loss, with multiple explanations being offered for the surprise of the century, including FBI Director James Comey's letter to Congress casting attention back toward her email controversy, the Clinton campaign's inability to craft a persuasive message and the fact that running-mate Sen. Tim

Kaine sounds like he's reading from a Laffy Taffy wrapper whenever he speaks. It's reported that Americans have responded to Clinton's loss by Googling the last time she campaigned in Wisconsin, then shouting, "How the hell is any of this shit possible?"

Trump has also faced challenges from some who see his election as illegitimate: while he attained well over the 270 electoral votes required to win the presidency, Clinton received upwards of 600,000 more votes, which reportedly compelled many citizens to shout "Fuck!" before remembering that only about 57 percent of the electorate actually voted, a fact which caused even more Americans to think deeply, lift their eyes as if they had something to say, then realize that they, too, lack the words to articulate why exactly this is happening.



Mitchell Paddy/Staff Illustrator

Upstate citizens campaign to build a wall around NYC

EMMA PATTERSON
Staff Lamponist

Only days after Donald Trump won the presidency, New York Republicans are threatening to build a wall around the highly populous and liberal New York City in an attempt to make New York “red again.” Feeling scared and confused for the 100th time this year, the Lampon attempted to have an adult conversation with the leader of this movement, New York state Republican Stan Gunderson, in hopes of shedding light on this ridiculous turn of events.

“WE NEED TO BUILD A WALL,” Gunderson screeched, his voice resembling what we imagine an alcoholic cartoon manatee sounding like. With all hopes of an adult conversation crushed, we warily asked Gunderson why he wanted a wall.

“I was looking at that map on CNM,” he said, referring to the nightmare-fueled electoral map on CNN that showed which states voted with a Republican or Democratic majority. “New York was all blue, and all because of that speck on the map: New York City.” He raised his right arm, which had been surgically replaced

with a shotgun, in apparent frustration. “So I thought, ‘We need a wall around New York City.’ We can’t let those green tea-drinking, gay marriage-supporting liberals decide what color our state is!”

Gunderson’s quest for a wall stems from his belief that his white man voice deserves to be heard.

“ME MURICAN, ME HAVE RIGHTS,” he continued to yell at nothing in particular. When we inquired as to what these “rights” were specifically, he got so agitated that he was forced to take a quick six-hour nap and fire his gun-arm into the air a few times in order to let off some steam.

Terrifyingly, Gunderson isn’t alone in these beliefs. According to RateMyState.com, the no. 1 complaint New York state Republicans have about the state, besides a disappointing lack of Denny’s restaurants, is how it was colored blue, not red, on the CNN Map of Nightmares. Seriously.

When we informed Gunderson of the historical, cultural and economic importance of the city, he sniffed deeply and said, “We don’t need ‘em. I got everything I need right here.” He pointed his gun-arm towards his collection of deer heads and flat screen TVs.



Edward Gallivan/Staff Illustrator

In a last-ditch effort for sanity, we reminded Gunderson that the man he had built a shrine to in his bathroom, Donald Trump, was from New York City. Gunderson wasn’t concerned.

“Trump won’t be in New York City much longer. He’s on his way to bigger, better and whiter things. He’s got the brains to run this country, walls and all.” He wiped his eyes with his gun-arm as we slowly backed out of the room. “He’s gonna bring this country together!” he shouted. We ran for our lives.

UK ready for bedtime EU flexes parental control over UK

PATRICK BENNETT
Staff Lamponist

This past June was historic for the United Kingdom, as its citizens opted to vote themselves out of the European Union. This bombshell ruling, cleverly named Brexit, was evidence that the U.K. wanted to be its own entity in the shadow of the EU. Since the U.K.’s exit, the EU has had strong parental control over what they do, what they eat and whether or not they can see their “best friend” Charlotte after hours.

During an interview in a dim-lit coffee shop in East Wales, a 40-year-old knicker-maker chimed in on the grim situation he and his country face.

“I’m shaking in my trousers as we speak. The EU issued a passive-aggressive parental parcel for all of us citizens. Basically, it was a scroll that gave our families a list of chores we had to do. My family and I were assigned to be the designated town plumbers. You should’ve seen our neighbor Boris’s lavatory. It was bloody terrifying,” Donald Greene said.

Rules, besides chores, that have been enforced by the EU on the U.K. include mandatory bedtimes at 8 p.m. SET (Standard England Time). Many folks of the small town of Leaky Lagoon are completely opposed to the idea, due to their lifelong love of the hit E! show, “Rob & Chyna,” airing past 8 p.m.

“I used to break beer bottles against me grandma’s head as a way of acting out, I suppose. Once Rob & Chyna came on the telly, I was a changed young man I

reckon. Them fighting over chips in the car and Rob’s increasingly distant behavior makes for the best therapy,” pipsqueak and literal misfit Ginger Frecklesbaum II said.

The Lampon sought answers at the EU’s headquarters, a fish and chips stand in West London.

The head organizer, a Londoner, described the relationship in a whacky but understandable manner.

“We decided we were going to get payback for Brexit in a parental fashion. We wanted them to understand who their daddy is,” EU leader Mr. Bones said.

Londoners haven’t been enthusiastic about being newly adopted by Bones and his coalition of goons. Many were interviewed around the area.

“I wanna throw Mr. Bones off a double-decker bus,” yelled a young child eating chocolate ice cream from a tin can. “It’s true. The EU is straight up wrong. I had to text them 50 times the other day just to ask if I could spend the night in my wife’s bed. I’d never thought I’d say this, but I might move to the USA, even with Trump!” exclaimed the young child’s father.

The EU has remained focused on being the “parent the U.K. never had” and applying their rules across the entire country. While lifelong residents are outraged, they remain standing by the claim that their country’s departure from the union was “not just a phase.”

Madison Spear/Staff Illustrator





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You may be my friend, but no, I am not going to Starbucks with you again so that you can get another decorated red cup. It's just a freaking cup!

Aries



Stop stressing about your grades. You have nothing to be worried about, but somehow, you're higher strung than grandma's panties on laundry day.

Taurus



Try to be more conscientious of others in the next few weeks. What's in it for you? Respect from others. If that doesn't sound convincing enough, just think of all of the favors you will get to cash in on!

Gemini



The stars foresee a dark, empty wallet in your future. Don't go overboard with Christmas shopping. Most people return those gifts anyway.

Cancer



The stars see your event invites on Facebook, but they're going to ignore them so long as you keep trying to throw parties that are Hulk Hogan themed. We don't want to know what those look like.

Leo



Stop singing Christmas tunes. Not because no one is ready to hear them, but because you really are just not a good singer.

Virgo



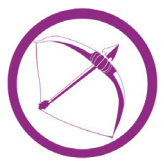
If the stars have to hear one more time why you can't stand for a holiday about killing turkeys, we're going to throw up your stupid tofu turkey replacement all over you.

Libra



You may love that sweater your grandma knitted for you, but now it's time to put it away. It may be about respecting your elders, and you'll be doing that when you stop wearing that hideous thing.

Scorpio



You may be spectacular at baking those holiday treats, but don't get ahead of yourself with making too many. When no one wants them because they taste like crap, guess who will be eating all of them... *cough* you will.

Sagittarius



Everyone is fed up with your posts of pictures of hot cocoa, warm fuzzy sweaters, Uggs and large scarves. We know what those things are and when people generally have them. SMH!

Capricorn



Don't worry, you will have a lot of money coming your way very soon, after you steal that Salvation Army basket outside of Walmart again. Ah, good times.

Aquarius



This Black Friday, make sure you stake out your territory and fight for what's yours. The Founding Fathers didn't die for you to pay full retail price for your 7th TV!

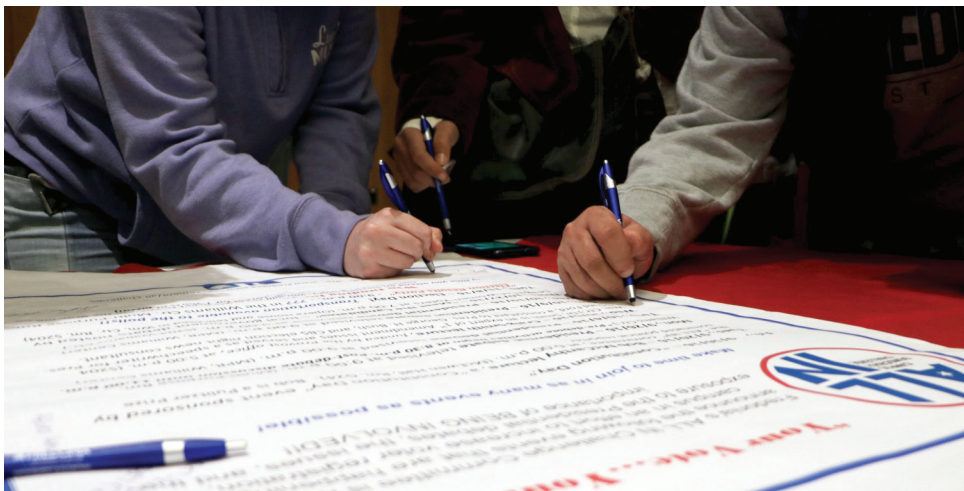
Pisces



JoyBox takes the stage at Tim Hortons for Rhythm and Brews.
Bethany Clancy/Staff Photographer



#4 Jon Carlson receives a pass.
Mary Ann Wiberg/Special to The Leader



Students sign ALL-IN Participants poster at the election results watch party on Tuesday, Nov. 8.
Andrew Camera/Staff Photographer



Some Like It Hot perform for their Fall show.
Andrew Camera/Staff Photographer



Annasun performs at EBC last Saturday, Nov. 12.
Corey Maher/Photo Editor