

THE LEADER

11.30.2016 Issue 13 Volume CXXIII



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THE LEADER

Fredonia State Free Press

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Love Trumps Hate poster sits in the
tree outside of
Univeristy Commons.

Bethany Clancy/Staff Photographer

Love Trumps Hate protest rocks campus

JAMES LILLIN
Staff Writer

On Nov. 16, more than 150 students turned out to march across campus and along Ring Road to peacefully protest the election of President-elect Donald J. Trump.

The protest was organized by senior communication major Abigail Everhart and senior psychology major Cassandra Vaccarelli.

“We put it all together, made a Facebook group, invited a lot of clubs, contacted UP, contacted President Horvath and made sure we were good to go,” said Everhart.

“The turnout was a lot greater than we had expected. At first, it was just me and Abby, but so many people showed up,” said Vaccarelli.

Students first met at University Commons to listen to a few brief speeches, including one given by junior audio/radio production major Kanard Lewis, who said the rhetoric used by Trump and some of his supporters during the campaign put “institutional and hidden” qualities of America into the spotlight.

“Trump’s just a man. He’s not a god. God’s still

on the throne,” Lewis said. “We can’t let his beliefs penetrate us so that we view each other as ‘others’ instead of people.”

Many students carried signs and banners, including many that said “Not My President,” and “Love Trumps Hate,” as well as many decrying Trump’s perceived sexism, racism, homophobia and transphobia. There were a few signs that said “Tuck Frump,” and one less-subtle sign that said “Fuck Trump.” Many students wore Bernie Sanders

shirts, with a few wearing shirts that bore Hillary Clinton’s campaign logo.

“It’s important to not just stand back and let things happen,” said Vaccarelli, “and I feel like if people stand together and make their voices heard, we can really make a difference together.”

As the collected group of protesters moved across campus, they engaged in collective chants, with highlights including “together we stand, united we fall.” The protest ended at the flagpole outside of Gregory Hall.

The protest was well-received, with students remaining gathered around the flagpole even after the march ended to talk about what the protest meant to them.

“We’re all struggling, but we’re trying to fight for what we believe in,” said sophomore social work major Kelsey Lomber, “and it’s



Melissa Fuchs, Frankie Mulkey, Lip Kosich, and Tegan James pose with their signs for the anti-Trump protest. Bethany Clancy/Staff Photographer

amazing that we can unite together and band together like brothers to have a better life.”

“It definitely strengthened me,” said junior audio/radio production and English major Emery Frost, “because since the election, I’ve seen some scary things around Fredonia, but it reassured the fact that I have people that care about me, and we can keep each other safe.”

In the end, the event created a place where people felt free to share their stories, worries and fears about the election, and to talk about what steps to take in the future to create a better America.

“I think that, for me, it [didn’t] nullify people’s fears,” said Lewis, “but it helps us recognize why we’re fearful now because it was so hidden. When you don’t want to see the truth, but then you have it being slapped into your face out of nowhere, it makes it impossible to ignore, but then you can deal with it and craft it into something empowering.”



Lexi Reyngoudt, Emery Frost, and Lily Fischer stand with their signs before the protest. Bethany Clancy/Staff Photographer

Creating change amid Ukrainian Crisis

Student-led group travels to Ukraine

JORDAN PATTERSON
News Editor

A street lined with houses lay in disarray. Buildings, what used to be people's homes, are riddled with bullet holes.

In Ukraine, this is common. The ongoing civil war paints a picture similar to something out of a typical Hollywood war movie, with one exception: this is real.

Last year, senior history major Matthew Joosep Lupkin and his Operation Rebuild cohorts got a taste what the aftermath of war looks like.

For Lupkin, after seeing scenes like those above, most of his prior assumptions of the world had changed.

"It was very humbling," he said.

"You turn down this road and the first you thing you see, when you turn down, is what once was a house that had been clearly shelled out by mortar and artillery fire," Lupkin added.

In one neighborhood in particular, Lupkin remembered being told that when the conflict started, a family had to literally "hit the deck" because armed forces were opening fire on homes.

Operation Rebuild is a student-run group that travels around the world to create change. More specifically, the group traveled to Ukraine in association with Rebuilding Ukraine Together and Free House.

"What we specialize in is we're trying to take college kids and giving them an experience [where] they can grow as people and citizens of the world," Lupkin said. "It's a good learning experience and it's just a good experience in general."

The Ukrainian Crisis began in 2013, when the former President Viktor Yanukovich refused to implement an agreement of association with the European Union. This decision sparked protests by a movement known as the "Euromaidan," and eventually the protesters ousted President Yanukovich. In 2014, tensions grew when Russia annexed a piece of Ukraine, known as Crimea, claiming it was for the protection of the Russian people that live there.

Conflict ensued between pro-revolutionists, who now made up the government,

and anti-revolutionists, a group comprised of pro-Russian insurgents.

In the rubble of this war is where Operation Rebuild steps in.

In the summer of 2016, the group traveled to Ukraine and worked on rebuilding homes for those affected by the war. According to Lupkin, the members did everything from plastering to building step ladders. Lupkin also acknowledged those in charge understand that they are a volunteer group.

"We're volunteers, we're not paid workers. They're not sitting over there with whips. If you need to take a break, take a break," Lupkin said.

According to Operation Rebuild's website, operationrebuild.us, the group's mission is to "create a better international community."

"We aim to create an army of volunteers that can be dispatched to various countries in need of physical aid, where we will then be able to provide direct support and labor service," the website continues.

The organization was founded by Gregory Wilkins. Wilkins has a bachelor's degree from Cortland University and has been accepted into the master's program at St. Petersburg.

According to the website, Wilkins was inspired during the peak of the Ukrainian Crisis in 2014. After attempting to get as many contacts as he could in Ukraine, in 2016, the first group traveled there. Among the first members were Lupkin and senior history major Clair Updyke, who are both co-program coordinators.

On the website, Updyke wrote, "Of all of the great memories I have of Ukraine, I would say my favorite experience included any time all of us sat down and had a meal together — not just the volunteers, but the families we were helping."

In May of 2017, Operation Rebuild will be heading to Greece to help with a refugee camp located there. Also, in June a group will heading back to Ukraine and again in July. To find out more about their mission, go to operationrebuild.us. On the site, it details how the interested can



Lupkin with Ukrainian children in a house the group worked on.
Courtesy of Matthew Joosep Lupkin



St. Andrew's Cathedral in Kiev.
Courtesy of Matthew Joosep Lupkin

get involved and lays out the expenses.

"The program is only expanding," Lupkin said. "Especially with us kind of adding our American manpower into it, it's hopefully going to blossom into something great one day."

Centered in excellence

Forum held for Fredonia's new diversity, equity and inclusion plan

CAMRY DEAN

Staff Writer

Over the next five years, Fredonia will be working to implement new diversity initiatives to the college standards using a newly adopted strategic plan that is “centered in excellence.”

On Nov. 13, a forum for the finalized draft of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Strategic Plan was held in the Williams Center and it encouraged feedback and thoughts from participants in the room.

William Boerner, chief diversity officer, held the forum along with members of the working group, including faculty, students and staff for the plan.

In the fall of 2015, SUNY Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher signed a diversity policy for all of the SUNY campuses to utilize.

“About a little over a year ago, in the fall of 2015, the Chancellor [of SUNY] signed into policy a specific diversity equity and inclusion policy that identified what every SUNY campus would do to support the efforts of diversity and inclusion on our campuses,” Boerner said. “One of those was the creation of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Strategic Plan.”

In response to the SUNY Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion policy, Fredonia created its own strategic plan.

“Additionally, the plan reveals a growing institutional responsibility and commitment to social justice, as well as the needs of the campus community. This plan was conceived through a multi-faceted and extensive approach in which the students, faculty, staff and community contributed to understanding where the institution has been, is currently situated, and plans to advance regarding inclusive efforts,” reads the finalized draft of the plan.

The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Strategic Plan consists of four different efforts: Communication, Assessment and Implementation, Recruitment and Retention, and Engagement and Education, which is an acronym for C.A.R.E. and each effort has its own set of goals.

The plan hopes to create a dialogue on campus by employing the goals of the communication efforts.

The goals include creating a better way to report incidents of discrimination and utilizing social media for information on diverse events on campus. Furthermore, the goal is to create awareness about incidents of bias and Fredonia's response, which includes debriefing for the campus community and providing safe spaces.

The strategy even includes plans to “improve recruitment and retention of underrepresented faculty and staff to parallel the changing demographics and needs of the University,” which includes expanding training opportunities for search committees based on inclusivity and submitting candidates for the SUNY Faculty Diversity program.

This fall, Fredonia also committed to a Strategic Enrollment Management plan that focuses on the need of recruitment of students of underrepresented demographics. 20.7 percent of all Fredonia students are from underrepresented racial minorities, though this number is increasing yearly.

Currently, Fredonia's student population is 56.9 percent female and 43.1 percent male.

When Boerner opened the forum up for discussion, psychology professor Andrea Zevenbergen mentioned gender identity when taking a consensus of the population and suggested different terminology.

“You're talking about people either identifying as either female or male,” Zevenbergen said. “Do you want to use the term ‘identifying’ or ‘self-identifying’ because we know [on our campus] there are people who would not identify as either male or female.”

Most times when asked about an individual's gender identity, they may not find an option that aligns with how they identify, and this is important in terms of gender inclusion.

“We also have some demographics for individuals who are gender non-conforming or identify as [transgender] so we could perhaps include that from the undergraduate population,” Boerner said. “[The research] is from institutional research so it might also be a ‘forced choice,’ and we could possibly have an [option] to explain or identify differently.”

The plan also includes a percentage for students self-reported as members of LGBTQ+/MOGII community, which is 11 percent of Fredonia's student population.

Another issue that was discussed was faculty involvement in diversity and inclusion and how to handle situations of bias or discrimination to make students feel heard, comfortable and safe.

Following the presidential election earlier this month, many students were shocked at the results and felt disheartened during the days following.

While some students mourned and were concerned for future of their rights under the new administration and their safety due to the increase of hate crimes across the U.S., especially the incidents close to campus in Canisius where students posted a photo of a black baby doll hanging from a dorm room curtain rod or at SUNY Genesee where a swastika and the word “Trump” were painted outside of a residence hall, faculty on campus might have felt uncomfortable or unsure how to act in class or with students following the election, or if to act at all.

Students at the forum observed different reactions from professors that ranged from being told to “get over it” to being welcomed with support and encouraging discussion, while some professors decided to not talk about it altogether. This raised the question of faculty feeling too unprepared for a dialogue in their classroom.

Discussion turned into ways faculty can become more inclusive, and the room talked about different platforms in which interested faculty can be trained in diversity.

“Years ago, I went to my first Safe Zone training, and I learned a lot about things I had never thought about or learned about. I wanted to be inclusive and allow people to have a safe space, but I had no idea how to do that,” said psychology professor Dani McMay. “We haven't done that in a long time, and I don't know how else we would increase awareness of what the issues are if we don't have some kind of faculty

NSSLHA and Golden Key host Operation Christmas Child program

ANGELINA DOHRE

Special to the Leader

The Fredonia chapters of the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA) and the Golden Key International Honour Society collaborated to collect donations for their Operation Christmas Child project. The mission behind this project is to help send supplies to children in need all around the world.

Students set up a table in McEwen Hall and collected donations from Nov. 14–15 between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Donations could include accessories, such as t-shirts, crafts, toys and personal items, school supplies and non-liquid hygienic products.

Senior communication disorders and sciences

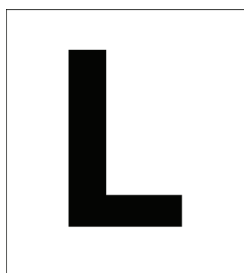
major Alison Malcolm is the current president of the NSSLHA, and she has been a member since she was a freshman.

“Last year was our first year doing this project, and it went great. We are planning again to do it next year,” she said.

The project involved a lot of volunteer work. “Donors prepare and collect shoeboxes. These boxes are then distributed overseas by volunteers,” Malcolm said. “As of April 2015, over 124 million boxes have been delivered, and you are able to track your box to see where it ended up. This is a great way to get involved and make a difference in a child’s life.”

This is the first year the NSSLHA and Golden Key collaborated on the Operation Christmas Child program. “It’s a great way to join ideas and garner a wider audience,” Malcolm said.

A few changes have been made to the project this year in order to spread the word around campus. “This year, we created a poster and set up an Awareness Week table to raise more awareness,” Malcolm said. “We opened it [the project] up to the campus instead of just Fredonia NSSLHA.”



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Police Blotters

UNIVERSITY

Monday, Nov. 14, 2016

4:41 p.m. Signs were ripped down on the second floor of Gregory Hall. Photos were taken and a report was filed.

Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2016

4:33 p.m. Students were reportedly jumping the fence at the Lacrosse Field. A report was filed.

Thursday, Nov. 18, 2016

9:05 a.m. Shanna M. Eppinger, age 31, was initially stopped for going 34 mph in a 20 mph zone and subsequently arrested for aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle in the third degree. She was released on bail.

Sunday, Nov. 27th, 2016

10:02 p.m. A suspect was found with the possession of a stolen street sign. A report was filed and the charges are pending.

FREDONIA

Monday, Nov. 14, 2016

Robert Porter was charged with disorderly conduct. He was held.

Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2016

Sean R. Henry, age 36, was arrested for criminal possession of a weapon while trespassing. He was held.

Ashley L. Burlingame, age 20, was charged with trespassing and was issued an appearance ticket.

Thursday, Nov. 17, 2016

Paul Pierce, age 40, violated the noise ordinance. He was issued an appearance ticket.

Saturday, Nov. 26, 2016

Jessica Shepard, age 34, was issued an appearance ticket for petit larceny.

Gabriel Curtis, age 18, was charged with violating the sewer ordinance and possessing a fictitious license.

Sunday, Nov. 27, 2016

1:51 a.m. Jermaine Batten, age 32, was issued an appearance ticket for disorderly conduct.

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



Denny Laine and fellow performers play the songs from "Arctic Song."
Andrew Camera/Staff Photographer

'Arctic Song' debuts in the U.S. *Musical written by former Moody Blues player*

AMBER MATTICE
Reverb Editor

After approximately 20 years of writing and planning, musician and former member of both the Moody Blues and Wings Denny Laine's musical "Arctic Song" had its U.S. debut here on Fredonia's campus.

The musical touches on issues of climate change through a fantastic story about an environmentalist and an extraterrestrial being.

There was a great deal of excited conversation being had as students, professors and community members made their way into Rosch Recital Hall on the night of Nov. 16. No one really knew what to expect of the performance due partially to the fact that it was premiering (though it had been done previously in the U.K.) and partially because there were several Fredonia students contributing to the final product.

The event illustrated the opportunities that are available to Fredonia students and the unique materials they are presented through the various programs. Students sang and performed alongside Laine onstage and worked to promote the premiere in the weeks beforehand.

"It was cool and fun working with a famous musician. An event this large shows that communication

is really important so everyone is on the same page for everything so [that] everything goes smoothly," said Valerie Bachowski, a sophomore music education major. "A lot of people put in a lot of work to make this event happen, and it was a great experience that I'm happy I was able to be a part of."

"Arctic Song" is an iconic project that has had a great deal of work and revision put into it. The fact that students got to be on stage with as well known of an individual as Laine is certainly a unique experience.

"It was definitely interesting. He is a very talented person, and it was an honor to perform with him," said Jonah Rosel, a junior music industry major.

The musical is composed of 16 songs that feature sounds from various cultures around the world, and the storytelling was told predominantly through the each piece as well as through a transition narrative done by Ron Pullman.

Each song had sounds that stood out to make each one very unique, and some even featured sounds such as rain on trees to correlate with the protagonists' journey through the rain forest. Many students who performed had songs that stood out to them and

became their favorites.

"My favorite song was 'Precious Trees,' so getting to sing that was probably the best part. It was really good," said Gabby Carr, a senior music industry major who was a part of the choir on stage.

As the musical progressed, many members of the audience seemed to be enjoying it more and more, and by the last song, "Crystal Vision," almost every audience member was clapping their hands along with the music.

At the end, everyone who performed came out on stage and thanked everyone for being part of the premiere. It was certainly evident that everyone who played any part in the musical was grateful and excited about the opportunity to finally reveal what had been years in the making.

It not only showcased a unique talent and an important message, but illustrated the hard work and dedication put into the arts by Fredonia's students and community members alike.

A not so merry Christmas

'The Man Who Came to Dinner'

comes to Fredonia

MOLLY VANDENBERG

Staff Writer

They say there's no place like home for the holidays, or in Sheridan Whiteside's case, someone else's home.

"The Man Who Came to Dinner" is the last Walter Gloor Mainstage Series production of the semester. It's an American comedy in three acts, written by Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman. It originally premiered on Broadway in October 1939.

The setting is Christmas time in the 1930s. The play features famous radio personality Sheridan Whiteside, who is invited to dinner at the home of a rich factory owner. Before entering the house, Whiteside falls and injures himself and ends up having to stay at the home to recover. This results in him terrorizing the lives of everyone else who is there with him.

This mainstage production is directed by Department of Theatre and Dance faculty member James Ivey. He believes that students should be exposed to culture and connections to the past.

"Of all of the commercial playwrights of the 1920s, '30s and '40s, George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart are two of the best. Their plays ran on Broadway for decades, and they had a play on Broadway for every year from 1921 to 1958 — there was a play either written by or directed by George S. Kaufman.

Moss Hart was one of his collaborators that came along later in his career, and the two of them together wrote not only this play, but 'You Can't Take it With You,' which is ... probably one of the most produced plays in all of the American theater next to Thornton Wilder's 'Our Town.' These plays are a part of American culture," said Ivey.

There's also a lot of praise for the set design and costumes and the faculty members who designed them.

"It will be so much fun to watch with the beautiful costumes that will be there on the stage by Dixon Reynolds ... and the setting by Brian McMullen is also going to be absolutely wonderful to see. It's a play that brings us into the Christmas season ... since Act Two takes place on Christmas Eve and Act Three takes place on Christmas Day. It's a comedy where we will walk away feeling good about ourselves," said Ivey.

Tom Loughlin, the Theatre and Dance chairman, will be playing the role of Whiteside in Fredonia's production.

"It's both exhausting and challenging [to play Whiteside]. The character is on stage 90 percent of the play and really has to command the stage. He is a



The cast rehearses the beginning of act one.
Corey Maher/Photo Editor

larger-than-life character, and the energy required to perform the part is intense, to say the least, but it's also a damn lot of fun at the same time," said Loughlin.

This will actually be Loughlin's last time on the Marvel stage as a performer, as he's stepping down from his current position after teaching at Fredonia since 1988 and serving as Theatre Department chair since 2010.

Loughlin has only positive words about his time here.

"I've been lucky, truly lucky, to have had the opportunity to create so much theater with so many wonderful people, faculty and students alike."

"The Man Who Came to Dinner" will run from Nov. 30 to Dec. 4. Tickets are \$12 for students and \$20 for the general public.

Applause for Paws raises funds for no-kill shelter

LERON WELLINGTON

Staff Writer

Everyone loves dogs, and everyone loves giving back. Naturally, the event Applause for Paws, hosted by Interactive Theatre Society, was a hit with raising money for Lakeshore Humane Society.

The annual fundraiser featured games, activities and performances that helped keep audiences entertained while raising money for the nearest no-kill shelter for animals.

Elizabeth Keville, a junior theater arts major and the president of the Interactive Theatre Society, felt very passionately about the cause and was glad to con-

tinue the tradition. She said, "I think that Lakeshore is an important charity to donate to so they can continue to maintain that title. Donating the money to Lakeshore means doing what we can as a group to make sure that the animals in the shelter have enough room to survive."

Raffle baskets were made by club members and dog themed games were available to be played. A simple donation of a small sum of money to the cutest puppies out of 20 pictures of dogs was an innovative game for people to enjoy.

Throughout the evening, performances by student groups were enjoyed and added extra entertainment. Some of the performers included Some Like It Hot, the Blue Ice Step team and Improv Society.

Samantha Ploetz, a senior theater arts major,

enjoyed the performances from groups. She said, "I think that including other clubs and campus groups is very important, because it helps our club have good relations with others on campus, as well as having them bring more people to the event."

Charley Scheffler, a senior theater arts major and Interactive Theater Society member, said, "I love having other groups help with this event, because it shows that they care for this cause. Each group said they love what the event stands for, even if they were unable to perform."

The event went smoothly and entertained many, but more importantly, it raised money for the Lakeshore Humane Society and the animals that really need help.

Ring Road Singers perform with new name

CONNOR HOFFMAN

Managing Editor

On Nov. 14, the Ring Road Singers, formerly known as Whitachoir, performed their first fall concert after their recent rebranding.

Dave Waterland, the group's music director, explained the idea behind their group's decision to rebrand themselves.

"When you base your group's name off one composer, it really limits your repertoire choice," said Waterland. "[The new name] really allowed for more repertoire choice, and it kind of made us seem less exclusive ... When we named ourselves the Ring Road Singers, we sat down, and we thought hard about what kind of name can we give our group that will make us seem appealing and open to the rest of the campus."

The show started off with an introduction from the group's president Jess Wilson, and then Waterland came out to conduct the choir.

First, the group started off with "The Lamb," a song composed by John Tavener. It started off with a very harmonious and soulful choir. The song started off with only a few singing, but soon after the entire choir joined in. The group had strong harmonies throughout the entire piece.

Later on, they played the "Song of Gailee." This song starts off very ominously with only a few of the male singers. This piece also heavily featured the piano. The different tenors of the choir really started to collide towards the end of the piece. After the entire

choir's energy reached a peak, the song ended abruptly.

Another song performed was "Praise His Holy Name," a song composed by Keith Hampton. This piece features such a gospel tone to it with the entire choir asking for the audience to show their praise. This song was particularly heavy in dialogue and featured two powerful solo performances by Breanna Bryce and Phoebe Lachenaure.

The group then performed an additional song called the "South African Medley," which is a piece that Waterland put together and taught the group. This piece got the most reception from the entire crowd.

Waterland felt that the show went "swimmingly," and Wilson was excited over how well the show was received.

Tye Granger, a senior music education and sophomore performance major, really enjoyed the show, and "Praise His Holy Name" was his favorite song. Granger admitted that although he really enjoyed their concert, he does miss some of the Whitachoir songs and wishes the group could incorporate at least one or two Whitachoir pieces in their next show.

Nicholas Williams, a junior music education major, also enjoyed the show, but he felt they should look at a more diverse repertoire. He explained that this Fall concert was very "Christian centric, and there are choral pieces that are not as religious as what they had on the program, so that was my only complaint."

He also explained that he "very much enjoyed the African melody" and that he "thought it was one of the best put together pieces that they had on the program."

Waterland explained what his big musical influences are.

"My influence comes from my boy choir experience back in Philadelphia," said Waterland. "That South African number, I learned it there ... I'm definitely influenced by Robert Shaw and William Dawson."

Waterland and Wilson both also explained their goals for the group this year.

"To really enjoy our first year as a rebranded choir," said Waterland. "We want to get as many people involved in choral singing as possible." Wilson mentioned that the group is trying to reach out to non-music majors and that they also will be holding mid-semester auditions to welcome new potential members.

They both feel that the rebranding of their group has went quite well.

"We look more professional," said Wilson. "We're taken a little bit more serious than we have been in the past because of some past issues, but that doesn't affect us anymore, we've moved past it. We're now Ring Road Singers."

November

11/29

Orchesis Dance Company Presents: Full Circle

At 9 p.m. in the Williams Center MPR

Orchesis will be putting on its 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

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 directed by James Ivey. Tickets are \$12 for students and \$20 for the general public.

11/30 con'td.

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.

12/3

Holiday Choral Concert

At 8 p.m. in King Concert Hall

Come and celebrate the upcoming holidays with Fredonia's annual choral concert. Admission is free.

12/7

The Riveters' Fall Show

At 6:30 p.m. in McEwen 209

Join the The Riveters for their annual fall show and support Chautauqua County Rural Ministry by donating a non-perishable food item. Admission is free.

From the Desk Of Brooke Atkins Social Media Manager

Life changed for me four years ago when I received the worst news that someone ever could.

I walked into my house after a normal day of high school and practice to my mom and dad crying at the kitchen table.

Without saying anything, my mom looked up at me with tear-filled eyes and told me my cousin had died.

Immediately my thoughts began to run wild. I could feel my stomach drop and my heart pound out of my chest.

I stood in the doorway to my house in shock for a few minutes before the reality of it set in, when my parents said we were going to drive to Fredonia and Brockport to tell my sisters in person.

The car ride consisted of silence, crying and phone calls.

I sat in the backseat thinking about how this happened and why.

In the days following, nothing began to get easier and answers were finally beginning to surface.

My cousin Jason had passed away from a blood clot that formed in his heart with no time to stop it and with no suffering. My cousin was 31 years old and was like a brother to me. He was always making jokes, helping people and smiling. Jason was the kind of person everyone wanted to be around and to be

friends with.

Four years have passed and time has not healed all my wounds caused from this event. I still think about him every day and how he will not be physically present for my college graduation or my wedding, and how he is no longer a phone call away.

But losing someone had put life into a new perspective for me.

I understand that time is not guaranteed and spending time with people is important, as is never leaving anything left unsaid.

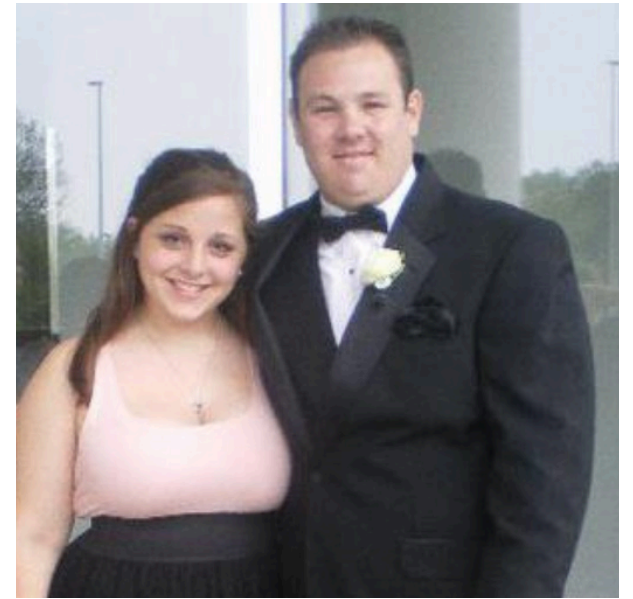
Life will never go back to the way it was, but you will find a new normal. I thought my family would never be the same and we would never be able to enjoy happy times again, but I found out that we would — it would just be different.

“Normal” to us now is talking about memories of Jason and appreciating the time we did get to spend with him.

“Normal” is realizing that, although he may not physically be here with us, he is there in spirit, laughing with us and watching over us.

I learned that I could make a positive change out of a horrible event.

Jason lived by the phrase of “No Bad Days,” meaning that there are never any bad days, just some that are better than others. Every day teaches us



Courtesy of Brooke Atkins

something new and we learn from that.

The pictures of us hanging on the wall take me back to a much happier time in life when he was here.

Since his passing, I find myself thinking about him a lot and how life throws these challenges in our path and how we have no option but to overcome them. No time will ever bring him back, but he lives on through the memories, and I am lucky enough to have had someone so special in my life.

Editorial: How to be smarter than fake news

Call it “fake news,” call it “lies,” call it anything you’d like. Stories about world leaders and presidents-to-be that are completely bogus are nothing new, but those still reeling from the presidential election may have you believing otherwise.

In the days immediately following Donald Trump’s surprise victory over Hillary Clinton, media outlets scrambled to figure out how they got it all so wrong. One theory argued that a substantial swath of voters were seriously misinformed and persuaded by fake articles masquerading as journalism thanks to their prevalence on Facebook. President Barack Obama has commented with concern, but it doesn’t appear that real steps are being taken to curb these viral imposters.

The American people should demand better from those who are willing to exploit partisan affiliations and everyday fears for a quick buck and some web traffic — but more importantly, the American people needs to demand better from the American people. Fake news is not the problem in and of itself; when we begin to believe it is when the real trouble begins.

If you’ve been on Facebook at all this past month, you’ve probably seen your fair share of fake news stories, and maybe you believed some of them. But before you click that “Share” button and launch into a tirade about Clinton moving to Canada, try following some of these guidelines to ensure you’re not just passing along outright lies.

1. Research is at your fingertips

If you’re old enough to vote, you’re more than old enough to perform a quick Google search and see if something is true or not. Corroborate what you’re reading with another source, or run the risk of taking a fake news site at its word.

2. Ask questions about the article

You don’t have to be a journalism major to see that a piece is lacking facts. Keep an eye out for direct quotations and better sources than “sources report.”

3. Check the outlet

You’ve heard of The Washington Post and CNN, but have you ever heard of “departed.co”? Probably not, because it’s a fake news site that was

created just a few months before the election, per the New York Times. That doesn’t mean that old outlets are always right or don’t have partisan problems, or that newer ones are illegitimate, but what’s important is that you do some research on where you’re getting the news from as well as what they’re saying.

4. Read other articles on the same site

Maybe you’ll see a story that sounds real, but you’re not sure about the source. Taking a deeper look into everything else they’re publishing will show you how strict their policy is on truth. Any fake news on the same site should make you call all of its integrity into question.

5. If it sounds too crazy to be true, then it often is

This is just a general rule of thumb, although it’s not always going to be right. After all, Trump becoming president was just a joke on The Simpsons 16 years ago, so somewhat strange things do sometimes happen.

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Verbatim

“If you were the Emperor of Fredonia, what would you change?”

Daniel Dittus, senior music education
“More places to park on campus.”



Justine Collins, junior musical theater

“I would have one of the dining halls on campus be 24-hour.”

Joseph Gugino, junior video production
“I’d re-open Erie Hall.”



Ian Wetzel, junior English

“I would decrease the price of meal plans and every student living on campus would have unlimited meals for Cranston.”

Corey McCrea, junior video production
“I would remove any unnecessary fee, like the print quota, [or] the student hall fees.”



Analysis: Can the spread offense work in the pros?

QUINTIN JAMES

Staff Writer

Football is a constantly changing game, especially at its highest level: the NFL. One of the ways the NFL is changing is the speed of the game and the importance of having a quarterback.

A newer style of offense has recently taken the NFL by storm. That would be the spread offense, which has been a college style offense for the past decade. The offense is fast-paced and is centered around lots of quick pass plays, option runs and other shotgun or pistol format variables that fit the team's players.

The spread offense found its way into the NFL in 2006 when the Carolina Panthers used then-running back DeAngelo Williams as the guy receiving the snaps as a quarterback would.

It became popular in 2008 when Miami Dolphins offensive coordinator Dan Henning introduced a "wildcat formation" where the running back would line up in a shotgun formation and take the snap like the quarterback, just as the Panthers did a couple years prior. After that, teams would start to copy the wildcat and change it up to their own style.

In college football, plays like that are common in the spread offense, because the players in the offense are athletes who can throw the ball, catch the ball and run after the catch. The reason that the spread offense is so popular in college is because it maximizes players' potentials on the field.

The problem with this offense was always that it didn't prepare the players for a pro-style offense. The pro-style offense is more traditional with a QB under center, a running back, a fullback, two wide receivers and a tight end. That has been the normal offense for years in the NFL, along with the West Coast offenses and Run and Gun style offenses that were like them.

When kids from spread offenses come to the league, they often struggle learning the new offense and their play declines because they don't know how to play another way besides in a spread. Now the NFL is starting to incorporate the spread offense into the league.

With many college coaches getting hired in the NFL, such as Chip Kelly, Jim Harbaugh and Pete Carroll, and other coaches using it as their own style like Rex Ryan, Andy Reid and more, the game is changing and the spread might be here to stay.

Rather than being forced to be a pocket passer, head coaches have made their offenses centered around a quarterback who can run the ball as well as he can throw the ball. Add multiple plays when two running backs are on the field together in motion, along with multiple wide receivers without tight ends, and the game becomes faster and more modern. Offenses are getting down the field in less time, stats are getting inflated and defenses aren't as dominant as they were.

Spread offenses can be different from each other. If a quarterback snaps the ball out of the pistol and shotgun and has multiple receivers, running backs and more to throw to, it's a spread offense.

The spread offense has been in the league for a few years now, but other than the Seattle Seahawks, no other team has used it effectively enough to win a championship. There's a lot of reasons to why that is, and many people argue that a good defense can shut down the spread offense.

If you have fast linebackers who can play man coverage while being good tacklers, it helps defend against short pass plays to receivers and quarterback or halfback runs through the holes of the defense.

If you can get to the quarterback and stop the run, it messes up everything a spread offense is about. Teams have worked to counter the holes in the spread offense but there's many variations to it.

Three examples of spread offenses are the Tennessee Titans, Kansas City Chiefs and Buffalo Bills.

The Tennessee Titans are an example of a spread offense that uses their running quarterback Marcus Mariota as both a passer and runner, while using two running backs in their offense alongside wide receivers and quick tight ends. Their offense is built around speed, quickness and running right at you, then

using their speed on play action passes.

The Kansas City Chiefs run a spread offense that doesn't use their quarterback as a runner as much, though Alex Smith is mobile. Kansas City uses a lot of smaller running backs and big nimble tight ends in short yardage plays that move the chains. They don't really have a true prototype number one wide receiver.

Finally, the Buffalo Bills are an example of a spread offense that is a ground and pound offense. It uses a lot of run plays out of the shotgun and pistol. The Bills have the best running quarterback in the league in Tyrod Taylor and a top five running back in the NFL, LeSean McCoy. They pound you on the ground and then go deep with their big play wide receiver: Sammy Watkins.

They lack other receivers and consistent tight end play, but they run a lot of read options and short pass plays with multiple running backs in the backfield. This offense is very hit or miss depending on the defense and how the game is going, but when the blocking is good, it is a very hard offense to stop.

Even though these new spread offenses aren't winning right away, they are making an impact and they are winning. All three teams sit at or above .500: Kansas City at 8-3, Buffalo at 6-5 and Tennessee at 6-6.

Last year, quarterback Cam Newton won the MVP and took the Carolina Panthers to the Super Bowl. The Panthers run a spread offense much like what Cam Newton ran in college at Auburn. The game is changing slowly, and soon, a lot more teams will have a spread formation in their playbook.

It's likely there is a very strong future for the spread offense in the NFL, because it's gaining so much steam and the success from it is hard to ignore. The game is more about passing the ball now, but being able to complement the passing game with a strong ground attack makes your team that much harder to beat. Look to see multiple teams start spreading the field and following the new trend.

Sports Snapshots



#7 Todd Schauss and #20 of Morrisville battle for the puck.
Angelina Dohre/Special to The Leader



#14 Kyle Jelinski faces #28 of Morrisville.
Angelina Dohre/Special to The Leader



#3 Sophomore Justice Nauden focuses on a shot.
Mary Ann Wiberg/Special to The Leader

Thanksgiving Break Sports Scoreboard

Men's Basketball

11/18/16

Hamburg, NY: Hilbert College Tip-Off Tourney
Mount Union 72
Fredonia(0-2) 64

11/19/16

Hamburg, NY: Hilbert College Tip-Off Tourney
Fredonia(1-2) 80
Cazenovia 69

11/22/16

Fredonia, NY
Fredonia(2-2) 88
Medaille College 52

Women's Basketball

11/20/16

Fredonia, NY
Fredonia(2-0) 82
Medaille College 52

11/22/16

Hamburg, NY
Hilbert 81
Fredonia(3-0) 86

11/26/16

Bradford, PA
Univ. of Pittsburgh at Bradford 68
Fredonia(4-0) 77

Men's Hockey

11/18/16

Fredonia, NY
Fredonia (2-3-1) 3
Morrisville State 4

11/19/16

Morrisville, NY
Morrisville State 2
Fredonia(3-3-1) 6



#23 Junior Jacque Law looks for her next move.
Mary Ann Wiberg/Special to The Leader

Students recover from Thanksgiving dinner conversations

D. ZBORNAK
Staff Lampoonist

While getting back into the swing of their normal schedules, many students are recounting their experiences with their families from Thanksgiving Break. While not ideal in everyday life, one might say the romanticism of opposing viewpoints and trivial bickering has become a beloved tradition of American family gatherings.

Short home vacations are often a humorous reminder to students that where they are now may be a little different from where they came from.

One student laughingly described an incident like this: “When I got home for Thanksgiving, my dad had already broken out the Confederate flag table cloth. It’s a treasured family heirloom that I may have forgotten about during my time away.”

A classic among uncomfortable dinner table conversations for college students is the dreaded “So what are your plans for after graduation?” Few questions make a 20-something’s anxiety peak quite like it, yet it’s the most popular way to interrogate young adults at the dinner table.

Student Bob Spergerz described a short chat he had over dinner: “The whole family was gathered around the table eating like kings. It was glorious. Then all of a sudden, my aunt asked if I had any post-grad jobs lined up. So, of course, I told her, ‘No, but only because I made it into medical school.’ That’s a total lie, but she doesn’t need to know that.”

It’s true that holiday gatherings can be fertile soil for awkwardness, but it seems that the abundant food on Thanksgiving puts all of the disagreements at bay. It is perhaps the one day where everyone shares a common goal, specifically to test the strength of their waistbands.

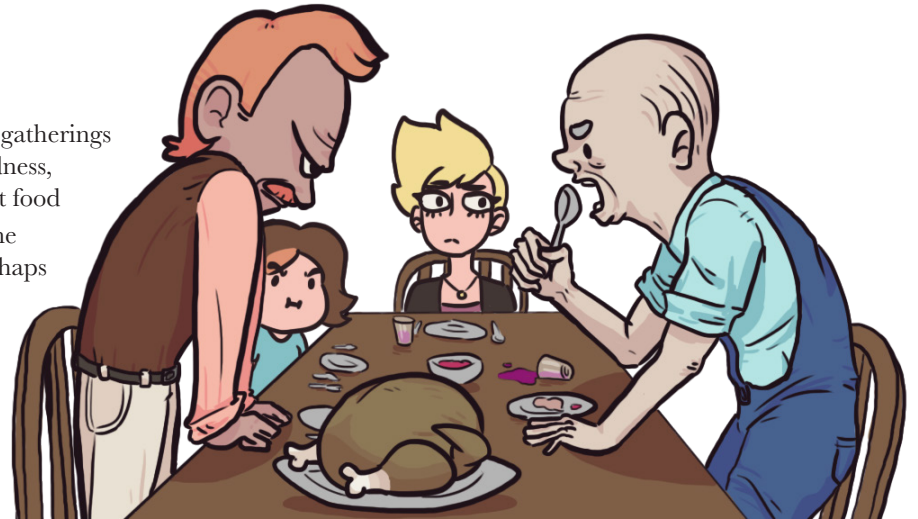
Student athlete Jim Soxx couldn’t have agreed more. “I come from a big family where everybody cooks spectacular food.

Thanksgiving is where we compete for dominance over the remote control by seeing who can eat the most. I was in such a gluttonous trance that I almost didn’t see the ‘Make Pro Wrestling Real Again’ inscription written in cranberry sauce on the turkey.”

While these Thanksgiving recaps are relatable to most college students, perhaps the most awkward story came from graduating senior Ginger Vitas.

“At first, everything was great. I noticed that everyone in my family was being particularly nice and loving to me. This oddly special treatment continued but hey, who was I to complain?”

Vitas went on to explain that once she was happily satiated she left to take a nap. The food coma was hitting her hard, so she said goodnight to her



Dan Salazar/Staff Illustrator

family. To her confusion, they all had a worried look about them but didn’t say a word. It was then that Vitas realized her bed was missing from her room. In fact, the room was mid-renovation and all of her things were packed away in the attic. It was then that her parents broke the news to her. They believed she needed a little help moving out of the house once she graduated. Also, her uncle was temporarily unemployed and would be staying in her old room.

These students are proof that, sometimes, the things that bring us together as family are the memories we wish we never needed to make. Nevertheless, the uncomfortable awkwardness of family gatherings is like the brandy in the punchbowl: necessary, but in limited quantities.

States with legal marijuana mysteriously covered in clouds

JACLYN SPIEZIA
Special to the Lampoon

Recent data has shown that Alaska, California, Colorado, Maine, Massachusetts, Nevada, Oregon and Washington all cannot be seen from outer space. A researcher has found that smoke clouds are causing these states to be unseen.

Even with our advanced technology, the clouds are too thick to see through, making these states seemingly invisible.

What do all of these states have in common? As of Nov. 9, all of these states have legalized the use of both recreational and medical marijuana.

Researchers believe that the high usage of marijuana is clouding the atmosphere over these states.

With concern for the environment, Sen. Oldman said, “We must make marijuana usage illegal again!” However, no studies have proven that clouds are harmful to the environment or that they have even caused any problems other than visibility. In fact, one research study has found that these smoke clouds are actually protecting our deteriorating atmosphere. Nitrogen, water vapor, ozone, carbon dioxide and oxygen currently make up the atmosphere that protects Earth.

People like Sen. Oldman believe that marijuana smoke is harming the atmosphere, while other research has found it may be helping it. Many people that enjoy recreational marijuana fear that these

states will make marijuana illegal if the smoke is proven to have a bad effect on the environment.

A questionnaire was given to people in the states in which pot was legalized. One eccentric man, Gary Gieser, from Maine said, “We are all gonna die! All drugs are bad! The government wants us to take drugs! It’s a trap! Especially those legal ones like vitamins.”

Mary Wuna, from Nevada said, “I think the smoke from pot will help the environment.” A teen from Colorado said, “Frankly, I don’t care about the environment. I just want weed.”

It is still unclear what effect, if any, the smoke will have on the populace of these states, as phone lines have been jammed for days with outgoing calls to pizza restaurants.

Biden plans White House traps for Trump

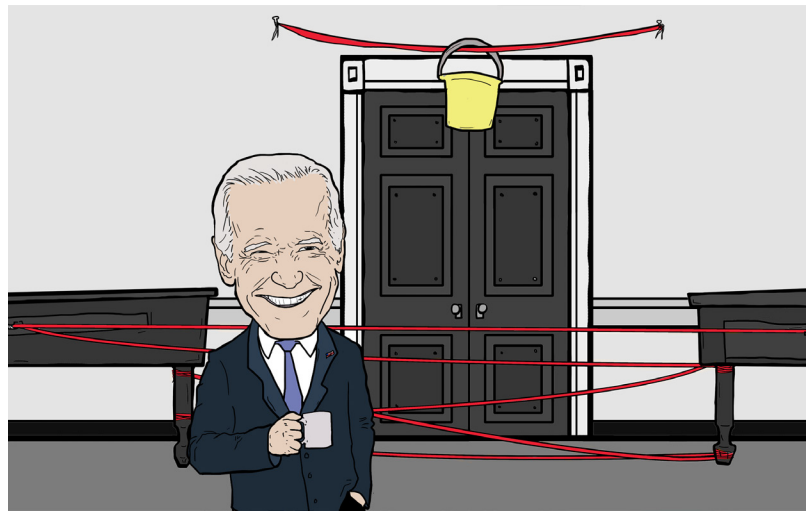
EMMA PATTERSON

Staff Lampoonist

After the nightmarish circus that was this year's presidential election, many Americans feel powerless in the face of the looming Trump administration. While some people have taken to the streets in protest, one high-ranking White House official has a different kind of protest in mind.

"Have you ever seen 'Home Alone'?" Vice President Joe Biden asked us when we arrived at the White House for his interview. In an effort to remain "professional" — something Biden struggles with on a daily basis — yet clear in his dislike of Donald Trump, Biden has constructed a set of semi-fatal booby traps around the White House as a "silent protest" of President-elect Trump. Just call him Kevin McCallister.

"Call me Kevin McCallister," he said himself, chuckling and pointing at various objects for unknown reasons as he led us to the aptly-named "Secret Plan Room." After being seated, Biden turned on the sole light in the room, a large lamp hanging from the low ceiling, and directed it on what looked like the treasure map from the back of a Cap'n Crunch cereal box. "Let's do this, you filthy animals," he whispered. We'd be lying if we didn't admit we were a little freaked out.



Leslie Martinez-Garcia/Staff Illustrator

What followed was an eight-hour briefing of all of the booby traps Biden has constructed around the White House.

"We're talking trip-lines, buckets of paint, live chickens and gallons of lighter fluid," Biden said as eyes teared with nostalgia. "I even dug out my childhood marbles. I won't want them anymore after what I've got planned for them, but it's worth the sacrifice."

We obviously were not permitted to give

specifics concerning the nature of Biden's booby traps; he decided to allow Trump himself to do that around two months from now at 3 a.m. on Twitter. But he did let us in on a little secret: "I'm not the only one involved in Operation Orange-Face," he said, winking slyly. "Let's just say, there's a certain little head-honcho who was very eager to sign-off on the use of live animals, particularly of the bear variety."

When asked how the secret service was feeling about his elaborate plans, Biden laughed, threw a random football at the wall and said, "They were a little unsure how the whole 'superglue' thing would work out, especially considering the fake blood and Rosie O'Donnell impersonator, but once one of them suggested duct tape instead, it all worked out."

At the close of the interview, we had one more question for Biden: What, exactly, was he hoping these hijinks would accomplish?

"A brief moment of widespread peace. I think that, right now, what Americans need the most is a good laugh." Before turning to leave, however, Biden grinned and said, "And if Donald Trump needs something, it's a daily kick in the crotch by a Rosie O'Donnell impersonator."

Obama to teach "Presidenting 101" for president-elects

ALBERTO GONZALEZ

Special to the Lampoon

The reality of the Trump presidency is starting to sink in, and for many, it is bleak. In an effort to show that things are not as bad as they might seem, Obama has reached out to the slowly-forming Trump administration to help the country transition from one presidency to the next.

Obama set up a meeting with Trump in an effort to help steer things in a positive direction. Although Obama had hoped that his meeting with Trump would instill some confidence in his hopes for our country's future, it did quite the opposite.

Trump's indecisiveness and lack of contingency in positions had reminded Obama of that of a child. After realizing a fully grown child has just been elected to the Oval Office, Obama decided to take him by his baby hands and teach him the only way he knows how.

A classroom has been set up inside of the Oval Office in an attempt to give Trump a last-second crash-course into the job to which he has just been elected. To prepare for the meeting, Obama consulted with a real elementary school teacher, and together they came up with a lesson plan.

A quick look inside his lesson plan shows such intricate policies broken down as simply as possible. These plans include "the Middle East: the hot stove of the world — just don't touch it!" and "Healthcare for winners: how letting millions of citizens keep their insurance can actually make you seem like MORE of a winner."

The effects of this classroom can already be seen by looking at the statements that Trump has made since becoming president-elect. Trump seemingly has pivoted 180 degrees on the majority of policies that he has been campaigning on. At this rate, by the time that Trump is inaugurated, there is a good chance that

Obama could be in store for a de facto third term.

A problem that was encountered during the first of what hopefully becomes many lessons was that, after about a half an hour, Trump was exceptionally tired. Unfortunately President Obama had not accounted for this aspect of teaching a man-child, and Trump went for night-night times for the rest of the meeting, taking an hour long naptime on the floor of the Oval Office.

In the battle of turning a child into someone ready to be leader of the free world, Obama has his work cut out for him, but if there was one man for the job, it would be him. All we can hope is that the next time that another transition meeting occurs, Trump has taken a long nap beforehand, has a full tummy and isn't in a grumpy mood.



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Horoscopes

PATRICK BENNETT
Staff Lamponist



You accidentally smoked a cigarette laced with PCP this weekend. Your life is totally ruined but at least “Survivor: Millennials Vs. Gen X” exists.

Aries



You were married to a mother of four in a line for a tablet on Black Friday. Just tell your curious friends that “it’s complicated.”

Taurus



You might be in luck this week, Gemini. You’ll be able to actually avoid brawling in Maria’s Pizza. What’s your secret?

Gemini



Your girlfriend will text you “Love you!” for the first time. It’s a shame she’ll clarify by saying, “My bad, that was meant for my Dad. By the way, I want to break up.”

Cancer



Your roommate will finish the rest of your milk this week. When this event occurs, your inclination will be to scrub the toilet with their toothbrush. Do it. Live a little.

Leo



You’ll write something so profound on the cubby walls in the library that someone else will have no choice but to draw a weird looking penis over it.

Virgo



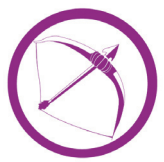
You’ll wake up in your dorm with a creepy white creature hovering over your bed. That’s not a demon. That’s Mike Pence.

Libra



You’ve been permanently banned from BJ’s. Not only did you bring your own drinks, you brought your incontinent dog. That fake I.D. for your pup was so believable too!

Scorpio



This week you’ll slowly transition into a man named “Jesse.” Jesse likes to slick his blonde mullet back and lick his lips in the mirror a lot. This is your new life.

Sagittarius



That cute guy who works at Taco Bell will start to notice you this week. Surely you’ll be lavished with cuddles and T9-induced diarrhea.

Capricorn



Roses are red. Violets are blue. Most Aquariuses are heartless, what else is new?

Aquarius



Congratulations on your switch from a plastic water bottle to an eco-friendly water bottle. You’ve saved planet Earth. You’re so attractive as well! Can we take you out on a date?!

Pisces



Dan McCormick and Joe Morganti of Kill The Clock perform.
Courtney Cutter/Special to The Leader



#23 Junior Jacque Law goes up for a shot to beat the shot clock.
Mary Ann Wiberg/Special to The Leader



Students march around campus protesting President-elect Donald Trump.
Bethany Clancy/Staff Photographer



The cast of "The Man Who Came to Dinner" rehearses the beginning of act one.
Corey Maher/Photo Editor



Tom Balbierz, RJ DeMarco, Jonah Wrest and Tanner DeMarco of Rescue Dawn perform.
Courtney Cutter/Special to The Leader