

# THE LEADER

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# The Leader

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## University seeks to "right-size" for right service

**JACOB SANTOS**  
Special to The Leader

Within the last few years, the number of students enrolled at SUNY Fredonia has been in decline. A decrease in enrollment has resulted to a smaller budget given by New York state. The 2016-2017 budget was reduced by \$1.4 million in comparison to its budget prior. President Virginia Horvath has initiated a plan in response to these shrinking numbers called "right-serving, right-sizing," encouraging the college's divisions to bring creative new ideas to the way they operate.

One primary reason Fredonia is facing enrollment issues is due to the smaller high school population within the area.

"In western New York, the high school population is down 15 to 26 percent, depending on the county," said Horvath. "Its largest enrollment of high schoolers was in 2009, which was also the same time SUNY Fredonia had its largest student enrollment. There is a large correlation."

The right-serving, right-sizing plan challenges administrators to bring questions and ideas to fulfill Fredonia's needs with the same or fewer dollars, while meeting the same standards for the students.

For certain academic programs, initiatives have been made to review its curriculum to better serve its students. A

few programs have a low enrollment rate, causing initiatives to promote the study. If needed, the academic program can come to a close or merge with another academic study.

The University is also taking the initiative to reimagine how it recruits new students. Traditionally, colleges and universities had a narrowed focus to recruit high school seniors, while lacking a focus on transfer students and college graduates. Furthermore, it is critical to have retention on the students already attending, to ensure their needs and capabilities to obtain a bachelor's degree.

One way Fredonia is changing its recruitment is by revamping its open house, by having the program allow students to explore the college and visit a classroom session.

"The revamping of the college exploration gives [students] a chance to experience college in a day," said Cedric Howard, the vice president for student affairs, "giving a better understanding what it means to come to Fredonia, rather than a perception or thought they had prior."

The importance of higher education is being challenged, with an increased demand for free tuition paid through taxes, as well as questionable concern if pursuing a degree is truly beneficial. Institutions, such as SUNY Fredonia, are in need to take on a new approach to maintain their relevance and assistance to fulfill professional success.



Ray Stewart conducts the first segment of the Carl Mazzio tribute concert.  
Corey Maher/Photo Editor

# Neal returns to lecture on activism and blackness in the digital age

**CAMRY DEAN**  
Staff Writer

After receiving his B.A. and M.A. in English from Fredonia in 1987 and 1993, alumnus Mark Anthony Neal returned to campus earlier this week to discuss black culture, activism and social media as a part of the English Department's Writers@Work program.

During his two-day residency at Fredonia, Neal held both public discussions and writing workshops on Feb. 19 and 20.

Receiving his Ph.D. from SUNY Buffalo in 1996, Neal became a professor of African and African-American Studies at Duke University. As an activist, writer and frequent NPR commentator, Neal has also written several books that highlight black masculinity and black popular culture.

"[Neal] has become a pioneer in black Twitter, in social media and in connecting social media and social justice," Bruce Simon, chair of the English Department said. "Mark ought to be considered in the legacy of Frederick Douglass, W.E.B. Du Bois and Langston Hughes. His work, which is still developing, I trust is going to have as large a social, cultural and political influence by the end of his career as these amazing black male intellectuals of past."

On Feb. 19, Neal held a public talk titled "Will You (Tweet) About Me?: In the Afterlife of Digital Blackness". The talk, which was a nod to Kendrick Lamar's "Sing About Me, I'm Dying of Thirst," discussed the memorialization of black humanity through pop culture and social media.

"I consider myself a digital evangelist, and that has nothing to do with religion because I'm not particularly religious," Neal said. "But I do like to talk about the religion of digital culture and digital technology."

Neal began exploring blackness in the digital realm by discussing Frederick Douglass as one of the most photographed individuals of the 19th century, and asked the audience what would happen if he had an Instagram.

"In a world in which black folks were regularly dehumanized, [Douglass] was committed to taking portraits of himself as a counterbalance to the inhumanity that blackness generally represented," Neal said. "He wanted to make sure his image served as an imagine of black humanity."

From Douglass to more recent examples such as P. Diddy and Faith Evans using the melody of the traditional black Christian hymn "I'll Fly Away" in their hit song "I'll Be Missing You" as a memorial for the late Notorious B.I.G, the memorialization of blackness has been happening for years.

Another focus of Neal's talks was the idea of memorializing black lives lost and injustices they faced.

"There are two signature moments in thinking about the emergence of blackness in the digital realm," Neal said. "They both occur in the winter and the spring of 1991."

In 1991, 15-year-old Latasha Harlins was shot and killed in Los Angeles by Korean American store owner, Soon Ja Du. After an altercation in the store over the allegations of Harlin's stealing a bottle of orange juice, Du shot Harlins in the back as she tried to leave.

The jury found Du guilty and recommended the maximum sentence of 16 years but the judge, Joyce Karlin, did not accept this and instead sentenced her to five years of probation and community service.

Tupac Shakur mentioned the death of Harlin's in multiple songs throughout his career including "Something 2 Die 4 (Interlude)," "White Man's World" and even wrote a song dedicated to her, "Keep Ya Head Up." "Menace II Society," a 1993 film that revolves around life in the projects of Los Angeles in the 1990s, opens with a scene that was directly inspired by the incident.

Almost two weeks prior to the death of Harlins, the beating of handcuffed motorist Rodney King by Los Angeles Police Department officers was caught on tape by George Holliday.

"For many black folks, this was the first time it was verifiable proof



Mark Anthony Neal  
Courtesy of Marketing and Communications

of the type of violence they face in the context of police brutality," Neal said. "It also created a different kind of moment that with the advent of these new technologies, that suddenly the trauma of these beatings, and in some cases death, become a viral part of the everyday experience, particularly in the digital realm."

Since the Rodney King beating, injustices, sometimes even deaths, have been caught on camera. In 2014, Eric Garner was killed by an illegal chokehold by an NYPD officer in Staten Island in the middle of the sidewalk for allegedly selling cigarettes. The introduction of digital means has exposed instances of police brutality like these to the masses.

On Feb. 20, Dr. Neal held another lecture titled, "Teaching Social Justice from the Analog to the Digital Era" which discussed the relationship between social justice and social media.

According to Neal, the idea of "black social media" is not a new concept. Prior to the emancipation of slavery, singing and relaying a particular field song often passed messages between slaves. In 1960, the Greensboro Four, Joseph McNeil, Franklin McCain, Ezell Blair Jr., and David Richmond,

orchestrated a sit-in in a racially segregated diner in South Carolina. They had used mimeograph machines to plan the peaceful protest.

Now, the idea of "hashtag politics" has surfaced on social media, particularly Twitter.

After the death of Michael Brown by Officer Darren Wilson in 2015, the media decided to use unflattering pictures in attempt to criminalize the victim although his high school graduation photo was being widely circulated.

"There's always this feeling, this suspicion, that the news and media is much more interested in presenting the worst aspect of ourselves," Neal said. This pattern by the media inspired a hashtag, "#IfTheyGunnedMeDown" which Twitter users used to compare "photos of their best selves and photos of how they thought the media would depict them if they were killed like Mike Brown," said Neal.

"[The story of Michael Brown] moved the way that it did because of the way young folks use social media in its efforts to do social justice."

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## Horvath appointed co-chair of economic council by Cuomo

**DAN ORZECOWSKI**

Staff Writer

President Virginia Horvath was appointed to co-chair the Western New York Regional Economic Development Council (REDC) by Gov. Andrew Cuomo on Feb. 10.

Having been on the REDC since 2015, Horvath will now lead the council with co-chair Jeff Belt, president of SolEpoxy, Inc.

"I've enjoyed working with Dr. Horvath. She helped us present our regional progress report in Albany this past autumn. She's going to be an outstanding and energizing co-chair," said Belt.

Since 2011, New York's 10 regional councils have been developing long-term economic plans for their regions. Each council is led by two chairs: a university representative and a business leader. Councils are responsible for allocating money to state projects.

The regional councils were established by Cuomo in an effort to create a bottom-up approach to job investment and economic growth. Rather than Albany reviewing state funding applications from all over the state, the REDC receives and prioritizes its region's requests.

In 2012, Cuomo announced the launch for the Buffalo Billion initiative. The state allocated \$1 billion dollars to help establish projects like the Better Buffalo Fund, Northland Avenue Corridor and Outer Harbor State Park. The Buffalo Billion is expected to mimic Albany's successful rise in becoming a world leader in advanced manufacturing.

As the new co-chair, Horvath said that she is excited about being more involved in the state funding approval process.

"I can help our community compete for [state funding], and I can make sure that the funding priorities for western New York extend to our county, Cattaraugus and Allegany counties as

well," she said.

Horvath explained that the Central Connection program that promotes tourism to Dunkirk and Fredonia is an example of REDC funding.

"A lot of our legislators are from down state, so they don't really think about our region as something that can be done with," Horvath said. "But people are looking at the transformation in Buffalo and saying, 'Wow, that's been amazing' and people are realizing what that kind of investment can do."

Horvath considers SUNY Fredonia to be an "economic driver" because of its employment and the goods and services it provides. She believes that the REDC will help persuade students into staying in western New York.

The REDC is far from the only board where Horvath represents Fredonia. She also serves on the board of directors for the high school she attended, Brooks Memorial Hospital, the Girl Scouts of Western New York, the Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce, the Dunkirk Salvation Army and the Fredonia Opera House.

Horvath understands that she's greatly involved in external activity, but she insisted that this is another opportunity to advertise and advocate for Fredonia.

"People don't know that a lot of my time is spent on meetings off campus and promoting the campus and making sure that our programs are relevant," said Horvath.

"[Fredonia] is a state university of New York, so I'd like to give back to the state. I feel that we have a role to play by giving back to the state and helping with economic development."

Belt said Horvath is "one of our most involved members" and that he looks forward "to this new partnership as the council investment, creates jobs and leverages the private sector in our five-county region."

# Democracy 101 program puts civic debates in context

ANGELINA DOHRE

Special to The Leader

Campus faculty are offering insight on current topics in the news. Through weekly “Democracy 101” talks in the garden area of Reed Library, various faculty members will provide information to students, staff, other faculty and Fredonia residents on issues presented in the media, particularly politics.

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Terry Brown came up with the program, and Director of the Professional Development Center Dawn Eckenrode coordinated it.

Brown brought the idea of Democracy 101 to life after spending a few months reflecting what role universities play in a time of turmoil.

“I’ve never seen such turmoil and division in our country as I’m seeing now,” she said. “I firmly believe that universities have a role to model what respectful civic discourse looks like, and we also have a role in helping people understand the news, to put it in context and to understand history.”

Brown decided that by taking the expertise of the faculty that is shared

within the classroom and sharing it more broadly through civic discussions, the University would be fulfilling its role.

“[The program is] an immediate response to a situation that I think is urgent in our country,” she said. “Our faculty have stepped up and are offering basic lessons to help us understand today’s news.”

When it comes to the talks within the program, Brown stressed that the topics being discussed are not about choosing one side of the debate or the other.

“This program is about getting basic information to be informed so that we can formulate our opinion,” she said. “Debates are valuable but that would be something separate from what this is.”

The first talk, titled “Is there a limit to presidential power?,” was held on Feb. 14 and was presented by associate professor Jonathan Chausovsky of the Politics and International Affairs Department. During the hour-long session, Chausovsky covered basic constitutional design, the three branches of government (specifically the executive branch) and certain powers and constraints of the president.

Freshman psychology major Karina



Jonathan Chausovsky presents in Reed Library on the limits of presidential power.  
Andrew Camera/Staff Photographer

Lopez attended the talk because of her belief that political discussion is important. “I love politics, and it’s important to know who has power and how the system exactly works,” she said. “If I’m not very busy then I will attend more of these because these are very interesting topics and they are now mass culture.”

Other talks in the series include “Is Putin a war criminal?,” presented on Feb. 21 by history professor John Staples, and “Do public schools matter?” which will be presented on Feb. 28 by Curriculum and Instruction Department

Chair Robert Dahlgren, but there are several more that will follow, according to Brown.

Future topics are expected to include bathroom bills, the history of the Environmental Protection Agency, terrorism, fake news and more.

Brown believes the Democracy 101 program will continue until it has run out of issues to cover. “It feels like we’re living in a political pinball machine where you don’t know where the issue of the day is going to be,” she said. “As long as people keep coming and faculty have something to say, we will continue this.”

## Who owns your email account?

JAMES LILLIN

Staff Writer

Student usage of FredMail varies, with some students checking it repeatedly throughout the day, while some students are happy to let it lie dormant for days on end. Even students who use the service habitually, however, seem to have several misunderstandings about the service, especially in regards to what happens to the account after graduation.

In fact, email accounts may occasionally be deleted in the case of students who choose to drop out or transfer schools, although many former Fredonians still find some use in occasionally checking FredMail.

“I don’t check FredMail as often now,” said former sophomore theatre major Carolyn Zobel, who transferred to the

University at Buffalo this semester to participate in their BFA acting program. “I do still sometimes go on to look at departmental news, or my friends’ projects or audition information, if it’s being sent department-wide.”

Many students seem to hold the belief that their accounts will be terminated after graduation, but according to the Computer and Network Usage Policy held by the University, students will get to keep their emails indefinitely as long as they graduate.

The Usage Policy states that “Email accounts are provided to students and continued when they reach alumni status.”

Though many students transfer over to personal accounts after graduation, some, like former audio/

radio production, applied music and journalism major Carl Lam find use for FredMail long after graduation.

“After graduation, I used my Fredonia email address regularly for over a year before I started using a different email address,” said Lam. “Many of my classmates from the Class of 2014 still use their Fredonia email addresses to this day.”

Just because graduating students get to keep their email, however, doesn’t mean they own it, with Fredonia claiming sole ownership of all email accounts under its domain.

The Usage Policy states that “Under certain circumstances it may be necessary for the Information Technology Services staff or other appropriate university officials to access email files to maintain the system and to investigate security or abuse incidents or violations of other institutional policies,” but that “such

access will be on an as-needed basis and any email accessed will be disclosed only to those individuals with a need to know or as required by law.”

At the end of the day, it may be for the best that students transfer over to their own personal email accounts, as the Usage Policy also states that “while incidental non-business personal use of email is acceptable, conducting business for profit using university resources is forbidden,” a broad ban on email usage that students could be found in violation of if they lean too heavily on their Fredonia email to correspond with prospective companies, or as a platform to launch personal projects with a potential for profit.

Students with further questions about the Computer and Network Usage Policy are encouraged to visit <http://home.fredonia.edu/its/computer-network-policy> for the complete text.

# Police Blotters

## UNIVERSITY

### Monday, Feb. 13, 2017

1:58 a.m. Bridget M. Catania, age 20, was charged with unlawful possession of marijuana. She was issued an appearance ticket.

11:04 a.m. A student filed a complaint saying they were being harassed by a fellow student at the Stadium bus stop. A report was filed.

### Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2017

12:13 a.m. Evan L. Collins, age 25, was charged with unlawful possession of marijuana. He was issued an appearance ticket.

3:03 p.m. Mathew C. Head, age 22, was charged with unlawful possession of marijuana after a traffic stop. He was issued an appearance ticket.

9:35 p.m. Routian Zhang, age 24, was arrested for driving with a suspended license after failing to stop at a red light. The license plates were taken and a report was filed.

### Friday, Feb. 17, 2017

3:55 p.m. Michael J. Clark, age 19, was charged with unlawful possession of marijuana after a traffic stop when Clark allegedly failed to stop at a stop sign and was operating the vehicle while using his cellphone. He was issued an appearance ticket.

### Saturday, Feb. 18, 2017

5:20 p.m. The University Police Department was asked to assist the Fredonia Police Department break up a party on White Street.

### Sunday, Feb. 19, 2017

2:37 a.m. Derek B. Hall, age 18, was charged with unlawful possession of marijuana. He was issued an appearance ticket.

3:30 a.m. Joseph Brautison, age 19, was charged with possession of a fictitious license.

3:30 a.m. Spencer Bright, age 18, was charged with possession of a fictitious license.

## FREDONIA

### Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2017

Christopher Miller, age 19, was arrested for criminal possession of a firearm, menacing in the second degree and criminal mischief in the third degree.

### Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2017

12:52 a.m. Zachary Steven Earle, age 21, was charged with disorderly conduct. He was held.

2:03 a.m. Jason L. Lozada, age 30, was charged with disorderly conduct, resisting arrest and obstructing governmental administration.

Desean L. Cruz, age 21, was charged with harassment in the second degree.

Shaine M. James, age 21, was charged with harassment in the second degree.

### Friday, Feb. 17, 2017

11:35 p.m. Nicholas J. Polosky, age 21, was charged with littering and an open container. Bail was set at \$50.

### Saturday, Feb. 18, 2017

2:08 a.m. Brittany E. Collins, age 20, was charged with disorderly conduct. She was issued an appearance ticket.

2:08 a.m. Yamilex Colon, age 20, was charged with disorderly conduct. She was issued an appearance ticket.

2:08 a.m. Shanessa M. Escobar, age 24, was charged with disorderly conduct, resisting arrest, and harassment in the 2nd degree. Bail was set at \$500 bail.

*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.*

## Attention Juniors!

**Alma Mater Society, Fredonia's highest non-academic Honor Society is now accepting applications!**

If you are a Junior (by credits), or first semester Senior (by academic acceleration) and you have made outstanding non-academic contributions to SUNY Fredonia, you are eligible to apply for induction into the society.

**Please pick up an application at the S.A. office  
G-107 Williams Center.**

**For further information: please contact Kathy Carrus (S.A. Office) at: [Kathleen.carrus@fredonia.edu](mailto:Kathleen.carrus@fredonia.edu) or call 673-3381**

**Applications will be accepted from:  
Feb. 20, 2017-Mar. 10, 2017 in the Student Association Office (located in the Williams Center).**

# Kushner play 'The Illusion' to make for magic and mystery

KRISTOFER HARRIS

Staff Writer

This upcoming weekend, members of the campus and community can witness the mysterious "The Illusion," a play produced by the Department of Theatre and Dance as part of the Walter Gloor Mainstage Series.

The play is the work of American playwright and screenwriter Tony Kushner, which is adapted from the 17th century play "L'Illusion Comique" by Pierre Corneille. Kushner's other works include Academy Award-nominated films such as 2005's "Munich" and 2012's "Lincoln," starring Daniel Day-Lewis. In "The Illusion" Fredonia students will take on the words of Kushner with his powerful and contemporary writing style.

Directed by professor Jessica Hillman-McCord, "The Illusion" tells the story of Pridamant, a lawyer of Avignon who now seeks the whereabouts of his son who left home many years ago. For this mission, Pridamant seeks the help of the sorceress Alcandre. Alcandre displays the fate of the lawyer's son in a series of illusions, hence the name of the show. With the nature of illusions, audience will be constantly misdirected with its meta storytelling style.

James T. Lillin, a senior BFA acting, English and women and gender's study major who plays Pridamant, explained the character and the situation he is in. (Editor's Note: Lillin is a Staff Writer for The Leader.)

"Pridamant has a dark, painful past in which he almost destroyed his only child, and now seeks redemption. He begs Alcandre to help him find his son, whom he has been searching for for years, and gets more than he bargains for," said Lillin.

Taking place within the Rockefeller Arts Center's Bartlett Theater, showgoers will be fully engrossed in the play as it takes place in a black box setting. The overall set features huge stone constructions with characters wearing ornate 17th century costumes.

Students came in a week early during the winter to prepare for the show, beginning with simple table readings and then going into blocking rehearsals. Amy Gruttadauria, a junior theatre arts and audio radio production major and stage manager of the play, found the of putting the show together challenging yet extremely satisfying.

"While putting the show together I usually feel pretty stressed, but it's the good productive kind of stress that lets me do my best work. It is always rewarding to see the show at its best, and I'm here to make sure it can be that way," says Gruttadauria.

Shawn Sprankle, a senior BA theatre arts major, serves as the dramaturg of the show, a literary editor on the staff of the production who consults with authors and edits texts. Sprankle feels that viewer will be able to connect to some of the ideas displayed in the play.

"The show's main characters are predominantly caught up in a web of manipulating one another to achieve their own desired end, whether that be realistic or not. Social media and the inter-connectivity of the modern world produces a very similar experience that just about anyone can relate to," Sprankle said.



Lillin added that the show could be appreciated by audiences for any number of reasons. "The show is hilarious, tragic and powerful all at once. It deals with universal themes of love, loss, redemption and fatherhood. Audiences can expect to laugh, cry and leave blown away by the magic and poignancy of the show."

"The Illusion" has two runs in the Bartlett Theatre. The first run is Feb. 24 and 25 at 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 26 at 2 p.m. The second run goes from March 2-4 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets can be picked up at the ticket office and are \$12 for students and \$20 for the general public.

Graphic by Kara Cekuta/Special to The Leader

# Rhythm and Brews is back again

BETHANY CLANCY

Staff Writer

What's a better way to spend your Saturday morning after a long night out with friends than being in the on-campus Tim Hortons? Being in the Tim Hortons when Rhythm and Brews is going on. Set up by the Music Industry Club, three musical acts play acoustically every so often on Saturdays at noon.

Matt and Alex, an R&B duo, started off the show. They did two covers and two original songs which they opened up about. Singer Matt Usack had no problem getting personal and sharing what his songs were about. The first original

was a heartfelt flashback on how he and his best friend used to hang out before his friend began battling AIDS. They covered Bill Withers' "Ain't No Sunshine" which had everybody bopping along, even if they were just getting their morning coffee. They closed out their four-song set with a more uplifting original. When introducing it, Usack said that, "You can't really grasp the meaning of this song, it's hard to explain, it's about doing what you want to do and overall being satisfied with the life you live."

With their catchy rhythms and memorable lyrics, Matt and Alex had everyone feeling good by the end of their

set. More of Matt's original music can be listened to at MattUsackMusic on SoundCloud.

The second act up was a group that went by Johnny and the Man Kids. The influence from The White Stripes and The Strokes was obvious in their original songs, so much that they covered The White Stripes' "Fell In Love With A Girl" followed by "Still Together" by Mac DeMarco. The three original songs they performed were catchy with the indie/alternative vibe they had going on. The last song they played, "I'm Just A Man" was just released and is on Spotify.

Closing out this week's Rhythm and Brews was John Vaughan of Kill The

Clock. His first song was all instrumental, featuring him playing around with backbeats. He mentioned how much he loved the American Football tuning for his guitar and specifically wrote the second song he played in that band's tuning.

He followed up with a song he wrote with Mike Tomasulo for their band JVX called "Love You Still." After fumbling around for a few minutes on figuring out what song to cover, he switched it up and played "Placeholder" by The Story So Far. Vaughan ended his set with an original song he wrote about having a very fun time in Wegmans and using the chorus of Blink-182's "First Date" to finish it off.

All three acts were different from one another but still made for a great Rhythm and Brews.



# Day at Fredonia

## SHENECA SHARPE

Staff Writer

V-Day presented another spectacular performance of Eve Ensler's "Vagina Monologues." With 19 years of monologues under its belt, V-Day continued to spread awareness of domestic violence and sexual assault.

All proceeds went to the Salvation Army ANEW Center located in Jamestown which continues to support women who are the survivors of domestic and sexual violence or women who continue to experience such tragedies. Many community businesses such as Facial Expression Day Spa and Red Bird Tattoo sponsored the event. Student clubs own such as STEPS and FredASSIST both had tables giving out

informational pamphlets, condoms and things to support sexual education and health.

The Vagina Monologues feature the stories of women all over the world in hopes of inspiring other women to share their own. With 29 students reciting the monologues and with Zoe Kiriazis acting as Vagina Monologues creator Eve Ensler, it was a night filled with laughs, tears and hopefully some open minds. *(Editor's Note: Kiriazis is a Staff Writer for The Leader.)*

"The Vagina Monologues is important for Fredonia because it is still relevant even 20 years later. 1 in 5 women and 1 in 7 men will be raped in their lifetime. That's scary. And we have to talk about it... all the beautiful and ugly realities women have to experience.

Although the show is focused on people who are vagina holders, cisgender men can also absolutely in some way or another [perform] these monologues and find support from all of us at V-Day at Fredonia," said Kiriazis, a senior in arts administration and theatre major.

With this being Kiriazis' fifth year in the production of The Vagina Monologues, acting as Eve Ensler was a moment of mixed feelings. Especially when it came to the moment where people in the audience had the option to stand up if they were raped or sexually assaulted, knew somebody that was raped or sexually assaulted and who is willing to do something about it in their lifetime.

"I felt so many things. I was excited to help present the show, watch my fellow cast members perform and give the voices back to the survivors of all that we represented at each performance," said Kiriazis. "I was the most nervous for the last moment of the show when survivors stood in solidarity with one another. To see those stand, regardless of gender, for the first time, as the person inviting people to stand up, was an amazing moment to experience. I know that performing as Eve was the most rewarding feeling in my life. It showed me why I will continue to fight for my fellow survivors for violence against all people to end."

Even though there were veterans like Kiriazis, some freshman decided to be a part of this cast in their first year of college. One of those new members was Cassidy James, a freshmen majoring in early childhood education with a concentration in social studies and psychology.

"As this was my first show, I did not expect to get the amount of admiration that we as a cast had received. Unfortunately, there are some people who do have negative views of us and what we stand for. However, there were even more people who were so supportive and appreciative of us, which outweighs the negativity,"

said James. "Aside from the show itself, I didn't realize how many amazing relationships I would form throughout this process. My fellow cast mates hold special places in my heart as we have been working together towards this goal since August. Lastly, I am extremely proud and excited to say that as a cast, we have raised over one thousand dollars for the ANEW Shelter in Jamestown for women and children who have escaped domestic violence."

There was a mix of how light or heavy the monologues would be. To give the distinction between the two there would be a red light on the stage which meant that there would be possible trigger warnings in that specific monologue. If a person felt like it was necessary for any reason to leave the MPR to take a breather, that was completely fine.

One of the light monologues was called "Hair." It starred Emily Green who acted the part of a woman who had a husband who despised pubic hair so much that he became unfaithful. In the end the wife realized that "you have to love the hair in order to love the vagina" and anybody who feels differently does not deserve it.

One of the heavier ones was "They beat the girl out of my boy... or so they tried" which starred James, Green and Haley Menze. The monologue dealt with the realities of life as a trans person and the difficulties (sometimes including sexual harassment or physical abuse) that come along with it.

The Vagina Monologues once again gave a thought-provoking performance of what it's like to be a woman in a male-dominated world. It showed the issues that women face all over the world and how similar yet how different they are. If you did miss this year's Vagina Monologues then keep a look out for next year on their 20th anniversary of performing it on Fredonia grounds.

Graphic by Kara Cekuta/Special to The Leader



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# The Great Mazz

## Tribute concert held for late professor

**NUNET CLITANDRE**

Special to The Leader

“Playing in tune is like being pregnant, you either are, or you aren’t.”

This quote was one of many quirky quips of the late Carl V. Mazzio that was shared by his colleagues at his tribute concert in King Concert Hall on Sunday afternoon. The two-hour tribute concert was filled with beautiful orchestral music and joy-filled eulogies by his dear friends and colleagues.

Carl V. Mazzio was one of Fredonia’s most precious gems. During Carl’s 16-year-long legacy at Fredonia, he conducted the Fredonia School of Music’s All College Band, the Wind Symphony and the Trombone Choir. Carl was an exceptionally hard-working and adored music professor. He had an incredibly lucrative career in music, working with big names such as Yo-Yo Ma, Aretha Franklin and jazz legend

Tony Bennett. He received his M.A. from the Juilliard School of Music and his B.M. from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. He was Principal Trombone of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra. He performed with a numerous amount of orchestras on the East and West Coast and even in Mexico.

Mazzio’s professional performance career as a musician came to an abrupt halt after he developed a neurological disorder known as focal dystonia or “Musician’s Cramp.” Though obviously upsetting to have one’s career cut short by a medical condition, the diagnosis proved to be a test of integrity to how much of a resilient and hardworking person Mazzio was.

He did what anyone with an inextinguishable passion would do: he reinvented himself and adapted. He left performing professionally behind and became a conductor for the Fredonia

School of Music.

Mazzio’s longtime partner, Julie Robinson, held back tears while giving her speech about her fond memories with him and what he meant to her. She recalled being a student of Mazzio’s at the very beginning of their love story. The department gave them their blessing to pursue each other romantically. Because of their new relationship, Mazzio could not give Julie a grade when she performed her juries so instead

gave her a smiley face or a simple (yet somewhat harsh) “get better.” She then spoke directly to his students vehemently reassuring them of the love Mazzio had for every one of them.

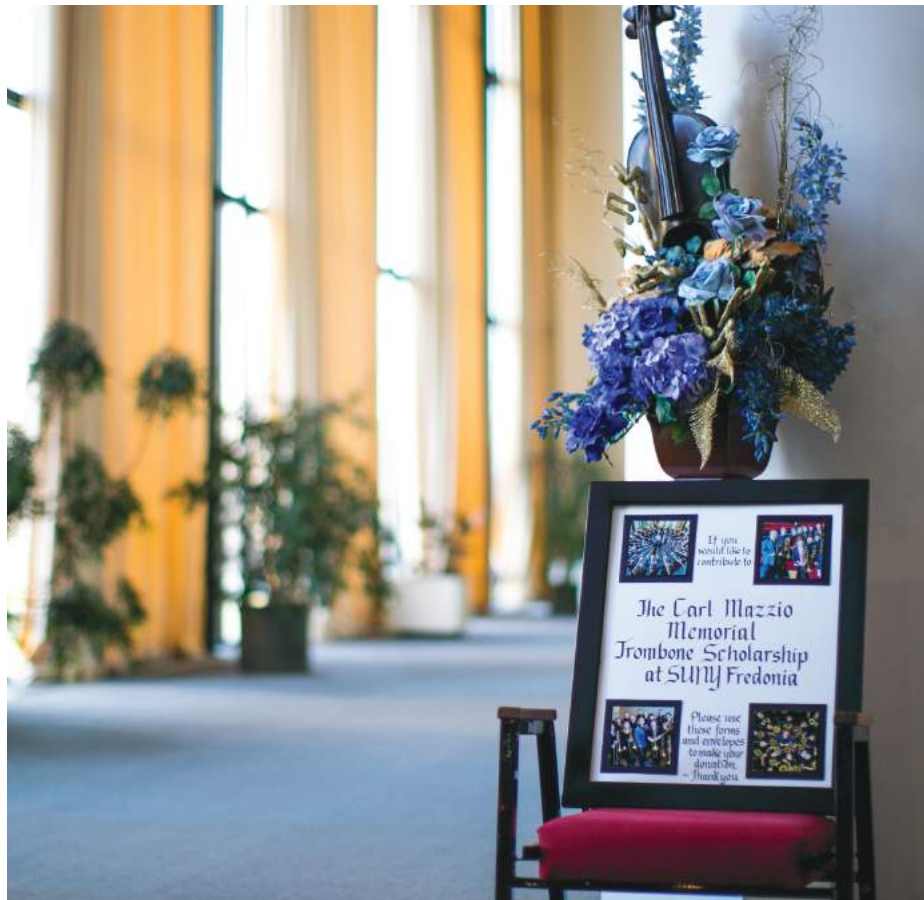
One particularly sweet moment during the concert was when professor Paula Holcomb was describing a time when he came into her office, slammed a picture on her desk and proclaimed, “This is my greatest accomplishment.” That picture was of his son Clark Mazzio. Clark follows in his father’s footsteps as a musician who studied trumpet performance at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music in Oberlin, Ohio. Clark came to Fredonia to play among Mazzio’s beloved students and pay tribute to his late father.

He led his students with conservatory standards and brought along with him an admirable passion for teaching music in hopes of inspiring his students to chase their dreams and to reach the heights of professional repertoire.

At the end of the emotional concert, his colleagues joined and each



Ray Stewart conducts the first segment of the Carl Mazzio tribute concert.  
Corey Maher/Photo Editor



A memorial display featured near the entrance of King Concert Hall.  
Corey Maher/Photo Editor

placed their conductor batons on the performance podium as a salute to their late friend. This tribute concert was indeed the start of the preservation of the great legacy that was Carl V. Mazzio.

Mazzio’s hobbies included drinking wine, hiking in the Colorado Rockies and collecting blue morpho butterflies, his favorite. He suffered a stroke in early January and passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family two weeks later. His brain was donated to science to research further and better understand focal dystonia. He was 53.

The Fredonia College Symphony and The Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus will be performing Ein Deutsches Requiem: Brahms on March 4 in Mazzio’s honor.

# PAC's 'Danny and the Deep Blue Sea' highlights emotional performances

ZOE KIRIAZIS

Staff Writer

The Performing Arts Company opened John Patrick Shanley's play "Danny and the Deep Blue Sea: An Apache Dance" this past weekend in Houghton Hall.

Directed by senior musical theatre major Carly Dieck, "Danny and the Deep Blue Sea" follows the story of two rejected Bronx natives, Danny and Roberta, in the midst of their personal battles who come together to spend just one night together. They each take the journey of finding forgiveness towards their past, opening up about stories for the first time and exposing vulnerabilities to someone who understands. With a total of four performances, senior acting majors Andrew Vertucci and Robyn Baun portrayed the characters for two performances while sophomore acting major Noah Elman and junior musical theatre major Hayley Philyaw performed in the other two.

At a performance with Philyaw and Elman, the chemistry between the two fueled Shanley's dialogue with fiery energy. The two sit separately at the bar indicating their reserved personas at first. The tension between the two characters showed with the lack of direct eye contact and beating around the bush of their inner instincts. Elman executed Danny's inability to feel any other emotions besides anger with evident anxiety and physical tension. These were moments that were raw and real. The only time when he was able to be calm was when Roberta was next to him. Being together allowed them to be true to themselves without their past defining who they were.

Philyaw's interpretation of Roberta left a sense of hope with her optimism throughout the entire show. Even with the events Roberta has experienced, Philyaw allowed Roberta to find the hope she wanted. She says to Danny the morning after their night together, "You think we can't do nothin'," in relation to who they are as people. Portraying

open-ended characters with nowhere to go after all odds are against them, Philyaw exposes the feelings to Elman he has no capability of feeling. Philyaw's storytelling of Roberta's emotions, thoughts and feelings exposed true vulnerability every human is capable of feeling.

"I'm the beast," Danny repeats throughout the play to Roberta who keeps pushing for some feeling out of him. What feeling that happens to be is unknown to both of them. Dieck executes the staging of the show and execution of the story timeline with simplicity and the precision. There are no movements or actions that are out of place to the action of the show. In her director's notes, she comments that that "it would be an injustice to this play to assume this is another love story." Through Dieck's analysis of these characters and with the actors' individual

interpretation, the characters resonate as two people who have experienced unfortunate events and now carry the damage that came along with it. This illustrated that Danny and Roberta were lonely but also proved that they were never alone.

The Performing Arts Company's spring season will conclude with William Shakespeare's comedy "Twelfth Night."



Hayley Philyaw and Noah Elman perform in "Danny and the Deep Blue Sea." Corey Maher/Photo Editor

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# Verbatim

*“Who would you cast to play yourself in a movie?”*



**Justin Boucher-Foley, sophomore music education**  
“Probably Ewan McGregor.”



**Adriana Speach, sophomore public relations**  
“I like Angelina Jolie. She’s beautiful and she’s an activist ... so I’d want someone who can do good in the world and also be a really good actress.”



**Mark Monsegur, junior business**  
“It would have to be Paul Wesley.”



**Matt Russo, senior criminal justice and psychology**  
“Bruce Willis.”



**Danielle Dillon, freshman communication**  
“Probably Jennifer Lawrence.”



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# Blue Devils skate into playoffs

## Men's hockey clinches playoff berth

**JORDAN PATTERSON**

News Editor

The drought is over.

Last week, the Fredonia Blue Devils hockey team (13-10-2) broke a 3-year slump of not making SUNYAC playoffs. Since then, the Blue Devils have made a tonal shift and a type of course correction. A recurring message the team mentioned was that they were going to change the culture.

Freshman and SUNYAC player of the week last week Jimmy Morgan spoke about changing the culture.

"The hardest thing with almost anything in life is being consistent. When everyone is consistently doing their role and bringing the best game possible, results are likely positive," Morgan wrote in an email interview. "That is the biggest difference in culture from last season, everyone's game has been

consistent."

The young team finished out the season 2-2. The roster is comprised of eight freshmen and 11 sophomores, while the rest are a mix of five seniors and four juniors.

Coach Jeffrey Meredith mentioned that what had to change was the player's belief, and that's just what happened.

"Three years ago, we just had a real bad year," Meredith said. "[The players'] number one priority was to change to culture back to the way it's always been and I think they accomplished that."

Meredith attributed this successful transition to leadership. He pointed out that with any team or organization that it depends upon the leadership and work ethic. According to him, that's what his team has started to buy into.

According to sophomore biology major Eric Bogart, the program was heading down a dark path until last

year's seniors made a blatant attempt to reverse course.

"The biggest difference this year from last year is everyone is buying into the system," Bogart said.

"Our seniors last year also made a huge difference they kind of turned the program around from a dark alley that it might've been headed towards," Bogart added.

Bogart was very disappointed last year when the Blue Devils didn't make playoffs. He mentioned that it was a weird feeling not playing into the month of February.

The team will face Buffalo State at home on Feb. 22 as their first opponent in the SUNYAC tournament. Home ice advantage was something the Blue Devils desperately wanted.

"It's obviously great anytime you can secure a playoff spot because one thing I've learned over the last four years is just

how tough of a conference the SUNYAC is," goaltending coach John Cullen said.

"So I am definitely proud of the guys and all their hard work to get to this point, but I think they all know there is more work to be done."

The season is over but the SUNYAC tournament starts today. The team looks to take their recent success and capitalize on it in playoffs.

"As Coach mentioned, everyone is believing. That's something really special because it's not a switch you can just flip on over night. It starts day one, believing in the process," Morgan said. "Once you have a group of people on the same page believing and buying into the process and everything that comes with that, success is right around the corner. We have a pretty special opportunity in front of us and we are getting hot at the right time. We could do something special."

# Women's basketball clinches playoff berth once more

**QUINTIN JAMES**

Staff Writer

The Fredonia women's basketball team had one more game on the schedule this week before it started the playoffs, and the mood in the locker room was very upbeat. Before their season finale against Buffalo State, head coach Linda MacDonald said her team is taking it one game at a time.

"We always prep for the next game. We keep them centered on the now. They understand it's one game at a time because we can't prepare for two teams at once," she said.

Even though the Blue Devils made the playoffs last year, the players are still excited for postseason play.

"It's a new experience for the freshman and transfer students. The unknown creates some anxiety, but that could be a good or bad thing. We can't think too ahead or think about the past," said MacDonald.

While the younger players are rightfully nervous, the upperclassmen are getting used to this feeling. MacDonald explained that the upperclassmen are very engaged and have a sense of urgency that will help them in the playoffs.

The women's basketball team is building a winning culture. Fredonia has now clinched a playoff berth three out of the last four seasons, and things are looking up for the program.

MacDonald attributed that success to a lot of things, but mostly to her players. Great senior leadership, depth and the play of members like senior Alexis Cheatham from the outside and sophomore Jenna Einink in the post have turned the program into a legitimate force.

The last game of the season was against rival Buffalo State. The Blue Devils started off hot, getting off to a 19-6 first quarter lead. They never trailed in the game, as they held Buffalo State to

32 percent shooting and closed out the regular season with a 66-43 win.

Cheatham led the way with 21 points, going 7 of 11 from the field, including five threes. They led by as many as 29 points as Fredonia finished their regular season strong before the playoffs.

The Blue Devils are in the SUNYAC playoffs as the 5 seed. They will travel to Cortland to face the Red Dragons, who had an identical conference record as the Blue Devils (11-7). The winner of that game will go on to face the number-one seed in the playoffs, Geneseo, who are currently undefeated at 25-0.

Whoever the opponent is, MacDonald said the Blue Devils will simply do what got them to the playoffs: focus on shutting down the opponent's best player, while using their own key players to advance. The team understands that it's one and done from here on out, and they look to survive and live to play another game.

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# DeVos participates in teacher swap

**EMMA PATTERSON**  
Staff Lamponist

It's always nice when politicians step outside of their comfort zone. For example, there's nothing at all unsettling about Barack Obama wearing denim shorts or Chris Christie eating a carrot stick. This totally-real fact made Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos' decision to swap places with an actual public teacher to "see what it's like" feel like a breath of fresh air. Or like a miracle.

She invited the Lampon to accompany her on her first-ever first day of school.

"Do you like my backpack?" she asked, brandishing a bright purple backpack covered in glitter and rainbow butterflies. "I don't know why people are always complaining about these things. They're not that heavy," she said, revealing the contents of her backpack to be a pack of Gushers and a \$100 bill,

which she claimed was her lunch money.

DeVos' expression when she first saw her fourth grade classroom resembled that of every sane person after her nomination: confused and a little horrified.

"Why is my desk so small?" she whined. "Why does everything smell like disinfectant? And what are those ... things?" she said, pointing incredulously at the 25 children sitting in front of her. Seeing children in a public elementary school was as crazy to DeVos as seeing grizzly bears in a school is to everyone else.

"Why are they staring at me like that? Is it time for them to feed or something?" She whispered an hour later, after finally figuring out how to write her name on the chalkboard. "I mean, what else am I supposed to do?"

Talk to them?"

DeVos finally started to make progress once the kids told her what they were learning when their real teacher was there. She was especially impressed that there are now three branches of government instead of two.

DeVos was fascinated with the "tiny human things."

"Look! They even have their own books!"

She exclaimed. "I've been dying to try one of those."

Unfortunately, calamity broke out after lunch when DeVos discovered that her Gushers were missing out of her backpack.

"I knew it! These schools are practically crime dens. I bet a grizzly

stole it," she wailed, curled up in a fetal position under her desk. The children looked on with disgust.

When the bell rang at the end of the day, the children ran — some laughing, some crying — from the room.

"What's that horrible noise!?" yelled the secretary of education. It was unclear if she was talking about the sound of the bell or the sound of the children's laughter. Either way, we think it might be best for politicians, and DeVos, to stay firmly within their comfort zones from now on.

In other news, DeVos was unable to regain her post as secretary of education when she returned to her office, as the public school teacher she had swapped with had barricaded the door shut. For the sake of public school children everywhere, we hope the teacher has some strong barricades.

Graphic by Mitchell Paddy/Staff Illustrator



## Police Notter

**JACLYN SPIEZIA and ALBERTO GONZALEZ**  
Staff Lamponist and Special to the Lampon

**Sunday, Feb. 12, 2017**

A noise complaint was issued Sunday night, as there was loud screaming in Grissom Hall. An R.A. came to check out the situation and started screaming, too, when they found out that Beyoncé had lost her Grammy to Adele. Another R.A. came to investigate, a die-hard Adele fan, and a fight broke loose in the lobby.

**Monday, Feb. 13, 2017**

University Police received a report that there was a mysterious backpack sitting in Rockefeller Arts Center with no known owner. Upon opening the backpack the police were appalled to find a pair of hideous Ugg boots, a copy of Stephenie Meyers' "New Moon" and "The Best of Nickelback Vol. 1" album. The police disposed of the hazardous materials immediately.

**Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2017**

Two students were charged with aggressive affection as they made out in Cranston while others were trying to eat. The couple was asked to leave the dining hall but refused, and therefore University Police had to escort the love birds out. They went on to inconsiderately make others feel extremely awkward in the Williams Center.

Valentine's Day gifts were reported missing from Nixon Hall, as someone had reportedly broken into all of the dorms on the second floor hallway and taken all of the Valentine's Day gifts. Seems like this Grinch's relationship status was just one person too small, huh?

**Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2017**

A female student was hit by a car on Wednesday afternoon outside Mason Hall. The reported driver, Eliza Thornberrymanelli, was tracked down and was found to be a professor at Fredonia State. When asked why the professor had not stopped, the professor replied, "I was late for class."

**Thursday, Feb. 16, 2017**

A student was seen giving out free brownies on campus. The brownies were later found to have contained marijuana. Students had snowball fights, built snowmen and had a good peaceful time. Thirty-five were arrested on charges of internal possession.

**Friday, Feb. 17, 2017**

Leslie Nope was reportedly blasting Ed Sheeran's new song in Reed Library. University Police came to escort the student out of the library but ended up having a 12-hour dance party.

An anonymous student filed a theft complaint, as she had come down to retrieve her Calios delivery to find out an R.A. had already eaten it. University Police requested the R.A. give the student money in return, but the heartbroken student refused the money and insisted "the damage had already been done."

Graphic by Edward Gallivan/Staff Illustrator



# Missiles leak out of North Korea's arsenal

*The harder you hop the farther it goes*

**PATRICK BENNETT**

Staff Lamponist

This past week, news is more depressing than the traditional brutalist architecture on campus leaked out over the internet: North Korea has missiles. However, these missiles aren't harmful in the slightest. They can actually be used for wildly entertaining purposes.

In a chilling call using FaceTime on the now-embarrassing hardware of an iPhone 5c, U.S. spy Aurora Boredwitallis captured all the details. Some prior details were disclosed.

"This past June, Kim Jong-Un and I kicked it in Cabo San Lucas — all inclusive, baby. We discussed everything from Kanye's discography to the way in which America is full of nothing but corporate drones over mojitos and iguana burgers. He told me he was planning a great missile launch and he'd video chat me when he was ready," Boredwitallis said.

About a week ago Kim requested to video chat, and Boredwitallis was horrified.

Turns out, Kim and his goons (trademarked as "Un and His Goons") were launching original geospace jump rockets. These rockets were fueled by nothing more than a hop and are readily available on Amazon for a great price of \$17 (free shipping with Amazon Prime).

"Some have said that the harder you hop the farther the missile goes," a Geospace jump rocket extraordinaire and mother of two boys had this to say about the weaponry in Korean possession.

"Those goddamn plastic rockets drive me insane. My little one Bryson just jumps on it all day and breaks everything in sight. He hit our cat Boris in the face once. Boris needed medical attention. I can't imagine what kind of damage North Korea could do if they managed to get the rockets over on U.S. soil," Denise Cupcake said, opting to not use her real name in case her estranged partner found out.

In a 40-page nuclear agenda, Kim spilled the beans about his plans for the rockets, and it was messy.

"We plan to gather all our citizens and subject them to maximum calf training. With this calf training, our

citizens will be able to jump longer and higher in order to put enough force on the rockets and send them over to your kale-eating, celebrity-worshipping country. We hope that Snapchat and BuzzFeed covers your impending demise," Kim said, in-between puffs of a candy cigarette.

One of the most shocking parts about Kim's video and agenda was the reveal that ex-NBA player and literal last man you would ever want to appear in your nightmares, Dennis Rodman, was in on the plan all along. In an interview on "60 Minutes," Rodman revealed it all, including his pierced genitalia.

"We had a candlelit dinner, and he explained to me that he needed these jump rockets. At first I said, 'Man you tripping. Can't you just buy some real nuclears?' until he slapped some sense into me. I immediately went on Amazon and, using my Prime account,

got a bunch of those rockets with free shipping," Rodman said, clearly shilling for corporate America.

And so the launch day came as Americans anxiously waited for the big bang. The entire



country of North Korea participated, off Rodman's hefty donation.

However, the rockets, to nobody's surprise, didn't launch farther than 15 feet. Kim was pissed and continues to plot the death of America as the rest of the world continues to whip and nay nay to their heart's content.

Graphic by Leslie Martinez-Garcia/Staff Illustrator

## Guest Op-Ed: Who wants to be America's second?

**PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP**

WWE Hall of Famer

*In Donald Trump's inauguration speech, he said, "From this day forward, it's going to be only America first. America first." POTUS has followed up on his thoughts with an exclusive op-ed penned for the Lampon.*

Who was your founding father? Our founding father was George Washington, and he was the best, the absolute best. He founded this wonderful country that used to be great. It's not great anymore, though, so we are making it great again. But it's still the best. Obviously.

We have won many wars. So many. It's ridiculous. Well, I'm not sure we actually have, but we've tried helping

other countries. But then we stopped, or we are going to now because other countries are terrible, just absolutely horrible. But maybe yours is the least horrible.

America has the best military in the world. Nobody has a military better than we do. No one gets past us, except immigrants. Many of whom are entirely harmless, but I don't like anyone who tries to give themselves a better life by coming here. We choose who we help. Instead we are going to build a wall because we like feeling protected from the unknown, even though most immigrants will fly over our heads in planes. But anyway, the point is, we are safe here with our racism and misogyny. But come travel here because we are the

best country on Earth!

You'll love it, it's great. We have places like the 9/11 memorial, and Detroit, Michigan. It's the best, you better believe it.

In America we speak English, it is the best and only important language to know. We have the best words. Our vocabulary is huge. It is so big that people come here from all over the world to hear it. It's true, so believe it. So can we just say that America is the best. The BEST EVER! So who wants to stand behind us and be America's second? It's possible it could be you!



Graphic by Madison Spear/Staff Illustrator



Members of Johnny and The Man Kids jam with one another.  
Bethany Clancy/Staff Photographer



Haley Philyaw and Noah Elman perform in "Danny and the Deep Blue Sea."  
Corey Maher/Photo Editor



Ray Stewart conducts the first segment of the Carl Mazzio tribute concert.  
Corey Maher/Staff Photographer



Visiting alumnus Mark Anthony Neal presents a lecture called "Will You [Tweet] About Me?" in the Williams Center.  
Kelsey Abbt/Special to The Leader