

THE LEADER

03.22.2017 Issue 21 Volume CXXIII



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The Leader

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Proud member of The Associated Collegiate Press.

New Politics and Joywave headline 2017 spring concert

NUNET CLITANDRE
Special to The Leader

On March 8, Spectrum announced via social media the performers for this year's spring concert. They announced that Danish rock band New Politics would be headlining the concert. Joywave, a band hailing from Rochester, will be joining them.

When the bands were announced many students, especially those from the Rochester area, were more than pleased with Spectrum's choices.

"It's so awesome that Joywave is going to be coming to play. I've been a fan since about 2012 and have always wanted the chance to see them live," said Rochester native Sam McDougal.

"Of course we'd have these bands coming to Fredonia," said sophomore Tyler Puchlerz. "Our school has such an indie rock vibe, it's only fitting that we'd have New Politics. I'm already a fan so I can't wait."

SPECTRUM ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS
NEW POLITICS
WITH JOYWAVE



APRIL 1 - 7:30PM
STEELE HALL FIELDHOUSE

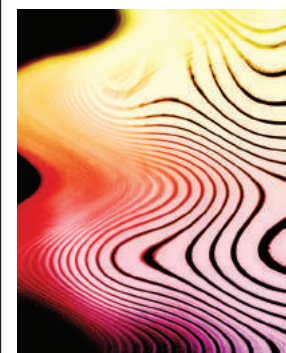
PRESALE: STUDENT - \$8 STUDENT GUEST - \$12
AT DOOR: STUDENT - \$10 STUDENT GUEST - \$15

Security check at door. No bags/backpacks allowed in Steele Hall. Anything brought in is subject to search. Must be 18+ with Photo ID or Fred Card. Students can purchase up to 2 guest tickets. Tickets can be purchased at SUNY Fredonia Ticket Office. Doors open at 6:30pm. Student guests must attend with the student who purchased the ticket.

This year's spring concert will be held in the Steele Hall Fieldhouse.

Tickets are available in the ticket office and are \$8 for students and \$12 for the general public.

Poster courtesy of Marketing & Communications



"Shplewph No. 1"

Photo illustration by Corey Maher/Photo Editor

Corrections:

The Horoscopes in Issue 20, written by Staff Lampoonist Patrick Bennett, were misattributed. The illustration by Staff Illustrator Madison Spear in the article "The Lampoon's guide on how to get rich" was unattributed. We regret the errors.

Forrest receives highest Tau Sigma honor



ANGELINA DOHRE

Staff Writer

Just as she is reaching the finish line of her college career, senior communication disorders and sciences major Hannah Forrest was awarded the largest Tau Sigma scholarship ever given to a Fredonia student.

Succeeding the largest sum of \$2,000 last year, she received \$3,000 from the national honor society for transfer students.

Forrest first heard about the scholarship back in November and sought out an application. It consisted of questions pertaining to the applicant's school background, where they transferred from and how they contributed to Tau Sigma.

"Based on the size of our university or our chapter, we're allowed to nominate one student," Tau Sigma adviser Helen Leysath said. "We send out the applications to the students, look at all the applications that come in and nominate one to the National Office for review."

Being one of five applicants, Forrest was one of four SUNY students to receive a scholarship. She found out about her award in December.

"I'm very honored, and when I found out that I got the scholarship, it was really exciting," she said. "When Helen told me that I was [the] largest recipient of it, I couldn't believe it and was in shock."

A transfer student from Jamestown Community College in Olean, Forrest arrived at Fredonia as a junior and joined Tau Sigma after her first semester. She earned an e-board position as social chair, and her title consisted of updating the group's Facebook page, coming up with social events with the Transfer Student Organization and helping out with events.

According to Forrest, the biggest thing she did for Tau Sigma was coming up with the honor cord system.

"The president of the club, as well as Helen and I, came up with a sort of document stating if a member goes to a certain number of events, then they are eligible for getting free cords

for graduation," she said. "We did this to get more participation because weren't getting as many participants as we wanted at each event."

Each e-board member was in charge of one of the four events Tau Sigma hosts every year. Forrest's event was the 2016 Care Packages for Our Troops.

"We partner with Blue Star Mothers in Jamestown and we collect donations, supplies and games for our soldiers overseas and send them out," she said.

According to Forrest, she reached out to the Observer, the school and got a lot more community involvement for this event.

"We were able to raise \$800 alone along with several supplies," she said. "This was the biggest year the Blue Star Mothers have had because of our contribution."

Along with Tau Sigma, Forrest is a member of Golden Key Honor Society, the national honor society in education Kappa Delta Pi and has worked with the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association.

Forrest stated she has already used the scholarship money to be able to afford a trip to Belize through Fredonia's study abroad program.

"I went for two weeks, and the first week we went on excursions, learned about the culture and went sight-seeing, and the next week we were in schools," she said. "We were getting hands-on experience working with children, alongside teachers."

Apart from the Tau Sigma

scholarship, Forrest has earned two other scholarships in the past. She received the Gustave A. and Geraldine S. Werner Foundation Scholarship from the Department of Communication Disorders and Sciences and a Doors to Opportunity Scholarship through the Fredonia College Foundation for academic excellence.

According to Leysath, Forrest is well-deserving of this scholarship.

"When Tau Sigma asks for the application, they ask for your service to the group, the institution and the community," she said. "Forrest had a very nice balanced background, and we were very excited and feel fortunate that she was recognized."

After graduation, Forrest plans on attending graduate school to complete her master's degree in speech pathology.

"When I found out that I got the scholarship, it was really exciting," Forrest said. "When Helen [Layseth] told me that I was [the] largest recipient of it, I couldn't believe it and was in shock."

She is still unsure of which school she wants to attend but has strong hopes for her future.

"I am really looking forward to graduate school because I will get hands-on experiences working with clients," she said. "I see myself in a school setting working with children, helping them with their speech problems and bettering their communication skills."

Above: Hannah Forrest
Corey Maher/Photo Editor

Democracy 101 talk debates bathroom bills

CAMRY DEAN

Staff Writer

James Baldwin, a black American writer and social critic once said, “We can disagree and still love each other unless your disagreement is rooted in my oppression and in denial of my humanity and right to exist.”

The week before spring break, Democracy 101 continued with a presentation by Jeffrey Iovannone, coordinator of the Women and Gender Studies program.

On March 7, Iovannone opened his presentation, “What is the real purpose of ‘Bathroom Bills?’” with the famous Baldwin quote as a gateway into the discussion surrounding the recent controversy of transgender individuals using the public bathrooms correlating to the gender they identify with.

Under the Obama administration, federal nondiscriminatory laws were set in place that allowed students in schools that receive federal funding to use the bathroom that corresponded with their gender identity without facing punishment from their school.

Title IX, a law that protects individuals from being discriminated against on the basis of sex, gender or sexual orientation in public schools, included transgender students under Obama. On Feb. 22, these laws were rescinded by President Donald Trump.

On the campaign trail in April

of last year and in response to North Carolina’s notorious bathroom bill, Public Facilities Privacy & Security Act or House Bill 2, Trump said that transgender people should be able to use the bathroom they feel most comfortable using, including the one in Trump Tower.

In 2016, Charlotte, North Carolina, decided that transgender individuals were free to use the bathroom that they felt most comfortable using. In response to this decision, Pat McCrory, the 74th Governor of North Carolina, signed a bill that forbid single cities to establish their own anti-discrimination laws, and forced transgender people to use the bathroom of the sex they were assigned at birth.

Trump soon walked back on his stance when he signed to repeal Obama’s laws, which had been blocked by a Texas judge since August 2016.

Under Trump, the decision will be left up to the states and the schools to decide their own policies, which worries LGBTQ equality groups and individuals.

According to the National Center for Transgender Equality, 77 percent of transgender students experience some sort of harassment at school. In terms of verbal harassment, 54 percent of K-12 students have experienced it, while 24 percent have experienced physical harassment. Thirteen percent of students have been sexually assaulted.

As of right now, protection from discrimination by sexual orientation

or gender identity and expression isn’t guaranteed in every state.

“Trans people don’t have the same rights and legal protections in all 50 states,” Iovannone said. “Because of this, they face unique legal challenges, especially when we’re talking about things like changing your gender marker on identity documents [or] access to healthcare. Are there employment protections for identity? And of course, bathroom access.”

One of the arguments in favor of these bathroom bills is that, by allowing trans people to use the bathroom that correlated with their gender identity, it would create a major public safety issue.

This year, Texas introduced Senate Bill 6, or the Texas Privacy Act.

“This bill is interesting because it proposes to ban transgender women from the women’s bathroom but not transgender men from using the men’s bathroom,” Iovannone said. “The Lieutenant Governor, Dan Patrick, explained this by saying, ‘Men can take care of themselves.’”

Patrick also said that by passing SB 6, it will prevent “sexual predators like those who exploit the internet” from legally entering women’s bathroom.

Not only does this bill contain sexist language and paint women as weak, but Iovannone explained that it also seems to build on the idea of the “bathroom predator” and describes transgender individuals as the aggressors instead of

the victims.

“We currently have 17 states that allow people to use the bathroom that corresponds to their gender identity, and how many instances in these states have we had of someone claiming that law, using it to harass someone in a women’s bathroom?” Iovannone asked. “Zero. There have been no cases of that happening.”

Iovannone, as well as others, believes that this is not only an attack on transgender rights, but an attack on their right to exist in public spaces.

As one of the most vulnerable and marginalized communities, the suicide rate of transgender individuals is nine times the national average at 40 percent. Forty-seven percent of trans people have been sexually assaulted in their lifetime, and 30 percent of people were fired or denied promotion and were mistreated in the workplace.

According to Iovannone and many other activists, using the bathroom while in public is one of the most basic necessities of a human and to deny an individual of that is to deny them the right to exist in public.

“Essentially what we’re talking about with these laws that are restricting bathroom usage, one of the things that we are debating is people’s very humanity,” Iovannone said. “That’s at the core of this issue.”

Police Blotters

UNIVERSITY

Friday, March 17, 2017

8:12 p.m. Larceny was reported regarding a vending machine in Steele Hall. A report was filed and subjects were questioned.

Saturday, March 18, 2017

11:56 p.m. Assault and larceny was reported from Lot 30. A report was filed.

Sunday, March 19, 2017

9:48 p.m. Chevrolet car keys were found. A report was filed.

FREDONIA

Monday, March 6, 2017

5:30 p.m. Desean Cruz, age 21, was charged with 2nd degree harassment.

Tuesday, March 14, 2017

Gary T. White, age 59, was charged with 2nd degree contempt and 2nd degree harassment.

Thursday, March 16, 2017

Angel M. Soto Albertez Jr., age 27, was charged with trespassing after an arrest warrant was issued.

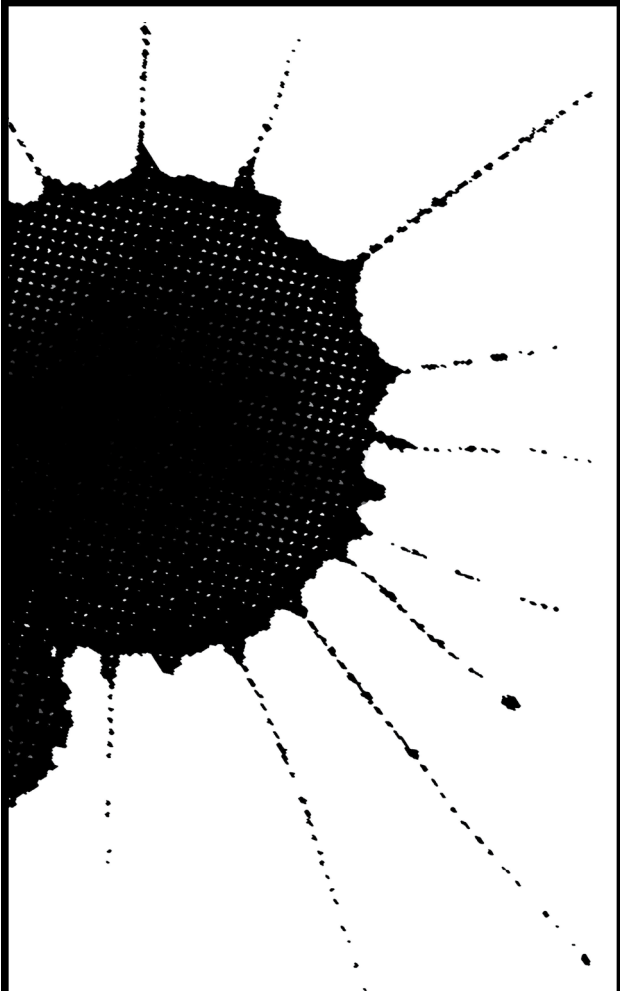
All information printed in The Leader’s police blotter is a matter of open public record. No retractions or corrections will be made unless a factual error is shown. Anyone who is cleared of charges has the right to have so printed. It is the responsibility of the accused to provide notice and proof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

The Well-Lit Cafe

Binocular Visions: Science Meets Poetry

Ring in National Poetry Month at the wild frontier of language and observation with visiting speakers Alice Major and Pireeni Sundaralingam. The event will feature a gala reading and conversation, celebration of The Well Lit Cafe Poetry Prize, and a wide-open mic for the poets in the crowd. Casual reception to follow. The Well Lit Cafe is a campus and community event brought to you by the Carnahan-Jackson Humanities Fund, Convocation Committee, Faculty Student Association, Biology Department, and the English Department.

April 1, 2017 6PM-8PM in the
SUNY Fredonia Williams Center
Horizon Room



Alice Major



Pireeni
Sundaralingam



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Remembering a dear friend through music

Tribute concert to honor world-class guitarist Roland Dyens

CLAIRE O'REILLY

Assistant Life & Arts Editor

A tribute concert to Roland Dyens, a famous and renowned guitarist with an intimate connection to Fredonia, will be held on March 23 at 8 p.m. in Rosch Recital Hall. Dyens recently died this past October.

"He was brilliant, just truly amazing," said head of Fredonia's guitar program James Piorkowski. The two shared a special bond for many years.

"I knew of his reputation because he was such a looming figure in the world of classical guitar composition, performance and improvisation, but I met him at a festival in Ohio that we were both performing in. This was maybe [about] 14 years ago," said Piorkowski. "We both were asked to serve on a composer's form panel. There were three composers for guitar music on this panel, and I was honored to be one of them."

As the panel went on and more questions were asked, Piorkowski said that he and Dyens realized they had many similar thoughts and influences.

After Ohio, Piorkowski reached out to Dyens. This was the start of a great friendship.

"That summer I was going to Paris with my wife, and I said [to Roland], 'I'd love to see you if you're around.' [Roland] goes, 'I'm playing a concert. I'll have tickets waiting for you,'" he said. "So we went, and there was this huge line, I mean he was a big, big star. We got to go right into the theatre and pick our

seat. I think everybody else was really angry that we walked right in."

Piorkowski wanted to repay Dyens in some way for his generosity. So, on that night in Paris, he presented Dyens with a piece that he composed specially for him, titled "Rolando," a nickname of Dyens'. Dyens told Piorkowski, with a tear in his eye, that that was the first time anyone had ever dedicated a piece to him.

Their friendship continued to grow after that, becoming stronger over the years.

"[Roland] told me early on that he had a brother who died just a couple years before. Before I had known him, I had lost a brother. We became so close that I said, 'Roland, would it be okay if I adopted you as a brother and you adopted me ... ?' and he said, 'Of course.'"

Piorkowski spoke very highly of Dyens' capabilities.

"He was one of the most unique people I've ever met, definitely the smartest, unbelievably bright. [He was a] genius. He could speak six languages. We would be somewhere and he'd hear someone speaking Greek or Italian, and he'd start up a conversation," he said.

"Maybe there were others as good in our history, [but] I don't think anybody better. I'm really serious."

Other than being a gifted musician, Dyens had a sense of humor.

"He was also incredibly funny, silly funny. I would say, 'Roland, you have the humor of a 10-year-old.' He'd say, 'Oh no. I'm not that mature,'" said Piorkowski. "He told me, 'Seriously, Jim.

After I'm gone, I would rather be more known for being funny than for being a musician.'"

Dyens had a special connection with Fredonia.

"He would come here and teach with our students. [He'd] teach them about performing, he did work in composing seminars with them," said Piorkowski. "Boy, I'd just shut up and listen. His insight and his creativity was phenomenal."

His connection went deeper. A few years ago, Piorkowski and colleague Evan Drummond put together a tribute concert to honor him while he was in town. The Fredonia student guitar quartet performed one of his pieces.

"They performed it very well. In fact, so well that as soon as they were done, [Dyens] stood up and gave them a standing ovation. He was so touched by how beautifully they played, how much love and expertise they put into interpreting his music," said Piorkowski. "A few months later, I opened my email, and there's an email from Roland [reading] 'A little gift.' He wrote a composition for them and sent it no charge. To commission him would be \$10,000 to \$20,000. You can see how special this human being is. I'm going



to say 'is' because his music lives on, his spirit lives on in our hearts."

After Dyens' unfortunate passing, the idea for another tribute concert was born. The piece Dyens dedicated to the string quartet will be played.

"I hope that [the audience] will take away how unique this beautiful musician was, and how sincere we are, and will be, in this tribute concert. Those are the things [I hope they take away]: his immense talents and our sincerity of honoring him," he said.

Above: Roland Dyens (right).
Courtesy of Susan Piorkowski.

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E.H.O.

Global fashion comes to Fredonia

Black Student Union to host annual fashion show

SHENECA SHARPE

Staff Writer

Multicultural Weekend is coming up which means many events hosted by the Center for Multicultural Affairs will take place.

One of the most popular events during that weekend is the Black Student Union Fashion Show which will be held on March 25 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Williams Center MPR. Tickets will be \$7 for students and \$10 for general admission. The Fashion Show will be directed by Jasmine Bell, a senior applied music major with a concentration in voice.

This Fashion Show is one of the events that helps bring more diversity onto Fredonia's campus, while also showcasing the work from young and upcoming fashion designers.

"I expect to bring Fashion Week to Fredonia State. It is a chance for the campus community as a whole to experience every culture represented, not only the students of color, but everyone.

It will be bigger than it's ever been with designers coming from as near as our very campus and as far as New York City," said Bell.

The Fashion Show is meant to express the diversity and creativity of different cultures.

Their theme this year is "All Around the World," using 5 to 6 designers to make different cultures come alive in fashion. One of the Fashion Show's main goal is to make to make potential students feel welcomed and confident in making the decision to make Fredonia their second home.

As a director of the show, it's a lot of pressure on Bell's shoulders to make sure the event is a success.

"I have been going full steam coordinating this weekend in hopes to

have the majority of the prospective students attend Fredonia in the Fall. I have no doubt that the Fashion Show ... will be the center of conversation among the visiting students and campus community," said Bell.

Helping Bell with the Fashion Show is Maimouna Sylla, a senior social work major and the president of BSU.

Sylla is also feeling some of the pressure of helping with the Fashion Show, but continues to feel positive as the day comes closer.

"I feel that as students of color in Fredonia, we make it our mission to reach out to other students of color and make them feel comfortable in an institution that is predominately

white. This weekend will be no different. Fredonia is going to welcome high school students onto our campus, we will make it our duty to give them the best weekend of their life and to also show them that if they do decide to attend Fredonia, they will have the support of the Black Student Union and all the other student groups of color on this campus," said Sylla.

Every year there's a new host, usually someone that most students will recognize from social media or television. This year it will be Kwaylon "blameitonkway" Rogers, who received his recognition from his skits on Instagram and eventually received worldwide fame from those short videos.

This year's fashion show will be bringing a lot of interesting and diverse looks and people together, so be sure to get a ticket and encourage prospective students to make Fredonia their home away from home.

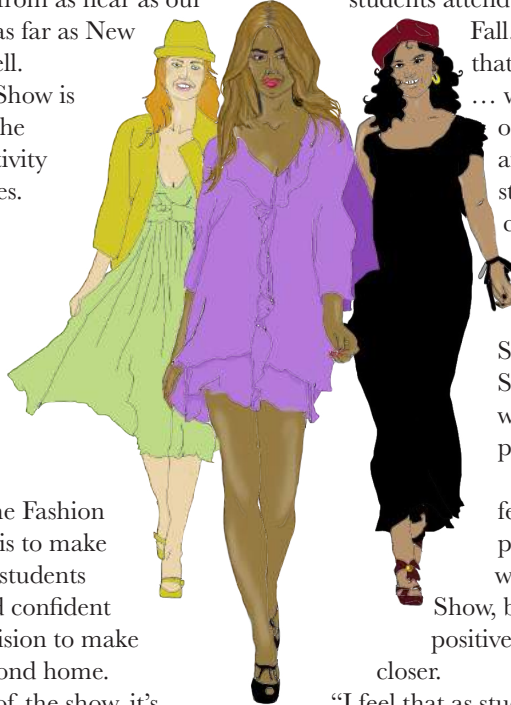


Illustration by Madison Spear/Staff Illustrator

Two-time Tony winner Judith Ivey takes residency

ZOE KIRIAZIS

Staff Writer

Each year students in the performing arts have the opportunity to work with highly credible artists in the theatre, music and dance industry. Stage and film actress Judy Kuhn, musical theater composer Jason Robert Brown and Fredonia alum and Broadway actress Jen Cody have visited Fredonia over the last couple of years. Fredonia adds another name to the list as acting students will be able to work with Broadway veteran Judith Ivey as she takes residency from March 22 through 24.

Ivey, the sister of theatre professor James Ivey, has maintained a career as an actress for the last 40 years, with a resumé that includes more than 70 stage productions including Broadway, Off-

Broadway and regional theatre credits.

She was first seen on Broadway in "Bedroom Farce" before earning her first Tony Award for Best Featured Actress in a Play for her role in "Steaming" in 1982.

Two years later she went on to win her second Tony Award in the same category in "Hurlyburly" in 1984. She earned her third Tony nomination in 1992 for Best Actress in "Park Your Car in Harvard Yard" and recently in 2013 for "The Heiress," racking in four Tony nominations total. She was last seen on Broadway most recently in "The Audience" as former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and stateswoman Margaret Thatcher.

Ivey has an equally successful career in film and television playing Eleanor Markus on "Will & Grace," reprising her role as Madeline in the movie adaptation of "Piaf" from the play of the

same name and appearances in series such as "Designing Women," "White Collar" and "Law & Order: Special Victims Unit." Ivey is also known for her directing as well as acting, having directed "Steel Magnolias," "Chapatti" and "The-Go-For-It-Guy" to name a few.

During Ivey's residency at Fredonia, theater majors will be able to work one-on-one with her through coaching sessions on different monologues, scenes and conversations about the business.

The 1891 Fredonia Opera House will be holding an "Inside the Actor's Studio" format event titled "A Conversation with Judith Ivey" on Friday, March 24 at 7:30 p.m. James Ivey will be the evening's host. Tickets for students are \$10 and can be purchased directly through the Fredonia Opera House. All students, performance majors or not, are encouraged to attend as Ivey will be discussing her knowledge,



experience and advice on what she has learned throughout her extensive and insightful years of being in theatre, film and television.

Above: Judith Ivey.
Courtesy of Marketing & Communications



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Quince to perform in Ethos concert

LERON WELLINGTON

Staff Writer

Fredonia gets a special treat with musical special guests Quince. The contemporary vocal ensemble has been called “a new force of vocal excellence and innovation” by The Brooklyn Rail.

The concert, which is sponsored by Ethos New Music Society, will feature modern genre-bending chamber music and will be performed by the four member all-female group. The group has released two albums and has toured all over the U.S.

Jared Yackiw, a graduate composition major and president of Ethos, is looking forward to bringing the group to campus. When it came time to pick this year’s artist to bring to campus,

this was a no brainer.

“Quince is a contemporary vocal ensemble that values pushing the boundaries of traditional vocal music. This idea, paired with their dedication to new music advocacy, made Quince a top choice for this year’s season,” said Yackiw.

The group performs new music that is far from the traditional style of vocal ensemble singing.

“I suspect that I will see more than a few jaws dropping. That’s the fun of it — showing audiences sounds they may not have heard before,” said Yackiw.

Kayleigh Butcher, who serves as the group’s director, is looking forward to sharing the group’s music with college students in particular.

“We are really excited about sharing the music we love with others that

might not have the ability of knowledge of new music. It’s a priority for us to being able to bring this to schools to not only show young composers what is possible but show other young vocalists what they could be capable of doing themselves,” said Butcher.

If you are interested in hearing nontraditional classic music, this upcoming concert is perfect. Quince will be performing on March 27 in



Rosch Recital Hall from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tickets, which are \$5 for students and \$8 for general public, are available in the ticket office.

Above: Quince
Courtesy of Marketing & Communications

S St George Ent is looking to fill a summer position in our office!

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From the Desk Of Curtis Henry, Sports Editor

Allow me to preface this in a way that you can actually take it seriously. This isn't going to be some fluffy Odyssey article written by a freshman girl who is totally obsessed with her roommate's dog or the fact that the Starbucks guy wrote a little smiley face on her drink. This is, however, going to be a list. This is going to be a list of all the compiled knowledge I've gained in the last four years that I wish I could have injected into the freshman version of myself.

This is my eighth semester here, and my time at Fredonia is coming to a close. I won't be finished in May, however. No, the thought of that ship sailed long ago. I'll be around until next semester, and maybe next Spring, and maybe until I die. Who knows?

Anyways, here's a list of all the stuff I wish I could tell freshman me.

You're here to make mistakes

I'm the first guy from my family, on either side, to attend a four-year school

to get my degree. This brought with it a "failure is not an option" mentality when I was 18, and honestly, I cracked under the pressure. Every single freshman on this campus needs to be conscious that they are, in fact, here to make mistakes. We're all here for so much more than just an education; we're here to learn how to live in a world that isn't high school.

Spoiler alert: You're gonna be an RA.

Hey you, you there. The scrawny white kid with a snapback who's belligerently chugging fireball through a neon funnel. Yeah you, freshman. Get over here.

Good. Now stop being an idiot and grow the hell up, so you can get to doing your job and you don't have to apply four times to get it. You're gonna kick some ass as an RA. We good here? Cool.

Don't blame yourself for mental illnesses

Depression and anxiety aren't your fault. You did not wake up one morning and decide that you were going to be a depressed, overwhelmed, anxious shadow of your former self. No one does this. Yet, it's so easy to place the blame on yourself for whatever is wrong with you. A lot of these things you can't control. You just can't. It took me nearly two years after enrolling to understand this concept. That two years was necessary, but holy crap, it's time that I wish I could get back.

Get into the journalism major ASAP

If only I had known this before I threw myself into the dumpster fire that was me being a part of the childhood/adolescent math education dual major for three semesters. I'm not here to trash the education major — trust me, I'm not. But it was absolutely not for me. Not at all. Not even a little bit. Oh, and I'd probably be graduating on time if I had any idea what I was doing four years ago.

It's cool, though. No 17 or 18 year old knows what they want.

Donald Trump will one day be your president

This is not a drill. Only you have the power to stop it. In order to avoid this disaster, you need to make sure that he is able to purchase the Buffalo Bills. Don't ask me why. Just trust me. If that doesn't happen, the Bills will be responsible for the biggest joke of a presidency in American history. Your options are to ensure that this happens, or to move to Canada. Act fast, young blood.

Ask for help

Hey kid, if you could do me a favor and swallow all of that unwarranted pride of yours, that would be great. You're not supposed to know what you're doing. No one does. Go get some help before you make a bigger fool of yourself.

Conservative Corner: Russia is our enemy, not our friend

CONNOR HOFFMAN

Managing Editor

The year is 1983, and President Ronald Reagan had just given his famous Evil Empire speech to a gathering of the National Evangelicals in Orlando, Florida.

"So, in your discussions of the nuclear freeze proposals, I urge you to beware the temptation of pride — the temptation of blithely declaring yourselves above it all and label both sides equally at fault, to ignore the facts of history and the aggressive impulses of an evil empire, to simply call the arms race a giant misunderstanding and thereby remove yourself from the struggle between right and wrong and good and evil," said Reagan.

Reagan knew just how evil Russia was. He made a point to make sure that America and the world knew that he was no friend of Russia.

Ever since Reagan made that famous speech, it would cement, at least until recently, the image of the Republican party being the anti-Russia party. The Republicans were the ones

pushing for more sanctions and tougher punishments for Russia.

Let's fast forward to 2016. President Donald J. Trump could not be more friendly towards Russia and Vladimir Putin. Trump has said multiple times that it would be a good thing to have Putin as an ally in the fight against ISIS in Syria. He has also said on multiple occasions that Putin is a very smart and effective leader.

Trump even said that Putin is a better leader than former President Barack Obama. Now, I'm not a huge Obama fan myself, but Obama is so much better than a scumbag dictator like Putin.

"He's running his country and at least he's a leader, unlike what we have in this country," said Trump in a "Morning Joe" interview.

In this same interview, he further explained how he believes that the U.S. has committed atrocities comparable to Russia's atrocities.

"I think our country does plenty of killing also, Joe, so you know. There's a lot of stupidity going on in the world right now, a lot of killing, a lot of stupidity," said Trump.

Yes, America has committed some bad actions in the world, but nothing this country has done is comparable to the crimes and atrocities that have been committed by Putin and his regime. Plus, how is it that the American president doesn't hold this country in a much more positive light than a dictator?

Many believe, including myself, that Reagan's tough tone towards Russia is one of the main reasons that the Soviet Union collapsed. In the 1980s, the Soviet economy was in complete and utter disarray, and Reagan knew this and used this to help take the Soviets down once and for all.

By announcing his plans for the Star Wars missile defense program, he made the Soviets feel obligated to compete to create their own version. This was the genius of Reagan: he knew the competition would put their economy into even worse shape.

Trump's tone towards Russia is



exactly what they want, and it goes completely against what the Republican party stands for.

Now, some might be thinking that Reagan was just anti-Russia and that he refused to work with them, but he actually worked quite well with the Soviet Union. Unlike Trump, Reagan knew the power of negotiating from a place of strength.

If Trump hopes to actually accomplish something regarding Russia, he should immediately stop his praise of Putin. If he does not, he is playing right into the Russian dictator's hand.

Illustration by Edward Gallivan/Staff Illustrator

Verbatim

“What did you learn today?”



Kat Stroh, junior political science
“Time management is an important skill.”



Charlotte Ginder, sophomore art history
“I guess I learned how to draw a sphere?”



Caroline Bilotti, sophomore chemistry
“I learned that there are two types of long term memory.”



Riley Baracscai, sophomore arts administration and theater
“I learned that time away from the people you love is both good and bad.”



Jacob Patterson, sophomore computer science
“I learned not to put off my work over Spring Break.”



Becca Neeland, junior public accountancy and finance
“I learned how to audit a company’s cash account.”

Track and field athletes make leaps

AVRIL KING

Social Media Assistant

Two athletes were recognized for their outstanding performances earlier in March. Brittany Feldman, a sprinter, and Kyle Brown, a thrower, were both included into the All-Regional Team for the Indoor Track and Field season.

According to the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association, in order to qualify for this prestigious team, an athlete is required to be classified in the top five in their individual event in the region or finish in the top three of a relay team. Feldman met the requirements with ease, ranking first in the Atlantic Region in the women's 400 meters. Her time, which was 57.05 seconds, is the 10th fastest in NCAA Division III this winter season.

"Making the All-Regional Team means a lot to me," said Feldman, a

junior social work major. "I put in so much work to be successful in this sport and it feels amazing being rewarded with honors such as this. It's what keeps me motivated each season!"

Her time also helped to send her to the national indoor track meet held in Naperville, Illinois March 10 and 11.

"I feel very confident going into the competition this year," said Feldman. "The trust I have in my training ... and the belief that I know I can do whatever I set my mind to helps my confidence greatly."

This is Feldman's second time competing in the national meet. In 2016, she was able to take seventh place and acquire All-American status.

Brown, a senior mathematics adolescence education major, was able to make the All-Regional Team by finishing fourth in the men's 35-pound weight throw in the Atlantic Region.

"It's cool to get it as a senior just because I've been working for the last 10 years in track and field. So, I was excited



... when I found out that I made the All-Regional Team," said Brown.

Along with this achievement, Brown was able to finish third in his event at SUNYACs, held Feb. 25.

Next, the athletes will begin training for their outdoor season. In early April, they will have their first competition at SUNY Geneseo.

"Hopefully I'll get a good throw in there," Brown said of the outdoor meet.

After graduation, Brown plans on not wasting any time by finding a teaching position and applying to graduate school. But for now, the two athletes are focused on the competition ahead.

Above: Kyle Brown
Corey Maher/Photo Editor

March Madness: First weekend in the books

NCAA field of 68 trimmed to 16

CURTIS HENRY

Sports Editor

The NCAA tournament selection committee screwed up in grand fashion last weekend when selecting the field of 68, and in doing so, they've gotten exactly what they wanted.

The first two rounds are in the books and the field has dwindled down to 16. The first 48 games have been nothing short of impressive, anxiety-inducing basketball. Of the first 48 games, 31 have been decided by 12 points or less. The myriad of close games and chaos is exactly what the selection committee envisioned, but I'm still going to take a moment to voice my displeasure with how flawed the first two rounds were.

The curious case of the Big Ten

I had major qualms over the seeding to the Big Ten conference. There seemed to be absolutely no rhyme or reason for any of the seedings for Big Ten teams.

Purdue, the regular season

conference champions, were awarded a No. 4 seed. This raised some questions due to their early exit in the conference tournament. However, they've made good on it, advancing to the Sweet 16 in large part due to the phenomenal play of forward Caleb Swanigan. They've justified their seed, but the next highest in the pecking order did no such thing.

A No. 5 seed was awarded to Minnesota, which made absolutely no sense any way you slice it. Most had the Gophers on line with a 7 or 8 seed after only one win in the conference tournament, and certainly they were to be seeded lower than Michigan upon losing to them in the conference semi-finals. A season sweep by Wisconsin over the Golden Gophers almost assured that Wisconsin would be seeded higher than Minnesota, as well.

Another false assumption.

What ensued was Minnesota grabbing a No. 5 seed while Michigan and Wisconsin were awarded No. 7 and No. 8 seeds, respectively. Minnesota was promptly whooped by Middle Tennessee

State, a 12 seed, in the first round, and was sent home.

Meanwhile, Wisconsin and Michigan each found their ways to the Sweet 16 in spite of remarkably more difficult paths through the first two rounds of the tournament. All condolences to Villanova and Louisville, the two high seeds who fell victim to the committee's horrendous judgment of seeding both Wisconsin and Michigan so lowly.

Wichita State shenanigans

The team that got the most screwed, and I mean royally disrespected by all accounts, by this season's draw was Wichita State, a No. 10 seed who was sent packing after a second round loss to No. 2 seed Kentucky. Kentucky coach John Calipari was quick to point out post-game that Wichita State was "misseeded," and in a lot of ways, he is right.

Based on Kenpom rankings, the premiere rankings system in college basketball, Wichita State entered the tournament as the seventh-best team in

the country. The committee decided that Wichita was, instead, the 39th-best team in the country, and awarded them a No. 10 seed.

The seeding mishap was a slap in the face of both Wichita and Kentucky, whose second-round matchup was only the second such matchup between two teams with 30-plus wins since the tournament field expanded to 64. It's absolutely ludicrous for the committee to point to a mid-major like Wichita and say, "Hey, congrats on the historically great season for your program. Now, go out and play a borderline No. 1 seed in the second round in order to make the Sweet 16."

It should not be this hard to get the little things right on the part of the committee. The Wichita-Kentucky matchup was absolutely phenomenal by most accounts, but it is one that should have taken place in the Sweet 16 or elite 8; not the round of 32.

Illustration by Edward Gallivan/Staff Illustrator

Spring Break Scoreboard

BASEBALL

Russmatt Invitational, Central Florida
(3/10-3/18) **denotes double-header*

3/10
Montclair State
L 20-3

3/11
Fitchburg State*
L 6-5, W 16-1

3/12
Vassar
W 7-5

3/14
Farmingdale State*
W 1-0, W 7-6

3/15
RIT
W 3-2

3/17
Oswego State*
L 4-1, L 4-2

3/18
Oswego State
L 9-0

SOFTBALL

The Spring Games, Clermont, Florida

3/9
Nebraska Wesleyan
L 8-2
Emmanuel College
W 8-5

3/10
Muhlenberg College
L 8-2
Penn State
New Kensington
W 10-2

3/12
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
L 8-4
Framingham State
W 7-1

3/13
Bethany College
W 2-1

Gallaudet
W 8-0

3/14
Norwich
W 5-1
Manhattanville College
L 2-1

3/16
Fairleigh-Dickinson
W 9-7
Hood College
L 5-2

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

3/11
Roger Williams
W 10-9

3/15
#6 Franklin and Marshall College
L 18-2

3/16
Gettysburg
L 20-4

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- Final pitch to Judge:* April
- Winners Announced:* April
- Move into office:* May

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Lampoon Review: The Nintendo Switch

Is a great console worth the turmoil?

PATRICK BENNETT

Staff Lampoonist

Two weeks ago, a putrid and rotund boy slapped his mother in the face at an Alabama Golden Corral. He didn't take inspiration from the famous Dr. Phil video, nor was he upset about the absence of fried chicken at the moment. He wanted what he couldn't get: a Nintendo Switch.

The Nintendo Switch, according to its Wikipedia page, is the 7th major home console developed by the company. The console is essentially a tablet that you can take mobile from the TV set in your living room. This means that you can essentially take it anywhere, even to your grave if you happen to get hit by a Mack truck while slaying monsters in "The Legend of Zelda Breath of the Wild."

Fans waited till midnight at GameStop stores nationwide for their own console.

Twenty-nine-year-old man Peety PeePaw relieved the horrific experience he had via Facetime, from his residence in his parents' basement closet.

"Oh, it was the most terrible thing these eyes have ever seen," PeePaw said, borderline hyperventilating. "It was like the Donner party. We waited from noon to midnight and ran out of little gummy snacks. With the absence of snacks, a grown man started eating another man's face off in front of us. The worst

part was that the man without a face continued to play his Kirby game on his 3DS."

One of our own Lampoon staff members decided to see what the hype was about with the system. After purchase, we plugged it into the TV and tested its capability as a system. Chaos ensued as members of the Lampoon aggressively fought over the tablet. One Lampoon member ripped their shirt off and screamed like a banshee until the windows shattered.

"It was in the heat of the moment. I really wanted to play Zelda. I also have a crippling addiction to angel dust so that probably contributed to my outburst,"

Zacharia Williamson said.

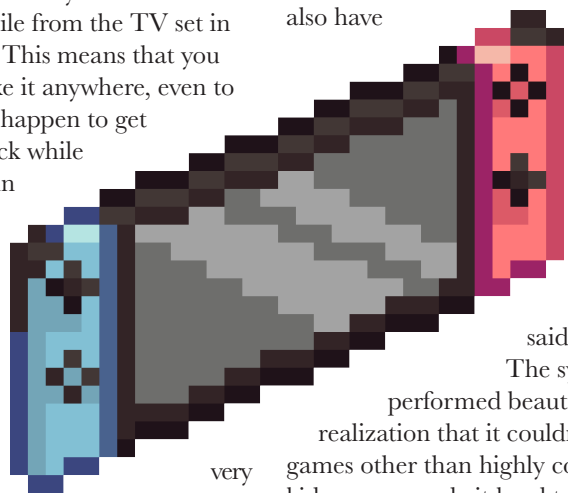
The system

performed beautifully, but the realization that it couldn't play any games other than highly colorful fantasy kids games made it hard to keep going.

"The system has great specs. I love how I can bring it anywhere I go, but I can't play 'Call of Duty' nor can I send unsolicited dick pictures to all my girlfriends, so needless to say I'm disappointed," resident weirdo Hanson Manson said.

Overall, the Lampoon gives the new Nintendo Switch 10 satisfactory-head-nods out of 10 (with a sprinkle of angel dust).

Illustration by Daniel Salazar/Staff Illustrator



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Disgruntled PC gamer backpacks across America to prove superiority to Nintendo Switch

EMMA PATTERSON
Staff Lamponist

Gamers, non-gamers and basement-dwelling, unemployed 30-year-olds alike collectively lost their minds when the Nintendo Switch was released two weeks ago. Its portability, battery life, portability, dance-able commercials, portability and ability to not be the Wii U has renewed gamers' hope that Nintendo is still capable of putting out a quality gaming device. Oh, and did we mention it's portable?

However, not everyone is excited about the high-tech addition to the Nintendo family. The Lampoon caught up with not-at-all famed PC gamer Mac Microsoft, who, in a rash act of loyalty for the oft-ridiculed PC, decided to backpack across the country in order to

prove how "frickin awesome" old-school gaming really is.

"Let's just get one thing straight: I'm not a 'gamer.' I'm a 'video game enthusiast,'" he said as a greeting when we met. We started the interview with the most obvious question: why backpack across the country to prove something no one really cares about?

"My tens of followers want — nay, NEED — to see that there's someone out there who understands ... someone who's willing to do something crazy in defense of what's RIGHT." He adjusted the computer in his lap, which was attached to his waist with a kind of industrial fanny pack.

"You see? This is JUST as portable as the Switch. I bet those Nintendo Switch people feel really stupid right now."

Microsoft's eyes clouded over with

nostalgia — or maybe he was just really dehydrated, we couldn't really tell — when he revealed his first PC gaming memory.

"'Minesweeper' was where it all started," he said, nodding fondly like a proud father talking about his child. "The rest is history." He continued to talk about his love for PC gaming and used many technical words, most of which we tuned out at the three-minute mark.

As for his cross-country computer trip, the end is far from sight.

"I'm not giving up until every gamer knows the truth: that PC gaming is even better than console gaming." He proceeded to trip on the 10-foot power cord and send his onion rings flying. "Aw, man," he said, picking himself up off the floor. "Why does that keep happening!?"

The Lampoon recently reached out



to Microsoft for an update on his travels. Although we never received a response, a bear-like man with a metal fanny pack was seen wandering the mountains of Idaho, mumbling to himself and holding a computer high above his head, as if trying to get a signal.

Illustration by Leslie Martinez-Garcia/Staff Illustrator

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