Creative writing Professor Sarah Gerkensmeyer presented with distinguished prize for short fiction

KENNETH AXFORD
Special to The Leader

The Autumn House Press was founded in Pittsburgh, PA, by a small group of individuals in an effort to promote the ongoing publication of American poetry and short fiction. In recent years, many large American publication companies have, in an effort to alleviate economic woes, tended to shy away from these mediums which focus on economy and brevity in favor of the longer medium of the novel. In response to this trend, certain smaller organizations such as The Autumn House Press have made a concerted effort to provide an outlet for the work of talented writers of poetry and short fiction.

This year, The Autumn House Press has awarded SUNY Fredonia’s assistant professor of English and creative writing Sarah Gerkensmeyer The Autumn House Press fiction prize for her upcoming collection of short stories entitled What You are Now Enjoying. As a result of the limited publication market for poetry and short fiction, the application process for these prizes is often very rigorous and the competition is stiff.

Gerkensmeyer expressed her deep gratitude for having received such positive recognition from the critics at The Autumn House Press. “Small presses such as The Autumn House Press have become a great market for the short story collection. The editors at these presses are passionate about the short-story form and think it’s important to maintain an audience for such collections.”

As part of The Autumn House Press fiction prize, Gerkensmeyer will receive a $1,500 advance toward a book tour to promote her most recent collection of short fiction. She was thrilled by the Press’ generous donation, particularly in the midst of a publication market fraught with uncertainty and upheaval. “Book tours are rapidly changing and becoming less common, even for big name authors at huge presses,” said Gerkensmeyer of her opportunity. “I do envision myself putting together some kind of grassroots tour for my book. Ideally, I’d love to visit colleges. As a teacher, I love teaching short stories and short story collections in my classes. There is so much hands-on learning that students can take away from that form.”

Continued on page A-2

TIM KENNEDY
News Editor

If you were to walk through University Commons and pass by Erik Coler, you would probably just think he was a regular student. Well, the senior political science major is far from a “regular” student. The Manhattanite-turned-Fredonian’s list of achievements is extensive. He has certainly come a long way from Battery Park.

“I wanted to get as far away from NYC as I could … They have trees here; it’s nice,” said Coler with a chuckle. “Working in Western New York and coming from NYC really turns your head upside down, but I love it.”

His resume includes not one, but two policy internships for New York State Senator Charles Schumer in both New York and Washington. Coler also spent time as a fall fellow after being one of the few applicants across the country accepted into the program, which aimed to support President Obama’s 2012 re-election campaign. For a time, he served as president of the College Democrats of Fredonia. He even got tricked into becoming a staff writer for The Leader a few times, though that was likely easier than continuing his allegiance to The New York Mets.

“It’s a tradition of losing,” said Coler jokingly, regarding his old days as a baseball fan. Continued on page A-2
In regard to the thematic elements that appear What You Are Now Enjoying, Gerkenmeyer reflects on the fact that many of her stories tend to have an air of darkness or sadness about them. She recognizes that, in fact, a sense of melancholy or even overt depression seems to pervade a somewhat disproportionate majority of contemporary fiction.

“Everyone wants to write stories that are a little bit different, a little bit more unusual,” said Coler. “I think that’s why so many of us are drawn to writing sad stories. It’s a way to deal with difficult emotions or situations, and it’s a way to connect with readers in a deeper, more meaningful way.”

Gerkenmeyer described the narratives in her most recent collection as ones that tend to “riffl[e] the realistic and surreal in strange ways.” As such, she cited influential authors who also toe this thin line of the uncanny. In particular, she mentions authors such as Kevin Brockemeier, Kevin Wilson, Karen Russell, Aimee Bender and Judy Budnitz, many of whose works is tinged with fantasy and surrealism. She also expressed her ongoing admiration for the work of Flannery O’Connor. “Although her work does not contain magical realism or any overtly surreal elements, she knows how to lead readers into the unknown and the strange in such a precise and forceful way. And that in itself is very much magic, I think.”

While Gerkenmeyer’s literary success is remarkable in and of itself, it is all the more impressive when we consider the fact that she and her husband, who also maintains a professorship in the philosophy department at SUNY Fredonia, both manage to teach and write full time while raising two young children. In order to manage the rigors of such a demanding schedule, Gerkenmeyer has become a member of the Pen Parenthis Fellowship, a non-profit organization based in New York City which aims to support and inspire writers with children. Gerkenmeyer enthusiastically commended the aid granted by the organization in assisting writers to pursue both their professional and personal goals.

Recently, Gerkenmeyer was afforded the opportunity to present a reading at a monthly literary salon held by the organization where she was received $1,000 to help support her writing career.

Sarah Gerkenmeyer is one of a number of professors at SUNY Fredonia who have been recognized for their outstanding talent and devotion to higher education. In the coming years, keep a close eye out for new pieces by Gerkenmeyer as her literary career continues to flourish.
Workshop enlightens on the art of yarn-bombing

MELANIE CISSE
Special to The Leader

On the sides of abandoned buildings, subways and garbage disposals on city streets, you’ll often find graffiti, the art that serves as a social or political outlet of expression for urban youth. Now imagine these same public spaces and objects wrapped in soft, colorful knitted yarn. This is yarn-bombing.

Whether you are a pro at crocheting or simply have a keen interest in learning more about it, the Cathy and Jesse Marion Art Gallery was the place to be last Thursday. The gallery hosted a yarn-bombing workshop where students and community members were given a place to practice their skills while learning more about the yarnbombing phenomenon, which has become an international hit.

This was the first of two workshops on yarn-bombing led by Leesa Rittelmann, associate professor of visual arts and new media. Both workshops were meant to give students a taste of an installation in the spring curated by Rittelmann titled “Gone Viral: Medical Science and Contemporary Textile Art.”

For those still confused about yarn-bombing, it is the act of creating public installations of large pieces of colored bands called “cozies” that are then placed around a wide range of objects. Yarn-bombing was founded by a woman named Magda Sayed of Austin, Texas, who first created a cozy for the door handle of her shop and has since begun a movement. There is now an “International Yarn-bombing Day,” where those who are passionate about crochet and knitting joined together in groups and collaborated in yarn-bombing on large scales.

“It’s a democratic activity that anyone can participate in that also spans the generational divide from steampunk and street art youngsters to so-called graffiti grannies,” said Dr. Rittelmann. She taught herself how to crochet last February through online tutorials and stressed how simple learning to crochet is for those more reluctant on their own ability to crochet at the workshop.

The idea for the upcoming exhibition was sparked last spring when Dr. Rittelmann invited artist Christine Wertheim to Fredonia to present on the Crochet Coral Reef Project. The project was created by the Institute For Figuring, a non-profit organization based in LA dedicated to informing communities about scientific and environmental issues through creative outlets. Wertheim’s presentation and workshop on hyperbolic crochet was a success, inspiring the exhibition which will open to the public in March.

“Because all of the artists in the exhibition work collaboratively with other artists and/or with scientific research institutes, we wanted to foster a similar sense of collaboration here on campus between departments and with the community at large,” said Rittelmann.

The workshop welcomed about 30 participants, with some trickling in later on in the evening. Students sat on chairs and some in groups on the floor when there were no more seats to accommodate them. Each person was given a crochet hook and a ball of yarn and taught the basics of crochet: the single crochet, the double crochet, etc. Together, students at the workshop discussed their troubles and triumphs in crochet.

While a few students had experience with crochet before the workshop, for many, this was their first time ever attempting it. Such was the case for junior art history major Alexis Woodbury.

“I was hoping that I was just going to catch onto it, but that’s not really happening. I’m not very good at it, but I am enjoying it.”

Tina Hastings, the director of the Marion Art Gallery, was pleased with the outcome of the event. She explained a little more about the upcoming exhibition: “The exhibit isn’t just yarn; it’s also craft and textile related.”

Rittelmann was also extremely pleased with the amount of people that showed up to the event and emphasized the importance of yarn-bombing to this generation. “In an increasingly mass-produced, industrialized, urbanized and digitized age, I think it’s important to maintain some connection to the value of handcrafted objects. Traditional media like crochet, knitting, quilting or even whittling a piece of wood take the maker momentarily away from the multiple glowing screens they’re attached to and into a more consciously connected, even meditative frame of mind,” she said.

There are two separate yarn-bomb projects planned for the near future. One will highlight the research involving the harmful Lake Erie algal blooms which produce rises in E. coli bacteria. As for the second project, students will just have to wait and see.
October 1, 2012

5:24 p.m. A male student suffered an allergic reaction to peanuts in the lobby of Grissom Hall. He was transported to Brooks Memorial Hospital.

October 2, 2012

1:10 a.m. A wallet was found in the fountain in Barker Commons and turned in to University Police. A report was filed and Fredonia Police were notified.

1:15 a.m. Bartley M. Gallagher, 29, was found to be in possession of .1 grams of marijuana in lot 19A. Gallagher was taken into custody and issued an appearance ticket for unlawful possession of marijuana.

9:51 p.m. An iPhone was reported stolen from Dods Hall. A report was filed.

October 3, 2012

6:32 a.m. A student fell ill in 303 Hemingsway and was transported to Brooks Memorial Hospital. A report was filed. and photos were taken for evidence.

7:32 a.m. Graffiti was found on women's bathroom stalls in McEwen Hall. A report was filed and photos were taken for evidence.

2:55 p.m. Officers responded to a student vomiting in Thompson Hall. A report was filed and the victim was transported to Brooks Memorial Hospital.

October 4, 2012

3:20 p.m. A Motorola phone was left at Steele Hall. The phone was turned in to University Police and a report was filed.

October 6, 2012

2:10 a.m. A female suffered a seizure in Gregory Hall. She was transported to Brooks Memorial Hospital and a report was filed.

6:25 p.m. A phone was reported stolen from the Dods Hall gymnasium. A report was filed.

11:00 p.m. A ring was found in the exterior of the William Center. A report was filed.

11:27 p.m. A .22 caliber bullet was found by the exterior of Grissom Hall. It was collected as evidence.

October 7, 2012

12:38 a.m. A female was found to be intoxicated in the lobby of Nixon Hall. She was transported to Brooks Memorial Hospital.

2:29 a.m. A male was found to be intoxicated in Chautauqua Hall. He was transported to Brooks Memorial Hospital.

2:26 a.m. Matthew Jessmore, 19, was found to be in possession of marijuana in 312A Hendrix Hall. Jessmore was taken into custody and issued an appearance ticket for unlawful possession of marijuana.

3:18 a.m. Toilet paper was found burning in a bathroom in Schalz Hall. A report was filed and photos were taken for evidence.

Fredonia

September 30, 2012

12:01 a.m. Olivia Renlander, 21, was observed by officers in the east municipal parking lot drinking a can of Bud Light. She was issued an appearance ticket for open container.

October 2, 2012

2:47 a.m. Officers observed a white four-door going 45 mph in a 30 mph zone. Officers pulled over the car at 205 East Main Street and noticed a strong odor of intoxicants emanating from the vehicle and the driver, Matthew R. Jaynes, 31, exhibited slurred speech. Jaynes failed the field sobriety tests and registered a .17 percent BAC. Jaynes was issued tickets for speeding, failure to keep right and driving while intoxicated.

October 3, 2012

2:45 a.m. Officers responded to a call of a disorderly female at 436 Temple St. Officers met up with the roommates of Amanda J. Mecca, 28, who was reported by them to have come home drunk and began throwing things around the house. Officers found Mecca in her room with a bag of marijuana and a glass pipe next to her head. The scene was now under control and Mecca was no longer agitated, so she was issued an appearance ticket for unlawful possession of marijuana.

October 4, 2012

2:22 a.m. Officers responded to a noise complaint at 18 Orchard St. On approach, the responding officer witnessed Joshua J. Rosel, 21, who was taking pictures of the crowd with his cell phone. Rosel was arrested and issued an appearance ticket for disorderly conduct.

6:01 a.m. A male who was taking pictures of the crowd with his cell phone. Rosel was arrested and issued an appearance ticket for disorderly conduct. At the same time, Jessica Tamol, 19, was observed by officers placed in the holding cell, spitting on the officer's leg and boot. Ray was charged with disorderly conduct and harassment in the second-degree.

October 5, 2012

12:04 a.m. Officers responded to a call of a vehicle having just struck a utility pole and mailbox belonging to the residence at 11 Washington Ave. A trail of debris and vehicle fluid led officers to the driveway of 20 Washington, where a silver Jeep was found to have damaged the engine and the engine was still warm. Mariana Binkiwitz, 44, answered the door in an intoxicated state and was identified as the driver of the Jeep. She asked if she was going to jail, and the officers asked why she thought that. Binkiwitz responded, "Well, I watch CSE." Binkiwitz failed multiple field sobriety tests and was taken into custody, at which point she registered a .31 percent BAC. She was issued an appearance ticket for driving while intoxicated, failure to use the designated lane and leaving the scene of a property damage accident.

October 6, 2012

1:17 a.m. Joshua J. King, 20, was observed trying to start fights with groups of people in East Barker Commons and was seen to be restrained by a friend. Officers arrested King and ticketed him for disorderly conduct. King was released on $25 bail.

2:30 a.m. Officers were flagged down and advised of two groups of people being combative with each other. After the groups were separated, Chad T. Robbins, 21, yelled "Fuck you, I'll kick your fucking ass," and was arrested and issued an appearance ticket for disorderly conduct.

2:30 a.m. Officers responded to an altercation at 32 W. Main St. Jonathan Ray, 20, was placed in custody for disorderly conduct. After being placed in custody, Ray began to yell "Fuck all of you in the ass," and repeatedly told officers to "suck my dick." While being processed at the Fredonia Police Station, he resisted when an officer placed him in the holding cell, spitting on the officer's leg and boot. Ray was charged with disorderly conduct and harassment in the second-degree.

October 7, 2012

1:47 a.m. Jordan G. Sherlock, 20, was observed by officers urinating on the wall under the West Main Street boardwalk. Sherlock was issued an appearance ticket for violation of sewer ordinance.

1:54 a.m. Justin B. Hunt was observed by officers at the corner of Center and West Main streets pushing across a portable toilet, causing urine and feces to spill onto the sidewalk and street. Hunt was arrested and issued appearance tickets for disorderly conduct and violation of sewer ordinance.

2:30 a.m. Officers responded to a report of a fight outside Sunny's at 43 Water St. The fight was broken up with the assistance of officers, but Jacob Bekiel, 21, and Jonatah Niosori, 20, continued to be combative with others and were arrested and issued appearance tickets for disorderly conduct. At the same time, Jessica Tamol, 19, shoved an officer after being asked to vacate the area because the crowd had become excessively large. Tamol was also placed under arrest and issued an appearance ticket for disorderly conduct.

2:33 a.m. Officers were called to break up a large altercation at the corner of Water and Canaday streets. While doing so, officers observed Michael J. Thorp, 21, shove a male who was taking pictures of the crowd with his cell phone. Thorp was arrested and issued an appearance ticket for disorderly conduct.

2:10 a.m. At the same altercation, Nathaniel Sumter, 22, was directly ordered by an officer to vacate the scene. Sumter responded, "Really? What the fuck are you going to do? Arrest me?" Sumter was then promptly arrested and issued an appearance ticket for disorderly conduct.

All information printed in The Leader's police blotter is a matter of open public record. No retractions or corrections will be made unless a factual error is shown. Anyone who is cleared of charges has the right to have so printed. It is the responsibility of the accused to provide notice and proof of the dropped charges.
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One of, if not the single most prominent and critical decision posed to millions of high school seniors is that of choosing where to attend college. Before deciding upon SUNY Fredonia, you likely visited other schools and heard countless sales pitches from representatives outlining why that particular college would be the right fit for you. Nevertheless, you landed upon Fredonia, and here you are. 

To some, on-campus safety is such a trivial factor of the decision process mainly due to the sheer statistics of a dangerous incident taking place. It’s much more likely for a student to witness or be the victim of a violent crime outside the confines of the university. Similarly, the college freshmen would be predisposed to a fear of security concerns inside residence halls, particularly within the SUNY system in which strict and regimented limitations and restrictions apply to guest policies.

A collegiate dorm room should be the one safe haven for every student pursuing a higher education and attempting to make his/her post-collegiate dreams a tangible reality. It should serve as a sanctuary, in many ways, providing you with the privacy and isolation unattainable anywhere else and cut-off from the chaotic and often unrelenting stress that college life requires you to endure. Unfortunately, a tragedy for SUNY Brockport has resulted in an admirable reminder to all daemon — that safety, security, and in this solemn case even life, are not guaranteed to us regardless of time or space.

When having impatient guests over whom may want to explore the building and surrounding area or go get something from the vending machine, it’s tempting and not particularly hard to give your room key/FredCard to them to save time and aggravation. Every time you do however, you jeopardize the room security and might compromise your belongings or destroy something of value may have been taken.

To abide by the Residence Halls’ guest procedures and policies was the case. Perhaps the Fredonia campus provided you with an inexcusable convivial sense, had the right program you’d always dreamed of majoring in, or simply offered you the most cost-effective route. Whatever the scenario, there is one component of the momentous college-choosing decision process that is often overlooked: the issue of safety.

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I've encountered many things in my life that annoy me, things I find wholly inexplicable and mostly stupid. That list includes, but is in no way limited to: dudes who yell “swag,” longboards, people who ride bikes with a cigarette in one hand and a cell phone in the other and last but not least those people who use the handicapped button to open doors for them when they themselves are fully mobile beings.

None of these even remotely compare to Fred Phelps Sr. and his clan of balmy fanatics, the Westboro Baptist Church. I had always tried to ignore these dingbats as just that; to dwell on what is most likely the worst sect of humanity still allowed to walk free today isn't going to do anyone any good.

And then I found out they were coming to Dunkirk. Oh, hell no. For those of you who are unaware, the WBC are the “God Hates Fags,” guys. For those of you who are still unaware who those guys are, there’s this thing called Google. The most concise ways to describe them would be as a relatively small group of bags of suck. Just as proclaiming yourself a member of the WBC makes you a member of WWE star John Cena’s “Cenation,” makes you yourself a member of a group of homophobes, anti-semites, and mostly stupid. That list includes, but is in no way limited to: dudes who yell “swag,” longboards, people who ride bikes with a cigarette in one hand and a cell phone in the other.

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If you have photos for the page, please submit them to our Photo Editor at Sadl.217t@gmail.com
Big heels, big hair and big attitude made its way to the stage Friday night for Pride Alliance’s annual drag show, “Dragapalooza.” The event was held in the Williams Center’s newly renovated Multi-Purpose Room, where hundreds of students from Fredonia gathered together to watch the drags lip sync and dance to some of today’s most popular songs and remixes.

According to Ramon Johnson, the founder of brickfive.com, a website dedicated to men’s culture and wellness, “Men dressed in drag, but were most widely seen in Shakespearean plays. These performances are perhaps the first drag shows. During modern day drag shows, female illusionists dance, act and perform on stage, in the dress and mannerisms of women. These shows are a popular and anticipated event in many gay bars and have even emerged into local, regional and national pageants and competitions between performers.”

DeeDee Dubois, a professional drag from Tilt nightclub in Rochester, came to SUNY Fredonia to support the students, as well as perform and host the event.

Student performers competed for the title of Mr. and Mrs. Fredonia and were judged based on the extravagance of their outfit, enthusiasm level, interaction with the crowd and how well they knew the lyrics to the songs they were performing.

Drag shows are not just something for the homosexual community but something that everyone can enjoy. One of the compliments given by Dubois throughout the night was praise given to the amount of support she saw from students and faculty on such a diverse campus.

President Virginia Scharfer Horvath attended the event and it was by no means her first at Fredonia. She’s been coming to it for years. Horvath announced that she is proud that Fredonia hosts “Dragapalooza.”

“Everyone is so supportive of each other. It is easy to recognize that everyone has fun and it is just a great environment to be in.”
This year’s competition was nothing less than fierce. While giving suggestions and feedback on the performances, Dubois stressed the fact that all the performances were outstanding and no one should go home feeling like a failure simply because they didn’t win a crown. She encouraged all students involved in the night’s performance to keep trying semester after semester because improvement is the key ingredient to success.

At the end of the show, President Horvath was given the opportunity to crown the drag king and queen. Tony Bag-a-donuts won the title of Mr. Fredonia. Aside from the clothing and fake beard, Tony is also known as Samantha Schlein, a public relations and audio/radio productions major here at Fredonia. This was her first time participating in a drag show. “Honestly, I came into this just kind of to make a statement. My two friends just came out recently, and they were like ‘I could never do the drag show’ so I was kind of doing it to be in support of them, and to be like ‘it’s ok! Accept yourself!’”

The title of Mrs. Fredonia was awarded to Giselle Royale, otherwise known as Anthony Mercedes. Anthony is a public relations major with a dual minor in French and sociology and was overjoyed by the fact that he won the title. This was Anthony’s first time participating in a drag show as well.

“It was extremely exciting but it was so nerve racking I couldn’t even stand it,” he said. “I was so worried about looking too manly and how this routine was going to come out. It was so stressful but at the end of the day, it came all together and I won.”

Mr. and Mrs. Fredonia, along with all the competitors of the evening, received an invitation to perform in Tilt nightclub with Dubois in the spring for a college night show in Rochester.

Another annual drag show will be held in the spring, so if you missed your chance to get up close and personal to high fashion and feet tapping beats, make sure to grab a ticket to the next one.

Fred girl fashion: Dressing for success

EMALEIGH LYNN DUDLEY
Special to The Leader

We all know the importance of dressing well and dressing for the job you want. Dressing appropriately implies that you will take your future job seriously as well as proving you are the better suited applicant. With many of our collegiate careers coming to a close, soon it will be time to update our future professional wardrobes.

However, before maxing out your parents’ credit card at J Crew, it’s important to learn just what your clothing, or more importantly the color of your clothing, says about you.

Dr. Galinsky of Northwestern University has introduced a new form of psychology dedicated to furthering investigation on the significance of clothing on our psyche. The theory is called “enclothed cognition.”

She states, “Clothing affects how other people perceive us as well as how we think about ourselves. ‘Enclothed cognition’ is the systematic influence that clothes have on the wearer’s psychological processes.”

Our body’s central nervous system has an emotional response to different shades of colors, meaning that wearing a particular piece of clothing in one color may give off a completely different impression than in another color. For example, wearing deep, rich hues such as burgundy or butternut yellow give off the impression of economic prosperity and success. They also give off the impression of social influence.

To appear less intimidating, trustworthy and more friendly, professionals should wear clothing in pastel shades of green, lavender and yellow, as well as baby blue – the most trustworthy color of all. Those who seek an aura of professionalism should choose to wear clothing in deep shades of navy and charcoal grey, which also evoke a feeling of security and commitment. It has been proven that applicants interviewing for jobs are more likely to be hired if they are wearing a navy or dark grey suit in favor of one in khaki or light grey.

Finally, to improve levels of physical appearance as well as increasing sex appeal, wear shades of bold red, which also convey sensations of passion and aggression.
Welcome to week six of The A-Tracks, your source for the Fredonia music scene. It has been a fairly quiet week for this section. The radio show is up and running at its permanent time at 1 p.m. on Wednesday afternoons on WDVL 98.3. There is also special coverage of Daron Hagen’s master class and composer’s roundtable event from this past Friday. Our artist of the week is a relatively local, female-fronted group, ARIA, with two members from Buffalo, NY.

Check out our blog at FredoniaLeader.org for an artist profile of ARIA!

SPECIAL: ETHOS and SOTA Welcome Composer Daron Hagen

American composer Daron Hagen joined Fredonia students in Rosch Hall on Friday afternoon to share his tips of the trade. Throughout the master class, Hagen taught the six performing vocalists how to take the stage by storm. His enthusiasm and charm filled the theater, making the experience both enjoyable and entertaining.

Daron Hagen is a full time composer of primarily opera and concert music. He is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, The Curtis Institute of Music and Juilliard. On top of composing, he has also held numerous positions as a professor and directing conductor. To date, Hagen has written 208 art songs, song cycles and choral works, eight operas, four symphonies, twelve concertos, and over 40 chamber works. These works have won him numerous awards as well as respect and acclaim in the music community.

All eight of Daron Hagen’s operas are currently in production or revival in either the United States, Europe or Asia. Over the years, his music has been performed by the New York Philharmonic, the National Symphony, the Buffalo Philharmonic, the Louvre and many other reputable associations. For a musician of his caliber, his generosity and welcoming demeanor are both surprising and refreshing.

Hagen’s comic relief and energetic nature put both the audience and the performers at ease during Friday’s master class. He was very respectful and encouraging of all the performers while giving them valuable advice. Hagen encouraged students to treat the theater as their “house” and compared singing in front of an audience to telling ghost stories. In both instances, it is important to draw your audience in and engage them. He explained that, to give a good performance, singers must take risks, make their emotions accessible, remain flexible and abandon any ideas of shame. His instructions were less technical than are found in many master classes, focusing more on helping the students embody the personality of their song and build their confidence and stage presence.

A composers roundtable with Daron Hagen, John MacDonald, and Caroline Malloné followed the master class on Friday evening. A faculty recital on Saturday also featured Hagen’s work. All three events were sponsored by Fredonia’s Student Opera Association, the ETHOS New Music Society. Both groups strive to bring artists, composers and performances to the Fredonia stages that will benefit and educate both SUNY Fredonia students and community members.

While the event was primarily geared toward vocal and composition students, anyone who attended could appreciate the work and teachings of Daron Hagen. He managed to teach students and audience members important lessons in performance while keeping the event enjoyable and accessible to everyone in attendance. For the six musicians fortunate enough to work with him directly, it was surely an honor and an experience they will never forget.

ALBUM REVIEW: The Garden of Love, Songs of William Blake – Martha Redbone

Produced by: John McEuen and David Hoffman

Website: martharedbone.com

Genre: Roots

In The Garden of Love, Songs of William Blake, Martha Redbone brings us 12 tracks of soulful and pure roots music. While this is not Redbone’s first album, it shows listeners her true sound and personality for the first time as she returns to her own roots. A musician of both Native American and African American descent, her sound is a unique blend of her mixed heritage.

The Garden of Love was released just this year and is dedicated to her young son, Zachariah. It focuses on the pure and raw emotion of life through the words of visionary poet and painter of the late 18th and early 19th centuries. All the songs on Redbone’s album come from The Complete Poetry and Prose of William Blake. Blake’s work is known for being like no other, which explains why this newest album by Martha Redbone is in a class of its own as well.

Redbone’s mixed heritage, along with her migratory lifestyle, have influenced her style significantly. She has lived in Virginia and Kentucky over the years, and, more recently, Brooklyn. She has also spent time in London and even went to Nashville to record in order to surround herself with the mixed musical culture that the area provides. This has resulted in a sound that has the earthy tones of traditional Native American music as well as the jazz and gospel styles that have become synonymous with African American culture. Add to that a youthful energy and modern techniques and the result is wholesome, diverse and truly enjoyable music.

The variety of instrumentation found on The Garden of Love adds depth to the selection as a companion varies from track to track. Guitar, upright bass, banjo, mandolin, dulcimers, keyboards, harmonicas and even flute are all featured at one point or another. And Martha Redbone’s voice is the icing on the cake. It is sweet and soulful, full yet gentle and has a timbre that has the power to both entrance and move your listeners.

Overall, you could compare Martha Redbone’s sound and style to Otis Taylor and Alison Kraus. The album, as a whole, is comparable to Anais Mitchell’s Hadestown and selections from the soundtrack to O Brother Where Art Thou? Producer John McEuen’s influence is also heard. As the founder of Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, the production is very similar to his earlier work.

If the versatility and quality of The Garden of Love is not enough to convince listeners of Martha Redbone’s talent, her previous successes certainly should. Her first album, Home of the Brave, won her the Native American Music Award for Best Debut Album in 2002. Skirtalk, her second album, won her the Independent Music Award for Best R&B album and the Indian Summer Music Award for Best Pop album in 2006. This newest album is sure to gain Redbone compliments of the highest kind and draw significant crowds as she tours around the North East in the coming months.

A lot of music in this day and age follows the same general pattern or style. Up and coming artists try to emulate those at the top of the charts in hopes that they will find themselves there as well. Martha Redbone proves with The Garden of Love, Songs of William Blake that standing out can be the real advantage. Her unique style is sure to attract music lovers who are looking for something new, for something different and for the next best thing.

#1 “Some Nights” – Fun.
#2 “One More Night” – Maroon 5
#3 “Whistle” – Flo Rida
#4 “We Are Never Getting Back Together” – Taylor Swift
#5 “Gangnam Style” – PSY
#6 “As Long As You Love Me” – Justin Bieber
#7 “Blow Me (One Last Kiss)” – Pink
#8 “Too Close” – Alex Clare
#9 “Good Time” – Owl City
#10 “Lights” – Ellie Goulding

Fun, has maintained their position at the top of the chart while Maroon 5 and Flo Rida switched places in the second and third spots. Taylor Swift also maintained her ranking at number four. “Gangnam Style” put PSY on the chart for the first time, bumping Nessie Trounce off the Top Ten. Justin Bieber and Ellie Goulding both fell one spot, and Mac Miller moved down two places. Pink and Owl City both managed to move up a position this week.
Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee

CHELSEA DRAKE
Assistant Review Editor

Whether you’re getting Twitter updates on your phone about the presidential debate while simultaneously watching it, checking Facebook for that trending parody video or receiving texts about weekend plans, we can probably all agree on one thing: social media is exploding with useful and sometimes hilariously clever criticisms on just about everything we’re involved in today.

A few weeks ago, my brother and I were graciously given “Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee?” he asked. I told him I had never heard of it before and went on to tell him that I was a huge fan of Jerry Seinfeld. I called my brother shortly after watching a few fifteen minute episodes and we bantered about our shared love for Seinfeld, his show and his new captivating series. My brother reminds me to always check out the “spare parts” for Seinfeld, his show and his new captivating series. My

The first two characters that the reader encounters, Samantha and Miles, are at the scene of the death. Through third person perspective, it’s clear how selfish these characters are. Samantha describes going all the way to the hospital with Mr. Fairweather’s wife and sometimes hilariously clever criticisms on just about anything Jerry comes across. Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee is the perfect thing to watch between classes, before bed or when you feel the itch for a good laugh.

The entire episode is conversational. Except for the smooth interruption of pleasant images shot with a high quality camera, the episode is wholly about two people conversing over coffee about various topics, debatably of no importance whatsoever.

I called my brother shortly after watching a few fifteen minute episodes and we bantered about our shared love for Seinfeld, his show and his new captivating series. My brother reminds me to always check out the “spare parts” which are located below the main video on the website. Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee is the perfect backpack pass to eavesdropping in on some of our favorite stars, mostly just the funny ones. They remind me mostly of those videos our professors have us watch that are actually interesting, though we would probably never look them up again once stepping foot out of the classroom; those clever videos that aim at nothing but make you think about everything. It’s that sort of thing, mixed with the humor one could probably relate to that of “The Office.” Or maybe it’s just another excuse to bury my nose deep into social media in the midst of chaos. Whatever it may be, it’s the perfect thing to watch between classes, before bed or when you feel the itch for a good laugh.

CHELSEA DRAKE
Assistant Review Editor

When, she admitting to herself that she got bored, asked to be let out of the ambulance halfway there. As more characters are introduced, it is clear that everyone in Pagford is the same way. One character actually describes the death as “exciting.” There is no battle between good and evil such as the one Harry Potter experiences throughout the series. The Casual Vacancy instead takes the reader through a social war of petty people and reality show drama.

Another important difference to take note of is this novel’s adult content. J.K. Rowling wrote a series that many children read and grew up with, but this novel will definitely not have the same effect. There are several situations that contain sex, drugs, graphic language and prostitution.

Throughout the novel, there is a notion that these characters have deeper histories. Though Rowling has them struggling with their secrets, many questions are left unanswered. The great character writing that was done in the Harry Potter series is not up to par in this novel, though there are not seven parts. The large list of characters is also hard to keep track of as the reader is so quickly introduced to all of them. Many may find themselves wanting a key of characters as they confuse a teenager for someone’s parent.

The Casual Vacancy is definitely a jeering turn from what readers are used to from Rowling. Despite its odd qualities, she can still write a page turner.
Fall is for markets and squash

COURTNEY GFROERER
Special to The Leader

As the leaves begin to change, so does the fresh produce that is available. With fall comes a wonderfully colored variety of squash, which happens to be featured at our very own Fredonia farmers market.

On Saturday mornings throughout the month of October, dozens of stands selling baked goods, fruits, veggies and flowers line Church Street. While also supporting the local economy and businesses, I decided to focus this week on a super easy fall recipe that has subtle elements of Thanksgiving. As I looked through all of the fresh produce at the market, I settled on a large, lovely green acorn squash. The one I bought cost only a dollar, and it provided two large helpings of the recipe below.

What you need:

1 acorn squash
4 teaspoons white or brown sugar (2 for each half)
4 tablespoons honey (2 for each half)
2 teaspoons cinnamon (1 for each half)
A few tablespoons of butter at room temperature

What to do:

Preheat the oven to 400º
Take the squash and cut it down the middle, splitting it into two. Using a spoon, scoop out and dispose of the seeds and stringy material in the middle. Score each half with a knife, cutting through about one fourth of an inch in a checkerboard pattern. Lightly coat the exposed interior with a layer of butter.

Place each half in an oven safe glass dish with a half inch of water in the bottom. This step is very important as it prevents the squash from drying out during the cooking process.
Sprinkle on the sugar, cinnamon and honey. Bake for one hour to one hour and 15 minutes. When done, the squash should be very tender. Scoop out the insides and pour any extra honey and sugar liquids onto the squash.

Though this starch may be foreign and intimidating for some, it is a truly awesome side to have with dinner. It is sweet and warm, which complements any fall meal. I made this for my housemates Courtney Lusk and Courtney Martinic. Though Lusk was excited, Martinic was hesitant at first.

“T had never tried it before so I didn’t know what to expect. I thought it would be bland and tasteless,” Martinic said. “It was rich with flavor, and the cinnamon and honey weren’t too sweet. The flavors balanced each other out well."

Courtney Gfroerer/Staff Writer
Women’s volleyball drops final three matches of own tournament

ANDY OLSSON
Special to The Leader

The Blue Devil invitational kicked off Friday afternoon with Fredonia hosting the D’Youville Spartans in the opening round matchup. A total of eight teams were split into two pools with each guaranteed at least four games.

Fredonia knocked off the Spartans in their first match and the Blue Devils needed only three sets to clinch the victory. The front line for Fredonia had a size advantage and they used every bit of it. Combined with a solid passing attack, the Blue Devils cruised in the final set to keep the Spartans from posting any tallies in the win column.

“In the first set we had a lot of unforced errors, but we’ve been working on controlling the momentum and I thought we responded well,” said Head Coach Geoff Braun.

“Mistakes are going to be made by everybody but it’s how you react to those that determines the outcome of the match. Overall, I was very pleased with our performance.”

Paula Rein, freshman opposite hitter, led the Blue Devils in kills with eight while Kelly Edfinger, freshman setter, finished with 24 assists. Hannah Manning, junior outside hitter, and Meredith Smietana, freshman middle blocker, each recorded three blocks in the victory. An all around match from Lindsey Olson, senior outside hitter, also helped the Blue Devils cruise to victory. Olson finished with four kills, two blocks...
and two aces.

Olson is the lone senior on a team that features nine freshman. With only three
juniors and one senior, the freshman and sophomores on the team have immediately
seen action. Although the Blue Devils started the season slow, they have rebounded to
win nine of their last 13 matches.

“We wanted to come out and represent ourselves well and I think we did that in the
first match,” Braun said. “Our front line made the difference and, once we got a little
momentum, we went on a pretty good run.”

The rest of the weekend didn’t go as planned for the Blue Devils as they fell in each
of their remaining matches. Friday night, they dropped their match against the Rochester
Institute of Technology and on Saturday, they fell to Case Western University as well as
to eventual tournament champions, Westminster College. The Blue Devils finished the
tournament 1-3.

Westminster breezed through the Blue Devil invitational, losing only one set all
weekend going into the championship match against Buffalo State. The Bengals won
the first set, 25-10, but couldn’t keep the momentum and lost three consecutive sets to
finish second in the tournament. Westminster’s junior Lexi Starheim was awarded the
Most Valuable Player of the tournament. Starheim recorded 15 kills in the championship
match. Nazareth won the consolation match against RIT in a thriller that took all five
sets to determine a winner.

The All Tournament Team included: Katie Palcovic, Westminster; Kelsey Bashore,
Buffalo State; Aubrey Cooke, Nazareth; Rachel Galley, Case; Cat Sullivan, RIT; Taylor
McMillen, Pitt-Bradford; and Fredonia’s own, Hannah Manning.

Fredonia will travel to Ithaca this weekend as part of the Ithaca invitational. They
will face Wells College and SUNY Potsdam on Friday. The Blue Devils have matches
slated against St. Lawrence University and the host team, Ithaca College, on Saturday.
Pool play for the SUNYACs starts the following weekend at Fredonia when the Blue
Devils welcome Buffalo State back to town.

2012 Women’s Volleyball Standings

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<tr>
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2012 Men’s Soccer Standings

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2012 Women’s Soccer Standings

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What a difference a day can make.
No less than 24 hours after beating Oswego 3-1, the Blue Devils were shut out at home Saturday by the Cortland Red Dragons 2-0.
The first half was quiet on the offensive end, proving to be more of a possession battle with both teams figuring out each other’s 4-4-2 flat line defenses. The Blue Devils’ best scoring chance came at the 9:34 mark when the Red Dragon goalie, Taylor Hudson, botched a save off of a free kick. Fredonia’s Reilly Condordorio nearly scored off the rebound from just a few yards out. She was denied by Hudson who ended the game with seven saves. The play, unfortunately, was one of several missed Blue Devil opportunities.
The shutout was only the second time the Blue Devils have been held goalless all season. The only other occasion came back in early September when Alleghany blanked the Blue Devils 2-0 in the Clarion Classic.
After the game, Head Coach Chris Case noted that the fatigue factor didn’t have much to do with the loss.
“I thought, actually, today for the first time we did alright,” said Case. “Both teams were tired, I think Cortland played 110 minutes yesterday going into double overtime, and we got some rest for some players. We didn’t finish our chances when we got them, and we allowed them to shoot the ball.”
Sophomore Maggie Horan started in the net instead of the usual senior starter, Meaghan Menzies. Despite strong play, Horan allowed two goals on six shots. Both goals were scored in the last 25 minutes of the second half by Cortland’s Rachel Parker and Jenny Angione.
“We knew what they were going to do, they didn’t change at all,” said Case. “We made an adjustment and we had the better possession, I thought, for some of the second half. I mean, the game goes in ebbs and flows. Sometimes you’re on top and sometimes you’re not. When we’re on top, sometimes we just didn’t make that final pass and execute.”
So far, Cortland has been one of the SUNYAC’s top teams, winning five of their first six in-conference games and tying another. Despite the loss, the Blue Devils have played and won against better competition than the Red Dragons. It was just two weeks ago that Fredonia skyrocketed to 22 in the national rankings after beating the number one team in the nation, William Smith. It was the first time the program has ever been that high. Despite the potential, the squad faces a question regarding consistency after being beaten by Brockport 5-1 and getting bounced from the top 25.
“Consistency; we just need to be more consistent,” said Case. “Our team plays really well at times, and then we make some major mistakes at times. So if we can ever find some consistency, we might be able to creep back into some ranking stuff. But I’m not really concerned about the rankings and I don’t think our players really are either, we’re just trying to win one game at a time.”
As it stands, the Blue Devils’ record of 8-3-1 overshadows any letdowns the team has suffered over the past week. However, the Blue Devils have a 2-2-1 record within the SUNYAC and are currently fifth in the standings as of Saturday. Time will tell what team shows up for the SUNYAC tournament that begins in just under three weeks. Heading into the final stretch of the regular season, the Devils face their biggest test yet with five of their final six games being in-conference.

Blue Devils split weekend series with conference opponents
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FOR RENT

FOR RENT
Politically motivated dating show debuts, audience skeptical of its potential

MR. PEE
Unemployed, Special to The Lampoon

The premiere of the new ABC reality-dating program, “US Presidential Debates,” was a departure from the usual format, which proved to be a rare miss by the network that could often be credited with popularizing the genre with programs like “The Bachelor.” While ABC should be commended for their willingness to put on, in prime time, a dating show between interracial, middle-aged (and male) suitors, I can’t help but feel that there are some major mistakes that really hampered this program’s ability to form a lasting relationship between the two gentlemen featured on the show.

Barry, a 51-year-old government worker, was matched for the big date with Will, a 65-year-old investment banker. Will, having been found through a gradual culling of a field of approximately seven other eligible bachelors (and one misshapen leprechaun), was given his first chance at the prize, a bachelors (and one misshapen leprechaun), form a lasting relationship between the two gentlemen featured on the show.

First, there was an obvious problem of venue. While it’s okay to try to change up the usual dinner/mansion locale for these shows, I’d say that having the contestants stand behind podiums in an auditorium was a big miss. By putting your match on opposite sides of a stage, there’s little hope for intimacy between your couple. The podium acts as a barrier to body language, and no matter how hard Barry can flash his “do me” eyes to Will, it forms an obstacle to making a real connection.

The two began with an amenable start; a cordial greeting, bonding over a shared love of children’s shows (though Will admits a waning interest) and bullying a senior citizen in tandem. But things quickly degraded. They had obviously googled each other beforehand and didn’t like what they saw. Arguments started quickly and were strangely spurred in tandem. But things quickly degraded. They tried to continue fights for the 90-minute stand behind podiums in an auditorium shows, I’d say that having the contestants be up to 80 biddies in high heels standing in line for Sunny’s. In a breakdown, these biddies in line it can be noted that: 1/4 of those biddies get denied for having fake IDs, 1/4 have sequined tops, 1/4 have the same bright pink phone cover and 1/4 have the same black high-heels from T.J. Maxx. Using the information listed above, find a formula to determine how many of these biddies are going home with a guy they met on the dance floor (if you get this correct, you get a free shot at Sunny’s — not really).

2. A typical college student tweets pointless stuff on an average of 57 times a day and Facebook-creeps about 63 “friends” a day. During their time at the library “studying,” students spend about an hour on Twitter and an hour on Facebook, respectively. While online, they post one status update, tweet three facts about cats, comment on five statuses and post one video of a chubby child rapping. How many pointless tweets are they sending out and how many people do they creep on in that hour?

3. Four boys decide to join a fraternity on campus subjecting the new members to a $300 fee in order to be associated with the group. With that money, 1/3 goes to T-shirts with the group’s Greek symbols sewn on, 1/3 goes to buying the keg for their jungle themed mixer and 1/3 goes to investing in stock from Hollister. With these things in mind, how many friends, on average, did each boy make at the end of one year?

4. Twenty students gather above the library to have a Nerf War on Sunday evenings. Each student is equipped with a Nerf Vortex Pyragon that has a forty-disc rapid slam fire and makes approximately ten decibels of noise each time one disc is shot. While the students play, a different group of students studying for their exam the next morning get increasingly frustrated and begin sending the first group nasty glares as time progresses. Find the ratio of annoyance from the students studying compared to how much fun the students engaged in the Nerf war are having.

5. Plot the records of our sports teams on campus using a graph with X being wins and Y being losses. [2,9], [5,6], [1,10], [3,8], [9,11], [-2,13].