President Obama secures a second term

Anne Ritz
Staff Writer

Many either celebrated or were filled with disappointment last Tuesday evening. On Nov. 6, Obama took the lead with 332 electoral votes, securing his role as President of the United States for a second term.

The popular vote closely predicted the outcome of the election, with Romney at 48 percent and Obama at 50.5 percent. The Democratic Party also retained control of the Senate with the gain of two seats. The Republican Party retained the control of the House with 234 seats.

The results of this year’s election were very close, unlike the 2008 election when Obama won with 365 electoral votes. Students coming out of the polls at the Fredonia polling location feel that both campaigns were very close.

Matt Cali, sophomore music education major, had a difficult time choosing a candidate. He found that certain points of each differed with his own beliefs. “I thought the election was interesting. Both candidates, I thought, had very interesting viewpoints and it was hard to agree with one particular side on things, like the social aspects,” Cali said.

“I liked Mitt Romney’s economic views, but I didn’t like his social views,” Cali said, “And, on the other side, I liked Obama’s social views, but I didn’t like his economic views.”

Don Maimone, a junior music performance major, thought that Obama’s performance in the first debate New CMA director strives to serve students

Kenneth Axford
Staff Writer

The Center for Multicultural Affairs is home to a number of important groups at Fredonia, all of whom work to facilitate social activism and awareness on campus. Among others, these groups include the Women’s Student Union, Pride Alliance, Black Student Union and Latinos Unidos.

Last year, following the departure of the previous director, a lengthy search began for a new CMA director. Potential candidates from all over the country were subjected to an intensive interview process with both the faculty and students at Fredonia. This week, the search came to an end and Jellema Stewart officially began her career as the new CMA director.

Prior to applying for the position at Fredonia, Stewart worked at Buffalo State University as a complex director in residence life. This position entailed the supervision and management of two residence halls which housed approximately four hundred students. She has also worked at the University of Maryland in Baltimore as a group interventionist. Now, Stewart will bring her extensive background in social work and an impressive talent for management to our own Center for Multicultural Affairs.

This Monday, staff and students were invited to meet Stewart at an open house held in the CMA office in Thompson E-125. In regard to her vision for the future of CMA, Stewart stressed the importance of increased visibility and student participation on campus. In speaking with CMA members, it became apparent that many students were unaware of the center and the vital role it plays on campus.

“They give out sweatshirts and other items with the CMA logo on them, but a lot of [students] don’t know what that stands for …. My role is to brand them, to let people know what CMA is here.”

Stewart also noted that, while some groups in the CMA may seem specific to one demographic, anyone is welcome to participate regardless of their culture or heritage.

“Being in the Black Student Union doesn’t mean you have to be a black student. Anyone can be involved.”

Continued on page A-2

Kenneth Axford/Staff Writer

Jellema Stewart readily accepts her new position and hopes to make a difference.

Freshman Olivia Melinski pledges to vote on Election Day.

Brittany Gilbert/Special to The Leader

Continued on page A-2
The CMA should, by its very nature, serve as an open forum for students to discuss pertinent social issues, and Stewart addressed this fact in her open invitation for student involvement in CMA activities. Her years of experience in higher education have taught Stewart the importance of being mindful of students’ expectations, particularly on a small campus such as Fredonia. On smaller campuses, the degree of accountability between staff and students tends to be higher, and so it is especially important that protection mechanisms are in place to ensure that student voices are heard. With an administrator on a smaller campus, “all eyes are on you.” In fact, a significant portion of Stewart’s interview process consisted of an evaluation by a panel of students from various groups on campus. She attributes her appointment to director in part to the good rapport she developed with these students during the interview. “Their input was very valuable in whether or not I got the job. If they didn’t click with me or vice versa, I don’t think I would be sitting here... You can be trained to do a job, but you can’t train someone to connect with the students.”

Under Stewart’s direction, we can expect to see an increased presence from the CMA on campus. In addition to her work with groups affiliated with the CMA, she hopes to work with other departments in order to achieve collective goals on campus.

This election, many people were split into different issues. The public seemed to be divided on different topics that came up during this campaign. “I think it was polarized, but whether it was more polarized than ’08 — probably a little bit more. But it certainly wasn’t not polarized four years ago. I think it was highly polarized, but I think there was a lot of motivation from voters for Romney that their prime motivation was to unseat Obama,” Cornell said. “I think, also, Affordable Care Act probably polarized the vote a little more because it became such a hot button issue.”

Dr. Linda Brigance, communication professor, felt that the results of this election demonstrated how polarized we are as a country and the gaps in different topics that came up during this campaign. “I think this campaign season and the election results reflect a highly polarized country. It illustrates the election is over. The level of hateful discourse is going to be higher, and so it is especially important that promises be kept and initiatives followed through under Stewart’s direction.”

“No group on campus exists alone, and organizations are very often able to do their best work in tandem with one another. Jelenna Stewart recognizes this and hopes to extend an attitude of open collaboration to other groups on campus.”

“They input was very valuable in whether or not I got the job. If they didn’t click with me or vice versa, I don’t think I would be sitting here... You can be trained to do a job, but you can’t train someone to connect with the students.”

Under Stewart’s direction, we can expect to see an increased presence from the CMA on campus. In addition to her work with groups affiliated with the CMA, she hopes to work with other departments in order to achieve collective goals on campus.

“Then, after the first debate, everyone said Obama was destroyed. So, I think he was a little too cocky coming into it. But I guess we’ll see.”

“I didn’t really like Romney’s campaign; I thought he was planning for women’s rights and everything. But I guess we’ll see.”

“Voters are influenced by people they know more than ads, etcetera, so something forwarded to you by a friend or posted on Facebook is going to get your attention more than an ad on TV or a direct mail piece. I’m sure that is a big factor in the increasing participation by young voters.”

“The buzzing of people’s reactions on election day in person and in social media, illustrates the division in this country. Whether you came across a nasty comment or a hateful tweet, the strong emotions were hard to escape. Brigance hopes, now that the election is over, this will begin to become less of a problem. I would like to see a return to civility now that the election is over. The level of hateful discourse is concerning,” Brigance explained. “Healthy democracy needs civil public debate, we can’t solve anything by shouting past each other and we certainly have a lot of serious problems to solve in the next four years.”
Veterans honored with ReEntry performance

MAGGIE GILROY
Staff Writer

The second production by the Performing Arts Company premiered Saturday at the American Legion in Fredonia. ReEntry, directed by senior theater arts and public relations major Ramon Rayhn, was a respectful and enlightening tribute to the men and women who have served our country overseas.

The production featured an ensemble cast of a mere five actors: Nicholas Nieves, Nick Stevens, Jake Bradley, Theresa Egloff and Deanna Jelardi. The performance took place off-campus, which is a change from the company’s usual home, the Bartlett Theatre.

“It’s the American Legion, which is a home for a lot of veterans to go and be a member of,” said Rayhn.

“The plan was to get it close to Veterans Day; since it is a military show, we felt like it would fit the time period of Veterans Day and have it at a space that has to do with veterans.”

Written in 2009 by Emily Ackerman and KJ Sanchez, the play consisted of a series of scenes and monologues that feature real words taken from interviews with people who had been discharged from the armed services or on leave for a period of time. The show focuses on the re-entry process into civilian life, as well as the effect it has on family members that surround themselves with members of the armed services.

This content hit home with several cast members including Nieves, who played Man 1 in the production.

“Most of the members of my family have been in the armed services … so I come from a background where I’m familiar with the military,” said Nieves. “Also, I come from Dunkirk and there are a lot of people there from the military, there’s a lot of pride there … so personally, I already know what it’s like for some families dealing with not knowing how to handle – how to interact with people coming back. Because things are different; things change for them.”

“We, as a cast, have sat down and talked about our own experiences, our families. We went online, did a little bit of research … but the most important part of the play is just the honesty, because it’s all of their words, because it’s all interviews. So, it’s all right there on the page, all of their emotions,” Nieves went on to say.

“As they were performing at the American Legion, with the final performance taking place on Veterans Day, the cast and crew felt the pressure of performing in front of veterans who had experienced the topics covered in the play on a personal level. Nieves described this pressure as “a huge responsibility.”

“Because this is such an honest show, all the tips and tricks we usually learn as actors don’t work here. It’s not about entertaining, it’s about being honest to the words and honest to the people who have served and try to give them some respect.”

“My oldest brother is in the Air Force … and although that this show focuses more directly on the Marine branch, I have a connection to it too,” said Rayhn. “My job is to make sure that it’s coming across as honest as possible, that the people that are watching this will actually believe that these are real people and that the words and stories they have to tell are actually true.”

While everyone is used to the violent, gory images of war that are shown online and in newspapers and magazines, the struggle the armed forces face re-assimilating into society is a topic not frequently touched upon.

“The show brought this re-entry process to light, as it is something that is often seen as taboo and is not mentioned frequently in our society. Audience members are reminded that life at home will never be the same for those who had served and that it should be recognized openly in society.

“I don’t know if it’s about reminiscing about the times, I think it’s more about appreciating the fact that this happened to other people and then being able to compare … I think it’s more about relating to it,” said Rayhn.

“I think one thing we really want to try to get across to these veterans that, the things you went through, they went through too. You’re not alone,” said Nieves.

This message was especially meaningful to audience member Nancy York, whose sons have served overseas including her son, Kyle, who is in the military in the Army and will be leaving again in January for Afghanistan.

“My heart just goes out to these kids that have really come forward and let us know how these boys and girls deal with things that come home,” said York. “And, as a mother, my heart breaks that I have to have my boys go there. They don’t come home and complain … because they don’t want their mother and father to know that they are hurting in this way.

“These kids did an absolutely wonderful, wonderful job with this. My reality is that I am going to go through this again and they did a great job … it doesn’t hit you until you see it right there and on stage.” York saw the production on Saturday and planned to bring her husband, who was also in the military, back to see it the following day.

“Although it is in the back of your mind, subconscious, and we just had an election they should be aware of it, they should be respectful,” Rayhn said of those who are not in the armed services. “Especially if they have someone in their family who is involved. Give them a call. It helps.”

Operation Breakfast Rescue helps families in need

ANNE RITZ
Staff Writer

Sponsored by Joyce Smith of Volunteer & Community Services along with Reed Library and Delta Chi as co-sponsors, Operation Breakfast Rescue took place from Wednesday, Nov. 7 to Friday, Nov. 9. The food drive collected breakfast items for families in need and subsequently donated them to Chautauqua Rural Ministries. Rural Ministries is a United Way, grass roots, advocacy agency that serves improvised families and it also meets the needs of the homeless, the working poor and the disenchanted in Chautauqua County.

Joyce Smith, Coordinator for Fredonia’s Volunteer and Community Services, explained the significance of the annual event.

“It’s so important to build partnerships, sustainable partnerships. I’ve been partnering [Chautauqua Rural Ministries] with the last nine years. That’s always important to have that consistency that’s there,” she said. “This past year, I know that it helped over several hundred families. It’s so important as far as making a difference. The impact is very positive, and students are providing a positive impact on the community.”
November 4, 2012
4:20 p.m. A door lock in Chautauqua Hall was found to be glued shut. A report was filed.

November 6, 2012
3:50 p.m. The driver’s side side-view mirror was broken off of a car in lot 19A. A report was filed.

6:25 p.m. A vehicle was struck while parked in lot 27. A report was filed.

November 7, 2012
7:30 a.m. A cell phone was found outside the garage in the services complex. A report was filed.

10:20 p.m. An orange duct tape wallet was turned in to University Police. A report was filed.

November 9, 2012
2:43 p.m. A cell phone was found in Cranston Marché. A report was filed.

November 10, 2012
2:08 a.m. A visitor of Nixon Hall was found to be highly intoxicated in the bathroom. A report was filed and the victim was transported to Brooks Memorial Hospital.

4:08 a.m. Broken eggs were found scattered across the area under the McEwen Hall overlook. They were taken as evidence, photos were taken and a report was filed.

5:09 a.m. An unknown subject urinated on the door of 209A Schulz. A report was filed and a statement taken.

November 11, 2012
1:43 a.m. A female student was found to be intoxicated outside of Mason Hall. A report was filed and the victim was transported to Brooks Memorial Hospital.

Fredonia
November 5, 2012
5:45 p.m. Officers responding to a call of a subject sitting in a tan Buick in the Dollar General parking lot allegedly drinking beer concealed in a paper bag. Upon arrival, officers observed the Buick pulling out, at which point they pulled it over. The driver, Austin T. Styper, 34, was found to have a suspended license. A search of the vehicle did not net any alcohol. Styper was charged with aggravated operation of a motor vehicle in the third degree.

November 10, 2012
11:46 p.m. Theresa J. Cuipilo, 20, was observed throwing a 20 oz. Aquafina bottle containing a red liquid into bushes on Central Avenue. The bottle was found to contain alcohol, and Cuipilo was issued appearance tickets for littering, open container and unlawful possession of alcohol.

12:20 a.m. Toni M. Gatto, 23, was observed standing on the sidewalk in front of 26 Water St. with what appeared to be a bottle of liquor sticking out of her pants pocket. Upon approach, officers identified it as a 375 ml bottle of Captain Morgan's Spiced Rum. After she was transported to the Fredonia Police Department, two hypodermic needles were found in her pants pocket. Gatto told officers that they contained morphine and she had used them earlier with a friend. Gatto is being held on $500 cash bail.

1:55 a.m. Brian T. Jackson, 21, was observed walking on Day Street yelling and behaving in a disorderly manner. When officers approached to see what was wrong, Jackson admitted that the Gatorade bottle he was holding contained vodka. Jackson was issued an appearance ticket for open container.

3:09 a.m. Anthony T. Schwartz, 20, was observed walking north on Temple Street with an open can of Bud Light beer. He was issued an appearance ticket for unlawful possession of alcohol and open container.

November 11, 2012
2:44 a.m. Officers responded to a report of a highly intoxicated male at the upper apartment of 30 Day St. who was threatening his roommates and destroying property in the residence. Jason T. Guy, 21, allegedly told two occupants, who had locked themselves in their room, that he was “going to fucking kill them” repeatedly, and was banging on the door. Guy was taken into custody and charged with two counts of harassment in the second degree.

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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**OPINION**

**Wednesday November 14, 2012**

**THE LEADER**

**Editorial**

Four years ago, chants of “yes we can” permeated the Fredonia campus and slogan hot-bottons such as “hope” and “change” reverberated across the country. Four years later, outspoken and enthusiastic support for Barack Obama may have diminished after a contentious first term. But, despite the seemingly widespread public opinion that U.S. youth are becoming increasingly apathetic toward the political and democratic processes, the numbers prove otherwise.

Over the last decade, politicians have made concerted efforts to target younger voting populations, comprehending the weight that the demographic now holds in elections. Forty-six million young people ages 18-29 are eligible to vote, while 39 million seniors are eligible to vote. This young voter population makes up 21 percent of the voting eligible population in the U.S. and, fortunately for President Obama, these younger voters showed up at the polls last week and were the critical factor in determining his decisive win.

According to statistics released by the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE), a nonpartisan, independent academic research center that studies youth in politics, 49 percent of people under the age of 30 who were eligible to vote exercised their Constitutional right of people under the age of 30 who were eligible to vote their Constitutional right in Tuesday’s presidential election, compared to 31 percent in 2008. CIRCLE notes that the 2008 election saw a historic increase in youth turnout, from about 19.4 million in 2004 to approximately 23 million in 2008. In 2012, early returns show between 22 and 23 million young American voters, totaling 19 percent of the electorate.

Of this youth voter demographic, 60 percent cast a vote for Barack Obama while 37 percent voted for Mitt Romney. The divisor’s “battleground” states of Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Florida are critical to Obama solely because of the youth turnout and their respective decision, according to CIRCLE. In retrospect, about 66 percent of young voters chose Barack Obama over John McCain in the 2008 election. Why are these numbers in these particular states so significant? Combined, the four states represent 80 electoral votes, which would have been enough for a Romney victory. In other words, if Romney had taken even half of the youth vote in those key states, or if young voters had simply decided to not show up at the polls, Romney would currently be preparing for his inaugural ceremony in January.

The same stats seem to hold true for Fredonia, as students made up a large amount of the town’s population. Student Relations committee chair and organizer of this year’s Rock the Vote, Justin Dickerson emphasizes the impact of student voting.

“I think it’s really important that we go out and vote. We’re in a county that went blue for Barack Obama four years ago, and that’s mainly because a few thousand college students got out and voted and that really tipped the scales,” Dickerson said. “I’m not saying that I support one party or the other, but the fact that college kids going out and voting changed the vote is really a huge deal. And as soon as they changed the polling place [to be] off campus, it went red again, so that kind of shows you.”

CIRCLE’s statistics noted that 47 percent of eligible youth voters in New York showed up at the polls. While New York youth fared much better than states such as Hawaii (31 percent), Arkansas (33 percent) and Texas (39 percent), states such as Minnesota and Iowa saw extremely high youth turnouts with 60 percent and 63 percent, respectively, casting their votes.

While Chautauqua county overwhelmingly voted Republican last week, with presidential candidate Mitt Romney receiving 25,795 votes to President Obama’s 21,815, SUNY Fredonia’s Rock the Vote event emphasized the importance of the democratic process itself regardless of political affiliation or candidate backing. The first-time event, held in Steele Hall on Nov. 3, drew approximately 370 participants and featured performances by local bands and several of Fredonia’s a cappella groups. Guest speakers from the political science department and the community came out to discuss the importance of voting and what it should mean to every U.S. citizen.

“These events are important,” Dickerson said, “because they teach students what’s really at stake and lets them know that it’s important for them to actually get out there and talk and vote and spread their opinions.”

**Out of approximately 80 SUNY Fredonia students surveyed, the voting trends are as follows:**

- Yes, I voted
- No, I wasn't registered in this county
- No, I wasn't informed enough about the candidates
- No, I hate politics/partisan
- No, because my vote doesn’t matter
- I’m not a U.S. citizen
- Other

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**Phil DeMarco**

**freshman biology**

“I voted for Romney and was quite sad to see him lose. I don’t dislike Obama, I just feel that he has brought this country too far into debt and we needed change. I am just wondering what the economy is going to be like when I graduate in four years.”

**Katrina Johnston**

**senior international relations**

“Romney lost my vote and the vote of many others because of his immigration policy and stance on women’s rights.”

**“How do you feel about the outcome of the election?”**
Liz Macie  
junior English education

"I am extremely happy knowing that we have four more years with Obama. Yes, there may have been economic issues while he was in office, but those years gave him time to plug up the sinking boat. Now he has the time to bail us all out. I'm proud to be an American under the control of a man with such high hopes for us to move forward."

Lee Coletti  
senior music business

"I voted for Obama and was very glad to see him get re-elected. He has shown support in many areas that are very important to me, although he has not been the perfect president. I feel he will be able to do more in his second term."

Cole Janis  
freshman early education

"I did not vote because I did not turn 18 early enough to register to vote in time. If I were to vote, however, I would have voted for Romney. I honestly feel that both candidates aren’t the best choices but I feel the country would lean toward a more republican based presidency opposed to a democratic one."

Liz Macie  
junior English education

"I am extremely happy knowing that we have four more years with Obama. Yes, there may have been economic issues while he was in office, but those years gave him time to plug up the sinking boat. Now he has the time to bail us all out. I’m proud to be an American under the control of a man with such high hopes for us to move forward."
"ALL TIED UP" BY SARAH SADLER/PHOTO EDITOR

"SHADOWS" BY SARAH SADLER/PHOTO EDITOR

IF YOU HAVE PHOTOS FOR THE PAGE, PLEASE SUBMIT THEM TO OUR PHOTO EDITOR AT Sadl2171@gmail.com
Hillman Opera premieres duo of one-acts

MAGGIE GILROY
Staff Writer

The Hillman Opera premiered Thursday evening with two of Puccini’s highly acclaimed one-acts: Suor Angelica and Gianni Schicchi. Each opera, both directed by Professor James Ivey, sent audiences through a roller coaster of emotions while keeping them thoroughly entertained.

The evening began with Suor Angelica, meaning Sister Angelica, a tragedy that takes place in an Italian convent. Audiences meet Suor Angelica, played by Gabriella Sam, a gentle woman who had been sent to the convent by her family after giving birth to a son seven years prior.

Angelica is visited by her aunt, La Princesa, played by Amanda Button, who informs her that her son had recently passed away due to illness. In her sorrow and despair, Angelica then kills herself using a poisonous concoction she had crafted out of the convent’s garden.

The opera is somewhat of an odd juxtaposition of tragedy and beauty, as sorrowful information is delivered to the audience through Puccini’s glorious arias.

Playing this role was a potentially daunting task for Sam, who was required to experience a vast arc of emotions, including anger, mourning, sorrow, remorse and joy. Sam made the performance look like a walk in the park and did not let expectations get in their way.

“All I can do, and all I would say to do, is to maintain the action of the opera and not to try and isolate that as being something iconic,” stated Ivey. “The opera doesn’t stop, and the action of the opera doesn’t stop just because that most popular piece comes to be sung. Otherwise, we’re not playing the intention of the opera.”

The juxtaposition of beauty and manipulation is also seen with the aria as Lauretta asks her father to relent his control over the marriage and allow her to marry Rinuccio, played by Lorenzo Famelli.

“It’s kind of funny because what she’s saying there, if you really play the action of the character, then Lauretta is, to me, being a fussy little child,” said Ivey. “Most people think it’s this really precious little thing, but she’s being this fussy little manipulator to her father. And if we think of it in those terms then I think it’s much more interesting than being this very precious thing.”

The ensemble scenery was rented from Chautauqua Opera and was fitted for both scenes, while still remaining aesthetically beautiful. The working holy water fountain in Suor Angelica was an eye-catcher for audience members. Costumes for Suor Angelica were rented from D.C. Theatrics while costumes for Gianni Schicchi were produced in-house, coordinated by Laurel Walford of the department of theater and dance.

The orchestra, conducted by Dr. David Rudley, featured 50 instrumentalists combined with instrumentalists in the wings and in the orchestra pit.

“Finding the balance has been really difficult at times,” said Ivey of the orchestra. Despite the challenges, the opera was a major success and was well received by the audience.

“I liked it a lot. It was really, really well performed,” said Evan Gallagher, a sophomore history major, following the conclusion of Suor Angelica.

What we ask of students in doing this is extraordinary,” said Colin Frank, a music business major. “I’ve noticed the improvement in their voices and in their maturity.”

“They do in the evenings, in addition to all the other stuff that they do, is come in here and sing this really challenging, difficult, beautiful music. Everybody should come see this hard work.”


**Boss Tweed, the new band on the block**


**MELANIE CISSE**
Special to The Leader


didn't try to sugarcoat it for us." said Cussack. "She told us how it is in the industry and didn't try to make one perfect "worthless year." With impeccable humor and perfection and humor.

"I was just so impressed with her performance," said Benamma Guiffre, freshman musical theatre major. "She was able to change from character to character with the most fluidity and grace."

Volpe was able to share her knowledge and experience of one-woman shows and comedy through a workshop held the Wednesday before the performances.

"I love conceiving shows. It's been pretty fun. I like to come see them practice, and see the progression of the style and perfection of the songs," said Christian. His duties include working with the marketing team to promote his group, and getting the band gigs.

"A band is a lot like a committed relationship, or any relationship in general. So, we're at the pre-stages at our love, but we're getting to the point where we're a committed couple," said Kroust.

Boss Tweed is proving to be a successful group so far, and the band hopes to stay together even after the Battle of the New Bands competition.

**One-woman show prepares us for holiday season**

MELISSA RECHIN
Staff Writer

Midwinter, Christmas trees, gaudy ornaments and booming laughter was brought to the Williams Center this past weekend as actress Karen Volpe, prov'd SUNY Fredonia alumna, put an entirely new spin on holiday traditions. Holding performances on both Friday and Saturday evening, Volpe performed the one-woman show, The 12 Dates of Christmas written by Gina Holben, for audience members eagerly awaiting the upcoming holiday season.

SUNY Fredonia’s former department of theatre and dance professor, Mary Charbonnet, directed The 12 Days of Christmas and is thrilled to be back on the Fredonia campus. "It has been a lot of fun to see folks and mingle with the new students. It’s been a very surreal experience," said Charbonnet.

The 12 Days of Christmas was a hilarious and applicable depiction of a humorous journey through the months of an “average” woman’s everyday adventures, ultimately proving to be not so average. Endless cups of eggnog, jinnas in the egg, St. Patrick’s day one night stands and a Thanksgiving meal of barbecue Fritos and Chef Boyardee are just a few of the adventures that tie together to make one perfect “worthless year.” With impeccable humor and vibrancy, Volpe played the role of Mary, a mid-thirties actress and is thrilled to be back on the Fredonia campus. It has been a very surreal experience,” said Charbonnet.

The 12 Days of Christmas is a competition that first started in 2009. In conjunction with the music business program at Fredonia, the competition allows students the chance to assume roles as managers, and musicians the chance to test their capabilities as a part of a freshly formed band. Within a two month period, these bands battle it out to the end in a competition where one band is chosen as a winner by the student body. Thursday’s Battle of the New Bands competition will debut Boss Tweed, as well as several other new bands in the competition.

The group gets its name from William “Boss” Tweed, the famously corrupt American politician and businessman. Boss Tweed formed out of coincidence; or maybe it was fate that brought them together. Nico Zarcone, Steven Kroust and Cole Jarvis met through Open Mic Night on campus and, from there, went on to recruit the other members who took interest in being a part of the Battle of the New Bands competition. Thus, Boss Tweed was born.

Although their experiences within the business and their musical interests vary, they all share a common interest of a love of music; and this is what draws them together. The band found it a little difficult to encapsulate their style. As lead singer of the group, Nico Zarcone is greatly influenced by the sounds of Jason Mraz. Cole Jarvis, who also sings along while playing lead guitar, sites John Mayer in his list of influences. Cole described their style as, “A mix between light rock, reggae, easy listening and a little bit of pop … the only way we can really define it is Boss Tweed style.”

For music business major Christian Drmacich, being manager of a band is an entirely new but exciting experience. “It’s been pretty fun. I like to come see them practice, and see the progression of the style and perfection of the songs,” said Christian. His duties include working with the marketing team to promote his group, and getting the band gigs.

A band is a lot like a committed relationship, or any relationship in general. So, we’re at the pre-stages at our love, but we’re getting to the point where we’re a committed couple,” said Kroust.

Boss Tweed is proving to be a successful group so far, and the band hopes to stay together even after the Battle of the New Bands competition.

"All you have to do is just keep trying, and that is something you don’t learn in all your years of training," said Volpe. “Don’t be afraid to change your mind. It’s okay to change your direction to fit your happiness; but never stop trying."

Mimicking her character Mary, Karen Volpe proved to be an incredible actress gliding effortlessly through the happiness and joys life’s obstacles have brought her.

Volpe graduated from Fredonia with a bachelor of fine arts in musical theatre and also went on to graduate from the Second City Conservatory in Chicago and Improve Olympic in Toronto. She has gone on to perform in many productions, including leading roles in Funny Girl, Oklahoma! and Little Shop of Horrors. Her other endeavors include a country album and podcast. When asked to give advice to students struggling in the industry today, Volpe explains that persistence is key.

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EILEEN MOWREY
Assistant Review Editor

Welcome to week eleven of The A-Tracks, your center for the63onia music scene. This week’s artist review is yet another fantastic folk artist to add to the mix. Unfortunately, it focuses on the recent disappointment of their cancelled tour. The album review is a return to the radio vaults with a review of Terra Lightfoot’s newest album. Please don’t forget to join me for the radio show at 1 p.m. on Wednesday afternoons on WDV1.98.5.

ARTIST PROFILE: The Civil Wars

This week’s album review was intended to be a high praise of yet another fantastic folk band, The Civil Wars, focusing on the exquisite harmonies between Joy Williams and John Paul White, a pair whose voices are capable of creating backwoods magic. However, when visiting their Facebook to check our facts, we were faced with some disheartening news.

In a sudden turn of events this past week, The Civil Wars cancelled all of their currently scheduled tours. They posted the following statement to their Facebook page on Nov. 6: “We sincerely apologize for the canceling of all of our tour dates. It is something we deeply regret. However, due to internal discord and irreconcilable differences of ambition we are unable to continue as a touring entity at this time.”

They went on to apologize to fans that had already purchased tickets and offered to reimburse anyone who sent them expense receipts. The Civil Wars tried to encourage their fans, saying that they hope to have new music ready for release sometime in 2013. For many avid fans, however, this will barely take the sting off.

It is always disappointing to learn that one of your favorite groups has disbanded, that a preferred artist will cease to perform or that there is trouble in musical paradise. We form a unique relationship with the musicians we follow. Not only does their music become the soundtrack to our lives, but we also feel a special connection to the artist themselves through their music. Every song is a piece of their life that they are sharing with us, and we get attached.

Fans will have to take The Civil Wars at their word and wait with bated breath for the release of new music, hoping that this is a hiatus and not an end. After all, the loss of The Civil Wars would be a shame for any music lover, and they are sharing with us, and we get attached.

The Civil Wars have experienced no shortage of success thus far in their career. They released their album, The Civil Wars, in 2010 to much critical and public praise. They went on to apologize to fans that had already purchased tickets and offered to reimburse anyone who sent them expense receipts. The Civil Wars tried to encourage their fans, saying that they hope to have new music ready for release sometime in 2013. For many avid fans, however, this will barely take the sting off.

This past year, The Civil Wars released their second live album, Live at the Ryman, which includes a collection of songs from their first live album, the addition of a new song, and a few covers, including The Beatles’ “Blackbird.” The album was released in 2011 to critical acclaim and sold over 800,000 copies in its first week. The band’s second album, The Civil Wars, was released in 2010 to much critical and public praise. They went on to apologize to fans that had already purchased tickets and offered to reimburse anyone who sent them expense receipts. The Civil Wars tried to encourage their fans, saying that they hope to have new music ready for release sometime in 2013. For many avid fans, however, this will barely take the sting off.

The recording of their second show served as their first album, appearing as a digital download on their website. They released their album, Barton Hollow, in February of 2011. Singles from the album have since been heard on popular TV and movie soundtracks, and have been highly praised and promoted by artists such as Taylor Swift and Adele, the latter of whom described The Civil Wars as “the best live band I have ever seen.”

In 2012, they won Grammy’s for Best Country Duo/Group Performance and Best Folk Album. This duo has always remained just that: a duo. Their voices, combined with White’s guitar and Williams’s piano, are enough to create an organic, emotional and complete sound that wants for nothing.

The chemistry between Joy Williams and John Paul White has always fueled the success of The Civil Wars. With that in mind, fans have to wonder if the musical quality of the duo would be as good even if they do continue to produce music. If this is the end of The Civil Wars, it is a true loss to the folk community and a disappointment to dedicated fans everywhere. Thankfully, the music they have already created is timeless enough to keep us satisfied for as long as it takes for Williams and White to mend their broken bond.

ALBUM REVIEW: Terra Lightfoot – Terra Lightfoot

Terra Lightfoot is a Canadian guitarist and vocalist that has been experiencing a rise in success following the release of her first self-titled album. The album was released on Sept. 13, 2011, and is a collection of love songs and emotional outcries. Lightfoot has since played with a number of other artists and is about to set out on her first tour. The album’s smooth vocals, upbeat instrumentation and combined emotional energy manufacture a quality album that will surely continue to propel Terra Lightfoot into the spotlight.

Lightfoot, 25, has been developing her solo repertoire since she moved to Hamilton, Ontario for university seven years ago. She recently signed with Sonic Unyon Recording Company, through which she released her debut album on both vinyl and CD with the help of three backup musicians. Pete Hall accompanies Lightfoot on drums and vocals, Cameron Malcolm joins in on bass guitar and Adam Melnick completes the group on chokes and wurlitzer, two different types of electric keyboard.

Lightfoot began working on her self-titled album in the spring of 2009 on Toronto Island with the help of engineer Dale Morningstar. The opportunity to record presented itself when Lightfoot was awarded a $4,000 grant from the Ontario Arts Council in 2008.

Recently, the young Lightfoot has been working in collaboration with a number of other artists on their own projects. She has been playing guitar and singing backdrops for a solo artist, while also experimenting with several other artists, including a country band called The Dinner Belles.

Lightfoot’s guitar style is composed of calculated riffs and rhythms that mirror her favorite math rock bands like Don Caballero. The instrumentation is combined with winful and tencacy melodies influenced by her work with country artists. Her specialty, as Lightfoot will unabashedly admit, is love songs. She sings from honesty and experience, resulting in raw emotions that connect with the listeners on a personal level. Some of her tracks are inspired by her own trials and triumphs with romance, while others mourn the loss of family and friends.

One track on the album is of particular interest. It is titled “Lucid Dreams” and, in her Sonic Unyon Records bio, Lightfoot explains the story and meaning behind the song: “I was getting into lucid dreaming while going through a breakup and, some months later, I dreamed that we had been together the whole time. I was trying to negotiate between what I was dreaming and what was actually happening, and every morning I would wake up uncertain about everything. ‘Lucid Dreams’ was about trying not to go back to that relationship in my waking life.”

Within the next year, Lightfoot hopes to complete and release her second album, promote it through a series of national and international tours and appear at a variety of music festivals. She has high ambitions, but every reason to be optimistic. She has the talent and the determination along with a great debut album to get her going.

For more information on Lightfoot, visit her website at www.terralightfoot.com, her record company’s site at www.sonicunyon.com, or find her on Facebook!

THE A-TRACKS Top Ten combines the top ten singles lists of Billboard Magazine, iTunes, Spotify, Top 10 Songs, and Buffalo’s KENS 98.3. Using a carefully designed formula that thanks to a friend, no longer involves a painful amount of math or serious calculations, the ultimate top ten are determined for your listening pleasure.

#1 “Diamonds” – Rihanna
#2 “Scene Nights” – Fun.
#3 “Gangnam Style” – PSY
#4 “One More Night” – Maroon 5
#5 “Die Young” – Ke$ha
#6 “We Are Never Getting Back Together” – Taylor Swift
#7 “Locked Out of Heaven” – Bruno Mars
#8 “Get It Right” – Florence + The Machine
#9 “As Long As You Love Me” – Justin Bieber
#10 “Ho Hey” – The Lumineers

The Top Ten has finally put a smile on my face. The Lumineers, a folk group I did an artist review on a few weeks ago, squeaked their way into the last spot with their hit single “Ho Hey.” Rihanna made a large advance into the number one position while Fun., PSY and Maroon 5 continue to alternate positions within the top three.
The atmosphere was tranquil as people milled around the house, enjoying both the featured art and the pieces that adorned the home. Friends gathered in clusters to discuss the works and the possibilities that such an event could provide for their own art endeavors.

Melina O'Hara, photographer and former owner of the Green Tea Room, was one of the artists. She uses her photos to express her inner qualities and to organize her thoughts about the world around her, creating a deep and personal connection with the beauty of nature. She was extremely grateful that the Birdhaus presented her with this opportunity to present herself as the artist she identifies with. Among her collection was a piece that illustrates her inner demons.

The works of Erik Daneilsen, the second artist, ranged from pastel painting to photography. Daneilsen has been practicing photography for six years and has recently refocused his attention on other art mediums, the foremost of which are pastels. His themes are rooted in nature and spirituality, portrayed through a theme of circular motifs.

One of his art pieces, “Split Ell,” is a form of Australian aboriginal art. Danielleh said, “It’s supposed to be a reflection of how things are seen in what is referred to by them as ‘dream time,’ which is sort of an alternate perception of reality.”

The three films were by Nicholas Di Valerio, a French screenwriter, director, and composer. Caffeine Mageddon was a short story about a bored+ed executive woman determined to learn French so she can converse with the handsome Frenchman that frequently patronizes the cafe in which she works. Locally, Agostino Campisi featured three old Italian grandmothers making homemade spaghetti sauce, bickering and reminiscing the about old times. The last, Lulu’s Coochie Crawl, had no dialogue or music, and was accompanied solely by the natural sounds of the hayfield it captured during the filming. It is meant to be an in-depth look at the relationship between man, nature and the life of their products in a post-capitalism era.

The Birdhaus will be hosting similar events throughout the year on the first Saturday of every month. Perdomo already has several artists in mind to be featured in the coming months. One of these artists is Lizzie Reid, a SUNY Fredonia student and sculptor. When asked if she could see herself using the Birdhaus as an outlet for displaying her works she said, “Yeah, absolutely. I actually think, Brandon and I have been talking, and in the Spring . . . definitely!”

With a university so well known for their focus on the arts, it is surprising that there aren’t more venues like the Birdhaus in Fredonia. For artists such as Daneilsen and O’Hara, sharing their talent and their hard work with others can be difficult. Hopefully, events such as these will become more frequent, creating a close-knit arts community and fortifying the relationship between Fredonia’s artists and the public.

The Birdhaus is located at 925 Central Ave., Dunkirk. Visit the Birdhaus website at www.brandonperdomo.com for information about upcoming events.

BRANDON ARMELI
Special to The Leader

The Coocchie Crawls swept Fredonia’s bar scene last weekend to great avail as participants purchased T-shirts donned with a dancing vagina and drank their faces off. Proceeds were split between the B-4  The Leader, Wednesday November 14, 2012

The Leader, Wednesday November 14, 2012
SEE B-6
ANDY OLSSON
Staff Writer

After an early exit in the SUNYAC tournament last year, the Fredonia State men’s basketball team will reload with nine freshmen who are ready to step in. The Blue Devils lost seven players to graduation in the offseason and are looking for their seniors to step up and lead the team immediately. Included with the seven seniors were five of the top seven scorers on the 2011-12 team, so there will be a void to fill before the season starts.

Fredonia’s frontcourt took the biggest hit when losing seniors Kevin Mitchell, Damien Goodwin and Julius Bryant upon graduation. These three combined were responsible for 32.1 points and 13.7 rebounds a game last season. Those numbers accounted for 52 percent of the Blue Devils scoring and 40 percent of the team’s total rebounding. Add in Leonard Smith’s 7.9 points and 4.7 rebounds per game and the four scored 64 percent of the team’s points and grabbed 54 percent of their team’s rebounds.

Head Coach Kevin Moore restocked his front line with three centers all listed at six feet seven inches. Two freshmen, Mychal Coleman and Matt Deboy, and senior Adam LaQuier will compete for the starting center position. Senior Devin Case is a returning player who will add experience to the front line for the Blue Devils. Case is currently sidelined with an ankle injury, leaving the position open for competition.

“With the amount of new guys on the team, we are all in a similar situation with adjusting to school, being away from home and how much work college ball is,” said Coleman. “It might take a little more time but I think that we will all come together and develop a great team chemistry.”

Coach Moore will most likely lean on his players returning with experience at the collegiate level. Dalton Kashmer and Amir Billups are senior guards who were big contributors to the Blue Devils’ overall effort last year. Kashmer is an all around player that ignites the offensive attack through his scrappy defensive play. In the 2011-12 season, Kashmer averaged 7.1 points, 4.2 rebounds and 1.9 assists per game. Billups is a determined scorer who can beat you in a variety of ways. He will pull up and hit the long ball or take you hard to the cup where he can finish with both hands. Last season, he averaged 8.4 points per game on 40 percent shooting from long range. Look for this backcourt combination to cause opposing teams a lot of problems in executing their game plan.

Ray Parris is a transfer from Alfred State University who will also add some depth to the Blue Devil’s backcourt. Parris played for the Pioneers from 2009-11 and was also named to the All-Conference team. Alfred State is a member of the NJCAA in the Western New York Athletic Conference.

“I think we have a team that has all the potential in the world, and we will decide how far we want to go,” Coleman said.

“I have high expectations going into every season so I will be doing whatever I can to help my team when I get on the floor.”

The Blue Devils’ season begins Thursday when they travel to face the host of the tournament, the Hilbert Hawks. The following day they take on St. John Fisher College as part of the same tournament. Fredonia’s first home game will be this Tuesday when they welcome the D’Youville Spartans to Steele Hall.
Women's basketball aims high

DAVE SANNA
Special to The Leader

Last season, the Fredonia State women's basketball team was a small squad, fielding only 11 players total. But senior forward Anna Riley saw that fact as a strength rather than a setback.

"Last year, we had a small team. But we were very close, on and off the court, and I would consider that one of our strengths, which carries over to our team this year," said Riley, "I look forward to competing in the non-conference games and getting some wins to prepare us for our first conference games against the top teams Oneonta [Dec. 1] and New Paltz [Nov. 30]."

Last year's team was inconsistent through the first 19 games and faltered down the stretch a little bit, eventually ending their season in the SUNYAC Tournament to Buffalo State with a 64-56 loss. The first chance for revenge comes on January 19 on their home court. Buffalo State have come into this season ranked 23 in the NCAA Division III rankings, making them an even more formidable opponent than last season. In spite of this ranking and the way last season ended, assistant Coach Damien Goodwin sees no reason for pessimism right now.

"This year will be a great team," said Goodwin. "And with our leading scorer, Becky Hebert, and our guards Jenna Austin and Alex Cassella, we can really make some noise in the SUNYAC."

Last season, the squad started out by losing four of their first seven games, but were able to make a run late in the season to secure a spot in postseason play. As a freshman, Hebert was the team's leading scorer at 20.3 points per game. Austin was a great contributor too, as she led the team with 23 3-point field goals made. So, with a quarter of the roster being freshman, should fans expect a down year for the squad?

"No, not at all," Riley said. "I think that we have a great incoming freshman class along with transfers, and our expectations of them are set pretty high because we know they can perform. They were all the top players on their high school teams, and they are going to be great contributors to our team this season."

When looking at the schedule this season, it's important to note that the SUNYAC tournament has changed. In the past, the top eight teams in the conference would compete, but this year that number has been cut back to six. Players like Riley have noted this change, and she says it's critical to win conference games.

Big games that we should be able to call must-wins in the SUNYAC are games against Potsdam [Jan. 25], Plattsburgh [Dec. 8], Brockport [Jan. 15] and [defending SUNYAC champion] Oswego [Jan. 11]," she said. "Obviously, it would be ideal to win all SUNYAC games, but our team's main focus is being one of the top six teams that make it to playoffs."

Coach Goodwin also had some goals set for the upcoming schedule.

"Our schedule is really tough," he said. "In the next two weeks, we have four games, and really need our girls to take care of themselves and not to think ahead about the next game. Our must-win games would have to be our tournament at Penn-St Behrend. I think that tournament will be key in our run to the SUNYAC Tournament."

It's certainly going to be an enjoyable ride watching Blue Devils' women's basketball this year, but challenging at the same time. The team doesn't start conference games until the end of the month, but that doesn't mean they will be standing pat. They will continue to train and practice, with their first game coming on Thursday against Nazareth College at 7 p.m. in Steele Hall.

Devils have their guard up

JIM CHRISTOPHER
Sports Editor

Hours before their scrimmage against Alfred State, senior guard Dalton Kashmer was in the gym working on his three point shooting. He made it look easy. Three after three after three. Going around the arc with ease as teammate and fellow senior guard Mike Billups tries to shoot at him to throw him off. No luck. Kashmer keeps draining them as if they were easy free throws. Billups mentions to him how much more vocal both on and off the court. I have always been a lead-by-example guy, so I always want to win a sprint or dive on a loose ball to show the team I am doing what I need to do," Kashmer said.

"My expectations of the team this year and every year is always: first – win a SUNYAC championship," he said. "We haven’t won one in almost 20 years. We have all the tools we need, it’s just about putting them together fluently so we work like one unit. As long as we do that, we can get to the SUNYAC championship."

The team also is welcoming back junior guard Joe Monahan. Monahan transferred back to Fredonia this fall after spending a year at Nassau Community College. During the 2010-11 season, Monahan was the team’s leading scorer, averaging 12.1 points per game. His addition should be a great help to the offense and his teammates could not be happier that he is back.

"Joe rejoining the teams brings a lot. For one, he knows the offense; he’s a great point guard that can see the floor and attack and also score," Billups said. "He can take some of the pressure off of Dalton and I on the perimeter. He can also help teach the new players the system. I’m glad he’s back."

The Blue Devils have the potential to make some noise in the SUNYAC, and will rely heavily on these three guards. Their first true test will come Nov. 30 when they play their first conference game against New Paltz.

Of those five seniors, one was Chad Burridge, the two-time SUNYAC player of the year and last year’s tournament MVP. Just because Burridge is gone, however, doesn’t change the goals for this year’s Blue Devils squad.

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Crazy girl actually “goes green”

ROBIN N STEALING
Lampoon Editor

If you are even a half functioning human being then you have probably come across the motto “go green”; it’s on everything from water bottles to bumper stickers to cleaning products. With the new green movement, people are beginning to take notice of their environmental impact. That is, all but the exception of one lowly person.

Angela Kravitz, a sophomore at Clarkson University, may be taking this “go green” movement a little too seriously. Angela, who has been making headlines as of recent, believes that “going green” literally means going green. Many who know her are not sure if this is an act of bringing awareness to conservation efforts or just mere stupidity.

Angela, who declared her favorite color as green at the tender age of three, stated to her suitemates, “Since my favorite color is green, I am going to buy only green products to help protect our environment.”

Her suitemates soon began to realize that she literally meant only buying products that were green in color instead of environmentally safe “green” products. This story then began to work its way up the media totem pole until Fox News got a hold of it, and it went national. The response to this story has caused a mixed reaction among the public. While some are shocked that such a person could exist and function, others say that she is merely bringing awareness to such a hot button issue.

Those who believe this is just an act of ineptitude are disgusted. They are appalled because of all the media attention Angela is receiving but also because she is making the cause look foolish. These people believe that she is mocking a serious issue and does not deserve any recognition, though they do find her actions hilarious.

While some may mock Angela for her stupidity, others have begun to embrace the girl for her efforts of bringing awareness to a cause that she so dearly is passionate about, though obviously misinformed about. Angela is reported as being ecstatic for her recent fame, only adding fuel to her idiotic fire.

While environmentalists can take both sides, we all should really feel for Angela’s roommate, who has apparently put in a request for a room change, stating, “I could deal with green lamps, bedspreads and towels, but now she is thinking of dying her body green. I can’t handle that level of crazy.”

Hopefully, someone will soon explain to Angela just exactly what “going green” means before it is too late.
Election result are in, folks. The winner is President Obama, serving his second term in office. While many are not shocked at the news of our president’s incumbency, many are astounded at the results for second place.

News outlets are reporting that the presidential second place candidate was not Governor Romney, but a write in: Big Bird. Surprisingly, the big yellow bird from PBS, or Romney arch nemesis, beat out the projected second place candidate.

As America was awaiting the Florida votes to be finalized, the count of write-ins began to take place. That is, until the vote counters began to take notice in what they first believed was just a prank but what turned out to be an incredibly large number of write-ins for Big Bird. This is when the write-ins began to be taken seriously.

After hours of counting, it was determined that Romney was, in fact, not the second place loser but he third place loser. Big Bird, the true underdog, was deemed the second place winner in the Presidential election.

This outcome comes as a big upset to Romney’s campaign team who was confident that their candidate would take second place at the least. Perhaps the biggest upset comes from the fact that Big Bird spent no money on his campaign while Romney spent millions of dollars on his.

When news broke that Big Bird placed second, Romney immediately went on the defense. He began to call Big Bird out for using corrupt campaign policies stating that, “Public tax dollars were used to fund Mr. Big Bird’s campaign.” To this, PBS responded with a press release stating, “We understand that it may seem as though we campaigned using public dollars, but we don’t feel that running our regularly programmed television show necessarily counts as campaigning by any means.”

The claims that Romney had made were reviewed by an ethics committee only to be deemed invalid, letting Big Bird remain the second place winner.

PBS is not only tickled by the idea of Big Bird running the free world, but also in the irony of the situation. As many of us remember, Romney talked about cutting government funding to programs such as PBS.

Big Bird is rumored to be appearing on “Anderson Cooper 360” next week to discuss his surprise presidential success. As of last week, the results for the presidential nomination was Obama with 332, Big Bird with 300, and Romney with 206, marking Big Bird as the clear second place winner.

It looks like the letter of the day is “S” for sucker.