Women's History Month presents a bitch'in' time

ALEXIS FORES
Special to The Leader

When one thinks of the word bitch, it can be interpreted as a negative term. However, Andi Ziesler, co-founder of feminist publication “Bitch Magazine” and keynote speaker, decided to reclaim the term.

“You know, it's so specifically gendered that we felt like if we could reclaim that, that would be powerful,” said Ziesler. “And we were really inspired by the way that queer had been reclaimed by the LGBTQ community. That seems like a success story, taking something that was hurled at people who were different and embracing it and sort of defanging it, and that's what we wanted to do.”

This was one of the pieces of advice that Ziesler presented to the SUNY Fredonia campus on March 6 when she visited for the Women’s Student Union's series of events recognizing Women's History Month.

“For the keynote talk, I'm hoping that I can let people know that critical thinking is really key to their experience in media. The talk is about not disregarding the power of media and not disregarding the way that popular culture kind of shapes us as people,” said Zeisler. “So I guess my hope is that people come from it feeling like they have tools to really understand and think critically about the media that they consume.”

“Bitch Magazine” is a feminist magazine shaped around media activism and feminism in pop culture.

“The magazine subtitle is a feminist response to pop culture, and that pretty much sums it up,” said Ziesler. “We started it basically to talk about the ways in which we saw feminist representation in media and pop culture lacking. So both the idea of what kinds of women and what kinds of attitude weren't being portrayed in media and pop culture and also about how the idea of feminism in general is not portrayed fondly or positively in media and pop culture.”

The magazine was co-founded in 1996, produced, published and distributed by Andi and her co-workers for a few years until they were able to get the finances. These were also the years before the Internet; it was difficult to get word out about “Bitch.” However, Andi and her co-workers worked hard to receive publicity on the zine (early stages of a magazine).

“We took it to book and record stores and a lot of word of mouth came from the magazine buyers who would tell their distributors 'you should take a look at this little magazine and should think about distributing it so they were like regional distributors who would then be

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Less money, more problems

Proposed SA budget cuts $32,469 from clubs

COURTNEY GFROERER
and SYLVANA DUSSAN
Managing Editor and Editor in Chief

Many constituted groups felt unsatisfied after Student Association’s Budget and Appropriations week when they were told budget cuts could take place. However, after the first B&A meetings were held and initial cuts were made to various groups’ budgets, a second round of cuts followed, leaving some in shock.

The total amount of funding proposed to be cut from clubs is $32,469.33 pending General Assembly approval. Not all constituted groups had cuts to their 2014-15 budgets.

Additionally, the General & Administrative line in the total budget received $18,044.54, a five percent increase from the 2013-14 fiscal year. Out of that amount, around $12,000 will go to SA Student Services and payroll and benefits for SA employees, according to SA comptroller Kyle Stolt.

Initially, some members of the constituted groups whose funding was decreased reported back to their E-boards only to later learn their funding would be cut even more than they were originally told.

“I was surprised when I got that second budget revision,” said WNYF-TV general manager Casandra DeLuise. Over $3,500 was cut from WNYF-TV’s budget.

“I don’t think we knew how bad the numbers actually looked until we got down to it and started looking at things,” Justin Dickerson, speaker of the Assembly, said.

Though the budget is changed every year and many groups see changes on a regular basis, this year proved to show more cuts than normal. Between the increasing minimum wage and declining student enrollment, larger budget cuts were deemed necessary

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Less money, more problems: continued from page A-1

by the B&A committee. According to B&A committee members, cuts were made to groups based on merit, past events they reported to SA and their contribution and interaction with the campus.

An important part of deciding which part of a group’s budget was to get cut, the B&A committee needed to carefully evaluate where the money was going in each club. In order to know how the cuts impacted each club, specific knowledge of how the club functions and how much money is needed to accomplish certain tasks is necessary. Not all groups felt that was the case, however.

“My biggest concern is that the B&A committee judges groups based on numbers on a piece of paper, but I’ve never seen anyone from B&A attend a BSU event,” said Black Student Union president Jillian Hanesworth.

BSU’s budget has a proposed 35 percent cut, which amounts to a $11,373.79 decrease.

“BSU has shown, in this year alone, a major improvement. Their events have had over 60 plus people attend and it just goes to show how much growth they are experiencing and I think that for us to take that much from them, with them trying to strive for better, is not fair,” stated Antonio Regulier, SA president.

“Some of the groups on this campus are so significant when it comes to making Fredonia what it is.”

Aside from knowing the goals of the group, certain clubs also needed funds for new events, activities and trips, many clubs saw funding cut that had previously been given to them year after year.

“(With TV, you kind of have to be there to understand how it works, so I think that they don’t really have a solid idea of what is vital to making our station functional and also up-to-date,” explained DeLuise. “I think that also has a part in why we got cut so much.”

Clubs discontent with their cuts can mark “dissatisfied” on their budgets before they turn it in for General Assembly day, which will be held on Saturday, March 29.

“There are a lot of groups that are unhappy. There are a lot of individuals who feel their groups were targeted,” Dickerson said. “We need to make sure that every group lesson that room feeling like we were fair.”

Dickerson hopes to see a system of checks and balances made by the General Assembly as they move to pass the budget. Asking why certain clubs are being cut money and if those cuts are valid cuts are the type of questions that Dickerson feels will benefit not only constituted groups, but the general student body.

While that may be the ultimate goal of SA and the B&A committee, it is clear that not all individuals and groups see that as the end result.

“I feel like the Student Association should be an ally to the groups. The Student Association is the foundation for any group on this campus, so we should be able to go to SA if we feel like there is a battle that we are fighting and they should be able to take our side,” expressed Hanesworth. “If groups feel like SA is who the battle is against, something is not right.”

Committee members feel that this year was especially difficult in making cuts, and that GA day will be more involved and in-depth than in past years. Aside from clubs not getting extra funding for new events, activities and trips, many clubs saw funding cut that had previously been given to them year after year.

“(With the new budget that we have, the probability of pulling off a concert or a fashion show is not that likely,” said Hanesworth.

One possible solution to the issue is to increase the Student Activity Fee. Currently at $95 per student, the proposed budget has a suggested increase of $2, making the Student Activity Fee $97. This would help to offset the cuts made to some clubs.

“The number we would have had to go to in order to make it so that no groups had any changes from our first round of cuts would have been $100 for the Student Activity Fee,” Dickerson explained. “It would have been a $5 increase.”

Stolt, who chaired B&A week, believes there is a solution to the problem, but it depends on which one the General Assembly thinks is right.

“If we want to raise a bunch of money now and then groups can do what they want but then take it away again, or do we want to keep the budget trim and not raise the Activity Fee by a lot of money? We are trying to balance everything and plan for the future,” said Stolt.

Though cuts have been proposed, the entire budget still has to pass through General Assembly before everything is final. After it is cleared with GA, SA president Regulier has the power to pass or veto the budget.

Dickerson encouraged any dissatisfied club to be proactive and defend their group.

“If you’re the president of a group and you are unsatisfied with your budget, then you mark dissatisfied and you fight for your budget, because that’s your job as an individual group member,” Dickerson said. “My job as a member of the Budget and Appropriations committee is to balance everybody against everything. Fight for your money, fight for your group. That’s why you were elected to the position you were elected to.”

“I encourage every constituted group that is dissatisfied with their budget to come dissatisfaction, and fight for their money, and demand that the general assembly raise the Student Activity Fee if that’s how they feel,” Dickerson said.

Come GA day, that is exactly what Black Student Union and other clubs plan to do.

“We will not accept something that we don’t agree with. We will talk until they ask us to sit down, because it is time for a reminder,” said Hanesworth.

“Some of the groups on this campus are so significant when it comes to the identity of Fredonia and when it comes to making Fredonia what it is.”

Courtney Gipson / Managing Editor

$32,469.33

5% increase in the 2014-15 budget for the Student Activity Fee.

$2

proposed increase in the 2014-15 budget for the Student Activity Fee.
Non-apparent disabilities panel works to inform

JESSICA COLON
Staff Writer

The Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion partnered with the Professional Development Center to host an event regarding the professional development of non-apparent disabilities. The event will take place Thursday, March 13 at 3:30 p.m. in the Williams Center S204.

The purpose of this event is to create awareness and understanding of non-apparent disabilities in higher education. Representatives, including members of faculty, staff and students, will share their understanding of individuals who experience this type of obstacle in society.

Panelists at the event will include the Coordinator of Disability Support for Students Adam Hino, visiting Assistant Professor of interdisciplinary studies Dr. Jeffry Iovannone, sophomore student Juli Legnard and Associate Professor Dr. Kathleen Magiera.

Each panelist will share short presentations focusing on specific points regarding non-apparent disabilities. A large discussion including many points of interest for the audience will take place after the short presentations.

The focus of the panel this semester is disabilities. The thought of the event was a collaborative effort from individuals within the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

“The idea was sparked out of my office and through the support of my intern, Justin Dickerson,” said Chief Diversity Officer and Director Dr. Bill Boerner.

This type of event could impact many individuals and create awareness of disabilities that many people suffer from in our society.

“The issues that students with non-apparent disabilities face are real life issues that happen on our campus every day, so I thought, what better for a topic than one that truly affects our students,” said senior history major and intern at the Office of Diversity Justin Dickerson.

Bringing awareness to non-apparent disabilities is important because it provides individuals with knowledge; it can generate an impact and create awareness of individuals around them in the community. Many people may know or have witnessed someone with a learning disability, so learning something like this can have a huge impact on how serious it is.

“I think if we all learnt not to be so quick to judge an individual and to instead consider all the possibilities, we will be better campus for it,” said Dickerson.

Being informed of disabilities that people struggle with is an important topic for people on campus, especially because it could impact people who don’t think it would affect them. It can never hurt to have more knowledge about different topics, whether they affect someone directly or not.

The Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion is making an effort to raise awareness and support throughout the rest of the spring semester.

“It is always my hope when my office organizes an event that individuals will leave with new knowledge and a desire to impact something for the greater good to support our inclusive community, even if only one person is impacted, then I’ve still done my job,” said Boerner.

Women's History Month: continued from page A-1

HANNA NEUMANN
Staff Writer

How does one become an activist? Is there a specific way that individuals and/or groups should perform to be considered an activist?

Andi Zeisler, co-founder of Bitch magazine, provided a rare opportunity for the Women’s Student Union and also included a personal workshop for the executive board. This is where she answered all of our questions and concerns about being activists — and let’s be real: who wouldn’t want to be taught how to be an activist by one of their role models?

In order to respond to pop culture and media, one must start with their stories of how they became a feminist and became passionate about what they want to respond to. This is what Andi Zeisler emphasized in her personal workshop. She had all present express their stories — this, according to her, helps one identify the triggers found in media and pop culture as well as identifying for what we fight hardest.

This workshop encouraged us as both the Women’s Student Union and as each of us as individuals. Her tips were key and set us up for activism:

(1) Harnesspower of the internet and social media

Zeisler noted that social media and the Internet is the key to redefining how people do activism and how they identify who is an activist.

“It is important recognizing you don’t have to be part of a huge group to be an activist and make a difference,” said Zeisler. She emphasized that social media is media at the end of the day and is the key to redefining how people do activism and how they identify who is an activist.

(2) Choose your battles

“Narrow it down, see what’s possible and go for it,” said Zeisler. She expressed that this is incredibly important to activism. This enables individuals or groups to focus on one battle and enables them to fight this to the end.

(3) Make responses visual and fun

She mentioned that Bitch magazine was inspired by a few activist groups who made their messages with distinct and visual responses including: Guerrilla Girls, FORCE and ACT-up. She emphasized that this is key to building an audience.

(4) An important part of talking back is using humor

This, in her opinion, is a great way of getting your point across.

(5) Using personal stories just as much as data

“This really brings it home for your audience,” expressed Zeisler. The key is to provide concrete stories about a representation problem.

“Don’t hate media, make media ... you’re part of it — do something about it,” said Zeisler.

The group received all of the information from the workshop and as Vice President of Women’s Student Union, I felt encouraged and empowered from what Zeisler shared with our group. To really emphasize that being an activist does not mean you have to be involved in a group, Zeisler had each individual participate in an activity.

Identify an issue that you are passionate about and talk back to it,” said Zeisler. The activity was a simple piece of paper that asked each of us to fill out six questions including: my issue is, my goal is (big), my goal is (small), who else cares about this (potential partners), tools I’ll use and who/what I’ll target. This activity put in perspective a form of activism that we can carry out, but it only took five minutes to formulate on a single piece of paper. This showed us that, as individuals, we can fight issues through activism.

“Act your way.” (What are you actually going to do this?) asked Zeisler. This was a challenge for each of us to become the activists that we all want to be. It left me with new knowledge, or a desire to help out so that we are passionate about fighting.
University

Monday, March 3, 2014

3 p.m. A debit card was turned in. A report was filed and the owner claimed it.

Thursday, March 6, 2014

3:46 a.m. There was found property on the escort bus. A report was filed.

Friday, March 7, 2014

2 p.m. A wallet was found outside Mason. A report was filed.

Saturday, March 8, 2014

2:50 a.m. A student was being harassed by another inside Schultz. A statement was taken and the victim declined charges.

Fredonia

Tuesday, March 4, 2014

Vincent Lyons, age 20, was charged for attempting to purchase alcohol with fraudulent means.

Friday, March 7, 2014

Jeffrey Licone, age 45, was charged with harassment in the 2nd degree.

Saturday, March 8, 2014

Nicholas Ortiz, age 18, was issued an appearance ticket for littering.

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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- Is there a dog park available?
- Is the maintenance staff on site?
- Is there more than ample off street parking?
- Is there a park like setting for you to enjoy?
- Is there a full time office staff available for any of your needs, including a place for all of your printing, faxing, and copying needs?
- Are the housing codes kept up to date?
- Is there a fun place to hang out like a Community Room?
- Will you have your own private bedroom?
- Will they throw parties, contests and get-togethers?
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MAGGIE GILROY
Reverb Editor

With St. Patrick’s Day coming up in less than a week, it’s time to break out the plastic green bowler hats and the “taste my lucky charms” t-shirts, right? Until a few short years ago, I would have agreed with this.

St. Patrick’s Day has created a very distinct picture of the Irish culture in American minds: the jolly redhead with a Guinness in one hand and some Irish Spring soap in the other. As a second-generation Irish-American, I am always happy to see others embracing Irish culture. But, unfortunately, it appears that people are latching on to the uglier, or even untrue, aspects of Irish culture. Prior to my trip to Ireland, my perception of Irish culture was fueled by the same outlets as anyone else’s: through stories, movies, music and marketing. It wasn’t until I stepped off Irish soil that I was able to push these stereotypes out of my mind and truly discover the many facets of Irish culture.

My grandfather came to America on March 15, 1958 from Trim, County Meath, a tiny town about an hour away from Dublin. After hearing stories about Ireland my whole life, I was eager to visit my grandfather’s hometown. As soon as I got a glimpse of the grass in Dublin (which, in my opinion, truly is greener) I realized that it is a country rich in culture and personality. While my grandfather relished being back in his hometown, running into people he grew up with and visiting his old house, my family and I embraced being typical tourists.

In Trim, I was fascinated to see castles spread throughout the town. I had trouble wrapping my head around the image of my grandfather playing around old Norman castles as if they were just an everyday part of the town’s landscape. One of these castles was Trim Castle, the oldest demonstration of Norman architecture in Ireland. Trim is rich with beautiful churches and, whether or not you identify with a religion, it is hard not to be moved by the grand architecture. Naturally, one of the most beautiful churches we visited was St. Patrick’s Church in Trim. My sister even had the opportunity to utilize her Irish dance skills in a pub in Trim with some local musicians.

We aspired to see Cashel, to visit my great uncle, to wander even more castles. One castle, the “Rock of Cashel,” sat on a hill overlooking the town displaying one of the most breathtaking views I have ever witnessed. After visiting the castle, my family enjoyed listening to my great-uncle Theo tell stories about Irish history and how it currently affects the lives of Irish people.

When we arrived at Dublin, it was hard to make it to every destination.

I attended some of the highest caliber plays I had ever seen in the audience of Sean O’Casey’s The Plough and the Stars at the Abbey Theatre, gaining a deep appreciation for Irish theatre, and later put my fingers in the bullet holes left over from The Easter Rebellion that had been the subject of the play. After watching the rebellion play out onstage and walking in its location, I then walked where the rebels were executed in Kilmainham Gaol. And, yes, a visit was paid to the Guinness Factory.

I returned home with a deeper appreciation for Irish culture. After speaking to Irish people and learning their history, I realized they were part of a culture that defied all stereotypes possible. And while I continue to participate in St. Patrick’s Day activities, I participate with a pride for a culture that has provided this world with art, literature, theatre, music and hundreds of stories that will continue to be shared for generations to come.

The Irish culture is not the only culture we have a limited perception of. But, you don’t have to fly miles away to experience other cultures. Our campus is home to many cultures that you do not have to be a member of to learn about and embrace. Strike up a conversation with an exchange student and learn the history of their ancestors. You will find yourself in awe of a world that is too big to fit into a cliché.
In the past five years of my college career I have met a countless amount of people. There are some people who will stay with you for a short period of time who you eventually drift away from, and then you have those people who you know that you will be friends for many more years to come — if not the rest of your life. Those people become part of your family. If there is anything that I know for sure, it’s that family is one of the most important and valuable things you can have in your life.

At the beginning of winter break I almost lost my grandma to pneumonia. She was in a coma and on a respirator for about four weeks. It was probably the hardest and scariest four weeks of my life. It was over this winter break that I really grasped how important it is to have family. Day in and day out there was always someone sitting by my grandma’s bed side. I remember looking around the ICU at other patients and some of them would rarely have visitors, if any at all. It broke my heart.

I am so incredibly blessed that I have so many people in my family. Like all families, of course we have our differences and squabbles, but at the end of the day we know what really matters and that is each other.

Being so far away from home, it’s tough not being able to see my family as often as I would like. I wish I was able to drive out to see them all the time, but eight hours there and eight hours back — it’s alot. I can honestly say, never in my college career have I felt more homesick than I have this year. Thank God it is my senior year, because with how rough this semester has been for me, I don’t know if I would have it in me to complete another year so far from home.

With all that being said though, it is my family who helps to push me through those tough days telling me it will all be worth it in the end. They’ve been telling me this for years, and as I start to schedule job interviews and the job offers slowly come in, I know that they are right.

So thank you to my family for being the constant in my life when everything seems so uncertain. Especially to my mom and dad, who, even though I know I drive them crazy and make them worry, love me unconditionally — even when I call them at 2 a.m. crying that I had my heart-broken or run up the Visa bill (sorry…). I don’t tell you guys enough how much I love you and how lucky I am to have you both as parents.

My family will always be important to me: my close friends, who have become my family, and my actual family. If nothing else goes right in my life, I will at least have the comfort of knowing that I have an incredible support system and that I am incredibly loved and blessed to have such wonderful people in my life.
Blue Devil softball team welcomes new head coach. See page B-9 for full story.

Andi Zeisler, co-founder of "Bitch" magazine, speaks with students and professors after her presentation. See page A-1 for full story.

An inside look into the development of choreography of "RENT." See page B-2 for full story.

David Neimanis, Matt Mincin and Bryan Williams, all FREDstock organizers, hope to host FREDstock at the Chautauqua County Fairgrounds. See page B-4 for full story.
School of Music's week of guest artists

Dr. David Rudge conducts Albert Ginastera's "Obertura para el 'Fausto criollo'" performed by the college symphony orchestra.

A friendly face visits Fredonia

Rosch Recital Hall is not a particularly colorful venue, with only the earthy tones from the walls, floors and instruments, and the black and white from the performer's attire. The real colors, however, come from the performers themselves.

Dr. Chun Chim (David) Leung, Assistant Professor of Violin at Saint Mary's University of Minnesota, created a color palette more extensive than most painters during last week's recital titled "On the Anniversary of the death of Sergei Prokofiev." He danced between movements and pieces with an exquisite layering of heavy, lush sounds and lighter, flourishing melodies, all the while engaging the audience.

Leung's personality harmonized with Fredonia's friendly atmosphere entirely — a perfect match, brought to SUNY Fredonia on an exchange residency program with School of Music violin instructor Maureen Yuen.

"He is one of the nicest people I've ever met," Yuen said.

Leung and Yuen met in 2006 when they both played with Slee Sinfonietta, a contemporary music ensemble at SUNY Buffalo, and have continued a collaborative performance career since.

"Selfishly, I really like playing with him," Yuen said half-jokingly. "I wanted the kids to work with someone who is of such a high caliber who isn't mean. And [Leung] is supportive and kind, and such a well rounded artist."

During his masterclass, Leung never criticized the students on anything that was done wrong or poorly. Instead, he used methods of reassurance that comforted them.

"I don't think I've ever performed with such little nerves as I did for that masterclass," said Gabriella Forgit, a sophomore music education major, studying violin. "He made me feel so comfortable right away."

Although Leung's concentration was on Forgit and two other students chosen to perform in the masterclass, he spread his attention to the rest of the students in Fredonia's two violin studios, too. He captivated the entire audience by speaking a language that artists of all sorts could understand and relate to.

"He used a lot of metaphors that helped me visualize the phrases," Forgit said. "He talked about thinking about one part of [one of my pieces] as ocean waves, to visualize the sense of forward motion and swelling, and then tapering off. He was very clear in his descriptions ad he was really knowledgeable of the piece and the style. He was also a great story teller."

Guest pianist's performance gets personal

The first of his own, "Suite for Piano," he composed in 1988, Skelton's inspiration for the piece came to him when he was riding in an airplane high above the clouds over New York City — a sight that nobody would ever see again the exact same way. Other inspirations within the piece came from a desire to create contrasting material.

Skelton's second composition of the program, Civil War Variations, included 21 variations on the Civil War tune "When Johnny Comes Marching Home," as well as variations on the original variations themselves. Composed in 1968, Skelton's inspiration for the piece came as he listened to his uncle sing the popular tune in the shower.

Future music educators seek guidance

One hundred and thirty of Fredonia's best students had of moving in the right direction. He addressed the challenges of music, but also the benefits that music brings to all who participate.

"Music does a wonderful thing," Hatcher said in his lecture. "It intensifies the underlying emotions and makes all the people feel the same thing, at the same time."

Like many students, Hatcher always knew that he loved music. But also like many students, he had his doubts about what he really wanted to do for the rest of his life.

"I grew up wanting to be a concert pianist," Hatcher said. "Then I thought, maybe voice. Well, I once played the clarinet. My last resort was to be a teacher, and look where I ended up."

Hatcher traveled to Fredonia from San Diego, California, where he resides having retired after 43 years of conducting and teaching choral music. During his lecture, he told stories from the time when he was a student, through his teaching career and into his retirement. No story, though, seemed to hit the students as hard as his own short anecdote of how he sees music through his own eyes.

"Learning new music should be a little like walking through an unfamiliar forest," Hatcher began. "You will discover brambles and forks on the path and will need, from time to time, a compass. But as I discovered in Yosemite Park last summer, you go through that kind of situation and suddenly come across a splendid waterfall. And the experience will be profound. You'll quickly realize that the elements of music that we sing, play or conduct are common, expected [like the waterfall at the end of the path]. But discovering the unusual combination of elements are almost unspeakable … be a student of nature."
No day but today: The making of 'RENT'

Part three: creating choreography

REBECCA HALE
Staff Writer

Since the dawn of the Spring semester, students have been hard at work to bring together all the different aspects that make up the next upcoming mainstage show: "RENT."

"There’s so many parts that you would never realize: the choreographer, the director, the music people, the band, and the pit; it’s just so much that you would never think of," said Steven Saelzler, a sophomore musical theatre BFA major who is playing the role of Angel Dumott Schunard, a drag queen.

One of the most important factors of a musical is, of course, choreography. The choreographer plots out not only the dance numbers for the show, but where every actor stands and moves throughout those pieces. Sydney Thomas, senior BFA Dance major, has been the mind behind all of the choreography for "RENT."

"I wanted to be inspired by, but not feel like I was shackled to, the original," Thomas said on her visual brainstorming process.

The musical’s biggest dance number, and most everyone’s favorite, is “La Vie Bohème,” which means, “The Bohemian Life” in French. “La Vie Bohème" was the first number that the actors tackled in rehearsals, spending three days hammering out the moves.

"It’s such an iconic number that I felt like I really had to pay some tribute to the original while trying to make it my own," said Thomas on choreographing "La Vie Bohème."

Saelzler also shared his thoughts on “La Vie Bohème:”

“You would think that [it] was daunting, which it was, in the tiny part in the back of our brains, but that didn’t matter because it was so much fun, and it’s such an upbeat number that we all loved it.”

Many theater majors like Saelzler have no prior dance experience apart from other musicals, but in their major they are required to take a few dance classes such as Jazz, modern, ballet and tap. For Thomas, working with actors in classes such as Jazz, modern, ballet and tap. For Thomas, working with actors in a theater show is a completely different perspective than dancers do.

"I really like working with the actors, because they bring to rehearsal a different perspective on dance than dancers do. They’re less critical and willing to help teach me along the way, because I’ve never choreographed a musical before. It’s been a really rewarding experience because they’re so positive and they always give me such great feedback afterwards," she said. Thomas also joked that she has to break down her dancer jargon so that the actors may better understand her teaching.

"With musical theater, the biggest challenge for me is that there’s so much happening on stage at once that I have to be aware of," Thomas added. "Not only do I have to be aware of how they look, but how they sound because they have to sing at the same time, and making sure that the movement wasn’t too extreme to where they could still breathe and still sing."

Peterkin gets to dance in the number "Tango Maureen" with her partner, Jordan Fischer, who plays Mark Cohen.

"There isn’t a huge number where everyone does the same thing, I was just a part of dancing really, outside of the 'Tango Maureen,' Peterkin said. "I really enjoy doing the 'Tango Maureen,' just because it’s one of the fun numbers in the show, something that’s light and you still get the story, but you get to see them going at it over Maureen, and we get to dance in it.

“She can find a nice balance of teaching us and understanding where we’re coming from because she’s been in dance classes with us before, and she never makes us feel like we’re inadequate in what she’s trying to teach us," added Peterkin.

"I was really worried at first and scared that I wasn’t going to be what they wanted me to be or what they were expecting…" Thomas said, in retrospect to her peers’ thoughts on her hard work. "…but I feel really good about it now; I really enjoy it, and I’m really excited to see it on the stage."
Visiting writer brings mystery to campus

Kristen Shultis and Maggie Gilroy
Staff Writer and Reverb Editor

Denning a simple navy sweater, purple skirt and hair pulled up in a ponytail, visiting writer L. Annette Binder’s soft spoken demeanor matched her modest personality.

She brought the spirit of mystery and silence to the Visiting writer’s program Thursday.

Binder is a fiction writer who’s awards include the 2011 Mary McCarthy prize in short fiction. She began with a craft talk in which she shared her five rules for writing fiction: read poetry, focus on character, have a strong filter, think of rejection as a gift and don’t be precious about your writing.

Each participant received a handout to accompany Binder’s rules, with notes for each rule.

“Read poetry” was accompanied with a poem titled “Then I Packed You Up the Bridge Like a Brother on My Back,” by Joe Wilkin, which Binder analyzed with the group. “Focus on character” was paired with a quote from Meryl Streep as well as a writing exercise: Binder asked writers to write a strong filter, think of rejection as a gift and don’t be precious about your writing.

After a break, students and staff were welcomed back at 7 p.m. for the reading. Binder read a piece from her short story collection, “Rise.”

She read Galatea, a story about a woman who keeps getting plastic surgery in hope that if her kidnapped daughter ever came home they would be able to recognize her. She explained in a question-and-answer session as members quizzed her on everything from inspiration, to character development to how to handle writer’s block.

Another question-and-answer session followed, where Binder told the audience that writers shouldn’t get enveloped in their research for a story and that they should borrow the characters eyebrows while trying to write that character. She also told the audience that they should have the element of surprise in their own writing.

The next event in the Visiting Writers Series is on April 3 in McEwen 202 with author Ira Sukrungruang.

Street style: fashionable gym wear

Alexis Fores
Special to The Leader

As spring break comes around the corner, it seems as if everyone is trying to fit in some cardio workouts to have their perfect beach bodies. However, wearing sweaty gym clothes to class is probably the last thing anyone would want to do.

We tend to go shower right after the gym in order to look somewhat decent for the next class. However, if you have a difficult schedule, in which you have class from eight in the morning until almost nine at night, you will have no choice but to wear your gym clothes to class.

There is a way in which you can make your gym clothes very stylish for your next class without people knowing you ever entered the gym.

There are various types of gym clothes. One in particular is the yoga pant. Yoga pants come in different “leg types” such as skinny leg or the usual bell bottom yoga pants. Preferably skinny yoga pants can easily be made fashionable just by adding a long sweater with a pair of combat boots and a scarf. I personally try this all the time and my friends are shocked when I say I just came from the gym.

Sweatpants can easily be made fashionable by adding a few pieces. You can add a button up over your gym T-shirt, tuck it into the sweatpants, add your favorite stylish shoes and then a nice cardigan or leather jacket over the shirt.

With spring coming up, shorts will be seen everywhere in the gym. With shorts, you can easily grab a nice flowy top that goes with the shorts and wear it with your favorite shoes. You can also pack a skirt to put over the shorts and pair it with a nice tuck in button-up. Men’s gym clothes can be a little bit more challenging to make stylish, but it can happen. For instance, typical male gym pants can be paired with any button-up tucked in, favorite shoes and a nice jacket.

Sneakers for men and women are in style now, in which is a benefit when it comes to pairing closet apparel with gym apparel. The number one thing to remember when trying to make your gym apparel more fashionable is to test what works and what doesn’t. But don’t worry, wearing gym clothes to class is perfectly fine too. Like the saying goes, ‘as long as you rock what you’re wearing, you can wear whatever you want.’
Maggie Gilroy
Reverb Editor

Plans are currently in progress for May 3rd's Fred Fest, which will follow last year's carnival structure: This was a change from years past, which featured a headline. However, a poor turnout for the headliner caused Spectrum to remodel the event.

According to data provided by Spectrum Advisor Rachel LaPaglia, in 2013, 1,488 people attended the event, which is 63.5% of the 2,342 tickets that were sold. Of those who attended, 1,170, or 78.6%, were Fredonia students.

Using these numbers, it can be calculated that 42.2% of all Fredonia students bought tickets to the 2013 Fred Fest, and 21.1% of all Fredonia students attended Fred Fest. Therefore, 2,110 out of 10 students attended Fred Fest.

Inquiries to Spectrum about the current budget for Fred Fest were not answered.

Spectrum was happy with last year's turnout. "It had a greater percentage come as compared to our other years," said Spectrum President Alexandra Drake, junior biology major.

While they will be following the same model as last year, this year's Fred Fest will be dedicated to fixing problems faced last year.

"This is kind of like fixing the kinks that happened from last year, because last year was so new," said Spectrum vice-president Anna Jones, junior childhood inclusive education major.

Drake described the challenges as including fixing the entrance and the line to Dinosaur Barbecue. They also plan to add some giveaways, takeaways and possibly add more vendors and novelties. In addition to the vendors and novelties, Dinosaur Barbecue will be back for a second year. Possible vendors include lemonade, frozen yogurt (which will be new this year), hamburgers and fried dough. Novelties may include a photo booth or caricature; however, they are not yet set in stone.

Spectrum will also be bringing in different bands from last year's event and is looking to continue in order to choose which two local bands will perform at Fred Fest. Participants are required to fill out an application, provided by Spectrum, and send it in with a 2-3 track demo. The application and song are due to Spectrum mailbox in the Campus Life Office by April 2. At least one member of the band must be a Fredonia student in order to qualify.

After the applications are parsed down by Spectrum, the student body will vote on two bands to perform at Fred Fest. In addition to the two contest winners, two bands from Buffalo will perform as well.

Occurring the same weekend will be FREDstock Music Festival 14, an independent project chaired by senior business major Matthew Mincin. While it is intended by Mincin to be an alternative way to celebrate Fred Fest than the current drug and alcohol fueled house party scene, it is not currently being supported by the Student Association. "It's going to be difficult because we are an SA group so we can't really help them if they are going to be an off-campus non-school based event, in what it comes down to," said Jones, "but we're still looking into it and seeing what they're all about."

"When I moved here about three years ago I fell in love with its community and decided to really involve and, all of the people who are going to come and like this," Mincin said. "I pretty much told us we were going to go to jail," Williams added.

"And I told him, I'm like, 'I don't want to go to jail,'" Mincin said. "So this was an opportunity, right then and there, to completely change the underground scene that we have and re-create something new."

Mincin said he persuaded Herman to be open-minded and set out to create a non-underground event that would both change the party scene in Fredonia and the community's perception of the students as well. "I told him, 'I don't want to be an underground kid working against you guys,'" Mincin said.

Herman brought up several flags for Mincin to consider, and Mincin brought his thoughts to the Campus Community Coalition meeting on Feb. 24. Mincin then sprung into action, calling former Fredonia Mayor and Mincin's mentor Frank Pagano for advice. And while Pagano told Mincin to "stay out of it," Mincin did just the opposite.

He then made a meeting with President Horvath and called current Fredonia mayor Stephen Keefe.

"He just eased my mind about everything," Mincin said. "He's like, 'Matt, Fred Fest is a major event that is important for us to make sure it's going to be the best it can possible be.'"
David Neimanis, Matt Mincin and Bryan Williams, all FREDstock organizers, stand within an area of the Chautauqua County Fairgrounds in which they hope will host the event.

Concern for everybody right now. Just between 20,000 property damage in one house alone — landlords are getting pissed off.”

This further encouraged Mincin to make a change. “We conversed and we compromised,” Mincin said of Herman. “We’re trying to figure out the best way to do this.”

Keefe helped Mincin locate grounds to hold FREDstock, including opening Russell Jay Park and several other major areas. Mincin settled on the Chautauqua County Fairgrounds.

A new face to Fred Fest

With negative publicity brought to the SUNY system, such as the November Cortaca riots, stirred by the annual popular football game between SUNY Cortland and Ithaca college, and the cancelling of Brock- who-Pot-D in 2012, there is now a new tone for college spring celebrations.

Due to the increasingly belligerent nature of Fred Fest, Fredonia students will be under a microscope this May.

“There’s a lot of red flags going on; cutting budgets, everybody’s just thinking about cancelling Fred Fest. Alcohol and drugs are just ruining everything that Fred Fest is intended to do,” Mincin said.

An article published by The Dunkirk Observer on May 16, 2013, following Fred Fest, stated “It was intended for this event to be a good-feeling atmosphere. In addition to the vendors and music, they also want to incorporate local food and vendors to create a ‘good-feeling’ atmosphere.”

The set up will feature various bars, where student groups and vendors will be located, so the event will be unaffected by rain. Camping areas will be provided as well.

Mixed responses

The Student Association has chosen not to support FREDstock. SA President Antonino Regulier stated this choice is due to a combination of not having the means to support it and not feeling that it enforces values that are in line with SA.

“We expressed that to him and I think he had a misconception that we supported it and it’s not that we don’t — we support his enthusiasm; however, the event itself we don’t support because we don’t have the means to support it, and we can’t do it and it’s not in line with what we’re trying to get across campus,” Regulier said in a recent interview.

Especially with what Fred Fest has been previously known to be and what it has become, we’re trying to keep away from that stigma and those stereotypes and make this school something that’s more accepted for parents especially for enrollment questions,” he added.

“When you have freshmen who for the first time are getting here and their first question is ‘what is Fred Fest?’ that’s a problem.”

While Mincin’s goal for FREDstock is to provide people away from the belligerent house party scene, Regulier feels it will add to the problem.

“I don’t know that in the past there’s been some negative thoughts about Fred Fest and things like that and I think Matt has an idea of the positive approach to it: how to keep it fun but safe,” Keefe said in a recent phone interview. “And that’s the big secret, of how people can have good, clean, wholesome fun and not put themselves at risk.”

While Keefe is not officially involved, he has assisted Mincin in securing a location for the event.

“It’s kind of an independent venture but, you know, we need to support or not support. We encourage good, clean wholesome fun,” Keefe said.

“And think that any time the community can get together, don’t think anybody is opposed to music, I think his idea of doing it at the fairgrounds is a great venue, so I put him in contact with people who might help him set up this project.”

“I think [FREDfest] should stay on campus and it should be something that people can go to feel good and look and supported and appreciated as Fredonia should be,” Regulier said.

No end in sight

Despite the challenges Mincin has faced, he is continuing his plans to hold FREDstock from May 2-4 at the Chautauqua County Fairgrounds.

On March 6, the event’s Facebook page announced the first round of bands that will be performing at the event, including Honey Spine, Intrigue Travelers, Well Worn Boot, The Goods, Beauxon, Indite, Seven Central, Hokan & Friends of the San, Mooses, Yonic and The Chonic Collective.

FREDstock is currently being sponsored by BJ’s and the Cool Little Music Shop, with more sponsors to be announced soon.

“Right now we’ve fought really hard to be where we are, so right now we’re kind of just smoothing out the edges,” Williams said.

In addition, Mincin and Williams are organizing “The Road to Fred Stock,” a local music initiative that features open mic nights at Valentine’s on Tuesday and Wednesday nights: Williams secured booking privileges at BJ’s, and they are looking to collaborate with Reina Railroad Services as well. They have also created a podcast on SoundCloud titled “The Road to Fred Stock.”

“This is the grand finale,” Mincin said of FREDstock. “This isn’t it.”

Now changes to the FREDstock are being announced daily on FREDstock’s Facebook page, as well as on www.fredstock.org. Mincin and Williams, and their booking agent, Dore Neimanis, meet with their planning committee every Sunday in order to see their dream come to fruition.

Currently, Mincin has a lengthy checklist to tackle in order to complete all necessary preparations in time for May 2.

“Dose creating vision, a dream, a perception and chasing it and seeing it become a reality,” Mincin said.
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Dr. David Rudge conducts the College Symphony Orchestra.

Visiting writer L. Annette Binder reads from her book of short stories, "Rise."
CHRISTINA CONCEICAO  
Sports Editor

The Fredonia Blue Devils softball team is heading for a fresh start after a rough 2013 season with an overall record of 10-23. Taking over as head coach this year is Tony Ciccarello who is no stranger to SUNYAC play. He has an overall coaching record of 278-193. Ciccarello, who got the call in early January, is taking over the position from Nicole Loudin who, after coaching for two seasons, resigned in August to become head coach at John Carroll University in Ohio. Ciccarello and Loudin originally applied for the head coach position for Fredonia softball at the same time a few years back.

“I’m really happy to be here. I’m really looking forward to seeing them compete. I’m all about competing and they compete in practice, but I’m happy to be here. I’m hoping I can throw a little life into the program and give them success,” said Ciccarello.

He is also very familiar with Fredonia softball as well. His daughter Gabrielle Ciccarello, who graduated in 2012, was on the softball team during her four years at Fredonia.

“She is loving it. She is really happy and in fact she still has a lot of friends here. A couple of the players were on the team when she was a senior and she said something on twitter to some of her friends, ‘oh I need to visit Fredonia.’

Prior to coming to Fredonia, Ciccarello had coached the Geneseo Knights for 11 seasons starting in 2002 and just last year coached at New Paltz. He lead Geneseo to their only SUNYAC title which resulted in them competing in the NCAA Division III tournament in 2002. It was in 2002 as well as 2003 that Ciccarello was named SUNYAC Softball Coach of the Year. In 2003 and 2005, Ciccarello’s Geneseo teams were the winners of the ECAC Upstate Division III title.

“I had great teams. We went to the NCAA my first year and we won the regular season my second year. We lost — what — three conference games my first two years I was there?” said Ciccarello.

While at New Paltz last year, he coached in them competing for the conference tournament for the first time in three years. The Hawks had an overall record of 20-19 with a SUNYAC record of 11-7. Their 11 conference wins were the most that the Hawks earned since their 2008 season.

With a new season starting very soon Ciccarello is making changes — and hopefully for the better.

“I expect them to play better, play my style ball, which we are working on,” he said. “I think you’re going to see a different type of team. They’re enjoying practice.”

The roster this year is comprised of one freshman, seven sophomores, five juniors and one fifth-year senior.

“I haven’t written a line-up yet, but I’ve been talking to them and where they pretty much stand. I’m starting to figure out who is going to play where and when. Some are playing all the time, others aren’t playing much and others are playing part time,” said Ciccarello.

The Blue Devils will be spending their spring break in sunny Clermont, Florida, participating in the Dot Richardson Spring Games. Their first game is March 16 against Trinity College. While in Florida Ciccarello will be coaching against his daughter, Gabrielle, who is the athletic assistant for the softball team at Utica College.

“It’s going to be fun — better than when I had to coach against her when I was at Geneseo and she was here, and I had to coach against her for four years. We’re out of conference so it will be a lot more fun, way more relaxed. I hated that game, playing Fredonia, because I wanted my daughter to do well but at the same time I wanted to do well. So it is going to be fun,” said Ciccarello.

The Blue Devils will be starting their SUNYAC play on Saturday, March 29 against Buffalo State.
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CLASSIFIEDS
You sultrily lick the butter and salt off your thumb as you watch Daniel Radcliff straddle his Nimbus 2000 with his bony legs. You and your man simultaneously turn your heads toward one another, giving each other a knowing look that says, “Oh girl, you know I only put this movie on so I could open your chamber of secrets … “

Yea, I’ve gotten freaky while watching Harry Potter, and I can tell you with complete confidence that it was one of the weirdest, most uncomfortable experiences of my life. There is something that just isn’t right about dry humping with Hagrid’s voice in the background. No, there isn’t.

Getting saucy during a movie is downright annoying; I mean really, I was getting emotionally invested in watching Harry get sorted into his house while this dude was violently wiggling his clammy hand up my bra like a damn drill. I could not handle all these physical and emotional stimulations all at once. It was nauseating.

When I finally managed to focus on the hook-up, I became acutely aware of the music that played while Harry bustled down Diagon Alley with Hagrid. “Oh god … “ I thought. “The worst has happened; I’ve managed to match my thrusts with the tune of the music. I am literally thrusting along to the beat of the Harry Potter soundtrack.”

The worst is when I was performing oral, and out of boredom, I started listening to the dialogue of the film. “It’s leviosa! Not leviosaarrr!” I shook my head, rolled my eyes and, with a chuckle, said, “Oh Hermione … “ and headed back down to his forbidden forest.

It is not just this isolated Harry Potter experience that makes me cringe; it is any situation in which a movie is strategically put on in order to spice things up. Perfectly decent sexy moments are killed every day because of movie dialogue. Nothing will cockblock your heated moment more than Professor Quill screaming, “TROLL IN THE DUNGEON!” So I leave you with this wisdom: when you’ve found yourself getting frisky during any movie, make sure you take your sexy selves up into the bedroom, because no one should be taking their bra off with Dumbledore on the television screen. That is just weird, man … really weird.

Witnesses reported Thursday night that the ghost of Fredfests past had made appearances in downtown Fredonia, allegedly warning bar patrons and partygoers that Fredstock—the proposed replacement for Fredfests live music component—was “an act of blasphemy that will not go unpunished.”

Reportedly erupting from the sidewalk in front of Sunny’s, the spirit—who manifested on this plane of reality as a being of raw, unfiltered good vibes—was quoted as saying that Fredstock was a “grave mistake,” and that all who attended would be “afflicted with various maladies most terrible in retribution for their betrayal.”

“Why hast thou forsaken thine only god and master?” a visibly distraught—yet no less awe-inspiring—ghost entreated bystanders. “Why must ye ungrateful wretches seek a rollicking good time in the arms of another?”

Since the ghost’s appearance, various sightings have been reported around town. The ghost reportedly crashed several parties over the weekend, often bursting through the wall in a manner witnesses described as “not unlike the Kool-Aid guy,” and then stealing people’s drinks and hogging the blunt.

“It’s pretty hard to party with a terrifying, seemingly omnipotent supernatural being,” one partygoer confessed.

At last report, the ghost was shaking up beers, relieving itself in the jungle juice, and telling anyone who would listen that there would be a reckoning.
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