ICE, ICE, BABY

SEE STORY ON PAGE A-3
ISIS triggers debate on U.S. response

CHARLES PRITCHARD
Staff Writer

I wouldn’t want to be on the S.S. Gawker Media right now. According to recent reports and Gawker’s own words, the media news and gossip blog has lost thousands of dollars and is slated to lose millions if it keeps following the trend it has been.

But, what is that trend? And why is it following a downward path? Well, there are a lot of reasons. Let’s count them.

First, there are the sextapes Gawker Media published, one of which involved professional wrestler Hulk Hogan. On Oct. 4, 2012, A.J. Daulerio published a story in which he narrated the contents of the wrestler’s sexual escapades and provided a link to the movie. Seven months later, on April 25, Gawker Media was ordered by a circuit court judge to take down the article, video and the comments. Gawker refused to do so, prompting a huge battle between Hulk Hogan and the sensationalist company.

The same year, Gawker Media and founder Nick Denton were slapped with a lawsuit by former employees, claiming that during their time with the company, they were classified as interns to avoid being paid.

Legal battles abounded between the former intern and Gawker Media and were followed up with Gawker Media’s handling of the case and cover up of the case from any of its other interns. So far though, Auldster Media, Andrew H Ashdon and Hunchen L. claim that they worked 25 hours, 24 hours and 15 hours respectively and were not paid anything.

The lawsuit in question is after compensation for the said unpaid and on more terms, but has yet to see an outcome. Instead, the company is seeing a drawn-out year of legal battles.

And now following that?

A whole slew of scandals involving Gawker’s video game blog, Kotaku, and its tech blog, Valleywag.

Kicking off with Nathan Grayson and Kotaku Grayson wrote a story in which he was personal friends with video game developers and gave them positive press. This was all denied by Kotaku itself, and Stephen Tolis, the man in charge of Kotaku, claimed that there was a look into articles and Grayson, and they did not see any breach of ethics.

As game reviewer and “Consumer Advocate” TotalBiscuit said on Twitter following the announcement, “Kotaku has investigated Kotaku and has found Kotaku innocent.”

And the final cherry on top?

During National Bullying Prevention Month in October, Sam Biddle, writer at Valleywag, responded to the outrage over Gawker’s, along with gaming journalism as a whole, lack of ethics by tweeting “Bring Back Bullying” and advocating the bullying of “nerds” to teach them their place in the world.

Between refusing a court order to remove a video and an article that was purely sensationalistic in nature, “Bring Back Bullying” and advocating the bullying of “nerds” to teach them their place in the world.

Isis, the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), a terrorist group, took the life of another innocent American, U.S. aid worker and former soldier Peter Kassig on Nov. 16. According to Fox News, ISIS grew out of the remnants of Al Qaeda in Iraq and spread to Syria.

ISIS released a video showing the removed heads of Kassig and some Syrian soldiers. This 16-minute long video was posted to social media networks and featured a concealed ISIS member standing next to a severed head that the organization claimed to be Kassig’s. The video also showed ISIS beheading several Syrian soldiers.

President Barack Obama responded to the video, calling the act “pure evil.” The parents of Kassig, Ed and Paula Kassig, have asked the media not to post any of the images or videos that ISIS distributed.

Kassig is the third American hostage killed recently by journalists James Foley and Steven Sotloff. On top of this, ISIS has attacked U.S. soldiers in Iraq and Syria. Such an attack against U.S. forces demanded a response from U.S.

Earlier this year, in June, ISIS took over much of Northern Iraq, causing the U.S. to resume air start-up again military operations. According to Fox News, the U.S. has already launched airstrikes in Iraq and Syria earlier this year to halt the advance of ISIS and eventually destroy the group.

According to NBC News, this has caused President Obama to order a review of how the U.S. responds when citizens are taken hostage overseas. This is fueled by complaints that family members of those killed believe the U.S. did not do enough to save their loved ones’ lives.

Also according to NBC News, one of the main policies that Obama plans to continue is the refusal to pay ransoms for hostages captured by terrorists.

“The president continues to believe, as previous presidents have concluded, that it’s not in the best interest of American citizens to pay ransoms for any organization, let alone a terrorist organization,” said White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest.

“I would still say no, don’t do that. At least these people are politically motivated, but then you open yourself up to everyday criminals who will just say, ‘Oh American abroad — there’s $500,000 walking by,’” said Fredonia professor of political science Dr. Alexander Cavigli.

“You need to go into [it] with a positive plan. Not just to try and say, ‘This is a problem we need to eradicate.’ What are you going to leave in its place? You [have] got to be very cautious you don’t leave some kind of western-looking secular solution in place. It’s got to be a solution which is still quite open to the native population’s desire to express themselves religiously,” said Cavigli.

According to The Fiscal Times, Obama has asked Congress to grant him new war power authority to allow for more airstrikes and training of Syrian soldiers to fight ISIS. While some Republicans may support more power, they are hesitant to give the president the present more power in fear of another endless war in the Middle East.

The Republican party wants the president to take a different tone. 2012 Republican candidate for president Mitt Romney has said he favors sending U.S. troops to Syria and Iraq if necessary to combat ISIS.

“At some point, somebody’s boots have to be on the ground,” said Speaker of the House John Boehner.

According to The Fiscal Times, not every Republican supports this. The main opponents of this are Senator Rand Paul and Senator Ted Cruz. They also have expressed a lot of concern about increased presidential war powers.

The U.S. is still deciding exactly how it would like to respond to ISIS. Something has to be done soon so another American life is not lost. Now it is up to the U.S. to decide how it wants to deal with ISIS, and if they believe ISIS should be punished or not.
Classes and activities cancelled due to storm

Administration takes numerous factors into consideration

AMANDA DEDIE
Special to The Leader

Students received a “Winter Weather Message from President Horvath,” an email that tends to go out at the beginning of signs of bad weather, on Monday, Nov. 17. It explained the college policies for cancelling classes, as well as safety tips for those who may need to brave the weather. Perhaps the most important, and most quoted, part of this email, which was posted by students to social media outlets on Tuesday, Nov. 18, through the rest of the week, was President Horvath’s statement, “...the closing of the Thruway has been a benchmark for us in cancelling classes and activities.”

In this particular case, benchmark means that the closing of the thruways is a starting point, or the event that marks the beginning of the consideration to cancel classes.

“If our thruway is closed because the weather here is so bad that the visibility is poor on the thruway, that would prompt a closing, but the weather wasn’t bad on one part of the thruway,” stated Horvath in a recent interview. “It was closed because up in Buffalo, there were all those trapped vehicles. So yes, the thruway was closed, but it wasn’t because our weather [on the thruway] was bad. It was because the weather was bad elsewhere.”

Horvath chose to cancel all classes and activities after 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 17, and the entirety of Nov. 18 and 19. But, despite popular beliefs, closing a campus isn’t an easy decision.

“They are in the best position to know whether they should be on the roads, given their commute, experience as a winter driver and level of fatigue. Faculty, staff and students who live within walking distance of campus may find it easier to walk in bad weather than to clean off cars and dig out of driveways and parking lots. Staff members who choose to stay home must use accruals, but supervisors should be understanding and supportive of that choice. Turn to friends in town if you need a place to stay if the floodlights are on at the President’s House during a storm, it’s a sign that you’re welcome there if you need a place to wait out the weather. Communication: Be prepared to use the tools available — email, phone, ANGEL, social media — to connect with those you need to if the weather prevents you from meeting face to face. Faculty who need to cancel class should be sure to communicate that to students and their departments as soon as possible.”

Maggie Gilroy / Editor in Chief

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Maggie Gilroy / Editor in Chief
Monday, Nov. 17, 2014
10:00 a.m. Graffiti was found throughout Schulz Hall over the previous weekend. A report was filed and an investigation was held.
11:30 a.m. There was vandalism on a bulletin board in Eisenhower Hall. A report was filed.
10:04 p.m. A man in a hoodie was walking around in a dark apartment in a townhouse in University Village. A report was filed and the area was checked. The subject turned out to be a student who lived there and there were no problems.

Tuesday, Nov. 18, 2014
5:32 a.m. Jacob A. Pancanowski, age 18, was arrested for smoking marijuana in Hemingway Hall. A report was filed.
8:22 p.m. An unknown person(s) pulled the pull station in Igoe Hall. The area was checked and a report was filed.

Wednesday, Nov. 19, 2014
4:48 p.m. A New York State drivers licence was found near the campus exit by a local resident. The item was stored and a report was filed.

Thursday, Nov. 20, 2014
2:35 p.m. Students were found jumping off the bridge into a snow pile. A report was filed and grounds was notified.

Friday, Nov. 21, 2014
8:24 a.m. The intrusion alarm went off in the art gallery. A report was filed.
9:26 a.m. The panic alarm went off in the health center. A report was filed.

Saturday, Nov. 22, 2014
11:26 a.m. An M & T Bank card was found in lot 13. A report was filed and the object was stored in the temporary evidence room.
1:13 p.m. The alarm at the art gallery was set off. A report was filed and the alarm was reset.

Monday, Nov. 24, 2014
8:54 a.m. The DFT alarm went off in Cranston Marche dining hall. A report was filed and the alarm was deactivated.
10:53 a.m. An iPhone was found near Erie Hall. A report was filed.
1:15 p.m. An iPhone was found in Reed Library. A report was filed.
1:15 p.m. A calculator was found in Reed Library. A report was filed.

Tuesday, Nov. 25, 2014
5:45 p.m. Margaret M. Chicco, a parent of a student, was issued a traffic ticket and was arrested for leaving the scene after backing into a light pole outside University Village, causing damage. A statement was taken and a report was filed.

Friday, Nov. 28, 2014
5:56 p.m. A dorm lock malfunctioned in Igoe Hall. The heating plant was notified, the residence director on call was notified, entry was gained and a work order was submitted.

Fredonia
Monday, Nov. 17, 2014
12:35 p.m. Joshua D. Spiller, age 35, was issued a traffic ticket for operating a motor vehicle while using an electronic device.

Thursday, Nov. 20, 2014
8:44 p.m. Kathryn S. Tennyson, age 44, was issued traffic tickets for drive while intoxicated per se, driving while intoxicated and failure to keep right.

Saturday, Nov. 22, 2014
1:30 a.m. Josue Baez, age 26, was charged with criminal possession of a controlled substance in the third degree, resisting arrest, obstruction of government function in the second degree, unlawful possession of marijuana, littering on public property and open container.

Wednesday, Nov. 26, 2014
7:25 p.m. Zachary P. Kemp, age 23, was issued traffic tickets for failure to use designated lane and aggravated unlicensed operation in the third degree.

Saturday, Nov. 29, 2014
Angel A. Perez-Morales, age 34, was held on $250 bail.

Sunday, Nov. 30, 2014
James R. J. Crocker, age 43, was held on $500 bail for petit larceny, obstruction of governmental administration in the second degree and disorderly conduct.

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

As you count down the days until graduation, and that diploma is just out of your reach, the last thing you want to be thinking about is taking more tests. For many education majors, it’s not much of a choice.

In order to receive their teaching certificates, students must pass a series of four exams, usually taken during their senior year of college. Following the recent implementation of “Race to the Top” by the Obama Administration, three new exams, and modifications to fourth, were enforced in order to test the extent of applicants preparation for the world of education.

“Race to the Top” is the latest initiative to increase the rigor,” said Dean of the College of Education Dr. Christine Givner. “It goes back to children’s learning objectives. We’ve been doing what now is being articulated as the most ambitious reform. “Race to the Top” implements additional mandatory testing for ed majors.

The U.S. Department of Education asked states to reform four specific areas:

• Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
• Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
• Recruiting, developing, rewarding and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most;
• Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

In August 2010, New York State was awarded $696,646,000 as a winner in the second round of the federal Race to the Top competition. According to “Race to the Top,” these awards are presented to states that “lead the way with ambitious reform.” The New York State Board of Regents recently finalized plans for three new mandatory exams for all teaching hopefuls.

The first of the three tests is the Academic Literacy Skills Test (ALST). The ALST tests the candidates understanding of “proficient, close, and critical reading.” It consists of 40 select- ed response items, two focused response items and one extended response item, and takes approximately 3.5 hours to complete.

The Educating All Students (EAS) test is a constructive response test and the second of the most recent New York State Teacher Certification Examinations (NYSECE). “It probes, or assesses, their understanding of working with diverse students, English learners, as well as ethnically diverse students, students with disabilities and students who are struggling with things like poverty,” said Givner of the EAS test.

The third and most substantial newly implemented test is the Teacher Performance Assessment (edTPA), which requires a videotaped submission from a student teaching session, as well as a digital portfolio.

Along with doing a 15 to 20 minute video, the candidate has to write up a single-spaced, close to 30, 40, 50-page long narrative describing the learning context, the lesson plan, how it will be assessed, what the learning objectives are, a critical reflection of how the video went, what they would do different next time and its reference to the research,” said Givner.

Modifications were also made to the Content Specialty Tests (CST). These exams test the applicants’ knowledge of their specific areas of study and what they will teach, focusing on the foundational knowledge learned in 100 and 200 numbered courses in their disciplines.

We are doing our best job here (at Fredonia),” said Givner. “We’ve been doing what now is being articulated as the most effective way to prepare educators for over 20 years. So, we are ahead of the curve.”

The effort demonstrated by the faculty and staff is not going unnoticed. As difficult as these tests may be, many students feel more than prepared, thanks to their education from Fredonia.

“I think our music education department has a good method in preparing us,” said senior music education major Tyler Eighmey. “They have a good balance between teaching what is on the tests and other interests a professor might believe relevant to the course.”

When it comes to adequately preparing students for these exams, many students start early. “Starting as a freshman, you begin working towards passing these exams,” said Taylor Goodman, a senior childhood inclusive education major. “While you don’t have to take them until you are a senior, the majority of your education classes are structured around common information found on these exams.”

Music education majors begin their work during their first year at Fredonia as well. Foundations of Music Education is a required class that all first semester freshmen must take.

“We begin creating portfolios and writing reflection papers on why we want to be in music education,” said Eighmey. “The job of the professor is to take a student from high school and train them to be a professional in four years. So, I think it is a necessary amount of work to be doing in order to be prepared and ready to work in the field of music education.”

While these tests require an intense amount of preparation, they also require a great deal of money.

“The costs of these tests are pretty ridiculous,” said Tyler Eighmey, a senior music education major. “I think they are costs that students aren’t really warned about until about a year before they need them, for some students, that can be problematic.”

The ALST, EAS and CST cost approximately $115, while the edTPA runs about $350.

“Because these exams are required for your teaching certificate, if you don’t pass on the first try you have to take it again — and pay again too,” said Goodman. “It all adds up pretty quick and can be overwhelming.”

Regardless of the money and time spent on these exams, in the end, students credit those who have helped them the most along the way.

“The professors at Fredonia have been really awesome in helping to prepare for these exams,” said Goodman. “It’s really comforting to know that they are doing their best to help you reach your goal and it often feels like they are working with you to get you through it.”
Opinion

Wednesday, December 3, 2014

With the end of the semester and finals upon us, we here at The Leader have come up with a few ideas of what to do during those study breaks that are so vital to a successful and productive study session.

You could:

- watch an episode of your favorite show on Netflix
- call a long lost friend to catch up
- call your mom
- write out your grocery list
- go for a walk
- do an online workout video
- clean your room
- take a cat nap
- pack up some of your things to be brought home for winter break
- swipe right on someone you found on Tinder
- do some online holiday shopping
- challenge someone on Trivia Crack
- bake some cookies
- take a Buzzfeed quiz to find out which one of Taylor Swift’s cats you are
- do a load of laundry … or fold that pile you left from the last time you “did laundry”
- write a letter to a friend or family member or Santa and send it off in the snail mail
- put up some holiday decorations
- take a crack at your long list of Pinterest recipes
- learn to knit from a YouTube video
- join 750words.com
- do yoga
- get lost on StumbleUpon
- get lost on Tumblr
- smoke a cigarette off campus
- write a song

We’ve made it this far, we don’t have far to go!

Get into the holiday spirit with a fun-filled take on a classic...

It’s A Wonderful Life - The Radio Play

December 5 to 13
Bartlett Theatre, Rockefeller Arts Center

A Theatre and Dance production

• Fri., Dec. 5 & Sat., Dec. 6 at 7:30 p.m.
• Sat., Dec. 6 & Sun., Dec. 7 at 2 p.m.
• Thurs., Dec. 11 - Sat., Dec. 13 at 7:30 p.m.

Go behind the scenes at station KPNF for a Christmas eve broadcast of the beloved holiday tale of George Bailey and Bedford Falls, complete with live sound effects and station breaks.

Sponsored by: Niebel Realty

Campus Ticket Office, Williams Center
673-3501 or fredonia.edu/tickets

Do you think the snow days

Gabby Pietropaolo
senior, psychology

“It kind of [hindered] me because I planned on being productive but I sit in a house with those of my other friends so we kind of just hang out the whole time.”

Matt Pantano
freshman, video production

“It definitely hindered my experience. I’ve got like three tests and a paper this week.”

Felicia Schiefer
senior, psychology

“Pretty much the same thing as [Pietropaolo]. It kind of [hindered] me because I didn’t do anything. I kind of relaxed and was like ‘Oh, this is a relaxing day for me’ instead of actually getting my work done.”
As decades have passed the game of hockey and the NHL in particular, has changed ever so gradually. As we look back, little changes over time make us think this game is headed for better, or worse.

Let’s say I can take over as commissioneer for the day. For the sake of this, I’m going to say any changes I make automatically pass. Most of my decisions are with the beauty of hockey over the decades in mind.

Let’s start with the rules.

If one league likes to make your head roll with their enforcement of rules, it’s the NHL. At least this is what I can report. That league doesn’t call traveling if your first name starts with an L and last name is James. Sorry, King.

First, let’s oust that stupid trap-ezoid behind the net.

Done.

The days of Martin Brodeur coming to the corner to play the puck are back! Goalies can finally roam their ice as they please and maybe up their feisty attitudes. I’m calling on Garth Snow for that one.

While we are on the topic of goalies, I say it’s time we make those Gretzky and Orr records achievable again. Those players were good, but they would never stand a chance at their own record in today’s game.

Pads are much bigger now. If a goalie feels the puck anymore, it’s a miracle. I would leave the chest protector alone, but the leg pads are a bit too wide/too robotic with the size of their equipment. They would endure during my tenure.

Maybe that change will bring back an acrobatic goalie such as Dominik Hasek on ice (i.e. bigger nets).

That’s not the only change players would endure during my tenure. Hockey players have become almost too robotic with the size of their equipment, as well. I would reduce player’s shoulder pads and elbow pads to a more necessary size. Yes, that takes away protection, but would also give a feeling of mortality and reduce injury because of the player’s awareness to pain and the physicality of their hits.

One thing I would like to put into the game is an extra two minute minor for fighting off of the faceoff. As if enforcers haven’t already been eliminated from the game, this takes them out a little more. I do, however, enjoy fighting in hockey. I would rather it be out of anger and emotion than a staged fight off of a faceoff.

I have noticed that when it comes to regular season hockey, teams do not fear overtime. In the current format, you get two points for a win, zero for a loss, and one for an overtime loss. That creates a lot of parity in the league between teams who should have a little more separation.

Want to avoid overtime? Make the scoring as follows in the standings: three points for a win, one point for an overtime loss and zero for a regulation loss. I may be borrowing from professional soccer, but maybe they are onto something. Suddenly you may want your favorite team to win in regulation rather than take it beyond 60 minutes.

While we are at it, I would like to wave goodbye to the 4-on-4 overtime and reduce it to 3-on-3 to open up the ice more. I would keep the five minute over-time length and continue the shootout format afterward.

On a marketing level I would expand the NHL to 32 teams, with cities being added in Seattle and Quebec. I don’t think there is a doubt Quebec will have a team in the coming years in actuality, and Seattle is not far behind.

Next, I would relocate the Florida Panthers. They are turning the corner as a good on-ice team and are on their way in that regard. When it comes to their fan base, I would help them pack their own U-Haul out of their home arena in Sunrise, Florida. The Panthers have had attendance problems putting them at record numbers for all the wrong reasons.

So where would they go to keep the number of teams at 32?

West, of course! The NHL has talked about Las Vegas getting a team and Kansas City has the Sprint Center, unoccupied by any of the two major arena sports and has hosted NHL preseason action before. Not to mention in the current 30 team format, the Western Conference has 14 teams as opposed to the 16 in the Eastern Conference.

My reign seems to be coming to a close, so if you would excuse me, I have a few calls to make to the NHL offices...

Have helped you or hindered you?

Steven Wang, freshman, sound recording technology
"I think it helped me because it delayed a couple tests so I have longer to study"

Ryan Scott, freshman, chemistry
"I think it helped me because there were a few tests that were supposed to be last Thursday and Wednesday and both got pushed to this week so it gave me a lot more time to study over break."

Sean Smith, freshman, video production
"I think it hindered me because I have more tests due tomorrow and I’m not going to do good."
Photo Page

ANDREA ADINOLFE / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Jacqueline Blasting performs in the opening scene of ‘It’s a Wonderful Life - A Radio Play.’ See full story on page B-1.

JORDYN HOLK / REVERB EDITOR
A sharpie mug made by Jordyn Holka portrays Lord of the Rings script. For more holiday gift ideas, see story on page B-3.

THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN CHOOSING YOUR HOUSING NEEDS

APARTMENTS & TOWNHOUSES

We at Campus Edge at Brigham offer all the above and more. We look forward to having you become a resident with us.

Are all or most of your utilities included?
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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 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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Taking applications for the 2014/2015 school year!
“Wonderful Life” Gets Wings In Bartlett Theatre

MAGGIE GILROY
Editor in Chief

“Every time a bell rings, an angel gets his wings.”

The iconic words of Frances Goodrich, Albert Hackett, Frank Capra and Jo Swerling’s 1946 screenplay, “It’s a Wonderful Life,” will be said as part of the second Walter Gloor Mainstage Production. But, this time, they will travel from the Bartlett Theatre straight into the radio waves.

Opening on Dec. 5, “It’s A Wonderful Life — The Radio Play” was adapted from the original screenplay into a radio play by Joe Landry. It follows the life of George Bailey, a failed businessman, as he experiences the importance of love, George’s life falling apart between Christmas Eve and his birthday, and how it affects those around him if Bailey did not exist.

“The Christmas classic will stream live on wrfalp.com. ‘It’s a Wonderful Life — A Radio Play’ will be broadcast on WRFA-LP 107.9,” said Taylor Sheehan, a senior acting major who also portrays Applewhite in certain performances.

“Every time a bell rings, an angel gets his wings.”

As radio focuses on vocal acting, as opposed to physical action, creating a radio play has posed several challenges for the actors. "In all Hollywood movies you just see how the characters on screen are reacting to the plots in the movie. In this production you see how the actors playing those characters react to George and Mary falling in love, George’s life falling apart and how it affects them as people.”

Actors portray several different characters in the “Wonderful Life” story, distinguishing between each character with their voices.

In addition to the live performances, the play will also be broadcast on WRFA-LP 107.9 in Jamestown. It will also be streamed live on wrfalp.com. Colin Braeger, production sound designer and junior theatrical production and design major, will record the production live for the broadcast. The times of the broadcast will be announced at a later date.

As radio focuses on vocal acting, as opposed to physical action, creating a radio play has posed several challenges for the actors. "The action takes place in a radio station, and each actor is playing a person that has come to the radio station to act and put on a play. There is not much physical action,” said David Rivera, who also plays Laurents for select performances. "Every time a bell rings, an angel gets his wings.”

"Remember, no man is a failure who has friends."

“The audience members will be able to experience ‘It’s a Wonderful Life’ in a way that is only really possible through radio. There is no set to step out of our comfort zone; there is no reason to be afraid to try new things,” said Taylor Sheehan, a senior acting major who also portrays Applewhite in certain performances. “We’ve all learned a lot and stepped out of our comfort zones.”

This show is special because in this production, although we are mainly playing the roles of George and Mary, we are also playing actors playing those characters,” said junior acting major Andrew Vertucci, who plays Jake Laurnents in select performances. "The action takes place in a radio station, and each actor is playing a person that has come to the radio station to act and put on a play. There is not much physical action,” said David Rivera, who also plays Laurents for select performances. "Every time a bell rings, an angel gets his wings.”

“The audience members will be able to experience ‘It’s a Wonderful Life’ in a way that is only really possible through radio. There is no set to step out of our comfort zone; there is no reason to be afraid to try new things,” said Taylor Sheehan, a senior acting major who also portrays Applewhite in certain performances. “We’ve all learned a lot and stepped out of our comfort zones.”

The production also features scenic design by Chad Healy, and hair and makeup by Miranda Bashinger. The cast also features Jeff Kringer, Nick Cahill, Jackie Blasting, Michael Flanagan, Kate Armstrong, and Daniel Rivera.

“‘It’s a Wonderful Life’ — The Radio Play” will be performed Dec. 5-6, 11-13 at 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 4 at 2 p.m. There will be a pre-show a half hour prior to each performance.

“This is not a loud music and explosive lights kind of show,” said Rivera. “‘Wonderful Life’ is a story about a man who, with a little help from an angel, realizes how beautiful life is amidst all of the struggle and misfortune, simply for the reason that he has friends. Having never seen this movie before, playing George Bailey has changed my life. This story has changed me. If you want to be moved and feel every possible emotion that there is, come see ‘Wonderful Life!’”

“Every time a bell rings, an angel gets his wings.”

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Maggie Gilroy
Editor in Chief

The Leader
Wednesday, December 3, 2014

B-1 The Leader
“You learn most when you’re having fun.”

These are the words that David Holton, a Fredonia graduate of Fall 2013, lives by.

During his time at Fredonia, Holton transferred between applied music and composition majors and graduated with a performance degree. Though he was primarily a music major, he was also greatly interested in English and philosophy.

“Getting an artsy job is rough in today’s society,” Holton said.

He spent his summer after graduation interning at Boosey and Hawkes, a British classical music publisher. While he enjoyed the working there, he found it to be barely sufficient as a job.

Determined to live and work in a foreign country, Holton joined the Young Adult Service Corps (YASC) shortly after finishing his internship.

As part of the missionary society of the Episcopal Church, YASC sends young adults across borders for one year to serve beside other Anglicans. YASC volunteers have lived and served in Burundi, Kenya, Tanzania, Cape Town, Johannesburg, Japan, Hong Kong, Philippines, Uruguay and Costa Rica, among other places.

Holton now volunteers in the Philippines on Luzon island, teaching English, theory, music and mathematics to the underprivileged; aiding women, children and container ship crews; and working on farms and promoting organic and sustainable farming techniques, all while spreading the Anglican word.

Since he can remember, Holton has had wanderlust to live in a different country as a migrant.

“I always wanted to see the world, and thought that it would be more fun to do it as an expat than a tourist,” Holton explained. “YASC was a chance to live abroad, have a good job and gain some experience for jobs back home ... [but] there’s part of me that really loves the expat life and wants to stay overseas forever, maybe teaching.”

Holton tries to channel his three biggest influences at Fredonia when teaching in the Philippines: former colleague Alec Dobe for his positivity, musicology and music history professor Michael Markham for his enthusiasm while teaching and English professor Natalie Gerber for her intelligence and fusion of wit and intolerance for nonsense.

In the event that he does eventually return to the states, Holton plans to attend graduate school for music and possibly psychology or law.

Fredonia was a place where Holton felt he really grew into himself and became comfortable with his personality. His friends aided in this transformation.

“It’s amazing to meet so many people with all their own quirks and to live through so much trial and tribulation and good times together,” Holton said.

Some of his fondest memories with these friends included bonfires at the creek, late nights in Mason Hall complaining and goofing around with other music majors, and the moods that capture the entire campus, such as “the first warm days after winter when the grounds would be dotted by sunbathers and everyone would spend as much time as possible outside,” as he described it.

Holton advises future graduates something that Bernard Woma, master of the Ghanaian xylophone and director of the Saakumu Dance Troupe, once told him: “bad dancing never hurt the ground.”

In other words, despite skepticism, you can do anything with enough confidence, focus and hard work. Holton proves that possibilities are endless.
With the holidays fast approaching, the inevitable question of what gifts to get for your loved ones is undoubtedly creeping its way toward the front of your mind. For many of us, college eats most of our money, leaving us with few funds to pay for the many gifts we want to present to our friends and family. While it would be easy to just draw them a picture or give them a bag of candy you found on sale at Walmart, if you’re like me, you would rather give them something they will actually use, right? Read on to discover a few of the DIY gifts I’ve discovered that will hopefully make your holiday gift giving experience a little less stressful on you and your wallet.

**SHARPIE MUG**

This is a classic DIY project, but I think it’s a great one — everyone can use a nice mug! Just fill it up with your coffee or beverage of choice, and you’re set. This is a great gift for people who love entertaining or just kicking back with a drink in hand. You will need Mod Podge (a miracle adhesive substance sold at basically all craft stores), some old coffee mugs or other blank surface; multipurpose glue — super glue would work; and spray paint, if you choose. First, if you wish to do so, spray paint the jigsaw puzzle pieces to be whatever colors you want them to be — maybe a gradient or just various shades of a color that is prominent in the house of whoever will be receiving your lovely and thoughtful gift.

Then, once the pieces are dry, arrange them on your canvas or other surface and glue them down. That’s it! This is a super simple project that can be taken in so many different directions, and it actually turns into something I would want to display in my home, in a game room or other playful area.

**MAP OR PICTURE COASTERS**

These drink coasters are perfect for the loved one on your list who loves entertaining or just kicking back with a drink in hand. You will need Mod Podge (a miracle adhesive substance sold at basically all craft stores), some old floor tiles or blank ceramic tile coasters and some maps or other meaningful images printed out on paper. A paint brush could also be helpful, but in the case that no paint brush is available, your good’ol’ finger will do just fine!

First, cut the maps or pictures to fit the tiles or coasters you are using. Then, paint a layer of Mod Podge on the back of them and let that layer dry — this will prevent wrinkles during the next step! When the back of the maps or pictures are dry, go ahead and spread a thin layer of Mod Podge on the top of each tile, carefully place the map or picture on top of that layer and, finally, paint a top layer of Mod Podge on top of the map or picture. Leave the coaster(s) to dry, and you’re done!

For an added little bit of holiday flair, wrap the coasters in red and green ribbon — simple and festive!

**TIE BLANKET**

This is a classic DIY project, but I think it’s a great one — everyone can use a cozy blanket to cuddle up in, and it’s the perfect gift for that special someone in your life! You will need Mod Podge (a miracle adhesive substance sold at basically all craft stores), some old blankets, some fabric scraps or old t-shirts, a pair of scissors, a microwave safe microwave mug, and an oil based Sharpie in the color and thickness of your choice. Once you have cut the maps or pictures to fit the tiles or coasters you have made, you can use Mod Podge to attach them to your coasters. Once the coaster is dry, go ahead and spread a thin layer of Mod Podge on the top of each tile, carefully place the map or picture on top of that layer and, finally, paint a top layer of Mod Podge on top of the map or picture. Leave the coaster(s) to dry, and you’re done!

For an added little bit of holiday flair, wrap the coasters in red and green ribbon — simple and festive!
The do’s and “donuts” of college fitness

MO SADEK
Staff Writer

There was one house, untouched by the war. An old couple lived there trying, to preserve as much of the pre-war sentiments that they held so dear to them. I observed them through their keyhole, listening to their conversations about how they had met and how the grandmother was a soldier who found her peace during war time she would use cigarettes and stamps as a form of currency.

Remembering that there were people who depended on the supplies they had, I went into the house. The old man stood up and approached me, saying, “What are you doing here? Please leave…”

I knew I couldn’t leave, so I attacked him, hoping he wouldn’t put up a fight. I had never killed someone before, and I didn’t want this to be my first. In that moment, his elderly wife ran the stairs, and the old man cried for help. I didn’t want his voice to attract anyone who could possibly have been lurking outside so I had to do it— I killed him.

I began taking the supplies from the house, but there were too many decisions I had to make; I would return another day. As I went through the medicine cabinet, I heard his wife’s cries coming from the next room. I watched her, head in hands, sobbing over the events that had just occurred.

As I returned to the shelter, I still couldn’t comprehend what I had just done. I heard my thoughts over the shelling and the gunshots, tearing me apart. This war of mine isn’t just out there in the streets; it’s all around us, and it’s consuming me.

Pavel had just done something unthinkable, and it was my fault.

“This War of Mine” isn’t easy. You aren’t a civilian picking up a gun and joining the rebel forces or a militia who are an unstoppable force. You’re the school teacher who loves children, the soccer player who can run, the teenager who grew up stealing on the street; you are just an average person trying to survive in a desperate time. The enemies you will face aren’t only those who can be killed by a gun. Throughout your time surviving the war you will face depression, starvation, illness, and snow.

While there isn’t a storyline to follow, each character does have his or her own story to tell. The longer the characters survive, the more they reveal about their lives before the war and become important to you as a player. As the game progresses, you begin to feel more invested in each of the characters and form a connection with them in a unique way—you must keep them alive. That’s what makes the game so hard, though. As you begin to feel more toward these characters, you start to feel responsible for their survival and want to see them make it to the end of the war.

Most of the games focus on the survival aspect of war. Since there aren’t many supplies available, you must scavenge from close-by locations. However, all these places have their own stories and events taking place. Some locations may be ideal for some purposes, like poor weather conditions, like snow, or too dangerous to travel to because of the frightening sounds. Regardless, you have to find some way to get what’s necessary for the group’s survival through trading with other survivors or robbing them. Each choice you make does have an effect on the characters psychologically, making every action in the game feel heavy and meaningful.

That’s what makes this game hard—the people. Sometimes you’ll have to decide if giving your last bandage to a dying mother of two is possible, or helping a neighbor pull people out of a collapsing building is worth dying for. In most cases, seeing the faces of your sacrifice makes for a satisfying time, but watching the group suffer over your generosity makes the experience all the more like a foot in the grave.

As the war rages on, it gets harder and the conditions seem bleaker. As supplies run out and the scavenging runs become less profitable, people start to lose hope. In “This War of Mine,” depression is just as contagious as the flu. Killing isn’t rewarded with points or a voice congratulating you on that wonderfully scored headshot, you might end up on the cold, hard floor, cowering with regret, unable to wash off the blood on your hand. People in the group will have to feed you, and seeing you like that has an effect on them, as well. Eventually you start to wonder if this game will actually end, and honestly, I couldn’t tell you. After 24 days under siege, starvation, suicide, plague and abandonment, the game inevitably claimed my four civilians.

It’s obvious that the developers did not mean for this game to be easy—war is not easy. Rather than serve us another mystery meat log like the “Call of Duty” or “Battlefield” franchises, “This War of Mine” gives our society a peek at what it’s like on the other side of the gun. There was one point in the game when I at- tempted to trade some cigarettes and moonshine to soldiers for some supplies, but was handed them at gunpoint. Eventually, they shot, but I was able to escape unharmed. Even though this is a game, how many times in war are civilians mistaken for enemies or found in similar situations by sol- diers who are fighting to protect them?

While this is a game, it doesn’t feel like just a game. Those events happen, and war characters can be realistic to real people. War isn’t about being a demi-god action hero mowing through crowds or explosions (sorry Michael Bay). “This War of Mine” doesn’t change the way war works—it never changes, but the way we look at it can.

If you’re interested in pur- chasing a copy of “This War of Mine,” it is available on PC, Linux and Mac OS for $20 via digital download on Steam or on GOG. The Humble Store has an exclusive edition of the game at the same price but with additional downloadable extras (DRM-free copy, Steam key, exclusive wallpapers, soundtrack and a printable post-er).
Hess finishes college career at NCAA National Championships

DYLAN FORMAN
Staff Writer

Senior cross country stand- out Zakkyr Hess traveled to Fredonia, N.Y., to compete in his final race as a Fredonia Blue Devil on Saturday. It was his second consecutive year competing at the NCAA DIH National Championships. Last weekend, at the NCAA Atlantic Regional Championships, Hess had the highest finish for a Fredonia runner in over 20 years.

“As the only SUNYAC runner to qualify as an individual for Nationals, Hess competed in a strong field of 280 runners. After 5,000 meters Hess was in the middle of the pack at 19:33. By 6,500 meters, he was in 168th place. The course consisted of mud and slush; the runners had to battle the weather and compete at the highest level. Over the final 1.500 meters, Hess was able to finish strong, as he has done all season, by moving from 168th place to 133rd. Hess’ final time of 25:33 was just 1:49 behind the overall winner. He averaged an impressive 5:08 per mile over the 8,000 meter course.”

Staff Writer

Freddonia women’s basketball suffers two losses in white-out weather

QUINTIN JAMES
Special to The Leader

The Blue Devils women’s basket- ball team suffered their first loss of the season against the Nazareth Golden Flyers by a score of 59-43. The Blue Devils started off fast with an 11-2 start, as Nazareth missed their first 12 shots from the field. It looked like it was going to be a defensive battle as both teams couldn’t hit anything the whole game.

Nazareth’s Lindsay Kelly was a double-double for the Devils every chance she got. On the other side, Fredonia’s girls were ice cold from the three point area. Fredonia seemed like they were pretty much out of reach for the Golden Flyers. The Blue Devils only made five field goals in the second half and missed all five of their three point shots. Nazareth’s largest lead was with 7:23 left in the second half when the lead was 22. The Blue Devils were led by guard Alexis Cheatham, who had eight points and eight rebounds. The Blue Devils were also collecting an assist and a block.

The Blue Devils were led in the first half by Katie Devine who had eight points and 10 rebounds in 27 minutes of action. She sparked the Mavericks out of the gates. Fredonia played well in the first half as they tried to shoot more second half. They held the Mavericks every chance she got. On the other hand, Fredonia’s girls were ice cold from the three point area. Fredonia seemed like they were pretty much out of reach for the Golden Flyers. The Blue Devils only made five field goals in the second half and missed all five of their three point shots. Nazareth’s largest lead was with 7:23 left in the second half when the lead was 22. The Blue Devils were led by guard Alexis Cheatham, who had eight points and eight rebounds.

The Blue Devils started off strong, but in the end, they were outmatched in many different key areas of the game. Fredonia didn’t make a three-pointer the entire game, going 0-11 from beyond the arc. Nazareth, on the other hand, made seven threes in the game, including four in the second half that really broke the game wide open. The Blue Devils only made 57% of their free throws while Nazareth shot 77% from the line. The main focus for the Blue Devils has to be rebounding as they were outrebounded 84-8 and gave up 20 offensive rebounds that led to 16 second chance points.

The Blue Devils also gave up eight more points in the paint — buckets were too easy for the Golden Flyers in the second half, from inside 10 feet. Nazareth seemed like they were willing to do do the dirty work inside and showed. The Blue Devils also committed 20 turnovers that led to 15 points for Nazareth. Nazareth capitalized on Blue Devils turnovers for easy buckets, while the Devils were ice cold from the three point line. As the offense broke down — it was a long half for Coach McDonald and her staff. The Blue Devils looked to win the tempo and get a lot of offensive rebounds that they converted into points. They also forced 22 turnovers but only scored nine points off those turnovers. They had a nice in-and-out style of play going on as they also had 36 points in the paint.

The Blue Devils women’s basketball suffers two losses in white-out weather

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After four days of lake effect snow, Ralph Wilson Stadium was unable to host the Bills for their game against the New York Jets, forcing the Bills to relocate to Detroit.

SEAN MCGRATH
Sports Editor

Being a Froedian, snow is almost commonplace; the same can be said for Buffalo. Notorious for heavy snow, Buffalo is usually victim to lake effect. On average, we in Buffalo usually see between 9-10 feet of snowfall in the 3-4 months that are considered the winter months on campus.

That number will forever be changed; the snow was so bad that both the Buffalo Sabres and Buffalo Bills delayed/postponed games due to the weather.

It’s rare that snowfall would shut down a city. But that rarity was reality two weeks ago, as many students know. It’s uncommon that we have snow days. Yes, President Virginia Horvath has cancelled classes before, but not like this. Usually, classes after 5 p.m. have been cancelled due to darkness and fear of roads becoming more and more treacherous — but never a whole day of classes.

Yet, that still happened. Tuesday, classes after 1 p.m. were cancelled, and then both Wednesday and Thursday were completely cancelled.

But this white-out was Western New York-wide. The entire I-90 was shut down from Pennsylvania to Henrietta, far past what is the norm when it comes to lake effect snow.

The Sabres, battling with hard scheduling conflicts, were able to rotate a few games. The Sabres will now face the New York Rangers in Buffalo on February 20, 2015. The Ottawa Senators game, scheduled for that night, has now been scheduled earlier, playing on December 15, 2014.

But the real story came from the Ralph Wilson Stadium.

A roofless stadium blasted with snow makes for one unhappy situation, especially with the New York Jets coming into town that Sunday.

With warnings to the NFL from Erie County Executive Mark Poloncarz, the NFL was in a hard spot.

What is the best option? Do we wait out the storm and hope for the best?

To start, the Buffalo Bills organization came under fire from the NFL. Despite making sure that the Ralph was shovelable, the Bills were unable to rotate a few games. The NFL decided to move the game to Detroit.

This time, they weren’t an opponent. In this time of need, the Bills offered people who came to shovel the Ralph a free Bills ticket. For $10 and free Bills tickets, would you have taken the deal? Some signed up, others were gearing up to battle the snow.

However, Mother Nature had other plans. For four days, she huffed and puffed and blew snow in, rendering the Ralph near useless. No amount of labor could unbury the stadium, and the Bills, along with the NFL, were back to square one.

Enter, Detroit Lions.

This time, they couldn’t have pulled this off without the great help of the Lions organization.

In a story of tragedy, with 13 lives lost in the storm, Buffalo now knows that it can count on its fansbase and football to find a solution, a way to help. For everything from getting out of debt to managing your money wisely, saving for the future — wwww. smartaboutmoney. org.

It’s time to get smart about your money.

Thank you, Detroit.
Five things I was grateful for this Thanksgiving

By Darren Wilson
Special to The Leader

Boy, oh boy, what a year! We all certainly had our share of trials and tribulations — or tribulations, at least. No trial for me! God, I’m just so thankful for so much.

1. Miscarriage of justice. Thank god for Bob McCulloch, huh? What a guy. I’m eternally grateful to him for all that he did for me. Did you all see that grand jury? Never seen anything like it. No, seriously, I have never seen a grand jury run the way that one was run.

2. The half-million dollars I received in donations after literally shooting an unarmed person to death. Boy, you guys should have seen the size of the turkey I was able to afford! It was definitely, like, way heavier than my conscience.

3. The 500-year legacy of racism that totally has nothing to do with this. Anyone with a shred of sense knows that the fact that myself, the prosecutor and nine out of 12 jurors were white, while the boy I killed was black, has nothing to do with this. That would be madness. That would be terrifying and batshit insane if it were true. Which it totally isn’t.

4. The superpower that lets me heal almost entirely from two life-threatening punches with implausible speed. The guy literally turned into the Hulk, right? And so when he delivered two bone-crushing punches, the third of which I feared would irrevocably damage my dear and apparently extralegal skull, I was worried I’d look all goofy and bruised up for the inevitable cameras. Thank god I have a supernatural ability to make any and all compelling evidence of the assault disappear. Whew!

5. Implicitly state-sanctioned violence. Listen, guys: the law hasn’t yet unequivocally condemned my actions, so there’s nothing wrong with my actions. But all you ne’er-do-wells destroying property: that is not cool! Stop it! Don’t damage the property! We love the property and, if you damage it, you will be punished. Like I wasn’t. Happy holidays!

*Transcribed by Leo Frank, Lampoon Editor.
University ad campaign shows off campus as frozen winter hellscape

COLIN PERRY
Special to The Lampoon

The University has launched the next step in its advertising surge, giving prospective students a closer look at the Fredonia campus, as well as its bleak arctic atmosphere.

Following in the format of previous ads, the new television commercial, set to air this week, features footage of on-campus dorms, dining facilities and entertainment, in addition to the impassable mountains of snow that decorate the environment for half of the year. Students are seen interacting with each other, performing onstage, and attempting to survive the hostile storms that threaten their very existence as they walk to and from class.

Marketing adviser Robert Goatman says the campaign is specifically designed to show what going to school here is really like.

“Honesty was the driving factor for my team and me, and we took pretty extreme care to provide that,” he said. “It’s important to portray all facets of a Fredonia student’s experience accurately, so we wanted to show the dorms, the activities, and the inhospitable, face-numbing weather conditions that really make Fredonia a place to call home,” he added.

Also featured in the commercial is the University’s new motto, “We Promise It’s Not Always This Bad.” The change is another stemming from the University’s extensive re-branding efforts, and has been met positively by many.

“So long as there’s not a hashtag in it, I guess it’s fine,” said sophomore public relations major Leslie Crow before being whipped away by the frigid, unforgiving wind.

However, the motto adjustment is a cause for discontent among some in the community.

“It’s definitely always this bad, if not worse,” senior history major Steven Abobo said.

“My freshman year, I had a great fall and came to love this place and its feel. But then November came, and it started happening,” he added, before declining to speak any further, staring out a window pensively.

Despite the debate, the campaign is expected to continue as planned, with physical ads being placed around hotspots across the state shortly.

When asked about his ultimate goals, Goatman said, “Our hope is that if they see the great community we have here, and the glacial, face-numbing weather we endure for 75 percent of the school year, kids will think ‘that’s what I want out of college.’ That’s all we can strive to achieve.”

The thoughts and comments of The Lampoon do not reflect those of The Leader.