Hanging the Greens kicks off the holiday season

CONNOR HOFFMAN
Staff Writer

This year was no different than past, as Spectrum Entertainment Board's annual event Hanging of the Greens rang in the holiday season with its annual event, Hanging of the Greens. The event was held in the Williams Center's Grand Ballroom on Tuesday from 6-8 p.m. It was Spectrum's way of bringing together the campus to help celebrate the holidays.

Provost Terry Brown gave a few words before letting a local child, Ella Horowitz, light the tree and kick off the event. As soon as Horowitz hit that switch, the tree instantly lit up, and everyone gazed at the tree with undivided attention. Various activities or sat down and caught up with their friends at the many tables in the room.

"A community celebration of the winter holidays," said Brown when describing the Hanging of the Greens. "One favorite part of the event is "the children who are here that are so thrilled to participate."

Brown went on to say that she really liked the event and the opportunity to light the tree. Some of the things she planned on doing were coloring and eating some of the delicious cookies.

Spectrum planned this event for months and was busy the entire night making everything go perfectly.

"We start planning it at the beginning of the semester. It's pretty steady every year, so we always have a solid foundation of what we want," said Spectrum Vice-President Anna Jones.

Rachel Pschodyko / Special to The Leader

Spectrum hosted Hanging of the Greens with games, crafts and food.

Hanging of the Greens was provided with a simple recipe and instructions for students interested in following along. The students were provided with "the most popular athletic events were provided with a bear and cookies."

A giant inflatable snow globe that people could take a picture in. The line was so long that it almost went outside the MPR.

Brittany Perry & Meghan Guattary
Special to The Leader and Assistant News Editor

Changes in policies regarding minors on campus:

Fredonia's executive cabinet is currently reviewing revisions to SUNY's Policies 2.10 & 2.11: Protection of a Minor into two categories: Sexual Abuse and Substance Abuse.

My hope is that this shines a light on these issues so that students are more aware of them," Brown said. "I know that this year is going to be a very comfortable coming forward — whether or not they choose to take a formal route of going through the legal or judicial system — and that they know that there are resources that are available to them.

When a case of sexual assault is committed, it is the responsibility of the campus to take formal action. Although New York State campus crime statistics report only three cases of sexual assault on campuses between 2008-2012, more and more have potentially occurred without judicial intervention. And Dr. David Herman, vice president of Student Affairs, believes even more cases happen off campus.

"I feel pretty good about the policy," Herman said. "I think it’s going to raise consciousness a lot. I think it's going to raise consciousness a lot. I feel like it's going to encourage people to be more active and speak up and be aware of it."

Fredonia previously received a grant from the Justice Department to create the campus' CEASE program on campus, which is dedicated to issues surrounding sexual assault. Beck and Herman agree that the implementation of the new policy will provide more tools to help emphasize education and training.

"It is one of the most exciting pieces of the policy, effectively immediately, all campuses have until March to issue an official plan regarding their compliance with the new policy."

Hanging of the Greens offers a delicious cookie for all students to enjoy. The cookies come in many different flavors such as chocolate chip and peanut butter. The delicious cookies are made by student workers, as they are credited on the back of each cookie. Students can purchase these cookies for $1.50 each.

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Funding posing problem for rising cost of SUNY

MARSHA COHEN
Staff Writer

New York State Assembly members and a senator made their way to the Fredonia campus on Friday, Dec. 5, to discuss the price of a SUNY education, the system’s finances, and its future. The committee included Sen. Kathy Young, along with assembly members Sean Ryan, Andy Goodell, Joseph Giglio and Fredonia’s United University Professors chapter president Ziya Arnavut.

Since 2008 the SUNY budget has decreased by $2 billion, influencing many colleges to make drastic changes. In response, Fredonia recently cut 52 adjunct professors from its 2013-14 roster but is still facing a financial crisis even after raising the cost of tuition by $300. Ryan, a Fredonia alumna as well as an assemblyman, recognizes the detriment of Fredonia’s future. “Fredonia could best escape this gives Goodell insight as to how understanding of the cost of college his youngest daughter and eldest Goodell’s two older brothers, their education relates to the people before them and they have the same responsibility, when they graduate, to contribute to the endowment,” said Goodell.

“Every single year I get a solicita- tion to contribute to the alumni fund for Cornell law school and Williams college. My daughter and aunt don’t get the same level of solicitation. There is a strong opportunity for your alumni to strengthen the school.”

Ninety years ago, Fredonia was wholly funded by the state. But now, only 17 percent of the college is funded by the state. In 2012 and 2013, however, state-aid increased for students attending both four-year col- leges and community colleges — something that Goodell says he believes will only continue to increase in years to come. According to Goodell, the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) increased last year for the first time ever as well. Albany’s legislators will soon reconvene to discuss the budget for the upcoming year; local legislators already have an idea of how they will dispense the money.

“We need to get back on track in appropriately funding SUNY, and we need to ap- propriately fund them in two ways,” said Ryan. “One: to retain and appropriately pay current faculty, and two: maintain current facili- ties.”

Fredonia’s UUP Presi- dent, Ziya Arnavut, says he be- lieves Fredonia needs to make changes in order to get lawmakers attention and has been push- ing for a new computer engineer- ing program at the college.

“We need to get new pro- grams here in Fredonia. For example, New Paltz added en- gineering fields eight years ago. Right now they have electrical engineering and computer en- gineering, and so does Oswego. We need to attract other busi- nesses here, such as Samsung, Apple or something other than wine industries,” said Arnavut. Arnavut is from Cyprus, an island on the eastern part of the Mediterranean sea border- ing Turkey and Lebanon. Even though he is not a native United States citizen, he understands the economic woes that many stu- dents face.

“What I have figured out in this country [is that] you are in debt as a student. Then you are in debt to buy a house and then you have to send your kids to school. You are in debt until you retire. That is not right for the young people for this country. We want them to enjoy life and work hard for themselves and to better this country. The way this country does it, doesn’t work like that,” said Arnavut. “The state is not funding enough. I am against the increase of tuition or debt for stu- dents. Honestly I am all for free education, but I am aware of the realities of this country and our job is to figure out a way to make getting a job easier for students.”

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
Barthlett 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.

Co behind the scenes at station KFNF for a Christmas eve broadcast of the beloved holiday tale of George Bailey and Bedford Falls, com- plete with live sound effects and station breaks.

Sponsored by: Nielb Realty
Campus Ticket Office, Williams Center
673-3501 or fredonia.edu/tickets
### Police Blotters

**University**

*Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2014*

8:30 a.m. The grandmother of a student at Fredonia was told by a source that her grandson was injured and that she needed to send him money. After sending the money, she learned it was a scam. This is a scam that has been popping up across the state. The subject was advised and a report was filed.

1:00 p.m. A subject had liquid poured on his/her vehicle. A report was filed and this is a continuing investigation.

9:36 p.m. A vehicle parked in the load zone in lot 23 was towed. The owner arrived prior to the tow. A report was filed and the service was paid for.

*Wednesday, Dec. 3, 2014*

5:40 p.m. There were harassing messages on college postings. A report was filed.

*Thursday, Dec. 4, 2014*

9:30 a.m. Two unknown males kicked a vehicle causing damage. A report was filed and there is a continuing investigation.

5:52 p.m. Christopher W. Rex, age 18, was served with a bench warrant. Bail was collected and the judge was contacted.

9:35 p.m. Two males were skateboarding inside of University Commons. The subjects were identified, advised and warned.

*Friday, Dec. 5, 2014*

10:57 a.m. A student debit card was found in lot 11. A report was filed.

11:19 p.m. Jerry Garcia, age 18, was arrested for possession of marijuana. His ddrn was searched, evidence was seized and an appearance ticket was issued.

*Saturday, Dec. 6, 2014*

4:01 a.m. A FREDCard and key were found. The owner was notified and a report was filed.

*Sunday, Dec. 7, 2014*

1:01 a.m. Non-student Chester C. Ott, age 25, was issued traffic and appearance tickets for aggravated unlicensed operation in the third degree and unlawful possession of marijuana. His vehicle was towed, he was arrested and bail was taken.

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**Fredonia**

*Saturday, Dec. 6, 2014*

1:10 a.m. Rasean A. Parris, age 23, was issued an appearance ticket for violating the sewer ordinance.

7:25 p.m. Brian F. Lidlow, age 33, was charged with petit larceny.

Rebecca L. Leichter, age 19, was charged with underage possession of alcohol.

Abigail Everhart, age 19, was charged with underage possession of alcohol.

9:25 p.m. Mikayla N. Capestrani, age 18, was issued an appearance ticket for violating the sewer ordinance.

*Sunday, Dec. 7, 2014*

1:23 a.m. Christopher W. Rex, age 19, was issued appearance tickets for littering, open container and underage possession of alcohol.

5:45 p.m. Ashley L. Campbell, age 18, was charged with larceny and possession of marijuana.

5:45 p.m. Thomas E. Gould, age 19, was charged with larceny.

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*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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S. L. FULLER
News Editor

Did you know that Dr. Chris Givner, dean of the College of Education, likes hip hop dancing? Did you know that she was a bra-burning hippy in the ‘70s? Sure, it’s her job to oversee approximately 1,100 students and 29 programs, but there’s a lot more to Givner than meets the eye.

A native of Pennsylvania, to Vermont, to California, and having a plethora of life experiences, Givner is content where she is and who she is.

“I grew up in Warren, Pennsylvania which is just south of here,” said Givner. “In the course of my career, I went from ... Pittsburgh, that’s where I got my PhD, and then I went to Johns Hopkins in Baltimore, and then we went from Baltimore to Vermont for four years, and then my family went out to Los Angeles for 11 years.”

Givner is currently in her 11th year as a dean at Fredonia. Actually, she was the founding dean who helped create the College of Education. But when she was younger, Givner never wanted to study education.

“When I was in high school, I thought I wanted to be a psychologist or medical doctor of some kind. I was the valedictorian from my high school class of 464 [students],” said Givner. “And so I went to Allegheny College in Meadville [Pennsylvania] as a pre-med student. And when I got there, I majored in psychology, and I decided that I was much more interested in the social sciences and getting out and doing service learning. So then, when I decided not to do medicine, I decided that I would get my bachelor’s degree and then go on and do a graduate program in special education.”

Givner was quick to add with a laugh that she asked for her principal’s permission to hold the rally before hand.

“In my 20s, I think the challenge was — my husband and I were together, I was 21 when I met him, so I’ve been married a long time. And he’s African-American,” continued Givner. “So I think the biggest challenge was trying to negotiate how to be a couple in a time when there was a lot of prejudice and discrimination. Trying to be just positive and have a good attitude toward how we went forward to face challenges that were very disturbing in a way that made us feel stronger and made me feel good about my life — that was a challenge.”

Givner’s good attitude has seemed to remain with her throughout the years. Her life has been filled with many joys, but none greater than her son.

“I think being a parent is one of the most precious things we do being a human being,” said Givner, getting teary-eyed at the thought. “And I would say professionally, I’m a blessed woman. I’ve had so many wonderful, wonderful experiences. I feel like I’ve kind of been open to the possibilities and I’ve been a supportive husband. People disappoint you and you have to rise above that and realize that in the end, most people are really wonderfully.”

Givner seems like the kind of person who loves life and loves to embrace the bad with the good. However, she has so many interests that maybe she needs multiple lives to have time to live out every dream.

“If I had multiple lives — I love to dance. I love to dance. Any dancing,” said Givner with emphasis on the word “love.” “I can do a little bit of hip-hopping. I love ballet, and I’ve been a dancer since I was three or four. I just love to dance.

“The other thing I think my hidden talents is, is that I like to paint and sketch. But I never get to do it right now,” continued Givner. “I love to crochet. And I’m a filly. I love classic movies. I really like to critique movies. And I love to sing. I don’t get to do that very often with groups and stuff. And I love to garden, I’m an avid reader. I love technology. That’s not really a hidden talent, everyone knows that about me.”

The dimensions of Givner’s personality goes on and on.

Blasting goes from building scenery to academia

Blasting’s journey has turned out to be a very satisfying one. But, he didn’t totally leave his affinity for building sets, and other handy work, behind him.

“I used to think I didn’t have a hobby. But I asked myself, ‘If I had a free Saturday, what do I enjoy doing?’ And it turns out that my hobby is small home repairs,” said Blasting. “I don’t look at putting on a floor or doing some painting or fixing a faucet as a job that I really wish I didn’t have to do. I actually like doing it. So that’s my hobby. It’s a very useful hobby because you save a lot of money.”

While his daughter lives in Arizona, Blasting enjoys his home with his wife, Laurie Detenbeck, who is a part time teacher at Fredonia, and two cats named Artemis and Larry. He says his calm home life truly balances out his demanding job as dean.

But don’t let Blasting fool you into thinking that he’s a boring guy outside of the office. In fact, he sent this email the day after his interview for The Leader:

“Yesterday was fun. Thanks. I thought of something unusual. I’ve been to Minsk three times, with students, to restore abandoned Jewish cemeteries. That’s another story for another day...”
CONNER HOFFMAN
Staff Writer

Russell Boisjoly, the dean of the School of Business, has always loved teaching business. Revisiting about his life story gleaned a smile to his face the whole time. Boisjoly has always been a leader and has lived an eventful life along the way to becoming the dean of Fredonia’s School of Business.

Boisjoly received a bachelor’s of science degree in Industrial Management from the University of Massachusetts at Lowell, an M.B.A in Finance from Boston University and a D.B.A in Finance from Indiana University. He also used to be the dean of the School of Business at Fairfield University and Adelphi University.

“I’m a leader now, and I was a leader then;” said Boisjoly. “I was an officer in two student organizations. We have graduate student assistants around here who are graduate students; I was an undergraduate version of that. I was a student assistant.”

Boisjoly said some of the duties of a student assistant at the University of Massachusetts at Lowell were to correct papers for the faculty, watch the students during an exam to make sure they weren’t cheating and prepare handouts for the faculty.

Even though he was such an active leader among his peers, Boisjoly said he looked different in college. He began to laugh when he remembered having to study 24 hours a day and seven days a week. He began his doctoral program when he was 22, finished first when he was 25 and then a second time when he was 27. But in his 30s, Boisjoly was able to enjoy being single after getting divorced.

“Told all kinds of things that I never thought I would do. I experienced a lot of good things;” he explained.

Boisjoly enjoyed to do when he’s not spending his time as a dean. He likes to play golf and go to flea markets and auctions. The main things that he looks for at auctions are the bargains and the things that aren’t sold anymore, which, in his opinion, are the hidden treasures. He also likes to make things such as picture frames, repair things like lamps and other furniture around the house, and practice a little woodworking, too.

One of his main hidden talents is being an auctioneer. Boisjoly is a licensed auctioneer and, when he is not too busy donating his time for charity auctions.

“It’s whatever they have; it could be: furnitures, jewelry, a dinner where a chef comes to your house and cooks a dinner for eight;” said Boisjoly explaining some of the things he auctions off. Boisjoly really has a knack for auctions.

“Another auction that I took over was making around $3,000 the first time I did it they made $4,000, and made $6,500 the third time I did it,” Boisjoly said.

After a day at the office overseeing the school of business, he goes home to his wife and two rescue dogs. Boisjoly has a very interesting life and is interesting to see how he got to where he is today.
Dear freshman Maggie,

Right now, you are terrified. Although you were perfectly comfortable switching from your small rural middle school to a larger inner-city high school, leaving that high school and heading to Fredonia is much more terrifying. You became comfortable at Buffalo High School. You found your niche, and you grew up.

Well, I’m sorry to tell you that you’re going to feel that way once again — but much deeper. As it is much harder to find a niche in a school with roughly 5,000 students than at a school with 1,800 students, it’s even harder to leave that niche. But the comfortability I feel now is a sign of a great learning curve. When you are in my position you will look back at your freshman years and realize the great depth of knowledge you have learned.

You’re currently a BFA acting major. You knew that you liked theatre and were going to figure out your path from there. Well, let me tell you, that path is not in acting.

You will be both unhappy and unsuccessful in the acting major. But, that’s okay. It will only lead you to a field you are much happier in. When you meet with Dr. Ivey for your jury feedback and he says, “You know this was bad, right?” it will be the best thing anyone could say to you. It will give you the motivation and energy to explore other fields.

When the Spring semester rolls around and you start visiting the tables of various clubs at Activities Night, looking for some sense of direction, be sure to visit The Leader. Don’t worry that you don’t have a friend to join with you, just join it. You will make friends there later.

When you receive an email about The Leader’s Open House, don’t think twice about going. Yes, that means you will be walking to the trailer outside Dod’s Hall alone — but go anyways. It will give you opportunities you could have never imagined and turn you towards an entirely new direction.

In addition to being unsure of where you want your professional life to lead you, you are going to be very lonely in your personal life for a period of time. Finding friends will take a lot of time and, with your high school friends scattered all over the state, you are going to be looking to Fredonia to fill the void your friends left.

Well, guess what! Those holes are not going to be filled. No, I’m not saying you won’t have friends. You will have some of the best friends you’ve ever had. You just will have friends who are entirely different from anyone you could have imagined. You never would have been able to predict that you would call both the director of the Vagina Monologues and the captain of the women’s rugby team your best friends, but you will learn to love even those who are the most opposite of you.

Don’t judge anyone before you get to know them.

Speaking of personal life, dump that boyfriend. College is a time to focus on yourself, and you will be happy when you are able to. Oh, and take care of your body. Work out, eat well and stop buying pizza logs. Working off the body. Work out, eat well and stop buying pizza logs. Working off the body.

Throughout your college career, you will come across many unexpected opportunities. Go to the workshops, sign-up for the articles, apply for the internships and, when the time comes, swallow the nervous lump in your throat and run for Editor in Chief. Sorry, you’re not the smartest or most talented person here. But if you do the work and seize every opportunity that is presented to you, you will reap the benefits. You might not be able to envision yourself in these positions, but just take a chance and be brave.

Your freshman year will be one of the most challenging, but I promise that all of the tears and effort invested into your college career will be worth it. Make sure you put in your best effort, pay attention in class, spend less time on Facebook, clock into work on time and try your best to be nice to everyone you meet.

Well, freshman Maggie, that’s all I have for you. I only have about four years of advice to pass on to you. I’m not going to give you any advice about the “real world” because, well, I’m not there yet. The fact of leaving this campus, exiting my positions, and saying good-bye to my friends scares me more than anything I have ever experienced. Graduate student Maggie hasn’t contacted me yet, so I guess I’m just going to take my own advice and be brave.

Fondly,

Senior Maggie

MAGGIE GILROY
Editor in Chief

Do you know a person on campus whose story needs to be told? Email us at gilr3446@fredonia.edu!

Letter from the Editor

This year, both President Horvath and the social media team have put an emphasis on storytelling as a theme for the year. We were inspired by this new focus and wanted to further our own emphasis on storytelling. We decided to seek out the stories of those on campus, with an eagerness to learn about the stories beneath the surface of the students, faculty, staff, and even animals, of Fredonia.

This past week spent preparing the issue was both unique and exciting. It was interesting to see how many people were eager to share the new information they learned about a familiar face on campus. We knew that Dr. Herman was a fan of spelunking, or that Dr. Givner could be brought to tears when speaking about her son. We were moved by each and every story we told and are honored to have been entrusted with sharing them with the campus.

This issue contains 24 profile stories, however we are fully aware that they only skim the surface of stories within Fredonia. They have only deepened our passion for telling the stories beneath the surface of the students, faculty, staff, and even animals, of Fredonia. They have only deepened our passion for telling these stories and triggered us to want to tell more. We look forward to returning next semester and sharing your stories with others.

Do you know a person on campus whose story needs to be told? Email us at gilr3446@fredonia.edu!

FROM THE DESK OF MAGGIE GILROY
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Saying our final goodbyes before heading for freshman year at Fredonia.

A-8 The Leader, Wednesday, December 10, 2014

An open mind has brought four different friends under one roof.
De-Stress for Success

The Counseling Center, along with other groups on campus, is hosting “De-Stress for Success,” an initiative to encourage students to relax during dead week and Final Exam week. Make sure to check out some of the programs and workshops designed to help reduce stress in a healthy, productive manner and gain focus to succeed. All events are free and open to students.

Zumba
Monday, Dec. 15 & Tuesday, Dec. 16 ❖ 11 a.m. - noon ❖ Dods Hall Gym
Dance away stress with a free zumba class

Paws to Relax
Monday, Dec. 15 & Tuesday, Dec. 16 ❖ noon - 1 p.m. ❖ Reed Library
Pet and play with a certified therapy dog

Calm Down & Warm Up
Wednesday, Dec. 17 & Thursday, Dec. 18 ❖ 11 a.m. - noon ❖ McEwen Hall lobby

Balloon Animals
Monday, Dec. 15 7 p.m. - 8 p.m. & Tuesday, Dec. 16 ❖ 11 a.m. - noon ❖ Reed Library
Free balloon animals from Brittany Georgalas

Yoga
Monday, Dec. 15 ❖ noon - 1 p.m. ❖ Dods Hall Gym
Free yoga class, learn how to stretch away the stress. Mats will be available or you can bring your own

Glow & Flow Yoga
Tuesday, Dec. 16 ❖ 8 p.m. - 9 p.m. ❖ Alumni Hall Lobby
Free yoga class under black lights and with glow sticks. Mats will be available or you can bring your own

Healthy Bites
Thursday, Dec. 11 - Friday Dec. 19
The Student Health Center will be offering free healthy snacks. Healthy snacks will also be available Dec. 17 & 18 in McEwen Hall from 11 a.m. - noon

Relaxation Kits
Monday, Dec. 15 & Tuesday, Dec. 16 ❖ noon - 1 p.m. ❖ Reed Library
The Student Health Center will be offering free relaxation kits

Quiet Study Areas
Reed Library has designated a quiet study area in the Reed Library Classroom (1st floor Carnahan-Jackson Center) 2nd and 3rd floor of the Carnahan-Jackson center from Monday, Dec. 8 through Thursday, Dec. 18 during the library's extended hours. In addition, the Williams Center has designated quiet study areas: Monday, Dec. 15 through Thursday, Dec. 18 ❖ 9 a.m. to 11:45 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, 9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m. ❖ Williams Center ❖ Rooms: G103C, S204E and the Multipurpose Room

Exam Study Break
Tuesday, Dec. 16 ❖ 7 p.m. ❖ Williams Center: Multipurpose Room ❖ Sponsored by Spectrum

Stress Free Zone
Thursday, Dec. 11 - Thursday Dec. 18 ❖ Reed Library Lobby
Take a timeout from your hectic schedule and relax with various stress relieving activities including: coloring, crafts and games
Wednesday, December 10, 2014

The Leader

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The Leader
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Who is the first person that comes

Alejandro Hidalgo
freshman, finance
"Ralphie Kwan"

Allie Gorka
sophomore, marketing/sports management
"Anthony Mercedes"

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The popular interview television show, Jerry Springer, brought us famous people to the studio to hear God go, ‘Two Jews walk into a bar.’ Would be nice to know there’s laughter. That would be a great thing to hear God say, ‘Two Jews walk into a bar.’”

1. What is your favorite word?
2. What is your least favorite word?
3. What turns you on creatively, spiritually or emotionally?
4. What turns you off?
5. What is your favorite curse word?
6. What sound or noise do you love?
7. What sound or noise do you hate?
8. What profession other than your own would you like to attempt?
9. What profession would you not like to do?
10. If Heaven exists, what would you like to hear God say when you arrive at the Pearly Gates?

1. My name is Elmer Ploetz. Let’s have a cup of coffee and talk about everything.
2. Nectarine
3. Moist
4. The smells of film developing chemicals
5. “F*cktastic” It can be used as a noun, adjective or verb and I use it for all of them.
6. “Damn, you made it after all!”
7. Dentist drills.
8. Actor.
10. I’m starting to think that if my journalism career doesn’t work out, I would love to be an English teacher.

MELISSA RECHIN
Layout Editor
1. Nectarine
2. Moist
3. The smells of film developing chemicals
4. When toilet paper is on the wrong way
5. “F*cktastic” It can be used as a noun, adjective or verb and I use it for all of them.
6. “Damn, you made it after all!”
7. Dentist drills.
8. Actor.
10. I’m starting to think that if my journalism career doesn’t work out, I would love to be an English teacher.

ELMER PLOETZ
Advisor
1. Said.
2. Stated (those two words are for the Journalism majors).
3. Music! (preferably hip-hop/rap)
4. Willful ignorance.
5. WTE. Just the initials...
6. The sound of hounds baying.
7. Dentist drills.
8. House-flipping
9. Clown-ing
10. Not necessarily what he’d say, but I’d like a fist pump and maybe a slice of pizza.

COURTNEE CESTA
Managing Editor
1. Christmas!
2. Moist, crust, chunk...should I go on?
4. Fake people.
5. ‘Shit’. It can be used as a noun, adjective or verb and I use it for all of them.
6. “MDM” It can be used as a noun, adjective or verb and I use it for all of them.
7. The feeling of dry hands. And I imagine working with paper all day makes for dry hands.
8. I would like to be a film composer!
9. A librarian. Despite my friends argument that it’s a green card to use it for all of them.
10. “MDM” It can be used as a noun, adjective or verb and I use it for all of them.

MEGAN FLORETZ
Assistant New Media Editor
1. Serendipity
2. Moist
3. Music (preferably hip-hop/rap)
4. No coffee

SEAN McGRAH
Sports Editor
1. Serendipity
2. Moist
3. Music (preferably hip-hop/rap)
4. No coffee

TheLeader, Wednesday, December 10, 2014

The Leader A-6
15 Shades of The Leader

ALEX KALUZNY
Social Media Manager
1. Luscious. Usually I say it out of context to food like Duff’s wings. Sounds better than perfect.
2. Impossible. Or the phrase, “I’ll do it!” Pisses me off for no reason. I’ll figure it out or learn from it.
3. Creatively...people saying I can do something or when I am angry. Or the music of my mood.
4. Tricky too hard to find the perfect way to say something or over-thinking.
5. I use the phrase “fucking a” way too much. Sometimes in a Boston accent. No idea what the “a” is, either.
6. No sort of hockey gay sound effect.
7. Something squeaking or a kid throwing a tantrum in a restaurant/store.
8. Chef or some Culinary Arts study.
9. Custodian and dishwasher. Five out of six years of seeing any/everything is enough for me.
10. “The nearest hockey rink is over there. The Zamboni comes on in an hour. There’s Molson behind the bench.
Let me know if you want in on the pond hockey tournament.”

MARY LAING
Photo Editor
1. “Illuminate”
2. “Decapitated”
3. Spoken word poetry.
4. Professors who don’t use Angel
5. Any of Jim Lahey’s shitisms.
6. The cello playing in its lower-middle range
7. Waves crashing
8. Interior Design; Architect; FBI agent (inspired by my new love for the show The X-Files)
9. “Defenestrate,” because it’s so cool that there’s a word for throwing someone/something out a window.
10. “Don’t sit down just yet. It’s time to travel luxuriously to all the places you’ve ever dreamed of (because this is Heaven, duh). When you get back, Fox Mulder, Don Draper, and Jesse Pinkman will be waiting to buy you a drink at the bar.”

CHRISTOPHER SANCHEZ
Advertising Sales Manager
1. Happy!
2. It’s more of a phrase but I hate when people say “that’s so gay” or retarded.
3. Positivity and the collaboration of others thoughts and ideas.
4. A lack of drive or ambition.
5. Puck but I love them all equally.
6. The sound the cork makes when you pop open a bottle of wine, it’s beautiful!
7. Styrofoam rubbing together.
8. I’ve always kinda sorta wanted to be a dancer, like a hip hop back up dancer lol. Check me out on beyonces next world tour.
9. Anything custodial, I’m a germaphobe and I hate cleaning up after other people.
10. “I’m surprised you got in!” To which I would respond “Me too!” Then we’d laugh together and have a mini beer from Magill’s.

RYLI CHIMEL
Business Manager
1. Optimism
2. Not sure
3. The thought of a beautiful outcome
4. Hatred, racism, ignorance, body odor
5. F*ck (although I should stop saying it so much)
6. Nature sounds - from a quite night in the country with crickets, to the ocean waves crashing
7. People snoring - the actual WORST
8. Interior Design; Architect; FBI agent (inspired by my new love for the show The X-Files)
9. A politician
10. “Don’t sit down just yet. It’s time to travel luxuriously to all the places you’ve ever dreamed of (because this is Heaven, duh). When you get back, Fox Mulder, Don Draper, and Jesse Pinkman will be waiting to buy you a drink at the bar.”

S.J. FULER
News Editor
1. Loquacious
2. Worm
3. Live music played on real instruments, especially really good blues electric guitar
4. Crowds
5. What the actual F*ck - do phrases count?
6. The cello playing in its lower-middle range
7. All loud, sudden noises. All of them.
8. Something science p. But I’m hopeless at science so...
9. Custodial work on the New York City subway
10. Nothing. I just want him to give me a high five.

JORDYN HOLKA
Lampoon Editor
1. “Defenestrate,” because it’s so cool that there’s a word for throwing someone/something out a window.
2. Cheese steak.
3. Coffee.
4. Optimism and unwarranted anger.
5. All of them at once.
6. Rustling paper.
7. The sound of someone sneezing, like, really hard.
8. Mullet.
9. President.
10. “I like you and you are good. Thanks for not sinning too hard.”

LEO FRANK
Business Manager
1. Optimism
2. Not sure
3. The thought of a beautiful outcome
4. Hatred, racism, ignorance, body odor
5. F*ck (although I should stop saying it so much)
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9. President.
10. “I like you and you are good. Thanks for not sinning too hard.”

to mind when you think of Fredonia?
The brothers of the Delta Chi Fraternity didn’t let the snow day hold them back. The Miss Delta Chi Pageant, which was originally scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 18 and therefore cancelled due to the snowstorm, was successfully rescheduled for last week. The event benefited the Jimmy V Foundation for cancer research and raised $1,100 this year, which, according to organizers, was the most successful pageant since the event started six years ago. Nearly 150 tickets were sold, on top of the $130 in raffle ticket sales from gift baskets that were donated by groups including the Delta Phi Epsilon, Sigma Kappa and Sigma Gamma Phi.

The pageant included six contestants who were judged on categories including formal wear and knowledge of a cancer of their choosing — Olivia Phillips was crowned this year’s Miss Delta Chi, with Sara Tichman as runner up, followed by Whitney Tracy. Other contestants included Katie Hayes, Sara Dix and Hannah Mae Smith. Entertainment was provided by DJ Moreno.

“The Delta Chi Fraternity is beyond grateful for the success of this year’s event and extremely satisfied of the amount raised towards a great cause,” Gregory W. Pardner Jr., fundraising chair for the event said in a press release. “We hope the people of the community continue to help us make this a prosperous and continuous event!”

Brittany Lietz didn’t think that indoor tanning could hurt her.

She didn’t know UV light from indoor tanning can actually increase your risk of melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer.

Brittany, a frequent indoor tanner since she was 17, was diagnosed with melanoma when she was 20.

She is a melanoma survivor, but current estimates show that one person dies from melanoma about every hour.

Don’t be one of them.

Indoor tanning is out.

To read Brittany’s skin cancer story or to learn more about protecting your skin, go to www.aad.org/melatips
Alumnus spearheads redesign of university website, commercial

Website puts emphasis on storytelling

MAGGIE GILROY
Editor in Chief

Students returning for the Fall semester were greeted by a series of changes made to the “look” of Fredonia. The recent rebranding calls for the university to be labeled by a single name: State University of New York at Fredonia, or just simply, “Fredonia.” A new logo graced the campus, while the unified name brought a sense of solidarity to the university.

While current students are surrounded by evidence of the newly transformed campus through signs, merchandise and advertisements, those off-campus through the re-vamped university website, http://www.fredonia.edu.

Department of communication alumnus Nick Gunner spearheaded the re-design of the website, in collaboration with Fredonia’s marketing team. The process began in January of 2014 and took the entire semester to build, be approved, receive feedback and go live.

The new brand, led by director of marketing and public relations Mike Barone, and logo, led by Patty Herkey, were unveiled simultaneously with the new homepage.

“That homepage is just the first little sliver of a much bigger undertaking, which is to re-design the whole website, right down into the department pages,” Gunner said in a recent interview.

Gunner, Assistant Webmaster/Social Media Manager and self-described “digital storyteller,” began this re-design with the homepage, as it is the most-visited portion of the website. Main features of the website include its mobile friendly design — which allows it to be viewed on a screen of any size — as well as its emphasis on storytelling.

“It’s important to have that pathos appeal, to give that validation, that good feeling,” Gunner said of the storytelling emphasis. “Yeah, we can say all the reasons why we’re a great place, but here’s how we’re evolving and getting a little more adventurous and pushing themselves a little more. It’s cool!”

In order to do this, the new media team, led by Gunner and comprised of mainly student interns, has focused on telling the stories of individuals on campus through the website’s blog. Unlike previous years, the team will not be covering campus events — they will solely seek out and subsequently tell stories about individuals.

Coincidentally, at President Virginia Horvath’s all-campus meeting, just days before the first day of classes for the Fall semester, she announced that her mission for the year would be to uncover stories of individuals on campus. As Gunner and Horvath had not previously planned this, it is what he calls a “happy accident.”

The new media team published 50 stories during the Fall semester alone.

“The best part about it is watching the progression of the first blog post to the fifth blog post,” Gunner said, “to see how, with a little feedback, how they’re evolving and getting a little more adventurous and pushing themselves a little more. It’s cool!”

Gunner is a graduate of the class of 2011 and remained in the Fredonia region after his marriage following graduation. He and his wife, a local Spanish teacher, currently live local to the university. After working at a company in Jamestown and then starting his own company, Gunner applied for, and received, the position of Assistant Webmaster/Social Media Manager.

His experience with Fredonia Radio Systems is what Gunner credits as the greatest influence for where he is, professionally, today. He continues to work with members of FRS, who have lent their voices and equipment to the production of the university’s most recent commercial.

In addition to the homepage, Gunner led the production of the commercial. The commercial is currently being screened on television and before every movie at all Regal theaters in the Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse and Ithaca areas.

“We’re adapting to the work-place and to the world. We have built up an incredible portfolio of programs at Fredonia that people don’t necessarily know us for,” Gunner said.

While Fredonia is known for its strength in music and the performing arts, its science, technology, engineering and math (S.T.E.M) programs are not as well-known. However, Gunner’s concept in shooting the commercial is to establish Fredonia as not only a S.T.E.M school, but a S.T.E.A.M (science, technology, engineering, arts, math) school.

“Adding that little extra creativity — that’s something the business community seems to want really bad,” Gunner said.

The commercial was shot and produced in a mere two and a half weeks.

Fredonia’s new image is constantly changing and evolving, along with the website. Gunner is currently working on changing the platform that his team uses to manage the website, beginning in the Spring semester. His goal is to have everything off of the current platform by January of 2016.
Regulier exits SA position, reflects on college career

SUNY Association of Council Members and College Trustees Award for Excellence and Student Involvement, and his academic achievements, including his high GPA, have earned him recognition as a distinguished student. Regulier's drive and passion for change have rubbed off on some of his colleagues, inspiring them to take up similar initiatives. Amongst the skills Herman has learned during his time in student affairs, his leadership qualities have been instrumental in his success. Herman has always been a member of the Student Affairs Department, and his work has been recognized by various awards and honors, including the Outstanding Student of the Year Award and the Student Leadership Award.

Despite the many challenges Herman has faced, he feels that higher education administration has made him a better person. "I've always said that if more people had an opportunity to work in higher education administration, they would see the positive impact it has on students," Herman said. "I've been lucky enough to work in this field for several years, and I have seen firsthand how it has changed lives." Herman's work has not gone unnoticed, and he has received recognition for his contributions, including the SUNY Association of Council Members and College Trustees Award for Excellence and Student Involvement.

Herman's children have remained in Michigan; his daughter currently works as a teacher and his son works in the computer information systems. And while Herman currently has three grandchildren, he will welcome more when Regulier leaves the role. "That's been a very fun experience, being a grandfather," Herman said. "As a grandfather, I want to see my grandchildren grow up and succeed in life."

After 45 years in student affairs, Herman said that he has had a hard time stopping. "A lot of people are surprised how much I really enjoy my work, because they see student affairs as a comfortable job," Herman said. "They wouldn't want to deal with some of the problems we have to deal with. But I enjoy the challenge of that."

Despite the many challenges, Herman faces, he feels that higher education has made him a better person. "I think working at a college has enriched me as a person," Herman said. "Colleges raise your consciousness, whether you're a student or a faculty member, you learn from each other. And, for me, college has just been a tremendous career."
AMANDA DEDIE
Staff Writer

An official purebred title is a name that a dog breeder gives to their new puppies based on where they were bred and other information. Usually, you can learn a lot by knowing a dog’s purebred title. So what, then, can you infer about a dog officially named Winifred Jade Hatteras Girl of His Precious Paws of Olde Forest?

Or better yet, what can you learn from the dog’s more fondly known name: Freddie?

Freddie is a 7-month-old Biewer Terrier from Greensboro, North Carolina. She is family to President Virginia Horvath and honorary campus mascot, as well as a friend to all of the Fredonia community.

Weighing in at around seven lbs., she has tri-colored markings of black, white and brown. Her hair is only a few inches long but can grow to the floor, and she has a tail curled like the handle of a teapot — matching the teapot collection in President Horvath’s sitting room. She also has hair, not fur, so if you’re allergic to dog fur, no worries — you can still partake in the campus-wide love for Freddie.

Freddie is an extremely smart puppy for only being seven months old. Her treats are sometimes put into a plastic puzzle, where there are compartments hidden under blocks that Freddie has to move with her mouth. She then eats the food, turns the top part of the puzzle with her nose to get to more hidden compartments and reveals more treats!

“I’ve never had a dog that could do that kind of thing before,” said Horvath. “When you think of how you teach a dog … how do you teach a dog what to do? But she knows what to do. She figured all this out.”

When she’s not spending her time frolicking around campus with her mom, Freddie likes to chew (especially on antique furniture), watch birds and squirrels, have her belly rubbed and play with her puzzles.

Not even a year old, there’s so many new things for a puppy to discover. For example, this is Freddie’s first time experiencing the seasonal changes. In the summer, she enjoys the warm weather. In the fall, Freddie likes to chase every single leaf that blows across her path. This past winter, especially during the one week snowstorm, Freddie discovered how much she likes to play in the snow. Is there anything this dog doesn’t like?

“She’s very sweet. She’s calm. She’s also very curious about things. She likes people, which is good,” said Horvath. “She is just a sweet little girl.”

Even then, Freddie likes to get into her fair share of trouble. According to Horvath, Freddie likes to turn over the area rugs in the kitchen to chew the backs off of them. She also likes to play “Find the Puppy,” a game which includes running into a room, having her mom come after her, then running out and into a different area of the house. This game is one of Freddie’s favorites, especially when it’s bedtime. But what does Freddie like the most? Other than her mom, of course, Freddie absolutely loves the people of Fredonia.

“This is the only home she’s ever known,” said Horvath. “She likes seeing the number of people that we see here. Students are very nice to her. She seems comfortable with students, happy with students. She likes being held, and about this home.”

Pet profile: the First Puppy

Courtesy of President Horvath

She likes when students come over to the house. That’s what she really likes about Fredonia and about this home.”

Pizza Hut.

Study hard! Eat pizza!

We deliver to you!

716-672-4044

5 FREE WINGS
with any large pizza purchase


3962 Vineyard Drive (across from the Tops Plaza) Su-Th 11a-11p, Fri&Sat 11a-12p
On Dec 5, the Black Student Union, Center for Multicultural Affairs and the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion held the Justice for All - Peace Rally. An email, inviting members of the student body to join the rally, said “we will walk along ring road to the clock tower in reverence of the lives cut short due to incidents of racial oppression and/or police brutality, such as the recent cases of Eric Garner and Michael Brown.” The group met at the Peace Pole in front of Mason Hall at 2 p.m, then walked along ring road to the clock tower where they observed a moment of silence. The peaceful rally was open to all members of the community.

All photos taken by Mary Laing / Photo Editor
Anyone who knows anything about the Department of English — as well as many outside the department — here at Fredonia knows Dr. Theodore Steinberg. He has been a part of the Fredonia family for 44 years, and at the end of this semester, he will be saying goodbye to this university and hello to a new chapter in his life — retirement.

Dr. Steinberg has helped shape the English department into what it is today, as he created many of the courses that he has taught for years, such as medieval, renaissance, Greek and Roman literature. It’s Steinberg’s love of literature that influences his unique teaching style.

Any student who has taken a class of Steinberg’s can quote his catch phrase, taken from Philip Sidney: “Literature should both teach and delight.”

“I truly believe that if you study literature in the right way, it should make you a better person,” Steinberg said. Going along with literature, Steinberg also has a passion for language and can read and write in many languages, including Hebrew and Greek. He attributes his passions to a former teacher from when he was very young.

“In the second year of middle school, I had a really good English teacher, and she got me hooked,” Steinberg explained. “She just was so enthusiastic about literature, and I sort of fell in love with language. I thought it’d be nice to spend my life with books.”

That was when Steinberg decided to dedicate his life not only to teaching but also learning. “I have a wide range of interests: literature, language, science, music, politics. I try to do some of everything,” he said. Steinberg also has a great passion for music, both listening and playing. He plays piano, and he used to play viola — something he says he wants to take up again in his retirement.

Some students who may not know Steinberg well may also find it surprising to know that he has also written six books, mostly about literature. He is currently working on a seventh, about Yiddish literature, that he hopes to finish within four years. Steinberg has taught exclusively at Fredonia, he began working here immediately after receiving his degree from Johns Hopkins University and his Doctorate from the University of Illinois. Steinberg says he never had a need to teach elsewhere, because he loves Fredonia.

“One of the things I really like about Fredonia is the sense of community we have here among faculty and students and even the administration,” Steinberg said. “Our students are just good people.”

Still, though, he feels guilty about retiring and leaving behind so much. Steinberg said, “It’s just time to make room for other people.”

He has three children and five grandchildren, who live in New York, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. He plans to spend more time visiting them, as well as traveling with his wife to places like Costa Rica, Israel, Greece, Italy and Scandinavia.

Just one example of how Steinberg has impacted his students is senior English major, Ricky No- lan, who recently changed his major from international studies after taking a class with Steinberg. Nolan is currently taking three of Steinberg’s classes.

“I want to get my Ph.D. in English and medieval renaissance studies, and I want to teach at a collegiate level because of him,” Nolan said. “How I see myself teaching is going to be very similar to how he teaches.”

Nolan said he loves Steinberg’s open-discussion style of teaching, and the way in which he engages his students, even in a class like Epic and Romance, in which many students dread reading texts like The Iliad or The Odyssey.

“Steinberg incorporates so much more. He was the one who made me aware that you can tie so much more into literature than just looking at the text itself,” Nolan said. Nolan knows that the department won’t be the same without Steinberg teaching classes, but if he ever returns to Fredonia to teach, he can fill Steinberg’s medieval literature shoes.

“I think there’s going to be a big vacancy,” Nolan said. “No one approaches the material in the same way; no one carries the same focus that he does.”

Nonetheless, in his 44 years here at Fredonia, Dr. Steinberg has

Steinberg reaches 44th and final year of teaching

Stonefelt recognized for contribution in music

KORI BARKLEY
Staff Writer

“The more you know, the more you can do.”

Karolyn Stonefelt, head of Fredonia’s percussion area, has immersed herself in many areas, both inside and outside of music, and has proven these words of hers to be true. But it is because of her work, within the field of music, that Stonefelt was recently appointed as a State University of New York Distinguished Professor. According to documents released by Nancy L. Zumber, Chancellor of the Members of the SUNY Board of Trustees, “the distinction is attained through significant contributions to the research [of] literature or through artistic performance or achievement in the case of the arts. The candidate’s work must be of such character that the individual’s presence will tend to elevate the standards of scholarship of collegial bodies both within and beyond [his] person’s academic field.”

Stonefelt was chosen for the Distinguished Professorship, as she has a highly reputable presence in both national and international settings of the arts. Stonefelt received her undergraduate degree at Baldwin Wallace University Conservatory of Music, studying percussion. During her years as a student, she spent her summers in Aspen, CO, where she was principal percussionist in the Aspen Music Festival Orchestra — an event that helped her recognize her true potential.

After that, one thing led to another. Immediately following her undergraduate degree, Stonefelt participated in numerous orchestral ensembles throughout the United States, including the Baltimore Symphony, where she served as one of the first all-time female percussionists to be on contract with a major symphony orchestra.

“Getting a job with the Baltimore Symphony was one of the most significant moments during my career,” Stonefelt recalled. “During that time, we were only hiring women as extras, so that was certainly a key landmark for me.”

Following her time at Baltimore, Stonefelt moved to New York City, where she performed in over 20 Broadway and Off-Broadway shows. Some of her most memorable and exciting experiences were in the Off-Broadway scene, including “Wanted and Promenade” from the Judson Poets Theatres’ “Parisian,“ and “Good Boy” with Kurt Weill, supervised by Lotte Lenya. Weill’s wife; two of the longest running Off-Broadway productions, “You’re a Good Man Charlie Brown” and “Dames at Sea”; and two of the shortest, “Ambassador” and “Good News.” In 1982, Stonefelt felt it was time for a change.

“Crime was high in New York City, the economy was awful and the shows closed,” Stonefelt said, explaining her reasoning for deciding to leave the city and move to Indiana.

For the following 10 years, she studied ethnomusicology and jazz history at Indiana University and received her Doctor of Music in Percussion Performance degree in 1992.

Throughout the pursuit of her doctorate, she performed in Germany, France and the former USSR with the Stuttgart Opera Orchestra, while holding positions as an Associate Instructor of Percussion at Indiana University and Lecturer in Percussion at Fredonia.

One year later, Stonefelt received the Fulbright Senior Scholar Research Grant to Ghana, West Africa. While there, she worked with the Ghana Dance Ensemble studying xylophone styles of the Dagbara people, as well as various indigenous drumming patterns of Ghana. According to her biography on Fredonia’s School of Music page, “in return, Stonefelt was able to share her knowledge of contemporary music through a course that she taught at the University of Ghana at Legon on music in the twentieth century.”

The same year (1992), Stonefelt joined the Fredonia School of Music as a faculty member.

With her passion for ethnic culture and percussion instruments, Stonefelt has enhanced the school’s multicultural awareness and world music performance by initiating African xylophone and drumming style classes, Mexican Marinera Ensemble and creating a program for students to travel to Ghana for three weeks to learn the language, history and life lessons that are passed down through West African music and dance tradition.

Due to the recent Ebola outbreak in West Africa, this year’s trip to Ghana has been postponed. Instead, Bernard Woma and members of the Saakumo Drum and Dance Ensemble will visit Fredonia on Jan. 13-16 to bring the Ghanaian culture to Fredonia.

Participants from all backgrounds are welcome to attend the intensive workshops of traditional drumming, gyil (African xylophone), song and dance, culture and history.

The schedule will accommodate professional educator’s schedules, as 37.5 credit hours of continuing education will be awarded. The workshop will also count as a three-credit undergraduate music course.

“My goal was to have a cultural experience — an alternative way of thinking and learning about music,” Stonefelt explained. “For any musician, things that deal with rhythmic divisions can only enhance our understanding of rhythm and how we play. Playing with your hands on a drum in front of you, it’s pretty hard to separate yourself away from the feeling of the music, so we begin to internalize rhythm. The dance incorporated into the classes also gives you body movement awareness.”

In addition to teaching, Stonefelt is the timpanist with the Western New York Chamber Orchestra and the percussionist for Fantore, a Finnish ensemble dedicated to performing medieval and renaissance music.

"The more you know, the more you can do."
Robert Geffert: always looking on the bright side of life

JORDYN HOLKA / Reverb Editor

Robert Geffert lives his life by a Monty Python-inspired mantra: “always look on the bright side of life.” Many of us know Geffert as the sweet cashier who works in the dining halls on campus, always addressing us by name and wishing us the happiest of days upon our departure from his cash register.

Geffert began his career at Fredonia after he secured a job through the resource center at the time the school was hiring an all-new staff for the newly remodeled University Commons.

“I have my job through the resource center because I’m actually fully disabled, so I’m just lucky to have any job,” said Geffert.

Throughout his time at Fredonia, Geffert has worked at Erie Dining Hall and Cranston Marche, and is now in the beginning stages of becoming a regular worker in the C-Store.

Students love going through Geffert’s cashier line, because he is always so kind to interact with.

“When I go into Cranston, he’s always smiling, and he’s one of my favorite people to see!” said Kelly Jacuzzo, a senior speech pathology major.

“When I see him, he brightens my day,” added Ali Shafran, a senior double major in speech pathology and Spanish.

And the warm feelings are reciprocated, as when asked what his favorite part of his job is, Geffert replied, “It’s probably going to sound hokey, but you kids!”

He said that “the kids and the community” are his favorite things about Fredonia overall. “They’re just nice,” he added.

Although he really only comes to campus for his job, Geffert said that he has participated in a few on-campus events throughout the years, such as an event sponsored by promoting marriage equality that took place on campus fairly recently.

In his free time, Geffert watches sci-fi “how it’s made” specials on the science channel. He also teaches about computers, as well as tutors at the library in Silver Creek. He is passionate about computers, which was his topic of study when he attended Jamestown Community College for computer science as a young adult.

When asked what is the one thing he wants Fredonia students to know about him, Geffert thought for a minute before replying simply, “Disabled people — we can do just as good as anybody else.”

Julie Newell: the face behind the opera

KRISTEN SHULTIS / Staff Writer

Every day we go to events around campus; but we do not always know the names and faces of the people behind these events. One event that is usually popular is the Hillman Opera, but unless we are involved in some way, we may not know the producer of the opera. Her name is Julie Newell, and she is also on the voice faculty here at Fredonia.

Aside from being producer for the Hillman, Newell is the director for Fredonia’s opera program, spending time directing productions with all the Student Opera Theatre Association (SOTA) and the Western New York Chamber Orchestra (WNCO) — a group for which she serves as a volunteer executive director — as well.

“My role as a producer and stage director is something which working at Fredonia has uniquely provided me, and in a truly exciting environment,” she said. “It is so rewarding to work with student singers/actors! Part of the rehearsal and production process is to introduce students to an expected professional system — whether their professional goal is to sing full-time, to teach at the university or public school level, or to participate in any one of the many associated professional possibilities which intersect with the operatic art form.”

Newell got her start right here at Fredonia, where she received her bachelor’s in vocal performance and music education. While at Fredonia, she was also in Hillman productions of Gilbert and Sullivan’s “The Mikado” and “The Yeoman of the Guard.” Her career has come full-circle, as Newell is now the producer of the company of which she was once a member.

After her graduation from Fredonia, Newell went on to receive her master’s in music in vocal performance from SUNY Brockport, where she attended with a full scholarship and had a very prestigious voice teacher, Helen Borowright.

Newell has since worked as a professional singer for 15 years and has made festivals including “La Boheme,” “Carmen,” “Turandot,” “The Magic Flute,” “Orphées,” “Falstaff,” “Die Fledermäuse,” “The Magic Flute” and more.

See Newell page B-4

The captain of Centre Pointe: Matt Stinson

JORDYN HOLKA / Reverb Editor

Captain America is his favorite superhero, and Fredonia is his home. Meet Matt Stinson, the Centre Pointe cashier who encompasses so much more than simply his infectious, pleasant demeanor.

Stinson has been working as a cashier with FSA since March of 2011, beginning just six weeks after losing his previous job when the Dunkirk branch of Blockbuster shut down in February of 2011 due to lack of business.

Having grown up in the town of Fredonia and spending time on campus as a child with his father, a former English professor, Stinson is no stranger to the Fredonia way of life.

“I think there really is a warmness to Fredonia — everybody acts as a community. It’s a friendly place!” said Stinson. “It feels like home, really, for me. It’s home.”

Stinson loves the Fredonia community and works to be an active force in making it a positive and joyful environment.

“I really feel like it’s my job to do the best I can in everything and treat everyone politely, fairly. I always want to treat people how I would want to be treated — that’s something that’s really important to me.”

This attitude shines through in Stinson’s work, as he is always pleasant in all of his interactions with any and all customers who come through his cashier line.

“He’s so happy, no matter what time of day it is. I actually find myself going out of my way to go through his line when I see he’s working,” said Laura Werewinski, a sophomore public relations major. “I can always count on him to tell me to have a good day and it always does make my day a little better.”

But beneath that exuberant exterior, there is a man with thoughts and emotions other than pure, customer-service-approved bliss.

“Underneath my personality, I’m actually pretty shy. I’m pretty self-conscious at times, but I try to just work through it and do the best I can,” said Stinson.

He said that he maintains his air of seemingly infinite positivity through the practice of deep meditation each afternoon before he comes into work for the evening. He also names sufficient rest as a major contributor.

When asked if he has ever even wanted to get angry with a student or other customer while on the job, Stinson quickly replied, “Oh no — I’d feel horrible about that!”

Outside of work, in addition to his meditation, Stinson likes to play guitar and collect comic books.

“My favorite series of all time is Captain America,” said Stinson.

When asked what else the students who see him every day might not know about him, Stinson replied, “One thing people might not know is that I have a learning disability, so it’s harder for me to multitask — I sort of have to really hyper-focus. So I always want to be really pleasant and easy to get along with people, but at the same time, I sort of have to really hone in on what I need to do. It has its challenges, but I think in some ways it has shown me resilience — to try always to do my best and try to stay calm on the hard.”

With an outlook like that, it is no wonder that Stinson is such a joy to be around. He is able to take the role of cashier, a role that could be simply background noise in a student’s day, and turn an interaction with him into a notable experience.

“I love interacting with all types of people — students, faculty, staff, older people, younger people, everybody, really! I really do enjoy interacting with [students], and I look forward to seeing them whenever I do,” he said.

Overall, Stinson chooses to live his life by a mantra of “keep moving forward.”

“I know all of us might think of bad things that have happened or mistakes we have made,” he said, “but hopefully, we just learn from them and then keep trying to grow and improve as people.”

There really is a lot to be learned from Stinson about life and positivity. Oh, and something else we can learn from him — his expert opinion on the best snack to grab at Willy C. The answer: The Buffalo chicken sandwich.
Freshman profile: Shane Meenan

The freshmen at Fredonia are not as well known as other students. They haven’t been here for very long and haven’t met everyone yet; however, despite their age, one can still learn from them.

Shane Meenan is from Buffalo, N.Y.; he is an 18-year-old freshman at Fredonia who has a passion for teaching. We can learn a lot from a teen like Shane, as he is a very welcom- ing person who greets everyone with a smile. He came to Fredo- nia because the school has his dual major — early childhood education with a concentration in biology. His favorite class is his teaching class; it has a field placement, which allows him some hands on expe- rience with his major.

Meenan is motivated by helping other people, which is why he is so passionate about his major. He wants to see more kindness in the world because he believes it’s such a simple thing to change.

“There’s always room to improve,” Meenan said.

He hates to see people suf- fering, especially if he feels he can’t help them. Meenan remains positive and enjoys the little things in life. Meenan is a good listener and is always there for his friends, who de- scribe him as organized, funny, laid back and a self-motivator.

Meenan is very wise. One of his best pieces of ad- vice to give is, “Something that you think is so important to- day won’t matter tomorrow.”

Meenan learned through personal experience, and was influenced by a lot of people through his life. His parents are very hard- working and have taught him how to live, and not live, life. He learned from them many values, including the appreciation of family, from his grandma. His best friends, and stepfamily, have taught him how to enjoy life and understand that there is time for work and there is also time for play and to live in the moment.

Meenan’s art teacher from high school taught him that there is always room to give back to people. The best ad- vice was given to him on a stressful day by his best friend’s mom. She explained that her late husband worked hard all his life and enjoyed very little; he made money, but didn’t make up for the life he lost because of working so hard. This taught Meenan to spend more time enjoying family and doing things — not to stress about money.

Meenan learned to enjoy life this way and understands now that time is more valuable than anything; give someone your time rather than money, he said in a recent interview.

Meenan enjoys life by doing things he loves with the people he loves. Meenan loves adventure; his favorite memory was taking a boat to an island in Mexico on Thanksgiving — he and his family hiked to and swam in a waterfall in the jungle the whole day. They spent the night laughing and enjoying each other’s company. Meenan enjoys other exciting things, as well, like cliff jumping and climbing moun- tains with his family. When he’s feeling bored, he finds himself going on walks outside or going on some kind of ad- venture.

Adjoint profile: Ray Rushboldt

Enter the office of Raymond J. Rushboldt, adjunct professor, and you will find a brightly decorated office. Textbooks and reference books on history, U.S. government, European politics, the list goes on — the books line a shelf cover- ing a large part of the small office, while the other wall holding a desk peppered with student essays and papers, and the far wall housing a window over- looking Ring Road. Still, more books are stacked high upon the floor next to the window, signaling to anyone that the room dwelling in this office is very educated.

Now, if you have the gall and navigational skills to trek up to the third floor of the Hallock Hall, you would wind your way through the war halls until you find the Politics and International Affairs Department; it may behove you to make an appointment with this 48-year-old man.

Rushboldt grew up right here in Dunkirk and as a part of the small town, was raised in the small office, which was formerly called SUNY Fredonia, where he double majored in Politics and International Affairs and History, and received the Dawley Award, for “Outstanding Senior in Politics.”

Afterwards, Rushboldt attended graduate school at Buffalo, where he completed a three year Social Science Division As- sianship and received his Master of Arts.

After completing graduate school, he decided to accept a job teaching at St. Bonaventure University and, later, Jamestown Community College. Fi- nally, in 1994, Rushboldt returned home to accept a job teaching here at Fredonia.

Rushboldt is immensely invested in his students, his community affairs and the university. Still, it’s hard to be- lieve that a person as tenacious as himself was once unsure of his career path even through college.

“I’m a roll with it kind of per- son,” Rushboldt said, admitting he didn’t know what career path to choose until graduate school.

“I always wanted to do something in politics, I knew that much,” he said.

His decision was ultimately born from be- tween history and political science.

“Now, in his 20th year of teaching at Fredonia, Rushboldt is the second-longest serving professor in his depart- ment. He holds many titles including Chairman of the SFAE (State Employee- ers Federal Appeal) campaign, Co-Di- rector of the SUNY Model European Union and the official signer of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

He also serves as advisor of the Alpha Phi Omega fraternity, the Col- lege Republicans, the College Demo- crats, Blackhawk Student Government, the Blackhawk Student Legal Council, as well as being a member of the College Senate.

“Everybody knows Rush because he’s a ‘lone ranger,’ said Alex Cavedes, an associate professor of Poli- tics and International Affairs. “When I first came here, he was the faculty advisor to nearly every club that had any- thing to do with politics and Rushboldt returned home to accept a job teaching here at Fredonia.

Cavedes calls him “by far, the most invested person in WNY,” ex- plains the many things he’s in- volved in the social fabric of Dunkirk.

Many people both inside and out- side the department know Rushboldt for his strong dedication to the community, his famous “Rushboldt Stories” and his immense and passionate personality.

Joe Drake, a sophomore video production and political science dual major, has taken Rushboldt’s Elections in American Politics course.

“He’s really knowledgeable about every- thing he’s teaching, and he’s su- per into it,” Drake said. “He’s always encouraging and getting in students’ faces to make sure they’re in, too.” He’s really engaging, and he condenses everything from the book and makes it much easier to understand.

However, whenever he isn’t be- ing a politically-involved body-kid, Rushboldt enjoys playing golf and going to the casino. One of his dreams is to work in a greenhouse after he retires, if he retires, that is.

“I know that if I ever will” Rushboldt exclaimed. “I can’t imagine that if they gave me the opportunity to teach a course at the Bell Club, I’d do it until I die. I don’t think I’d ever really walk away from this place.”

He says that he will formally “te- retire” in the future, but he would still love to work on the side. Of course, Rushboldt still has a lot of working years left in him. He also jokes that once he does retire, he will have a lot of time to brush up on his golfing skills.

“I wanna be good enough when I retire that other people don’t mind play- ing with me,” he says.

Rushboldt admitted another dream of his:

“One crazy thing that I always thought about doing that I don’t think I ever will do is running for office,” he said. Still, Rushboldt joked that even if he did run for office, he would not be considered partisan enough to get votes.

As a professor, Rushboldt under- stands that many students have other things on their plate besides getting involved in politics, and he knows that this is the reason why the voting rate is so low for the younger age groups. He just wants his students to be informed and to be passionate.

“Not only as an educator, but as an advisor, my goal is for [my students] to find some- thing that they’re interested in and to teach them how they can pick them and make them happy,” he said. “That’s all you can really hope for.”

Rushboldt has traveled all around Europe with his students as a part of Model European Union’s annual simula- tion, including Turkey, London, Ire- land, Belgium and France.

Mohamed Sadik, senior comput- er information systems major, had the opportunity to travel to Belgium with Rushboldt and the MIEU last semester.

Rushboldt’s, ‘so cool’ say Sadik. “I can’t tell you anything bad about him. As a person, he’s funny, he’s kind, he’s knowledgeable and he actu- ally wrote me his letter of recommenda- tion to be an RA.”

Rushboldt said that if he could travel anywhere, he would go to Pa- land, because that’s where his ancestors are from. He also would love to visit Italy and the Middle East, although, he said jokingly, “I hope that I’ll die at a casino table.”

Cavedes explained that although the Politics and International Affairs Department starts out with a small number of students each year, more always join. This is why it’s important that enthusiastic professors like Rush- boldt teach entry-level courses such as “American Politics.”

Scott Bennett, a senior dual major in political science and public relations, is just one of the many students who has benefited from Rushboldt’s teach- ings.

“I was already interested in [politi- cal science] at the start, but he certainly [showed me] what I wanted to learn and what I want to do in the future,” Bennett said. “I’ve recommended students who aren’t political science majors to take his class, and they’ve enjoyed it.”

“I think that’s why students like him so much, is because he’s a really good teacher — especially at the level of making politics something that is in- teresting and immediately accessible,” said Cavedes. “Not all professors have that gift.”

Just like any student here, you can find Meenan hanging in the Williams Center with his friends; he hates the cold weather and snow like all of us, too.

What makes Meenan stand out from the rest of us is his passion and compassion for doing good for others. The fact that he can spin a basketball on his finger is pretty cool, too.

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From the Conservatory of John Hopkins University to Fredonia: the Markhams

AMANDA DEEHE
Staff Writer

Michael Markham and I-Fei Chen-Markham are both Fredonia professors and one of the handful of married couples on campus. And although they didn’t meet through Fredonia, their lives and love have brought them here together.

Both individuals work for the School of Music, though they reportedly don’t often cross paths during the day. Michael is a professor of music history, instructing Music Major Survey as well as other music-related seminars and, therefore, spends all day teaching. I-Fei, on the other hand, is a staff accompanist and clarinet professor for the School of Music and spends much of her time rehearsing with students.

The two met in 1994 at the Peabody Conservatory of John Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland, and although they then went on to obtain different degrees at different universities, they continued dating long distance and communicating across-country. They eventually reunited and married on July 18, 2003—nine years after they met.

“I was second year, and she was first year [when we met]. I was a lazy slob, and she was an annoying efficent nerd who was always wagging her finger at people who weren’t working hard enough, so I didn’t really like her much,” said Michael. “She was like Hermione Granger: she was always unpicking. I was like, ‘What a nerd!’ We started dating maybe a year-and-a-half later. I don’t know how it happened. We just kept hanging out, and then we decided that whatever we were doing was a daze at that point,” laughed Michael.

The Markhams agree that binge watching TV shows on Netflix is what they most enjoy doing together. They’re currently watching “Hannibal.” “She likes really gory stuff,” shared Michael — but they’ve also made their way through “Deadwood,” “Homeland,” “Dexter” and “Breaking Bad.”

“There love to go hunting around for old used books or records,” said I-Fei via email. “We used to do that a lot when we lived in Berkeley, but we still try to find time to do that here and in Buffalo or Toronto when we can.”

Although Michael didn’t appreciate I-Fei’s quickness when they first met, the couple agrees they’ve come to love certain qualities about each other. “Unbelievable stamina and patience,” said Michael, describing I-Fei. “She’s probably the only human being in the world able to put up with me and could do what she does here. She’s playing 60 students jury — that’s 60 sets of music she has to learn and rehearse with them. It’s incredible. There are few other people on the planet that could play that much at that level with- out falling apart.”

He joked, “She’s like ‘the Terminator.’ She likes to cook. She does all that and still manages to come home and cook really healthy Taiwanese food, which is probably the main reason I’m under 300 pounds.”

I-Fei replied, “What I like the most about Michael is that he is a perfectionist,” despite his initial comment of being a self-proclaimed slob.

The interviews, which were conducted separately, just continued to show how alike and on the same page Michael and I-Fei are. Both of them, not knowing the opinion of the other, had the same idea of a perfect date.

“We’d probably go back to San Francisco. She loves it there. We’d just wander the city and visit all the old haunts, like the bookstores,” said Michael.

Similarly, I-Fei said, “Our favorite date in the past was to go to Andrew Molera State Park in California. We would love to go back there and hike around. [There are] big cliffs along the beach. [It’s] very cold and rainy but very beautiful, and no one is around. It’s very quiet and empty.”

Maybe California can be planned for their anniversary next year. But in between anniversaries, how do they keep romance alive, despite their busy and conflicting schedules?

Michael replied, “We make sure that at the end of a long week, there is a moment where we are alone; the world is shut out and there’s a certain sense of breathing out and knowing that we are supposed to be there.”

Two cultures, one relationship: the Bentons

BRITTANY PERRY
Special to The Leader

Two Fredonia professors, Dr. Bond Benton, a Missouri native, and Dr. Daniela Peterka-Benton, who is Austrian-born, are a perfect example of how a mixture of cultures is not only a positive thing when it comes to marriage, but can also be helpful in the academic setting.

The two met for the first time when Benton was visiting an acquaintance of the then-Peterka’s in Austria — a week before she was set to move to the States to be a graduate student.

“My friend had put together a welcome party for him, and she wanted to have a barbecue so we had to assemble a grill,” Peterka-Benton said. “Over this horrible task that took us an hour or so — with a lot of cursing — we started talking and realized it was kind of nice, and that’s how it started.”

The two moved to Western New York when we moved here. Thank God for Wegmans if you’re an international family. We can get about 85-90 percent of what we can get in Austria. It’s not perfectly the same, but it’s close enough that you don’t really feel like you’re missing too much.

The two began their careers at Fredonia in 2010.

Although they have different areas of study, Benton is a professor in the Department of Communication and Peterka-Benton is a professor in the Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work and Criminal Justice department, they have often collaborated with research and academicians.

They co-taught a class called Crime and Media, where Benton focused on how crime is portrayed in the media and the implications of crime portrayals in the media and the implications of crime portrayals in the media. “Communication and crime are tied together, so it works out really nicely,” Benton said. “We have completely complementary teaching styles.”

Some of their collaborative research included a paper on the treatment of human trafficking in superhero comic books, the effects of cultural collectivism on terrorism favorability and are currently working on a project that examines the movie “300” and how the Greek phrase “Molon Labe” has become important to the far-right wing fascist movement overseas.

Despite living in the United States, Peterka-Benton still keeps her Austrian heritage alive. “We are raising our children as bilingual; I speak German to them,” she said. “I try to keep certain celebrations alive during the year so that they know what they mean in Austria. We try to go back to Austria every year so they don’t lose their connection to their homeland.”

Both have said that as much as multiculturalism can be a blessing, it can also present many obstacles.

“It’s challenging in some sense. We have different ways of communicating, and this can create tension and sometimes hurt feelings. Negotiating is something we still struggle with a little,” Benton said. “The struggle is something that has not only helped our relationship, but in my teaching. I focus a lot on international issues in my classes. Multiculturalism requires commitment and a lot of hard work, and I think that is something that has benefited us.”
A true Fredonia family: Jeff and Moriah Keddie

S.L. FULLER
News Editor

The Keddies are extremely busy people. Jeff Keddie is the assistant manager of the Fredonia commissary, which includes the central prep kitchen and the bakeshop. His wife, Moriah, is the executive assistant and dining services supervisor, also at Fredonia. They also have three cats named Mox, Marsala and Mensah.

But those aren’t even the things that keep them busy. The two things that have the Keddies most out of breath are their two kids: Zoey, who is 2 and a half years old, and Gavin, who was born just a couple weeks ago on Nov. 26, the day before Thanksgiving.

In order to tackle so many duties, teamwork is essential. Jeff and Moriah each said that the other has a quirky trait that neither one could live without.

“One thing that really sticks out in this that [Moriah] likes [everything] tidy and in its place,” said Jeff in a recent email interview, “which is good most of the time!”

I always joke that Jeff acts like a child, but that’s what makes him such a good dad,” said Moriah. “He loves playing silly games with our daughter and even plays with all the girl toys, like dolls, and does dress-up with Zoey.”

The Keddies met while working at the same restaurant, and they have been married since July 25, 2008. Both Moriah and Jeff come from big families, so they ended up with nearly 250 guests.

When asked to describe his and Moriah’s wedding, Jeff said that the words “large” and “overwhelming” came to mind.

“I kind of regret not stopping like Moriah had wanted,” continued Jeff. “But we had a lot of fun.”

Family is an important aspect in Jeff and Moriah’s life. In fact, any spare time is dedicated to family.

“We are very family-oriented, so most of our free time is spent with family and close friends,” said Jeff. “I am an only child, and my wife is a really great cook, so we like to host dinners and small parties.”

“We have a very active two-year-old daughter, so most of our free time lately is spent building lego castles, blanket forts and helping her glue things on paper,” added Moriah.

Always seeming to have a positive attitude, the Keddies say that even when they’re working and not enjoying free time, they’re still making the most of it.

“I love my current job position. I like to have fun at work and make it an enjoyable work environment for myself and my staff so that everyone can look forward to coming into work,” said Jeff. “My job also gives me the best of culinary arts and baking, which fits my degree of culinary certification.”

“My position is perfect for me;” said Moriah, who is currently on maternity leave. “Although most of my job duties are in the FSA office, I also work in the dining area at Wells and Starbucks as needed. My job allows me to mult-task and work in a variety of settings, which always keeps work interesting!”

Even though both of their jobs are related, the Keddies often work on different days and at different times. But when they do end up working on the same days, they try to meet up and eat lunch together.

Their children may be young, but Jeff and Moriah really like Fredonia and wouldn’t mind if their children decide to attend one day.

“A musical collaboration: the Gray-Antonacci duo

COURTNEE CESTA
Managing Editor

For School of Music professors Casey Gray and Tim Antonacci, there’s power in numbers.

“We want to go somewhere where we can make a difference together — use our skills together,” said Gray, to which Antonacci added, “That’s the key.”

As partners, the two finish each other’s sentences, complement one another and laugh together. They’ve even been racking up a laundry list of collaborative performance experience since they first met as students of the School of Music in 2009. At the time, Gray was working towards a Master’s in vocal performance while Antonacci was finishing his undergraduate work in music education.

“I gave him a tux,” Antonacci said laughing, handing his thought over to Gray, who finished with, “When I was a poor grad student.”

Gray now teaches voice classes and Antonacci teaches music education, both at Fredonia. The two have been dating for five years.

And aside from teaching in the same department, Gray and Antonacci collaborate on musical productions at the First United Methodist Church at Fredonia, the Chautauqua Youth Choirs, as well as the School of Music and on outside productions — experiences that are enhanced by their relationship.

“I think that, for the most part, I know what he’s thinking;” said Antonacci. “If you can have a creative team where you know what everybody’s thinking, it makes things go so much smoother. And Casey compliments all the things I lack at, basically.”

After minutes of charming banter, Antonacci decided that his degrees in music education and music composition, both from Fredonia, allow him to bring skills in education, history, theory and composition to the table.

On the other hand, Gray says that his undergraduate and master’s degrees in voice performance, first from Bethany College and then from Fredonia, have provided him with knowledge of vocal performance and collaboration. One thing they agree on: their diverse musical abilities comfort one another; when one fails, the other steps up and provides validation.

“So, when I’m conducting a choir; Casey knows when to pick the singers up basically;” Antonacci said. “I know what he’s going to have troubles with, and he knows what I’m not going to want to do, so it works out.”

“And we know what each other is thinking a lot of the time; so that we don’t even have to ask or say that kind of stuff. We just know. And I like that we know exactly what each other’s abilities are and what the limitations are — even though we push them sometimes,” said Gray.

When not working together, Gray accompanies nearly 20 vocalists at the School of Music, and Antonacci teaches music lessons at an after-school program in Jamestown. Because of the amount of time Gray spends away from home and with students, he apprehends that Antonacci recognizes the field’s time commitment, which is something he doesn’t think he would find a partner not involved in music.

“It’s so nice having each other who understands. When I call and say, ‘I have to be here an hour later,’ he knows how it goes;” said Gray.

“And that’s where Antonacci returns the favor, providing support to Gray through his busy days. “I like to ground him when he’s overworked,” Antonacci said. “I think that’s what we do really well. We ground each other.”

The couple’s mutual support is recognized by fellow collaborators as well as students, who say that their energy creates a great work environment.

“They are both dedicated to their church and the music that fills it;” says music education student and Starbucks Smittana who has worked with both Antonacci and Gray. “They are a power couple that is productive and always professional. It’s great having them in the same workplace. Not only are they supportive of their students, such as myself and colleagues. They are extremely supportive of each other.”

Aside from their music, the couple is energetic and charismatic with such high spirits that it’s hard not to smile when talking to them — as evidenced with a play-by-play of their most fond memories. “Shortly after Casey’s graduate recital, we were cleaning our apartment getting ready to move out, and Kelvin Bowman, who was our roommate at the time, wanted to help;” Antonacci began. “He continued to explain that in passing, they asked Bowman, who was a fellow music education student to clean the kitchen — something they perceived as a simple task.

“Fast forward a couple weeks;” Antonacci said. “Our landlord tells them just one problem. The basement is flooded and I can’t figure out where it’s coming from.”

Then I realized that we had a pond and a half of manholes left over from the recital, and in the process of clean-up everything, Kristen had flushed them down the toilet, thinking that’s what you do as a kid with a ladder.”

The lodge caused $162 in damage.

“It was one of our favorite memories because we lived off campus together;” and after a year of living together, at least we didn’t flush the manholes down the toilet, the couple agreed.

As for the future, neither Gray or Antonacci know, exactly, what is next, but their goals surround utilizing their partnership and working together to the same department at a university.

“We can cover all aspects of the music core;” said Gray, relating that “Tim has the past, the history and theory. I have the performance, the piano and voice. We’ve always wanted to collaborate.”

“And together,” Antonacci said, “we make up a pretty good ensemble.”

“T"
BRITTANY PERRY
Special to The Leader

You’ve seen him at various sporting events and bust a move at the 2012 flash mob, but how well do you really know Fred Blue Devil?

Fred comes from Blazes, NY, but considers himself a true Fredonian. He migrated east to attend college at Fredonia, where he earned a degree in education and minorored in theatre. Fred claims that the top-notch education, affordable tuition and great atmosphere made him realize that Fredonia was home.

Not long after his arrival at Fredonia did Fred find his calling in being a mascot.

“I was chosen to be the mascot at Fredonia State following a tryout. The scouts had followed my progress through the high school ranks. I wanted to focus on academics, and turned down a few athletic scholarships and chose a Division III school — Fredonia,” Fred said. “I was invited to a mascot tryout in Steele Hall. It was pretty competitive – the San Diego Chicken, Philly Phanatic — all the big names were there.

But since I was born blue and had oversized, cartoon-like features, and the school nickname was the Blue Devils, I was a slam dunk for the job – pun intended.”

Fred represents 17 varsity teams and tries to enhance the fans’ experience in any way he can. When Fred isn’t promoting school spirit, he enjoys singing, songwriting and spending time with his younger brother, the Duke Blue Devil, and his cousin, the Deacon Deacon, at Wake Forest.

Our Blue Devil has recently experienced a great change in his life: a new name.

Fred was formerly known as “Mike” in March, during the second annual SUNY Mascot Madness, a SUNY-wide competition to see which school had the best mascot. This was Fredonia’s first year participating in Mascot Madness. At the time, “Mike” made it to the Elite Eight before losing to SUNY New Paltz’s “Hugo the Hawk.”

“The amount of voting and support that took place from the campus and athletic department was amazing,” said Matthew Palisin, the head baseball coach. “Hopefully, we’ll see Fred at more home games and active at different events. I hope that we can get more awareness out about Fred so we can advance further in Mascot Madness, if SUNY decides to do it again.”

Fred was chosen as the official name of the Blue Devil after Mascot Madness via an online poll.
He’s a hard worker and does the best he can. Despite the fact that he’s named a Devil, he really is an angel,” Palisin said.

Blackhorse alumna competes in Dubai for Olympic qualifier

MAGGIE GIBROY
Editor in Chief

When Danielle Miano stepped onto the rugby field at Fredonia in 2003, she did not expect it to lead her to a professional career with the USA Women’s Eagle Seven. However, that career has taken her across the nation and now to Dubai, where the team is competing for a spot in the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

“It’s definitely been a long, long journey,” Miano said in a recent phone interview. “As soon as I found out that rugby was going to be an Olympic sport for Seven, I wanted to get involved in any way I could right away.”

Following her graduation from Fredonia, Miano played with a team in Boston and then the seven club with the San Diego Surfers. Miano was then invited to play in a scrimmage against Brazil’s team, which led her to an invitation to play with the USA Women’s Eagles Seven team.

Miano is currently a resident of San Diego, California, where she works as the account manager for electronics manufacturer SEA-COMP. She credits her flexible employer as one of the reasons she is able to both maintain a full-time job and train with the team. She trains two full days a week with the team at the Olympic training center; however, when not practicing with the team, she completes the workouts on her own — often starting as early as 6:30 a.m.

Miano studies recordings of the practices to ensure she is up-to-date with the team. Miano said that, if chosen for the Olympic team, she will train full-time when it comes closer to the Olympics.

With over a decade of experience with the sport, Miano has observed heightened popularity and transformation of the sport first-hand.

“The program has changed so much. Kids can get scholarships now for rugby,” Miano said. “I got a flyer in my dorm room.”

While Miano learned many valuable skills as a member of Blackhorse Rugby, she credits her passion for the game as being the most valuable asset of her time with the team.

“I think the most important part about having played for Fredonia was just falling in love with the sport itself,” Miano said. “Rugby is a tough, team sport and the people — the girls that I’ve played with and my couch at the time — were so passionate about the sport and so dedicated to making an incredible and really competitive team, and [to] being really good. So having all of us come together and really dedicate ourselves physically and emotionally to a team we really cared about, I felt the part of really appreciating what it means to be a part of a rugby team, and being a part of a club that really cares about its sport.”

Miano joined the Blackhorse Rugby team with no prior rugby experience. See Miano page B-10

BRITTANY PERRY
Special to The Leader

Mike Lust: barista by day and Maximum Force Wrestling North American Champion by night

MEGHAN GUATTERY
Assistant News Editor

He is there when you go in and order your grande peppermint mocha latte.

He is the tall, muscular, blonde barista behind the counter at Starbucks on campus. He has also been a Maximum Force Wrestling North American Champion.

Last year after spraining my wrist, Mike McNaughton asked to sign my cast while he ran up my order at Starbucks. He signed it, “Mike Lust.” When I asked if that was his nickname, he replied with “No, that is my wrestling name.”

Every child grows up with a favorite television show. For most of us, it is something along the lines of SpongeBob Squarepants or Thomas the Tank Engine. For McNaughton, however, it was wrestling.

“I was 3 and a half years old. I was sitting on my grandfather’s lap and he said to me, ‘Watch this. This guy can save America,’” said McNaughton. “That guy was Hulk Hogan.”

Young McNaughton had no issues replicating the moves he saw on television.

“I was the guinea pig for all the new moves the wrestlers came out with,” said his younger sister, Alicia McNaughton. “The jack-knife will forever haunt me.”

While McNaughton grew up with a passion for wrestling, soccer and hockey were his sports in grade school. It was not until about 18 years ago when it finally hit him that wrestling was more than an obsession on his television — it was what he wanted to do.

See Lust page B-10
**Track Profile: Chris Shartrand**

**DYLAN FORMAN**
Staff Writer

Since the day he arrived on Fredonia’s campus, Chris Shartrand has been among the top distance runners that the school has to offer. In the words of head coach Tom Wilson, “Chris has been driven to succeed since day one, both academically and athletically.” Along with his athletic prowess, Chris has been one of the top students, as he has earned several SUNYAC All-Academic honors.

In the three years he has been running in a Blue Devils uniform, he has evolved into one of the best 3000m Steeplechase runners in the SUNYAC Conference. His personal best of 9:36 earned him third place at last year’s SUNYAC Outdoor Track & Field Championships.

his Chris has also excelled in the 5000m, with a personal best of 15:04. With this time, he was able to finish fourth at last winter’s SUNYAC Indoor Track & Field Championship. He will surely be looking to break the 15-minute barrier this coming season. This would make him one of the top 5K and Steeplechase runners in the school’s illustrious history.

“he has matured into one of the strongest and most consistent runners I’ve ever coached,” Wilson said. “His ability to trust our system and training methods has put him where he is now. I am very excited to see what this track season has for him.”

Former teammate and current assistant coach Steve Whittmore also praises Shartrand.

“He is a great teammate in the sense that he is blunt and will tell anyone how it is. If anyone is doing something wrong, or if he has an issue with someone, then he tells them. I think that makes him reach as he finishes his running career.”

“His goals for him are simply to finish his career with no doubt, no shoulda, coulda and woulda,” Wilson said. “Be successful in every race in and everything he takes on in life.”

**Track Season Preview**

With the indoor track season on the horizon, both teams will be looking to finish atop the SUNYAC Conference. And according to Coach Wilson, “We finally have the talent and depth to achieve this.”

Leading the way on the track will be the distance crew, which consists of Zak Hess, Chris Shartrand, Kyle Collins and Cody Martin. Hess, a 4:16 miler, will be looking to battle for the 5K title after finishing fifth at the ECAC Championships with a time of 15:02.

Also, junior standout Collin Mulcaby will be returning from injury and looking to improve on his 4:13 Mile time from last winter. He has also run an outstanding 1:52 in the 800 meter run. Returning for his junior year is Eric Williams, who has led the sprinters since he stepped foot on campus. Last winter, Williams finished second in the 60 meter hurdles with an impressive time of 8.38 seconds. His personal best for the race is 8.26, which he has a great chance to improve upon once he gets back to the starting blocks. In his freshman season of outdoor track, Williams captured the SUNYAC title for the 110 meter hurdles with an incredible 14.73 sec.

With the team goals of winning the SUNYAC Championships, several individual (including Hess, Mulcaby and Williams) will be looking to qualify for the prestigious NCAA Division III National Championships, a feat not accomplished since Fredonia’s top middle distance runner, Nick Guarino, was crowned the National Champion for both the Mile and the 800m in the same season. Coach Wilson is very optimistic regarding individual qualifiers and stated that “anyone can qualify if they possess the will!”

Coach Wilson also spoke in detail about the women’s team.

“The women will be driven by youth the entire season. We are looking for strong showings from Anna Dambacher (2014 Outdoor NCAA Qualifier) and multiple school record holder to guide the way for our youth in the 60m, 200m and 400m dashes,” Wilson said. “Senior captain Hailey Griewisch will kick off her final indoor season in the 60m hurdles. Laura Morrison is coming off a very strong outdoor season in the 800m and will look to start off right where she left off, setting school records Saturday in the 800m.”

The field events will be a new look for the Blue Devils. In the throws, Nikki Desens will be guiding freshmen Rachel Williams and Anneliese Bienko to their first college performances, while junior Olivia Kurbs will guide three new freshman vaulters, Kristie Sawyer, Julia Schreier and Jen Wasielewski. We put in a ton of work last year recruiting the best female athletes we could, now it’s time to see what they can do. We are very excited to see how this young team molds together this weekend!”

The indoor track season begins when the Blue Devils travel to Kent State on Friday, Dec. 5. The SUNYAC Championships will take place on Feb. 27 at SUNY Brockport.

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**Rich Norton: journey-man and women’s assistant coach**

**QUINTIN JAMES**
Special to The Leader

Rich Norton is a classic example of a guy trying to lead his alma mater back to a championship. Norton graduated from Fredonia in 1987 and has spent 30 years teaching different levels of organized basketball. His most recent coaching job was as head coach in the Silver Creek school district for the last nine years, during which time he won over 70 games. Now, as the assistant coach for the Fredonia women’s basketball team, he’s ready for the challenge of building this program up again.

Norton grew up and went to college in Fredonia, so it is anticipated that he will be a great recruiter, able to really help get new talent in to create some wins for Fredonia. He also knows a lot of people nearby and can, therefore, be a big asset in persuading players to commit to Fredonia.

When asked about why he chose to return to Fredonia, Norton said he coached at a local high school, but his heart was always at Fredonia. He’s glad he returned to the program because he grew up here, and it was a great fit for him.

Norton has been coaching basketball for 30 years, so his wisdom and experience with the game can rub off on the players and coaches and turn them into better players and people.

The season hasn’t started out perfect for the Blue Devils, but Norton is very optimistic about the season and the upcoming seasons. He said it’s tough to replace two thousand point scorers, but they know they’ll have growing pains, and the goal is to make the playoffs. The team is going in the right direction, and all the early season struggles will lead to success in the long run. Norton said that different roles for different players have Blue Devils adjusting and trying to succeed.

When asked about some things to look out for, Norton mentioned starting the SUNYAC part of their schedule and bringing in potential new recruits. Norton said this year should be a good year for recruits, as a lot of good talent is interested in joining the Blue Devils. He wants to sign a couple of players by New Year’s to get a good recruiting class in place.

Norton’s goals this season are to make the playoffs, but if that doesn’t happen, then he aims to have the team be competitive and have the players improve in all areas of their games. He wants to help Coach McDonald build a good program and have a foundation in place to have Fredonia be a force in the women’s division for years to come.

Norton’s Fredonia ties will do nothing but help the team and the school. His wisdom and knowledge will do wonders for the young Blue Devils, and he will be an important piece in Fredonia’s success down the road.
I was watching WrestleMania 12,” said McNaughton. “It was Shawn Michaels versus Bret Hart in a 60-second Iron Man match. It was 0-0 and they had to go into overtime, and Shawn won. He said, ‘The boyhood dream came true.’ That was my defining moment.” McNaughton was hooked.

While setting up for a show in early 2010, McNaughton was approached by a Rochester Hall of Fame wrestler by the name of Hellcat. “Do you have gear?” said Hellcat. “I have gym shoes and shorts,” said McNaughton. “Okay. You’re going to train,” said Hellcat.

That interaction was the start of an incredible journey for McNaughton. It was the beginning of a legend — the beginning of Mike Lust.

“I would like to say Mike Lust, King of Cocky, is Mike’s alter ego,” said Alicia. “But honestly, he’s so much like Lust. On an everyday basis he may not carry that big ego around but it’s definitely there. The character didn’t fit him better. I feel like as soon as his music begins playing and he makes his entrance, all of his concocted traits shine through.”

But most important to McNaughton, above the screaming of the fans and the rush of adrenaline he gets when he’s in the ring, is his family. “He has a huge heart with family on the top of his priority list,” said Alicia. “He’s there whenever you need him, regardless of the time. That’s just how Mike is. A little over a year ago I got married and he walked me down the aisle. I know traditionally the girl’s father walks her down but, what’s the definition of a father? I think it’s the guy who’s in your life and never leaves your side; the one stable guy in your life that didn’t ever come and go. Mike was that guy.”

On July 5 in Dunkirk, New York, McNaughton and his partner Ethan Wright, known as “The Industy,” took on former WWE Wrestler Tatanka and his partner Primal Warpath in an effort to steal their MFV Tag Team Championship titles.

The Industy was victorious.

The team held the championship titles for 91 days before being defeated at the MFW Maximum Impact 2014 5th anniversary show.

So, after you right at the stripping man behind the counter, the one who always puts just the right amount of caramel in your latte, do not forget to say “thank you,” because you could end up in a swinging neck breaker before you even take your first sip.

Miano: continued from B-8

experience. She credits her memory of playing a sport “when it wasn’t even popular,” prior to its rise in popularity amongst collegiate athletes and its inclusion as an Olympic sport, to the fire she feels while playing the game.

“I think if I had not found rugby at Fredonia and found such a great group and a great club to begin with, I would never be where I am,” Miano said. “Maybe I would have found it eventually, but having played for a club that everybody cared so much about, I think that was really great to be a part of.”

“Stubs,” Miano’s Blackhorse coach, is one figure Miano credits to her success in the game. “Our coach ‘Stubs’ was the first coach I had that really ever believed in me and told me that if he put the rugby ball in my hands at fly half I would be unstoppable,” Miano said. “Having someone that encouraged me and helped me see my potential gave me the first drive to prove I could be the best.”

Miano periodically reaches out to current Blackhorse members, holding clinics and remaining in contact with current team members. She also makes an effort to view tournaments Blackhorse has competed in, including tournaments in Savannah, Georgia and Sarac Lake.

“I drove from Boston to Fredonia to have a day with them,” Miano said of a clinic she held two years ago.

While Fredonia’s Miano may not carry to the Olympic Training clinic, Miano is doing her best to represent Fredonia and Blackhorse.

“It’s not on the map very much,” Miano said about Fredonia. “I’m just really proud to be able to represent Fredonia and the club itself because it really did play such a big role.”

According to untagby.com, the Women’s Eagles Sevens finished seventh at Emirates Dubai Rugby Sevens, which took place Dec. 4 and 5. It was the first leg of the 2014-15 World Rugby Sevens Series. There are three events from which the Eagles can qualify for the Olympics; those teams ranked one to four in the final rankings of the 2014/5 RBS Sevens World Series will qualify directly for a quota place for their NOC to the 2016 Olympics.

“You’ve just got to be ready and willing to work really hard,” Miano said of her advice for current rugby players. “Especially from a school that maybe doesn’t have as much recognition. I was a pretty decent player at Fredonia, but nobody knew who I was when I graduated. So I had to work my way through the circuit. I’m 29, and I just got invited to the USA team. Even if you get rejected, even if you get injured, how hard you work will reflect how far you go.”

Miano is waiting to find out if she will make the Olympic team.

“It’s been a long journey, and it’s not over,” Miano said. “I really want to make the team that goes to Rio. I have a lot of work ahead of me. I still have to prove myself. I’m still kind of low man on the totem pole — I still have to prove myself. The strongest shall survive, and you’ve got to be ready and willing to work really hard.”

Lust: continued from B-8
Meet “The Fastest Longboarder”

ANITA TENSION
Special to The Lampoon

“Sometimes all you want to do is just get on your board and go, you know?”

These are the words of a Fredonia longboarder, known simply as the “Fastest Longboarder” because he rides his longboard so fast. Esti-
mates place his average velo-
city somewhere between “very” and “super” fast. He goes fast-
er than all other longboard-
ers, who are slower than him, because he is the fastest.

He even goes too fast for anyone to see what he looks like. The Fastest Longboarder is familiar to most Fredonians only as a sudden blast of wind, a cloud of settling dust and leaves, and the rapidly reced-
ing sound of clattering wheels and a Doppler effect shout of Wa-hoo. (It is Doppled be-
cause the longboarder is very fast — so fast, in fact, that one time a police officer told him to slow down, which meant that the police officer thought he was going too fast, which was crazy because police cars are fast but not as fast as the Fastest Longboarder, who out-
paces even trains in that very su-
premely fast is he.)

Sophomore and other, in-
fier longboarder Ryan Lenz,
20, told the Lampoon that the Fastest Longboarder is “indis-
putably faster than anything
else in this town, and prob-
ably the state, and maybe even in Pennsylvania, too,” adding that he was “definitely faster than most cars even without trying a little.”

Indeed, all of Fredonia’s longboarders agree that the Fastest Longboarder is the speediest dude in all the land. Many attest to his ability to
outstrip deer, racehorses and even echehats. His consistently and insanely high speeds have earned him many nicknames, including “King of Longboard-
ing,” “King of Going Really Fast” and “King of Going Re-
ally Fast on a Longboard.”

Because he is so fast, wom-
en adore him and his ability to go really fast all the time. They love the way he is faster than the other longboarders. But he
can’t ever truly love any of these women, because he is mar-
ried to the game (i.e. the game of going exponentially faster on his longboard than anyone else goes on theirs).

Also, the unsupersed Fastest Longboarder is given
money and all the trappings of a divinely-selected king on account of the superlative speed with which he rides his longboard.

President Virginia Horvath has announced that the Fastest Longboarder can literally just have his degree whenever he wants it.

The important thing to remember now is that no matter what happens, it will always love you

The GHOST of FREDDIES

The Leader, Wednesday, December 10, 2014

ANITA TENSION
Special to The Lampoon

You’re leaving the Wil-
liams Center, headed for the
library. You decide to take the
bridge from the second story
to the first, but you try. You
push through two sets of heavy
double doors, step outside and
stop — your foot, it’s cold. And
wet. And wholly submerged in
four inches of the rankest, most
dole black shitwater you’ve ever
laid eyes on, much less a whole
foot, upon.

Congratulations, you’ve just met a beloved fixture of the Fredonia community. That Puddle That’s Outside the Sec-
ond-Story Door to the William’s Center and Has Been Forever Probable.

The Lampoon sat down with the puddle last week to dis-
cuss its time here in Fredonia.

It was a typical cold Fredonia
day, and the puddle was beginning to freeze over in places, a fact of

Meet ‘that puddle that’s outside the second-story door to the
William’s Center and has been forever probably”

ANITA TENSION
Special to The Lampoon

Maggie Gilroy / Editor in Chief

“Let’s see,” it said, the wind

gently bobbing one of the many,
cigarette butts floating in its

oilly-pseudo-mud. “I think I came
to Fredonia with either the first

or second rain to ever fall on the

streaming barren igneous rock 3.8

billion years ago during the Ar-

canian period.”

And since then, the puddle

says, it’s simply spent its days ac-
cumulating water, leaves and gar-

bage. Other puddles have come

gone, including some on the

bridge, but none have en-
dured so much or for so long.

“I actually — and I don’t

let myself brag about this

often — but it was actually

me who fostered the forma-
tion of our earth’s first mul-
ticellular organisms in our

sluggish-lapping ripples,”
said the puddle with a self-

deprecating loping noise.

“Of course, they all died — I

mean, highly, highly toxic, you see — but the first ones were all

me.”

The puddle has stated that students and community members should feel free to

approach it whenever they want.

“You can always find

me in my spot,” it said. “I’ve

been here since the earth’s for-

gamation, and goddamn it, I will be here until the end of days.”

Being awkward:

The Stairs

AWKWARD ANNIE
Staff Lampoonist

I never knew how out of shape I was until I started hav-
ing all of my classes in Thomp-
son on the third floor. I live on
the third floor in my residence hall, but nothing compares to
the dark stairway of hell lead-
ing up to the highest peak of
Thompson. By the time you
reach the bottom of the stairs
from wherever you were just walk-
ing from, there is a moment
where you second guess even going to class because you
know how winded you are about to be after climbing up the slip

proof stairs.

The other day I was run-
ning late to my Psychology class
and, as I was passing the park-
ing lot to the door of Thompson,
I saw a man who looked like he
was in a hurry coming up close behind me. He was dressed
definitely like the typical hipster with a skinny tie, blazer and the thick rimmed glasses to match. He walked in like the ultimate hipster with a

skinny tie, blazer and the thick rimmed glasses to match. He walked in like the ultimate hipster with a

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A note to our readers

This issue marks the last one with our current Managing Editor, Courntee Costa, as she graduates at the end of this semester in order to enter a full-time job as a producer with News Channel 9 in Syracuse, New York. We, the staff of The Leader, would like to express our gratitude and well-wishes to Courntee as she departs our Leader family.

Dear Courntee,

My first memory of you was when the word “Back” was incorrectly placed in a headline for your article instead of “Bach”; unknown to you, I believe that this was actually my fault at the time, as I had just started editing for The Leader, and I totally didn’t even realize. Sorry! Your writing skills, your editing skills, and your kindness will be sorely missed at The Leader. Thanks so much for everything, and good luck!

-Riley Straw

I’m actually really envious of you, Court. You got a job straight out of college! Who does that?! Phenomenal people, that’s who. I only met you this semester but I know that you SO deserve this, and I’m honored to have worked with you. Don’t forget us little people when you reach the top!

Best wishes,
Ryi Chmle

Courntee,

It took every semester except this one for us to work together and get to know each other, and for that, I am humbled to see you going just one semester early. It’s been so enjoyable working beside you; and helping me drive Maggie insane. While I say I am humbled to see you go, I am also excited to see what you accomplish ahead, as I have watched your work get better and better over these three and a half years. Keep climbing and stay in touch.

Best,
Alex Kuhary

Dearest Courntee,

Although I get sad each time I think about the fact that you are leaving, I also keep thinking about how AWESOME you are, and that makes me happy again. I am so proud of you and so proud to know you — you’re going to do great things, and it’s an honor to have worked on The Leader with you. I have humongous gawabulous shoes to fill next semester, but I am making a promise to you that I won’t let you down! So, go out into the world and kick some journalistic butt, lady!

Love,
Jordyn

Dear Courntee,

It’s upsetting that I’ve had so little time to get to know you here, but I am so proud of you in making this decision — you are definitely a person who deserves an opportunity like this. Last year when you were Maggie’s assistant, I always admired your tenacity and constant willingness to take on multiple stories per week, and any writer-less story. You are so involved, and your passion for the things you care about shows. I know it’s hard to say goodbye, but my advice to you is, embrace it! I’m sure you’ll fall in love with your new job and you’ll be one hardass reporter!

Best regards,
Becca

Who is going to yell at Maggie with me at 3am when she’s attacking the layout with obnoxious strokes? Thanks for being a true and loyal journalism nerd with me and putting up with all the shenanigans our professors put us through (specifically Elmara.) It’s so hard to say goodbye to you this early, but I am extremely proud of you and your big girl job. You have given me so much as not only a managing editor and fellow coworker, but as a friend, and a great one at that. I am truly one of your biggest fans. I wish you all the luck in the world for your career as a kick-ass producer; your name will be in lights one day, I promise you that. Say hi to the big guys for me and as always, stay fabulous.

Peace and love, Mel

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