Black History Month closes with feminist talk, masquerade ball

Brittany Perry
Special to The Leader

Fredonia brings the celebration of Black History Month to an end with the closing ceremonies on Feb. 25. The closing ceremonies were originally scheduled to begin on Monday, but the first event, Redefined Beauty: Great Blacks In Wax Museums, was cancelled because Black Student Union (BSU) did not receive the best response from students who wanted to participate, so an executive decision was made to direct their focus on the rest of Black History Month.

Redefined Beauty was also cancelled after alumni and former member of the Black Student Union, Amir Billups was involved in a fatal car accident. The Black Student Union, Office of Campus Life and the Athletics Department organized a Remembrance Ceremony in his honor.

Dr. Treva Lindsey, an assistant professor in Women and Gender Studies at Ohio State University, is giving a presentation on Feb. 25 to close Black History Month in the Williams Center Room S204 ABC. Lindsey is a proclaimed feminist and social media activist. Her presentation will also serve as an opening for Women’s Herstory Month.

Dr. Lindsey’s talk, “From 4 Little Girls to Aiyana Jones: A Modern Herstory of Anti-Black State Violence,” is a part of the Ethnic Studies speakers series and will assist in continuing the discussion surrounding racial relations and profiling that Fredonia’s campus community is exploring this semester.

“I will be speaking about the history of violence against Black women in the United States,” Lindsey said. “Using both historical and contemporary examples of anti-Black racial violence, I will seek to expand the narrative of who we imagine to be ‘the strange fruit,’ affected by state sanctioned and state initiated violence. I want to highlight not only the gendered dynamics of state sanctioned and state initiated violence, but also illustrate the legacy of Black women in U.S. leading movements and campaigns against anti-Black state violence.”

Closing ceremonies are often a time to reflect on previous events and to recognize how these events are important to the celebration of the other History months.

“My favorite event was definitely listening to Tracy Martin,” said senior public relations major and vice president of Black History Month. “See Black History Month page A-6.”

Spectrum publishes video announcing Spring events

Name of headline to be revealed at ‘Artists on the Rise’ concert

Maggie Gilroy
Editor in Chief

On Feb. 19 Spectrum Entertainment Board posted a video to its Facebook page announcing the lineup of Spring events. The events include a visit from Dinosaur Barbecue on May 9 and a headline concert on April 12. The name of the headline will be announced at Spectrum’s “Artists on the Rise” concert on Thursday, Feb. 26 following a performance by New Masons, the third and final act of the night.

The video was first shown to Spectrum’s general assembly at their general body meeting and then posted to Spectrum’s Facebook page later that night. Starring Spectrum’s E-board members — including President Stephanie Willis and Vice President Michael Gonzalez-Kelly — the video featured a fictional narrative following Gonzalez-Kelly’s pursuit of discovering the name of the headliner.

While playful and humorous, the video contained important information including dates, as well as Spectrum’s need for security volunteers at the headline concert. As of the publication of this article, the video currently has 1,263 views. The second half of the video will be shown at the “Artists on the Rise” event on Feb. 26 and will feature a guest appearance by President Virginia Horvath.

To view the video visit Spectrum’s Facebook page or http://www.fredonialeader.org.

Extreme weather conditions pose obstacles for students with disabilities part two: Administration makes effort in ensuring grounds are handicap accessible

S. L. Fuller
News Editor

This winter has been cold and snowy with an emphasis on “cold.” The chill has been undeniably felt by everyone on campus, and the Fredonia staff is doing everything it can to keep any negative environmental effects to a minimum.

Sometimes, wintry precipitation accumulates so much that it becomes nearly impossible to keep up with maintenance. It’s not unusual to see a student walk through a large pile of snow, or to see a student slip on a patch of ice on the sidewalk. But all of the adverse effects that winter weather causes are, perhaps, felt most by those with disabilities.

“The main problem [of living on campus while being disabled] that comes to mind is getting through the snow,” said Burgundi Rakocoka, junior early childhood education major, in an interview published in last week’s issue of The Leader. “I personally have a hard time getting the wheelchair through the snow when it piles up.”

Hardships like this do not go unnoticed. Making the campus accessible for every student is at the top of everyone’s list — from Facilities Services to the Student Association.

Just recently, Student Association president — sophomore education major, in an interview published in last week’s issue of The Leader. “I personally have a hard time getting the wheelchair through the snow when it piles up.”

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KORTNEY YOUNG
Special to The Leader

The small room was buzzing with anticipation as teams of supporters gathered in room S204 of the Williams Center last Tuesday to participate in Colleges Against Cancer’s Spring Kick Off Trivia night. While students were able to enjoy friendly competition in hopes of winning small prizes, the real draw was the promise that the theme for this year’s Relay for Life was to be revealed at the end of the night.

Stephanie Willis, junior public relations major and marketing chair for CAC, slowly revealed the theme using a PowerPoint presentation, giving the attendees one visual hint at a time, heightening suspense. According to Danielle Consaul, junior childhood inclusive education major and president of CAC, the executive board looked at other colleges and discussed at length what the theme should be. Then, at the end of it all, there was only one theme that really stuck out.

When an enthusiastic audience member began recognizing the visual hints and piecing together the puzzle, she let out a squeal of excitement. Revealed on the screen was a giant collage of Disney characters. Vanessa Taylor, Resident Director of Hemingway Hall, attended the trivia night to show her support for a cause that is very near and dear to her. Taylor noted that cancer is a “worldwide spread illness.”

Since Disney has provided fun-loving and enchanting characters worldwide for more than nine decades, it seems fitting that it’s also the theme of a worldwide fight to end this disease.

“Relay is important to me because my family has been affected by cancer and other illnesses,” said Taylor. “I think this is one illness that many people can associate friends or family members — or at least someone that they know — with it. It’s a really good cause.”

Having been personally affected by this disease, Consaul will also be participating in Relay. After losing family members in battles against cancer, she has expressed what a huge support system Fredonia and CAC has been for her.

“It’s been really hard on my family and coming to Fredonia was like my support system and [CAC] has really helped me get through it and realize that there is a way to fight back,” said Consaul. “There’s a way to celebrate and to remember her [Consaul’s grandmother’s] life at the same time.”

Relay will be held April 12-13, from 4 p.m. - 4 a.m. in the Steele Hall Fieldhouse. All proceeds benefit The American Cancer Society. Even though that date may seem far away, CAC knows how fast time can fly when planning an event. As the main event draws closer, so does the mad rush to pull everything together.

E-board members have already started running around in preparation. Last year, CAC was able to help raise $33,000. In an effort to surpass that goal, the e-board has raised the goal by $2,000. Consaul does not doubt that this year they can reach the $35,000 goal.

“Fredonia always has a way to pull through,” said Consaul. “Even though trivia was just the kick-off event, CAC was happy with the amount of people who showed up to support the cause. ‘Trivia is just becoming really popular,’” said Willis, who was very pleased with the turnout. “‘It’s becoming a universal fun activity.’”

CAC will also be hosting “Disney Dodgeball Classic,” for additional fundraising. In order to add team names to the roster, as well as receive additional rules and information, a meeting will be held from 7 p.m. - 10 p.m. Monday, March 1 in the Dods Hall Gym. All teams must register for the event with a paid entry fee of $20 by Feb. 26. Teams can have a minimum of eight players and a maximum of 10 and traditional dodgeball rules will be applied. Prizes will be given to the team with the best Disney uniform.

More information is available by searching Relay For Life SUNY Fredonia, or by visiting http://www.relayforlife.org/sunyfredoniany.

For Consaul and the rest of the CAC e-board, preparing for Relay is a time of high stress, but also high reward. With Disney as the theme, the whole event seems to be coming together already.

“[Disney] is a place of magic,” said Consaul. “And [at Relay] we want to make magic happen.”
Media Attention Deficit Disorder: Hilary and Libya

CHARLES PRITCHARD
Staff Writer

The media and its audience have a habit of immediately forgetting about something after a short amount of time. Questions are asked, outrage is created, and it all gets swept under the rug after a few months; bigger and better stories then grab the public’s attention.

One of the things that has been forgotten, more likely than not, is the Humanitarian Crisis in Libya and the Gaddafi regime.

Back in 2011, when Hillary Rodham Clinton was still Secretary of State under President Barack Obama, the “humanitarian crisis in Libya” was thrown around repeatedly. It was also Clinton’s main battle cry and call for boots on the ground in Libya.

Four years later, The Washington Post has reminded us of this conflict and shed some new light on the situation displayed on their website. The Washington Post has made available to the public a number of tapes that show what was really going on.

Though, Clinton herself brought the Libyan Civil War to everyone’s attention when she spoke with ABC News.

“I imagine we were sitting here and Benghazi had been overcome,” said Clinton on ABC News. “A city of 700,000 people and tens of thousands of people had been slaughtered.”

Her warnings of another genocide, like that of Rwanda, did not hold much water to other defense officials and politicians’ concerns, like those from Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Administration Mike Mullen.

Now, secret tapes, recordings and evidence have been brought to the forefront. Former Ohio Democrat House Representative Dennis Kucinich taped a handful of people who actually opened up diplomatic channels with the Gaddafi regime in an attempt to smooth over hostilities.

Saif Gaddafi, son to the now deposed facto leader and deceased Muammar Gaddafi, talked to Kucinich in 2011 and said, “It’s like the WMDs [Weapons of Mass Destruction] and Iraq, Libyan airplanes bombing demonstrators, Libyan airplanes bombing districts in Tripoli, Libyan army killed thousands, etc., etc.”

Kucinich asked how this conflict could be stopped and smoothed over, but Saif Gaddafi went on to point a finger at NATO, saying, “NATO is fuelling the conflict everyday. The NATO has their own agenda. I will send you the tapes, the NATO tapes. Every day they put weapons and ammunition in the hands of these terrorists ... And they [NATO] are putting ships and planes there and they are bombing us, they are bombing us everyday ... Yesterday they killed three civilians today in Tripoli, in the center of the city. Why? For what reason?”

Professor Raymond Rushboldt of Fredonia tried to shed some light on the situation as to why this is occurring, especially with such little and faulty intel.

“The long American policy of foreign involvement with Libya goes back to the Reagan Administration, back in the 1980s as I remember ... the notion of Gaddafi and what the American role in regime change, since that’s really what we’re talking about here and how to sway public opinion.”

And what easier way to sway public opinion than to bring up something as horrifying as a genocide? Or WMD’s? Or chemical weapons?

“Is it legitimate information or not so legitimate information? Do we have to say that there are all these humanitarian crises going on? Well, we can’t really say what we really want to do, and that is regime change,” Rushboldt said.

It’s hard for one to see what might really be going on, but former CIA Director Leon E. Panetta said in his book, “Worthy Fights,” that the end-game of Libya was those two words, again, regime change.

The Pentagon officials — ready to offer an olive branch, pull out and let Gaddafi step down — fall under suspicion when the State Department turns down the offer and continues on the offensive, all the while talking about the impending genocide.

In the end though, the public will forget about this in the next month; some new scandal or show will sweep away their attention, and they will move on as if nothing happened.

However, 2016 is right around the bend and it is no surprise or secret that Clinton will, more likely than not, be throwing her hat into the next presidential election, despite the Libya/ Benshagha scandal.

We rarely do see politicians pay for any real crimes; people like Republican Senator Trey Radel get busted for cocaine, receive a slap on the wrist and claim, “I’m going to seek treatment.”

When asked if he believes any consequences will ever come to Clinton over Libya, Rushboldt shrugs.

“The only way we can make [them] face consequences is not to vote for them,” said Rushboldt.

MEGHAN QUATTERT
Assistant News Editor

The Fredonia community takes great pride in the diversity of its campus and the welcoming mentality of its students. Combining such values, a new multicultural sorority interest group was recently voted in as a provisional Student Association group.

Omega Phi Beta is a sorority that prides itself on “serving and educating women of diverse backgrounds through sisterhood, leadership, and guidance,” according to its mission and vision statement.

Kristie Marino, an early childhood education English major, is the new president of Omega Phi Beta. She said that she is “really proud that it passed diversity and took a lot of pride in its diversity,” said Marino. “I felt like Greek life here at Fredonia really needed something like that: something that takes a lot of pride in being diverse and bringing women of different backgrounds together.”

While both are in just their freshman year at Fredonia, Marino and Mango did not let that stop them from wanting to bring a chapter of the sorority to Fredonia.

“The girls came to me and were very enthusiastic about what they wanted to do,” said SA Speaker of the Assembly Tracy Halloran, a sophomore public relations major.

After a discussion with Michael Lemioux, director of Campus Life, Halloran was able to let Marino and Mango know the steps they would have to take to become a provisional group recognized through the Student Association.

“The provisional year is essentially just a buffer year in order for SA to make sure that the group is going to be long-lasting and that they have themselves stabilized,” said Halloran. “It’s for the group to get themselves all put together, making sure they’re going to be able to last, as well. It’s assurance on both sides.”

“Being an SA-recognized organization also allows the group to rent rooms on campus and post flyers, allowing them to gain more members for their interest group,” said Marino. “That just made the process a lot easier for us — the fact that they’re so open to the idea of having a multicultural sorority on campus.”

With the hopes of having their chapter recognized by the Fall 2015 semester, Mango and Marino would love for their sorority to be involved in the next school rush — with the three other social sororities on campus — to be held in September.

“You get to see all of the different sororities at the same time,” said Mango. “So I think it would be great if we could be a part of that, because I know you [can] feel [what sorority you want to be in] when you’re in that room.”

Until the Greek life hopefuls are able to officially call themselves sisters of Omega Phi Beta, they are continuing to build their interest group and are welcoming new members with open arms.

“We are trying to get to know the girls who are interested, so we’re doing little things like going to dinner and having movie nights,” said Marino.

To become a part of the interest group, contact Kristie Marino at mari792@fredonia.edu or Tara Mango at mang1797@fredonia.edu.
Police Blotters

University

Monday, Feb. 16, 2015

12:00 a.m. A FREDCard was found. A report was filed and the owner was contacted.

12:01 a.m. A Chevy key attached to an R2D2 keychain was found and turned in to University Police. A report was filed.

11:59 p.m. Damage was found to a steel hall vending machine. Photos were taken and a report was filed.

Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2015

11:00 a.m. A debit card and cell phone were found in the Williams Center. A report was filed.

9:38 p.m. A folder and pad were found in Fenton Hall. The items were stored and a report was filed.

9:36 p.m. A possible smell of marijuana was reported in Chautauqua Hall. A report was filed and nothing was found.

Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2015

12:45 a.m. A wallet was found in Steele Hall. A message was left for the owner.

4:25 p.m. A motor vehicle accident occurred on University Village Drive. Two cars were towed and a report was filed.

6:31 p.m. A student did not pay for food. The student agreed to pay and a report was filed.

10:26 p.m. A cleaner was stuck in a Thompson Hall elevator. A report was filed.

Thursday, Feb. 19, 2015

6:25 p.m. A key and card holder were found on campus grounds. The items were stored and a report was filed.

10:21 p.m. A wallet of a student found. The item and its contents were stored and a report was filed.

Friday, Feb. 20, 2015

12:21 a.m. Joshua F. Ambrose, age 19, and Alyssa R. Harley, age 19, were arrested and issued appearance tickets for smoking marijuana in Grissom Hall. Evidence was taken and a report was filed.

1:40 a.m. A vending machine damaged was damaged. The incident is currently under investigation.

3:14 p.m. A student requested assistance with a vehicle. A jump box was provided and the vehicle was started.

3:27 p.m. A motorist requested assistance in lot 26. Assistance was provided and the vehicle was started.

3:33 p.m. An officer was flagged down in lot 26 to assist a motorist. Assistance was provided and the vehicle was started.

5:30 p.m. Michael M. Madigan, age 18, was arrested and issued appearance tickets for possession of marijuana and alcohol.

Saturday, Feb. 21, 2015

6:15 a.m. The burglary alarm was set off at the Faculty Student Association commissary. A report was filed.

12:03 p.m. Cash was found outside Gregory Hall. A report was filed.

Sunday, Feb. 22, 2015

10:34 p.m. The smell of natural gas near lot 7 on Ring Road was reported. National fuel and heating services personnel were notified.

9:37 p.m. A vehicle was damaged in the Starbucks parking lot. A statement was taken and a report was filed.

Fredonia

Monday, Feb. 16, 2015

Samantha M. Balliet, age 36, was issued traffic tickets for failing to keep right and aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

A bench warrant was issued for Sherry A. Raymond, age 48. Raymond was released on own recognisance.

Friday, Feb. 20, 2015

4:00 p.m. Craig A. Estes, age 33, was issued a traffic ticket for using a cell phone while operating a motor vehicle.

Saturday, Feb. 21, 2015

11:45 p.m. Luke P. Robinson, age 21, was issued an appearance ticket for violating the sewer ordinance.

Sunday, Feb. 22, 2015

12:49 a.m. Nicholi J. Salmon, age 19, was issued appearance tickets for open container and underage possession of alcohol.

1:40 a.m. Blake A. Barker, age 22, was issued an appearance ticket for disorderly conduct after using obscene language.

1:45 a.m. Ryan P. Vossler, age 19, was issued an appearance ticket for disorderly conduct after using obscene language.

Joseph F. Rubino, age 20, was issued an appearance ticket for underage possession of alcohol.

Patrick W. Brockhaus, age 28, was issued appearance tickets for open container and unlawful possession of marijuana.

Fredonia 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.

Are you in a sorority or fraternity? Why or why not?

Holly Mangus  
junior speech pathology major

“I was really interested in that, so I thought it was a great way to give back.”

Kaitlynn Hayes  
junior business marketing major

“That was looking for another way to give back to the community, and I know that Greek life works with a lot of community service and organizations that help the community — I was really interested in that, so I thought it was a great way to give back.”

Andrew Walsh  
senior business management major

“I'm not because I was able to make friends with the people that I roomed with, who I went to class with.”

Ian Ellenberger  
senior exercise science major

“No I'm not. It just doesn't really interest me.”

Image 7
Winter weather continued from A-1

Typically, we provide schedules [of students with disabilities] to the grounds staff so that they are aware of the areas that need priority and maybe additional snow removal,” said Hino. “But there are some times, like in the past couple of weeks, where we just get so much snow and … sometimes it becomes a challenge. So we work with those students to find the best solution in terms of addressing those sorts of needs.”

Another common way that students travel in the winter is the Campus-Community bus. However, the bus is also a source of inconvenience for students with disabilities. One issue that Rakoska highlighted in last week’s issue of The Leader was the fact that the Campus-Community bus only accommodates handicapped people a few times during the week. If Rakoska wanted to take the bus into town on the weekends, that option would not be available.

The Campus-Community bus comes under the jurisdiction of the Student Association, and Dedrick says that he, and the rest of the office, is well aware and working to fix that inconvenience.

“It’s something that we obviously take very seriously: to be able to serve all of our students and to comply to the legal requirements,” said Dedrick. “We are aware of [the bus situation], and we have been fighting an uphill battle with the folks that we contract the bus out with.”

According to Dedrick, ideally, the Campus-Community bus would be accessible to every student every day of the week. However, the current company that SA contracts the bus from, Butler Motor Transit, Inc, does, the company is not willing to build, or supply a handicap-accessible bus. But Dedrick said there are already plans to build a new contract for next semester.

“Vince [Gugino] is already going to add language to the contract that says … whenever we are running the bus, it needs to be able to be accessible to handicapped people,” said Dedrick. “We want to go all the way to say in our contract that it’s going to be required whenever we have a bus running. If it takes another bus company, that’s what it will take.”

Dedrick and the rest of SA are making conscious efforts to accommodate students with disabilities directly within the organization, as well. Rakoska was just recently appointed, by Dedrick, to his executive cabinet. As the new Students with Disabilities representative, Rakoska will now have the ability to give a strong voice to the students she represents.

Even if there are still flaws with Fredonia’s attempts to accommodate students with disabilities, Cloos, Hino and Dedrick have made it obvious that the university is genuinely trying. And come blizzard or high snowbanks, the university will continue to try. “Everyone’s trying just to give 110 percent, doing everything they can,” said Cloos of his maintenance staff. “[I] ask for a little patience from everybody, because it has become so much of a burden day by day out having to keep up with [the weather]. We want to do what we can, and, certainly with our students with disabilities, we try to make those areas a priority as best we can.”

Black History Month continued from A-1

of Black Student Union Rachael James.

“He was such an amazing person and we got a chance to speak to him prior to his presentation. He has an incredible story and is so strong for being thrown in the spotlight for such a sad reason. Mr. Martin is carrying on the legacy of his son and that was amazing to witness.”

“Seeing students, faculty and staff bonding and experiencing Fredonia’s commitment to diversity really filled my heart with joy. The [opening ceremony] took weeks of planning and the turnout was successful in both attendance and overall presentation,” said senior social work and English major Antonio Regulier. “Honoring some of the great Black alumni of Fredonia with Oscars was a demonstration of Black Student Union recognizing community advancement.

The last event of Black History Month will incorporate the closing theme of “Unveiling You!” with a formal masquerade ball on Feb. 28.

“The purpose of wearing the mask is to demonstrate the societal stigmas and stereotypes that often ‘hide’ the beautiful individual underneath,” said Regulier. “During the ceremony, we will ask students to ‘unveil’ themselves from the oppression. A theme like ‘Unveiling’ is so important. One of the things we have come to notice is that there is a lack of conversation and awareness in Fredonia,” James said.

“Unveiling literally means pulling back the curtain and stopping the cycle of denial. There is a history, a present and a future for African Americans, and it’s time that Fredonia understands that and embraces it.”
Trivia has become one of the most popular ways to spend time with friends. Trivia nights are popping up at popular establishments such as Applebee’s, Ellicottville Brewing Company and, most recently, as part of Colleges Against Cancer’s Spring Kickoff event. We, at The Leader, decided to have some fun of our own and create Fredonia centered trivia questions. How many can you guess correctly?

COMMUNITY LANDMARKS

1. What is the name of park containing a fountain and gazebo in downtown Fredonia?
2. What building on the corner of Temple and Church street was built in 1891?
3. Which famous comedian/actress was born in Jemestown, New York?
4. What brand of cat food is manufactured in Dunkirk?
5. What is the tallest building in Chautauqua County?

DINING HALLS

1. What ingredient is served in large amounts on Fridays?
2. How many FSA cafes are scattered across campus?
3. What dining hall closed in the Spring of 2013?
4. What is the day of the week that burgers are always served at Cranston Marche?
5. How many points a day are you allowed to spend at dining halls?

ACADEMIC BUILDINGS

1. Where do music majors spend most of their time?
2. What building are hockey home games held?
3. Where is the greenhouse located?
4. Where is President Horvath’s office located?
5. How much money does the addition to the Rockefeller Arts Center cost?

NOTABLE CAMPUS FIGURES

1. Who is the Vice President of Student Affairs?
2. How many provosts are there on campus?
3. Who is the President of Fredonia State University of New York?
4. What is the name of the dog owned by the answer of question number three?
5. How many Beans are there on campus?

IMPORTANT DATES

1. What year was Fredonia State University of New York founded?
2. What date does Spring Break begin?
3. What date did Bill Nye visit Fredonia last semester?
4. What date is commencement this semester?
5. What date does finals week week begin?

I’ve been writing my own music since the first time I picked up my father’s old Takamine at the age of 10. At 13, I received a beautiful Martin D15, on which I learned to play my first song, “Sugar Mountain” by Neil Young. Since then, my love for songwriting has grown considerably, and although I love all genres of music, anything acoustic and soulful tends to motivate me. If you’re someone looking for a spark of inspiration — whether it be for songwriting or playing guitar — or if you just want some new tunes, you might want to check out my favorite artists:

Cat Power
Samuel Beam of Iron & Wine is easily my favorite songwriter. His talent for storytelling and his backwoods Southern sound are beautiful elements that make his music recognizable. However, don’t let the lo-fi acoustics fool you — Beam performs with an amazing energy that’s loud and clear. If you want to see what I mean, just check out his performance on NPR Music Tiny Desk concert.

Iron & Wine
Iron & Wine
Samuel Beam of Iron & Wine is easily my favorite songwriter. His talent for storytelling and his backwoods Southern sound are beautiful elements that make his music recognizable. However, don’t let the lo-fi acoustics fool you — Beam performs with an amazing energy that’s loud and clear. If you want to see what I mean, just check out his performance on NPR Music Tiny Desk concert.

Ani DiFranco
This Buffalo native has truly made her mark. At the age of 19, she founded her own record label, Righteous Babe, and is considered an anti-folk pioneer, prominent spoken word poet and feminist icon. Her folk music is eclectic, often politically charged and the cool thing is that it’s constantly evolving. Check out her album “Little Plastic Castle,” as well as her performance of “32 Flavors” on Sessions at West 54th.

Waxhatchee
Katie Crutchfield of the indie project Waxhatchee is my newest musical find. She’s not a favorite, but I feel like she deserves an honorable mention. She’s a simple songwriter who recorded her first album in her bedroom just a few years ago. What’s cool about Waxhatchee is that she often plays small sets with an unplugged electric guitar, which creates a pretty intimate performance. She’s a young artist on the rise, and her music deserves a listen. Check out her second album “Cerebral Salt.”
Dear Editor,

I am writing this letter as a means of recognizing National Adjunct Awareness Week, which is being observed by unions all over the country, including United University Professions (UUP), Feb. 23-27. This event is in response to adjuncts lacking unions and their plans to hold National Adjunct Walkout Day on February 25.

Many adjuncts would like to show the true value of their service by withholding it for a day. We adjunches in unions are forbidden from such practices by state law. Instead, we hope that our unions, such as the UUP, despite inherent conflicts of interest among membership, will do something to help us achieve better working conditions and better payment for our services.

Our union has suggested that we take an entire week to bring awareness to the reality involved in the ever-increasing trend of colleges and universities to balance budgets and offer classes on the backs of very well-educated people who do not even earn so much as a living wage. During negotiations for our last contract with New York State, UUP did indeed attempt to bring up our plight. Negotiators stopped abruptly when threatened with cutting other funds more favorable to full-time tenure-track and tenured faculty.

National Adjunct Awareness Week is a joke. It is a futile, vain attempt to give an indication that the uncles, to which we pay dues, are actually attempting to make meaningful change for adjuncts. I like jokes and any chance to voice my frustration. So, let me do my best to make you aware of adjuncts.

What is an adjunct? An adjunct is an employee of a college or university who is employed to teach courses, like any on a short-term basis. An adjunct is an unnecessary supplement. Last fall The Leader reported that the head of Human Resources at Fredonia explained that adjuncts are used to cover sabbaticals and to fill positions while a search for a tenure-track professor is ongoing. I have been teaching three to four courses a semester at Fredonia since Fall of 2003. That is nearly twelve years now and I am not the only one.

Nearly half of the teaching faculty at Fredonia is composed of adjuncts. These adjuncts teach about a large majority of our courses each semester and most likely contact as many or more students than their more permanent and well-paid counterparts.

It is strange that most students don’t know that their professor is struggling to make ends meet and sometimes to even pay for gas for the commute. (I know one person who has “camped out” in his office for lack of gas money. Luckily, he actually had an office.) It is also funny that our union, the UUP, does not even know the exact numbers and proportions of adjuncts here at Fredonia. I guess they are trying to represent us. It is just a slow process.

I could make you aware of the fact that roughly 75 percent of courses across the country are taught by adjuncts. But I’d rather make you aware of it is what it is like to be an adjunct. What is it like to be an adjunct for me can be summed up in one sentence: “I got a Ph.D., I have been teaching college for 19 years and wake up every morning feeling like a loser with no future and nothing to look forward to.”

I’ll never be able to buy a house. I’ll never be able to buy a truly dependable car. I will never be able to retire. I will never be able to buy clothes that cannot be also taxed for manual labor. I wonder “how much money do I have?” I don’t want to check, though, because I don’t want worry to interfere with my intellectual progress and to watch them go to BOCES in high school. I wonder: “Why am I doing this?”

Why am I doing this? Isn’t it my fault for pursuing a terminal degree in philosophy? Is it my fault for accepting these wages? Is it my fault for not quitting long ago when I realized which way the wind blows? Aren’t I, through my continued participation, furthering the erosion of opportunity for those who have gone off my footprints in the past 10 years or so for those that I teach to love philosophy?

The fact is, I don’t know why. I continue to teach at Fredonia. I don’t know why I smoke cigarettes. Teaching at Fredonia is slightly less dangerous than cigarettes. But aren’t I, by teaching, doing long-term damage to myself for a bit of fleeting satisfaction?

I enjoy teaching, I enjoy explaining my subject in an entertaining manner. I enjoy showing enlightenment take place place by my hand. I have had students who came to me at Fredonia in high school and, after staying at Fredonia, have gone on to study philosophy at UB, one of whom was just awarded funding to pursue a Ph.D. I think of him as my intellectual son and scold him all too often. Several of my students have ended up studying philosophy at UB. It is fun to watch them progress and to help them along the way, if I can. One student even named his first son after me, though he recently dropped out of graduate school. I was happy for him. He escaped.

I do what I do against my best interest because I love being a part of the education, on time with my intellectual feelings, like a loser with no future and nothing to look forward to.”

"Money can be found for motorized floor-washing gizmos, but not to help instructors get to class? Money can be found for abundant flowers in the spring, but not for instructors to build a future."

Dear Editor,

I am not the only one.

2003. That is nearly twelve years now that I have been teaching three to four courses a semester at Fredonia since Fall of 2003. That is nearly twelve years now and I am not the only one.

"This institution, every job in it, is completely dependent upon the exploitation of adjunct labor. The secretaries, the custodians, the people who plant flowers: everyone."

"Nothing Adjunct Awareness Week is a joke. It is a futile, vain attempt to give an indication that the unions, to which we pay dues, are actually attempting to make meaningful change for adjuncts."
Members of New Masons members become the winners of Fredonia’s Battle of the New Bands. See full story on B-6.

‘Balm in Gilead’ opens Friday, February 27. See full story on B-2.

Colleges Against Cancer announces Disney themed Relay for Life. See full story on A-2.
Annual Intercollegiate Choral Festival
features Eastman Chorale
Live Twitter feed during concert a new hit

KORI BARKLEY
Staff Writer

Fredonia’s community came together last Friday night for the second event of the Ethos’ Newsound Festival to witness a musical phenomenon: an electronic instrument that is played completely without physical contact.

Ethos presented Randy George, one of the handful of individuals in the world with virtuosic theremin abilities. The theremin is widely considered one of the most difficult instruments to play.

It was evident that George is dedicated to developing awareness of the theremin and its technical potential, as it was a very discussion-heavy concert. He explained the complexity of the instrument very thoroughly.

“The player of a theremin uses his arms and hands to interact with two electromagnetic fields surrounding the instrument that continuously affects its pitch and loudness,” George explained while demonstrating.

The audience marveled when experiencing the organic, haunting and otherworldly sounds of the theremin, as most were unaware of the instrument prior to the performance.

“The sound is an instantaneous reflection of the player’s physical motions in the three-dimensional space surrounding the instrument,” he continued. “To perform melodies on a theremin, one must constantly be aware of the sustaining pitch while continuously trimming its position over time, utilizing aural and muscular memory of pitch-spacing to properly place the next note in the sequence. Because tone generation is continuous, a thereminist is not only responsible for crafting the sound but also the silence in between sounds.”

The theremin is a new instrument but, as an instrument with infinite pitches, there is an opportunity to perform old repertoire. George opened the program with a series of classical songs by Bach, Debussy, Messiaen, Faure and Rachmaninoff. Admitting that video games and Japanese animation film music influence what he does, he continued the program with an audience favorite, the Super Mario Bros. theme song and a set of songs from anime soundtracks.

His smooth executions of theremin techniques caused the instrument to sound like a human voice or a string instrument. At times it possessed qualities of a wind instrument, though the sound was often pitchy as the notes are literally invisible.

The final performance was an improvised piece he called “Stream of Consciousness.” As it was the only piece on the program not accompanied by a piano or guitar track, the electronic sounds of the theremin reverberated through Rosch.

The evening concluded with a question-and-answer period, followed by an opportunity for audience members to play the theremin.

George’s technical knowledge of the theremin is a culmination of all his interests, as he also specializes in computer software and logic. This past year, he created “MIDI-Merlin,” a software program that hears a theremin and re-synthesizes the sound to a different instrument (similar to the foot pedal for a guitar). Friday was the first time he publicly announced the program. He is currently working on creating a standard methods publication for the theremin.

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Rebecca Hale
Reverb Editor

"Balm in Gilead," the first in this semester’s Walter Gloor Mainstage Series, will pack a punch this weekend with an elaborate set, unconventional theatrical devices and its cinematic nature.

The small space of the Bartlett Theatre will be packed with 35 cast members alone, plus an audience come Friday, Feb. 27, when the play debuts. This will contribute to a very chaotic feeling that accompanies the mood of the play.

Written by Lanford Wilson and set in a dumpy Manhattan café, "Balm in Gilead" is a popular play set in the '60s about a group of ragged youths and their struggle to make it through life.

Tom Loughlin, chair of the Department of Theatre and Dance explained that "Balm in Gilead" is a unique play in the sense that it employs overlapping scenes and dialogue, as well as characters that aren’t necessarily the kind you’d find in other shows.

"These are pretty low-life characters: drug-addicts, junkies, hustlers, pimps, whores, thieves; the detritus of society, hanging around this run-down café in New York City," he said.

Loughlin said that, "the thing that's theatrically interesting about ["Balm in Gilead"] is that [Lanford Wilson], perhaps Wilson's inspiration for "Balm in Gilead." In this type of film, raw takes of real people were simply slapped together to make for a completely literal and realistic film.

Similar to "Balm in Gilead," Loughlin explained that "you're just seeing people come into this space, dealing with life as they find it, and trying to find survival for themselves in any way possible."

In addition to these features, the Department of Theatre and Dance has another trick up its sleeve that has been unraveling in the making of "Balm in Gilead:" the scenic design. Senior Chad Healy has been working hard on a set that would be something audiences have never seen before in Bartlett.

Director Dr. James Ivey said that, "when you come into this environment, it will not look like the usual theater. It will feel different." Healy has designed a set that encloses the theater from the top and sides — in other words, it’s like a wall and a ceiling that looks above the audience. This ceiling drop almost creates an optical illusion due to its curvature.

Of course, since the set covers the ceiling, lighting has proven difficult for lighting designer Evan Kickman. Some lighting will stream through windows in the ceiling, and others will shine from side and low lights.

Note that viewers shouldn't expect to be sitting in the usual Bartlett chairs. The Department has pulled every possible piece of furniture from its stock warehouse — including benches, chairs, stools and couches — and scattered them around the theater for the audience to sit on.

"It’s my hope that is will be the kind of experience that our audiences haven’t seen," Ivey said.

"Balm in Gilead" stars junior Eric Schutt as Joe and senior Kate Armstrong as Darlene. The show will play on Feb. 27 – 28 and March 5 – 6 at 7:30 p.m. and March 1 and 7 at 2 p.m. in Bartlett Theatre.

Mainstage Production Features Lanford Wilson Classic
Music Review

Lady Lush and the Virnys at Ellicottville Brewing Company

VERONICA PENOYER
Special to The Leader

Saturday, Feb. 3 was an eventful night at Ellicott Brewing Company for music buffs all around. Lady Lush and the Virnys, a band consisting of Fredonia alumni that identify themselves as soul-pop, played an incredible four-hour set full of pop covers and their creations of new age soul.

For years, Fredonia students have brought the musical talent from every genre. Students have loved to hear live music at the local bars, as well as at house parties. Although EBC isn’t exactly known for drawing mass numbers of college students, the music created by Lady Lush and the Virnys drew a sold-out crowd. Their unique range of songs from “Radioactive” by Imagine Dragons and “Am I the Only One” by Cage the Elephant, to “Running,” by Imagine Dragons and “Ain’t No Rest for the Wicked” by Raphael Santos and Anthony Lasnik, a senior history major. “The recent pop songs they chose to cover were the only things that kept the audience going away concert. Lady Lush and the Virnys at Ellicottville Brewing Company

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Advice Column
Resisting peer pressure

BRIONA SAAS
Special to The Leader

Hello to all my fellow students at Fredonia! I hope you’ve been working hard with dedication this semester. I also hope you’ve found some free time to relieve yourself of the stress most of us have already encountered.

I know after a long week of school, the only thing on our mind is the weekend. We can’t wait to start to calm down and find fun things to do like going out with our friends. If you’re not the “going-out” type, I’m sure you’ve found your own stress reliever that makes you happy.

I know it can be a lot of pressure to make the college experience fun and make every weekend worthwhile. A lot of people make it look easy to effortlessly balance the party life with grades. Sure, maybe a superhero can do it, but it’s extremely hard being yourself.

So, why not base the important decisions we might make us directly and others secondarily. So, why think of anyone else. Our choices affect us, and thinking about what’s best for us before...
final piece.

Since the choirs had been rehearsing these pieces since the beginning of the semester with a different conductor than Weinert, this could have proven a challenge to the conductor and singers alike. Gray explained how to combat this.

“You prepare them for musical flexibility,” he said. “In other words, you find out as best you can, what the conductor that is going to conduct the performance wants — try to find out what they want to do, and teach that.”

Being able to conduct flexibly is vital to any prospective conductor.

“As a choral conductor, almost everyone who conducts choirs, at any sort of level, is going to prepare for other conductors,” said Gray. “It’s an important skill.”

The live Twitter feed was an idea that has been in discussion for the last couple of years, though this year is the first time it would be used. “I think it’s better to organize that discussion and support of the music,” Gray explained.

The final concert commenced at 4 p.m. on Saturday in Rosch Recital Hall and featured a program of 19 pieces, divided up between the four choirs. Fredonia Chamber Choir took the stage first, performing four pieces under the direction of Gray, one under the direction of Weinert and a final piece alongside the College Choir, also directed by Gray.

College Choir performed three pieces, and then Weinert relieved Gray to conduct the choir in Brahms’ “O schone nacht” from his Vier Quartette, Op. 92, which featured pianist Lily Li.

The audience was blown away by College Choir’s explosive final piece, William Averitt’s “Fire.” After the piece ended, intermission began, and the live Twitter feed was broadcast on a screen at the front of the recital hall.

The tweets started rolling in after the stage had cleared, most of them marveling over “Fire.”

One student tweeted, “@Mademohelle: OK College Choir! Fire so hot it could melt the snow off campus #FredChoralFest #heatwave.”

Another read, “@UkesOnFire: #FredChoralFest College Choir can Schone my nacht any time.”

Even some Eastman students were tweeting to the feed to congratulate Fredonia’s singers.

“@Kgalagaza: Fredonia Choirs, you make some beautiful music. #FredChoralFest,” tweeted Katarina Galagaza from the Eastman Chorale.

After intermission, the Fredonia Women’s Choir sang three pieces under the direction of Dr. Vernon Huff, and then a piece with Weinert. Then, they performed their final piece, Stephen Hatfield’s “Las Amarillas.”

One later tweet from the feed read, “@eparkzz: WC, you ladies sounded so wonderful!! Also, those glimmering high notes in ‘I Am Not Yours’ were so beautiful. Wow. #FredChoralFest.”

Finally, the Eastman Chorale got in place to sing through its program, which included Heibranzo Pizzetti’s “Cade la sera,” Poulenc’s four-movement “Un soir de neige” and Brahms’ five-movement “Five Songs, Op. 104.”

After the final movement of “Five Songs,” the three Fredonia choirs squeezed to fit on the stage and risers above to sing one final piece, conducted by Weinert: “Unclouded Day,” a gospel piece arranged by Shawn Kirchner.

One hundred and seventy-four voices filled the hall with beautiful chords and painted a picture of “[a] land far away, where the Tree of Life [is] in eternal bloom.” This left the audience with an earful to ponder and hopes that Fredonia’s snow will indeed melt away soon.

“This is going to prepare for other choirs, at any sort of level, almost everyone who conducts choirs,” said Gray. “It’s an important skill.”

“Of course, tweeting during the performances was discouraged, as tweets would only be displayed during intermission, as well as before and after the concert. “Hopefully this will lead to more detailed discussions about the music than a simple reflection afterward would,” said Peets — and that is exactly the result that ensued. Dozens of tweets were sent in using the hashtag #FredChoralFest in discussion and support of the music.

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The final showdown of Battle of the New Bands took place on the evening of Thursday, Feb. 19 in the Williams Center Multipurpose Room. Students from the second floor gazed down at the stage when they heard the bands running soundcheck as the three final band names flashed behind the stage on a large screen: New Masons, Toxic Tom and For The Records.

Toxic Tom was the first band to take the stage. A small crowd had already arrived to support the local band, but many students came swarming in with their Tim Hortons coffees in hand; they wanted to see what the commotion was all about.

Toxic Tom consists of Rob and Tom Brennan and Pat Toscano. The band gave off a very grunge and punk feel. People in the crowd were head banging as the music played, but the song that made everyone start cheering was the band’s cover of Blink-182’s “Dammit.”

They played a few original songs featuring “A Hundred Miles From Home,” which was slower, but still had an edge to it.

“The guitar player had a very nice guitar, and you can quote me on that,” junior Michael Donnelly said. As the band left the stage, they announced that they had free donuts at their table and that everyone should vote for them. The band was, overall, a great blend of talented musicians.

“I really liked the Blink-182 cover,” said sophomore Jason Zimmerman. “I liked how the bass player was swinging his guitar.”

For The Record was the second band to perform. The crowd seemed to grow even bigger as the band set up. Brendan Hoare and John Greenan’s voices brought a powerful punch to the songs. Greenan, their drummer, did back-up vocals. The band gave off a very old-school rock ‘n roll sound.

They played a wide range of covers, including “Are You Gonna Be My Girl?” by Jet and “Arabella” by Arctic Monkeys. However, they did cover a song that was much of a surprise to everyone.

“This next song is a surprise,” Hoare said. “We hope we will release your inner 12-year-old.”

The band then launched into Drake Bell’s early 2000s song, “I Found A Way.” Afterwards, the band went into a few original songs that gave more of an indie and alternative vibe. Guitarist Tyler Wright attached a GoPro to his guitar, and, before ending their set, he took off the GoPro and got a video of the whole crowd cheering the band on.

Battle of the New Bands showed how supportive the Fredonia music scene really is with all the bands supporting each other and fans coming out to watch them. But the best thing was random passersby looking at the stage and walking into the Multipurpose Room to listen to the music. It was a night that showcased Fredonia’s talented and popular music scene.
Lynn Trefzger brings puppet humor to Fredonia

WILLIAM MOHAN
Special to The Leader

Little Siblings Weekend kicked off with flying colors and consisted of an equally colorful cast of characters through the talented voice and comedy of one unique talent.

Known for her work with names like Ray Romano, Jeff Foxworthy and The Smothers Brothers, and numerous performances on ABC and A&E among others, Lynn Trefzger left a unique impression with her brand of humor and interactivity at the Marvel Theatre. She also kindled a warm spark on a Fredonia audience frustrated with the recent low temperatures.

As part of the Kaleidoscope Family Series, the show was a truly mixed affair. At times, it also balanced double entendres with her brand of humor and interactivity at the Marvel Theatre. She also kindled a warm spark on a Fredonia audience frustrated with the recent low temperatures.

Lynn Trefzger performs as part of the Kaleidoscope Family Series.

Overall, the show consisted of descriptions and introductions of a puppet and more interactivity in between. During the latter, Trefzger used shoulder taps on human participants to speak a unique voice to each volunteer.

At one point, Trefzger employed the use of a blanket, as well as her voice and a baby bottle, to feed an imaginary child. She also used a volunteer to treat the child in the same manner before introducing the next character. The amount of participants varied, and every person who went up received googly eyes on a ring.

It began with Camelot the camel. Trefzger started with the character asking who the people in the audience were and then bringing the subjects up to be with the puppet. This would be repeated two more times during the course of Trefzger’s time on stage. And, like the rest of the characters, Camelot had his own set of character traits. In this case, he was drunk onstage, and it showed on more than one occasion, due to his wording. Another trait the puppets all seemed to share was shooting down pop culture. Camelot first made fun of the song, “What Did The Fox Say,” then a Carfax commercial, and then a popular Geico commercial.

Simon, the puppet featured on the event poster, made two appearances. One involved Trefzger’s play of the word, “ventriloquist.” It was a unique pun on an art that already involves tongue-in-cheek humor in more ways than one. At the same time, there was also play with Trefzger’s voice, deliberately off cue with Simon’s. The puppet’s highlight was the twisting of his head along with her voice being heightened or lowered depending on the requirement. He also brought a freshman theatre arts major, Ben Claudio, on stage. As a lead-in act, this opened the ability to do literal word play. Here, it involved Claudio simply standing and Trefzger placing a pair of lips in front of his own.

“You don’t know how to move, and it adds to the illusion,” said Claudio.

During the time she used volunteers, Trefzger also used a slight shoulder touch to freely move their mouths and occasionally their body language.

Bear was the third puppet and the most memorable; he stole the show. He was also the puppet with the most pop-culture references. In the course of describing his past careers, he stated he was a bearskin rug in a hunting lodge, played in the band at Chuck E. Cheese, had a cousin who worked in Charmin commercials and occasionally broke into frequent singing of “Frozen” songs. With these allusions came the conclusion that no pop-culture reference (no matter how cliche) was safe with Trefzger around.

Bear also housed the most notable of entendres. This was shown in his story of The Three Bears. During the course of this, he described Goldilocks as being hot. It raised numerous bursts of laughter among adults and children alike and possibly brought down the whole house. During this time, Bear also used three people who represented Mama, Papa and Baby Bear. This involved Facility Services Assistant Mark Delcan, whose daughter also participated in the show, as Papa Bear. Delcan jokingly said, “It was a little embarrassing.”

The cutest puppet was a 3-year-old toddler, Chloe. She certainly earned her attention because of her innocence. She described typical views of little children who are curious, and at the same time want to impress their parents.

This innocence was strongly seen in her words, “Daddy has a scratchy beard. Feels like Mommy’s legs.” And, like the rest of the troupe, she was not short on pop culture references. Here she mentioned Justin Bieber and then went on to say she met Cinderella (her favorite character) during a visit to Disneyland.

Her highlight was when she gave a balloon. After floating with her mouth on it and its eventual deflation, she was whining and claimed she wanted it. It was then that she put away and promised gum (something she pleaded for during her time).

In the final piece, Simon explained he had psychic powers (opening for more vocal play for Trefzger) and called it ESPN. In that same time, he also closed the show and ended the evening with a round of applause.

Through it all, Trefzger (and her band of friends) were very forthcoming both in humor and instruction. It was shown through children moving around Bear and Trefzger after the show and by the strong atmosphere.

“As long as it makes the children happy,” Delcan said. Mrs. Trefzger also garnered much enjoyment from her performance. “It is always fun, and it makes people smile,” she said.

After seeing such a talented and experienced performance, it is obvious that many cheerful audience members couldn’t agree more.
Children and Grandchildren of Fredonia Alumni Scholarship for 2015-2016

Scholarships for children and grandchildren of Fredonia Alumni are available for the 2015 – 2016 academic year. To apply – go online to Fredonia.edu, click on alumni, click on scholarship and type the application. Print out the application, add two letters of reference and mail/drop off your scholarship packet to:

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ANNE ARKY
Special to the Lampoon

A mob of students wielding picket signs gathered outside the university bookstore on Tuesday to protest what they see as an embarrassing shortage of adorable kitsch available for purchase in on-campus facilities. The bookstore, which does sometimes stock a wide selection of beaded placemats, animal-shaped incense burners and classic Americana and film posters, is nonetheless woefully lacking in — among other things — small ceramic figurines of dogs wearing people clothes.

Although the bookstore does sell books, school supplies, university apparel and memorabilia, students have criticized what they call an “outdated inventory.”

“What do we want?” shouted Carol Vansdale, 21, the student organizing the protest. “Charming stationery printed with a pattern of nostalgic watercolors of woodland creatures!” the crowd responded.

“What today’s modern student needs to succeed is different than what a student needed 20 years ago,” says Vansdale. “And it’s clear — to us students at least — that what we need to succeed is a collection of little Buddha figurines in different poses to line up on our windowills, or across the tops of our desks next to the little fire truck-shaped piggy bank.”

Research shows that students unable to procure the necessary mugs shaped like Shirley Temple’s head or mass-printed paintings of bay hounds in adorably garish frames are three times as likely to live in depressingly unadorned rooms, and their kitchens are 78 percent more likely to be duller than a model kitchen at Home Depot.

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Students clamor for bookstore to stock more adorable kitsch

The alphabet of studying

SARA WILD
Special to the Lampoon

A is for all nights
B is for break time!
C is for caffeine
D is for do not disturb (but please do)
E is for extra credit longing
F is for Facebook
G is for GPA calculating
H is for highlighting everything
I is for insane in the membrane
J is for justifying another break
K is for “kill me”
L is for losing motivation
M is for marrying rich
N is for Netflix
O is for out of Pandora skips
P is for procrastinating
Q is for “quiet” areas
R is for rubber pencil trick
S is for scrolling through Tumblr
T is for tears
U is for unemployment nightmares
V is for various doodles
W is for “where are my group members?”
X is for X-rated thoughts
Y is for yawning
Z is for zzz....

the Lampoon presents:
this week’s horoscope

CAPRICORN:
The course of life is unpredictable. No one can write their autobiography in advance. But you can write someone else’s biography in advance. You are an intelligent, college-educated individual with lots of smart opinions. Give lots of unprompted or unwanted advice to friends this week. .

TAURUS:
An investment in yourself will pay dividends for the rest of your life. So will an investment in the right IPO. This is a good week to play the market. Choose companies with listings that you can identify with, like ACE or LUK.

GEMINI:
Education will never be as expensive as ignorance. But, whoa, is this education expensive. Save money this week by exclusively eating rice and beans and drinking malt liquor.

LIBRA:
It is never a shame to learn from others. Ask someone else for advice this week.

PISCES:
You can have your cake and eat it too. I mean, why else did you bake it in the first place? Isn’t that a stupid expression?

CANCER:
A great pleasure in life is doing what others say you can’t. Give a big “fu” to your life this week and learn how to do a backflip, play the piano and/or write and publish an entire novel.

SCORPIO:
Acting on a good idea is better than just having one. Too bad that because you chose to go to college — you have lots of good ideas and no money to realize them. Eat your ramen noodles and try to ignore all the hungry children, you hypocrite.

ARIES:
To forgive others one more time is to create one more blessing for yourself. This is a good week to message that ex or maybe call your parents. Try and remember that free will is an illusion and the decisions they made were determined by conditions far beyond anyone’s control.

LEO:
You will win success in whatever you adopt. Unless you adopt a child. Don’t you remember what your parents did to you? Just don’t have kids, please.

SAGITTARIUS:
The purpose of an argument should be victory, not progress. Unless progress can be achieved through victory. Then, of course, we would first both have to establish an agreed upon context for victory. Even then, it is still really hard to quantify progress. So as you can see, this is tricky.
NAOMI LYNCH
Special to The Leader

Much to my Android fangirl chagrin, Apple seems to be having an interesting week of ups and downs. YouTube is trying to become more child-friendly, Amazon’s world domination plans are coming to a halt, Kanye West tickles the world pink with his dumb tweets and the release of a possible Tinder-like bingewatching app? Catch up on the Week in Tech News below!

Apple is releasing a 12-inch iPad

Just when you thought the folks at One Infinity Drive couldn’t get any more overhaulish, a French website http://www.Newssharea.fr has leaked images of an iPad case for Apple’s upcoming oven-sheet-sized tablet. I love my tablet because it’s bigger than my phone but not bigger than my 13-inch laptop. When Apple sold their iPhone 5C, the numbers were dismal according to the company, but they still sold enough to make it a profit. The same thing might happen with the new iPad. Only time will tell.

Delivery giant Amazon angered by Drone restrictions

Let’s face it — http://www.amazon.com is as ubiquitous as God. If you don’t know what Amazon is, I need to stop living under that rock of yours. With swift delivery service and a limitless inventory, Amazon is the Empress of Everything. With drones becoming more consumer-friendly, it would make sense that Amazon would want to utilize this technology, right? Well, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) said “hell no!” http://www.BusinessInsider.com reported that the FAA requires companies that want to use drones to have a special pilot’s license, stay away from bystanders and finally, fly only during the day. Amazon is in the process of testing for a drone service called Prime Air, which would get packages to customers in half an hour. This puts a damper in Amazon’s world domination, but I’m pretty sure they will find a way around it, the same way they found a way past their bombed Kindle Fire phone.

PlayStation 4 will dominate Xbox One through 2018

During the last console war, Microsoft’s Xbox 360 was kicking Sony’s PlayStation 3 to bits, and now, the Ghost of Consoles Past has come to execute sweet revenge. According to http://www.ExtremeTech.com, an analyst forecasts that the PS4 will sell 80 million units by 2018, while the Xbox One will sell 57 million units. In terms of overall profits, these numbers are not bad. However, in a world where we care about bragging rights, the folks at Sony are sipping some tea because their sales numbers are throwing all the shack for them.

Side note: RIP to the Wii U. They’ll only sell between 15-20 million units.

YouTube launches Kids App

In a world of rapidly growing technology, kids need to be monitored. I still hate the fact that my 15-year-old nephew has a Galaxy S4 and that he has already broken twice. He’ll never know about the days of the T-Mobile Sidekick and the Motorola Racer, but that’s the point of technology — things become obsolete after a few years. In an effort to be more child-friendly, YouTube is launching a children’s app that became available Feb. 23, 2015.

http://www.9to5Mac.com reports that Apple may be doing a public beta test for its upcoming improvements to its operating system. Apple is notoriously private about beta testing, but with all the bugs that have appeared before, I think Apple would rather be safe than sorry. iOS 8.3 testing will begin mid-March, while iOS 9 testing will begin in the summer.

New idea alert: Binger: the Tinder for binge watching

Will the Tinder trend ever end?

Probably not, but let’s take advantage of it while we are here! Binger is exactly what it sounds like — an app through which you can binge-watch a show you and a stranger have in common, based on what you watch on Netflix (since Netflix is the great overlord of movies and such) http://www.TheVerge.com reports that since Netflix’s API isn’t available to the public yet, “this is only a pipe dream.” I would love to say I met my future wife through binge-watching “Orange Is The New Black,” but I’m going to have to wait on that dream.

The Leader, Wednesday, February 25, 2015

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Delivery giant Amazon angered by Drone restrictions

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After their high school days, they both moved on to play a year together at Erie Community College before older brother Vinny moved on to play D2 baseball at Georgetown College in Kentucky. They both enrolled at Fredonia this fall and are very excited to be a part of the Blue Devils this season.

“It was a very tough decision for me,” Kyle said. “But I always had Fredonia at the top of my list. I’ve known some of the guys before coming here, so it was easy to get comfortable with the team. The community is awesome, and I’m glad to be a student athlete here.”

Knowing that Kyle would be playing at Fredonia, Vinny decided to make a move, as well, and come back to the Western New York area to play with his brother for the Blue Devils. “After going away to school in Kentucky last year, I wanted to be closer to my family and friends,” Vinny said. “And of course, I wanted to finish my last year of playing baseball with my brother.”

The Carmody brothers both played at Valley Central High School in Montgomery, N.Y., before coming to Fredonia. Ryan has played on the team for three seasons and is entering his senior season. His little brother, Michael, is entering his freshman season here at Fredonia. For Mike, the decision to join his brother here at Fredonia was a very easy one.

“I loved the school, and having the opportunity to play baseball with my older brother again wasn’t one I was going to pass up,” Mike said. “Ryan brings leadership to the team; he’s the hardest worker I know on and off the field.”

Having a brother on the same team can be both a good and bad thing. Obviously, it’s fun and exciting to play college athletics with a sibling, but he can also be one of your biggest critics. However, when asked, these sets of brothers praised each other both on and off the field and showed confidence in each other’s abilities.

“Kyle is a scrappy player, and he loves it,” Vinny said of his brother. “He takes pride in stealing bases and doing the little things right that you need to win games. He has unbelievable patience at the plate, and I hope he has a really good year this year.”

For any sports team, chemistry in the locker room is always important. The best teams are often the ones that feel like a big family. This season, the Blue Devils roster will definitely have a sense of family, as it holds two sets of brothers.

Vinny and Kyle Sherman both transformed in this year to once again play together. Michael and Ryan Carmody will also be able to play together — for the first time since high school — for Ryan’s senior season. The Sherman brothers, who are only one year apart, played baseball together at North Collins High School. The Carmody brothers both played at Valley Central High School in Montgomery, N.Y., before coming to Fredonia. Ryan has played on the team for three seasons and is entering his senior season. His little brother, Michael, is entering his freshman season here at Fredonia. For Mike, the decision to join his brother here at Fredonia was a very easy one.

For seniors Kaylyn Billups and Marissa Cussins, they played their last games in a Blue Devils uniform Saturday, but New Paltz competed for the SUNYAC title this past week. The women’s swimming and diving team placed fifth overall, and the men placed fourth. Although they did not clinch the title of champion, many Blue Devil swimmers placed first in their events.

Day one of the SUNYAC competition started strong with sophomore Meghan Bartlett carrying on the 10-year tradition of Fredonia winning the three-meter dive. Bartlett won the event with a score of 500.80, which put her in front of the 14 other competitors, two of them being her teammates. Senior Heather Colby and sophomore Samantha Kowalewski placed fourth and sixth, respectively.

#### Swimming and diving teams score personal bests at SUNYACs

**Women’s team places fourth, men place fifth**

**MICHELLE HALE**
Assistant Sports Editor

Fredonia’s men and women’s swimming and diving teams competed for the SUNYAC title this past week. The women’s swimming and diving team placed fourth overall, and the men placed fifth. Although they did not clinch the title of champion, many Blue Devil swimmers placed first in their events.

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All three qualified for the regional meet, which will be held at SUNY Geneseo on Feb. 27 and 28. On Thursday, day two, the women’s 200-yard freestyle relay record at Fredonia was broken by millisecond. Fredonia’s team of senior Katie Donnelly, junior Sam Rokos, senior Ellie Brion and senior Rachel Morgano finished the relay in 1:38.66, with the previously-held record having been at 1:38.95. The relay team finished in fourth place at the meet.

The men’s 400-yard medley team, sophomore Troy Labanski, freshman Jake Hewitt, sophomore of SUNY of Dunn Clougher and junior Will Baker finished in fourth place with a time of 3:32.17. The men’s one-meter
Swimming and diving continued from B-11

The dive consisted of Fredonia finishing in second, third and fourth place. Sophomore Arron Carlson, junior Rafael Santiago and sophomore Jeff Matter all exceeded the NCAA provisional qualifying standard while performing Thursday.

Fifth year Larissa Dobson finished in fifth place in the 200-yard individual medley. At the end of Thursday’s events, the Blue Devils completed day two and left in third place.

On Friday, day three, Bartlett won the women’s 1-meter springboard diving title and also received the SUNYAC Women’s Diver of the Meet award; this marks the tenth straight year a Fredonia diver has received it.

The women’s 200-yard medley relay team with all seniors, Stephanie Rosa, Dobson, Morgano and Brion, broke another Fredonia record with a time of 1:49.11, which was .63 seconds faster than the previously held record.

Dobson also broke another school record in the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 1:05.27. She held the previous record with a time of 1:06.57.

On Saturday, Dobson, yet again, broke another school record in the 200-yard breaststroke, which she previously held, as well.

Morgano, Rosa and senior Breonna Henningham all qualified for the 200-yard backstroke consolation finals. Donnelly and Rokos qualified for the 200-yard butterfly consolation finals, Brion for the 100-yard freestyle and sophomore Danielle Dembrow for the 200-yard breaststroke.

Hewitt broke the school record for the men’s 200-yard backstroke with a time of 1:56.04, which broke his previous record. In the 200-yard breaststroke, Clouthier and senior Justin Hawkins both earned a spot in the finals after qualifying early Saturday morning.

The 400-yard freestyle relay team of Morgano, Rokos, Donnelly and Brion placed third in the event after shattering another school record.

Dobson was the SUNYAC champion of the 200-yard breaststroke. The women’s swimming and diving team placed fourth out of nine teams in the SUNYAC Championships with a score of 430 points.

Fredonia’s diving coach Ryan Fuller was also named SUNYAC Diving Coach of the Year.

Clouthier won the SUNYAC championship title in the 200-yard breaststroke with another record setting time for the men’s swimming and diving team. Hewitt beat his own record in the 200-yard butterfly, which earned him a SUNYAC championship title in that event.

The men’s team had a second place and third place spot in the three-meter diving with Carlson and Santiago, respectively. Fredonia’s men’s team finished fifth out of nine teams total at the SUNYAC Championship.

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