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STAND UP BY SITTING DOWN

AMANDA DEDIE
NEWS EDITOR

The increase in the number of students in wheelchairs this past Monday was not a trick of the imagination. The Students with Disabilities Union and Student Association (SA) partnered to hold the first Stand Up by Sitting Down event.

From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., the executive board of SA went about their daily routine but in wheelchairs. Some of the obstacles they could face are broken automatic door buttons, handicap accessible bathrooms that don’t fit wheelchairs, lack of upper arm strength to make it up ramps, being unable to reach the tops of counters in the on-campus food places and more.

“I just want them to go through their everyday lives and see what natural setbacks they might face, instead of sending them to specific parts of campus,” said Burgandi Rakoska, a senior early childhood education major with a concentration in history and president of the Students with Disabilities Union.

Members of SA got to experience the daily struggles of students in wheelchairs first hand. However, this is not the first time the issues have been brought to their attention.

Courtney Hout, a senior double-majoring in political science and criminal justice and Chief Justice of SA, said, “I am participating in this event because of an experience I had with Burgandi Rakoska and Victoria Hendrix during Pink the Rink 2015. Due to inability to use the wheelchair accessible bathroom stalls in Steele, we started to discuss an event with the purpose of bringing awareness to the challenges this particular campus presents. As leaders on the Fredonia campus, we feel it is our duty to speak on behalf of all students.”

A consensus occurred amongst the SA executive board, who all had similar experiences throughout the day as they wheeled around campus going about their usual routines.

Kyle Stolt, a senior majoring in business management and minoring in leadership studies and comptroller for SA, described the difficulties he had throughout the day while being wheelchair-bound.

“It’s been pretty challenging... You don’t really notice how uneven the sidewalks are until you actually have to wheel over them. We tried to use the ramps around campus, and some of them were uneven,” said Stolt. “We also went on the grass to see what it would be like to wheel through snow, and me and Jefferson both got stuck at least once. If that’s pretty similar to snow, then it’s definitely a challenge.”

Stolt continued to talk about some of the lessons he learned, and also about the helpfulness — and sometimes obstacles — brought on by able-bodied students.

“Don’t take things for granted! When we’re all walking in Fenton and we all used the handicapped door button, yeah it’s a nice convenience, but it’s there for a reason — people actually use it,” said Stolt. “I had someone actually hold the door for me once, and it made it a lot easier. So the fact that I’ve used that when I’m walking... it kind of opened my eyes as to why it’s actually there.

“People were standing in the middle of the hallway in crowds, and it was hard to get around, because people would just stand in the way,” continued Stolt. “Some of them would move, but some of them would almost walk into me because they’re staring at their phones, so they’re looking down and not outward. So [now] when I’m walking, I’ll be more attentive.”

Rakoska has big hopes for the outcome of this event.

“I hope [people] can get awareness. That they can spread awareness about certain things around campus that might not be as accessible, or things that they didn’t necessarily think about that aren’t as obvious. The other one is to get representation out for the other people on the campus to see that, ‘Oh, okay, there’s people in campus in wheelchairs, they’re having fun, they’re doing their own thing’ and to maybe make it seem less weird.”

NEVER-ENDING CONSTRUCTION

Annual budget contains upcoming construction projects

COLIN PERRY
STAFF WRITER

Returning students and faculty to Fredonia know that the only things certain in life are death, taxes and construction.

The annual Consolidated Operating Budget released by the Department for Finance and Administration last week contains information on a number of upcoming construction projects slated to begin in the coming months.

One of the newest additions to campus — potentially beginning in the Spring — will be a 13,000 square-feet Admissions Center off of Symphony Circle. With an estimated cost of $6.1 million, it will contain offices for undergraduate and graduate admissions, meeting rooms and classrooms, among other things.

In the face of an ongoing admissions crisis, the decision to build may be seen by some as being motivated by declining enrollment. But according to Director of Facilities Planning Markus Kessler, the creation of a new building to house admissions has been an ongoing priority for the university for nearly a decade.

“It doesn’t accommodate what admissions needs,” he said of Fenner House, the current admissions building. “When you start using a house for any type of function other than what it was intended for, it becomes very difficult to grow.”

Fenner House was designed in 1860 and repurposed by the university a century later in the 1960s. While in the past, admissions offices have occupied multiple buildings (including a second house and a trailer), the new structure would be the first time the university would have them in a space designed for their use.

Kessler added that the project is about greeting parents and students in a comfortable environment.

“It’s the first place that students and parents are introduced to the campus, and I think first impressions are very important,” he said.

Not all work will be done on completely new structures, however, as an estimated $4.5 million “exterior rehab” on McEwen Hall is scheduled to begin next summer. According to the budget, the project will not only entail replacing all of the building’s windows, but removing “all hazardous material” associated with them as well. Because of the building’s age, it currently contains asbestos and PCBs (a carcinogenic compound) inside and around its windows.

While for many people the word “asbestos” alone is enough to start panicking, Kessler stressed that nobody is in danger.

“When people hear about asbestos, sometimes people get concerned,” he said, “and that’s not to say they don’t need to be concerned, but as long as it’s not friable, where the particles are in the air, everyone is safe... Regardless, it’s bad stuff and we don’t want it in our buildings.”

Kessler said that the project is not motivated by an urgent need to remove the hazardous material, but rather because the other repairs have made it a priority.

“It’s basically time because the windows are old, they’re leaking, they’re single-paned and they’re not energy efficient,” he said, adding, “for us, it’s about keeping the faculty and our students safe, so any chance we get at taking [potentially-hazardous material] out, we do. We prefer that we remove it when we can because eventually we know we’re going to have to.”

The project is planned to only take two summers, after which the university will look at further renovations in Rockefeller Arts Center and Reed Library, which were both built using the same potentially-hazardous materials.

continued on page 4
CONSTRUCTION continued from page 3

While McEwen Hall is nearly 50 years old, a much newier space will also be renovated after the Spring 2016 semester: Starbuck's. In the Consolidated Operating Budget is the mention of the “10 year renovation” of the restaurant, but coffee-lovers across campus need not worry; the renovation marks a decade since it first opened, and should only take four to six weeks beginning the Monday after commencement.

The remodel is required per the terms of the franchise agreement between Starbucks Coffee and the Faculty Student Association (FSA), and will involve a complete design overhaul but little else. “The student needs that are being met [with the new design] are not any more than what we are being met today,” said FSA Executive Director Darin R. A. Schulz, adding that it will fit the newest design concept Starbucks has at each of its stores.

The estimated price tag for the remodel per Starbucks is set at $200,000, which does not include labor costs. Schulz predicts that the project as a whole will cost anywhere between $350 and $400 thousand.

“It’s a little more costly than what we could do ourselves,” he said. “I felt that we could do this more cost-effectively and still make it look phenomenal without having to redo the whole store, but that was not our choice.”

Schulz added that he was “frustrated as a steward for trying to do things as cost effectively for this campus as possible,” but recognizes the importance of retaining the FSA’s agreement with the company.

“Without a Starbucks, the feel of the campus would change significantly,” Schulz said.

On the whole, student opinion is generally divided about capital construction projects. Some, like junior sociology major Rachel Turner, feel that there are more important places the university could choose to spend money on.

“I’m not impressed by giant glass and steel buildings,” Turner said. “I just want the best [education] I can get for my money. It might impress the parents and there’s a higher standard for what campuses have to look like now, but that’s not the true heart of things.”

Turner expressed doubts that new projects would make much of a difference in Fredonia’s future, contrasting the Science Center, which was designed in part to draw STEM students toward the college, with the sharp drop in enrollment that followed its unveiling.

“It makes sense to spend money to build something that you hope will bring improvement in the future, but the results are not matching up to that,” she said.

Others, like sophomore sociology and women and gender studies double-major Olivia Bell, are less critical.

“We get a lot of money, even if enrollment is down,” she said. “I don’t see a problem with us spending money renovating Starbuck’s or using it to better our campus.”

‘LOSS OF A STUDENT’
Russell Wijesiriwardena dies after battling cancer

S. L. FULLER
EDITOR IN CHIEF

On Monday, President Virginia Horvath issued an email to the campus with the subject line “Loss of a Student Russell Wijesiriwardena.”

“It is with heavy heart that I share the news that one of our students has died after a courageous battle with cancer,” began Horvath’s email.

Originally from Kuwait, Wijesiriwardena died on Oct. 10 after battling cancer while attending school in Niagara Falls and into his sophomore year at Fredonia, according to Horvath’s email and the Niagara Gazette.

Horvath’s email goes on to say that Wijesiriwardena was on medical leave this semester, but was active on campus as a member of Latinos Unidos and a student in the Educational Development Program (EDP).

EDP will be providing a bus to transport students to Wijesiriwardena’s funeral service today at 11 a.m. at the Chapel of Otta Redanz Funeral Home in Niagara Falls.

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CONSERVATIVE CORNER

Edward Snowden, the famous rogue National Security Agency (NSA) contractor who revealed a lot of the NSAs secrets to the American public, is in the news again. According to CNN, Snowden said he is willing to go to prison in the United States and reach some sort of plea bargain with the country.

The U.S. government on the other hand, filed charges in 2013 against Snowden for theft and two provisions of the Espionage Act of 1917: “unauthorized communication of national defense information” and “willful communication of classified communications intelligence information to an unauthorized person.” They have not responded to Snowden’s recent plea.

This again raises the question of whether or not Snowden is a traitor, as many have called him, or a hero for revealing a huge secret government surveillance program of U.S. citizens.

Merriam-Webster’s defines a traitor as “a person who is not loyal to his or her own country, friends, etc.: a person who betrays a country or group of people by supporting an enemy.”

Snowden is a traitor to the U.S. government indeed, because he did release all of that information. However, we cannot truly call Snowden a traitor; because he did it to inform the American public about how our government was lying to us. Also, Snowden did not give this information to one of America’s enemies such as Russia or China.

Snowden decided that he had to reveal the NSAs surveillance program after the Director of National Intelligence, James Clapper, testified before Congress in 2013 and said that the NSA was not performing a mass surveillance program against civilians.

Senator Ron Wyden asked Clapper whether intelligence officials collect data on Americans, and Clapper responded saying, “No, sir… not whitting.”

Keep in mind, this was during a televised congressional hearing that Clapper tried to say there was no NSA surveillance of the public. The best part about all of this is that Clapper, the very same man who lied in front of Congress, is still in his position. It truly makes my blood boil that a scumbag such as Clapper is not in an orange jumpsuit right now.

Although Snowden is a traitor in the sense that he did betray the U.S. government by revealing these documents, wasn’t the government also lying about this? They were not spying on civilians? Snowden is a traitor to the U.S. government, but he is a definitely a hero to the people; he did what was necessary for the public. In fact, the only true traitor here is the NSA, for violating our sacred privacy rights and then lying about it.

Another thing to consider that makes Snowden even less of a traitor to the public is the way he decided to release these documents. Snowden could have easily decided to just upload all of these files to the internet, but instead he chose to give them to two journalists — Laura Poitras and Glenn Greenwald. He wanted them to use their judgement as journalists and decide which of the files were too classified to release.

Since Snowden did release classified government documents, he should be put on trial, but unfortunately it’s not that simple. The U.S. government is trying to charge Snowden with provisions of the Espionage Act of 1917, and the only thing they need to prove in order to convict Snowden on these charges is that he simply released the information. This does not take into consideration why the person released the information.

“The Espionage Act finds anyone guilty who provides any information to the public, regardless of whether or not it was wrong,” said Snowden in a BBC interview. “You aren’t even allowed to explain to a jury what your motivations were for revealing this information. It is simply a question of, ‘Did you reveal information?’ If yes, you go to prison for the rest of your life.”

Snowden must receive a fair trial with a jury, and he cannot be charged with the Espionage Act because it would be a very unfair and politically motivated trial. This trial should give Snowden some sort of lesser punishment, because he does not deserve to go to jail for life for exposing our government’s corruption.

On the other hand, the NSA should have a complete and thorough audit by Congress, for they are the only true traitors in this story. The NSA has seriously abused its power and the people must reign this in.

The first thing that must be done is the President should ask for Clapper’s letter of resignation for committing perjury by lying in front of Congress. Congress then should put Clapper on trial, for his crime is much more heinous than what Snowden did. Then Congress must pass several laws that seriously limit the ability of the NSA to spy domestically.

Many people have made serious sacrifices for our civil liberties. Snowden has done just that and should receive a much lessier punishment because it was truly for a good purpose.
Monday, Oct. 5, 2015
10:05 a.m. A victim reported that money was taken from their wallet in Disney Hall. A report was filed.
12:05 p.m. A victim reported that money was stolen from an unlocked room. A report was filed.
3:42 p.m. A Pontiac key was found in lot 10. A report was filed and the item was sent to temporary evidence.
6:06 p.m. A Dunkirk resident allowed to stay in Igoe Hall was made persona non grata by the campus. A report was filed and their keys were confiscated.

Tuesday, Oct. 6, 2015
1 a.m. Mitchell T. Paciga, age 19, was arrested for criminal tampering of the third degree after damaging a smoke detector alarm. A report was filed and an appearance ticket was issued.
6:26 p.m. An Igoe Hall resident student reported having a male enter her room and touch her. A report was filed and statements were taken.

Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2015
3:30 a.m. A Hendrix Hall occupant set off the fire alarm by using an electronic cigarette in their room. A report was filed.
1 p.m. Students were complaining about the campus shuttle. A report was filed.

Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015
2:07 p.m. A Fitbit was found near Grissom Hall. A report was filed.

Friday, Oct. 9, 2015
11 a.m. An MP3 player was found in Fenton Hall. A report was filed.

Monday, Oct. 5, 2015
William Ringer was charged for menacing in the second degree.

Tuesday, Oct. 6, 2015
Gary Ortolano, age 54, was arrested for petit larceny. An appearance ticket was issued and his parole officer was notified.
Jesina Velez, age 23, was arrested for petit larceny.

Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2015
Amos Postwaite, age 57, was charged with aggravated unlicensed operation in the third degree.

Friday, Oct. 9, 2015
9:20 p.m. Charlotte M. Thomas, age 26, was arrested for petit larceny and criminal possession of a controlled substance in the seventh degree. Bail was set at $500.

Saturday, Oct. 10, 2015
3:33 a.m. Jordan N. Tokorczyk, age 24, was arrested for driving while intoxicated. Bail was set at $250 and a traffic ticket was issued.

Sunday, Oct. 11, 2015
2:30 a.m. John J. Beiter was charged with criminal mischief of the fourth degree and disorderly conduct. An appearance ticket was issued.
Victor Robles, age 33, was arrested for petit larceny, criminal possession of hypodermic instrument and criminal possession of a controlled substance in the seventh degree. Bail was set at $1,500.
Hunter Rivera, age 17, was charged with criminal mischief of the third and fourth degrees and was held for arraignment.

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.
’Twas the night before fall break, as many students were heading home to relax with their families. However that didn’t stop BJ’s from gathering a crowd on Oct. 7. Crazies and the Naturalists were ready to perform, and both gave a solid show to start of the weekend.

First up was Crazies, a hardcore punk band native to Fredonia. Its name perfectly describes the band’s presence on stage. Wild and spontaneous, the four piece brought high energy to the performance. The band consists of Jimmy Skrzeczkowski, who will be a junior animation major next Spring, on Vocals, junior liberal arts major Nick Kobel on guitar, senior psychology major Dan Bonasera on bass and senior graphic design major Will Pihl on drums. The four were everywhere from the floor in front of the stage, to resting on speakers giving jaunty solos. They were all comfortable despite the fact that this was their first time playing BJ’s.

Skrzeczkowski often would tower over the audience, standing upon the railing on the stage, gripping the mic and giving powerful vocals. Showgoers felt this powerful energy as a moshpit grew at the foot of the stage and went in and out over the course of the show.

This was actually Kobels’ first performance with Crazies, joining up with the band back in August. The addition seemed to be a perfect fit as Kobel easily played along with the band’s onstage antics. An EP can be expected from the Crazies, hopefully on Halloween this month called “Slaughter Punk,” a follow up to their 2014 Batcave EP. Everything done by Crazies is self-produced, with Skrzeczkowski taking the role of lead engineer.

“We want to do this right” said the lead singer, who bought a mixer and several mixes to improve the sound.

Commenting on the low-fidelity feel of the band’s last effort drummer Pihl said “we literally recorded that with one mic.”

“In a garage, a bedroom and another garage,” joked Bonasera.

Up next was the Naturalists, a grunge band from Buffalo. Calm and collected, the three-piece consisting of Craig Perno with vocals and guitar, Zach Russell on bass and Travis Perno on Drums, felt straight out of ’90s Seattle.

Before the show there was a little mishap, as the band missed the exit coming into Fredonia, but in the end The Naturalists made their set time and gave an excellent performance.

Throughout their solid performance, there was plenty of crowd surfing and headbanging. Early on in the set the band played their new single, “Foutune, Always Turning,” a song that might remind one of The Pixies.

The band currently cites Manchester Orchestra and Weezer’s Pinkerton as influences.

The whole project began between the Perno twins, just playing with random bands at the time. After a year and half, Russell came in the mix and since then it has been working out perfectly.

The band has been busy lately, with its new EP, “Home Honey, I’m Hi” coming out this month on the 30th via Dadstache Records, a label out of Rochester.

The Naturalists enlisted the help of Paul Besch for the EP. Recording began in November of last year and went until February. On working with Besch, the band was extremely excited.

“We’re musical soulmates” said Russell. In support of their EP, the Naturalists will be going on tour starting in November, going all over from Philadelphia, to the Carolinas, and reaching far south to Tennessee.

Remember to come on down to “The little place across the street” every other week to check out some of the bands coming through town. Next up are Buffalo Indie rockers Super American with Fredonia natives Kill the Clock.
Last Wednesday evening, a small crowd filed into Rosch Recital Hall to listen to the music of the brothers of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia during their Founder's Day Recital. The recital fell on Oct. 7, a day late of the 117th anniversary of the fraternity's founding.

Russell Smith, junior double major in music education and tuba performance, as well as Music Director of the fraternity, explained that the reason the recital was not held on Founder's Day was due to a conflict with the All-College Band concert. Consequently, the only other date available prior to Fall Break was Oct. 7.

"I do believe having it the night before Fall Break started did make for lower attendance," Smith said.

Still, he explained, concert attendance isn't the most important thing to Phi Mu Alpha. The brothers were happy to have had the opportunity to perform in Rosch, as in the past the venue for their recital has been Diers Recital Hall.

"There is a significant difference in the quality of sound and performance from the two halls," Smith said. "Performing in (Rosch) was a great opportunity and, in my opinion, a successful one. While we didn't have the opportunity to perform on the actual Founder's Day, this is still a great chance for Phi Mu Alpha to have a greater influence in Mason Hall."

The program, which was selected by Phi Mu Alpha brothers collectively, opened with four traditional Sinfonia songs, performed a capella by the brothers of Phi Mu Alpha. Afterward, individual fraternity members performed based on a previously-determined volunteer basis. Evan Seickel took the stage to perform 'Prelude for the Left Hand, Op. 9 No. 1,' a unique piece, performed while using only one hand.

"I chose to play 'Prelude for the Left Hand' because it is very different from most piano pieces, and I wanted to share a piece with the audience that would represent me best," said Seickel, a senior music composition major.

Next, "Organized Chaos" — a horn quartet which includes Matthew Garcia, Erik Lupien, Andrea Mau and Jodie White — performed B.E. Muller's "Religioso" and "Jagd-Chor."

Although White and Mau are women, and therefore not members of the fraternity, they were still allowed to perform in the concert. The quartet was formed by White, who was House Manager of the recital and a close friend to many of the brothers. Smith explained that White even jokes frequently about wanting to join the brotherhood.

"One of the statements in Phi Mu Alpha's object is 'the mutual welfare and brotherhood of musical students,'" Smith said. "If this is a statement that should stay true to Phi Mu Alpha, then I believe that an equal opportunity must be allowed for those who wanted to perform."

Christopher Calderon was next to perform two movements from Bach's "Cello Suite No. 1," uniquely enough, on marimba. Calderon played "Sarabande" and "Gigue."

After Calderon, Tom Gruenthal sang an emotional rendition of Henri Duparc's "Lamento," accompanied by Jason Black on piano. Gruenthal, a junior music education major, has been working on this piece all semester. It also has a lot of personal meaning to him, which showed in his performance.

"I think that this piece showcases my strengths in my voice," he explained. "I've also been able to connect with the French text emotionally by relating it to the death of my grandmother and the mourning process I went through 3 years ago. I love being able to convey feeling through my singing, which is why I chose this piece to perform."

Next on the program was a duet consisting of Chad Jones on alto sax and Rodrigo Rodriguez on baritone sax, performing the unattributed "Jazz Duet No. 1." Following this performance was another duet of tuba and clarinet, featuring Smith and and Tim Young, respectively. The duet played two movements of Peter Schickele's "Little Suite for Winter," including "Lullaby" and "Rondo."

To finish out the concert, the brothers reconvened onstage again to sing four more traditional Sinfonia pieces, as well as Fredonia's Alma Mater. To brothers like Gruenthal, being a part of a fraternity like Phi Mu Alpha is rewarding in many ways.

"I don't think I would be the person or musician that I am today without the support of my brothers," Gruenthal said.

"It's wonderful to be in the kind of community our fraternity is," added Seickel. "Since becoming a brother, I've grown so much as a person and musician, and that growth is evident in my fellow brothers as well."

Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia puts on many other events and programs annually, such as the upcoming Safe Halloween event later this month, their Valentine's Day Dance, American Music Recital, Sol Schoenbach Scholarship and Phi Mu BBQ.

"Our performance last night, as well as the other events on campus and in the community, help us achieve our goal of instilling in all people an awareness of music's important role in the enrichment of the human spirit," said Smith.
The men’s soccer team had a golden opportunity to get back into the playoffs this week as they faced off against two conference opponents, Oswego and Cortland, and one non-conference opponent, Alfred State. This was the perfect time to get a couple of wins at home to keep their playoff hopes alive. Coming off two past weekends on the road, the Blue Devils wanted to come into the week focused and ready for the tough road ahead.

The Blue Devils faced off last Tuesday against Alfred State who came into play with an overall record of 7-1-2, with the Blue Devils being the clear underdog in the matchup. They fought hard all game, but one mistake cost Fredonia the game.

Alfred State scored in the 24th minute when the ball was bounced off junior goalie Austin Santor and put into the net by an Alfred State player. Besides that mistake, the Blue Devils played a good game. The first half however, was dominated by Alfred. It controlled possession and outshot the Blue Devils 8-1 in the first half.

The second half was a different story; the Blue Devils were more aggressive, and it showed in their play. Even though they were outshot 9-8, they had more possessions and had more opportunities to score in the half. Alfred State had only two saves, but those saves were crucial in Alfred State beating Fredonia.

In the 75th minute, the Blue Devils were awarded a penalty kick, and it looked like the game would be tied. However, junior Ryan Keller’s kick was saved by Alfred State’s goalkeeper Chris Gutierrez, who then saved the rebound by sophomore Aaron Hayes. This loss was heartbreaking because it was a game the Blue Devils deserved to win. The team had to regroup for a tough weekend ahead.

On Friday, the Blue Devils faced off against Oswego in a matchup that was important for playoff indications. The Blue Devils offense came alive in this game — they scored four goals and looked like a team that had finally figured it out.

Hussein scored his second goal of the game in the 53rd minute when he got a through ball from sophomore Josh McIntosh and put it in the back of the net. Another goal in the 87th minute was scored when senior Paul Reinis had a breakaway which made the game 4-0. The Blue Devils outshot Oswego 21-17. Santor had his third shutout of the season, and the win greatly helped the Blue Devils’ playoff hopes.

They couldn’t celebrate the win as they had to turn around and welcome SUNYAC final Cortland the next day. The Blue Devils, for the most part, played a good game, but collapsed in the end. Cortland scored three goals in the last five minutes that killed any momentum the Blue Devils had going into the game.

Cortland controlled the game and pace for first half. After their goal in the 13th minute, it looked like they would run away with this game. To the Blue Devils’ credit, they fought back and showed a ton of heart. Fredonia tied the game in the 56th minute when Hussein sent a cross through the box to junior Bryan Sibble for the one-touch finish.

The momentum didn’t last long as Cortland answered to take back the lead in the 59th minute off a bad rebound that went into the net. Fredonia had a ton of chances to score but couldn’t convert when the time came. The collapse started in the 84th minute as a turnover by the Blue Devils. It led to a Cortland shot on goal and ultimately another rebound goal that quieted the hostile Fredonia crowd.

After that goal, the Blue Devils lost their edge and gave up two more goals in four minutes. This loss was tough to take for Fredonia because the score didn’t tell how close this game was. Outshot 26-9, the Blue Devils missed out on many shots and failed to capitalize on many opportunities, which cost them the game.

Sitting at 2-9-2 overall, the Blue Devils are still in the race for the last playoff spot, but they need to start winning more games. They go on the road this weekend to play Plattsburgh and Potsdam. Those two games are important, and if Fredonia can win these two games, the playoffs are a possibility for this year.
WOMEN’S SOCCER WINS AND TIES ON THE ROAD

While on the road this weekend, women’s soccer prevailed through two tough games to end the road trip with one win and a tie. The Blue Devils’ first game Friday was against Oswego, which went into a double-overtime resulting in a tied score of 0-0. Oswego held the upper hand all game with more shots on goal and corner kicks but that did not let Fredonia give up.

With three shots and one on goal, junior Alexis Moreland led the Blue Devils and helped them fight the tough battle. Following Moreland, junior Maria Gordon and freshman Jordan Walts each had two shots.

While in both of the overtimes, Fredonia and Oswego had three shots apiece, which led to the winning goal being scored with 12 seconds left in the game. That game brought the Devils in SUNYACs to 0-3-1.

After a tough game Friday night, the Blue Devils came out strong and confident, which resulted in their first SUNYAC win of the season. The goal came from Gordon, which brought the score to 1-0, improving Fredonia to 3-9-1 overall, and 1-3-1 in SUNYACs.

Moreland assisted Gordon’s goal while carrying it down the right side of the field; she passed across the box to Gordon for the game-winning goal with four minutes remaining in regulation. Cortland could not match the goal with the time remaining, giving Fredonia the win.

While in regular play, Cortland outshot Fredonia 27-10. Blue Devils came out strong with the mindset to end the road trip with a win.

Freshman goalie Kendall Owczarzak stopped nine shots on goal with the help of her defensive players. “My main thought was to play the best game possible because we have been so close in losing one goal games that I realize all the effort can help,” said Owczarzak. “Friday it seemed as though both teams were matched evenly, which is why the game resulted the way it did. But Saturday we came out on our heels ready to play our hardest.”

The Blue Devils host both games this upcoming weekend: Oct. 16 with Plattsburgh at 3 p.m. and Oct. 17 with Potsdam at 1 p.m.
Most of you have heard about the recent outbreak of the Fredonia plague and have been doing everything you can to not get it. Many students have even dropped out of college due to fear of catching this venomous plague. If you are lucky enough, you have not yet experienced the debilitating agony that comes from the illness; it eats you from the inside out to the point where you don't even know who you are anymore.

Scientists have traced the origins of the plague to a devious little squirrel named Shelby. On the night of Tuesday, Oct. 6, Shelby the squirrel was exhibiting odd behavior. One of our Fredonia students, who has requested to remain anonymous, was seen playing with Shelby on this night.

It was then reported that out of nowhere, the squirrel started hopping up and down on one foot and twitching violently. The Fredonia student was concerned, and tried to calm Shelby down. But when the student reached out to help her, Shelby bit her hand and then twitched away into the depths of the Fredonia woodlands. The Fredonia student then began to experience strange symptoms, and, not knowing that she was infected, went into public. Thus, the Fredonia plague was born.

Listed below are the common symptoms of the plague that students should look out for:

1. Puking up Burnett's vodka (after not having consumed said Burnett's)
2. Sudden attraction to squirrels
3. Lack of teeth
4. An overwhelming urge to say “Trump 2k15” every time you are called on in class
5. You find yourself in fetal position, repeating “come to Grissom, come to Grissom,” over and over again
6. Yelling “SUNNYS!” whenever you sneeze
7. Inability to stop listening to the song “Total Eclipse of the Heart” by Bonnie Tyler
8. Warped sense of reality where you start to believe that you are Beyoncé
9. Night terrors involving demon squirrels
10. Craving the Purina dog food that you smell in the air every day

If you have exhibited any of the above symptoms, then it is important that you take the following precautions:

1. Wash hands thoroughly multiple times a day with squirrel urine
2. Bathe in Burnett’s vodka for exactly six hours and 23 minutes
3. Delete all Bonnie Tyler and Beyoncé tunes from your music collection
4. Do not look directly into the eyes of a squirrel, no matter how tempted you may be
5. Do not sleep, not even for a minute, in order to avoid onset of night terrors
6. Become a strong supporter of Bernie Sanders
7. Throw away every single pair of UGG boots in your possession
8. Drop out, for the sake of all healthy students

Stay healthy, everybody! It's a dangerous place out there.
**This Week’s Horoscopes**

**Capricorn:**
Capricorn? More like Capri-CORNY. You will be subjected to heavy doses of cheesy humor if you continue your regular routine. Switch it up to avoid persistent psyche-damaging.

**Aquarius:**
Be wary of your surroundings, Aquarius. You will encounter many heartbroken friends and companions this week. Even if you don't care, try acting like you do, so that you don't look like the unemotional and detached bitch that you really are.

**Pisces:**
Please do everyone a favor, Pisces, and relax with the pumpkin spice. You smell like you went on an expedition for the Great Pumpkin. Not to mention that it's tacky.

**Aries:**
Your senses are tingling for an adventure. Take a trip downtown or to the creek. Just be sure not to act too stupid, or people might think that you’re high on drugs, when in reality, you’re high on life (and also a little bit)

**Taurus:**
Listen closely, Taurus. Stay patient. I know it’s been over two hours since you ordered Calios, but it will be worth it. Mark my words.

**Gemini:**
Watch out, Gemini, the force is strong in this one. And by “this one,” we mean that El Diablo beef, bean and cheese burrito. Don’t do it. Please.

**Cancer:**
Apply for an emotional support pet. It might just work this time. If not this time, then the next time, or the next time, or the next time. If that fails, just put your dog in a fish costume and stick ‘em in a fish tank. Perfect!

**Leo:**
Generosity will bring you good fortune. Leo. Take a stroll across the nearest crosswalk after performing a generous act, and you are almost guaranteed to be hit by an FSA truck. Free tuition!

**Virgo:**
Your sign, while represented by the Virgin, does not represent you in the slightest. Go out and have fun! Who knows what’ll happen? You might end up having an awkward hook-up that you’ll regret for the rest of your college career!

**Libra:**
Make way for new doors to open in your life. However, don’t let your indecisiveness close these doors, or you could end up like the Fredonians who stayed on-campus during Fall Break — not realizing that all the doors around them are closing — and you’ll be hungry. You’ll probably have to resort to calzones.

**Scorpio:**
You will get jealous. But hey, what else is new?

**Sagittarius:**
Your blind optimism will deceive you, Sagittarius. Betrayal and deceit loom around the corner. If things seem like they are going well, don’t trust it. Just be sure to have an Aquarius friend on standby, so they can act like they care about your problems.
STAND UP BY SITTING DOWN

MEMBERS OF THE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION SPEND THE DAY IN WHEELCHAIRS

SPEAKER TRACY HALLORAN, CHIEF JUSTICE COURTNEY HOUT LEARNING HOW TO DANCE IN THEIR WHEELCHAIRS
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Russell Smith Conducts The Brothers of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia During Their Recital

Tomy Gruenthal Performs, Accompanied by Jason Black on Piano During Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia’s Recital

Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Photos by: Rebecca Hale/Reverb Editor

The Naturalists Photo by: Corey Maher/Special to the Leader
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<td>Friday, October 23rd</td>
<td><strong>Bookstore Open</strong>&lt;br&gt;5-8 p.m. University Commons&lt;br&gt;<strong>Pep Rally</strong>&lt;br&gt;5 p.m., William Center MPR&lt;br&gt;Theme: Fredonia through the Decades&lt;br&gt;<strong>“Listen Before Talking: A Journey of 4000 Kilometers Across the North American Interior,”</strong>&lt;br&gt;6 p.m., Jason Dilworth, Free Admission.&lt;br&gt;<strong>Recreational Public Ice Skating</strong>&lt;br&gt;7:30-9 p.m., Steele Hall</td>
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<td>Saturday, October 24th</td>
<td><strong>Alumni 5K Run</strong>&lt;br&gt;10 a.m. $10/alum. $20/non alum.&lt;br&gt;<strong>Bookstore Open</strong>&lt;br&gt;11-5 p.m., University Commons&lt;br&gt;<strong>Department of Visual Arts and New Media Alumni Concert</strong>&lt;br&gt;8 p.m., Rosch Recital Hall&lt;br&gt;<strong>Men’s Hockey Game</strong>&lt;br&gt;12:30 p.m., Steele Hall&lt;br&gt;<strong>Men’s Soccer Game</strong>&lt;br&gt;1 p.m.</td>
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- Bookstore Open 5-8 p.m., University Commons
- Pep Rally 5 p.m., William Center MPR
- Theme: Fredonia through the Decades
- Recreational Public Ice Skating 7:30-9 p.m., Steele Hall
- 1970's Reunion Jazz Ensemble Alumni Concert 8 p.m., Rosch Recital Hall
- WHOA Throwback Game Night 9 p.m., William Center

Saturday, October 24th

- Alumni 5K Run 10 a.m., $10/alum. $20/non alumn.
- Bookstore Open 11-5 p.m., University Commons
- Department of Visual Arts and New Media Noon-6 p.m., Marion Art Gallery, Free Admission.
- Men's Hockey Game 12:30 p.m., Steele Hall
- Men's Soccer Game 1 p.m.
- Recreational Ice Skating 7:30-9 p.m., Steele Hall
- Wind Symphony Concert 8 p.m., King Concert Hall
- WHOA Throwback Game Night 9 p.m., William Center

Sunday, October 25th

- Department of Visual Arts and New Media Faculty Art Exhibit Noon-4 p.m., Rockefeller Arts Center, Free Admission.
- Western New York Chamber Orchestra with Women's Chorus 2 p.m., King Concert Hall

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The Career Development Office presents:

**CDO Spotlight**

Featuring:

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Williams Center S-204D

Open to all students considering a health-related career or preparing for graduate school in the health professions.

- Refreshments will be served!

Co-sponsored by the Pre-Health Professions Program and the CDO.

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Funded by a grant from the Faculty Student Association.
Ever wish you could read the minds of those around you? With the Yik Yak app and the comfort of anonymity, it's now possible. Take a look at what people in your area were thinking last week and what others gave their vote of approval.
Did you go to college so you could have a great job when you graduate? Well, did you know that the sole purpose of the Career Development Office (CDO) is to help you reach that goal?

I'm not a spokesperson or an employee of the CDO, so it's not like they're paying me to say any of this! But I want every student on campus to know what an incredible resource they are. The CDO is not only a hidden wonder of Fredonia, it's a golden ticket to the chocolate factory - and by chocolate factory, I mean a successful future!

If you're a freshman, senior or even alumni of Fredonia, the CDO is available to you — absolutely free of charge. If you're trying to make or update your resume, the CDO is there to help perfect it with you. If you're nervous about an interview, the CDO is there to prepare you with potential interview questions, helpful tips and even give you a mock interview. If you're unsure how to put a cover letter together to apply for an internship or job, the CDO is there with templates and helpful staff to edit and revise it. And most importantly, if you're looking for an internship, job or even graduate school, the CDO is right at your fingertips, providing you with an endless amount of connections, databases (like Quest), presentations from potential employers, grad school fairs, job fairs, volunteer fairs and updates on new openings.

Your future employer doesn't care if you have a 4.0 — they care if you have work-related experience. Although a 4.0 is impressive, it's not the only thing that matters. I really can't stress enough how important it is to get internships throughout your college career. Not only will it provide you experience within your field, it will actually help you decide whether you chose the right career path or not.

When I was a freshman, the only job experience I had was in the food industry. That wouldn't really impress any of my future employers in the accounting field. So I ventured into the CDO, and I was told of the endless opportunities that were available.

Simply put, my resume wasn't impressive, with no real world experience, so it was definitely time to find an internship. I completed my first internship, with the help of the CDO, and it instantly made my resume look ten times more important.

Not only will internships and opportunities give you experience and a better-looking resume, but they will increase your connections exponentially. It has definitely taken a snowball effect, because the more people I met, the more opportunities have become available. I'm now a senior, and I've completed four (and soon to be five) internships — all because of the connections I've made.

My point is that not only should you use the CDO as the valuable resource that it is, but make the most of your college years. Yes, obviously you'll have a social life — party, drink, do what you have to do — but don't waste good opportunities because you “don't have time.” Learn some time management skills and get some real world experience so you can actually have a successful life after college.
Two weeks ago, Pride Alliance held its annual Fall Drag Show. A popular event on campus, it traditionally features men dressing up as drag queens and women dressing up as drag kings to compete for the title of Mr. and Ms. Drag Fredonia. Drag has long been used as a form of gender expression, and has grown beyond clubs to national television, thanks to “RuPaul’s Drag Race” on Logo TV.

After Fredonia’s drag show, Mr. Drag Fredonia winner JP Makerquake answered a question not so often heard in the community: is there a market for drag kings?

“In the performance world? No, not really,” Makerquake said. “There’s RuPaul’s show that is centered on drag queens; I think there might have been a few male performers, but honestly, it’s dominated by the queens.”

Beyond Fredonia, many haven’t seen drag queens especially kings before. Is there any space for women in the drag world besides being kings and spectators?

Let’s start with the basics: what is drag?

“Drag is anything you want it to be,” said Ken Olsen, a Fredonia alumnus with a B.A. in history. “Normally drag has been identified as a person impersonating someone of another gender but it’s more complicated than that — drag is however you present the truest form of yourself to others.”

“[Drag] is donning a different persona. It gives people the chance to perform as the opposite gender,” said Kaitlin Tachibana, junior social work major.

Drag didn’t start with RuPaul. It didn’t even start in the ’80s. Olsen explained that in Shakespearean England, women were barred from performing on stage. The male actors portrayed the female characters, and there’s no proof if these men were “gay” or not.

“The Medieval Ages icon Joan of Arc during her time in The Hundred Year's War portrayed herself as a man before being discovered as an woman and leading French soldiers against the English,” said Olsen. “It really isn't until around the Victorian Era that drag [became] more associated with gay men.”

“Drag is most notable for having men dress up as women because of a more ‘general acceptance’ for it. If women dress up like men, [they] may be criticized more heavily for it,” Olsen says.

Olsen gave the example of a tomboy: usually a young woman who displays attributes associated with young men. This girl is judged by those who believe she should have more of a domestic and dainty role. Traditionally girls are the caretakers and men are the breadwinners, and any deviation from the established norm is a problem.

Caiden Igoe, a 20-year-old music education major, transformed into drag king Oliver Clozoff for this semester’s drag show. Igoe prefers to be referred to with “they” pronouns instead of masculine or feminine pronouns. While Clozoff is a crowd favorite, they do agree that the audience is sparse for kings.

“They're not seen as often as queens are,” they said. “I mean, personally, I believe that I'm appreciated as a king because I always have a bunch of friends who come and support me in the performance.”

The idea of having women doing drag is still fairly recent. Most women dress as up as drag kings, but there isn’t much of a following, especially not as strong as the queens. However, there are some women who choose to transform into drag queens. While strong opinions are formed on each side of the argument for women becoming drag queens (also known as “bio/faux queens”) Igoe doesn’t see a problem with it.

“I'm all about 100 percent inclusion of everyone in our diverse world,” they said. “Women should be able to do whatever they want to and if that means being a drag queen and performing on stage with other queens and kind, then by all means they should be able to.”

Tachibana agrees: "Drag reaches far beyond just gay men. I think it's a stereotype that it's often only gay men who do drag, but drag is more inclusive than that," she said. "It's a form of expression and I personally think that people should be able to express themselves however they please. Expression should be celebrated.”

But is the world ready for a primetime drag king celebrity? Olsen isn’t sure.

“There are certainly well-known and famous drag kings out there: Murray Hill, Dred [and] Spikey Van Dykey, among others,” Olsen said. “Unfortunately, like many women in history and social movements, they are glanced over and often forgotten.”

“But,” he continues, “there are drag kings out there, really good ones mind you, and I think it's a combination that we're not ready for a drag king celebrity, as well as we're not allowing ourselves to see that side of drag, recognize it and enjoy it as much as we do with drag queens.”
MOGII
Marginalized Orientations, Gender Identities and Intersex

Identification is a complex topic in society today as there are a multitude of sexual identities. However, very rarely does everyone recognize the full range of sexual identification. Intersex and asexuality are two examples of this.

Intersex refers to someone who has characteristics, determined medically, of both a male and a female. Often times, intersex individuals have “ambiguous” genitalia, meaning that they have genitals that appear differently from what their chromosomes identify them as.

Asexuals are people who experience little to no sexual attraction or desire.

“Asexual” is an umbrella term, meaning that “asexuality represents a spectrum of identities [and that] no two people will experience or define their asexuality in exactly the same way,” as described by professor and Program Coordinator of the Women’s and Gender Studies Program, Jeffry Iovannone.

When asked why there is such a stigma around these terms, Dr. Iovannone stated, “because in dominant Western culture, we define gender and sexual identity in binary, either/or terms. Persons who do not fall within the schemas of man/woman or straight/gay are erased, marginalized or regarded as deviant.”

It is crucial to recognize that misinforma-tion and stigmatization can be stopped. Groups on campus, such as the Women’s and Gender Studies Program and the Pride Alliance, are working to decrease the stigma around certain sexual identities and inform people on what they actually mean.

Within these two groups especially, the terms are becoming more normalized, as leaders are making a conscious effort to incorporate knowledge about them into discussions and are using them in general conversations. These terms are not used as widely across campus, says Iovannone, but he believes this is only because we do not have enough information about identities that fall outside of traditional binaries.

Intersex has become more well-known as it is a frequently discussed topic in Women’s and Gender studies. Asexuality has not been made as familiar in the discipline as of yet, nor has it been discussed as much in literature, film, and other forms of pop-culture. Iovannone believes this is beginning to change, however, and soon hopes to see it become a more widely-discussed topic.

The important thing to recognize is that the more knowledge we have about these sexualities, the less stigmatized they will become.

“When we educate and give visibility to marginalized identities and perspectives, we make them real, legitimate and possible, and challenge systems of oppression that privilege certain ways of being in the world over others,” Iovannone stated.
Oct. 1 marks the beginning of LGBT History Month or, as Fredonia’s Pride Alliance renamed it last year, Queer History Month. The Pride Alliance at Fredonia and the Student Association have partnered to provide the campus with a number of fun and educational events to celebrate the month and the history of those who fall on the queer spectrum.

According to lgbthistorymonth.com, “in 1994, Rodney Wilson, a Missouri high school teacher, believed a month should be dedicated to the celebration and teaching of gay and lesbian history, and gathered other teachers and community leaders. They selected October because public schools are in session and existing traditions, such as Coming Out Day (October 11), occur that month.”

Maegan Clark, a senior majoring in visual arts and new media with a focus in photography and minoring in women and gender studies, as well as a member of Pride, said, “We decided switch it to Queer History Month to be more inclusive. It’s really all about the history of the gay rights movement and queer rights and how we got to this point from being more marginalized. I guess you could say, to coming out to an open environment.”

There are some events like Dragapalooza which took place on Oct. 2, and Oct. 11 was the official National Coming Out Day, which Pride celebrated it on Monday, Oct. 12, so as to have it on a school day.

“National Coming Out Day is used for people coming out about their sexual orientation and identities,” said Brandon Harris, a junior majoring in video production and president of the Pride Alliance at Fredonia. “It’s important because a lot of people aren’t out, and this gives them a place to come out and safely come out, whether it just be on campus or just to themselves.”

“It’s just a day for everyone to see that we’re coming out and we’re proud … and to say ‘we’re here and we’re not staying in the closet anymore,’” Clark added, “and to also … let everyone know that there is a support system for those who don’t feel comfortable coming out but can hear these stories of people coming out and not having a bad time.”

On Oct. 14 there will be a presentation of The Laramie Project at 7 p.m. in McEwen 202. The Laramie Project is a play about the murder of gay University of Wyoming student, Matthew Shepard, in 1998 in Laramie, Wyoming. The play documents the murder as well as the overall reaction to it.

Ace 101, or Asexuality Awareness, is on Oct. 19 at the McEwen table from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

A Poetry Slam for Trans Awareness will be on Oct. 22 in McEwen 209, starting at 6 p.m.

Diversity Concert featuring Dream Wolf will be on Oct. 23 in McEwen G26, starting at 8 p.m.

Bi 101, or Bisexuality Awareness, is on Oct. 26 at the McEwen table from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

On Oct. 29, featuring Vivek Shraya, a Canadian singer-songwriter and short story writer. The ceremony begins at 3:30 p.m. in Williams Center S204ABC, which then segues into a dinner reception in the Horizon Room, starting at 6 p.m.

The grand finale of the month is a performance of the Rocky Horror Picture Show on Oct. 30 in McEwen 202 at 8 p.m.

These events are free and open to all students on campus.

Mac McCrady, a senior majoring in social work and minoring in sociology and a member of Pride, said, “I hope [people] learn to support those who are of that spectrum, because I’m gonna say 99 percent of people have … someone they know somewhere on the spectrum, and they need to know that they should accept that person as they are and love them as they are, and it doesn’t matter to you that they’re different.”
Fredonia recently hosted a happy reunion when Social Media Community Specialist at RIT Dan Howell and Events Manager at Geva Theater Center Scott Falkowski revisited their old campus.

The two men returned to Fredonia to take their engagement photos on campus a month ago. Engaged in 2013, they made the trip from Rochester this year to the place where they first met: Fredonia. “It just made sense,” Howell said of the decision to take their photos here.

Both of them began attending school at Fredonia in 1999. Howell, a freshman, and Falkowski, a transfer student, did not know each other previously. In 2001, both Howell and Falkowski were attending Fredonia when they met one night. Falkowski was a stage manager for a student-produced show called Rumours. When he and his assistant stage manager went back to her dorm to get materials, Howell happened to be the assistant’s neighbor.

“There was a group of people in their common room watching TV, and Dan was in there, and when Dan was in there, he sort of caught my eye,” said Falkowski.

Howell sarcastically added, “I was literally sitting in the suite in my pajamas, because it was like at 10 [o’clock] at night, so I probably looked great.”

After being introduced, they went on a date at the Barker Brew Company, now known as the Ellicottville Brew Company, and later met up with friends to see Moulin Rouge at the Fredonia Opera House.

“I think Barker Brew Company was my idea. You know there’s not all that much to chose from,” Falkowski joked.

Although their engagement happened 12 years later, the relationship that started in 2001 lasted only five months — from October through March. The two then went their separate ways, but remained friends afterwards.

Falkowski moved to New York City, where he worked for a theatre company, and Howell moved back to Rochester. After staying in touch through email, and later on, Facebook, the two met up in 2008 when Scott visited Dan in Rochester after flying in from New York City.

“I was flying back to Buffalo for my friends’ 30th birthday party, and a friend of mine was attending the University of Rochester here, and so I flew into Buffalo, went to the birthday party, and then I drove to Rochester with her. I was leaving from Rochester so I could come visit Dan, so I could actually see him in person, and after that we started dating again,” said Falkowski.

After that visit, they then reconnected and pursued a long distance relationship for two and a half years from New York City and Rochester.

“We always stayed in touch and [were] always pretty good at communicating and everything. So when it started happening it was kinda exciting, so it was a little familiar and it was new again, which was exciting. It was fun. The distance was a challenge, but it wasn’t too terribly far,” said Howell.

“It was so much easier with cell phones and Facebook and you know, JetBlue was fairly cost effective. So it wasn’t the worst to book flights and it’s not [too] terrible of a drive, so I drove it two or three times.

It’s kind of a fun way to start a relationship because it was kind of like forced travel, so we had to do things that we wouldn’t normally do in our own cities. The times in between were tough when we would go six weeks between visits, that was always a little rough, but it was worth it in the end,” said Howell.

Falkowski eventually moved to Rochester with Howell in 2011. Circumstances drove them towards Rochester; Howell’s sister had a baby and Falkowski’s grandmother, who lived in Buffalo, became ill. In November 2013 the two got engaged and on July 16, 2016, the two will officially be married at Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School.

“If it wasn’t for Fredonia we wouldn’t have met ... We love Fredonia, we love the school [and] we love the town,” Howell said of the reasoning behind taking their engagement photos at Fredonia.

“There was a lot of good memories there, and there is a lot of unique architecture there,” added Falkowski. “We had a lot of ideas in mind that we could possibly do with photos, so that on top of it being a place that we hold near and dear to our hearts.”
Free speech heroine Mary Beth Tinker was sitting at the head of the table at The Brick Room on Sept. 28, and I was sitting to her immediate right. She had just finished her presentation in the Science Center about her experiences with the First Amendment. At a table that included six Fredonia faculty members, I was told to sit next to the woman who was the reason for this fancy dinner. Normally, this would have been nerve wracking. But Tinker has the charismatic ability to share a smile and talk to anyone about anything.

From the moment we started talking, Tinker was well aware — and totally into the idea — that she was going to become the subject of an article or a blog post of mine. She said she wanted to tell me an untold story of her time in the political spotlight.

To give a brief history, Tinker was the complainant in the United States Supreme Court case Tinker v. Des Moines Independent School District in 1969. A few years before, as a 13-year-old, she had taken part in a protest at her school against the Vietnam War by donning a black armband to class. When Tinker and the other protesters were punished for doing so, they claimed it was a violation of their First Amendment rights to freedom of speech. The court ruled in Tinker's favor.

However, Tinker said she doesn't have many memories of being at the Supreme Court. One would think that an event as monumental as a Supreme Court appearance would be lodged in her mind forever. But Tinker said there was a certain young lady on her mind instead.

“I heard about this folk dancing club or something on Saturday, and this girl named Amy invited me,” Tinker told me, as the rest of the dinner table engaged in other conversations. “So at the folk dancing club, there was this girl named Susie Shapiro. She was kind of aloof and mysterious, or something like that.

“So later on, she started making moves on me. I told you this was going to get racy,” remarked Tinker. “So basically, we started getting together, and I started having this relationship with Susie Shapiro.”

Tinker was a junior in high school in 1969, and she had moved to a different school — a new city completely. As a painfully shy child, adjusting to this bigger city school was a substantial change. Tinker said this new school was much more “sophisticated,” with racially integrated students and a relaxed dress code. But that didn't mean she felt comfortable coming out.

“I never told people I was gay because I think I was afraid,” said Tinker. “After we wore the armbands, we had haters who were threatening us. I think I was afraid that they'd be back, and they wouldn't like it if they knew that I was gay. So life moved on…”

Tinker's relationship with Shapiro didn't last long. But when they were together, Shapiro was all Tinker could think about.

“When I got to the Supreme Court, I was thinking about Susie Shapiro,” said Tinker. “[Court] was kind of overwhelming. My brain kind of shut down and I could only concentrate on certain things.”

The theory that Tinker has developed is that because she was so shy, her brain used thoughts of Shapiro to shelter her from the immensity of her role in free speech history. The Supreme Court must have been an intense concept — let alone actual experience — for a 17-year-old.

“I was really immersed in [my relationship with Shapiro],” said Tinker. “Then, a couple weeks after we got together it was time to go to the Supreme Court. [But] who cared about that?”
The trans community has earned a lot of recognition in recent years. Although 2015 saw the release of “Stonewall,” the whitewashed story of a cisgender male that deviates almost entirely from the true events of the Stonewall Riots, our generation has recently been exposed to more trans activists in the public eye than ever before.

Two of these most popular trans spokeswomen, Laverne Cox, from Netflix’s “Orange Is the New Black,” and Caitlyn Jenner, from “Keeping up with the Kardashians” and some sort of big sports competition in the 70s, have revolutionized how the public sees the trans community.

These two activists came to Fredonia recently to face off in a confidential venn diagram debate, and the results are in.

Laverne Cox:
- Is a person of color
- Fundraises for AIDS patients and trans organizations
- Advocates for trans rights at colleges across the nations
- Has education about modern gender philosophy
- Is an incredible actress
- Was the first transgender person to be on the cover of Times
- Speaks out against incorrect usage of pronouns and terminology
- Scientifically proven to be made out of literal cinnamon roll

Both:
- Provide important visibility for the trans community in the public sphere
- Represent beliefs held by a many Americans
- Fight to ease stigma against trans people
- Are really pretty
- Show people how far America has come in the fight for transgender equality

Caitlyn Jenner:
- Ran fast against Russia
- Fundraises for Republicans
- Advocates for herself on her new reality show, “I Am Cait”
- Has education about her own transition and struggles
- Once was in a viral GIF
- Pissed off Ellen Degeneres by saying that she was a “traditionalist” when it came to marriage equality, but is now down to “just go with it”
- Said that the transmisoginistic Halloween costume of her was “great”
Recently it was leaked, and then later confirmed, that Pope Francis had a secret meeting with infamous Kentucky County Clerk Kim Davis. Yes, she’s the one who refused to give out marriage licenses to gay couples. The meeting was announced by Davis’ lawyer, but was not verified until after the Vicar of Christ had returned to Rome.

Davis claimed that the Supreme Pontiff “thanked her for her courage,” told her to “stay strong” and even asked her to “pray for him.”

Francis has had a reputation of being a progressive pope, and even to some, an ally of the queer community. The news of the Pope’s secret meeting with villain of the queer community has seemed to tarnish Francis’s reputation in the eyes of many liberals.

For those of you who feel betrayed by His Holiness, the good news is there is more to the story. The secret meeting with Davis was not the only rendezvous carried out incognito by the pontiff. Francis had a lot to say in an exclusive interview with the Lampoon.

“I met with her. That is true. I have not denied that,” said Francis.

The pope was asked about the validity of Davis’s claims about what was said during their meeting.

“She told me a lot of things that she never admitted to anybody else. She needed to know that she is accepted, and that she is very brave. A lot of what I said to her was in very specific context,” admitted Francis. “She came clean about ‘sinful urges’ that she could not control. Mrs. Davis was very remorseful. It took a lot of courage for a woman like her to admit to being homosexual.”

So the truth comes out — Davis is a lesbian.

She has not changed her stance against gay marriage, however. Even though she struggles with her own sexuality, she still upholds her view that marriage should only be between a man and a woman.

Francis went on to say that he considers her a “true hero” for repressing her lesbian urges and that “God will forgive her for her sins.”

“There’s nothing more honorable than sticking to your faith, even if it means denying who you are,” said Francis, wiping a tear from his eye.

The Pope was emotionally moved by Davis’ actions and had to pause for a few moments before he could continue on. After regaining composure, he lightened the mood by joking that his only disappointment with her is that “she’s not Catholic.” He laughed at his own joke then threw his hands up, shrugged and exclaimed, “who am I to judge?”
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We were all warned about how gay marriage would ruin marriage for the normal people. After Obergefell v. Hodges, the landmark court case that ensured gay marriage would be legal in all 50 states, lives of straight Americans have been ultimately uprooted.

The traditional rule of marriage — the one that ensured all straight couples must maintain a consistent level of unhappiness with each of their relationships — has been called into question.

“I remember seeing how sad my parents were all the time when I was growing up,” said gay marriage denier Therese Onferteers. “Now that my boyfriend and I are getting married, I’m worried that we won’t have the same opportunity to not be satisfied.”

“We would have gotten away with it, too, if it wasn’t for those meddling gays.”

Ever since gay marriage has been legalized, straight people have started talking about how happy their marriages have made them, how they have a new sense of hope for the future, and how proud they are that their brothers and sisters can now experience this same happiness. This, they say, has ruined the sanctity of marriage.

“It’s just not natural,” Onferteers continued. “What’s next? Actually reading the Bible?”

“What if one of those gay men tries to flirt with me?” said straight man Marc Maiwards. “I’m not used to people finding me attractive at all. I might slip up and become a gay.”

These concerns were echoed by nearly every straight male we interviewed who had never heard of the third letter in “LGBT” or who never experimented in college.

Each straight person has noticed a distinct increase in self-appreciation, accompanied by a fall in sadness. Mental health has improved among the average American, and bakers have seen a rise in sales due to all the new weddings popping up — that is unless they went out of business before gay marriage was legalized.

Local lesbian Celeste Amerrier said, “I could see how my newfound happiness is ruining expectations of marriage across the country. I feel bad for everyone who now has to deal with seeing smiles and laughter.”

Though the outlook is bleak for bleakness, Onferteers said that she hasn’t given up her lack of hope. She believes that in 2016, things may take a turn for the worse in the best way possible.

“I know that if Donald Trump wins the election, the straights’ ideals of disparity and discrimination will return,” she said. “My only hope now is that he takes the hope away.”
FROM DRAGAPALOOZA, OCT. 2
PHOTOS BY: REBECCA HALE/ REVERB EDITOR

MS. DRAG FREDONIA 2015 FROSTIE MOCHA
PERFORMS TO A BEYONCE MASHUP.

DANIELLA DIAMONTE THROWS IT BACK WITH A MASHUP OF
"FERGALICIOUS" AND "MY HUMPS."

MR. DRAG FREDONIA 2015 JP MAKERQUAKE
PERFORMS TO A MIX OF JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE AND
THE WEEKND.

HOST AND FREDONIA ALUM KIMMI MOORE PERFORMS TO
BRITNEY SPEARS' "TOXIC."

JUDGE AND FREDONIA ALUM SINISTRA PERFORMS.