



## Speech pathology faculty prepare for May 2014 department closure



EVAN GOLDSTEIN/ASST. PHOTO EDITOR

With the final semester of the speech-language pathology department closing in, Geneseo's administration is working with department faculty to ease the transition out of the program.

**NICOLE SMITH**  
ASSOC. NEWS EDITOR

Next semester will be the speech-language pathology department's last at Geneseo. The closing of the program started in

fall 2010, when Geneseo faced a budget shortfall of \$7.2 million, losing around 40 percent of its state funding.

The administration made an executive decision to close some programs in order to rebuild oth-

ers, according to Interim President Carol Long.

Long said, at the time, the departments in question were beginning to lose strength across the campus. While choosing to cut these departments wasn't

an easy decision, it was part of a much broader effort to aid the students and faculty.

The administration tried to be as collaborative as possible with faculty in making these decisions. It worked with the Strategic Planning Group and the Budget Priorities Committee. Both of these are campus-wide groups that include representation from faculty, staff and students, according to Long.

"We provided comparative information on unidentified departments on quality, cost, enrollment, retention, graduation rate ... all the stuff you look at when making a decision like this," she said. "From this, we got in conversation with faculty about criteria they would like us to look at when making this decision."

It was this information that led to the decision to close the speech-language pathology department, along with the com-

See **SPEECH PATH** on page 3

## For AOP race not only factor

**REBECCA FITZGERALD**  
MANAGING EDITOR

Among the Geneseo students who are characterized as multicultural, roughly 500 students participate in the Access Opportunity Programs, addressing one of the common misperceptions about AOP and its students: Not all students of color on campus are accepted through AOP.

AOP students are from all backgrounds, making this different from affirmative action, according to AOP Director & Coordinator of Admissions Calvin Gantt.

Gantt described affirmative action as providing fair consideration for the same exact job to individuals. AOP, he said, looks at the big picture: the whole student.

"I'm looking at extenuating circumstances that may have impacted a student's ability to perform in high school, taking those types of things into consideration," he said.

Such factors include family obligations, such as taking leaves of absences to interpret for their family members at home and working to provide enough money to support their families. These factors are also considered while attending Geneseo.

Gantt further emphasized that AOP is not affirmative action because students aren't just given a spot.

All AOP students must successfully complete a month-long program during the summer before they are officially accepted into Geneseo. Both classes and lectures are offered, including mathematics and INTD 105: Writing Seminar.

The summer program helps more than the academic transition, though, adjunct lecturer of mathematics Aimee Rose said. She has taught the past six summers and sees how, similarly to all incoming freshmen, AOP stu-

See **AOP** on page 2

## Student reps address SUNY policy

**ERIC MEYER**  
STAFF WRITER

The State University of New York's Student Assembly discussed policies for individual schools and the SUNY Student Assembly as a whole at its bi-annual General Assembly Conference in Rochester from Nov. 8-10.

The conference addressed issues such as tuition assistance, textbook affordability and transparency, blood donor equality and SUNY's Seamless Transfer Policy, but only after an opening day of procedural programming.

Geneseo's Student Association President senior Forrest Regan, along with sophomore Gina Villazhinay represented Geneseo at the conference. The two students voted on nonbinding issues that helped to provide insight for SUNY Student Assembly President Tremayne Price, who is a graduate student at the Univer-

sity of Albany. Price is the sole voting student representative on the SUNY Board of Trustees.

During the first day, the General Assembly managed to accept an agenda, approve last conference's minutes, which had been lost, and vote in a special election for a new vice president.

The SUNY Student Assembly advocated for an increase in the amount and duration of assistance from the New York State Tuition Assistance Program. Federal advocacy also passed in support of the return to a lower fixed interest rate on student loans, separate from the market.

A memorandum on textbook affordability brought up many ideas, new and old, about textbook options for students. SUNY has begun to develop of a new program titled "Open SUNY Textbooks." The program allows free full access to SUNY faculty-developed textbooks for many popular introductory-level



ERIC MEYER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SUNY Student Assembly President Tremayne Price and Geneseo Student Association President senior Forrest Regan participated in discussions at the General Assembly Conference from Nov. 8-10.

classes. As of now, a pilot program includes books on North American history and humanities, with 15 new titles coming.

Additionally, a representative from the graduate program at the University of Buffalo brought up an often-ignored

higher education act meant to aid students in choosing classes based on textbook prices.

The Higher Education Opportunity Act, Section 112 Pro-

See **STUDENT ASSEMBLY** on page 4

### WHAT'S INSIDE?

**OPINION**

Chinese pollution responsible for elevated cancer rate **PG. 6**

**A & E**

Studio art professor preserves student photo archive **PG. 12**

**KNIGHTS' LIFE**

Veteran celebrates American identity **PG. 13**

**SPORTS**

Women's soccer falls in championship **PG. 20**

# Education students, faculty react to SUNY emphasis on GPA, GRE scores



ZOE FINN/ASST. PHOTO EDITOR

As SUNY increases academic expectations for future teachers, students and faculty examine the implications of valuing grades over personal merit.

## EMMA BIXLER

ASST. NEWS EDITOR

On Sept. 18, the State University of New York Board of Trustees announced a new resolution to take effect in fall 2015 for both undergraduates and graduates enrolling in SUNY Schools of Education and Teacher Preparatory Programs, which requires a 3.0 grade point average for all applicants and Graduate Record Examinations test scores.

The effort behind these measures originated with a governor's panel recommendation to SUNY's administrators to help strengthen the quality of developing teachers through the SUNY system. Observing countries like Finland, who have successfully implemented these academic requirements in their own teacher preparatory programs, gave hope to the Board of Trustees to replicate something similar in the SUNY system.

SUNY Distinguished Service Professor of the Ella Cline Shear

School of Education at Geneseo Dennis Showers discussed different factors of the developing academic standards, as well as the dangers in executing these measures in the statewide system. Showers said that SUNY is trying to get ahead of the state education department and essentially enforcing standards that may become regulation in the future.

In regards to Geneseo, Showers said that implementing new academic requirements would change the 2.75 GPA standard

already put in place, lowering the pool of possible applicants. It would also limit the college from waiving this 2.75 GPA mandate in special cases where a promising student fails to attain the required grade.

"Geneseo can waive rules we make, but we can't waive SUNY rules, and we can't waive State Education rules," Showers said. "We didn't make them. We can't alter them."

The Board of Trustees' resolution does, however, give an alternative to the 3.0 GPA requirement: Freshmen who enter universities with a declared major in education can be evaluated on their high school transcripts rather than a college GPA. Those who fall within the top 30 percent of their high school class are deemed eligible for admission to SUNY schools of education.

"The impact would be more on the underrepresented student populations," Dean of the Ella Cline Shear School of Education Anjoo Sikka said. Underrepresented populations include those students in SUNY Access Opportunity Programs, women in science, technology, engineering and math fields and men in elementary education.

Another concern is the threat this academic requirement might pose to students enrolled in a SUNY school but not yet enrolled in their education departments.

"We don't know how many students who would have applied will now decide not to apply because it's getting so difficult," Sikka said.

Others argue that GPA is not a sufficient indicator of a student's potential success.

"I don't think GPA would be the best indicator," Lauren Pearsall, a student currently enrolled in the School of Education graduate program, said. "I think that New York State should look more at the qualities of the person as they're applying."

Pearsall related this to previous students who she knew didn't have a GPA of 3.0 but who thrived in their school's department of education.

"They didn't have as strong of grades, but when it was involved with education or student teaching, they did perfectly fine," she said. "They were fantastic teachers."

This new criteria not only affects undergraduates but graduate students as well, who will be required to take the GRE under the new resolution.

"The problem is a number of SUNY schools, including Geneseo, have used the GRE for a number of years and were giving it up because it's not a useful predictor of student success," Showers said. "They're making us go back to

See **EDUCATION** on page 4

## AOP

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

dents face the challenge of adjusting to college life.

"They have that four-week period to adjust to campus life, and being independent of their parents and also becoming a little bit more familiar with how to manage their time," she said.

Aside from the summer program, AOP students must fulfill additional requirements depending on the specific program.

### The distinction between EOP and TOP

The department is divided between two programs: the Arthur Eve Higher Education Opportunity Program and the Transitional Opportunity Program.

EOP was introduced to the State University of New York system in 1968 to provide higher education opportunities to "traditionally by-passed" New York State residents, according to Geneseo's AOP website.

According to the same website, AOP aims to support "historically, underrepresented minority group students." At Geneseo, however, 50 percent of EOP students are not students of color.

Since it is a state-supported program, New York State sets the guidelines, Gantt said. Both academic and financial criteria are examined for admissions, such as grade point average, SAT

scores, New York State residency status and household income.

But just because of their lower financial status, AOP students do not receive a free ride to Geneseo, as some perceive, Gantt said.

EOP students receive a \$1,500 grant from the state each academic year to help with expenses. All AOP students, though, must pay an additional \$1,250 in fees to cover housing, meals, materials and academic advisement during the summer program.

TOP, on the other hand, is Geneseo-specific. Created in 1985, the late former AOP Director Isom Fearn looked at which students were denied from both AOP and general admissions and found that "there was a relatively large population of underrepresented students that were talented students ... [but] they just didn't meet the entrance requirements for Geneseo," Gantt said.

As a result, TOP addressed the lack of underrepresented students and attempted to diversify the campus.

The program has expanded since, welcoming other underrepresented students, including new immigrants with less than six years in the United States and adult students 24 years and older. TOP is opening the program to first-generation college students and those from rural school districts next year.

"It's really a catch-all program to really, I think, have the campus more reflective of the diversity of New York State as it exists," Gantt said.

### A "tough love" family

After AOP students decide to attend Geneseo, one of the main objectives of the department, Gantt said, is to provide a support system away from home.

Academic growth along with personal growth is reinforced through mentor programs and student development initiatives, Men Incorporating Leadership Empowerment and Service, Women's Leadership Institute, Minority Association of Pre-Health Students and Chi Alpha Epsilon honor society.

Gantt said AOP students are challenged, resulting in "a lot of tough love that happens in this program, but in the end ... it [is] a family.

That tough love doesn't drive AOP students away. For some, including WLI student advisor senior Klarissa Garcia, the department is the "default place to go," home to some of these students' most meaningful relationships from college.

"It's something I am going to take with me and has made me who I am today just because they're consistent and you always need that in college, to have that one person who's always there," she said. ♦

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# Early admission extended following Common App delay

**ERIN DUFFY**

STAFF WRITER

A delay in processing the Common Application has prompted Geneseo's Office of Admissions to extend the early decision application deadline to Dec. 1, 2013.

Previously, early decision applicants submitted their Common Application by Nov. 15.

The delay came about when several early decision applicants experienced difficulty in uploading their files through the Common Application program. According to Director of Admissions Kris Shay, the Common App recently redesigned its software programs. This made it difficult for a few potential students to upload their applications.

"Some information wasn't transposing correctly into our system," Shay said. Campus Information Technology services helped to clear up the problem, but there were processing delays for several applications.

Geneseo extended the deadline in order to give students a chance to resubmit or correct their applications if theirs were among those that failed to process.

In comparison to other universities, Geneseo had very few difficulties in making the transition to the new Common App, according to Shay.

"We have the luxury of [a later deadline]," Shay said. "Our responses don't go out until March 1, so we had more time ... to iron up the kinks. We're very lucky." ♦

# Sudanese 'Lost Boy' shares story of perseverance



EVAN GOLDSTEIN/ASST. PHOTO EDITOR

Sudanese Civil War survivor John Dau discussed his journey from Southern Sudan to a Syracuse University student at his Nov. 13 All-College Hour lecture. According to Dau, forgiving the past is the key to a successful future.

**MARIA PRIORE**

STAFF WRITER

The All-College Hour Speaker Series on Wednesday Nov. 13 featured John Dau, one of the surviving Lost Boys of Sudan featured in the 2006 Documentary God Grew Tired of Us.

Dau was born in Southern Sudan, and in 1987, when he was just 12 years old, the northern Arab government ravaged his village, and Dau was forced to flee.

What followed was a torturous three-month journey to Ethiopia riddled with the threat of starvation, disease and dehydration. Dau described his period of struggle – how he was put in charge of a group of nearly 200 other lost boys in which two or three children died each day, their bodies thrown into shallow graves, or worse, mangled by hyenas. Still, Dau asserts his mantra, which he proclaimed several times during his lecture: "We didn't give up."

## Speech path

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

puter science and studio art departments.

"Nobody wanted to do this. None of these three departments are departments anyone would have chosen to close if we had our druthers," Long said.

Due to the discontinuation of these programs, those in charge of the decision helped the departments' faculty pave paths for their future. The administration aided them in job searches, granted phased retirement plans, which allow professors to teach fewer courses than previous years at a salary higher than adjunct pay, and offered some the option to remain working at Geneseo in other departments.

From Ethiopia, Dau traveled to Kenya, where he first attended school, and in 2001 he came to the United States. He now resides in Syracuse, where he is pursuing a college degree from Syracuse University and said he is "living the American Dream."

Dau said he believes there are two main reasons he survived such hardships: perseverance and believing in the eventual resolution of his troubles.

"In my culture, we have a saying that goes, 'Every serious problem has an end,'" he said.

Dau referenced the problems faced by former President George Washington and his army in the American Revolution as well as America's struggles leading up to and during the Civil War. Though the situations were dire, the struggling and suffering came to an end, and the heroes prevailed. Dau asked his audience to reflect on their own struggles and to ask themselves, if all of these people are able to persevere and prevail in the end, why can't we?

"I believe in things like suffering," Dau said. He pointed to a chair and said, "In order for this chair to become beautiful, it had to go through a fire to be molded into something we like. So, as human beings, we must go through suffering so that we are molded and made anew in whatever we are doing."

Dau said he also believes that he triumphed with the help of God.

"God helped me and spared my life ... to help other people," he said.

"It's so sweet to give back to a community that raised you," Dau said. "This is what I am doing today. I'm giving back to the people in Africa."

He asked that we all contribute and give back to our own community.

"Don't think about what happened in your past," he said. "Forgive yourself. Forgive what happened in your life, and you will be able to move forward from here." ♦

"We closed about \$2 million on the side of these decisions. The other \$5.2 million we closed through other means, taking staff reductions elsewhere, through economies in energy efficiency and other kinds of choices," she said.

Using the money saved due to these cuts, Geneseo hired some temporary full-time professors last year in order to balance the school through the transition. In the 2013-2014 school year, the college began to hire faculty to the tenure line, according to Long.

Multiple professors in the speech-language pathology department declined to be interviewed.

"It's upsetting that such a great program was discontinued

and will end after this semester," speech-language pathology major senior Rebecca Lodi said. "The program gave back to members of the community with its speech and language clinic and is a great profession to be associated with."

Long said that the program has been successful and transformative.

"If you speak with people whose lives have been so much improved by the work of the program, not only our students but people in the community, it's a tremendous loss," she said. "Again, this isn't anything we would have chosen to do without real strategic challenges." ♦

## THE MONITOR

### Campus Police Log

Nov. 3 - **Criminal Mischief**, Steuben Hall, 2:34 a.m.

Nov. 4 - **Sexual Misconduct**, Nassau Hall, 11 p.m.

Nov. 4 - **Possession of Forged Instrument**, Schrader Hall, 11:56 a.m.

Nov. 4 - **Criminal Mischief**, Onondaga Hall, 5 p.m.

Nov. 9 - **Arson**, Putnam Hall, 2:40 a.m.

### Village Police Log

Nov. 7 - **Petit Larceny**, Veteran Drive

Nov. 7 - **Driving While Intoxicated**, Center Street

Nov. 8 - **Fraudulent ID Detail**, 14 violations

Quality of Life Arrests - 15 arrests

### Announcements:

#### Child Safety Seat Check Event

Monday Nov. 18 and Monday Dec. 2 between 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. Geneseo Fire Hall on Center Street. No appointment necessary.

\*\* Funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration with a grant from the New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee

Source: University Police and Geneseo Police  
Order determined by time incident was logged.

# A local push to renew fracking moratorium

**NICOLE SMITH**  
ASSOC. NEWS EDITOR

After the Town of Avon's fracking moratorium banning efforts within the town limits expired in March 2013, the Livingston County community has come together to educate themselves on ways to ensure fracking will not take place in the future.

The moratorium originally called for one year without hydrofracking on the town's land, according to Darcy Young, member of Frack Free Genesee.

Frack Free Genesee is an organization that collects data and coordinates efforts across townships throughout the Finger Lakes region, including Livingston County, and remains informed about state-level discussions and actions surrounding fracking.

Hydraulic fracturing is a process designed to extract natural gas from the earth. In order to release this natural gas, high-pressure combinations of water and chemicals are forced onto the rocks shielding the gas.

President of the Genesee Environmental Organization senior Jen Benson said, "The moratorium was put in place so towns would have time to come up with

other types of protection [against fracking]."

She mentioned some protective options, one being zoning. Zoning is a device of land-use planning utilized by local governments in most developed countries. While she said zoning might be more of an unconventional approach, it would prevent instances of fracking within the town of Genesee.

According to Young, while the moratorium was in place, residents in Genesee used this opportunity of protection from fracking efforts to educate themselves about the issue.

"Having the moratorium had a positive effect in that it brought the issue [of fracking] to the forefront, so the town and community could see the concerns and become educated," Young said. "We as a community have watched what other towns and what the state is doing and what it could mean for Genesee."

The moratorium was initially meant to expire after a year, but the town renewed for an additional six months, and it expired June 28.

According to Benson, Avon is currently in the process of renewing the moratorium yet again.

Young explained that there is not as strong a push for a second moratorium in Genesee as there is in other neighboring towns.

"I definitely think it is imperative to have a moratorium in place, especially because we don't know what's going on at the state level," Benson said. "It's important for towns to use the home rule; using it preserves community power. The home rule scares energy corporations because it has been standing up in court cases."

The home rule gives towns and municipalities the right to guard what happens in their borders despite what the rules are statewide.

If companies instituted fracking in or near Genesee, this would lead to an increase of truck traffic through the town as well as an influx of workers, as jobs would be brought to the community. According to Young, noise and air pollution would become an issue.

Because of this, both GEO and Frack Free Genesee are working to stop fracking efforts. Frack Free Genesee provides additional information about prevention and upcoming events on its website. ♦

## Education

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

something we gave up because we didn't see any use in it."

To combat these issues, a committee of SUNY faculty will develop an analysis on the most prominent factors that indicate the success of a student in education. The committee will present their findings to the Board of Trustees

with the hopes of mending the resolution to fit students in areas beyond academic achievement.

"Teachers have to function in very global ways," Sikka said. "They have to focus on the whole child. GPA and academic excellence is a necessary criterion, but it is not a sufficient criterion for being a good teacher." ♦

## Student Assembly

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

vision D states that schools receiving federal assistance must disclose the ISBN number and retail price of any required materials at the time of registration.

"[Students] blindly [register] for classes without knowing how much book expenses are going to be," Villazhinay said, expressing concerns on the behalf of Genesee students.

She suggested professors post book lists during registration periods instead of a few weeks before classes begin.

Stony Brook University sponsored a memorandum calling for the repeal of a Federal Drug Administration ban on blood donations from men who have had sexual contact with men. While the memorandum was widely supported, some felt it did not do enough. The memorandum did not include any stipulations relating to women, who are also prevented from donating

if they have sexually engaged with men who have had sexual contact with other men. It was decided that the repeal of one would imply the other.

A representative from SUNY Fredonia brought up SUNY's Seamless Transfer Policy. The policy increases the number of number of general education requirements to 30 credits in seven out of 10 subjects, setting standard expectations for introductory-level classes and capping required credits by a department at 120.

"This agenda only restricts SUNY students' options and tampers the reputations of individual institutions, like Genesee," Regan said. Regan added an amendment allowing for schools to identify those programs it felt should be exempt from the proposed cap.

The Seamless Transfer Policy passed with Regan's amendment. ♦

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# OPINION



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## STAFF EDITORIAL:

# Where climate change is already rearing its ugly head

The destruction in the Philippines wrought by Typhoon Haiyan is the latest in a string of extreme weather events that have occurred over the past decade.

As climate change continues unabated, these events have increased in frequency and impact. Unfortunately, most of the areas that get hit the hardest have the weakest infrastructure and the most underdeveloped economies to respond adequately.

Mayor of Tacloban Alfred Romualdez recently said that residents should flee the city. He said he was worried that the city would not be able to provide basic services and he feared the breakdown of law and order. Already, Romualdez had to choose between using the meager resources at his disposal to either provide food and water or to dispose of the dead bodies in the streets.

Now Naderev Sano, a delegate of the Philippines Climate Change Commission, is taking a stand. At the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Warsaw, Poland on Tuesday Nov. 12, Sano said he will be going on a hunger strike "until a meaningful outcome is in sight."

According to *The Guardian*, researchers have found a definitive link between climate change and the rising intensity of storms.

According to professor Myles Allen of the University of Oxford, "The current consensus is that climate change is not making the risk of hurricanes any greater, but there are physical arguments and evidence that there is a risk of more intense hurricanes." Specifically, rising water temperatures increase storms' strengths, and rising water levels increase the risk of flooding.

Meanwhile, the developed countries chiefly responsible for the greenhouse gas emissions that drive global warming do not seem to be taking the talks seriously. Australia failed to send its environment minister, who preferred to stay home in order to work on the dismantling of Australia's carbon tax.

A United States briefing on the Warsaw climate summit obtained by *The Guardian* revealed that the U.S. is worried that the typhoon will lead to extreme weather events dominating the talks. The U.S. opposed proposals of damage payments at last year's talks in Qatar and insisted that any money should be referred to as "aid."

The briefing shows that the U.S. is unwilling to participate in a meaningful discussion on remediating the effects of climate change.

Countries like the Philippines should not have to rely on humanitarian aid packages pieced together after each disaster. Rather, there should be a comprehensive compensation plan in which high-emission countries take financial responsibility for their role in causing climate change.

Developed countries, such as Japan, have the resources to rebuild after natural disasters like the 2011 earthquake and tsunami. Other countries depend on humanitarian aid pieced together after each disaster.

Developed countries' consumption can serve as a cautionary example for nations in the midst of development. Rather than investing in the types of pollution-heavy industry that spurred China's rapid growth, developing countries should look to greener and more sustainable initiatives. ♦

# Ban on trans fat reveals FDA's wildly misplaced priorities



**BRIAN DOLAN**  
COLUMNIST

The Food and Drug Administration has removed trans fat from the list of edibles that it labels "generally recognized as safe."

Trans fat has been linked to coronary heart disease, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention predicts that further reduction of trans fat in diets could prevent up to 7,000 deaths from heart disease and up to 20,000 heart attacks per year.

States like New York and Pennsylvania, as well some municipalities in California, have already enacted similar legislation against trans fat. Additionally, many of the nation's largest restaurant chains and grocery companies cut out trans fat from their foods as early as 2005.

Even if the FDA's intentions for public health are

genuine, this new measure hits close to home for many people in the metropolitan area who were outraged by the proposed ban on large sodas in New York City.

Heritage Foundation research fellow Daren Bakst, who is an agriculture specialist, wrote on his blog that the FDA "is ignoring the most important issue: the freedom of Americans."

Food producers have been required to specify the amount of trans fat in their food since 2006. Those Americans who are conscientious enough to look at food labels and make their own responsible decisions about their diet should not have their diet regulated like children because of the irresponsible decision-making of a few who choose to ignore nutrition labels.

The ban also puts a strain on food producers, who typically use the additive because it increases the shelf life of their products. Many companies use a very small amount of the ingredient for this purpose alone, allowing them to list amount of

trans fat as zero if the product contains less than half a gram.

Another question the removal of trans fat from food labels raises is why the FDA chose to single out trans fat, especially given that many companies and localities have essentially preempted this new legislation with regulations of their own.

For instance, if reducing disease and fatalities is of such importance to the FDA, why are they not increasing the regulations on cigarettes or even outlawing them? The FDA has control over tobacco regulation under the Tobacco Control Act. According to the CDC, tobacco smoking is estimated to cause more than 440,000 deaths annually. Given this figure, the 7,000 lives annually that might be saved from the elimination of trans fat pales in comparison to deaths caused by cigarette smoking.

The tobacco industry, however, is a large source of revenue for the federal government as a result of the high taxes on tobacco products. Thus, it is unlikely that we will ever see the

FDA make any moves to outlaw tobacco, even though this would be far more beneficial to public health than eliminating trans fat will be.

While the removal of the ingredient has not stirred the kind of libertarian-conservative slugfest that typically follows regulations like this, many are concerned that trans fat legislation could be a springboard for the FDA to start limiting the amounts of sugar, salt and other ingredients in our food.

Harvard University professor Walter Willett said in an interview with the *Los Angeles Times* that regulating salt and sugar as additives would hardly be as easy as making a decision to ban trans fat. He said that salt is an essential nutrient and that sugar is not harmful when consumed at reasonable levels.

So as far as future regulation of sugar and sodium levels, it appears that our food is safe for now. ♦

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

“ If you were the president, who would you want to pardon? ”

Last week's question: What is your excuse for not voting on Tuesday?

Our favorite responses:

- I believe in hereditary rule
- I am a victim of Republican voter suppression
- Anarchy

Tweet @TheLamron with #lamronquestion or comment on our Facebook page.

# The ignored victims of 'stand your ground'

## The dangers of paranoia mixed with profiling



**JESSICA HEPLER**  
ASST. OPINION EDITOR

It is 2:30 a.m. on a Saturday. You just got in a car accident in a suburban neighborhood. You have a dead phone battery.

What do you do? Knock on a resident's door? Wrong answer, especially if you are a black woman in a predominately white neighborhood. For 19-year-old Detroit resident Renisha McBride, this is exactly how she lost her life.

It is 2:30 a.m. on a Saturday. You wake up to someone knocking at your door – wait, why the hell is anyone knocking at your door at this time?

Do you ignore it and hope they leave? Call the police if you're scared? Or do you shoot them and then fail to call 911?

This isn't the most logical thing to do if there is no sign that you or your home is in danger, unless, of course, you're in a state with "stand your ground" laws.

The homeowner said he shot McBride in "self-defense." Curiously, Dearborn Heights, Mich. police initially told a different story in which McBride's body was dumped near the home, relinquishing the homeowner of any responsibility.

The Wayne County Prosecutor's office has thus far refused to issue an arrest warrant until further information is collected. Police have also refused to identify the homeowner who shot her, which is rather suspicious. Who are they trying to protect?

Journalist Rania Khalek said that "stand your ground" laws encourage "self-defense" in the case of "perceived" threats. In a racist society, obvious or not, we can never assume that our perceptions are unbiased.

In McBride's case, she was unarmed. She knocked at the door for help and was shot. There were no broken windows or any clear sign of danger reported from the homeowner. For McBride, however, the danger lay in knocking

on doors in a neighborhood that is 86 percent white.

Unfortunately, the law will likely hold the homeowner unaccountable for slaying McBride since Michigan is a "stand your ground" state. Often, such laws protect murders in which race plays a factor.

According to an analysis by MetroTrends, in "stand your ground" killings, white-on-black murders are far more likely to be found justified than in non-"stand your ground" states. Even in the states without such laws, white-on-black homicides are still more likely to be found justified. It's difficult to argue that there isn't an implicit bias in such scenarios.

Does this sound familiar? George Zimmerman was found

innocent for the murder of Trayvon Martin, an unarmed teenager. Racists came out of the woodwork to call Martin a "thug," imposing their prejudices onto a child.

"Stand your ground" laws are the reason Zimmerman was found innocent. It would be unsurprising if these same laws motivate officers to keep the homeowner's identity protected.

There are prejudices that influence the police's decisions, and certainly, the laws in place are inherently prejudiced, given the statistics. We can only hope that the shooter will not only be revealed to the public – as should always be the case – but also brought to justice for the cold-blooded slaying of McBride. ♦

## SCOTUS tackles public prayer



**BRIAN REMY**  
COLUMNIST

The United States Supreme Court heard arguments on Nov. 6 regarding the controversial issue of public prayer. The case *Town of Greece v. Galloway* is poised to decide the future of prayer in government buildings across the country.

Greece, N.Y., a suburb of Rochester, is the main focus of the case. Every Greece town board meeting opens with a prayer. Per the 1983 Supreme Court case *Marsh v. Chambers*, legislative prayers are constitutional as long as there is no discrimination in selecting which religious groups are represented.

Does Greece adhere to the rulings of this case? No.

Tom Lynch of the Bahá'í faith has opened the board meetings twice. One was in 2008 when this issue was first brought to the public, and the second time was in 2013 when the case went to the Supreme Court. Coincidence? I would guess not.

Out of more than 130 prayers, people of non-Christian faiths offered four. How could this be considered nondiscriminatory? The town of Greece does not care about including other religions; residents only care about trying to appear innocent.

Susan Galloway, a 51-year-old Jewish resident of Greece, said she feels as if this tradition conflicts with the establishment clause of the First Amendment, which states, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion."

A Federal Court of Appeals in New York sided with Galloway when it found that roughly two-thirds of the prayers offered before board meetings contained the words and phrases associated with Christianity, which included "Jesus Christ," "Jesus," "Your Son" and "The Holy Spirit."

President Barack Obama said that he supports the town of Greece in a Justice Department amicus curiae brief that questions the Federal Court of Appeals' assertion, and said that phrases like "Holy Spirit" could apply to many religions, such as Islam. This is absolutely ludicrous, for if a person of Christian faith says the phrase, then it refers to the Christian "Holy Spirit."

The administration is going back on many of its views of separation of church and state. It is unfathomable to see why the Obama administration would side with the town of Greece. It not only goes against its own views, but it goes against the Supreme Court's 1983 ruling.

Greece Town Supervisor John T. Auberger said, "Our founding fathers believed in the right for us to pray and have that freedom of expression of prayer, and that's what we offer here today in 2013 in the town of Greece."

Auberger is right that the expression of prayer is a freedom stated in the First Amendment, but so is the establishment clause.

Galloway echoed the ideas of this clause when she said, "I think, for the protection of government as well as the protection of religion, that they need to be separate." She added, "When religion gets involved with government, it can corrupt government."

Greece is clearly violating the establishment clause. For when any level of government has prayer before legislation is discussed, that government implicitly endorses that prayer's religion over all others. ♦

## Pollution responsible for China's public health crisis



**MADDY SMITH**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

For those who cannot grasp the extent to which pollution can actually cause harm, how about this: an 8-year-old with lung cancer.

Breaking the record as China's youngest lung cancer patient, the child's case brings to the forefront the high costs and risks of rapid economic development without carbon emission regulation. She was exposed to tiny atmospheric particulate matter from human activity that was dense around her roadside home, including transportation and industrial operations.

Frightening, but not unique: According to the World Health Organization, more than half of pollution-caused lung cancer deaths occur in East Asia, and officials at the China Ministry of Health report that lung cancer deaths in China have increased fourfold in 30 years.

The case is indicative of the deterioration to which China's cities are vulnerable and the lack of oversight that caused the child's cancer. It should provide insight into the need for global interjection to ensure that environmental regulation plays a key role in developing countries' growth plans.

The world did not confront China's lack of energy regulation or recognize potential consequences. When China enacted the \$586 billion stimulus package in 2008 that allowed it to soar economically through the global recession, it became the largest exporter in the world,

and has averaged a 10 percent growth in gross domestic product for the past 30 years.

But that growth comes with negative externalities. According to a 2013 report by the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency, China contributes 29 percent – compared to the United States at 15 percent – to total global carbon emissions. While the U.S. and the European Union found a decrease in carbon emissions from 2011-2012, China continued to increase, albeit at a "slower" rate of 3 percent.

If we delve deeper than the nationwide measurements, of the 20 most polluted cities in the world, 16 of them are in China.

In allowing massive urban growth spurred by similar pushes like China's stimulus packages in 2008, the country has cost itself too much in both the health of its people and its efficiency.

According to a Massachusetts Institute of Technology study in 2012 that analyzed the costs of health impacts from particulate matter, pollution came with a quantified cost to the Chinese economy of \$112 billion in 2005 alone. Compare that to a \$22 billion cost in 1975.

The study found two main causes for the increase in pollution costs: growing urbanization and higher incomes that increased cost of both labor lost and leisure. In other words, growth; in historical examinations, we see growth and economic development always noted with population shifts to cities and higher wages for citizens.

But when this growth happens very quickly, things get dirty – literally. Urban Chinese citizens across the country suffer daily on their commutes to work; on some days, public transportation is pointless because drivers cannot see. Especially in north-

ern China, where central heating is set to operate for the duration of winter, grey smog is likely to remain and cause further complications.

Recent attempts to curb intense industrial city pollution are entering the discussion too late. China has recently implemented various measures that include more transparency, a reduction of emissions and emergency response plans for heavy pollution.

But before, or even a little bit after, the nation started to grow at an exponential rate, China should have adopted and explored alternative energy solutions to ensure long-term sustainability and safety for its citizens. In regulation through raising the production cost to industries for carbon-emissions, it could have protected itself and avoided what is now a dark and smog-ridden reality. ♦

### THE WAY WE SEE IT

-  Snapchat turned down a \$3 billion, all-cash buyout from Facebook. Stay true, Snapchat, stay true.
-  Justin Bieber's trip to Brazil included illegal graffiti and high-end prostitutes. A day in the life of the Biebs.
-  "Eastbound and Down" is coming to a close on Sunday night. As sad as it is to see Kenny Powers go, this final season has been a masterpiece.
-  The New York Knicks are reportedly in talks to deal Iman Shumpert to the Nuggets. Don't do this to us, Dolan. We've suffered enough.

# Supposedly ‘liberal’ media serves to protect whoever’s in charge



**JOSHUA DEJOY**  
ASST. OPINION EDITOR

News organizations like *The New York Times* and MSNBC are commonly held to be “leftist,” biased in favor of expanding civil liberties and otherwise generally progressive.

On the contrary, however, they have degenerated to the point of sycophancy.

Nowhere is this more exposed than in the “left’s” coverage of the National Security Agency’s surveillance program and whistleblower Edward Snowden’s subsequent flight from American retaliation. A recent dialogue between Bill Keller, former executive edi-

tor of the *Times*, and Glenn Greenwald, a former journalist for *The Guardian*, is particularly revealing.

Further contextualization is useful, though. Keller’s work at the *Times* is extremely disappointing. In 2004, the *Times* representatives met with officials from former President George W. Bush’s administration to discuss a massive scoop picked up by the *Times* reporters: The NSA was wiretapping American citizens without warrants.

While this looks like peanuts compared to more recent revelations of an NSA vacuum consuming Skype calls, emails, phone calls, SMS messages, traffic information and social media profiles, this was groundbreaking news.

At the behest of the Bush administration, the *Times* waited until 2005 – after the 2004 presidential election, it should be noted – to reveal this story. This disturbing

delay at the request of a criminal and, at that point, unelected, administration highlights the servile deference of establishment media.

Meanwhile, Keller, now an op-ed columnist, has found his work assailed by Greenwald and others. Perhaps it was his character assassination of Chelsea Manning, who contacted the *Times* but after not receiving a call back, went to WikiLeaks to publish the cache of American documents instead.

Or maybe it was the fact that columnists for various allegedly left-wing news organizations have called for Snowden to turn himself in. Despite the fact that he would forfeit his freedom, if not his life, he is told unceasingly to come on home – as if the country that revoked his passport, whose president has decreed a guilty verdict from on high and whose media berate him is still “home.”

In an embarrassingly condescending “open letter” to

Snowden, MSNBC host Melissa Harris-Perry said, “Come on back to the [United States], Ed.”

She blames Snowden for media scrutiny of his actions and said, “By engaging in this Tom Hanks-worthy, border-jumping drama through some of the world’s most totalitarian states, [he is] making [himself] the story.”

I guess the totalitarian states Harris-Perry alluded to were, in chronological order, America, China and Russia.

Keller, in his correspondence with Greenwald, attempted to defend and justify his actions when he said that the *Times* journalists set their opinions “aside to follow the facts – as a judge in court is supposed to set aside prejudices to follow the law and the evidence – [and they] can often produce results that are more substantial and more credible” than Greenwald’s editorialist style.

This is a smokescreen behind which Keller tries to hide the *Times*’ undying obedience to executive authority, which includes description of waterboarding as “enhanced interrogation” when the U.S. does it and “torture” if an unfriendly regime does it. This is in addition to uncritically publishing the Bush administration’s assertions that weapons of mass destruction were present in Iraq.

Keller’s purportedly objective journalism merely hides the very real and influential biases of his reporters behind a mask of objectivity.

Greenwald succinctly summed up the current crisis of journalism when he said, “Reporting is reduced to ‘X says Y’ rather than ‘X says Y and that’s false.’”

Blindly and unquestioningly publishing state propaganda is a poor substitute for journalism. Rather, it is a recipe for dictatorship and repression. ♦

## What does the Rob Ford scandal say about our celeb-obsessed culture? The mistreatment of troubled public figures



NATHAN DENETTE/AP PHOTO

Toronto Mayor Rob Ford recently admitted to using crack cocaine after months of denial.



**KEVIN FRANKEL**  
OPINION EDITOR

Given the royal treatment they receive from the media and the adoring public, it can become easy to forget that celebrities are real people.

That may sound cliché, but actually take a moment

to consider what that entails. Celebrities are subject to the same highs and lows as us. You know, the things that make all of us human.

Among those lows is the capacity to screw up massively. I don’t know anyone, myself included, who has never done something they have instantly regretted. Normally, we meet these mistakes with understanding because compassion and empathy are also innate human characteristics.

But when our beloved public figures do something

embarrassing, we are unable to do anything but turn their names into punch lines. When Mayor of Toronto Rob Ford recently admitted to smoking crack cocaine after months of denial, it only unleashed a torrent of new jokes at his expense.

Never mind that Ford, who comes from a family with a history of addiction and shows signs of alcoholism himself, is clearly in need of help. Instead, because he is constantly in the public eye, we need him to be a beacon of unimpeach-

able character. Any other person in his shoes would have people rushing to help him. Instead, Ford gets to turn on the news and watch people make fun of him.

In the case of former U.S. Rep. Anthony Weiner, he could have handled himself with more grace in his reaction to his sexting scandal. Furthermore, he should not have been sending those messages given the fact that he’s married and has a child. Criticizing him for either of those things would be valid. Instead, what we got were people making fun of the actual messages.

I’m not going to defend Weiner, but the fact that the public gets off on making fun of someone’s private messages is pathetic, not to mention lazy. Chances are you or someone you know has sexted before, whether it was with a significant other or a casual acquaintance.

If you were to read those conversations back, it would sound ridiculous. That is why those conversations are typically kept private. You wouldn’t ask your friends to share their sexts with you because that is a breach of privacy.

In our celebrity-obsessed culture, however, the public feels entitled to access every facet of celebrities’ private lives. When we find something that is the least bit vulnerable

or potentially compromising, we latch on to it like vultures that feed off of the embarrassment of others.

The humor of these circumstances lies in the disparity between one’s public and private persona. But again, what makes that different from any one of us? Celebrities serve the public, just as you might serve your boss. You wouldn’t act the same way in front of your boss and your close friends.

These different personas are what make people functional members of society. The ability to assess a situation and act accordingly is a pretty fundamental human trait.

This brings me back to my original point. Celebrities are just people. Imagine how jarring it would be to live under the assumption that your every move is watched by millions of people. It is so incredibly dehumanizing. So the next time a politician or a singer has some sort of “scandal,” ask yourself how egregious it really is. ♦

Contact the  
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# CLASSIFIEDS

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Musical Theatre Club revisits classic game show with “Legends of the Hidden Tempo”

**OLIVER DIAZ**  
STAFF WRITER

Musical Theatre Club revises a popular '90s kids game show for its fall revue, “Legends of the Hidden Tempo” in hopes of stirring nostalgia throughout campus and to uncover the legend of the Alice Austin Theatre.

For those unfamiliar with MTC, the group “takes a bunch of songs from different musicals and fits them into the show,” in most cases changing the lyrics, according to MTC President senior Erin Girard.

The colorful piano playing of sophomore Louis Marzella and seniors Benjamin Bergstrom and Philip Romano provide musical input for the performance, along with Bergstrom on synthesizer and junior Dan Mueller on percussion.

Although previous shows have been known to be “family friendly,” this show is noticeably “more edgy and geared toward us college students,” secretary junior Valerie Marchesi said. To say the least, the musical numbers are not all PG-rated.

Marchesi added that the group is extremely proud of the cohesiveness of the show’s individual elements like theme, lyrical adaptations and dance numbers.

“I’m excited because this is the best job we’ve done bringing everything together,” she said.

MTC decided to revive the often-discussed “Legends of the Hidden Tempo” theme last semester when members gathered to discuss the fall semester’s show.

This semester boasts a prominent storyline in comparison to previous performances, according to Girard. The audience can look forward to fun and hilarious references to treasured '90s memories throughout the show.

The performance continues MTC’s traditional inter-song transitions like familiar sound bites and short skits in between chair-rattling numbers.

“Legends of the Hidden Tempo” incorporates a game show-style presentation by bringing audience members on stage in a certain skit to com-



JAMES MATTSON/ASST. PHOTO EDITOR

Members of Musical Theatre Club perform a variation of “Coffee Break” from “How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying” for their fall revue “Legends of the Hidden Tempo,” running from Thursday Nov. 14 through Saturday Nov. 16.

pete in humorous and engaging games.

The winner of this contest can expect a lifetime supply of “Hairpoo,” an imaginary MTC-endorsed product that has a musical number all its own.

The musical numbers are filled with incredible choreography and beautiful voices, exploring the lives of college students, making the audience laugh and testing MTC’s creative ability to connect with the audience.

“MTC: Legends of the Hidden Tempo” shows at 8 p.m., with free tickets available outside the Alice Austin Theatre at 6:15 p.m. the day of each show. The performances run Thursday Nov. 14 to Saturday Nov. 16. ♦

## Everyday objects recycled as art in Kinetic Gallery exhibit



LEFT: ALEX LYONS/PHOTO EDITOR RIGHT: KATI BUCK/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

“Re-Works” is an exhibit of recycled artwork by Buffalo-based artist Ani Hoover that will run in the Kinetic Gallery through Dec. 8. Left: “Circle Crop D” is a wall sculpture made from recycled cardboard. Right: Hoover stands in front of “Astro Dot Net,” an installation of circles made from her old paintings.

**SARAH SIMON**

ASST. ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Combining the versatility of recycled products with the freedom of an empty gallery space, Buffalo-based artist Ani Hoover brought her work to the College Union Kinetic Gallery on Wednesday Nov. 13.

To the cursory viewer, it might be difficult to notice that Hoover created her work of sculpted flowers “Rubber Garden” from old bicycle tires. Additionally, spectators may not imagine that the whimsical, sequin-like drapery “Milk & Sugar” adorning the front right

wall consists of plastic bottles and straight pins. Acknowledging the exhibition’s title “Re-Works,” however, confirms the art’s humble beginnings.

Originally from Missouri, Hoover moved to Buffalo with a strong background in painting. From there, she showcased her art all around the East Coast, including at the Flanders Art Gallery in Raleigh, N.C. in 2008.

A few years ago, Hoover started mainly exhibiting her art around the Buffalo area. She showed her paintings at the Albright-Knox Art Gallery in 2008, University of Buffa-

lo’s Center for the Arts in 2009 and the Starlight Studios and Gallery from 2010 to 2011.

Recently, however, Hoover has deviated from painting and begun an artistic rebellion of her own. She switched from working with paint to primarily experimenting with recycled products.

“I was kind of revolting,” Hoover said. “I didn’t want to buy more paint or paper.”

Hoover began by reusing her old paintings as collage materials.

“I didn’t think that cutting all my paintings was such a good idea,” she said. She

gravitated toward using some of the recycled products shown in “Re-Works,” including recycled plastic and tires.

Stories lay behind many of her pieces. One of Hoover’s works “Stick, Stack” shows multicolored, large wooden sticks leaning on a wall and forming a right triangle with the floor. Hoover said she took the sticks from a home improvement job. They weren’t being used, so she made use of them.

Depending on location, Hoover assembles her art in a wide range of configurations. She said she enjoys “the flexibility of a gallery space,” and

employs it to help her determine placement of her pieces in a room. Also, “Astro Dot Net,” made from zip ties and circular dye cuts of old paintings on Yupo synthetic paper, hangs from a wall and takes any shape Hoover sees fit to design.

Whether it’s through finding materials, recycling old paintings or arranging her pieces in galleries, Hoover takes an active role in her art. As it says on her website, she keeps “collecting, arranging, assembling ... then doing it all over again.” ♦

# Giordano Dance Chicago explores boundaries of jazz

**ANTONIA MARIC**

STAFF WRITER

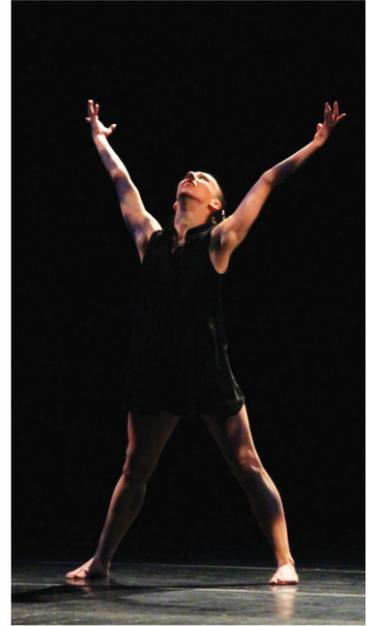
After the billowing red curtains parted in Wadsworth Auditorium on Saturday Nov. 9, Giordano Dance Chicago swept the stage, impressing the audience with a captivating and dynamic performance.

Giordano Dance Chicago is an American jazz dance company stationed in downtown Chicago. The company is known for its high-impact and high-energy artistry throughout the world, redefining the boundaries of jazz. *Limelight & Accents* brought Giordano Dance Chicago to campus as a part of its 2013-2014 Performing Arts Series.

The company began the night with "Alegría," choreographed by Kiesha Lalama in 2011. This piece included the entire company, bursting through space wearing red costumes that highlighted everyone's perfected movements.

For its second piece, the company returned for a smaller group number titled "Commonthread," choreographed by Autumn Eckman in 2009. This dance took a different stylistic turn from the first piece, exemplifying a more contemporary feel.

The entire company returned for the third piece of the first act, performing in a 2013 piece by Roni Koresh called "Exit 4." Unlike the other pieces in the show,



SAMUEL AVILES/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Giordano Dance Chicago performed in Wadsworth Auditorium on Saturday Nov. 9 as part of the *Limelight & Accents* Performing Arts Series. The group performed modern jazz pieces with both lighthearted and grim sensibilities.

this dance was separated into four different sections. Each section seamlessly transitioned into the next section, with all the parts making one whole.

The dance involved a mysterious but intriguing narrative interwoven into music and movements. The dancers chanted and screamed, speaking to ideas of conformity and contemporary romance.

After intermission, the lights dimmed and the audience hushed once more, as the entire company returned to the stage for a 2009 piece titled "Give and Take," cho-

reographed by Brock Clawson. This piece focused on partner work, showing the reliance and trust built among the dancers. The dancers wore dynamic yet classic gray and red costumes. This piece showcased the strength and power of the dancers.

Sticking with the partner theme but breaking away stylistically, the fifth piece of the evening showcased two dancers in a 2011 piece called "Alloy," another by Eckman. This dance seemed to be a favorite of the night, with thunderous applause and comments throughout the auditorium.

The two dancers exhibited their brilliant lines and skill while performing to classical music by Beethoven and Mendelssohn. Their chemistry and unique partner choreography, including some extremely difficult and visually powerful holds, was enthralling.

For the final piece of the night, the entire company joined together one last time for a fun dance piece with a Hispanic flair, choreographed by Liz Imperio in 2009, titled "La Belleza de Cuba" or "The Beauty of Cuba." The choreography combined traditional music and dance movements of

Cuba with modern-day jazz. The company dressed in bright blue hues with the females in flowing dresses and the males in bowler hats.

One dancer dropped his hat partway through the piece but wowed the audience when he expertly picked his hat up with the tip of his foot, causing the mishap to simply look like a part of the choreography.

Giordano Dance Company amazed the crowd of both students and community members and received a lengthy standing ovation. ♦

## MOVIE REVIEW:

### *12 Years a Slave*



## History film evokes horror through gritty audio, moralizing themes

**GIOVANNI ALFONZETTI**

STAFF WRITER

*12 Years a Slave's* brutally honest retelling of life in slavery induces cringes and gasps amongst audience members, but the film leaves us wondering if that's all it has to offer.

Directed by Steve McQueen, the film centers around the life of a free black man, Solomon Northup played by Chiwetel Ejiofor, who is kidnapped and sold into slavery. Along with Ejiofor, the film includes an all-star cast including Michael Fassbender, Benedict Cumberbatch, Paul Dano, Sarah Paulson, Paul Giamatti, Brad Pitt and Quvenzhané Wallis.

For just over two hours, McQueen puts the audience through hell with a constant stream of vivid violence on a much different level than, say, Quentin Tarantino's *Django Unchained*.

While Tarantino uses gore and carnage to evoke an audience reaction, much of McQueen's film uses the strong implications of sound to depict the brutality, from the cracking of whips to the thumping of clubs to decanters thrown at people's heads.

Despite the diminished reliance on visual depictions of violence, *12 Years a Slave* still evokes a reaction that leads many critics to compare it to the modern-day horror genre.

*12 Years a Slave* doesn't seem to offer much more than two hours of bombarding viewers about the horrors of slavery.

Ejiofor's character is boring, lacks dynamic and simply serves to guide the audience through the horrors instead of presenting any form of character or story arc. His Oscar buzz must be solely centered on three things: sweating, crying and being in a realistic slavery movie. Overall, Ejiofor is exactly the same in all of his films; he just cries and sweats more here.

Fassbender shows more range in his brutal depiction of the slave driver Edwin Epps, and although he isn't a relatable character, he certainly is the most interesting.

Pitt's role, on the other hand, is nothing to write home about. With a total of about five minutes of screen time, Pitt just needed to assure the audience that he can still save the day.

*12 Years a Slave* also struggles to pass itself off as a more artistic film. Most shots distract the viewer and pull them out of

the film, which is the absolute worst thing for a film about a slave's personal experience.

The film also refrains from dialogue in many points at which some is expected and adds dialogue that isn't even intelligible at other points. A word of advice: If it's unintelligible, it's probably not important.

There's a very narrow target audience for *12 Years a Slave*. If you can get past the brutal violence, unintelligible dialogue, lack of dynamism, ridiculous cameos, distracting camera movements and focus, full nudity, sweating, crying, singing and the most annoying soundtrack in movie history, then this is the film for you.

Despite this harsh criticism of the film, it is certainly worth Oscar nomination, but nothing more. Fassbender's performance is perhaps the only aspect of this film that deserves an Oscar win, and that's giving a lot of leeway.

This is a great film in its own respect, but it's not an excellent film. Something appears to be missing from the film that suppresses any form of significant climax. If it could focus on something other than shock and awe, then it would be a truly exceptional film. ♦

## SPOTLIGHT ON:



**CJ ROCHE**

Student performer

ZOE FINN/ASST. PHOTO EDITOR

Junior CJ Roche has performed in a variety of plays and musicals at Geneseo including "Equus," "A Little Night Music" and "Anything Goes."

**THOMAS MCCARTHY**

STAFF WRITER

Junior CJ Roche has dreamed of performing in plays and singing on stage from a very young age.

At Geneseo, he has embraced his goals by participating in Musical Theatre Club, *Between the Lines* and a variety of plays and musicals from "Equus" to "Anything Goes."

Roche said that one of his favorite parts of acting is getting into character.

"I really love the beginning of a rehearsal process when I get to channel what makes [the character] tick, why they say certain things that they say, why they react to other people in the show the way that they do," he said.

Roche said that his favorite acting experience so far was playing Marius in "Les Misérables" during his senior year of high school. Another

of his favorites was playing Fredrik Egerman in "A Little Night Music" at Geneseo during his freshman year.

"I was the only freshman in a prominent role in the play, so it was an interesting dynamic," he said.

Notably, he also played the role of the tall and dynamic Horse in "Equus," his theater debut at Geneseo. The play depicts a disturbed boy who becomes enamored with horses.

"['Equus' is] a really weird play; it's a really well-written play. Quite an interesting introduction to theater at Geneseo," he said.

While Roche is interested in pursuing theatrical endeavors, he is not dead set on strictly performance as a potential career. He said he wanted to pursue something he "would enjoy but [would] look good

See **ROCHE** on page 12



## Student playwright pens successful script

**LUC MAKOWSKI**

ASST. ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Junior Jennie Conway hardly expected that a play she wrote last spring would be performed on stage at Geneseo, let alone that she would direct it. Finding out that Veg S.O.U.P. wanted to make her creation a full-fledged production led Conway to extensively revise her original work.

Conway's play is about a detective and fiction writer Emma Fields who shares the stage with Lizzie Gordon, a protagonist from her own book. Gordon, as an alter ego, helps Fields sort out many of her real-life problems. The play becomes a murder mystery when Fields discovers she is tracing her father's murder.

Conway originally wrote "Case Reopened" as a nine-page submission to the English department's spring 2013 Creative Writing Contest. She had written a number of screenplays for a class at the time, but most of her theater experience was in stage crew. This was her first attempt at playwriting, but she won the contest.

Conway cited crime dramas as one of her primary influences.

"I started to get into procedural cop shows, which I had never gotten into before," Conway said. "I started to get into 'Castle'... and that was a little bit of an influence on me, with wanting to write a crime/mystery story."

After "Case Reopened" won the English department contest, Veg S.O.U.P. invited Conway, and a group of other select writ-



ALEX LYONS/PHOTO EDITOR

Junior Jennie Conway wrote the script for "Case Reopened" for a creative writing contest in Spring 2013. She is currently directing the full-length Veg S.O.U.P. production set to open on Nov. 21.

ers, to submit her work to be considered for production.

Conway set out on a dramatic revision process to prepare the play for the Veg S.O.U.P. committee, which involved lengthening the script from nine pages to 64. Conway said the revisions occurred in two very broad jumps completed over short periods of time.

"The first jump, I got it to 40-something [pages], and that took me a week," Conway said. "The revision to add on the other 20 pages took me about a week also."

The revised dialogue features a lot of dramatic intensity, but it also makes use of dry and sarcastic humor presented in jabs and banter between characters that give the script a realistic and relatable quality. Conway said some of the process of adding intensity to either the dramatic or comedic moments involved feedback and interpretation from her actors.

"Some of the things weren't even intentional but came out in rehearsal with my actors and the way that they were saying lines or the way that they paused or moved," Conway said.

Being a director of her own play has given Conway a unique perspective on how difficult certain aspects of her script are to stage, as the staging features some unique scenarios.

Most of the script in present time is limited to Fields and Gordon, but it often flashes back in time and shows a young Fields and her family. The script also involves a number of phone calls, which are actually staged so that viewers can see both callers. Conway said these scenes were particularly difficult to stage.

"Case Reopened" will run at 7:30 p.m. from Nov. 21 to Nov. 23 in the Robert Sinclair Black Box Theatre. Tickets are \$5.◆

## Pioneer artists redefine musical genres

**TYLER THIER**

ASST. ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Despite cliches in the mainstream music scene, there are musical artists on the front lines of pop culture and media who defy all sorts of expectations.

Most artists are in some way different from one another, but there's always that one band or solo musician who steps outside the box of a genre and becomes an innovator and a pioneer. Here are several popular artists in their respective genres that bring something new to the table.

### Lorde

This pop rebel princess has an indie vibe, but her songs are very catchy, very emotional and of great quality in both content and sound. She displaces herself from mainstream pop artists like Britney Spears and Katy Perry. Not to say these artists are bad, but they're certainly not risk takers or innovators like Lorde, a 17-year-old New Zealander who's sweeping the charts. Her debut album *Pure Heroine* is a wonderful achievement, and it is "pure heroin" indeed.

### Lady Gaga

If Lorde is pop's rebel princess, then Lady Gaga is its rebel goddess. Her sound is very "pop," much more so than Lorde, but she's definitely an innovator. Gaga's dark, macabre style is refreshing and exciting not to mention her controversial music videos, live performances and her fashion sense. Who can ignore her incredible displays of meat dresses and lobster headpieces? That's the whole point: to garner attention, which is quite genius actually. Gaga is not the first to do this, but she's definitely advanced it. Her new album *ARTPOP* combines artsy homage and reverent mockery with thumping beats and catchy '90s-esque compositions.

### Kanye West

He's ubiquitous and despised, but it takes a good artistic eye to see past these shortcomings and realize his brilliance. As a hip-hop artist, West started out as a conventional but likable rapper. Since then, however, he's moved into the experimental realm, that of highly controversial and polarizing albums, specifically *My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy* and more recently, *Yeezus*. These albums overflow with art and passion and are seemingly created in the dark corners of West's psyche. Unexpectedly, West has been a cited influence on Lorde, who performed an awesome cover of his song "Hold My Liquor" at one of her concerts. Like it or not, Kim Kardashian's baby daddy is unique, and he's dramatically redefining the rap genre.

### Arcade Fire

Now here's a weird bunch. This group is composed of many members with instrumental versatility and odd haircuts, but it has become a very popular indie rock/alternative band. Arcade Fire has made several appearances on Saturday Night Live and had its hit song "Wake Up" featured in the trailer for the 2009 film *Where the Wild Things Are*. These eccentrics make for a very unique sound by combining multiple types of instrumentals and vocals. The band is certainly at the forefront of the indie music scene.

### Deadmau5

While Zedd is dominating the music industry with his catchy beats and producing credits, Deadmau5 remains on the fringes of the electronic/house scene, producing tracks that are at times so beautiful that they deserve to be considered among the all-time greats. Take "Strobe," for instance, his 10-minute opus that starts off with mellow pianistic odes and escalates into a full-fledged epic of synthesizer. He's had his moments of fame and success, but he's not avaricious for such commodities. He's more of a creative type of DJ, and his music is truly beautiful for rather frowned-upon genres such as house and electronic. Honestly, I never thought I'd be honoring a DJ for his artistry and creativity, but here it is, and it's well deserved.

### HAIM

It could be considered indie, but this uber cool, all-girl band is a rock 'n' roll powerhouse, and its fan base grows by the day. Since its collaboration with rapper Kid Cudi on his album *Indicud* – released in April – and its recently released debut studio album *Days Are Gone*, HAIM has been stirring up a lot of buzz. The group's interesting incorporation of rhythm and blues with indie-style rock makes HAIM a band to look out for.◆

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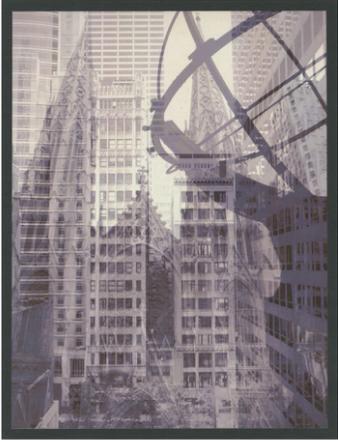
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# Studio art professor archives 40-year student photo collection



## CHELSEA BUTKOWSKI ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Since he began teaching at Geneseo in 1966, professor of studio art Michael Teres has led an effort to preserve Geneseo's history through the eyes of students. At first, he didn't even know he was doing it.

He has saved student photography projects every semester from his first year onward, intending to provide examples of unique work for his future classes. The current collection amounts to about 3,000 photographs spanning 47 years, crammed into cupboards and onto shelves in the Brodie Hall photography studio. Teres is confident that Geneseo's is the largest undergraduate photography collection in the State University of New York system.

Flipping through the stacks of photos is a trip to the past for Teres, and his goal is to share that history with the rest of the community.

"It's sort of like going back home and visiting. I recognize some of the students. I remember some of the stories behind these photos," he said.

Since fall 2012, Teres has worked with students in an effort to archive the collection. He received an incentive grant in 2012, which was renewed again this year, to conduct research on the photos and hire students to work alongside him. Senior Lauren Hannel, together with senior Carly Fowler who helped out last year, have recorded roughly 1,500 of the photos since the start of the project. They scan each image and then record as much information as they can find in a spreadsheet.

Many of the photos are permanently matted on black or white boards, some of them sustaining damage over the years that will take ample time and money to repair. Artist identification is difficult, depending on whether the students decided to write their names on the the mattes. A large portion of the collection is currently anonymous.

Each photo has its own character, though, some of them involving darkroom techniques that can't be replicated with digital photos. Teres encouraged his students to paint and burn their film to create artistic effects in the darkroom.

The administration closed the Brodie Hall darkroom in 2003, re-

Left: Professor of studio art Michael Teres has been collecting student photography since 1966. Many of the images in the 3,000 photo archive use dark room techniques that can't be replicated. Right: Senior Lauren Hannel assists Teres with archiving the collection.

placing it with a Mac computer lab. Soon after, photography classes went completely digital. Darkroom photography has not been practiced at Geneseo in years, while according to Teres, most other colleges are "ambidextrous" with a darkroom and digital developing available as options.

As one of the few people to examine Geneseo's photography collection, Hannel said she has noticed a definitive change in digital images.

"It seems to be a pattern that, prior to digital ... people were more creative with their photography," she said. "It just seemed like they put more thought into the technique and even like the art of developing it yourself."

Teres has exhibited the photos in a surprising range of locations in Geneseo since he started the collection. The first exhibit was in Erwin Hall in the spring of 1967. Teres hung a series of interchangeable photos on what is now the distinguished professors wall for a period

of years. Images from the collection are currently hanging in Books & Bytes Cafe.

In order to preserve the photo collection permanently, Teres said he hopes to create a website with an archive that people can browse to find their own photos or explore Geneseo's history.

After Hannel finishes scanning the photos, the next phase of the project will include contacting the artists and attributing currently unattributed images. Teres plans to utilize the Alumni Association and the Office of the Registrar to locate long-graduated student photographers. He wants to interview some of these students about Geneseo's history and their photography to substantiate the collection.

As far as preserving and organizing the physical images, Teres and Hannel are still unsure about what will happen when the studio art department is deactivated at the end of this school year. Teres has reached out to a number of organizations to donate the collection, in-

cluding the George Eastman House in Rochester. Hannel said they are also making a plan to hang the photos at local businesses in Geneseo and in residence halls.

Teres is negotiating an extended retirement process that will allot him two more years to finish the project. He supported Hannel in applying for the Council on Undergraduate Research's Poster on the Hill program, which would allow Hannel to present the project in Washington, D.C. in hopes of receiving more funding. They will find out if the photo archive project was selected in February 2014.

Above all, Teres and Hannel see keeping the legacy of Geneseo's student photographers and the history it holds alive beyond the life of the studio art department as the most important aspect of their project.

"It's just amazing, what is in our history," Teres said. "It is a stark recording of changes on our campus." ♦

## Roche

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10  
to potential employers," so he added a major in communication alongside his theater major.

This process was very deliberate for Roche, who is interested in pursuing theater business if his own performance career doesn't work out.

"That's what I love about Geneseo: how willing and

flexible [the college is] to accommodate double majors," he said.

No matter what happens, Roche plans to dedicate his life to theater and performing.

"I love just being on the stage and sharing a story with the audience," Roche said. "I think that's the root of why I love to do what I do." ♦

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# KNIGHTS' LIFE

Keeping up with what students are doing at Geneseo

## Invasion of Privacy

JESSICA IRWIN

ASST. KNIGHTS' LIFE EDITOR

When most kids go off to college, they move away from their childhood homes for the first time; however, for sophomore Shikha Gautam, her journey to Geneseo was simply another stop in a long list of cultural travels.

Despite the drastic moves, Gautam said she had a relatively stable education, studying at English-speaking schools in both countries and growing up with a supportive family.

"I went to an international school in both Sweden and Japan, and they were pretty similar, although my school in Japan had a more rigorous

### FAVORITES

**FOOD:** Aunt's rice and kidney bean curry

**DREAM DESTINATION:** South America

**GENESEO SPOT:** Lawn outside the Union

**BOOK:** *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien

**GUILTY PLEASURE SHOW:** "The Ellen DeGeneres Show"

"People always ask me where I'm from, and I never have one answer," Gautam said. "I identify first and foremost as Indian, but then I have language from Sweden and my experience from Japan – all mixed together."

Gautam is only in her second year at Geneseo, but already she's seen and experienced more culture than many people will in their entire lifetime.

Originally, Gautam said she was born in India, where she and her family lived until she was five, when they moved to Stockholm, Sweden. They stayed there until she was about 11, before moving again due to her father's engineering job – this time to Tokyo, Japan.

curriculum," Gautam said. "It was the American curriculum also, so we eventually did [Advanced Placement] course work and everything."

Gautam said that the student body she was involved with was in constant influx, which made it difficult to keep in touch with old friends.

"I got to meet a lot of people from different cultures," Gautam said. "But they were constantly in and out; every year people left, and every year there was someone new."

The schooling was one of the differences between the cities. Gautam said she remembers the toughest cultural transition was from Stockholm to Tokyo.

"The cultures are very different," Gautam said. "Sweden

## Cultured world traveler seeks an education in the valley



ZOE FINN/ASST. PHOTO EDITOR

Sophomore Shikha Gautam chose to attend Geneseo as she was interested in an English-based science program, something that was hard to find in Japan where she had attended high school. She has also lived in Sweden and India.

is a very open country – they have a very laid-back culture, but Japanese culture is unlike any I've ever seen.

"It's very conservative, very polite," she added. "Everyone is very hardworking and keeps to themselves."

Surprisingly, although Gautam is well versed in four languages and she and her family have been based in Japan for the last eight years, none of them speak any Japanese.

"In Tokyo, we lived in the French area of the city, so we knew a lot of French-Japanese mixed families," she said. "Plus, I had studied French in

Sweden, so when I got to the school, I decided to continue studying it instead [of Japanese]."

Despite her language abilities and cultural prowess, however, Gautam consistently shrugs off her extraordinary background.

"I guess I'm just used to it," she said. "[The moves are] just another step, another change. I always take it as a new experience, a new beginning."

A sense of new beginning is one of the reasons Gautam said she came to Geneseo and why so many international students come to the United States in general.

"In Japan there weren't really a lot of science-focused undergraduate options for me in English," Gautam said. "So I decided to focus on the U.S. – and Geneseo was just the right fit for me."

In the coming years, as she begins to look for graduate schools, Gautam knows that she most likely won't stay around Western New York and said she expects to keep traveling in the future.

"Geneseo is my home right now though," Gautam said. "This is where I'll be for a while."♦

## Geneseo veteran Dick Platt reflects war's legacy



ALEX LYONS/PHOTO EDITOR

Dick Platt, a native of Le Roy N.Y., is a veteran of the Korean War. He served as a cook in the marine reserves for most of his duty but was later assigned to the infantry as a rifleman.

FRANKIE MANDRACCHIA

KNIGHTS' LIFE EDITOR

When veteran Richard "Dick" Platt, a Le Roy, N.Y. native, was sent to fight in the Korean War in 1952 just months out of high school, things were different.

Main Moon on Main Street was the Campus Dairy Bar, Court Street had only fields behind it and the way that America would change its outlook on war would drastically change, according to Platt.

After boot camp, cook school and months of preparation, Platt was deployed to the Eastern Asian country.

"I had two months of infantry training ... I didn't learn anything, but I went through it," he said.

Platt was assigned to the First Battalion Seventh Marines, where he was in the reserves, "behind the lines," he said.

"We were about two miles behind the [main line of resis-

tance]," Platt said. "When I got over to Korea, it was a stationary war ... There was a trench line across Korea. It was two feet deep ... In other places, it was 18 feet deep."

But still, he could hear the rounds, which sounded like hail.

"They're going that way and this way. I could never tell which way they were going, and that really surprised me. They're up there ... 20, 30 feet. But just the feeling that they're there is damndest feeling."

In his time as a cook for his unit, Platt fed over 400 men.

In the waning days of the war, he was put into the infantry as a rifleman.

"They came on the loud speaker and said ... 'The war is going to be over in a few days,'" Platt said. "About three or four days later, they gave us an order to put the safety on our weapons and not to unload them. And 24 hours later, the war was over."

"We were all happy. You're standing in the trench

line shooting at someone you don't know, and you're not mad at them; they're not mad at us either," he said. "We're just doing what we're supposed to do."

After being discharged in 1954, Platt returned to Western New York, saying, "Oh, I might as well go to work and just forget about [the war]."

Platt found a job at the Campus Dairy Bar on Main Street, where he would eventually meet his wife, a student at Geneseo. They have lived in the town and had two children since then.

Though Platt is proud to have served his country, it is not something he would easily do again.

"When I went through boot camp, they say once you're a marine, you're a marine for life," Platt said, adding, "I said, 'Yeah, you got that. No way in hell am I going to be a marine for life.' But I want to tell you, they knew what they were talking about."♦

# Student group examines lobbies, supports activism

**MAYA LUCYSHYN**

ASST. KNIGHTS' LIFE EDITOR

Students and activism can go together like peanut butter and jelly. From ending the Vietnam War to fighting for women's empowerment, the voices of students have tremendous power to impact the nation's policies.

Many student-led revolutions do not contain the consistent force of corporations and campaign donors in deciding public policy. In "Follow the Money Trail," a discussion hosted by Democracy Matters, students and faculty freely conversed about the impact "big money" has had on the political spectrum, particularly through campaign financing.

The crisis of democracy, according to this event, is that all voices are not equal; the voices of those with a financial advantage rise above others in the nation, decreasing the political efficacy of students and lower income citizens.

"[Office holders] owe their allegiance to the people who funded their campaigns, instead



TAYLOR FRANK/ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

Democracy Matters hosted a discussion on the influence of lobbying in the political arena. Professor of sociology Denise Scott (above, left) and Joan Mandle (above, right) led the talk.

of their voters," special guest Joan Mandle said. Mandle is the executive director of Democracy Matters and led the talk along with professor of sociology Denise Scott.

The question that naturally arose was how to raise the interest and impact of students in our nation's political climate.

According to Scott, the best way to encourage political activism such as voting and remaining up-to-date with current events is

to join clubs such as Public Interest Research Groups and Democracy Matters.

"It would help students feel like they can do something," Scott said.

"You're uniquely positioned to be involved," she added. In college, students have very few outside responsibilities besides their own wellness and education, leaving relatively open schedules for pursuing interests and creating changes in the world.

"Young people have a lot to say and a lot to give," Mandle said. When it comes to areas that are not priorities of corporations and private donors, such as environmentalism and higher education, she believes that groups of citizens coming together and demanding change are the best hope to improve them.

In order to make this happen, Scott and Mandle agreed that providing information to students is necessary to sub-

stantially increase their involvement in the political process.

"Right now we're stressing education," President of Democracy Matters senior Kevin Castañeda said.

Advertising elections and voter registration, "dorm storming," awareness weeks and public lecture and discussions all help provide information to students – information that might inspire them to take action on something they feel passion for.

The hope is that hearing about problems such as corruption will inspire students to actively fight for changes. Even something as simple as registering to vote or signing a petition can help a cause.

Since "college students are just perfect to get politically active," as Castañeda said, since we are young, we have time and we are invested in our own future.

Students are fighting for the power to make real change, and everyone is encouraged to join.

"We have to empower ordinary citizens to speak up and have an effect," Mandle said. ♦

## Sleep, exercise key to pre-final slump

**JESSICA IRWIN**

ASST. KNIGHTS' LIFE EDITOR

With the semester halfway over and Thanksgiving break quickly approaching, many students are beginning to fall victim to the dreaded and all-too-overbearing "mid-semester slump."

This breakdown, which occurs after students become burned out by the stress and strain of the semester, can not only affect students' physical health but their emotional, social and mental health as well.

Dr. Steven Radi, one of the medical professionals at the Lauderdale Center for Student Health and Counseling on campus, said, "We think of it as a period of increased susceptibility, where students are at risk for a host of issues."

Radi has been with the center for 12 years and said that, year after year, he and the team at the Center have seen the cyclical occurrences of co-morbid physical and emotional issues. Radi said this susceptibility is compounded and built upon by every problem a student faces.

"With the change of the season and the stress of the semester accumulating, students suffer," he said. "Energy levels drop, immune systems are weakened and stress and anxiety levels are [at] their peak."

This means that, while sacrificing sleep, nutrition and exercise to cram for a test or finish a paper before the drop box closes may seem like an accomplishment at the time, after weeks of running low on fuel and endurance, it could take a serious toll.

This defenselessness results in an increased number of strep throat, cold and flu cases as well as a spike in depression and anxiety issues – trends that Radi said occur every semester.

Sleep, of course, is the most important health factor, one that Radi said many students have a lot of trouble managing responsibly.

"We encourage students to develop a schedule for sleep that serves them well," he said. "The consequences of not getting enough sleep are significant – there's that dip in the immune system; the ability to conquer illnesses goes down drastically."

Radi said that exercise is also a part of this vital "sleep hygiene" and promotes exercise for all the physical and mental health benefits.

"Even if students start the year exercising three to five times a week, by this time of the semester, they've dropped that exercise routine, which is the worst thing you can do," Radi said. "People need that time to step away from their situations and do something for themselves."

Radi said this "crunch time" slump has been especially drawn out since Thanksgiving is late this year, but he urged students to use the upcoming break to concentrate on recuperating and refocusing.

"Take the time to sleep and rest; recharge your batteries with some down time with your family and friends before coming back for finals," Radi said. ♦

## Veterans Day open house at the National Warplane Museum



JAMES MATTSON/ASST. PHOTO EDITOR

The National Warplane Museum was open for Veterans Day. Docents offered free tours of the various war planes.

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# Dinner plays with cultural identity



SAMUEL AVILES/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Intercultural Dinner, held Nov. 9 in the Union Ballroom, featured 10 dishes, including *ddukbokki*, spicy rice cakes made by Korean American Student Association.

## FRANKIE MANDRACCHIA

KNIGHTS' LIFE EDITOR

Diversity is something that is often celebrated but rarely examined. On Saturday Nov. 9, the 14th annual Intercultural Dinner raised questions of identity that are often overlooked.

The Alliance for Community Enrichment, a committee in charge of organizing and coordinating "10 multicultural and special interest [Student Association] funded groups," was the driving force behind the dinner, according to the ACE website.

"ACE is composed of the 10 cultural clubs ... They all work together throughout the year to not only bring their cultures to Geneseo but also to show intersectionality between all of us," ACE Chair senior Bruno Villazhinay said.

Villazhinay spearheaded the planning of the annual dinner, coordinating the groups as well as handling the more logistical matters including properly allocating funds to pay for the dinner.

The Black Student Union, Geneseo Chinese Culture Club, Japanese Culture Club, Korean American Student Association, Latino Student Association, Students Eliminating Ableism through Advocacy, Shakti, Slavic Club, Womyn's Action Coalition and ACE all participated and prepared dishes for the dinner.

According to Villazhinay, the event's goal was "to promote cultural diversity in Geneseo ... that Geneseo is not just composed of the white majority but also with other cultures."

Alongside the examination of perceptions of cultural and inter-

est groups, the dinner also raised funds for the nongovernmental organization Doctors Without Borders.

As "Doctors Without Borders works with many of the countries that the ACE groups represent," according to Villazhinay, the organization was a salient choice.

Diners chose from a smorgasbord of dainties, ranging from *ddukbokki*, spicy rice cakes made by KASA to *nalesniki*, an eastern European crepe prepared by Slavic Club.

Students cooked the cultural dishes in Mary Jemison Dining Hall with ingredients provided by Campus Auxiliary Services.

According to Villazhinay, each year the dinner has a different theme. This year, the event looked at constructing and reaffirming "I" identity.

During the dinner's accompanying skits, each group explored the stereotypes that surround their respective cultures or interests. Geneseo Pride Alliance put on several skits involving the misconceptions involving gender and sexuality, including one that raised the issue of transgender choices of identifying with one sex over the other.

Through the skits and the overall theme of the night, organizations "try to reaffirm how they see themselves, not as what other people see them as," Villazhinay said. ♦

# French week underscores French-Canadian culture

MADDY SMITH

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Students and faculty enjoyed poutine, *crêpes*, hockey and music in a celebration of French-Canadian culture for the 13th annual National French Week.

*Le Cercle Français*, or the French Club, hosted the event, sponsored by the department of languages and literatures.

President senior Lauren Slezak coordinated the week alongside adviser visiting assistant professor of French Kathryn Fredericks and professor of French and western humanities Beverly Evans.

What helped was that this semester, Evans is teaching FREN 375: French-Canadian Literature for the first time, so "it kind of all fell together," Slezak said.

The week focused on cultural education through French and French-Canadian films, speakers and food. Speakers included Kara Szamborski '11 and Eileen Angelini, professor of French at Canisius College and 2010-2011 recipient of the Canada-United States Fulbright Scholar Award. Students who studied abroad in francophone areas including Slezak and senior Lily Wheeler shared their experiences in a study abroad session.

Slezak noted that the Monday Nov. 11 screening of *The Rocket* followed by the Tuesday Nov. 12 reading of "The Legend of Maurice 'Rocket' Richard: An Inspirational Story that Crosses Borders and Cultures" by Angelini were well-attended events. Richard is a legendary Canadian ice hockey player who played for the Montreal Canadiens and was the first player to score 50 goals in 50 games and 500 goals in a career.

Slezak, who spent six weeks in an immersion program in Montreal, emphasized the differences between French-Canadian and French culture, noting geography as playing a big role for the identity of French-Canadian language.

Because English-speaking provinces and countries surround it, "French Canada is constantly worried about losing its identity," she said, adding, "When I was there, just the sense of strength in terms of identity is incredible."

The week closed on Tuesday Nov. 12 as Geneseo String Band played traditional French-Canadian songs that Wheeler transposed herself, followed by a screening of the short film *Crac*, which explores the industrialization of Montreal through the life of a rocking chair.

"French-Canadian culture is impossible not to love," Slezak said. "It's enthusiastic and proud." ♦

# Israeli dances spread 'sublime' joy

JOANNA ROSE-GROSS

GOINGS ON EDITOR

Culture allows people from a common background to share a common bond. Hillel International shared a part of Israeli culture with the Geneseo campus and brought students together through its Israeli Dance Night on Saturday Nov. 9.

Hillel President senior Ayelet Harel said she and the other members of Hillel wanted to bring the Israeli Dance Night as its Geneseo Late Knight event to show how Israeli dance plays into the history of its culture.

"Israeli dancing is ... really joyous," Harel said. "It was a celebratory thing when ... Jewish people started to come back from the Diaspora to Israel. When that started happening, people said, 'This is really cool - we want to celebrate.'"

Israeli dance instructor Max Steiner of Rochester taught the dances throughout the evening in addition to the meaning behind many of the dances. Steiner's high energy in every dance added to the excitement participants experienced while learning the dances.

According to Steiner, popular Israeli artists such as Subliminal often perform the songs used for the dances. The lyrics sometimes correspond with the dance moves; in the dance *Ha-*

*finali*, dancers put their hands in the air for the Hebrew word for heaven, *shamayim*.

Many of the dances incorporated fast-paced music that emulated the joyous sentiment in either line or circle form. Each dance varied in difficulty, which depended on the intricacy of the footwork. The dance moves ranged from simple side steps to jazz squares to various kicks.

Each dance is unique in meaning and music, but many dances share dance moves; one common dance move is the mime, also known as the grapevine. Harel said the dance moves are similar because the dances are derived from a plethora of cultures, especially from Eastern Europe.

"Israel is really interesting in that it's probably more of a melting pot than America. It's a combination of everybody that came ... spread out throughout the world from the Diaspora and mixed all their cultures into something that's really cool," Harel said.

"I feel like Hillel did a great job of getting people who aren't Jewish and who are Jewish to have a sense of Jewish and Israeli culture through dancing," Hillel treasurer senior Marty Rogachefsky said. "Dancing is part of Israeli culture, and having that part introduced to Geneseo is essential for understanding Judaism as a whole." ♦

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# Seniors to lead men's hoops to conference championship



BRAD DUSTIN/LAMRON ARCHIVES

No. 5 co-captain senior Thomas Decker averaged six points per game and 2.7 assists per game. Head coach Steve Minton says he will be a pivotal factor to the team's success this year.

**TAYLOR FRANK**  
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

Coming off of a 17-10 season, the men's basketball team is looking strong. Four out of five starters return, and the team only lost two seniors to graduation.

"We're pretty balanced," head coach Steve Minton said. "I think that we're pretty deep, and I think that the depth, in particularly at the guard spots, will play in our favor."

That depth will be important, even in the early part of the season. The Knights have six games before the end of the semester, including the Wendy's College Classic in Rochester.

"If we meet [our] standards ... we'll find ourselves in a position to be SUNYAC champions," Minton said. "I would think and hope and expect us to be one of the better teams in the conference this year because of our returning

guys, our experience and the skill set that each guy brings."

Minton's expectations are well based. Against eventual SUNYAC champion SUNY Cortland in the 2012-2013 season, the Knights went 1-1 in two very closely fought games. That experience will play a key role this season.

"The experience of winning a quarterfinal game in the SUNYAC tournament and getting to the semifinals two years in a row sets a tone for [this team] to recognize the importance of every game and the importance of every little part of the season," Minton added.

One of the Knights' goals will be to replace the experience and the leadership of Ryan Riefenhauser '13, who started every game for Geneseo the past three seasons. Although Riefenhauser did not put up record-setting numbers, with 9.1 points per game and 6.5 rebounds per game in his se-

nior season, his leadership on and off the court is something that really stood out.

"[Riefenhauser] is one of the best leaders I've ever coached," Minton said. "We have had some seniors step up. [Seniors] Connor Fedge and Thomas Decker have done an outstanding job."

As the captains this year, Fedge and Decker will try to take over that leadership role along with the two other seniors on the roster, Jordan Jones and Matt Curry.

Despite losing Riefenhauser, Minton knows the current seniors are ready to take on this season and lead the team to a SUNYAC title.

"[We need to] put ourselves in a position to just win three games in a row at the end of the season when the tournament comes around," Minton said. "I certainly think that we can do that."◆

## W.Soccer

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20  
strong entering the 2014 season. One thing they will not lose is confidence.

"The success that we had at the end of the year will add to the confidence going into the off-season," Wiley said. "We've got a pretty good [recruiting] class coming in for next year. We'll be able to fill the gaps and replace those seniors that we lost."

O'Connor echoed Wiley's positivity.

"Our seniors were big, but we'll find players to go in," O'Connor said. "We [will] all know [Wiley's] style of play."

Next season, the Knights will want more than just a SUNYAC championship appearance.

"Going to SUNYAC finals your first year makes you want to do it every year," O'Connor said.

"Next year [won't] be about making it to the championship game but what are we doing all the way up to then," Wiley said. "We're not going to come in as a six seed next year. We need to come in as a top three or four seed."

The desire to win and the talent will certainly be there for the Knights in 2014.

As Wiley said, there are "only good things to come."◆

## Hockey

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

comfortable. An early penalty committed by sophomore Nate Brown allowed Plattsburgh senior Barry Roytman to find the back of the net, past goalie sophomore Nick Horrigan. In the games against Morrisville State College, the Ice Knights penalty kill defense was solid, allowing just three goals in 17 power plays. Against Plattsburgh, though, the Ice Knights gave up two goals in five power plays.

First-year Stephen Collins continued his strong play, scoring from his knees in the slot to bring Geneseo within two goals at 3-1.

"If he wasn't the best player on the ice, I don't know who was," assistant coach Kris Heeres said.

But mental mistakes put Geneseo away, the team losing 4-1 and continuing the winless streak in Plattsburgh.

Geneseo headed to Potsdam the next day, looking to get back on the winning side.

Junior Tyler Brickler scored twice for Geneseo,

once at the end of the first and once early in the second period – a time difference of only 5 minutes, 30 seconds. Junior Justin Scharfe earned credit for the assist on both goals.

First-year Ryan Stanimir added a third goal for the Ice Knights early in the third, before icing the game with an empty netter in the final minute, his fourth of the season. Geneseo skated off with a 4-1 win.

"They wanted to play rough and run us out of the building, and we weren't going to let them do that," Stanimir said.

The win was the 100th of Schultz's coaching career at Geneseo.

At 7 p.m. Friday Nov. 15, Geneseo will travel to the Hobart College Statesmen for a nonleague game.◆

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Greek Wear

# Field hockey falls out of playoffs, four Knights earn All-SUNYAC honors

**NICK PRELLER**  
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

For the second year in a row, Geneseo's field hockey team could not win its first game of the SUNYAC tournament.

The Knights went into the match as the second seed, but come playoff time, especially in a tough division, anyone can win.

On Saturday Nov. 8, Geneseo faced SUNY New Paltz in the semifinals. The Eagles jumped out to an early lead and never looked back, beating Geneseo 3-1 and subsequently ending the Knights' season.

New Paltz eventually took the entire championship title after beating SUNY Cortland the next day.

Geneseo's season came to a close with a final record of 13-7 and a second place regular season finish in the conference.

"It's important that we don't let this season's ending loss define what we've done all year," head coach Jess Seren said. "It was the toughest schedule we've played in the six seasons I've been here. This group has a lot to be proud of."

The Knights will enter the next season as a considerably different team. Eight seniors

will graduate, including Kayla DeAngelis, who set the single-season record for points, and standout defensive player Bridget McGovern. DeAngelis and McGovern's performance this year, as well as senior Katie Farley and sophomore Sarah Malinak was good enough to earn them a spot on the all-SUNYAC first team.

Senior Kerry Hosford and freshman Liz Doherty were placed on the second team.

Seren sees the losses as an interesting challenge for the upcoming season.

"It will definitely change the dynamic of the team – one player

has the ability to do that, let alone eight. But that's part of the fun of it. We will make adjustments based on who we have coming back and who we have coming in and be ready to go just like we do every year," Seren said.

Though the team is losing about a third of its roster, numerous starters who had breakout years will return. Sophomore Dayna Mercer followed up her SUNYAC Rookie of the Year achievement with another strong year as goalie, tallying five shutout matches during the season. On offense, sophomore Sarah Malinak excelled, finishing the year with 21 goals and six assists.

While the season comes to an end after coming so close to the title, Seren can only look back with fondness.

"I'll remember the growth and progress of this team from the start of preseason throughout the course of the fall," she said. "What they accomplished and how much they've grown since August has been significant. They're such a pleasure to work with, and I've never had more fun watching a team in practice or in games. To have been able to be a part of such a special group has been an honor for me."♦

## Blue Wave takes down Fredonia

**NICK PRELLER**  
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

In their first conference meet of the year, the Blue Wave men's and women's swimming and diving teams cruised to a decisive victory over SUNY Fredonia.

Geneseo was able to pull away with the dual victory in part due to the strong showing from sophomore Kristian Tialios and senior Lily Powell. Tialios began the meet as a part of the 200 medley with fellow Geneseo swimmers junior Kenny Athans, sophomore Jordan Gay and sophomore Andy Schunk. The foursome was victorious in their efforts with a time of 1 minute, 38:47 seconds. Tialios then registered first-place efforts in the 100 back (55.12), 200 back (1:58.46) and the 200 IM (2:03.25) to lead Geneseo. Powell followed suit with three victories of her own.

After last week's loss against Division I Canisius College, Geneseo bounced back and defeated Fredonia, as the men won 164-136 and the women won 167-133.

There is a clear difference in the level of opponents when facing schools from different divisions, which head coach Paul Dotterweich acknowledged.

"Canisius is a much better team. I believe that, to elevate the level of your program, you have to swim [against] better teams. Canisius offers us that. Fredonia is a quality [Division III] opponent within our conference," Dotterweich said.

Even though it is a new season and both teams have lost previous All-Americans, Dotterweich is looking toward success from his swimmers.

"I expect both teams to be crowned SUNYAC Champions," Dotterweich said. "That is always our goal and expectation. I feel confident that both teams will outwork the competition all year and will reap the benefits of that hard [work] when it is time to rest."

Dotterweich knows a thing or two about success. Blue Wave is entering its 14th season under its decorated coach. In the 2012-2013 season, he led the women's team to its sixth-straight SUNYAC conference title. Dotterweich was named the SUNYAC Men's Coach of the Year for seven seasons and Women's Coach of the Year for three.

It is the beginning of what is potentially another dominant year for Geneseo swimming.

Blue Wave returns to action with a road dual meet at 1 p.m. Saturday Nov. 16 at SUNY Cortland.♦

## Leathersich

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

I cringe at the thought of a high school recruit being offered a contract to go to school. Plus, the student-athletes already get money for food on away trips, and many of them also have work-study stipends.

But let's say this pay does come from the school. Now is everyone on the football team getting the same pay, or does the NCAA pay the athletes? What about the football team and women's soccer team or an SEC school and an Atlantic 10 school? Is everyone making the same, or are the amounts different? Is this a fair allocation? There are so many issues, so many sides to be had, that the practicality of the whole scenario is nauseating.

Where I "wiggle" is from outside the confines from the school, which involves the stupidity of the NCAA. I am so annoyed by athletes – especially basketball players getting suspended by

the NCAA for playing in charity events or pro-am tournaments.

The classic example in defense of the athletes is this: If an art student is allowed to sell works without consequence, why can't an athlete playing basketball do the same? And I agree with that. If I am a Division I athlete and I win a tournament with a cash prize, why is it the NCAA's job to say I can't have it?

I think if the NCAA would loosen its grip on college athletics, the argument for paying the athletes would go by the wayside. The NCAA acts as a big brother to sports rather than as a supplement to them, and it makes for a tense environment.

You need not go any further than the fact that – and this is real – the NCAA views providing cream cheese for school-funded bagels to be "pampering." Yeah.

One quick, Band-Aid solution to this whole conundrum is to let athletes go to the pros right

out of high school. This isn't any rule of the NCAA but rather the professional leagues. The NBA's rule is gray, but generally, it requires a year of college before the next step. The NFL requires three years after graduating high school regardless of whether or not the player attended college.

Eliminating this stipulation solves everything. The athletes who are going to go pro otherwise, and likely will be a problem for the NCAA, are gone, and the only students playing in college are using that as a stepping stone, not a roadblock.

I fear the worst is coming: that players will be paid in the near future. There are a lot of advocates for them being paid, more so than for the converse argument.

The day that a college athlete receives a paycheck for scoring some points is the day that college athletics loses a fan in me.♦

## THE WAY WE SEE IT



### SPORTS EDITION



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ARTICLE  
ON PAGE 18

2013-14 men's  
basketball season  
preview

ARTICLE  
ON PAGE 19

Field hockey  
loses in SUNYAC  
semifinal

# Ice Knights first loss to Plattsburgh



KATI BUCK/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

No. 39 first-year Ryan Stanimir brought his point total to five with two goals against SUNY Potsdam.

## BRIAN MCCORMACK

STAFF WRITER

The Geneseo Ice Knights traveled to face SUNY Plattsburgh on Nov. 8 and SUNY Potsdam on Nov. 9, going 1-1 on the weekend.

The trek up north is an important one to head coach Chris Schultz, for it takes a lot out of the team. Considering that the same

trip last year gave Geneseo two losses, Schultz is happy to have gone 1-1.

"Selfishly, I'm glad we can get it over with early this year before the winter really sets in," he said.

The Ice Knights walked into Plattsburgh, where they haven't won a game since Feb-

ruary 2007, after scoring 12 goals in two games. Mid-week injuries sustained by junior Zack Martin and senior Jonathan Sucece made the chances of beating the Cardinals that much more difficult.

From the get-go, the Ice Knights never seemed totally

See [HOCKEY](#) on page 17

# Women's soccer falls just short

After a 2012 campaign of only three wins, the Knights found themselves in the SUNYAC finals this year as a sixth seed

TAYLOR FRANK  
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

The Knights women's soccer season came to an end on Saturday Nov. 9 in a 4-1 loss to SUNY Oneonta in the SUNYAC championship. Freshman Erin O'Connor had the only goal for the Knights.

O'Connor's play stepped up for the Knights down the stretch, scoring three of her eight total season goals in the playoffs.

"Everyone had momentum knowing we were going to SUNYACs," O'Connor said, attributing much of her success to her teammates. "We practiced more set plays ... [head coach Nate Wiley] would also give us scouting reports to study."

O'Connor's performance throughout the season earned her third-team All-SUNYAC selection. Her play in the tournament earned her a spot on the 2013 SUNYAC All-Tournament team.

SUNYAC also honored midfielder senior Alexa Krebs

and defender freshman Alexa Wandy at second-team, and goalkeeper senior Julia Sanger on the third team.

"We had good senior leadership," Wiley said. "You deal with [losing players] every year ... Some years it's a bigger hit than others. This is one of those years."

The Knights had eight seniors on the roster for the 2013 season, their most successful season at Geneseo.

"Everyone was really pleased [with the season], especially the seniors that had never made it to the finals," O'Connor said. "Every step was new to everyone."

"These are players that we're going to miss a lot ... not only for their play on the field but what they brought to our program off the field," Wiley said.

Despite the loss of senior leaders including Sanger, Krebs and midfielder Alexa Vojvodic, the Knights are looking

See [W.SOCCER](#) on page 17

## Out of Bounds

# Solving the issue of paying college athletes



## JOE LEATHERSICH

SPORTS EDITOR

College football and basketball are sports that get a lot of hype. College football is arguably the second most-watched sport in America behind the NFL, and March Madness is a giant basketball conglomerate we glue our eyes to in the spring.

With viewership like this, one can only imagine the type of money the NCAA rakes in. Well, it is as much as we think, \$871.6 million in revenue in 2011-12.

With this amount of money, the question always asked is:

"Should we be paying these athletes?" My short-answer is "No."

I understand that the athletes are the product and no one is making the money without them, but I see nothing wrong with players volunteering their time to play at the next level. First and foremost, they are students – as the title goes, "student-athletes" – and playing a college sport should be viewed as a privilege; mind you, we're talking Division I athletics. If you are at a university, whether on scholarship or not, school should be the priority.

The long answer is still generally "no," but there's some wiggle room in there. Should the players receive pay from the school? Absolutely not. That would be an abomination to the entire system.

See [LEATHERSICH](#) on page 18



DAVID J. PHILLIP/AP PHOTO

The NCAA shouldn't punish those players, including Texas A&M quarterback Johnny Manziel, who accept money in exchange for personal property.