

The Children's Museum Celebrates Valentine's Day

**Education majors help
make Valentine's Day
creative and educational**

By Becky Greenland
News Editor

Red and pink paint, glitter and paper hearts covered every table at the Children's Museum located in O'Heron Newman Hall last Saturday. Children seated in little chairs concentrated intently, while painting hearts on window hangings and sprinkling glitter on "plates of love." Some decorated cookies for themselves or their valentines, while others colored cards.

The Children's Museum, located at 8 Calvert Street, hosts events such as "Valentine's Day Art" six or seven times a semester. Students from Cortland's Childhood and Early Childhood Education Department volunteer their time to help faculty and staff members run the events and for a good opportunity to interact with the young children.

Senior Amanda Mailman, an early childhood/childhood education major, said that helping out at these events will help her in her classroom. She said, "It's an informal setting so we can learn about kids when they are not sitting and learning. They are really creative and use their imaginations."

Senior Jo-ann Deisinger agreed. "It gives parents a chance to interact with their kids since during the week, the kids are at school and the parents are at work."

The museum's mission is to offer "interactive, hands-on experiences in an environment where Cortland community members including parents, grandparents, caregivers, teachers, college students, youth, and young children can be inspired to



photo by Becky Greenland/News Editor

Sarah Zipp and her daughter Qweneth (left) and John Howard and his daughters Hellen and Diana (right) paint and color Valentine cards

play and learn together across a variety of topics in many ways."

The events are structured so that the children can wander freely from station to station and choose what crafts or activities they would like to do. John Howard, a Cortland resi-

dent, brought his two daughters, Diana (4) and Hellen (7), and said, "It's a good way for kids to play with each other. They get to choose what they want to do."

If a child wasn't inspired to create a valentine last Saturday, they also had the option of uti-

lizing the many other opportunities the museum had, such as dramatic play, which featured dress up clothes and acting; sensory tables with sand and sea shells; the nature nook, complete with animal bones and insects; physics posters and hands-

on experiments; physical play such as hoola-hoops, hopscotch and bowling; and much more.

Students and children aren't the only ones benefitting from their days at the Children's Muse-

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Black Student Union

**BSU strives to bring di-
versity and Black Culture
awareness to Cortland**

By Jessica Downer
Copy Editor

Many students strive for diversity on campus through events, education, and clubs. One of the forerunners for diversity on campus is the Black Student Union (BSU).

Despite the name, the Black Student Union is not only for black students. According to the club mission statement, "The purpose of the Black Student Union is to provide a focal point

for the adjustment of students of Cortland, and to promote diversity and transformational change throughout the campus. The goal is to make the Cortland Community aware of the Black Experience and black Culture through educational and social programming. The club extends the concepts of Black struggles and issues that influence the dynamics of human condition by uniting people of all races."

The club officers and active members promote cultural awareness and education for all students that attend. Khalia Brown, a sophomore and president of BSU talked about her experience as a freshman attending BSU. "BSU was a major part in helping my ad-

See **BSU**, page 3

Love Your Body

**Body Appreciation Week
raises awareness about
eating disorders**

By Caitlin Sullivan
Contributing Writer

This year, Cortland faculty, staff and students will continue their annual efforts in promoting awareness of eating disorders with Body Appreciation Week, beginning Monday, February 21 and continuing through Thursday, February 24. This year will mark the 13th consecutive year that the college will celebrate with campus-wide events to honor National Eating Disorders

Awareness Week, which is observed by many campuses and communities across the country.

Throughout the week, an exhibit will be open each day from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. featuring displays, posters, art, and general information representing body image. This exhibit, as well as all Body Appreciation Week events, is open to the public and free of charge. The display can be found in the Corey Union Exhibition Lounge on the college's campus.

At 7 p.m. on Monday night there will be a social coffee-house event featuring various musical and dance performances, all entertaining the theme of the week: "You're Amazing, Just the Way You Are."

The week provides the entire campus and surrounding community with information, support,

and fun activities to raise awareness about eating disorders. It also allows everyone involved to join as a larger entity to support the movement toward prevention.

Refreshments will be available, and raffles will be held with all proceeds going to support the efforts of Body Appreciation Week. This event will take place in the Corey Union Function Room.

Internationally known author, speaker, and ambassador of the National Eating Disorder Association, Jenni Schaefer, will be the highlight of the week as the keynote speaker. Her presentation shares her unique story of her struggles with an eating disorder and her process of recovery. Schaefer presented at Cortland back in 2008, when

See **B.A.W.**, page 3

What’s Going On? The Problems of Plagiarism

Calendar of Events: February 17-23

Today:

- 12 p.m.** “Reimagining Multicultural Life and Diversity at SUNY Cortland” located in Brockway, Jacobus Lounge.
- 5 p.m.** James M. Clark Center presents a study abroad informational session, located in Brockway room 216.

Friday:

- 8 p.m. - 2 a.m.** RHA presents “Rack-A-Thon Dance-A-Thon,” an event in Corey Union Function Room to help raise money for Breast Cancer Research.
- 12:30 p.m.** John Sheehan from the History Department will present “Ireland: The Laboratory for the Imperial Formula in the Atlantic World,” in the Corey Union Fireplace Lounge.

Saturday:

- 4 p.m.** Mens Basketball vs. Brockport.

Sunday:

- 2 p.m.** “Debate: Pros and Cons of Gas Drilling.” The event is located in Old Main Brown Auditorium.

Monday:

- 7 p.m.** “Body Appreciation Awareness Coffee House” located in the Corey Union Function Room.

Tuesday:

- 4:30 p.m.** “Plagiarism: Is It a Professional or Moral Infraction?” This panel is the third presentation in the series “Plagiarism and Its Just Desserts.” Located in Brockway Jacobus Lounge.
- 7:30** Professor Sam Kelley of the Communication Studies and Africana Studies Department will read, “Retirement Blues” in Brockway Jacobus Lounge.
- 7 p.m.** For Body Appreciation Week, SAB presents: “SAB/Eating Disorders Coffeehouse” in Corey Union Exhibition Lounge.

Wednesday

- 12:30 p.m.** Sandwich Seminar “Art and Classical Music of African American Composers,” located in Brockway Jacobus Lounge.
- 4:30 p.m.** Brooks Museum Lecture, “Do Women Work Close to Home?” Located in Moffett 2125.
- 7:30 p.m.** “Goodbye Ed, Hello Me: Recover From Your Eating Disorder and Fall in Love with Life,” presented by Jenni Schaefer in Corey Union Function Union.

How society can mistakenly promote plagiarism in state tests and online

By Adam Dejesus Gonzalez
Staff Writer

“What you have learned as a high school student could set you up for failure in college,” states Gigi Peterson, as she began her lecture “New York States’ Regents Exam and Methods to Educate Future Professionals,” last Wednesday. According to Peterson, New York State and its Regents Exam standards are teaching the wrong skills to students, causing increasingly high levels of plagiarism in first-year college students. High school students are taught to analyze and copy text from “documents,” and use the text that they have copied by incorporating it into their answer. Peterson argues that the rubric states nothing about proper citing, and even allows such practices to be overlooked. “If this is what teachers are preparing the students for, there is obviously something wrong with the rubric.” Peterson also argues that the historical documents in the “DBQ” questions are hardly documents at all. She displayed several examples that ranged from a comic strip to a list of his-

torical text. Peterson wrapped up by arguing that the Regents Exam standards teach students the wrong skills that could gravely effect their college careers. Next to speak was Daniel Harms, bibliographer and Instructional Services Librarian at Memorial Library, who expressed his thoughts on a topic he called, “Academic Integrity and the New Media.” Harms discussed websites such as Wikipedia, which, according to Wikipedia and it’s user agreement license, states that anyone can use information in published works. According to Harms, Wikipedia doesn’t request its users to cite or pay any form of tribute to original sources. Harms goes on to state that its basically free information that can be used anywhere. It also can be altered by anyone with the right knowledge. “It is becoming difficult to see the differences in other websites. Now a days, most sites get their information from Wikipedia. In fact too many.” Harms said that this makes it difficult for students to find reliable sources on the internet that haven’t already been altered by Wikipedia. Harms also stated that many students don’t realize they must cite every idea taken from someone else, including pictures. “The best way to deal with plagiarism is to put meaning in your assignments. Make it something worth researching that can help the students with their future. Also, be very clear with what you want cited,” said Harms.

As part of the presentation, Lorraine Melita, the Senior Assistant Librarian, unveiled a new system that can help with the “war on plagiarism.” This revolutionary new system is called “Safe-Assign.” It allows professors and educators to upload student-submitted paper into a database which then searches the internet and finds what sentences and phrases are directly copied from online sources. The process isn’t fast but it yields impressive results that not only express how much of the essay is plagiarized, but also what parts by highlighting the text. “Students can use these tools if their professors allow them to access the tab on their e-learning pages. This way, students can see exactly what they need to cite in order to get full credit on their work,” she said. “Safe-Assign” allows professors to quickly determine if a paper is plagiarized, as opposed to relying on gut instinct and the views of others. These three professionals expressed various ways to counter plagiarism and prevent the humiliation that it brings to not only students, but to the college itself. Other resources professors and students can use in order to prevent plagiarism are provided by the COR101 website. The website has resources that can help students cite their work properly, as well as help professors notice signs of plagiarism.

MUSEUM

FROM COVER PAGE

um. Parents and family members also enjoy the time spent with the children and the events the museum offers. Trevor Schadewald, a Cortland resident, brought his two children Kya (8), and Ty (3), to the Valentine’s Day event. He said, “They’d stay here all day if we’d let them. They get really into the projects, like the arts and crafts and the interactive activities.” Sarah Zipp teaches sport management classes at Cortland. “It’s something different and it’s nice to get out of the house. They love it,” she said, referring to her two daughters Adelyn and Qweneth. Emilie Kudela, the Children’s Museum coordinator and an early childhood faculty member said that many families come back to the museum repeatedly and she encourages families to bring new friends to upcoming events. She commended the students for all their hard work and said that there are “not many opportunities for students to see children with their families in an informal educational environment.” The museum inspires children, parents and students alike. Jen Mooney, an early childhood/childhood education major, who has helped out at eight of the Children’s Museum events agreed. She said, “I learn a lot of cool projects that I can use in my own classroom. I hope that the school I eventually work in will have something like this, maybe a morning or after-school program.” The Children’s Museum’s next event will be March 5 and is titled, “Dan, the Snake Man,” where children will be able to interact with a variety of exotic reptiles on an up-close and personal level. The events take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and are free, but donations are appreciated.

The New Valentine’s Day

Couples beware: the famous holiday is starting to take on new meaning

By Brittani Sahn
Staff Writer

The day of romance, Valentine’s Day, falls on February 14 of every year. Flowers, candy, and candle-lit dinners have come to be the symbols of this day. But have our experiences altered the recent views and expectations of this holiday? Saint Valentine, to whom the day is dedicated, was a Christian martyr in third century Rome. Valentine was jailed for his many actions against the emperor Claudius II Gothicus, who later sentenced Valentine to death. Signed in his last letter to a woman whom he had fallen in love with, “from your Valentine.” These were the last written words by the Saint. The day was chosen because February the 14 was the day of Saint Valentine’s execution. Because of his loyalty to Christians, Saint Valentine and his message of love and hope have been carried on and celebrated for centuries. Year after year, men and women alike are taken in by this mystical idea, but times have changed. Sophomore PJ Flynn believes “it’s just a commercial holiday. I like Valentine’s Day, but it’s a way for the stores and restaurants to make money.” Even in some local elementary schools the day can no longer signal a day of “romance,” but is instead re-named

“Friendship Day” to symbolize that everyone can be friends. Independence has become important to our society as a whole, and Valentine’s Day has been affected by that current reputation as well. Friendships have begun to take precedence over boyfriend/girlfriend relationships. Sophomore Alana Hotchkiss would rather spend Valentine’s Day with her girl friends: “I think it’s better for girls to have a good time with a close group of girl friends, rather than with one boy.” Sophomore Alyssa Bovalino, who is currently in a long-term relationship, does not treat the day as special: “It’s just whatever. I don’t really take the holiday very seriously.” Hotchkiss and Bovalino are just a few examples of how students view Valentine’s Day differently than in past generations. Instead of romantic dates and expensive gifts, these two are celebrating the 14th with a “Girl’s Night Out” theme they put together with a small group of friends. “It’s going to be a lot of fun for us to all be together, without guys involved,” states Hotchkiss about the time spent with her friends on the holiday. According to Hotchkiss, their night will consist of a group dinner date, a movie night in the residence halls, and an ending of desserts. Celebrating a holiday dedicated to love can be hard for heart-broken men and women, but with a group of friends and a plan, spending the day alone does not have to be an option. Saint Valentine meant to spread love in all ways, including through great times with the ones you love most.



Explore our museum!
Bring your family, bring your friends!

Upcoming 2011 Events:

Open to children and families 10 am to 1 pm - Admission is FREE but donations are gladly accepted.

February 5	Happy Chinese New Year	Experience Chinese Lunar New Year by learning traditions, making origami projects, decorating paper lanterns, and exchanging “Happy New Year” greetings in Mandarin Chinese. Make and eat Chinese dumplings!
February 12	Valentine’s Day Art	Create Valentine’s decorations and cards using a variety of art materials including lots of pink and red paint!
March 5	Dan the Snake Man	Interact with many species of exotic reptiles on an up-close and personal level. View, touch, and ask questions! Learn to appreciate the special nature of these animals and their importance to the environment.
March 26	Music and Dance For All	Join us for musical activities and performances including dances taught by the Cortland Dance Company and make your own musical instruments. Bring your talents to share and help us make music together.
April 2	Summer Beach Snow Globes	Take a bit of the beach home with you! Use sand, seashells, and sea salt to build your very own Summer Beach snow globe. Shake up the sand and watch ocean waves uncover shells for a lasting summer memory.
April 9	Attracting Backyard Birds	See pictures and hear recorded songs of birds commonly found in the Cortland area. Make a bird feeder to take home!

Located on the ground floor of O’Heron Newman Hall, 8 Calvert Street, Cortland (Number 9 on the SUNY Cortland Map - <http://www.cortland.edu/images/graphics/3dmap.pdf>) Follow the driveway around to our entrance.

* Please do not park in the driveway. * Parking is available in the Dowd Fine Arts building parking lot located on the corner of Graham Avenue and Prospect Terrace.

Our Mission: The Children’s Museum offers interactive, hands-on experiences in an environment where Cortland community members including parents, grandparents, caregivers, teachers, college students, youth, and young children can be inspired to play and learn together across a variety of topics and in many ways.

For additional information contact
Emilie Kudela at 753-5525, or Susan Stratton at 753-2467
childrensmuseum@cortland.edu
<http://www2.cortland.edu/community-and-visitors/childrens-museum/>



B.A.W.

FROM COVER PAGE

she spoke about these struggles as portrayed in her first book, “Life Without Ed.” Now, Schaefer returns in 2011 as she looks to share the story in her latest book, “Goodbye Ed, Hello Me.”

The candid information she provides takes listeners not only through her experiences with anorexia and bulimia, but also to the other side where she discovers freedom, as well as herself. Schaefer inspires people with similar issues to believe that it is possible to recover and live a full and healthy life, free from eating disorders. Her personal story encourages people to pursue their dreams and determine who they truly are. Schaefer will be speaking at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday night in the Corey Union Function Room. A book signing session will immediately follow the presentation.

Tuesday will be a day full of valuable activities. Delta Phi Epsilon will be running a program based on the Dove Real Beauty Campaign in an effort to raise self esteem for teenage girls as well as increasing awareness about the media’s impacts on body image. Workshops and activities will

consist of fun videos, games and exercises all focusing on the topic of a healthy, positive self-image. Area teenage students will be invited to join Delta Phi Epsilon and the Cortland community on this day to reach out to the local community and broaden the audience. At 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday night, “Women of Color” will be hosting a program for the second year running, continuing with the theme of positive body image.

Thursday night will be the conclusion of the week’s activities with a Candlelight Vigil and Guest Speaker. This event will also be sponsored by Delta Phi Epsilon, whose efforts benefit Anorexia Nervosa and Associated Disorders (ANAD). The event is aimed at honoring all those who have been affected by eating disorders. This will also be at 7 p.m. in the Corey Union Exhibition Lounge.

Body Appreciation Week is sponsored by Counseling and Student Development, Auxiliary Services Corporation, The President’s Office, Office of Vice President for Student Affairs, Residence Life and Housing, CALS, Athletics, Dining Services, ASAP, Health Promotion, Delta Phi Epsilon, Alpha Sigma Alpha, Campus Activities and Corey Union, Residence Hall Association, and Ames Linen.

New Club On Campus

The Health Club is here to help health majors gain experience on campus

By Hannah Connelly
Staff Writer

This semester, students interested in the health field will get a chance to take part in the new Health Club on campus. This club is aimed towards students in the health majors such as health education and community health. The main goal is to get anyone in the health major involved in the club.

Cristina Hoffman, president of the Health Club says, “Most other majors have a club, and we wanted to get the Health Department involved on campus in as many ways as possible. We want to bring students together to show them all the things that they can do with their degree.” Hoffman also hopes to show students the benefits to being in a club and how it can help in the future.

Health Club is already off to a good start this semester with a Blood Drive held through the American Red Cross last Monday. Members of the Health Club volunteered by recruiting many new blood donors for this drive. Students in the club acknowledge the large demand for blood donation and did their part to

increase the local blood supply.

Health Club is also planning various events in the future. Body Appreciation Week, sponsored by the Health Promotion Office on campus, starts February 21; students involved in Health Club will be working on a display for an exhibit to be featured during Body Appreciation Week.

In addition, Health Club is working to create a Community Health Board to make students in the health major aware of what kinds of internships are offered and places that they can do their internship locally. The club is also working to organize a Health Education Board which would go into Methods Classes and answer questions for students about what observing and student teaching is like.

Health Club is also looking forward to planning Health Day on campus. Hoffman hopes that having a dedicated Health Awareness Day on campus would bring attention to important health issues that students sometimes overlook.

In order to make all these events happen, Health Club is looking for any student interested in health who wants to be involved in this club. Students are encouraged to contact Health Club officers, such as Cristina Hoffman, or attend meetings if they are interested in joining this club. Meetings are held every Monday at 7:15 in Corey room 303.

BSU

FROM COVER PAGE

justment to school,” said Brown. “It was like a tight-knit family, a home away from home.” Brown became the BSU president as a freshman at the end of last year. Many freshmen do not get the opportunity to be in a leadership position so early in their college careers, and Brown stated, “It’s a scary experience stepping into something your unfamiliar with.”

Along with Brown, Tatyana Walker, Ruth Osayomi, Wan’Que Green, Abdull Diallo, and Very Moraza came into office early in their college careers. “We all gained our inspiration, love, and passion for BSU from Bari Smith, a former President of BSU,” said Brown.

Students have many reasons for joining BSU, spanning from making friends, helping to educate others, or finding a place to call “home.” Tatyana Walker, the club secretary, stated, “I liked what the VOICE office and the people in there were doing. It made me want to become more involved, not only in BSU, but in the VOICE office as well.”

Ruth Osayomi, the Vice President of BSU, talked about the troubles that many minority students face coming to a school that is far away from home. “We want to promote students from different cultures coming to campus, and more importantly, staying,” said Osayomi. “Before BSU, I wanted to go home. BSU along with other groups in the VOICE office helped me stay and just have a better experience here at Cortland. People of different ethnic backgrounds tend to transfer because of culture shock. BSU helps these students feel comfortable by promoting diversity.”

For Black History Month, BSU has been doing the Black History fact of the day and have been hosting discussions about Black History. Though the club talks about subjects that have to do with Black Culture, many of their meeting topics tie into issues, facts, and topics that affect many, if not all, college students.

“It’s not all about Black History Month,” said Walker. “We’re trying to appeal to all audiences and talking only about Black History might scare people away because it’s such a touchy topic. We try to talk about everything and it all relates to black culture in some way.”

Sophomore Austin Rivera attends meetings regularly and stated, “I feel that BSU provides a place where people who aren’t familiar with Black Culture can be educated and interact with people of black descent on campus. For the minority community on campus it provides a family away from home.”

“Some of the topics we talk about include relationships, the pressures of being in college, AIDS/STDS, and how to promote unity between cultures,” said Brown.

The club’s highlight event for Black History Month is their first annual colloquium honoring Black History Month on February 21 in collaboration with Africana studies. The colloquium will focus on success, habits and strategies of successful people, and how to maintain success. The event will be held at 6 p.m. in the Fireplace Lounge.

With the success of the events and meeting discussions at BSU, students are sure to learn something about other cultures, themselves, and have a warm, welcoming family on campus. “Everyone is welcome!” says Brown. “You don’t have to be BLACK. We’re a diverse group that has a thirst for gaining knowledge.”



photo courtesy of jennischaefer.com

Author Jenni Schaefer speaks about beating her eating disorder

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Rack-A-Thon Dance-A-Thon

The Dance-A-Thon that raises money and awareness for Breast Cancer

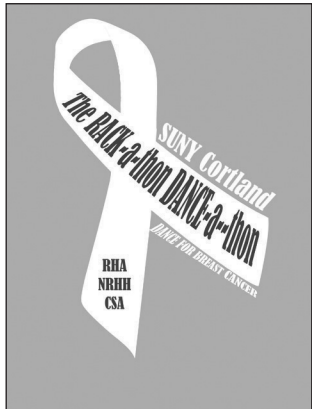
By Megan O'Brien
Staff Writer

RHA, CSA, and NRHH are sponsoring an event to raise money for Breast Cancer Awareness. The Rack-a-Thon Dance-a-Thon will be held from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. in the Corey Union Function Room from Friday February 18 to Saturday, February 19.

RHA will be selling t-shirts before and at the event. The front of the shirts say: ‘Nice Rack.’ These shirts and tickets for the event will be sold at tables in Corey. Tickets for students are five dollars and tickets for teachers and faculty will be seven dollars. Some things to look forward to are Zumba, Latin Dancing, Kickline and Dance Works performances, and a dance competition.

Sophomore Sara Lang is very excited for this event. “I think it’s an exciting event to get people involved while educating them in a fun way.”

Sophomore Ashley Cataneo is involved in RHA and



Back view of Rack-A-Thon shirt



Front view of t-shirt “Nice Rack”

says “Come out and support the cause and have a lot of fun.”

There will be food such as pizza, wings, an assortment of snack trays, and cookies.

3 girls need housemate!
41 upper Clayton Ave.
Pictures available at
cortlandstudenthousing.com



Our View

The 53rd Annual Grammy Awards were held this past Sunday at the Staples Center in Los Angeles. The Grammy Award is the largest award show in music, and every year it seems the following occurs at the event: a few pop superstars dress in outlandish and provocative attire, an awards presenter tries desperately (and fails) to be funny using an outdated joke, an aging musician past his/her prime provides a nostalgic performance, and the Grammy organizers find a way to completely screw the awards process up.

This year, the head scratching moment of flawed award assigning logic arrived right at the end of the show when Arcade Fire won Album of the Year (the most coveted Grammy award).

Here's why this made no sense: The Black Keys beat Arcade Fire for Best Alternative Album earlier in the show, yet Arcade Fire was nominated for and won Album of The Year. This clearly means that The Black Keys really won Album of the Year as well, does it not?

The Black Keys should have been nominated for Album of the Year alongside Arcade fire, and considering they already beat Arcade Fire, they should have won this award as well.

Where is Kanye West when you need him?

Letter to the editor:

Abortion is always an issue that raises emotions and a moral dilemma. Over the last century the finest minds (theologians, ethicists, medical researchers, etc.) have been unable to agree on the medical or ethical questions raised by abortion.

Is there life at conception? Is there viable life in an embryo after a week, a month, or three months? The answer is only clear depending on your view from where you walk.

What should be clear is that no individual or group has the right to impose theological or political views on another group. Yes, there may be alternatives to abortion such as optionline.com, quoted in the Dragon Chronicle dated February 10, 2011.

What is troubling in today's society are groups trying to impose their views on others. Abortion should not return to the "back alleys" of America that were so prevalent in my youth, including my four years at Cortland. "More than a dozen women standing with signs 'I regret My Abortion,'" as quoted in the Dragon Chronicle, last week does not match the millions of women and yes, men too, who, since 1973, have made

the difficult moral, medical and ethical choice to have an abortion.

Abortions should always be an option, even for those who cannot afford the procedure. Abortion should always be an option in the case of rape, incest, or when the life of the mother is at stake.

We should always take issue with any elected or religious leaders who are trying to remove the abortion option.

This includes trying to ban abortions at federally supported hospitals, military hospitals, healthcare, etc. I too have a married daughter who had to make a difficult moral decision regarding abortion.

I have two granddaughters and four grandsons. I hope they never have to make a difficult decision regarding abortion. However, all six must have the choice to seek an abortion should the occasion arise.

Abortion is not for everyone. However, the right to seek a safe, economical and harassment free abortion for anyone must always be protected.

-Ira Sheier '62

Should NHL Ban Fighting?

Players and owners cannot agree on a new deal for the 2011-12 season

By Nathan Bell
Staff Writer

Who doesn't love a hockey fight? More importantly, who doesn't love an all-out hockey brawl, where over 300 penalty minutes are handed out? I don't, that's who.

Islanders and Penguins fans certainly didn't miss the skirmish this past Friday, where 346 penalty minutes were allocated and the involved players were suspended for a handful of future games.

Hockey fans love to see a good fight break out, myself included. This one, however, was a little too much. While watching the brawl, I found myself feeling as if I were actually watching a multi-man, bare-knuckle boxing match on an ice rink, rather than a hockey game.

To put it simply, the violence was ridiculous. Everyone was fighting everyone; it wasn't just the enforcers doing their jobs. Goalies, forwards, and defenders alike were all thrown into the fracas.

I accept the fact that there will be fights in hockey, but last Friday's fight was tedious and unnecessary. What causes these fights, and why is it such a key part of hockey?

To evaluate the issue, it's necessary to recognize that fighting in hockey is almost indigenous to American hockey (the NHL). Americans love to see fighting, plain and simple. It's also important to understand that many fights are premeditated.

During game planning, if players decide that they're going to fight, they also determine who they're going to fight and when. With all of this said, it's easier to understand why players fight. It's part of the game, and we as fans accept it.

We anticipate fights and become excited when they break out. The Internet has only added to the madness. Hockey fans love to blog about recent fights, and websites, such as hockeyfights.com, have surfaced to track and record statistics on fights.

To keep the fighting under control, the NHL must be diligent with regard to the danger of the fights. In the case of the Islanders and Penguins fight, the NHL handled the punishment process well.

Brawlers Eric Godard, Trevor Gillies, and Matt Martin were each suspended for ten, nine, and four games, respectively. The NHL also fined the Islanders 100,000 dollars as a team because the Islanders "must bear some responsibility for their failure to control their players," according to NHL vice president Colin Campbell.

This time, the NHL got it right. With any luck, the trend will remain the same for the future. Next time I watch a hockey game, I'm hoping I can actually see the game, not mindless fighting.

WAZZZZZUPPPPPP

Superbowl commercials have lost their humorous appeal

By Nick Larocca
Staff Writer

If you saw the 1999 Super Bowl, I am sure you know the iconic Anheuser-Busch Budweiser beer commercial featured four guys doing what all guys do when the game is on: sitting back, relaxing, and enjoying their favorite adult beverage.

So why was this commercial such a huge hit making the phrase "WAZZZZZUPPPP" a pop culture phenomenon? Because the commercial is simple and audiences easily relate to it. Not to mention four grown men screaming, "what's up?" at each other is freaking hilarious.

Now fast forward to last week's Super Bowl Sunday. All the Doritos commercials were pretty dry. Volkswagens' Darth Vader commercial was on the level that the average Super Bowl commercial should be at, and I think that was the best one this year.

Chevy's commercial featuring senior citizens was a close second because, let's be honest, poking fun at old people is always a good time.

There were a couple of car commercials that were all right, but seriously overall, this year's Super Bowl was really opposite of what audiences have come to expect from the NFL's last game of the season.

The typical Super Bowl consists of a respectable pre-game show including some classic singer reciting the "National Anthem," a blowout football game, an amazing halftime show with a good live performance

from one or multiple artists, and entertaining commercials sprinkled in between.

Five hours of pure entertainment for both the hardcore football fan and weekend warrior.

So to recap this year's Super Bowl, we saw Christina Aguilera sing a remix of the National Anthem, an extremely close football game, the Black Eyed Peas' dismal performance during halftime, and bleak commercials.

What happened to halftime shows with Aerosmith, Nelly, Mary J. Blige, Kid Rock, Justin Timberlake and wardrobe malfunctions?

Except for that last incident, all of these artists are great live performers and all family friendly. Ever since 2004's wardrobe malfunction with Janet Jackson and Justin Timberlake, it is evident that the NFL is steering clear of any potential mishap again.

The wardrobe malfunction resulted in the following six halftime shows with guests: Paul McCartney, The Rolling Stones, Prince, Tom Petty, Bruce Springsteen, and The Who, performers who I'm fans of, but undoubtedly safe performers with little chance of controversy to be had on stage.

Since the Grammys are on Sunday, maybe the awards show can be an audition for the Super Bowl halftime show organizers to select modern artists that can be trusted to present a family-friendly performance.

I also really like the idea when a modern artist pairs with a classic artist to perform on stage together.

So, who knows, maybe this article will fall into the hands of Lawrence Randall, the director of programming for the NFL, and the halftime show will be reclaim its status as the entertainment destination for the world to see.

The Dragon Chronicle

138 YEARS OF TRADITION

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Consider this, Cortland

During the weeks leading up to the Superbowl, ESPN ran a story about retired NFL players struggling with lingering injuries suffered during their playing days.

The overall theme and aim of the piece was to identify and publicize the problem of NFL players abusing prescription drugs. ESPN conducted research with the aid of the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis and the National Institute on Drug Abuse. What they found is that retired NFL players misuse prescription drugs at a rate of 4-1 of the average American citizen.

Reporter John Barr went out and interviewed a few ex-NFL players that have admitted to being addicted to these drugs. The most emotional and revealing case was former Miami Dolphin tight end Dan Johnson, who told Barr that during his worst times he was taking 1,000 Vicodins a month.

Johnson’s addiction began after two back surgeries, both of which were a result of his physically demanding tenure in the NFL.

The addiction cost Johnson thousands of dollars, and the side effects of the pills led him to contemplate suicide. Johnson was emotional in the interview and made it clear that he doesn’t enjoy his life.

ESPN aired this story for a few reasons. One was to make current players aware of the dangers of prescription drugs, and show how, although they help alleviate pain, they normally become addicting and result in habitual abuse.

Another reason was to show how dangerous and physical the NFL is. In some sort of ironic enigma of interest, ESPN (the self proclaimed worldwide leader in sports) essentially showed the NFL as a barbaric, potentially life-ruining sport, and had me thanking my parents for never letting me play.

The piece was effective and provocative, and when I was done watching and reflecting on it, I wasn’t just turned off from the sport of football, I was entertaining this thought: “Imagine if there was an alternative to all of these expensive, addictive, life ruining prescription drugs.”

It turns out the thought was inwardly rhetorical, because I already knew the answer to my contemplative inquiry: marijuana.

Ok, so I just mentioned one of the buzz words found within the taboo encyclopedia of “political correctness,” but try and hear me out. I am neither a hippy nor a stoner, I’m just a guy with two cents burning a hole in his pocket.

Medical marijuana is predominant, popular, and often prescribed west of the Rocky Mountains. Out west one can find marijuana as easily as they can find cigarettes, and guess what? These states haven’t turned into a hippy wasteland defined by copious sex, existential muddling, and unmotivated disconnect (although I wouldn’t mind vacationing in a place like this).

People out west turn to medical marijuana to help them with their pain, and they never experience the side effects that Johnson explains in the ESPN story. However, the American government is seemingly scared of marijuana, not because of how it might transform our society, but because how it would take

the power away from the large drug companies that currently exist and operate legally in this country.

These companies make millions, and the government gets a piece of this pain-serving pie. Marijuana just makes more sense to me in cases and situations like that of Johnson.

It is cheaper, less addictive, impossible to overdose on, does not induce depressive moods and suicidal thoughts, and effectively treats pain (although differently: marijuana more-so circumnavigates pain rather than subdue it with chemicals).

But the fact that large pharmaceutical companies spend around \$150 million per year lobbying government officials, prescription drugs like Percocet, Vicodin, and any other drug containing large amounts of acetaminophen will continue to be prescribed and abused.

The toxic effects of prescribed medicine are often not discussed by doctors, and if it weren’t for the FDA demanding that commercials selling pharmaceuticals list off the dangerous side effects of their

products, most of us would have no idea that prescription drugs are dangerous.

These companies make upwards of \$11 billion per year, all while selling a product that is supposed to help you but may end up stripping you of your well-being and livelihood. Add that nearly 200,000 people die each year from prescription drugs and you have evidence of a sizeable paradox we call reality here in America.

The abuse of prescription drugs is primarily an American epidemic, and the reasons I have mentioned may be why.

California has figured out that its people’s interests are greater than that of the pharmaceutical companies, and that in some cases the natural effects of a natural plant serve the human body, mind, and spirit better than a concoction of chemicals from a laboratory.

I know this might be too progressive of an idea for the ethnocentrically stubborn stoics that run this country to entertain, but I believe medical marijuana should be an option in all 50 states.

-Matt Ianno

Cortland Calendar needs an Eighth Day

There isn’t enough time for Cortland students to party and study

By David Mindich
Staff Writer

COLUMN

Before delving into a topic in which criticism and controversy are as sure as to follow as that guy at Dark Horse who just cannot take a hint, it seems only fitting that one first call attention to similar visionaries, both in controversy and importance, of the past.

So, it is in those of the great thinkers like Plato or Galileo, and in those with a true spirit for adventure like Christopher Columbus or Neil Armstrong that I ask you to keep in mind as you read on, for while their ideas may have seemed radical in their time, it is only their contemporary naysayers who appear radical, or even foolish, today.

My vision came to me, as many visions do, somewhere around the end of my fourth round of Long Island iced teas at Stone Lounge. I’m pretty sure it was Saturday.

As I offered to buy the next round, feeling the need to celebrate with some business associates over another successful Friday for the party supply company we run out of our basement here in town, one of my fellow associates stopped me.

He felt it was best to switch to a domestic beer, as he was going

to be forced to wake up early the next day in order to be able to finish all the work he had due for Monday. This buzz-killing realization led to some heated discussion over the workload Cortland’s teachers force upon their students.

At its current rate, Cortland students simply cannot complete the work in the amount of time they’re given; it’s just not possible.

Sunday is twenty four hours long, yet, as any Cortland Student will tell you, it takes at least 27 hours to detox to a level of suitable functionality after the average Cortland weekend; the cold sucks the energy right out of you. Clearly, something needs to be done.

As I stood there in the bar, desperately sucking on the ice cubes left in my glass during the brief, almost non-existent moment of silence in between the DJ switching tracks from Lil’ Jon’s “Get Low” to LMFAO’s “Shots,” an idea caught my attention like that girl dancing on the bar who, even though it took three of her friends to get her up there, somehow still has enough poise and dexterity left to keep from spilling enough of her red bull and vodka onto her shirt.

I realized that the answer may not be in less work per day, but simply in more days for work. Obviously, we need an 8th day.

Now the idea may seem ludicrous to you and I do not feel as though this is entirely unwarranted. I’ll admit that even I wasn’t entirely sold on the idea until after something like my second or third shot of whiskey,

but after a while it really started to make sense.

Another whole day to rest up our minds at home would surely produce better grades in the classroom. And for many of those who feel some sort of unbreakable connection to our current seven day week, we may simply be succumbing to nationalistic ideals.

There are many different parts of the world that don’t run on our calendar, just look at China: they’re currently in the year 4000 something—how the hell does that work? Or think of the Mayan’s calendar, whose impending scheduled apocalypse really clashes with my trip to Cancun next winter.

Maybe we Americans could use a change in this time of financial insecurity. And who’s to say we really even have to switch up the calendar for all of the U.S.?

All we really have to do is add another day to Cortland’s schedule, it wouldn’t even make that much of a difference for most of Cortland’s student body. I, for one, barely ever know what day it is now—most of us probably wouldn’t even notice.

Now, unfortunately, I cannot discuss this idea to the extent in which an idea like this truly deserves in this particular medium, but should any open-minded, free thinkers out there wish to further discuss implementing an 8th day or any other ways in which to better manage the impossible work load we deal with each week, I will be facilitating a meeting at ten o’clock, Tuesday, in Red Jug—twofers, baby.

Bring Back Mark Ruffalo

Mark Ruffalo should return to Cortland and speak on hydrofracking

By Brian Lupo
Staff Writer

In last week’s edition of he Dragon Chronicle, I wrote about my experience studying abroad last semester and how it was an excellent decision and a time I’ll never forget.

However, it didn’t come without some sacrifice.

On September 28, 2010, literally the first day I arrived in London, I found out that Mark Ruffalo, actor, activist, and all-around amazing human, was speaking at Cortland. And I was all the way across the Atlantic, unable to attend. That was the worst day of my life.

When Ruffalo came to Cortland, he spoke about the environmental dangers of hydraulic fracture drilling in New York. This is exactly the type of issue that college students should be getting behind, and the fact that Ruffalo has taken charge to lead the way in the battle for a clean environment shows that he has more character than your average actor/activist.

This is just one reason why I want to meet him: he’s not afraid to use his celebrity to fight special interests. It was around sometime last year when I was watching Ruffalo’s fantastic supporting performance in “Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind” that I realized Ruffalo is really cool.

But I didn’t just think he

was really cool, I thought he was so cool that I wanted to meet him. You see, Ruffalo brings something to the table that many other actors can’t deliver.

If you’ve seen his work in “Zodiac” or “Shutter Island” you’ll know what I’m talking about. He’s got the charisma of Marlon Brando with the swagger of Gregory Peck. Essentially, he’s the greatest actor who’s ever lived.

If you’re reading this now and thinking to yourself, “Who is Mark Ruffalo?” I highly suggest you watch the upcoming Oscars. That’s right, Ruffalo is finally getting the recognition he deserves. He’s been nominated for his work in the film “The Kids Are All Right.”

If you haven’t seen this, I highly recommend it. I mean the title is a little inappropriate. It should have been called, “The Kids Are All Right, But Mark Ruffalo Is The Best.”

That would be the best movie ever. It would star me, as myself, trying to meet Ruffalo. Then one day, out of nowhere, Ruffalo decides to come to the college that I attend to speak about hydraulic fracture drilling.

Only, unlike in real life, I’m there. Then, after he speaks, I meet him. That would definitely win the Oscar for best movie of all time.

Anyway, all I’m really saying is that Ruffalo should come back to Cortland. It would be great for the students who missed him the first time (especially me) to get to hear him speak on hydrofracking. So, Mark Ruffalo, come back to Cortland, please.

The NFL is Turning into a Business, First, a Sport, Second

Players and owners cannot agree on a new deal for the 2011-12 season

By Samuel Dutkowsky
Staff Writer

The 2010-2011 NFL season

recently ended. In years past, most people would be arguing over who should have won the Super Bowl and who deserves all the prestigious awards.

Only this year, things went extremely grey in the NFL. To start things off, concussions were researched harder than ever this year, and it resulted in a new rule.

This brought about much change to the league that really is out of the players’ hands. The new rule is simple: no helmet to helmet hits to quarterbacks or defenseless receivers.

The question that is brought up is: how are they supposed to lighten up on hits to the helmet when they have less than a second

to react? It is almost impossible to do so.

If players violated this rule, like we saw with Steelers linebacker James Harrison, they were fined X amount of dollars.

The league committee was taking away money these players had earned for hits that they sometimes had no control over.

It is no wonder the players and owners cannot come to a collective bargaining agreement.

Rumors are floating around that the NFL is not even going to have a season next year. To touch on one point of this agreement is the extension of the season to 18 games.

See NFL, page 6

Here’s Your Sign: Become Bilingual

Being fluent in more than one language is an important life skill

By Eric Feuer
Staff Writer

If you were hoping this week’s article would be funny or sarcastic and not all that serious in content, you might find yourself a little disappointed. I’m not saying the following is boring, but consider this week’s article a change-up.

As humans, we communicate every day, whether it be verbal, non-verbal or through some form of technology.

But, even if you Tweet every day, leave ten Facebook wall posts every hour, and send enough texts to short circuit a BlackBerry, chances are there are plenty of people out there you aren’t communicating with and

some you might not be able to communicate with because of a simple language barrier.

As the world becomes more connected and cultures of all kind mix and live together, it’s becoming more important to speak more than one language. I’m not saying you have to be fluent in 1,000 languages like a Rosetta Stone, but it wouldn’t be such a bad thing to at least be bilingual.

I took Spanish from 6th to 12th grade. That’s six years of learning a language five days a week and as of today I can barely hold a conversation.

I’m not happy to admit this but it’s true and I wish I had paid more attention. But now I find myself trying to learn another language again, this time using my hands and not my mouth.

I decided to take American Sign Language this semester, mostly because it seemed interesting and I needed to fill the credits.

So far, it has not only been interesting but fun to learn as well.

Though I have less of a need to learn American Sign Language than Spanish or Chinese, it still is nice to know that I can contribute to a conversation in more than one language.

In other parts of the world, children begin to learn English at a much younger age than we start to learn other languages here.

I’ve met students from Turkey who have been learning how to speak English since the first grade, and students from Israel who have been learning since the third grade. The sad part is that some of them speak English better than some Americans I know.

I’m not saying you have to become fluent in another language, but there’s nothing wrong with giving it a shot. After all, you never know when that foreign supermodel is going to come walking into your life.

Know What to do When it Snows

These five things will help maximize your snow day experience

By Justin Atkinson
Staff Writer

“Let in snow. Let it snow. Let it snow.” Everybody remembers wearing his or her pajamas inside out the night of a big storm and hoping that there would be a snow day the following day.

The biggest question after you found out that you had a snow day was what would you do with that spectacular day?

The number five thing to do on a snow day is get ahead in homework.

Many people may not want to do homework on a day off, but if you were anticipating the snow day the night before, chances are you didn’t do your homework anyway.

It’s also a good way to get ahead in general, so the rest of your week frees up.

The number four thing to do

on a snow day is get some friends together and go play outside. No matter how old you are, playing outside in the cold and in the snow never seems to get old.

Either go play some pond hockey or go sledding. There’s no better sport to play on a cold and snowy day than pond hockey.

All you need is a net, some hockey sticks, and some skates to have a fun-filled snow day.

When it comes to sledding, what better thrill could you have on a snow day then going downhill at twenty-five miles per hour with the cold wind at your face. The only downside to going sledding is walking back up the hill.

The third best thing you can do on a snow day is watch some trilogies. If you have to be stuck inside all day then you might as well watch half a day’s worth of movies.

The “Star Wars” trilogies, the “Lord of the Rings” trilogies, and the “Fast and the Furious” trilogies are all great trilogies to watch on a cold and miserable day.

The number two best thing you can do on a snow day is make yourself something good to eat.

“If the weather outside is frightful” then the meal you make should be delightful.

Don’t just settle for microwave dinners; treat yourself to something special on this special day. Chances are you won’t be able to drive anywhere because the roads will be slick, but you can still be creative in the kitchen.

Bake yourself a cake, make a nice omelet with anything you can find to fill it with, or even just throw a bunch of things together in the blender and hope that it tastes good.

The number one thing that you can do on a snow day is sleep.

There’s nothing like sleeping in on a weekday because unless you take a lot of night classes, chances are you can’t sleep in on week days often.

Most likely if you were anticipating the snow day, you went out the night before and you will need the snow day to catch up on some sleep, anyway.

NFL

FROM PAGE 5

Isn’t the NFL trying to prevent injuries from happening? If they cared about the players and wanted fewer injuries, then it’s clear they wouldn’t extend the season. It is very clear that all of this comes down to money and not the player’s safety.

The fact that the league is more of a business than a sport is destroying what every red blooded American likes to watch on Sundays.

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Quote of the Week:

“If it’s a penny for your thoughts and you put in your two cents worth, then someone, somewhere is making a penny.”

-Steven Wright



Interested in writing TV, music, movie, concert, restaurant, book reviews and more? Write for the Lifestyles section! For more information, e-mail dragonchronicle@cortland.edu.

Fox’s “Glee” Portrays Homosexuality Honestly

Hit show “Glee” does away with stereotypes of homosexuals

By Ryan O’Callaghan
Staff Writer

When Ryan Murphy, co-creator of “Glee” pitched the idea for his new show to Fox, he called “Glee” a show about “why the arts matter, and why the arts can change your life.” Little did he know that concept would skyrocket into a global sensation. “Glee” has been nominated for over one-hundred awards and has won over fifty, including four 2010 Emmy wins (out of nineteen nominations) and three 2011 Golden Globe wins. Despite all of the accolades, what shocked the creators most was the outreach to the storyline surrounding the openly gay character, Kurt Hummel. Some find his story to be the heart of the show, and in part make it responsible for the shows great success. The performance got rookie actor Chris Colfer, who plays Kurt, his first Golden Globe win. Colfer’s addition to the cast made a great change in the original story. When he first auditioned, Colfer tried out for the part of Artie, member of the glee club who uses a wheelchair. Ryan Murphy didn’t see him for the

part, but he was too intrigued with him to just let him go. Murphy scrapped the planned character Rajish and wrote in the new character Kurt Hummel. “Glee” provides an honest portrayal of its gay characters. Though Kurt does fall into some of the stereotypes, his character avoids the cookie-cutter gay character that has popped in and out of TV shows for years. Kurt learns from his time with the Glee Club, how to be himself and embrace being unique. He comes out to his father who, unlike many past characters, accepts his son and does not hold a grudge. Only a sophomore, Kurt ends up being openly gay in his Ohio high school. Although he gets bullied, he keeps his head up high. Colfer’s presence in “Glee” made other plot lines possible, like the addition of the characters Dave Karofsky and Blaine Anderson to the cast. When he wrote the episode “Wheels,” Ryan Murphy used a story from Colfer’s time in high school. He had told Murphy that his high school choir teacher wouldn’t allow him to sing “Defying Gravity” because it was a “girl’s song.” Murphy worked the story into the script, giving Colfer the opportunity to sing the song that he was denied and sing it for millions of viewers. Dave Karofsky, played by



photo provided by gleeclub.com

Dave Karofsky (Max Adler) bullies Kurt Hummel (Chris Colfer) in a dramatic episode of Fox’s “Glee”

Max Adler, bullies Kurt to the point of harassment. The football player picks on everyone in the Glee Club, throwing slushies at them. Karofsky picks on Kurt because of Kurt’s sexuality. However, when Kurt stands up to his bully, he finds out the real reason behind Karofsky’s bullying. He kisses Kurt and storms off. He later threatens to kill Kurt if he tells anyone about what happened. Adler’s character is a sad truth. (Many people struggle to understand who they are, and,

sometimes in the mix of things, they hurt themselves and/or others.) But the character also shows that not all gay people are the same cliché, as does the newest addition to the cast Blaine Anderson. Played by Darren Criss, Blaine acts as a mentor to Kurt. After being threatened by Karofsky, Kurt transfers to Blaine’s school, with its strictly enforced “no bullying policy.” He motivates Kurt to stand up for and embrace himself.

These characters paint a positive picture of gay characters. In light of the suicides from gay bullying, it’s good for kids to see that they aren’t alone. The truth is, there are gay people who are accepted by their families and peers. There are also those who are scared to embrace who they really are. These people exist, but they have not existed on television, at least not for a long time. “Glee” embraces these people. You can catch “Glee” on Tuesdays at 8 P.M. on Fox

“The Eagle” Struggles to Soar

Kevin Macdonald’s “The Eagle” lacks the action its previews allude to

By Theodore Montalvo
Staff Writer

REVIEW

“The Eagle” stars Channing Tatum from “Never Back Down,” and Jamie Bell from “Jumper.” The movie’s director, Kevin Macdonald, has directed other films such as “State of Play” and “The Last King of Scotland.” “The Eagle” is one of those PG-13 movies where you walk out of the theater saying “that would have been so much better if it was rated R.” It is hard to capture the reality of ancient Rome in a PG-13 movie. It was a time where society was bloody and gruesome and when action scenes have no blood in them it’s hard to take them seriously. From the commercials and previews, I expected a movie with a lot of action and not a lot of story. Well, it turned out to be the exact opposite. The biggest action scene unfortunately comes within the first 20 minutes of the movie. The camera is often shaky and it is hard to tell what is going on. It takes place in a time when the Roman Empire has expanded to Britain. A Roman soldier named Marcus Aquila (Channing Tatum) tries to regain his family’s honor

by finding a lost golden eagle. The eagle was the symbol of one of Rome’s famous Ninth Legion. Marcus gains a slave Esca (Jamie Bell) after being wounded in the opening battle scene. Putting aside the lack of action scenes, the movie does tell a strong story. You are put into the mindset of a time when men fought and died for their family’s honor. We also get to see the movie from a slave’s point of view, Esca. The director does a good job of building both characters equally. You can connect to both Marcus and Esca and understand the motives that drive their actions. We also get a glimpse of what daily life was like in Roman times. Most movies about ancient society are usually focused on the violent aspect of their lives. “The



photo provided by eagle.movie-trailer.com

Tatum and Bell cover the poster for “The Eagle” film

“The Eagle” takes a step back from the violent point of view and focuses on the story. Although there is a long story, the movie isn’t a complete action bust. There is a final battle scene, but it just isn’t as climatic as I expected. There are also a number of disturbing scenes that you wouldn’t expect in a PG-13 movie. In the end, the movie is average. It tells an interesting story but it isn’t as entertaining as I expected. If there were more action scenes to support the story it would have been easier to watch. If you are really bored one day and have the urge to see it, I wouldn’t say it’s not worth it. But if you are on a tight college budget like most of us, then I would suggest waiting for the DVD release. As a letter grade I give it a B-.

We Want The Truth

Season two of “Pretty Little Liars” leaves fans begging for the truth

By Stephanie Disen
Staff Writer

REVIEW

ABC family’s new hit T.V. show, “Pretty Little Liars,” has kept the attention of most viewers from its premiere last summer to its thrilling second season because of its ability to keep viewers on the edge of their seats. In each episode, various mysteries have sprung up which leave viewers pondering the question of who really killed Alison and the mystery that is “A,” even though they may have thought they finally figured it out. A’s mind games have taken

on a whole new level of creepy this season; so much that it has me wondering if I really want to check my phone for texts in the middle of the night. She or he has become more devious because of his or her knowledge of everything that goes on between Aria, Spencer, Hanna, and Emily. A’s ability to play on all their greatest weaknesses is unnerving. At this point, A is playing the girls so well that he or she has the ability to make or break them if the girls are not strong enough to stand together. With each episode airing, many others and I are wondering if we are going to be able to hold out if producers decide on a third season. At this point I want some kind of clue in any upcoming episode, that points me in a direction of, who could have killed Alison

See *Little Liars*, page 8

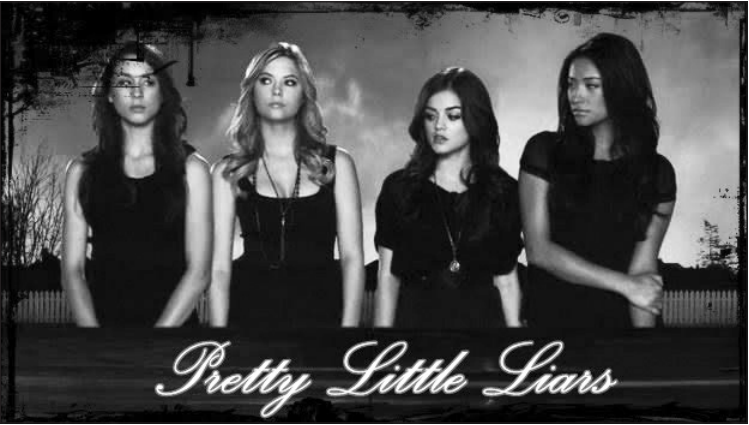


photo provided by abcfamily.com

“Pretty Little Liars” stars grace the promo poster for the hit show

Nas Keeps the Purpose of Hip-Hop Alive

Hip-hop lacks social and political lyricism, but Nas keeps them relevant

By Steve Hernandez
Staff Writer

There are countless issues that affect Americans today that aren't receiving the attention that they should be.

Music is one of the most important mediums for expressing concern for these issues.

Unfortunately, few musicians are using music for this purpose and are instead using it for releasing music that "has what fans want to hear."

I'm as big of a fan of Wiz Khalifa as the next person, but songs like "Black and Yellow" are hardly addressing anything important.

That is not to say that he does not have songs with deep or relevant societal subject matter, but there are better sources for such material.

Nas' 9th studio album, "Untitled" (originally titled "Nigger," but has since changed due to much controversy over the use of the word for an album title) is one such source.

It contains 15 songs on which Nas discusses relevant social issues such as racism, police brutality, media bias, the government's role in running the country, and most centrally the use of the word

"nigger" and how its meaning has changed, at least in part, since its first usage, as well as its relevance to these other aforementioned societal issues.

The album's cover also features an image of Nas' back, covered in lashes that make the shape of an "N," which is indicative of both his stage name, as well as the word "nigger."

Perhaps the most prominent display of Nas' concern for the resolving of social issues is in the song "Sly Fox", which is the album's seventh track.

It discusses the sort of "state of ignorance" that society is in at the hands of the news media and its bias, particularly Fox News, according to Nas.

He directly references Bill O'Reilly, the news anchor on Fox News who attacked Nas for his lyrics in certain songs such as "Shoot 'Em Up", "Got Urself A Gun", and "Made You Look" after the rapper played a show at Virginia Tech with John Mayer, Dave Matthews Band, and other musicians following the shootings at the university.

O'Reilly also did not hesitate to bring up a criminal gun possession charge that Nas received earlier in his life.

As a result, Nas got over 600,000 signatures for a petition against Fox News and he also challenged Bill O'Reilly to a public debate.

Needless to say, Fox News did not accept the petition and



photo provided by vaporsmagazine.com

Nas' illustrated and controversial "N" on the cover of "Untitled"

O'Reilly did not accept the challenge.

Nas' criminal possession charge is not what is important. What is important is that he is attempting to talk about real problems that society faces.

In an interview with Stephen Colbert, Nas asked, "How did that gun get into my neighborhood?" He brings up a very inter-

esting point with that statement.

Instead of pointing fingers at hip-hop, maybe it's time for society to look for the real sources of the problems that we are having as a country.

If we can do that, we may actually be able to solve some of our problems, and Nas' album "Untitled" calls us to do just that.

"Skins" Bad Influence on Teens

MTV's new show "Skins" glorifies, instead of undermines, sex and drugs

By Jessica Downer
Copy Editor

The controversy behind MTV's newest show "Skins" is to be expected with the types of shows MTV has been putting on the air.

The new show focuses on the lives of a group of teenagers who engage in sex, drugs, and other undesirable behaviors.

In college, though it is frowned upon by ageist adults, people do engage in these activities.

But, because the kids on the show are of high school age, viewers who happen to be in high school or even younger than high school can be influenced by the activities seen on the show.

It seems as if the show is trying to "one-up" "Degrassi," but is failing by not educating teens on positive solutions to negative problems but showing them that it is the "cool" thing to do.

When I wanted to see what the fuss was about and went on to MTV.com to watch the show, I was asked to put in my date of birth in order to view the show online. That was the first sign of how bad this show was.

MTV can only control what's on the web, but what about kids who have TVs in their rooms who happen to be up at 10 P.M. on a Monday night?

The episode I viewed was the episode entitled "Cadie." The episode featured a girl named Cadie who appeared to be mentally unstable, or just eccentric.

Her mother is a former pageant queen who hoped to claim stardom again and her father was a taxidermist. Her parents

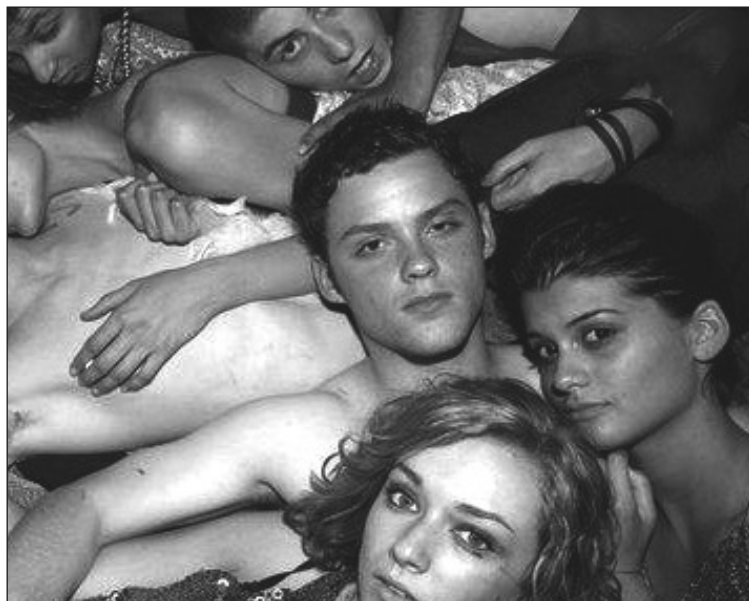


photo provided by poptower.com

The cast of "Skins" pose for racy promotion photo for the drama

seemed to have no time for her, and during the time they do interact with her they are either telling her that they have no time or that she should take her "meds."

Most of Cadie's time during the episode is spent at psychiatrists or in her room. The most dramatic part of the episode was at a party hosted by another character, Michelle, her alcoholic mom, and her mom's pervy boyfriend.

What I noticed about this show is that in all of the scenes with parents or adult figures, there is not positive role model for the teens to look up to. They are either judgmental of the teens or acting like a teen themselves.

When young people see these figures, they could either think that their parents are not "cool" or "hip," or they could think that they want to grow up to be some of these people.

During the climax of the episode, the most positive person was Stanley, Cadie's supposed boyfriend. Some of the young

adult demographic that this show is suppose to appeal to is appalled by what they have seen on the show.

Erin Durgin, a freshman, stated, "I feel the show fits the standard for being entertaining, but MTV has mistaken entertainment for raunchiness."

Leigh Weber, who is also a freshman, stated, "I don't think the show sends a positive message to our generation. It encourages teens and young adults to go drink, smoke, and have sex. These people are not who teens should be looked up to."

Jennifer Chan, a sophomore, commented on what the show is trying to teach: "The topics the show address are controversial, and if the creators of Skins was trying to show the cons of participating in the drinking, smoking, and sex shown, it isn't working. All they are doing is glamorizing it."

What can we expect in MTV's television programs to come?

LITTLE LIARS

FROM PAGE 7

or who "A" really is.

Current episodes have pointed into many people's directions such as Jenna; who the girls have supposedly blinded; Toby, the guy that is not so sad about Alison being dead; and Ian, Alison's secret boyfriend.

Anyone of them could be "A" or Alison's killer, but with the introduction of a new character in basically each new episode, it's getting tougher to guess.

When the show finally decides it is time to unravel the mysteries that are occurring in the series I will not be surprised if many people, myself included, line up to purchase the series.

I'm sure fans will just want to watch every episode over again to see if they can catch onto how "A" was able to be so cunning.

The only question I have now for the producers is: are we going to have to wait another season before everything is revealed?

I could say that many others and I are waiting patiently, but then that would be a lie.

If anyone is interested in some down time with a couple of friends, catch "Pretty Little Liars." New episodes air Mondays at 8 P.M., and repeat airings are at 10 P.M. only on ABC Family.

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Interviewers will be at SUNY Cortland on March 3rd in the Corey Union, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Nicki Minaj To Be the New Queen of Hip-Hop

Nicki Minaj has proven that she is a force to be wreckoned with

By **Tiffany Lewars**
Lifestyles Editor

Onika Tanya Maraj, better known as Nicki Minaj, was born on December 8, 1984 in Saint James, Trinidad and Tobago. At age five, Minaj moved to Queens, New York with her mother and father. Minaj often explains that her situation at home was not a day with the Huxtibles. Her father was an abusive alcoholic and her mother just wanted to keep the peace for her family. Minaj attended Fiorella Laguardia High school in Manhat-tan, specializing in drama. In her MTV documentary, “My Time Now,” she explained that she is first an actress, and takes her acting very serious, not just for her image as an artist, but out of respect for her teachers at Laguardia. Minaj first hit the hip-hop scene when she appeared on the Dirty Money Records mix tape “Playtime is Over.” She later re-leased her first mix tape in 2007. Nicki continued to display her lyrical style with numerous mix tapes and went on to win Fe-male Artist of The Year at the Un-derground Music Awards in 2008. On August 31, 2009, Young Money Entertainment announced

that Minaj would officially be on its record label, being released a 360 deal, in which she owned all her 360 rights. Minaj fans awaited and an-ticipated the release of her first official album, and on November 19, 2010 her debut album “Pink Friday” was released. The album included singles such as “Massive Attack” and “Your Love.” Minaj was the first female rapper to be named on MTV’s Annual Hottest MC List. In Oc-tober 2010, she was the first artist to have seven songs on the Bill-board charts. Although Minaj is almost al-ways recognized for her physical attributes and her sexual appeal, she has mentioned that she does not believe that women should have to use their sexuality to reach success or to get whatever they may want. She believes that women should have something more to offer than the physical and tries her best to tone down the sex in her image so that she doesn’t give her female fans the wrong idea. Minaj is also recognized by her eccentric style and unique personality. She often makes reference to her alter egos, specifically Roman Zolanski, who she explains is like a twin brother who has grown in-side of her and comes out when she is angry. On her single “Roman’s Re-venge” featuring Eminem, Nicki makes it clear that it is not her



photo provided by guardian.co.uk

Nicki Minaj hits the stage for another dramatic, rivetting, entertaining, and unique performance

rapping, but it is in fact Roman. Eminem’s alter ego Slim Shady also accompanies Roman on the track. Minaj has accompanied nu-merous artists on multiple hit singles, such as Jay-Z, Kanye West, label mates Drake and Lil’ Wayne, Rihanna, and many oth-ers. Although Minaj is respected by many artists today and, al-though she has mentioned that she has been influenced by many

female rappers, the love of one of her influences, Lil’ Kim, is not re-ciprocated. Lil’ Kim has stated in many interviews and through her Nicki Minaj diss tracks that she feels Minaj is copying her style and she is far from flattered. Nevertheless Minaj is not phased by the beef Lil’ Kim has started up, and has maintained her poise throughout the entire fiasco. She is revered and loved for her “out of this world” style and lyrical genius.

Although the whole world may not take to Ms. Minaj the same, her millions of Barbies and Ken Barbies are more than loyal to her and have no problem show-ing their fanaticism. She has been the center of discussion for her physical assets, her lyrical style and delivery, as well as her dynamic personality. Nicki Minaj has outlined her orchestra seat in the auditorium of hip-hop and music altogether and she’s here to stay.

Start Sleeping With One Eye Open

Horror film “The Room-mate” leaves audience afraid of dorming

By **Justin Atkinson**
Staff Writer

REVIEW

If you thought that your roommate was horrible during your freshman year of college then you are in for a wakeup call if you go see “The Roommate.” “The Roommate” is the new horror movie about an obsessed college roommate. This unique new horror mov-ie is sweeping the country and leaving movie viewers shocked and horrified.

“The Roommate” stars two up-and-coming actresses, Minka Kelly and Leighton Meester. You might rec-ognize Leighton Meester’s name from the CW’s hit show “Gossip Girl.” Minka Kelly isn’t as popular, but after playing a role like this her stock should rise soon. “The Room-mate” was directed by Christian E. Christiansen who is a young up-and-coming movie di-rector himself.

The basic plot to this movie is freshmen students Sara (Minka Kelly) and Rebecca (Leigh-ton Meester) are as-signed to be each other’s roommates. Sara, however, didn’t know what she got herself into when

she was assigned to be Rebecca’s roommate because pretty soon af-ter they start living with each oth-er, Rebecca becomes completely obsessed with Sara. The obsession quickly turns violent and several problems start to occur for Sara caused by Re-becca. As the movie goes on, there are several twists and turns along the way leading up to a fantastic ending. If you’re worried about seeing a lot of gore, then you don’t have to worry because this movie isn’t too gruesome. If you love horror movies or thrillers, then this is definitely a movie for you because, so far, this is the best horror movie of the year. For a horror movie, this movie is pretty good but, as far as movies goes, it’s just okay.

about a couple years from now. The name of the movie, and even the basic plot to this movie make it seem like it’s just another horror movie. “The Roommate,” however, will have you at the edge of your seat the entire time. Even if you are not big on horror movies and thrillers, it’s still a movie worth watching because it makes you think how lucky you are not to have a roommate like Rebecca. “The Roommate” should be out for quite a while, but usu-ally horror movies don’t stay in theatres for that long, so if you haven’t seen it yet, go and see it soon. By the time you are done watching this movie it will have you thinking about who your next roommate will be and what he or she will do.



photo provided by allmoviephoto.com

Minka Kelly and Leighton Meester in a suspenseful scene of “The Roommate”

It’s not the best acting in the world and it’s not one of those movies that you will be talking

So the next time you’re in the process of getting a new room-mate, be cautious and beware.



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Athletes of the Week Score Big

Maggie Giamo and Johnathan Conroy leave their mark

By Ashley Wysocarski
Staff Writer

Jonathan Conroy is Cortland's male Athlete of the Week. The team, ranked 20th in the nation, has put together some impressive wins this season, in part due to Conroy.

Conroy earned a much-needed pin in the match against Delaware Valley in order to break an 18-18 tie against his opponent in the 165-weight class. Conroy's pin, recorded with just over half a minute left in the first period, gave Cortland a 19-18 victory.

With a flair for the dramatic, Conroy once again pulled out the victory when it was most necessary. Conroy clocked his final takedown in the third period

of the match, and putting an end to a 1-1 tie.

Against Oswego, Conroy again won the 165-weight class by staying strong through the entire match. Conroy won 8-7 last Wednesday against the Lakers.

The sophomore wrestler carries a 24-5 record on the season, and is fourth in team rankings for pins, with seven.

For the women, Maggie Giamo, a forward on the wrestling team, won this weeks female Athlete of the Week. Giamo has an extraordinary level of energy, which helped her to carry a five-game streak, in which she recorded at least one point in each game.

"I like to have fun and a good laugh before the game is crucial. Also, dancing or running around the rink to jump start the firecracker energy that's always stored in my little package. I've never been a big believer in silent ice pondering." Giamo said.

On a weekend where the Red Dragons faced ECAC west rival Chatham twice, Giamo earned herself three assists, and a goal. Giamo's high-energy efforts allowed Cortland to sweep the weekend series.

Giamo works tirelessly to improve her personal performance, and help her team out in all areas, especially by "doing the little things right." Giamo always carried an interesting, and humorous, source of external motivation to be a stronger player with her:

"I try to model my play after older brother Vin. I wanted to be better than him after all the years he had said I looked like an uglier version of my dad." Giamo said.

Giamo looks forward to the upcoming weekend against ECAC rival, Buffalo State, when the Red Dragons square off against the Bengals in two home matches.

BASKETBALL

FROM PAGE 12

game, something that has been an issue throughout the season.

"We recognized that teams are going to go on their runs but as long as we don't put our heads down and sulk about it and keep fighting we will pull these games out." Winter added.

The Red Dragons locked up the win late with strong free-throw shooting.

The Red Dragons went 7-8 from the line over the last 2:38 which included Winter going 6-6.

Since the victory over the Hawks the Red Dragons have gone 1-1 with a tough overtime loss to SUNY Potsdam along with an upset victory over SUNY Potsdam.

Cortland is fighting for the

eighth and final playoff spots for the SUNYAC Going into Tuesday's matchup against SUNY Oneonta, Cortland, 5-10 in SUNYAC play, trailed SUNY Oneonta one game for the seventh seed.

Cortland leads SUNY Geneseo by the same margin for the eighth and final playoff spot.

WRESTLING

FROM PAGE 12

With the victory Conroy improved his season record to 24-5.

The final match took place at 184 lbs and was won convincingly by Cortland sophomore Will Parks.

His Oswego counterpart was unable to score a point, losing the match by a decision of 4-0.

Cortland also had four wins by forfeit. The undermanned Oswego squad was forced to submit

at the weight classes of 125, 149, 174, and 197 lbs.

Two of those forfeit wins went to Cortland captains. Senior Captain Dave Colagiovanni received a forfeit victory at 125 lbs. Andre Berry and James Ondris also received forfeits at 149 and 174 respectively.

Sophomore captain Jared Myhrberg also received a forfeit at 197 lbs. Myhrberg told me that he did not find out that he would receive a forfeit until the day of the match.

When asked if it would dis-

rupt his training, he answered by saying, we don't train hard for a duel against Oswego, we train to compete at our best in conferences and Nationals, everything else just helps us get ready for the big show".

Speaking on what it's like to be a Captain and receive a forfeit victory when everyone else is wrestling, Myhrberg said, "Anytime you receive a forfeit at a duel it stinks, but you sit there and support the rest of your team that is wrestling".

The Captain passes his hon-

orable intentions onto the rest of the squad.

This duel vs. Owego upped the Red Dragons record to 14-4-1, while leaving the Oswego Lakers at a mere 5-8 on the season. Cortland hopes to continue this individual and team success late into the season.

Cortland hopes to see a few of its wrestlers compete in Nationals, with promising results.

Jonathon Conroy feels that this team has yet to reach even its full potential.

He mentioned that the team is

full of quality underclassmen that are maturing each match.

The sky is the limit with this young Cortland squad. Cortland will host Ithaca College on Wednesday the 16th.

Try to make it out to cheer on the young Red Dragon wrestlers.

Cortland Loses Weekend Series

Cortland swept by Plattsburgh, eliminated from playoff contention

By Chris Ouellette
Staff Writer

Cortland's Women's Ice Hockey hosted the nationally third-ranked Cardinals of Plattsburgh to two games with weekend in Alumni Arena. In Saturday's game, senior goalie Mandy Mackrell stopped all 18 shots she faced and sophomore Teal Gove contributed in all three goals as Plattsburgh defeated Cortland's goalie, junior Katie Double, turned aside 47 shots for the Red Dragons, including all 20 shots on goal in the third period.

For Plattsburgh, Gove finished with a goal and two assists, while senior Kate Fairfield and freshman Amber Welch each tallied a goal and senior Kara Buehler chipped in with an assist. Gove gave the Cardinals the lead at 11 minutes, 43 seconds into the first period when she beat Double on a breakaway that was set up by a long pass from Buehler.

Three minutes later, Fairfield one-timed a shot after Gove forced a turnover behind Cortland's goal.

Just one minute, 41 seconds into the second period, Welch gave Plattsburgh the 3-0 lead with a shot that went over Double's shoulder into the top right corner. Early in the third period, Plattsburgh held off a two-player advantage for Cortland on the power play to keep it a 3-0 game. Just minutes later, the tables were turned as the Red Dragons also held off a two-player advantage that lasted 31 seconds as Double made several outstanding saves to keep it a 3-0 score.

In Sunday's game, senior Megan DiJulio contributed two of Plattsburgh's four goals as Plattsburgh defeated Cortland 4-2



photo by Todd Curtis

Though the Red Dragons fell short in their game against Plattsburgh, goalie Sarah Sitcov was able to register an impressive 47 saves.

to sweep the weekend series.

While DiJulio scored two goals, senior Helen Giroux and freshman Chelsea VanGlahn each scored a goal for Plattsburgh.

Sophomore Jordan Caldwell and Kristin Maton each recorded an assist. On the Cortland side, sophomore Chelsey Wright and freshman Gina Tomei each netted a goal, while junior Jen Whelan recorded an assist.

In the first period, Cortland

took the lead with a goal from Wright, with Whelan on the assist. With 7:40 left in the first period, Plattsburgh tied up the game when Giroux scored.

Plattsburgh then took the lead with 4:40 left in the second period when DiJulio scored a goal off a rebound by Buehler, who was given the assist.

With 18:18 left in the third period, the Red Dragons tied up the game when Tomei scored an

unassisted goal that deflected off a Plattsburgh player's skate and into the net. Just three minutes later in the third, Plattsburgh took the lead again when Caldwell passed the puck VanGlahn, who then shot it between the legs of Sitcov.

The Cardinals sealed the win with 3:06 left in the third when DiJulio recorded her second goal of the game with an assist by Maton.

With these two losses, the Red Dragons fell to a record of 4-17-2 overall and 3-11-2 in conference play and were eliminated from playoff contention. On the other side, Plattsburgh improved to a record of 17-3-3 overall and 13-1-2 in conference play. Next weekend, the Red Dragons host the Bengals of Buffalo State at home in the Alumni Arena to end the season.

For The Love Of the Game

Cortland's LAX takes weather matters into their own hands

By Jason DiStefano
Staff Writer

The ice, the snow, the single digit degree temperatures are a few things that people in central New York deal with on a daily basis.

The Cortland lacrosse team is no exception to this rule either. They are three weeks into their season and have been "fighting" against their new enemy: A snow covered field. Fortunately for them, they have a wonderful facility with the Lusk field house. The field house allows them to practice but nothing is as good as a full field.

After a season that ended in a tough loss in the semifinals, to the eventual National Champion, Tufts, they were extremely eager to get back on the field. Senior captain Shane Crossett spoke about the anticipation, "Everyone is really excited to start playing again. We have a good group of freshman who I believe will really contribute. The anticipation continues to rise we because we haven't been outside much, due to the snow."

Normally by this time, Cortland will have a bunch of practices on the turf but due to a rough winter in CNY, they have been restricted to mainly indoor practices. The plow hasn't been able to get low enough to the turf due to unknown restrictions but this has opened a door for the

lacrosse team to really show case their snow shoveling abilities.

Crossett said, "We have done a lot of shoveling. Most of it is chipping ice and then shoveling it off." The guys have seemed to turn a normally grueling task into fun, as they have created their own shoveling vocabulary and techniques. Their most effective technique is the "ram technique", this is when a group of five to seven players will combine shovels and basically create a snow plow. This works well because it allows for large piles of snow to be pushed off the field.

When times get tough, it is easy for a team to get down and allow the negativity to affect its performance. Not Cortland though, Crossett said, "As a captain it is our job to eliminate negative talk and turn it into positive talk. Even if we have been inside for three weeks, it doesn't matter; we still remain positive and will try to perform at a high level."

Coach Steve Beville and the team have taken on a "no excuses" mentality this year. Each year, there is a new team that is born because there are new faces and new personalities. This group is a resilient bunch as they have proven it thus far with their battle against the snow covered turf and continuous work ethic.

Lacrosse is a game that is played on a large field and when confined to a small area, it changes the style of play. Crossett said, "The main difference between playing outside and inside is the overall "feel" for the game. To get into specifics, the riding and clearing is difficult because it is so condensed in the field house."



photo by Todd Curtis

Eric Martin and his teammates on the Men's Lacrosse team shovel snow and ice from their frozen field.

The "feel" that Crossett speaks about it is something a player has after playing the game for a long time. It is an understanding of who is going to be where and what is going to happen on the

field.

The Red Dragons are looking forward to getting out on the field and most importantly for their first real contest, February 27 at Widener college. They will

continue to have their no excuses mentality as they keep fighting for their goal: another Division Three National Championship.

Red Dragons Continue To Blaze Forward

Even without Cohen, New Paltz suffers a 85-51 loss to Cortland

By Nathan Vaji
Staff Writer

Despite playing without leading scorer Brittany Cohen, the Cortland women's basketball team defeated previously second place New Paltz 85-51 Tuesday night in Corey Gymnasium.

All five Cortland starters scored in double figures, led by Molly Byrne's career-high 20 points and four assists. Starting in place of Cohen, Jen Polan scored 16 points and dished out a career-high eight assists.

The Red Dragons used a 13-0 run in the first four minutes of the contest, with five of those points scored by Byrne. New Paltz closed the lead to five with 8:25 remaining in the first half (27-22), but Byrne scored the next four Cortland points to push the lead back to nine.

Cortland used a 9-2 run in the final three minutes of the half to hold an 18 point lead heading into the break at 49-31.

Cortland pushed their lead to 20 early in the second half, and pushed the lead to 30 with 5:07 remaining. The Red Dragon lead would not be less than 30 in those final five minutes.

The Red Dragons shot a scorching 50% from the field, and held New Paltz to just 24% shooting. Cortland also forced 29 turnovers from New Paltz, including 23 steals.



photo by Todd Curtis

Micki Volpini made seven steals to tie her career high record.

Also scoring in double figures for Cortland were senior Jennifer Patten with 14 points, Micki Volpini with 11 points and Megan Maycumber with 10 points.

Volpini also tied a career high

with seven steals.

Making her return from illness, Cohen led Cortland to a 70-48 victory over Potsdam on the road. Cohen scored 18 points to go along with nine assists.

Cohen hit three 3-pointers and Micki Volpini contributed 15 points for Cortland.

The Red Dragons started the game hot with an 8-2 run. Potsdam pulled within one at 12-11, but Maycumber's three-point play, followed by a Byrne 3-pointer and layup pushed the Red Dragon lead to nine.

Byrne hit another three, this one at the buzzer, gave Cortland a 17 point lead at 34-17. Cortland never trailed in the contest and pushed their lead to 24 at one point in the second half.

Continuing their weekend road trip, the Red Dragons put together an impressive 91-80 victory over Plattsburgh.

Cohen and Byrne continued their offensive explosions by combining for 51 of the Red Dragons' 91 points.

Cohen scored a career-high 28 points to go along with nine assists and Byrne scored a new career-high 23 points. Both hit five 3-pointers, and Byrne grabbed five rebounds.

Cortland held a six point halftime lead (37-31), but Plattsburgh's 6-0 run tied the game. Kathleen Payne hit a 3-pointer for Plattsburgh to give the Cardinals the lead with 14:31 to go. After Payne's layup pulled Plattsburgh within one at 60-59 with 9:30 remaining, Cortland went on a 28-9 run over six minutes to push their lead to 20 points.

Cohen scored 13 points during that run, along with 11 from Byrne and four from Patten. Patten finished with 14 points. Micki Volpini scored 11 points

and had three steals.

Caryn Cray came off the bench to give Cortland a team-high seven rebounds.

With the undefeated week, Cortland pushed their winning streak to six games and their overall record to 17-4 overall and 12-3 in SUNYAC play. The Red Dragons still sit in second place in the SUNYAC standings behind 14-1 Geneseo.

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Down But Definitely Not Out

Red Dragons Youth Leads to Victory over New Paltz

By Mark Nader
Staff Writer

From young and inexperienced to young and winning, the Cortland Men's basketball team is showing what they can be in future years and even what they can do now. Tuesday's 77-70 victory over New Paltz was a clear indication of that.

"This was one of the best complete games we have played so far," said freshman forward, John Connolly. "It showed throughout our execution on offense throughout the whole game and especially the second half."

The young Red Dragons fell behind early as New Paltz led 13-5 six minutes into the game. The Red Dragons looked a little sluggish early and had many shots altered due to Hawks 7'0 center, Daniel Olsen.

However, the Red Dragons would be continue to take the ball strong to the hoop and pulled within one 18-17 with 8:40 left in the first half.

Both teams would battle back and forth during the remainder of the half. Trailing by three with less than five seconds left in the half sophomore guard



photo by Todd Curtis

Dan Sternkopf's dunk just minutes before the end of the game.

Jeremy Smith scored three of his 16 points on a step-back three to tie the game at 31-31 going into halftime.

Earlier in the season Cortland has had games in which they fall behind early in the second half

but that wasn't the case against the Hawks.

Cortland came out hot after the break, starting the half on a 10-1 run with the last five coming from freshman Kevin McMahon. McMahon, who is just returning

from an injury finished with 17 points and three blocks in 20 minutes of action.

The Red Dragons lead by as much as twelve in the second half but the Hawks would battle back and trailed 58-57 with 6:26 remaining.

Up by one on the following possession Harrison Hefe found teammate Dan Sternkopf inside who threw it down for his second dunk of the game.

The dunk from the 6'7 center rejuvenated the Red Dragon. "It was a huge basket for us and got us pumped to keep playing hard for the win," said Jesse Winter regarding the dunk.

The Red Dragons would remain in control from then on thanks to Winter who scored a game high twenty points and several big buckets down the stretch.

Cortland secured the win with 2:38 as Olsen fouled out of the game. "We didn't see him as that big of a threat because of the lack of minutes he had in our first meeting," said Connolly. Cortland fell on the road earlier in the season 64-54.

"He was a huge part in the fact that we were outrebound by 18 and we knew that he was being relied on heavily."

With Olson out, Cortland was able to capitalize and close out the

See BASKETBALL, page 10

Wrestlers Win Over Oswego

Red Dragons crush the Lakers 45-0, boost their record in the process

By Matt Tyoe
Staff Writer

The nationally 20th ranked Cortland Wrestling squad put on a show on Wednesday, February 9 against Oswego.

The match took place in the Corey Gymnasium. The visiting Oswego team was unable to secure a win in any of the matches against the Cortland wrestlers. Of the ten matches, Cortland wrestlers won all six they were able to compete in, the other four being victories by forfeit.

The match started out with nationally 7th ranked at 285 lbs, sophomore wrestler Corey James with a lopsided 8-2 decisions victory.

This win improved James' season record to an impressive 23-2 on the season. He looks onto further endeavors as the season continues, and future success at nationals.

The following match was at 133 lbs. Cortland freshman Justin Hyde competed successfully winning a 4-0 decision.

The next match involved Cortland's highest nationally ranked wrestler. Nationally fourth-ranked at 141 lbs, Senior Aljamain Sterling completely and utterly dominated his opponent 16-4.

This match left left little to be desired for Oswego as Sterling scored at will against his opponent. Sterling increased his record to an astonishing 21-3 on the sea-



photo by Todd Curtis

Troy Sterling overpowers opponent Nick Rodgers to win 10-2 thus securing the major decision.

son. There are high hopes for him looking towards nationals.

The next match was wrestled at 157 lbs and Troy Sterling showed a lot of promise in a convincing 10-2 major decision, improving his in season record to 25-7. The 165 lb weight class made for the most exciting match of the night.

Despite what the crowd saw as the most exciting match, Cortland sophomore Jonathon Conroy

was not happy with his 8-7 decision victory. The match was tied coming and the winning point came to Conroy because he was awarded the point for riding time.

Conroy said, "I was actually very upset with my performance. I was controlling the entire match up until the last minute and after he scored off my shot it threw me off and I basically went into shut down mode".

"Shut down mode" is the

last thing that a wrestler wants to happen during a match, but luckily Conroy remained composed enough to finish out the match and get the W.

He didn't know that he was tied as the match was finishing. Conroy remarked, "I was upset with my performance and I know I can wrestle better than that".

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Cortland Athletics Scores

GYMNASTICS

Cortland defeated by Rutgers

Next: at Ithaca

MEN'S HOCKEY

Cortland 0
Morrisville 4

Next: vs Geneseo

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Cortland 0
Plattsburgh 3

Next: Buffalo St.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Cortland 85
Oswego 51

Next: vs Geneseo

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Cortland 77
New Paltz 70

Next: vs Oneonta

Athletes of the Week



Maggie Giamo
Women's Ice Hockey

Recorded a goal and four assists during the Dragons' 2-1 week against Chatham



Johnathan Conroy
Wrestling

Finished 2-0 at 165 and contributed to Cortland's dual wins last week