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 intensely, 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-anne Deninger 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 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 resident, brought his two daughters, Sarah (6) 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 utilizing 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 look, complete with animal bones and insects; physics posters and hands-on experiments; physical play such as hula-hoops, hopscotch and bowling; and much more.

Students and children aren’t the only ones benefiting from their days at the Children’s Museum.

See MUSEUM, page 2

Black Student Union

BSU strives to bring diversity and Black Culture awareness to Cortland

By Jessica Downer
Copy Editor

Many students strive for diversity on campus through events, organizations, 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. Khaila 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

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

Love Your Body

Inside Homosexuality in Fox’s “Glee”

LIFESTYLES PG 7

A closer look at Cortland’s sign language courses.

OPINIONS PG 6
Calendar of Events: February 17-23

Today:

2 p.m. - "Pros and Cons of Gas Drilling." The event is located in Old Main Brown Auditorium.

Friday:
8 p.m. - "The Problems of Plagiarism" panel. This is the third presentation in the series "Plagiarism and Its Just Deserts." Located in Brockway Jacobs Lounge.

Saturday:
10 a.m. - For Body Appreciation Week, SAB presents: "SAB Reading Disorders Coffeehouse" in Corey Union Exhibition Lounge.

Tuesday:
4:30 p.m. - "Plagiarism: Is It a Professional or Moral Infraction?" This panel is in the Brockway room 216.

Wednesday:
12:30 p.m. - Sandwich Seminar "Art and Classical Musical of African American" composed, located in Brockway Jacobs Lounge.

Thursday:
3 p.m. - "Goodbye Ed, Hello Me: Recover From Your Eating Disorder and Fall in Love With Your Life," presented by Jen Schaefer in Corey Union Function Union.

MUSEUM

The New Valentine’s Day

The day of romance, Valentine’s Day, falls on February 14 of every year. Flowers, candy, and candlelit dinners have come to be the symbols of the day. But have our experiences altered the recent views and expectations of this holiday?

Saint Valentine, whom to-day is dedicated, was a Christian martyr in the third century. According to Peterson, he was jailed for his acts against the emperor Claudius II Gothicus, who later sentenced Valentine to death. Signed in his last will and testament before death, Valentine had fallen in love with, “from your Valentine.” These were the last words by the Saint.

The day was chosen because February 14 was the day of Saint Valentine’s execution.

Because of his loyalty to Christianity, Saint Valentine’s Saint’s Day became a national holiday. Because of his message of love and hope have been carried on and celebrated for centuries ever since. Men, women and alike are affected by this day every year.

The Children’s Museum event next will be March 5 and is titled "The Valentine’s Love" which all children will be able to participate on a variety of exciting programs. The Children’s Museum is carrying on the Children’s event will be on Saturday of Community in the Children’s area. Make a small token of love in your Valentine’s Day.

What’s Going On?

By Brittani Sahm

Staff Writer

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The Problems of Plagiarism

By James M. Clark from the History Department will present “Ireland: Union Function Room to help raise money for Breast Cancer Research.

Africana Studies Department will read, “Retirement Blues” in Professor Sam Kelley of the Communication Studies and level. The events take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and are free, but donations are appreciated.

Museum: The Children’s Museum offers interactive, hands-on experiences in recurrent environments. Children can explore art, science, nature, history, and technology through play and learn to explore across a variety of topics and in many ways.

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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 experience Health Club on campus. This club is aimed toward 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. Kristina 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. Additionally, 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 Christina Hoffman, or attend meetings if they are interested in joining this club. Meetings are held every Monday at 7:15 in Corey room 303.

Rack-A-Thon Dance-A-Thon

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

By Megan O'Brien
Staff Writer

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 after the event. The shirts are priced at $7. Hoffman is excited for this event. "Some of the topics we talk about include relationships, the pressures of being a college student, and how to promote unity between cultures," said Hoffman.

Sophomore Sana 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 Catuto is involved in RHA and 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. BSU has been doing this event for many years and Club talks about subjects that have to do with Black Culture, many of the meeting topics are into issues, facts, and topics that affect many, not all college students. "It's not all about Black History Month," said Walk. "We're trying to talk to all audiences and talking only about Black History is not just people away because it's such a tough topic. We try to talk about everything and not just Black Culture in some way."

Sophomore Austin Rivera attends meetings regularly and stated, "I feel that BSU provides a place where non-African American students can be educated and interact with people of black descent on campus. For the minority community on campus, we are a family away from home." Some of the topics we talk about include relationships, the pressures of being a college student, and how to promote unity between cultures," said Hoffman.

The club's highlight event for Black History Month is their annual colloquium honoring Black History. The event consists of fun videos, games and exercises focusing all 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 Core 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.

BSU FROM COVER PAGE

BSU
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NEWS

The Dragon Chronicle
FRbruary 17, 2011 3

NEW 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." She 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 focusing all 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 Core Union Exhibition Lounge.

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Letter to the editor:

From Nick Larocca  
Staff Writer

Superbowl commercials have lost their humerus appeal

If you saw the 1999 Super Bowl, I am sure you know the iconic "Anheuser-Busch Budweiser" beer commercial that featured four guys doing what all men wish to do in their youth, including my four years at Cortland. “More than a dozen women standing with signs that say ‘I regret My Abortion,'” as quoted in the Dragon Chronicle, last week does not match the millenium of women and men, yet, who, since 1973, have made the difficult moral, medical and ethical choice to have an abortion. Abortion 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 religious leaders who are trying to remove this decision depending on your view from where you walk.

What should be clear is that no one has the right or 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 is groups trying to impose their views on others. Abortion should not return to the "back alleys" of America that were prevalent in my youth, including my four years at Cortland. "More than a dozen women standing with signs that say ‘I regret My Abortion,'” as quoted in the Dragon Chronicle, last week does not match the millenium of women and men, yet, who, since 1973, have made the difficult moral, medical and ethical choice to have an abortion. Abortion 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 religious leaders who are trying to remove this decision depending on your view from where you walk.

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.

-Jra Sheer ’92

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, won Album of The Year. This clearly means that The Black Keys should have been nominated for Album of the Year alongside Arcade fire, and The Black Keys should have won this award as well.

Where is Kanye West when you need him?

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, when over 100 penalty minutes are handed out? I don’t, that’s who.

Inlanders and Penguins fans certainly didn’t miss the skirmish this past Friday, where 346 penalty minutes were allocated and two 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 enforcing officers doing the fighting. Goals, forwards, and defenders alike were all thrown into the fray.

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

To explain the issue, it’s necessary to recognize that fighting in hockey is almost a culture phenomenon? Because culture phenomenon? Because "WAZZZZUPPPP" 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 Internet. The average Super Bowl commercial should be, and I think that was the best one this year.

Chevy’s commercial featuring senior citizen was a close second because, let’s be honest, poking fun at old people is always entertaining.

There were a couple of car commercials that stood out, but seriously, overall, this year’s Super Bowl commercials were a disappointment. 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 enjoyment for both the hardcore football fan and the weekend warrior.

To recap this year’s Super Bowl, we saw Christina Aguilera sing a remix of the National Anthem, an extremely entertaining football game, the Black Eyed Peas’ dynamite performance during halftime, and bleak commercials.

What happened to halftime shows with all guys doing karate? Whenever you hear a commercial, 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 friends. 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. The former performers who I’m fans of, but there were so many more performers. There was little chance of controversy to be had on stage.

Since the Grammys are on Sunday, maybe the awards show can inspire the audience for the Super Bowl halftime show to organize 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 will fill the shoes of the hands of Lawrence Randall, the director of programming for the NFL, and the halftime show will be a spectacular establishment for the world to see.

Don’t be fooled, this is still not the case. Difference and advent of the NHL’s handling the punishment process has taken place.

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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 become 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 about handling the fights. In the case of the Islanders and Penguins fight, the NHL handled the punishment process well.

Brawlers Eric Gadrod, Trevor Gillies, and Matt Martin were each suspended for a handful of games, and four games, respectively. The NHL also fined the Islanders $100,000 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.

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

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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

2010-2011 NFL season

During the weeks leading up to the start of the season, there has been a lot of stories about retired NFL players struggling with injuries suffered during their careers. One such story was that of former Miami Dolphin tight end Dan Johnson, who told Barr that during his worst times he was taking 1,000 Vicodin a month.

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

The addiction cost Johnson thousands of dollars for the side effects of the pills led him to contemplate suicide. Johnson told Barr that he gave up Vicodin and made it clear that he doesn't enjoy his life anymore. 

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 may seem harmless, they often become addicting and result in habits that can be hard to break.

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

The piece was effective and provocative, and when I was done researching and analyzing it, I wasn't entirely sold on the idea of the piece. So, it is in those of the great thinkers like Plato or Galileo, that I feel as though this is entirely ludicrous to you and I do not think that you. Clearly, something needs to be done. 

If you haven't seen his work in “Zodiac” or “Shutter Island” you'll know what I'm talking about. He is what we call the modern-day Marlon Brando with the swagger and coolness to match. Hell, he's really 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 nominated for best actor for a film he deserves. He's been nominated for the film “The Kids Are All Right.”

However, it didn’t come without some sacrifice. On September 28, 2010, I found out that Mark Ruffalo, actor, and all around amazing human, was speaking at Cortland. And I was absolutely unable to attend. That was the week of my life.

When Ruffalo came to Cortland, he spoke about the environmental dangers of hydraulic fracturing drilling in New York. In the past year, there has been more and more talk about the dangers involved with hydraulic fracturing, and while I thought he would be the best movie ever. It would star me, as myself, trying to meet Ruffalo. Then one day, Mark Ruffalo decided to come to the college that I attend to speak about hydraulic fracturing.

That would be the best movie ever. It was a dream come true. I know this might be too much for you to believe, but I have seen Mark Ruffalo in the Oscar for best movie of all time.

Anyway, all I'm really saying is that Mark Ruffalo is the future of football. He should have won the Oscar for best movie of all time. To see him speak on hydrofracking was like watching him speak in the Oscar for best movie of all time. Cortland, please.
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.

Language, we communicate every day, whether it be verbal, non-verbal or through some form of technology. But, even if you Tweet every day, leave a 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 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 is still 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 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

By Justin Atkinson
Staff Writer

“Let it snow. Let it snow. Let it snow.” Everybody remembers hearing that during the holiday season 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 general, so the rest of your week frees up. 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 movies. 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.

You can 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 have 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.

 AFL
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.

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.”

-Seth Wight

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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 show’s 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 premise.

When he first auditioned, Colfer’s character, Artie, member of the glee club who uses a wheelchair. Ryan Murphy didn’t see him for the part, but 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, the character avoids the cookie-cutter gay character that has popped into an overdose 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 andColfer’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 “Dev- iing Gravity” because it was a “girl’s song.” Murphy worked the story into the script, giving Colfer the opportunity of singing the song that he was denied and Sterling for millions of viewers.

Dave Karofsky, played by 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.

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 9 P.M. on Fox.

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“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 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 when the scene of a slave’s execution 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 is also hard to follow 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 named Eisa (Ja- mie Bell) after being wounded in the battle scene.

At this time, the real premise of the movie takes shape: we discover Marcus’ intentions about regaining the eagle. From then on, it seemed to drag on, as I waited for the next action but it never came.

Putting aside the lack of action scenes, the movie does tell a strong story.

You are put into the mind 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, Eisa.

The director does a good job of building both characters equally. You can connect to both Marcus and Eisa 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 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 climactic as it is expected. There are also a number of disturbing scenes that you wouldn’t expect in a PG-13 mov- ie.

In the end, the movie is average. It tells an interesting story but it isn’t as entertaining as it was 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, you might get most of us, then I would suggest waiting for the DVD re- lease. As a letter grade I give it a B-.

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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 view- ers 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 mys- teries 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 final- ly 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 of their greatest weak- nesses 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 questions 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 epi- sodes, that points me in a direction of, who could have killed Alison.

See Little Liars, page 8

"Pretty Little Liars" stars grace the promo poster for the hit show

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Interested in writing TV, music, movie, concert, restaurant, book reviews and more? Write for the Life- styles section for more information, e-mail dragonchronicle@cornell.edu.
Nas Keeps the Purpose of Hip-Hop Alive

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

By Steve Hernandez

There are countless issues that affect us 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 re-uploading music that “has 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,” 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 use to 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.

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,” “Get Off My A** Gun,” and “Made You Look” after the rapper played a set 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 Nas’ illustrated controversy “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 interesting 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” tells us to do just that.

“Skins” Bad Influence on Teens

MTV’s new show “Skins” glorifies, instead of under-mines, sex and drugs

By Jessica Downer

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 untoward activities.

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 they see 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 the show was.

MTV can only control what’s on its network, but what about kids who have TVs in their rooms who happen to be 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 patient who hoped to claim that she was cured and her father was a taxidermist. Her parents seemed to have no time for her, and during the time they did 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 host by another character, Michelle, her alcoholic mom, and her mom’s perry 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 supposed 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 looking 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 glorifying it.”

What can we expect in MTV’s television programs to come?
Nicki Minaj To Be the New Queen of Hip-Hop

Nicki Minaj has proven that she is a force to be reckoned 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 easy. Her mother was an abusive alcoholic and her mother just wanted to keep the peace for her family.

Minaj attended Fiorello LaGuardia High school in Manhattan, specializing in drama.

In her MTV documentary, “My Time Now,” she explained that she is first an actress, and then her acting is 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 released her first mix tape in 2007.

Nicki continued to display her lyrical style with numerous mix tapes and went on to win Female Artist of The Year at the Underscore Music Awards in 2008.

On August 31, 2009, Young Money Entertainment announced that Minaj would officially be on Minaj’s first hit the hip-hop scene when she appeared on the Dirty Money Records mix tape “Playtime Is Over.” She later released her first mix tape in 2007. Nicki continued to display her lyrical style with numerous mix tapes and went on to win Female Artist of The Year at the Underscore Music Awards in 2008. On August 31, 2009, Young Money Entertainment announced that Minaj would officially be on

Start Sleeping With One Eye Open

Horror film “The Roommate” leaves audience afraid of dorming

By Justin Atkinson
Staff Writer

REVIEW

If you thought that your roommate was horrible during your first year of college, then you are in for a wake-up call if you go see “The Roommate.”

“The Roommate” is the new horror movie about an obsessed college roommate.

This unique new horror movie is unlike any other in the country and leaving movie viewers shocked and horrified.

“The Roommate” stars two up-and-coming actresses, Minka Kelly and Leighton Meester. You might recognize “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 Roommate” was directed by Christian E. Ziering who is a young up-and-coming movie director himself.

The basic plot to this movie is freshmen students Sara (Minka Kelly) and Rebecca (Leighton Meester) are assigned 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 after they start living with each other, Rebecca becomes completely obsessed with Sara.

The obsession quickly turns violent and several problems start to occur for Sara caused by Rebecca.

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.

Matt Hackett
Lifestyles Editor

The Dragon Chronicle

February 17, 2011

LIFESTYLES

Got a hot news tip? Let us know!
dragon.chronicle@cornell.edu

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 about a couple years from now.

The name of the movie, and even the basic plot to the movie make it seem like is 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 usually 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.

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

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

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

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 showing 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.
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Red Dragons Continue To Blaze Forward

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

By Nathan Vajj 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 8:29 remaining in the first (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.

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. Neither player ever cold as they 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 Crazy 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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Come to our meetings, Mondays at 9:30 PM in Corey 111, or contact dragon.chronicle@ cortland.edu for
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

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 had games in which they fall behind early in the second half but that wasn’t the case against the Hawks.

Troy Sterling overpowers opponent Nick Rodgers to win 10-2 thus securing the major decision. Dan Sternkopf’s dunk just minutes before the end of the game.

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

Cortland came out hot after the break, scoring the first 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 from freshman guard Jordan Heindl, the Cortland wrestlers won all six they were able to compete in, the other four being won by forfeit.

The nationally 20 ranked Cortland Wrestling squad put on a show on Wednesday, February 9 against Oswego. The match took place in the Cortland 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 35 ranked at 285 lbs, sophomore wrestler Corey James scored his first career victory. The match was tied as the match was finishing.

The match was not happy with his 8-7 decision and was looking 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 of the fact that we were outrebound by 18 and we knew that he was being relied on heavily.”

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

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

Down But Definitely Not Out

Wrestlers Win Over Oswego
By Matt Tyoe
Staff Writer

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

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