A New Vice President for SUNY Broome

By Zachary Allen
Fulcrum Writer

SUNY Broome has chosen a new Vice President of Academic Affairs and Chief Academic Officer. This summer Dr. Penny Haynes will begin serving in this position. A former SUNY Broome student, Dr. Haynes has previously served at Schenectady County Community College under the same occupational title that she will be filling here at SUNY Broome. Dr. Haynes has also served as the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at Dutchess Community College, and has acted as the college’s Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean.

The Vice President’s position is currently occupied by Dr. Francis Battisti, upon whose retirement, Dr. Haynes will begin in the position in July. Dr. Francis Battisti has worked here at SUNY Broome for more than 40 years, and similarly to Dr. Haynes is a former SUNY Broome student as well. Dr. Battisti has been a part of the SUNY Broome family for some time now, we here at the Fulcrum will be sad to see a crucial member of the Broome community go. But we here at the Fulcrum wish Dr. Battisti luck in all his future endeavors!

Though Broome may be losing a long time member of our campus community, we are gaining a new one. In the form of Dr. Haynes, who we at the Fulcrum want to welcome to the SUNY Broome campus and wish her luck with all her endeavors here at SUNY Broome! Dr. Haynes is a former SUNY Broome student as well. Dr. Haynes is a former SUNY Broome student as well. Dr. Haynes will begin serving in this position in July. Dr. Francis Battisti has worked here at SUNY Broome for more than 40 years, and similarly to Dr. Haynes is a former SUNY Broome student as well. Dr. Battisti has been a part of the SUNY Broome family for some time now, we here at the Fulcrum will be sad to see a crucial member of the Broome community go. But we here at the Fulcrum wish Dr. Battisti luck in all his future endeavors!

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What is Convocation Day?

By Zachary Allen
Fulcrum Writer

On Tuesday April 9th, here at SUNY Broome we had our annual Convocation Day. But a question many students still maybe be asking is, what is Convocation Day? What is it all about and what would the college give the students a day off for?

Convocation Day in short is a day of campus events all hosted by the campus’s Convocation Committee. All the events are usually interlocked with a common or tied together theme. Convocation Day 2019’s theme revolved around the 1 Generation’s dependence on technology and smart devices. The main event of Convocation is the presentation given by a keynote speaker who comes and discusses the theme of Convocation Day. The reason this is seen as

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Get to Know Your Student Assembly Officers

By Samantha Rich & Thomas Corey

Student Assembly elections concluded April 25th and the results are here! Positions including President, Vice President of Academic Affairs, and Vice President of Student Activities were filled by the following students; Daniel Todd, Ben Privitera, and Amanda Van Horn, respectively.

Here to serve you for the 2019-2020 year are the following;

Daniel Todd: President

Daniel Todd is currently studying business administration, with plans to move on to BU to earn a degree in political science. From there, he would like to attend law school to become a lawyer. As an Eagle Scout, he dedicates much of his time to leading the cub and boy scouts. Additionally, he spends about 4-6 weeks every summer volunteering at his church, spending time with those who have special needs. His goals include adding more hours to fitness/weight rooms, permanently eliminating the course overload fee, and working to lower cafeteria prices. Lastly, Todd states “I’m really thankful for everyone in the assembly and look forward to what we can do together.”

Ben Privitera: Vice President of Academic Affairs

Ben Privitera has previously worked on the student assembly this past semester as a Senator, and is confident that he has the experience to “solve issues students have, organize events, and has an in-depth knowledge of how the student assembly runs. Privitera’s goals as V.P of Academic Affairs here at SUNY Broome’s Student-Run Newspaper

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Mistakes
In the previous edition of the Fulcrum, we mistakenly labeled Mike Woodward as the Author of the Opinion article “Medical Apartheid Opinion.” The author of that article is Lajiere Blake of our Fulcrum reporters.

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**News**

**Collegiate Suicide Prevention Program**

By Abigail R. Bennett
Fulcrum Staff

On April 9th of 2019 the AFSP held their annual Advocacy Day in Albany, NY to present bills to our New York state legislators, Senate Members, and Congress people. One of these bills was the Collegiate Suicide Prevention Program. We all know suicide is a major issue; in fact, it is the 2nd leading cause of death for those ages 15-34. So of course we can all agree that suicide is a problem in need of solving, but the question, is how to fix it. The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention has been trying to find ways to help prevent suicide since its founding in 1987, one method that they have been using has been to propose and push for bills and legislation to be passed. The proposed Collegiate Suicide Prevention Program bill would “require college governing boards to inform incoming students about suicide prevention measures, including available mental health services, how to identify someone at risk, college procedures for handling suicide attempts and supporting students at risk, and how to access counseling and other support services.” (AFSP). According to some of the volunteers who attended NY State Advocacy Day, a large majority of our NY state representatives voted to enact the bill, thus forcing college boards to take action on issues surrounding mental health.

The question, however, arises when we ask ourselves how affective the Collegiate Suicide Prevention Program will prove to be on campuses where mental health programs the school offers prove to be less than desirable.

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**Ask! Event Occurs During Convocation Day**

By Dominick Matarese
Fulcrum Staff

During convocation day, the school hosted the “Ask!” event in the Decker Hall conference room. Ask! is designed to be an opportunity for students to explore diversity on campus and become informed about groups of various types.

There were over 10 tables with a group of 1 to 4 students who were happy to answer questions posed to them by other students. Groups which participated included LGBTQIA+, veterans, students in recovery, living with long term illness, deaf/ hearing impaired, mental health, experience in foster care, men of excellence in college, and depression/anxiety. Each group set out to inform students who may not be knowledgeable about their specific issue.

The event helps eliminate stereotypes and open friendly dialogues on campus. Students seemed to have an overall positive outlook on the event. Kaityn Zaverton of the “In recovery” group said that she was able to inform people on what it is like to deal with stereotypes and educate people on her experience. Zaverton said that some people who approached her knew a lot about what her experience is like, but some knew only a little. Darian Dix of the LGBTQIA+ group said that she “knew it was an open and diverse community already”, and so she was not surprised by the ability for students to be understanding and friendly during the event. Amber Gary of the PEP squad, a group designed to empower women of color on campus said that she was surprised at the large amount of people that came out to the event.

Students were given a bookmark and a passport upon arrival which students could stamp at each table to receive a prize. Some of the groups were organized by teachers at SUNY Broome, and some teachers offered extra credit to students who attended to either ask questions or host a table.

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**Convocation Day**

The main event is because, most events to follow the presentation revolve around it.

But the keynote speaker is not the only event on campus for Convocation Day. Many clubs and other campus groups coordinate to create an enjoyable learning experience for students. This year other events included such things as, a musical performance by students, a Q&A session about the keynote presentation, the Ask! event, and many other events and activities that occurred throughout the day.

In short Convocation Day is meant to give students an opportunity to learn by engaging. Students are able to take advantage of this day, as no classes are scheduled for the day. This guarantees that students have minimal excuses for not going to the events. SUNY Broome gives students the opportunity, through Convocation Day, to have students learn in different ways besides just the average classroom learning.

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**Come work with us!**

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**New Vice President**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Haynes’ record shows experience that we can speculate she will put to great use here at SUNY Broome.

SUNY Broome’s administration will be experiencing a change this July. As Dr. Haynes will be our campuses’ new Vice President of Academic Affairs and Chief Academic Officer, replacing Dr. Battisti, a long time SUNY Broome administrator. We here at the Fulcrum wish a final best of luck to both Dr. Haynes and Dr. Battisti in all they have for their futures!

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**Email keatycr@sunybroome.edu for more info!**
Elections
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

demic Affairs include making academics fair, smooth and simple. Specifically, he will be working towards lowering the campus bookstores prices, as he believes many students cannot afford the materials. Additionally, he would like peer advising to be implemented, so that incoming students can get advice from people who have already taken those courses. Privitera states “I will fight to make sure the student’s voices are heard by the administration, and that the student’s academic concerns are taken care of.”

Amanda Van Horn: Vice President of Student Activities

Amanda Van Horn has had previous experience on the Student Assembly, working as a senator. Now, as Vice President of Student Activities, she would like to take meaningful action for the youth of our community here in Broome County. Her main goal as V.P is inspired by Binghamton University’s JUMP program (Juvenile Urban Multicultural Program). This program allows BU students to mentor eighth-graders from NYC to encourage them to pursue a college education and to help them avoid the challenges of urban life as crime and substance abuse. Her goal is to create a similar program on campus “in order to elevate the expectations of youth within our community. This will hopefully inspire the youth of Broome County to stay focused, motivated, and engaged as they flourish throughout their academic careers.” As she has transitioned from her formal role as Senator to Vice President of Student Activities, she is looking forward to growing as an individual, and cultivating new relations with her peers.

SUNY’s Got Your Back Comes to Broome

By Dominic Matarrese
Fulcrum Staff

SUNY’s Got Your Back, a program which assembles comfort bags for people facing domestic violence situations made its way to SUNY Broome on March 18th. Volunteers on campus assembled kits for victims which contained soap, resource cards with numbers to call, notebooks, stress balls, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and more. These bags are designed to make the situation easier for men and women who have removed themselves from a violent situation. SUNY’s got your back assembled ~50,000 bags in 2018, and Phil Potter, a staff associate at SUNY’s got your back estimated that this year they will double that number and reach 100,000 bags. At the time of writing this the program has already assembled 30,000 bags. These bags once assembled make their way to hospitals, crisis centers, police stations, shelters, and other places where domestic abuse survivors can go. SUNY’s Got Your Back visits each of SUNY’s 64 schools to raise awareness for domestic abuse, inform the campus on resources they have access to, help students in need, and receive donations.

When asked about his feelings toward the program, Phil Potter said that it feels good to be able to deliver bags and hear stories about how grateful victims are when they receive help. He said that when a victim is in these types of situations its one of the most terrible times in their life, and it’s rewarding to give actual help to actual victims. Although originally intended to be a one year program in 2016, it has continued to run every year since, and Potter says the program is looking to grow even more year by year.

“If you or someone you know is experiencing domestic violence, please visit SUNY’s Sexual Assault and Violence Response (SAVR) resources at https://www.suny.edu/violence-response/”

Tackling Stress During Finals

By Thomas Corey
Fulcrum Staff

As any college student will "exhaustedly" tell you, finals week is a time where sleep is scarce, stress is abundant, and caffeine is a must. When dealing with lots of stress and high pressure, it is common to feel overwhelmed and anxious. It seems as though the results on these exams will make or break your future. However, it is important to remember the importance of your mental health and things you can do to help with stress (mental breakdowns won’t get you an A).

Stay Grounded

Remind yourself that your value and self-worth shouldn’t be dependent on your grades. While good academics are important, you must remember that you are a human being. We all forget things, draw blanks, and almost always say to ourselves “I wish I did this better.” Remind yourself that life pulls you in many directions, and it’s not easy to maintain perfect grades. Think about your goals, weaknesses and strengths, and what you are working towards. Remind yourself why you’re on the journey you’re on.

Ask For Help

When you have multiple exams and papers to write in the span of a couple weeks (because naturally you procrastinated) it feels as though you have the weight of the world on your shoulders. The day’s look bleak, and the library feels like your second home. In these situations, it seems natural to isolate yourself and keep your head stuck in a textbook. However, the SUNY Broome campus has many tools to help you achieve success: tutors, math and writing labs and peer support. These resources may seem intimidating if you’ve never used them before, but once you do, you’ll be thankful you did. There’s just something about something for everyone. Need someone to review your final paper for grammatical errors? Check. Need help understanding this math formula? Check. Need help brainstorming ideas for your big speech? Check. Allowing yourself to get help opens you to ideas and information you didn’t even know you needed.

Take a Break

When working for long periods of time, it is easy to get lost in the workflow, for fear that if you don’t do the work now, it will never get done. However, to keep your brain charged and your energy pumping, it is vital to give yourself small, few minute breaks. During this time it is beneficial to step outside and walk around, grab a healthy snack, drink water, or practice deep breathing. Taking a break for a few minutes will help to declutter and calm your brain.

Have Fun

You’re probably thinking: have fun? During finals? Impossible! In reality, having fun and letting go, even for a few minutes could be the key to giving you the energy to finish that presentation, or to study for your bio exam a little more. The truth is, if you divert your focus from work and have fun, you put yourself into a more positive headspace, and your brain doesn’t feel like it’s trapped under the weight of 1000 textbooks. The key is to have fun in a healthy, engaging way. If you love to play sports, dedicate half an hour each day to playing. If you’re an artist, give yourself some time to let your mind run free and enjoy your craft. The point is that you allow yourself to have fun, because if you spend your entire day bogged down by assignments, you will probably feel like a zombie. And zombies don’t make the Dean’s list (usually).

Unfortunately, there is not a specific formula for tackling stress and optimizing your working habits. We are all unique individuals, and what works best for some of us, may not work for others. The key is trying out various methods and techniques and seeing what resonates with us the most. Unless you experiment and try different things, you will never know how something can help you. Good luck!
Flume’s Surprise Mixtape is a Pleasant One

By Dominick Matarese
Fulcrum Staff

I had heard very little Flume before I gave this mixtape a listen, but when I saw “Flume Drops New Mixtape featuring SOPHIE and JPEGMAFIA” appear on my twitter feed, I was intrigued. SOPHIE and JPEGMAFIA are two of the most innovative and unique producers of the past year, so I figured if Flume is smart enough to collaborate with them I should give this project a shot, and I’m glad I did. The name of the mixtape, essentially reintroduces flume to us, as it is obvious that he is trying something new here compared to his more poppy, mass appeal oriented past.

I realized very quickly that this project would be on the cutting edge of the current electronic music scene. The first full length track “Ecdysis” is reminiscent of the underground electronic scene typical of soundcloud producers, with unique bass structure and shimmering overtones that add up to a beautiful and powerful opener. “Ecdysis” smoothly transitions into my favorite track on the project “High Beams”. This track is a trap-esque banger with phenomenal vocals courtesy of slowthai. I was very impressed at how the track alternated between killer trap EDM and the lighter melody. The cherry on top is slowthai’s quirky rap style which perfectly compliments the beats. In my opinion his feature is the strongest on his album, which says something because the SOPHIE and JPEGMAFIA features are nothing to shake a stick at. The remix of SOPHIE’S “Is It Cold In The Water?” features Eprom and definitely takes an already great track and comes at in a new way that works just as well, and fits in nicely on the project as a whole. SOPHIE returns to the project a few tracks later on “Voices”, a beautiful and surreal track alongside KUČKA. Eprom also has a second feature and you can hear his influence in both tracks, and it works great. JPEGMAFIA’s feature on “How To Build A Relationship” is hard-hitting, versatile, funny and dovetails nicely with Flume’s production. The influence of these features also seems to bleed into tracks in which they don’t actively feature, which given the quality of those producers and their respective features, is a good thing. Flume picked his features wisely and they add a lot of interesting versatility to the mixtape.

The instrumental songs act as the backbone to the project and there is no one track I can name that does not hold up under scrutiny. These are unique, innovative, and futuristic beats that kept me interested the whole way. From the techno arcade style “Upgrade” to the minimalist and strange “Amber”, each of these tracks have something to add to the project. Although the album ranges from charming ambient tracks to bassier and darker pieces, the whole album is mixed very well and has a very cohesive sound.

There is a certain aesthetic that Flume managed to pull off here and I am impressed to say the least. This mixtape pulled from elements of the underground, recruited some great features, and overall was a high quality project. Flume has already promised “more music to come”, so I am excited to see what Flume has in store for the rest of 2019. I highly recommend this album to anyone with interest in electronic music.

Top Boy Review

By Lajiere Blake

Top Boy was a raging success through the years it aired in the UK, producer Drake is banking on that same excitement for the revival of the show.

When the news of Top Boys revival hit the Twittersphere I wasn’t quite as excited as everyone else. For one, I had never heard of the show before. How could I participate in the memes and witty commentary of my fellow Twitter users if I hadn’t seen it? Of course, the excitement got to me and I was beyond excited to catch the show. Top Boy is only two seasons or series as the UK calls it and each one consists of 4 episodes. I quickly became disappointed at the length of the show. Only eight episodes? But that was enough to garner immense amounts of passion and intrigue from me. The premise of the show is based on the very real difficulties people of color face in the East London projects. Although the show takes place a sea away, most of the themes in terms of racism and classism are very similar to that of this country. The people living in the Summerhouse projects are all trying to make sense of their environment and the main character Du-scane does this by selling drugs. His morality is tested as he is the one supplying his neighborhood with hard drugs, drugs that continue to the cycle of pain and sickness within Summerhouse. The show does a phenomenal job of showing the intricacies of a diverse set of people who are all thrust into the same environment.

Come work with us!

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Opinion

Technopoly or Freedom?

By Janet Goodrich
SUNY Broome Faculty

In 1997, faculty at the college where I was teaching read Neil Postman’s Technopoly: The Surrender of Culture to Technology (1995). Here at SUNY Broome, 22 years later, we are still thinking about the impact of technology as we consider Jean Twenge’s book Gen Z (2017). In some ways, Dr. Twenge’s study represents a culmination of Postman’s idea that we are living in a Technopoly, and the results are not exactly satisfying.

Technopoly, as Postman proposes, is the last of three stages in a culture’s attitude toward technology:

1. Tool-using, in which people use tools to accomplish specific purposes, but our basic assumptions and worldview are unaffected.
2. Technocracy, in which the tools a society implements begin to challenge and warp world view; and
3. Technopoly, in which a Technocracy becomes totalitarian by “redefining what we mean by religion, by art, by family, by politics, by history, by truth, by privacy, by intelligence, so that our definitions fit its new requirements.”

Do we live in a Technopoly? By naming a whole generation after the iPhone, iGen suggests that we do. The often troubling results of Twenge’s study challenge us to notice the ways we interact with the world through our devices, changing the way we understand core concepts like social relations, privacy and intelligence. One way to read iGen is to see it as a wake-up call that tries to solve these problems humanity really needs to find meaning in our lives. How can we respond? Here are just a few ideas:

Read. Most authors examining technology agree that it has a shaping effect on our minds, though they draw different conclusions. Writers like Nicholas Carr, Sherry Turkle, Franklin Foer, and Clive Thompson can help us give critical distance.

Consider our consumer choices carefully. Do we buy every new shiny object the tech giants produce? Often they come with strings attached. They are geared to ensure a future market by building dependency. How much are we willing to pay—not just out of pocket, but out of our freedom?

Make wise parenting choices. Many of the effects described in iGen grow from parenting choices. If we have, or plan to have, children, think about how to incorporate age-appropriate boundaries with screens and gadgets.

Leave the world of the screen. Like Truman does at the end of The Truman Show, we need to step away from a digitally defined habitat into the wide, non-virtual world.

Technology can enhance our horizons to learn and create, but it is no substitute for the human mind in all its mystery and complexity. We should think about where we can create balance by choosing offline living. It’s messy. It’s risky. It’s often inefficient. But it’s real. If we look at the social media again. Instead I simply challenge all of us to, in those important moments, put down our phones and give up media again. Instead I simply challenge all of us to, in those important moments, put down your phones and give up the constant activity of checking for new likes, new followers, new messages. Not that there is anything wrong with checking for new likes, new followers, new messages. But that does not mean that we cannot try to solve these problems. Perfection is impossible to achieve, as no one ever is perfect and nothing ever can be. But that does not mean that we cannot strive to be perfect in spite of this truth.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here at SUNY Broome. I have fallen in love with the vibrant students, administrators, and professors I have met here. Attending this college has been an amazing experience for me, this is the reason I want to encourage everyone here at Broome to always strive for more. Because I love this school and I truly want to see it grow and become even better than it is now. This will be my final article for the Fulcrum while I am a SUNY Broome student. I hope these words have allowed you to look for a better future for SUNY Broome and in all your future endeavors, the best I can say to you now is good night and good luck.

SUNY Broome: A Message for the Future

By Zachary Allen
Fulcrum Writer

It is a strange feeling having to leave SUNY Broome after all the time I have spent on this campus. I have been here at Broome for two years now and this will be my final semester here. Describing the feeling I have, knowing that I must leave is indescribable. At Broome I have met amazing people, made amazing connections, and discovered the person I am meant to be.

SUNY Broome is a great school, but it is not without its shares of problems. During my time here on campus and with running the paper I have had some experiences that would not sit well with many. In my time here at Broome I have seen problems ranging from administrators judging students by the color of their skin, rather than by the merit of their character. Then all the way to problems with student administration independence. But in spite of the issues I have found here on campus, I still love this school.

Despite these issues I encourage the future students of this campus to step it up. The SUNY Broome campus can only improve with your action. The campus will only get better if students get involved and care about what happens here. I have probably one of the largest problems here at SUNY Broome. As with out students getting involved the campus lacks a very important element of the college equation, the students.

Students are the most critical part of a college.
Lifestyle

A Trip to Citrea

By Samantha Rich & Thomas Corey
Fulcrum Staff

Tucked in the quaint corners of Court St., Mediterranean-inspired restaurant Citrea offers a variety of options to the Binghamton area. Featuring a wood fired pizza oven, small plates, and a full bar; Citrea has it all. 'Citrea' meaning citrus tree in Latin is owned by experienced Washington DC culinary talents Vicky Alt and Jimmy Valdez, Alt being a Binghamton Native.

Located right by the Chenango River, the restaurant's view leaves nothing to be desired. Covered in blue and yellow paint and decorated with lemons, the interior design in sure to brighten your day. With that, the staff is incredibly friendly and helpful.

As you make your way in you are greeted by a hostess who will show you to your seating. In which you have three different options. High top tables, the bar, or the more restaurant style seating low top tables. It appears as though each location has a different atmosphere. The front, high top tables, are more casual for those just looking for a light social gathering. The wrap around bar, located towards the middle, serves a sporty vibe featuring TVs displaying various games. And in the back, the low top tables, create a more intimate atmosphere as the setting and seating is more traditional to that of a normal restaurant. Regardless of your seating preference, the exceptional service and quality is consistent throughout.

A vast variety of menu options will leave you asking for 'one more minute please!'. Known for their flatbread pizzas, and rightfully so, you'll find yourself back in no time. But, they also feature other menu items for when you're just not feeling their famous pizzas. This list includes, salads, burgers and other various sandwiches, soups, and even chicken wings. They also have a long list of appetizers to tide you over until your meal arrives. Switching gears, Citrea offers more than just the classic lunch and dinner menus.

For those mid-morning risers and lovers of a good comfort food, Citrea offers a brunch menu! With French toast, omelets, pancakes, and breakfast pizzas, the possibilities of what you can find are endless! (And, bottomless mimosas for those 21 and older) Brunch is served every Saturday and Sunday starting at 11 o’clock.

Speaking of those 21 and over, Citrea features a full bar and long wine list so if you’re looking for a mature night out, there are many options to appease your dining's for fine wine, good times, and good food.

Located at Seven Court St #3 in Binghamton, on the first floor of the Chenango Place Student Housing, Citrea will become your new go-to. Citrea is open Tuesday through Friday 11:30am to 2pm and reopens again 4-9pm, 10pm on Fridays. It is also open Saturday 11am to 10pm and Sunday 11am to 8pm. Citrea's fairly priced menu, positive energy, ideal atmosphere, and delicious delicacies makes it a perfect stop for your next meal.

Sports

By Samantha Rich
Fulcrum Staff

The SUNY Broome Ice Center was host to the 10th annual Hockey for Hope game Saturday March 30th. The Constance Foundation, created by Brian Laing, raises money to ease the financial costs associated with cancer. Laing created the foundation in memory of his Aunt Constance who passed away in May 2006 from breast cancer. Hockey for Hope is a charity hockey event put on by this foundation.

Although the game is a fundraiser, to the players, it’s much more than that. “Having those guys out there means a lot to me. It brings me back to the good ‘ol days” says Laing. Playing alongside him Saturday’s game were four very important people: cancer survivors Sean Gamsby, Mark Laskoski, and Chris Bland and as well as retired NHLer Chris Bala. Whether it was prep school, college, or just “weekend warrior beer league hockey” all have played with Laing previously, making this a special game for him. “Everyone has dealt with cancer somehow and Hockey for Hope is about honoring the people we love and care for.” When talking about what they’re playing for he added “We’re keeping their memory alive. It gets a little emotional out there on the ice.” This year’s proceeds benefited specifically those dealing with ovarian and brain cancer.

Hockey for Hope has raised approximately $150,000 in the past nine years from just their annual hockey games. Laing and the Constance Foundation expanded to Softball for Hope, a softball game with the same idea of raising money for those in need. Both the Constance Foundation and their charity games are growing rapidly but Laing wants to keep it where it is. “There’s a lot of interest but we want to keep it small and in Binghamton. We’re honoring our community and friends here in Broome County.”

This year’s Hockey for Hope celebrated passed loved ones and those currently fighting cancer. The Constance Foundation’s next event, Softball for Hope, will be played June 15th, 2019 at NYSEG Stadium.
Madness in March

By Hunter Truman
Fulcrum Staff

Mid-March, a time where the temperature becomes bearable, there’s a heavy amount of rain, oh yeah, and the March Madness tournament. This year was no exception to the madness that’s found within its name. There were many close games as well as upsets that made our “perfect” brackets become less than stellar. One of the biggest surprises to start the tournament was the impressive performance of 13th seeded UC Irvine against 4th seeded Kansas State, becoming the highest seed to advance to the second round during the tournament. At the end of the second round all lower seeds advanced to the Sweet 16 with the exception of 5th seeded Auburn surprising the purebred 4th seeded Kansas. Another interesting matchup included two very highly seeded teams. This game included the earlier mentioned UC Irvine team taking on 12th seeded Oregon, in which Oregon ended UC Irvine’s tournament run. The Sweet 16 is where we saw the first #1 seed fall, North Carolina was seen by many as one of the locks to at least make the Final Four, however, Auburn rode the momentum of their previous victory to beat the TarHeels in a dominant fashion. Then came the Elite 8, where things got even more crazy, where we saw two more 1st seeds fall. The first being Gonzaga, losing to a surprising Texas Tech team who will be discussed later. And the third and probably most surprising to fall was Duke, losing to 2nd seeded Michigan State. Duke had already been walking on a tight rope since the second round, surviving scares against 9th seeded UCF, then 4th seeded Virginia Tech, both cases in which the opposing teams had the last offensive possession and couldn’t convert with time expiring. This memorable Elite 8 also saw Auburn’s surprising run continue, using overtime in order to beat 2nd seeded Kentucky. So then there was four, the final 1 seed Virginia versus 5th seeded Auburn, and 2nd seeded Michigan State versus 3rd seeded Texas Tech. The first game was a nail biter, with Virginia surviving to get to the championship after questionable calls from the referees in the final half, one of which gave Virginia three free throws when they were down by two with nearly no time remaining. The next Final Four game was a defensive showcase for Texas Tech, holding Michigan State to 51 points and winning by double digits. The National Championship was set, the 3rd seeded Texas Tech Red Raiders with their dominant defense took on the 1st seeded Virginia Cavaliers who looked to avenge their early exit in last year’s tournament. And this final game was nothing short of entertaining. The game was close throughout, and with less than 30 seconds Texas Tech was up by 3 after free throws. Then with 13 seconds left, Virginia’s De’Andre Hunter hit a clutch 3 pointer to tie up the game and send the Championship into overtime. That’s all that Virginia needed, as they scored 17 points against that strong Texas Tech defense, winning their first Basketball National Championship 85-77. So in the end, a number 1 seed did win the tournament, however, it was the one that not many expected to win after their early exit to 16th seeded UMBC last year. Virginia completed their comeback story and showed resilience to climb from the depths of despair from defeat to the glory of a championship. Another year, another NCAA March Madness Tournament, and yet again there’s never a dull moment from mid-March to early April in the College Basketball world.

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The Fulcrum is currently looking for students interested in joining our writing team.

If interested, contact club president Zak Allen, or stop by our weekly meetings Tuesdays 11 am in Titchener Hall 103.

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