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NU named to presidential honor roll for community service

The Corporation for National and Community Service honored Niagara University with a place on the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for exemplary service efforts and service to the community.

Niagara was among nine colleges and universities in New York state named as Honor Roll With Distinction members. In all, 83 institutions nationwide were named as Honor Roll With Distinction members and 546 schools as Honor Roll members. The corporation also honored six schools with Presidential Awards. In total, 635 schools were recognized.

Launched in 2006, the Community Service Honor Roll is the highest federal recognition a school can achieve for its commitment to service learning and civic engagement. Honorees for the award were chosen based on a series of selection factors, including scope and innovation of service projects, percentage of student participation in service activities, incentives for service, and the extent to which the school offers academic service-learning courses.

Niagara, which maintains active service-learning and volunteer programs for students, has been on the Honor Roll since it was first launched. An estimated 2,000 students provide approximately 60,000 hours of service annually as tutors in local school districts and as interns and volunteers in more than 40 area social service agencies and organizations. NU also operates ReNU Niagara, a Community Outreach Partnership Center that coordinates programs in Niagara Falls. Niagara's four colleges also operate centers that provide research, training, and professional and educational services for business and industry, school districts, and families.

In January, NU was among 119 colleges and universities nationwide, and six in New York, selected for the Community Engagement Classification of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. NU was cited in both categories considered by the foundation: curricular engagement and community outreach and partnerships.

"In this time of economic distress, we need volunteers more than ever. College students represent an enormous pool of idealism and energy to help tackle some of our toughest challenges," said Stephen Goldsmith, vice chair of the board of directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service, which oversees the Honor Roll. "We salute Niagara University for making community service a campus priority, and thank the millions of college students who are helping to renew America through service to others."

The Corporation for National and Community Service is a federal agency that improves lives, strengthens communities, and fosters civic engagement through service and volunteering. The corporation administers Senior Corps, AmeriCorps and Learn and Serve America, a program that supports service-learning in schools, institutions of higher education and community-based organizations.

For a complete list of the schools named to the Honor Roll, go to www.nationalservice.gov/honorroll.

Grant supports NU research into coronary artery disease

Niagara University has been awarded a \$60,000 research grant from the Merck Institute for Science Education and the American Association for the Advancement of Science to continue studies into the prevalence of coronary artery disease in Niagara County.

The grant, payable in equal installments over a three-year period, will allow undergraduate students and faculty to collaborate with the Heart Center of Niagara Falls in a pilot study entitled "Iron Status, Oxidative Stress, and Coronary Artery Disease." NU's research effort will examine the use of positron emission tomography and computed tomography angiography for evaluating coronary artery disease.

Coronary artery disease is the leading cause of death in Niagara County. The county and Western New York also have the highest incidence of coronary artery disease in the nation.

Students and faculty from NU's Academic Center for Integrated Sciences have already worked on projects related to coronary artery disease with the Heart Center, GE Healthcare, Roswell Park Cancer Institute, Hauptman Woodward Institute and the University at Buffalo.

NU was among only 14 colleges and universities that qualified for the 2009 Merck-AAAS Undergraduate Science Research Program grants.



Stephanie Cole, Niagara's general counsel, took second place in Women's Foil at the London Heroes Tournament in London, Ont., on Jan. 17.

Mike Konopski, dean of enrollment management, has been named to a three-year term on the board of directors of Northpointe Council, Inc. Formerly the Alcoholism Council for Niagara County, the organization has offered education, counseling, treatment, and emergency special services since 1970. For more information, log on to www.northpointe-council.org/.

Dr. Nancy McGlen, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and **Dr. Seneca Vaught**, assistant professor of African and African American history, addressed the "uneasy alliance" between the civil rights and women's rights movements over the last 150+ years during a presentation on Feb. 18. McGlen and Vaught engaged students, faculty, and staff in a thought-provoking discussion of race and gender in our past and how it relates to our current lives.

Mike Skowronski, employer relations coordinator, gave a presentation at the Workforce Panel and Networking Event sponsored by the Buffalo Niagara Partnership and its Buffalo Niagara 360 initiative. The event was held Feb. 17 at Canisius College's student center. Mike discussed ways in which employers and students can more effectively engage each other and utilize college career centers.

Dr. Thomas Sheeran, professor of education; **Dr. Susan Sze**, associate professor of special education; and **Dr. Peter Cowden**, assistant professor of special education, have just published a book titled, "Exploring Dr. Sheeran's Frontal Lobe" with North America Research Publications. This book has been developed as an inspirational look at the tenants of teaching.

Ronny Priefer, assistant professor of chemistry, had a paper accepted in the peer-reviewed scientific journal "Tetrahedron Letters." This was co-authored by **DiAndra M. Rudzinski**, a junior at Niagara. The title of the article is "Photolytic, autocatalyzed decomposition of benzylic dialkoxy disulfides." It is already accessible online and will be in print later this spring.

This year, nine grants were given by the Rochester Academy of Science to undergraduates doing research in universities in upstate New York. Of the nine awards, seven were given to NU students doing research in Ronny's lab. They are:

Brittany Sumblor: Development of PTP1B Inhibitors for the Treatment of Type II Diabetes

Danielle Raymond: Synthesis of Phenol Based Polymers

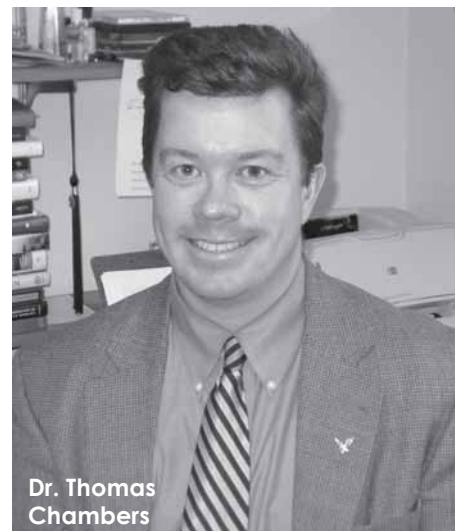
Justin Griffiths: Synthesis of BF₂ Chelated Azadipyromethene Dye Derivatives

Kyle Biegasiewicz: Work Towards a Library of Isoflavone Derivatives

Megan McGahan: Phenomena of Hormesis on the Growth of Escherichia coli and Staphylococcus epidermidis

Michelle Ingalsbe: Synthesis of a Novel Cubane-Based Chiral Ligand and its Application in Asymmetric Reactions

Paolo Grenga: Reductive Amination: Comparison of Si-CBH and NaCNBH₃ as reductive amination agents



Dr. Thomas Chambers

Chambers nominated for Heritage Commission

Dr. Thomas A. Chambers, associate professor of history, has been nominated to the Niagara Falls National Heritage Area Commission. The 17-member panel will work to increase tourism and improve the local economy while protecting the region's national resources.

"The Heritage Commission offers an exciting and long overdue opportunity to capitalize on the significant historic and natural resources along the Niagara River," said Chambers. "Few localities boast the diversity of historic sites — including military history sites spanning three centuries, Lewiston's 19th century heritage, Underground Railroad crossings, and the region's important role in hydroelectricity and industry — included in this heritage area. We have great potential that needs to be realized."

Designated by Congress in 2008, the Niagara Falls National Heritage Area stretches from the western boundary of Wheatfield, N.Y., to the mouth of the Niagara River on Lake Ontario, including the communities of Niagara Falls, Youngstown and Lewiston. The region is home to natural wonders, rich cultural traditions and nationally significant historical sites.

For more information, log on to home.nps.gov/nifa/index.htm.



Clet calendar

Clet Hall Dining will be closed for spring break and reopen on March 8 from 4:30 to 9 p.m. Students can use the Gally Market March 2 through 5 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

There will be a special St. Patrick's Day giveaway during lunch on March 17.

All-day sushi returns to Clet on March 27.

Niagara University Family Business Center honors two WNY family-owned businesses

Niagara University's Family Business Center honored two Western New York family businesses during its sixth annual Anniversary Celebration and Awards Night on Jan. 22. The awards were established to recognize excellence in family business. Recipients were chosen because they best exemplify what the center has promoted over the past six years.

The William S. Hein & Co., Inc. received the center's "Vision Award." Looking ahead is exactly what the Hein family has been doing for more than 80 years. Through continuous improvement combined with its commitment of providing customers with the best service in the industry, Hein has become one of the major legal publishers in the United States and a leader in the preservation of legal materials.

Vincent Agnello, director of the center, said, "For 80 years, the Hein Co. has been looking ahead and seizing opportunities, and as a result is now a recognized leader in the legal publishing industry." Shannon Hein, vice president of sales, a grandson of the founder, accepted the award on the company's behalf.

EGW Personnel Staffing received the center's "Vincentian Award." The award, which symbolizes St. Vincent DePaul's spirit of service and commitment, is a special award. This is the second time it has been given by the center.

In 1969, Eugene "Gene" Wach began EGW Personnel Staffing, offering temporary staffing solutions to area businesses. Under the direction and leadership of his sons, Thomas Wach, president/CEO, and Jeffrey Wach, chief operating officer, EGW will celebrate its 40th anniversary.

"Providing opportunities for individuals to find meaningful employment and the opportunity for financial self-sufficiency is rewarding in and of itself, but 'how it is done' is what distinguished EGW from others," said Agnello. EGW has developed a



Vincent Agnello, director of NU's Family Business Center; Shannon Hein, vice president of sales at William S. Hein & Co., Inc.; the Rev. Joseph L. Levesque, C.M., Niagara's president; and Thomas Wach, president and CEO of EGW Personnel Staffing.

10-point Family Creed by which it faithfully operates. The firm's overriding belief is "honesty, integrity, and hard work," which is demonstrated by action as well as words.

The Wach family has been actively involved in Junior Achievement, the Alzheimer's Association and the Buffalo Area Engineering Awareness for Minorities.

The Niagara University Family Business

Center provides educational programs and resources to support the growth and success of family-owned businesses. Programs include the annual Family Business Awards, seminars, and presentations. Over 50 family-owned businesses have become members of the center. For more information, please visit www.niagara.edu/fbc. Complete citations for each honoree may be found at www.niagara.edu/fbc/awards.htm.

Honoring "Wild Bill" —
The Niagara University Army ROTC department honored the legacy of a distinguished



NU alumnus, a decorated war hero, and the founder of the modern-day Central Intelligence Agency, Maj. Gen. William "Wild Bill" Joseph Donovan, at a rededication ceremony of the Donovan portrait and plaque held by Assemblymen Sam Hoyt and Mark J.F. Schroeder on Feb. 15 at Buffalo's Naval and Servicemen's Park Museum. Donovan attended Niagara University from 1899 to 1902 and returned to campus in June of 1919 to accept an honorary degree at commencement. Among Donovan's many accomplishments: he is the only American to have received the nation's four highest awards: the Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross, the Distinguished Service Medal, and the National Security Medal.

Pictured in front of the Donovan portrait are (l-r): Justice Salvatore Martoche; Lt. Col. Ivan D. Evans, chair of NU ROTC program; Hoyt; retired Army Col. Patrick J. Cunningham, executive director of the Naval and Servicemen's Park; and Schroeder.

A lasting legacy

Don't forget to nominate a worthy alum for the next class of Niagara Legacy – Alumni of distinction. Nomination forms are due to the Office of Alumni Relations by March 31. If you need a nomination form, please stop by the alumni office in the Butler Building.

To be considered for this award, nominees must have:

- Successfully pursued a course of study that was within the standards and practices of the university at the time of their matriculation.
- Demonstrated outstanding accomplishments and excellence in their field of endeavor.
- Lived lives both personally and professionally that mirror the Vincentian ideals of NU.
- Affected a positive and lasting impact to the betterment of society.

Additionally,

- Nominees may be inducted posthumously.
- Consideration of nondegree holders will be at the advisement of the selection committee.
- Honorary degree recipients who did not attend Niagara University are not eligible for consideration.
- Niagara University reserves the right to remove an alumnus/a after being inducted as an Alumnus/a of Distinction should events warrant it and the selection committee deem it appropriate.

What a pain in the neck!

By Robert E. Pfeil, director of human resources

It is very common for many of us to use our computers on a regular basis and often for extended hours. It is good advice to periodically get up, take a break and walk around to improve our circulation. Many of us experience intermittent aches and pains in our neck, limbs and back when working on our computers. It was noted several years ago that repetitive motion of the wrist can cause carpal tunnel syndrome for some workers. The pain or tingling sensation experienced from CTS becomes very obvious to those so afflicted. Often less noticeable or recognized is intermittent neck, back, shoulder or elbow pain. These symptoms can often go unrecognized until one reaches their pain threshold.

Any employee of Niagara University may request an ergonomic evaluation of his or her workplace. The ergonomic evaluation is performed by a professional supplied by our worker compensation provider and there is no charge to the employee. The evaluation will review the proper height of your chair, desk and monitor. The placement of peripherals and other regularly used equipment is also evaluated. Through this review, a recommendation will be made to correct problem areas with the goal to eliminate or avoid unneeded discomfort at your workplace.

If you are interested in having an ergonomic evaluation performed, please contact Amy Smith at asmith@niagara.edu to arrange an appointment.



Heaggans' book discusses hip-hop music's stereotyping

Dr. Raphael Heaggans, assistant professor of teacher education, is the author of a new book that discusses how some elements of hip-hop music have roots in slavery. The book is titled "The 21st Century Hip-Hop Minstrel Show: Are We Continuing the Blackface Tradition?"

Heaggans notes that some of the negative elements of hip-hop mislead youth by psychologically enslaving them so that they exhibit behaviors and attitudes that contradict their history, struggle, and persecution.

His analysis shows that this "mis-education" continues perpetuating black stereotypes enacted in the minstrel show era, when whites in "blackface" would passionately and cruelly entertain other whites with their stereotypic ideas on black culture.

The book, published by University Readers, is available at UniversityReaders.com and Amazon.com.

For more information, contact Heaggans at 716-286-8315. To hear a podcast with Heaggans, visit niagara.edu/news.



It's easy being green

The On Campus staff is joining the university's efforts to "go green" by providing the On Campus newsletter in an electronic format. Beginning with the April issue, the newsletter will come to your e-mailbox each month via a Daily Post (or you can access the newsletter by visiting <http://www.niagara.edu/pr/OnCampusNewsletter2008-09.htm>). If you'd like to continue to receive a printed newsletter, please contact Jean Spence in the Office of Communications and Public Relations at ext. 8585 or jspence@niagara.edu.



NU plays "Pinball" in Ontario — Niagara University awarded degrees to 158 graduates at its second commencement in Ontario on Jan. 28. Michael "Pinball" Clemons, chief executive officer of the Toronto Argonauts, (at left with Dr. Debra Colley, dean of the College of Education) delivered the commencement address. He also received the university's Founders Award.

Clemons, who played for and coached the Argonauts, was honored for his achievements both on and off the field. He played for the Argos for 12 seasons, and twice served as head coach, garnering the second most head-coaching wins in franchise history. He stepped down as coach in December 2007 to become the team's chief executive officer. In August 2007, he started his own charitable foundation, which is dedicated to helping disadvantaged youth.

NU mourns

Richard J. Holzschuh, father of NU board of trustees member **Jeff Holzschuh**, on Feb. 17.

Loraine Moeller, mother of **Norma Poreda**, secretary in the president's office, on Feb. 9.

"Rend your heart, not your garments ..." Joel 2:13

By the Rev. John T. Maher, C.M., '76
director of campus ministry and
university chaplain

Lent is a time for turning and re-turning. We greet this season hesitantly and haltingly, a rite of passage from winter to Easter and spring. Life has many times of turning points; some are routine and regular, like change of seasons. Some are significant markers, as they challenge us to face ourselves and decide who we are and who we will become. In Lent, we turn inward to reflect and then upward to God for redemption. By doing this, we embrace what we were created to be: God's beloved sons and daughters.

The quote from the prophet Joel proclaimed on Ash Wednesday reveals Lent's essence: it is an inside job. Lent's outer manifestations — fasting, almsgiving, and prayer — are simply external guideposts on our spiritual journey. Of course, they are there to make us better people. But these outer works only take root and bear fruit if first we take time to reflect and accept one plain truth: that we are loved sinners in need of God's mercy and grace. The psalmist knew with confidence the core of all conversion first begins with total trust in God: "A humbled and contrite heart you will not spurn." (Ps. 51:19)

In a world moving at warp speed that pushes us to be more, do more, and tell all who will listen (and often those who don't



care to listen!) about our great and glorious achievements, Lent is a time to push the pause button of our fast-forwarding lives and ask the hard questions: who am I, and who I am becoming in the sight of God and the service of my neighbor. Betwixt texting and twittering, we are invited to turn from the electronic to the eternal, from words of instant messaging to the first messenger, Jesus, who brings us a word of salvation that never fails.

It is a scary prospect to sit and wait without the instant gratification of affirmation and face the ruthless truth that, despite all our great plans and accomplishments, we are only loved sinners redeemed by a God who in Jesus lived among us. But in this time of waiting, God works, slowly, deliberately, and steadily, to deepen his love in us and move our hearts and wills to change for the better. As we turn to God in Lent, we return to who we are and who we were meant to be: God's beloved sons and daughters.

My hope and prayer is that we will all use this Lent of 2009 to look inward and allow God to turn our hearts outward toward his love, so by Easter, we will return to each other as a people whose lives attest that "the light shines on in the darkness, a darkness that did not overcome it." (John 1:5)

Employee of the month: Monica Romeo

Monica Romeo, counselor in the Office of Counseling Services, has been named employee of the month for February. A native of Lewiston, she has been associated with Niagara in different capacities since 1999, first serving as the assistant director of counseling services from 1999 until 2000. She returned in 2005 as a part-time counselor and was named full-time seasonal counselor in October 2006.

Romeo's commitment to Niagara is evident in all that she does. A nomination stated: "Monica has tremendous interpersonal skills highlighted by the fact that students rave about her and ask specifically for her. She treats everyone with dignity and respect, as well as warmth and kindness."

Romeo, a licensed mental health counselor, also serves as an adjunct professor in NU's graduate counseling program. She resides in Niagara Falls.



March is Women's Health Month, a month that encourages women everywhere to put themselves first. It is a time for each of us to sit back, reflect, and evaluate our own personal habits, health, and lifestyle. A time for us to make sure we are taking care of ourselves; after all, if we are not healthy, how do we help those who depend on us? Please make an effort this month to schedule those appointments, start a new exercise plan, or encourage a friend to do the same. It can be as easy as one, two, three, and four.

1. Daily Exercise: Physical activity can improve the overall health and well-being of adults. Even modest levels of activity, done each day for a total of 30 minutes, can prevent or control heart disease, diabetes mellitus, osteoporosis, colon cancer and weight gain. Reducing your risk is not the only benefit of

A healthy mind and body: it's essential

By Lori A. Soos, RN, BSN, director of health services

being physically active. You can boost your energy level, improve self esteem, and reduce stress. (Health and Human Services, Commonwealth of Massachusetts 2009). Thus, it is strongly recommended that all women perform some sort of exercise for at least 30 minutes per day, five days a week.

2. Monthly Breast Exams: The American Cancer Society's breast cancer screening guidelines are for women at average risk for cancer (unless otherwise specified) and without any symptoms. A breast exam by a doctor should be part of a periodic health exam, about every three years for women in their 20s and 30s and every year for women 40 and older. It is recommended that women receive a yearly mammogram starting at age 40 and continuing for as long as a woman is in good health. Those with a strong family history or abnormal finding before age 40 should consult with their physician for a recommendation. It is important for women to know how their breasts normally look and feel and report any breast change to their doctor without delay.

3. Yearly Skin Check: Skin cancer is the most common cancer in the United States. Your skin color and sun exposure can affect your risk of developing melanoma. Skin cancer is a disease in which malignant (cancer) cells form in the tissue of the skin. Screening is looking for cancer before a person has any symptoms. This can help find cancer at an early stage. When abnormal tissue or cancer is found early, it may be easier to treat. By the time symptoms appear, cancer may have begun to spread (www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/pdg/screen/skin, 10/26/08).

4. Routine Pap Smears: Women should receive their first Pap smear at the age of 18, sooner if they are sexually active. It is recommended that you continue having a Pap smear once a year until you've had at least three normal ones. After this, you should have a Pap smear at least every three years, unless your doctor thinks you need them more often. You should continue to have Pap smears throughout your life, even after you've gone through menopause (Family Doctor.org. American Academy of Family Physicians. April, 2008).

NU's department of nursing hosts interfaith dialogue to promote spiritual awareness in health care



Dr. Connie Jozwiak Shields (left), assistant professor of nursing, introduces Wanda Tyson (right), staff nurse at Roswell Park Cancer Institute, during a discussion of spirituality as an essential dimension in health care delivery.

NU's department of nursing and the Western New York Network of Religious Communities collaborated to provide area nurses with a continuing education program on Jan. 7 to explore the role of spirituality as an essential dimension in health care delivery. The Rev. Richard Zajac, Catholic chaplain at Sister's Hospital in Buffalo, introduced spirituality as related to both care providers and patients. The Rev. Francis Mazur, Catholic chaplain at Erie County Medical Center, and the Rev. Stanford Bratton, D.Min., executive director of the Network of Religious Communities, discussed the role of organized religion in health care.

Representatives from a variety of religious backgrounds presented key concepts of their respective faith beliefs. Included were Buddhism and Islam, Christianity, Atheism/Humanism, Judaism and Sikhism. A lively discussion led by Dr. Connie Jozwiak Shields and Dr. Frances Crosby of NU's nursing department, Barbara Bucci, vice president of patient care at Mt. St. Mary's Hospital, and Wanda Tyson, staff nurse at Roswell Park Cancer Institute, ensued. Many issues, questions and patient situations were discussed. This conference was part of a series offered by NU's department of nursing for community nurse leaders to explore critical issues relevant to contemporary nursing.

O'Rourke makes a splash at MAAC Championships

Sophomore Ian O'Rourke was able to claim the MAAC Championship in the one-meter diving event, a happening that completed a big day three for Niagara's swimming and diving team that also saw three school records broken.

After winning the three-meter diving event, O'Rourke was able to finish the sweep of the diving events by finishing the one-meter diving event with a mark of 302.75, nearly 10 points better than that of Paul Apostolakis from Rider.

Niagara now has had an individual win two MAAC Championships for the second consecutive year, with Pat Garvey earning two individual titles at the 2008 MAAC Championships. O'Rourke was also named the MAAC Men's Most Outstanding Diver for his efforts.

After he broke his own record in the 1,000 freestyle event, freshman Mike Smiechowski claimed his third Niagara

record, this time during preliminaries in the 200 butterfly event. The North Carolina native's finishing time of 1:56.21 betters junior teammate Ryan O'Laughlin's mark of 1:57.67 from 2007.

The freshman wasn't done breaking records, as he shattered his own mark of 16:44.26 in the 1,650 freestyle event, finishing seventh with a time of 16:24.31.

Junior Ashley Clingersmith broke her second school record during the 2009 MAAC Championships by finishing the 100 freestyle event in 53.31 during preliminaries, beating Traci Liberi's mark of 53.32 from 2003. The special education major re-wrote the 100 freestyle record as part of a seventh place finish, clocking in at 52.94. Clingersmith now has a hand in four school records.

The men's team finished in fifth place with 318 points; the women's team finished in eighth place with 182 points.

Mihalich nets 200th win

Niagara men's basketball head coach Joe Mihalich earned his 200th career win Feb. 14, when the Purple Eagles defeated Fairfield.

Mihalich, who has led the Purple Eagles for the past 11 seasons, joined an elite group of coaches with the milestone. The 1978 La Salle University graduate is one of six active coaches with 200 wins and a .600 winning percentage while coaching just one school. Jim Boeheim (Syracuse), Tom Izzo (Michigan State), Phil Martelli (St. Joseph's), Mark Few (Gonzaga) and Rick Stansbury (Mississippi State) are the others in this select group.

Mihalich, who was hired in April of 1998, owns a current coaching record of 200-129 (.608). That ranks second in school history behind John "Taps" Gallagher's 465 wins and .640 winning percentage. He has guided the Purple Eagles to a pair of NCAA Tournament appearances, one NCAA win,



and one NIT appearance. Mihalich has also guided NU to three regular season MAAC titles, while winning two MAAC Coach of the Year awards. He has led the team to four 20-win seasons in the last six years, including this year's team.



Final Men's Results

1. Loyola	843.5
2. Rider	762.0
3. Marist	625.0
4. Iona	325.0
5. Niagara	318.0
6. Saint Peter's	289.0
7. Fairfield	286.5
8. Canisius	208.0
9. Manhattan	72.0

Final Women's Results

1. Rider	766.5
2. Marist	755.0
3. Loyola	714.0
4. Iona	322.5
5. Fairfield	315.0
6. Siena	310.0
7. Canisius	184.0
8. Niagara	182.0
9. Manhattan	114.0
10. Saint Peter's	88.0



Niagara University athletics

Men's hockey

March 6-7 Alabama-Huntsville 7 p.m.

Baseball

March 21 (DH), 22 Rider Noon
at Sal Maglie Field

For information about the exciting athletic events held on and off campus, visit www.purpleeagles.com.



Niagara University Theatre

March 27–29 — “Fat Pig” at the Church in Lewiston. Similar to his play “The Shape of Things,” Neil LeBute offers another controversial yet topical play about body imaging, love, peer pressure, and the heroism and weakness it takes to be human.

For NU theater ticket information, call the new box office number at 286-8685 or go to www.niagara.edu/theatre.

Castellani Art Museum

Feb. 15 – May 31 — Kara Walker: “The Emancipation Approximation.” Kara Walker is one of the most compelling artists working today. “The Emancipation Approximation” provides opportunities to raise awareness, provoke discussion and educate students of all ages on the legacy of slavery and its ramifications today in the racial inequality that still pervades our communities. Visit our Web site for updates on educational programming related to this exhibition.

Now through July 19 — “Artistic and Functional: Aprons from the Karen Anderson Collection” features a diverse selection of 47 aprons collected by Karen Anderson of Lynn Center, Ill. These beautiful pieces of domestic art demonstrate the ingenuity of a century of American women who fashioned aprons from recycled feedsacks, dresses, curtains, handkerchiefs and blue jeans. Visitors will be captivated by the array of styles and awed by the sewing skills of appliqué, embroidery, smocking and tatting. Opening reception, Sunday, March 29, 2-4 p.m.

“Freedom Crossing: The Underground Railroad in Greater Niagara,” a regional interpretive center featuring artwork, historical photos and artifacts, part of the NYS Heritage Trail. Tues. – Sat. 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun. 1-5 p.m. Free – donations welcome. www.freedomcrossingniagara.com

Art Express Family Workshops — “Having Fun with Paper,” at 2 p.m. Saturdays, March 7 and 14. Cost is \$3 per person/\$2 museum member. Call 286-8200 to register.

March 20 — Mixers at the CAM: Swing into Spring! Music by Jon Sieger and his All Stars, 5-8 p.m. Free to museum members, NU students, faculty and staff, \$5 others.

To learn more about the Castellani Art Museum’s classes, exhibitions and special events, visit www.niagara.edu/cam/ or call 286-8200.

To view the calendar of events, visit www.niagara.edu/cam/calendar/calendar.html.

Live Music Series

March 13 — Music Is Art Fest at the Kiernan Center

April 3 — Niagara University’s fourth annual High School Rock Band Showcase

All shows are from 8-11 p.m. in the “Under the Taps” Club in the lower level of the Gallagher Center. Admission is \$5 at the door, but is free for Niagara faculty, staff and students. Admission includes free pizza and wings. Shows are open to the general public.

For more information on the Live Music Series, log onto www.niagara.edu/rtr.

Women’s History Month

March 8–14 — International Women’s Week

Monday: Clinton Global Initiative, LL Gallagher, noon-1 p.m.

Tuesday: Purim celebration, LL Gallagher, noon-1 p.m.

Wednesday: Film screening: “Whale Rider,” St. Vincent’s Hall Room 407, 7:15-10 p.m.

Thursday: Table in LL Gallagher, noon-1 p.m.

March 15–21 — Green/Spring Week

Monday: Table in LL Gallagher, noon-1 p.m.

Tuesday: A celebration of Irish women, LL Gallagher, noon-1 p.m.

Film screening: “Silent Spring,” 5-7 p.m., DePaul Hall Room 126

Wednesday: Women and politics forum

Thursday: Table in LL Gallagher, noon-1 p.m.

Friday and Saturday: “Vagina Monologues” performed by NU students, 7 p.m., Universalist Church, Niagara Falls

March 22–28 — Body Image Week

Monday: Healthy ways to cope with stress, LL Gallagher, noon-1 p.m.

Poetry Slam Under the Taps, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday: “Female Voice/Female Space,” 6 p.m., DePaul Hall Room 126

Wednesday: Women in the media table in LL Gallagher, noon-1 p.m.

“Wanting to Be Her: Body, Mind and Soul,” 4-6 p.m., LL Gallagher

Thursday: Women in the media table in LL Gallagher, noon-1 p.m.

March 29-31

Sunday: Q&A with Mary Beth Lacki, director of “Fat Pig,” after the 2 p.m. performance, The Church in Lewiston

Monday: Table in LL Gallagher, noon-1 p.m.

Tuesday: Take Back the Night event

Prelaw Program Discussion

March 18 — “Life as a Lawyer.” The panel will feature several political science alumni now serving as attorneys or currently enrolled in law school, and will be followed by a networking event for current and former students of political science and prelaw. For more information, please contact Dr. Jamie Pimlott, director of the prelaw program, at ext. 8337 or jpimlott@niagara.edu.

Graduate Open House and Showcase

April 4 — Prospective students interested in earning a graduate degree at Niagara University can meet faculty and discuss the advantages of an NU master’s degree at the Graduate Open House and Showcase, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Bisgrove Hall atrium. There will also be an opportunity to speak to representatives from a variety of campus service offices (financial aid, career development, etc.). Campus tours will also be available.

If you know someone who might be interested in this event please refer them to www.niagara.edu/april so they can register online. Or they can call 716-286-8700 or 800-462-2111 to reserve a spot.