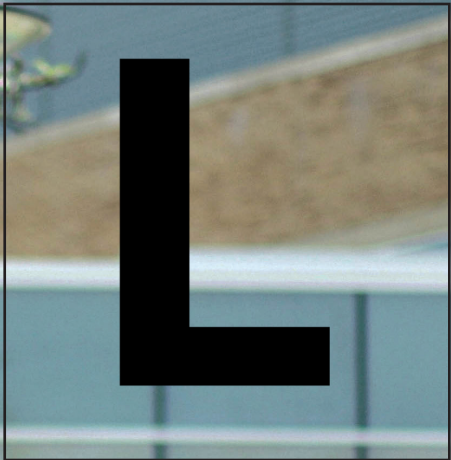


THE LEADER

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THE LEADER

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Photo courtesy of Ryan Daughenbaugh (Special to The Leader)

Fredonia loses its spine *President and students react*



A view of where the bridge was near Mason Hall
Liz Hicks/Special to The Leader



JORDAN PATTERSON
Assistant News Editor

Those who tried to walk across the bridge between McEwen Hall and the Williams Center failed.

Last year, it was announced that the Academic Spine Bridge, a piece of architecture designed by famous architect I.M. Pei, whose work (among other projects) includes The Louvre Pyramid, would be removed. The master plan for the campus, which included the Spine, was finished by Pei in 1968.

The first phase of this \$1.6 million removal was finished over the summer. The second phase will consist of redesigning the entrance into Reed Library and creating a promenade (essentially a paved walkway). The black top that sits in between the two buildings is only temporary for this year.

“Oh, it’s different for sure,” junior sports management major Kyle Schrantz said when asked how he felt about the project. Although admitting he noticed the big change, Schrantz looked at its removal in a more positive light.

“But I kind of like it. It makes the space feel more open,” Schrantz added.

Senior BFA sculpture major Julian Perez seconded what Schrantz had to say.

“I enjoy the open space because it’s less congested,” Perez said.

While enjoying the new look to the campus, Perez acknowledged it’s sad the bridge won’t be replaced.

“But it’s been there since I was little, so it’s quite upsetting that it’s gone,” he said.

Senior public relations major Kristen Becker agreed with Perez’s sentiment and said, “It is sad that incoming freshman will never experience the bridge.”

While students may feel saddened about the Spine’s removal, the school felt it was unsafe and made a logistical move.

One student, senior computer science major Jeremy Eckstrom, agreed with the general consensus but also looked at it logically.

“I thought the bridge was a nice addition to the campus, and it’s unfortunate that they had to remove it,” said Eckstrom. “However, you could tell it was structurally unsound as it leaked water pretty

bad when it was raining.”

Eckstrom’s concern was echoed in President Virginia Horvath’s speech during the annual All Campus Address on Aug. 18.

“It was really not doing very well structurally,” Horvath said. “When we had the structural engineers from SUNY come look at it, they told us that we had just a few years of life left before we’d start to have serious problems.”

Horvath insisted that the bridge wouldn’t have ever fallen over, but that pieces would begin to fall off. She drew attention to the reality that the University already had pieces of the bridge patched up.

Any hopes of a new bridge being built in the place of the old one were dashed in the very same speech. Horvath emphasised that SUNY made it clear that they would not fund any projects involving bridges in between buildings.

“There was not an option to replace it,” Horvath said.

Pizza Wings and Things
P * DUBS



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Corey Maher/Photo Editor

New year, new VP

Howard steps in as head of Student Affairs

CONNOR HOFFMAN

News Editor

Last Spring, it was announced that David Herman, the vice president of Student Affairs, would be retiring at the end of the semester. By the end of the semester, the university had decided to fill Herman's vacancy with Dr. Cedric Howard.

Howard was born in Macon, Georgia, and he described it as "a very urban setting."

"I grew up definitely in the city," said Howard. "Many would consider it to be a project or government subsidized housing. I was a byproduct of especially the early years of subsidies and support."

He also explained how he was very happy that he was one of the first in his family to "break the cycle" and pursue higher education.

Howard mentioned that he was able to go to college due to the financial and academic support that the Upward Bound Program provided to him. "They take talented kids who have demonstrated academic chops, but they have to be low income first generation," said Howard.

He originally went to Florida A&M University to study pharmacy, but transferred to Georgia College and State University after his paternal grandmother passed away and his family wanted him to live closer to home. He graduated with a psychology degree in 1994.

He graduated with a M.Ed in educational administration from the University of Tennessee in 1996, and he graduated from University of Memphis with a Ph.D in higher and adult education in 2007.

After he graduated from University of Tennessee, he was hired as the director of the diversity center and student programs of Weber State University in Ogden, Utah. In 1999, he won the College Union International New Professional of the Year Award, and because of this award, he was approached by the president of LeMoyné-Owen College.

He would go on to build a student affairs division at LeMoyné-Owen when he was chief student affairs officer and dean of student affairs from 1999-2002. He was able to increase enrollment by over 50 percent at LeMoyné during his time there.

Howard received a phone call in 2002, from the regional chancellor of the University of South Florida at St. Petersburg, offering him a job creating a student affairs department for their university. He accepted the job offer and became the director of student affairs at the university. He said that by the time he had left the enrollment had went from just around 1900 to just under 6000.

In 2006, he received another phone call from the Chancellor of University of Washington at Tacoma, and was asked to create yet another student affairs division at their university. He became the vice chancellor for student enrollment service at the University of Washington at Tacoma in 2007.

Howard explained that a huge factor that drew him to Fredonia was the fact that his daughter decided to attend school in nearby Buffalo, New York. He applied for the Vice President position last year and received it.

He joked that his first impression of Fredonia was "Where's Fredonia?" but also that he was very surprised by the Fredonia pride.

"There's a lot of pride in this place. There's a lot of passion and compassion in this place," said Howard.

Howard explained that his vision for Fredonia is to focus on better telling the Fredonia story.

"We have a wonderful story here, but we've told it internally ... we haven't broadcast it to the world," said Howard.

Many on campus are excited to work with Howard this year.

"He had creative ideas about approaching the whole process of recruitment, and he's a true professional," said President Horvath, explaining what made Howard stand out to her. "So he's very committed to professional standards in recruitment and enrollment, and he's also a good team player."

Director of First-Year and Transition Programs Erin Mroczka said that she really enjoys that Howard tries to get everyone's input on how to lead the department.

"We're really excited about the collaboration across all of our departments for that future vision," said Mroczka.

Howard is married to his wife Thais, who is currently the head engineer for the Port of Tacoma. He also has a daughter named Cedrice and a son named Cedric. Some of his hobbies include playing golf, outdoor adventuring and going to Shakespearean festivals.

Howard also mentioned that he has gained a few nicknames over the years, and even joked "[which one to use] depends who you ask." His fraternity brothers called him "Goldmine." Some of his close friends refer to him as "The Boss" or "The Professor."



Corey Maher/Photo Editor

Woodard to help write next chapter in Fredonia's story University alum appointed Director of Marketing and Communications

CAMRY DEAN
Staff Writer

Just six weeks before students were due to campus for the semester on July 6, Jeffrey Woodard sat down at his desk for his first day of being Fredonia's new Director of Marketing and Communications.

Woodard, an alumni of SUNY Fredonia, graduated in 1997 with a Bachelor of Science in communications. Since 2008, Woodard had been working as the Director of News and the Information Center at WGRZ-TV in Buffalo.

"He described it to us as his dream job," Virginia Horvath, president of Fredonia recalls. "He always wanted to come back to Fredonia and work here."

It's always special when an alumni student returns to dedicate their work to the university where everything started.

"The atmosphere here is as friendly and welcoming as it was when I was here as a student," Woodard said. "I had a long, successful career in television. My long-run was in Buffalo. I've spoken a couple of times on campus, and I've loved coming back. This was a place where, if an opportunity ever came up, I'd take a shot at it. And it did, and I did."

After working in the fast-paced region of Buffalo, Woodard believes he can bring his experience from both knowing the area as a student and as director of news at WGRZ-TV to Fredonia to help get our stories

across New York and beyond. While hoping to reach out to a larger demographic of prospective Fredonia students, Woodard plans to use the same audiences that were utilized at his time in Buffalo.

"The speed of the job is different, but there are a lot of similarities with what we did there to what we need to do here," he said. "And that is to market and brand the University to a larger audience using digital platforms and being much more focused on video and digital content versus just the traditional publications."

"People love it here, but for people who aren't from the area and don't know Fredonia and don't plan on making the trip out here, we need to bring the campus to them. Bring it to life on all of our platforms," he said.

In terms of campus life, Horvath and Woodard both explained that Fredonia and its residents all have unique perspectives to offer.

"He and I are in agreement that we have a wonderful story to tell here about the students that we have, about the faculty that we have, [and] the staff we have and what they do every day," Horvath said. "That is our story."

Having worked in a bigger media outlet, Horvath is also very confident in Woodard being the spokesperson for Fredonia if a crisis

ever struck. If something were to ever happen that called for a large media presence on campus, Woodard is more than qualified to handle any pressing situations.

"I really have confidence in his ability to manage that because he's been on the other side. He knows what the reporters need. He knows if [the press] comes and they're looking for something, he knows how to give them what they need and still protect the interests of the institution," Horvath explained. "That's the person who is in front of the camera first, and I have a lot of confidence in him."

Woodard also plans to utilize social media platforms and digital media to keep the campus connected if ever there were a crisis in order to protect and aid the students.

Over the next few months, Woodard will be working on ways to tell Fredonia's story, and urges anyone with a special story to tell to reach out.

"I want to tell all of your stories so if anyone has one, send me an email," he said. "Find me on Facebook or any of our social media accounts."

Incoming first-year student dies day before coming to Fredonia

COLIN PERRY

Editor in Chief

A tragic car accident sent shockwaves across Western New York last week, as two young students died in Wheatfield, New York. Melanie Aronow's life was cut short on Aug. 20, mere days before she was supposed to begin her college career at Fredonia.

As reported by The Buffalo News, Aronow and her friend Quincy Harper, both 18, were walking along Shawnee Road early on Saturday the 20th with two other friends on their way to a nearby house party. But the road was lined on both sides by parked cars, and as the group walked along the fog line, three of them were struck by a car. Aronow and Harper both died at the scene.

Aronow, daughter of Glenn Aronow and Diane

Misch, was a recent graduate of Lockport High School. She was described by friends as "a fun, bubbly young woman who loved parties and people," according to The Buffalo News.

Rumors about Aronow's death circulated throughout the first days of classes before President Virginia Horvath addressed the incident in an email to the campus on Wednesday, Aug. 24.

"Members of our campus community join the family and friends of this Lockport High School graduate in the sense of loss that this next chapter never started," Horvath wrote.

Centre Pointe back open for business

JAMES ULLIN
Staff Writer

The dining area at Centre Pointe was closed multiple times last week due to unexpected plumbing complication.

FSA Executive Director Darin Schulz said, "There was an issue with the plumbing which does not allow us to wash or use water, thus causing the closure."

As of Aug. 29, the problem has been resolved and Centre Pointe has re-opened. With no

further delays anticipated, Centre Pointe is expected to maintain its usual hours of operation from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. on weekdays and 12 p.m. to 11 p.m. on weekends.

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Police Blotters

UNIVERSITY

Monday, Aug. 22, 2016

3:25 p.m. A credit card was reportedly stolen from a locker room in Dods Hall. A report was filed.

9:11 p.m. Infiniti car keys were turned in to University Police. A report was filed.

Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2016

2:47 a.m. Three subjects were reportedly seen in an alcove by Dods Hall and Steele Hall. The subjects were advised and a report was filed.

8:07 a.m. A motorized bike was reported on the sidewalks near Science Drive. The operator was spoken to and a report was filed.

8:41 a.m. A blue iPhone was found in Lot 16. A report was filed.

9:13 a.m. A wallet was found in Lot 16. A report was filed.

Wednesday, Aug. 24, 2016

8:09 a.m. Two keys were found on the ground near Reed Library. A report was filed.

12:30 p.m. An LG cell phone was turned in to University Police. A report was filed.

12:30 p.m. A damaged Samsung cell phone was turned in to University Police. A report was filed.

10:40 p.m. A male with a knife was reportedly near Campus Life in the Williams Center with no apparent reason to be there. Statements were taken and a report was filed.

Leandra Spencer, age 24, was arrested after being found in possession of a camera reportedly stolen from the Media Center.

Thursday, Aug. 25, 2016

2:22 a.m. A male dressed in underwear was reportedly banging on a dorm room door in Schulz Hall. The individual was located and advised and a report was filed.

2:40 a.m. A wall was found to have had a hole punched in it in Schulz Hall. Photos were taken at the scene and a report was filed.

5:30 p.m. A black wallet was found at the FSA offices in Gregory Hall. A report was filed.

9:55 p.m. A SUNY Credit Union debit card was found outside University Commons. A report was filed.

Friday, Aug. 26, 2016

10:30 a.m. A credit card was turned in to University Police. A report was filed.

4:32 p.m. Money was found in the Chautauqua Hall lobby. A report was filed.

11:05 p.m. A vehicle was found to have been damaged in Lot 9D. Photos were taken at the scene and a report was filed.

Saturday, Aug. 27, 2016

2:50 a.m. Darien Nizza-Lazaroff, age 18, was arrested and issued an appearance ticket reportedly for unlawful possession of marijuana at the Tim Hortons patio.

7:30 a.m. A Fred Card was turned in to University Police. A report was filed.

7:08 p.m. A student reported being harassed over Instagram by another student. A report was filed.

7:58 p.m. A black purse was found in Cranston Marche. A report was filed.

Sunday, Aug. 28, 2016

2:05 a.m. Dante Walsh, age 20, was arrested for underage possession of alcohol after reportedly being found with alcohol and a fake ID. The subject was issued an appearance ticket and a report was filed.

2:23 p.m. A ladder was found leaning against a fence in Lot 19A. The ladder was removed and a report was filed.

12:05 a.m. Daniel Norris, age 20, was arrested for assault in the third degree, and he was released on a \$500 bail.

All information printed in The Leader's police blotter is a matter of open public record. No retractions or corrections will be made unless a factual error is shown. Anyone who is cleared of charges has the right to have so printed. It is the responsibility of the accused to provide notice and proof of the dropped charges.

FREDONIA

Monday, Aug. 22, 2016

William Steinhoff, age 78, was arrested for confinement of companion and keeping animals in a vehicle during extreme temperature. He was issued an appearance ticket.

Thursday, Aug. 25, 2016

Erin Hannon, age 19, was arrested for criminal obstruction of breathing or blood circulation. She was issued an appearance ticket.

Friday, Aug. 26, 2016

11:28 p.m. Conrad Rathleun, age 18, was arrested for open container, littering and unlawful possession of alcohol. He was issued an appearance ticket.

11:28 p.m. Colder George, age 18, was arrested for open container, littering and unlawful possession of alcohol. He was issued an appearance ticket.

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A “Cut” above the rest New sculpture finds home in Science Quad



AMBER MATTICE
Reverb Editor

Art on campus is no strange occurrence. There is always a piece to see no matter where one is in Fredonia, and this year the campus is decorated with yet another new sculpture.

“Cutter” was donated by the artist Eric Stein through the In Sight/On Site program. Stein is a Fredonia alumni of the class of 1974 and, according to Barbara Racker, director of the Marion Art Gallery, “has fond memories of his years at Fredonia and is thrilled that we accepted the sculpture.”

Stein’s piece “Cloud Stop” was the inaugural piece for the In Sight/On Site program in 1998.

“Cutter” was placed during the summer in the Science Quad. After it was installed, Stein and his wife Roberta, spent two days repainting it.

There is no doubt that many returning students have noticed the bright blue geometric shape when walking to class every day. The placement of the sculpture was very intentional and chosen by a committee, consisting of Racker as well as members of Art Forum, such as President Sarah Reimer.

“It is a hard-edge geometric sculpture that works well with the architecture of the [Science Center.] The color compliments the [Science Center] and contrasts the red brick buildings. ‘Cutter’ also contrasts the larger ‘Suitcase’ by Steven Siegel,” Racker stated. “Siegel’s sculpture is ephemeral and will be taken down when it starts deteriorating. ‘Cutter’ will remain. The quad was one of several spaces mapped out by a campus-wide committee years ago for the placement of [a new] sculpture. The current committee primarily abides by that map.”

The new home of the sculpture in a high-traffic area at the heart of campus gives students the best chance to see it.

Perhaps one of the most interesting aspects of show-

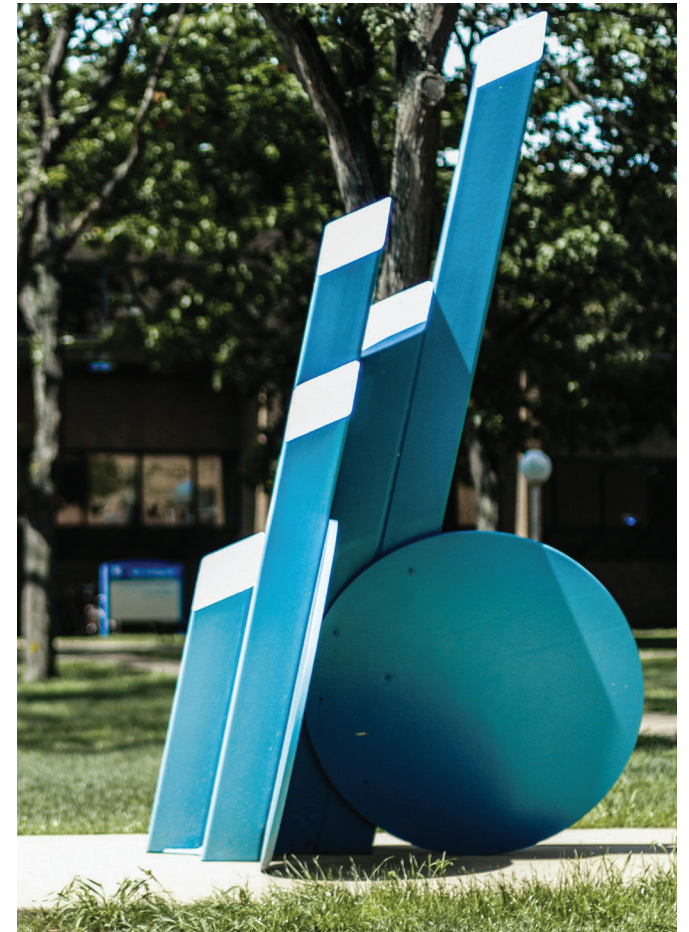
casing art on campus is having the opportunity to hear a variety of student reactions and interpretations of the individual pieces. Both Racker and Reimer have heard faculty and students call the sculpture many different things, a couple being crystals or rock formations and a music note.

Art Forum is particularly excited to have “Cutter” on campus because it is the only sculpture they will be able to bring on campus this year.

On top of that, the campus will be losing “Progression” by Albert Paley, which was brought in last year. The massive white piece between Fenton Hall and Central Avenue came to campus on a one year loan and will now be moved to Sculpture Fields in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

“‘Cutter’ is a really great piece for us to have on this campus. I love that Eric Stein gifted this to us, and that we get to display an alumni’s professional work. As a sculpture major here, it is so inspiring seeing a former student’s success,” said Reimer, a junior double major in BFA sculpture and graphic design. “As for the piece itself, I really enjoy Stein’s use of vibrant, geometric forms. I think this is a perfect piece for us to have on this campus.”

Reimer also stressed that even though Art Forum will not be able to bring more sculptures on campus this year, there will be a plethora of great art events, and student artwork will be showcased both on- and off-campus.



“Cutter.”
Ryan Daughenbaugh/Special to The Leader

Starting the year off with a jam Spectrum helps students say “aloha”

AMBER MATTICE
Reverb Editor

The first week of school is usually riddled with the stress of new classes, being surrounded by new people and for those returning, getting back into the college student routine.

Despite these worries, there is so much about campus life that makes returning to college both exciting and comforting for many. Several groups on campus make an effort to put on events during Welcome Week that will make the transition from summer to college easier for returning students and freshmen alike.

On Friday, Aug. 26, Spectrum hosted an event outside on the Williams Center patio starting at 6 p.m.

The Luau Party, which was a first for Welcome Week, premiered several a cappella groups such as Much

More Chill, The Guerillas, Some Like It Hot, Premium Blend and The Riveters.

The crowd consisted of freshmen and upperclassmen, all of whom were interacting and enjoying the food and overall environment of the event.

The energy increased as the evening went on. Some Like It Hot’s performance, which was relatively early in the evening, did a particularly good job at hyping up the crowd as they interacted with everyone and sang songs that everyone knew and loved such as a “Same Old Love” by Selena Gomez and a Fleetwood Mac medley.

In the eyes of Spectrum, events like the Luau Party are great for Welcome Week because it showcases so many of the amazing groups and opportunities that the campus has to offer.

“We want [new students] to feel at home because that’s how we all feel here,” said Rachel Ando, a senior business finance major and president of Spectrum. “The point of us having all of the a cappella groups here and Fredonia Radio Systems and Sound Services is that we want to show them off. It’s nice to have the students get that exposure and just be able to see the opportunities and how friendly everyone is ... because that’s what Fredonia is all about.”

All of the groups are looking for new members and encouraged anyone with a passion for singing to stop by their tables during Activities Night on Aug. 31 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.



Students enjoy luau party.
Ryan Daughenbaugh/Special to The Leader

Campus View: Diversity digitised

MAKENZIE SMITH
Special to The Leader

Growing up, I watched too much television. In my teens, I have played far too many video games.

During my first year here, I would put the textbook down and pick up a game to allow my brain a break. Pop culture was merely a distraction and had no consequences in my real life.

Shockingly, as my first year at Fredonia drew to a close and tests gave way to summer, I realized a subtle transformation had taken place. College, and all of its freedoms, had led me to a sort of epiphany about the media I was so desensitized to. This newfound liberation from traditional avenues of thought revealed the truth about those previously mundane distractions of mine. Once innocent and ordinary media were now revealed to be full of diversity and, at times, prejudice.

The shows I watched growing up were full of conflict and basic struggles of good versus evil. Modern television, on the other hand, works in nuances. Shows like “Steven Universe” have introduced social issues to a broad audience, fueling the movement for equality more so than ever before. “Steven Universe” is often brushed off as a children’s show because of the playful animation and brightly colored characters. A race of female, gem-based aliens fighting to protect Earth seems like a simple enough premise for a successful all-ages show. Boasting a cast of voice actors comprised mainly of fiercely talented women of color, the show is pioneering even on paper. The immature façade shatters once the audience is introduced to the wildly progressive problems of young Steven.

Connie Maheswaran is a strong young woman of color who also happens to be Steven’s best friend. Connie never falters in her belief in herself, utterly annihilating the weak female trope normally afflicting her type of character.

Garnet, a combination of two gems referred to as a fusion, is the unabashed introduction of same-sex relationships. She is comprised of Sapphire and Ruby, two female gems who are utterly and

unashamedly in love.

Fusions come in many shapes and sizes in the world of “Steven Universe” and not all are healthy. Malachite, the fusion of Jasper and Lapis, was a powerful analogy for abusive relationships. Jasper wanted Lapis for purely selfish intentions, and Lapis took her negative emotions out on her partner, causing the two to nearly destroy each other. Later, Lapis struggled with wanting to return to the relationship because of the uncertainty of being without it. The implications of this being in a show meant, in its purest form, for children are astounding.

Same-sex relationships, strong female characters and abuse have never, at least to this degree, been so easily explorable by people of all ages. The writers of “Steven Universe” have shown the world that education need not always happen in the most obvious of ways. Diversity is becoming an expected norm in the world of pop culture. The hype preceding the release of the popular first-person shooter game “Overwatch” was attributed in part to the diversity presented in the previews of playable characters. Various different ethnicities and gender stereotypes were explored in the character creation of this game and it shows.

Pharah, a woman of Egyptian descent, wears a bulky and combat appropriate suit of armor in a nice change of pace from the norm in such games. She is accompanied by similarly powerful female characters. Zarya is a strong Russian fighter with the buff physique, perfect for destroying stereotypical gender roles. Symmetra controls reality itself while never forgetting her roots in extreme poverty on the streets of India. These women are not support for overpowered male characters; they stand on their own with individual stories and abilities.

Characterization has taken a very detailed turn in recent years, both in games like “Overwatch” and more story-oriented role-playing games. My favorite type of games allow you to make moral choices while also interacting with a plethora of different characters.

One such game, and my personal favorite, is “Dragon Age: Inquisition.” Unlike others of its kind, this game has taken an extra step towards promoting MOGII/LGBT equality in what seems like a simple way.

When I play an RPG, I read any additional information I can find on the game, including Wikipedia articles and game reviews — anything to give me more insight into the world. Through this extra information, I found that “Dragon Age: Inquisition” has taken the normal process of romancing characters in a game and heightened it through expressing many specific sexualities. It is no longer implied that a character is interested in the opposite sex, or in anyone at all. The Iron Bull, a hulking casanova of a Qunari, is openly and officially pansexual, while Cole, a shy spirit, is aromantic. Dorian Pavus is an openly gay man, the first to actually proclaim so in the series. Similarly, Sera is unlike any female in prior games due to her being romanceable only by a female player. Characters such as Cullen and Cassandra are unabashedly and inarguably heterosexual.

It seems like such a small detail, proclaiming sexualities and removing gray area, yet in a genre stereotyped as being controlled by straight men, it is a huge step. The writers left no stone unturned in their mission to create the most inclusive and progressive romancing system of any modern game.

College is supposed to change people, and my advice is to let it. Let it awaken new schools of thought and new perspectives, even in regards to something as simple as pop culture. The world becomes a better place because of it.

Too artsy to handle

A brief look into all of the art, music and pop-culture related events happening in the next few weeks

August

8/31

Activities Night

From 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Come out and meet all the clubs and groups on campus, and find something that sparks your interest!

September

9/6-11/18 in the Marion Art Gallery

Kahn & Selesnick: “Truppe Fledermaus and the Carnival at the End of the World”

9/9

Kahn & Selesnick: “Truppe Fledermaus and the Carnival at the End of the World”

Reception for the gallery will be held in the Marion Art Gallery from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Admission is free.

*B-side Jam

From 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Kasia Coffee Shop

An event for ukulele lovers who are just a step above the beginning stages. Participants should know the basic chords, but everyone is welcomed to attend.

Admission is free.

9/15

VAP Lecture will be held in McEwen 209 at 8:30 p.m. Nicholas Kahn and Richard Selesnick will hold a lecture to discuss their exhibit “Truppe Fledermaus and the Carnival at the End of the World” featured in the Marion Art Gallery.

9/18

“Folk in Fredonia” Music Series

A free-for-all jam session at 3 p.m. in the Fredonia Opera House. There will be music, stories and an overall fun environment.

Admission is free.

October

10/7

Film Screening: “Duck Soup”

Movie showing at 7:30 p.m. in the Fredonia Opera House

The showing is part of the Fredonia Marxonia celebration.

Admission is free.



Former bridge area as seen from the Williams Center.
Alyssa Costello/Special to The Leader

Editorial: A bridge too far?

Last February, *The Leader* reported that the Academic Spine Bridge connecting the Williams Center to the steps of Reed Library and McEwen Hall would come down over the course of the summer. Even with months of advance notice, its absence from the Fredonia landscape is startling all the same.

Since it was erected more than four decades ago, the Bridge has been an ever-present companion to Fredonians of all sorts. Many made a habit of walking across it on their daily commute, while many more used it for shelter from various storms. Some whispered at opposite edges of the concave supports underneath, which would then carry their message clearly as can be. Clubs posted their notices on bulletin boards, and somebody once upon a time decorated it with a purple handprint. If nothing else, the Bridge gave us an inescapable feeling of connection, between buildings and each other.

The Blue Devil may be Fredonia's mascot, but the Bridge was part of the design which gave Fredonia its essential character. In a

year where we are embroiled in increasingly nasty elections and divisive debates about Pokémon teams, it's almost sort of nice to have something to agree on, or it would be if the cost wasn't so steep. With the Bridge gone, campus now has an inescapable feeling of being slightly askew.

As reported elsewhere in this issue, the Bridge's absence is not a temporary state for this year's seniors to gripe about — gone means gone. This is an unfortunate reality that we all must come to accept, just as we accepted months ago that it was too unsafe to keep the Bridge as-is. Both decisions to tear down the Bridge and to not build another have no basis in malice or an unexplainable disgust for architecture, but instead result from financial strain felt across the entire state. As any college student desperately fishing for change in the living room couch knows, sometimes there's just not enough cash. Without state funding for pedestrian bridges, there simply is no good and realistic alternative.

But there are still other concerns about what the Bridge represented that the University will need to address in the coming months and years, namely the I.M. Pei factor. In 1968, then-president Oscar E. Lanford requested that Pei and his partner, Henry N. Cobb, design the campus' master plan, giving us not just the Bridge but crucial pieces of the grounds including (but not limited to) the Williams Center, Reed Library and Ring Road. Many of these buildings have been modified or renovated since their original construction; more buildings, including a new Admissions Center in the neighborhood of Three Man Hill, will undoubtedly join them. It is our hope that the University respects the original Pei design as these future projects come to fruition, lest Fredonia lose even more of its identity in the process.



Darian Brizill, freshman biology

"Meeting more people, broadening my horizons and joining clubs."



Emily Green, senior English adolescent education

"I am excited to see what everybody is doing as far as clubs go, and additionally student teaching, as that's what I'll be doing."



Keyara Allen, senior earth science

"I'm most excited to get involved in the groups, but, secretly, to graduate!"

Verbatim

From the Desk Of: Colin Perry, Editor in Chief

A new year, a new Leader

I like to joke that I entered college with a major in English because I wanted some book recommendations. As it turns out, I ended up adding a second major as a sophomore in journalism, which I suppose must be because I love having conversations.

The issue of The Leader you're reading from now is the culmination of months of conversations between members of the staff, conversations with SUNY Fredonia students and faculty, and conversations held in dimly lit bars or on bridges that no longer exist. At every point along the way, one principle has guided these conversations: how do you make something better? Hopefully, with this issue, a little bit of the answer has been revealed.

The issue of The Leader you're reading from now is defined by what's changed, in a number of different ways. There's an almost entirely new masthead, united by a new vision and a new (or

in some cases rejuvenated) drive to succeed. There are new quirks and quarks that our most dedicated readers will have undoubtedly already caught. And then there's all the stuff that we fill the paper with, also known as the news.

The issue of The Leader you're reading from now also owes its existence to what has stayed the same. Simply put, there is no way I could possibly thank my predecessors enough for what they have contributed to this paper, and it's an honor to be the next in line. In the past, The Leader has stood for professional, responsible and ethical coverage of everything a Fredonia student needs to know. That commitment is as strong now as it ever was.

The issue of The Leader you're reading from now is the first in a series of 28 by this staff, a group of people who have enthusiastically jumped out of the post-summer doldrums and gave up

hour after hour of syllabus week to ensure you'd be reading these very words right now. They're the lifeblood of this entire enterprise, and they already deserve all the thanks in the world. It's a cliché to say that blood, sweat and tears went into something you worked hard on, but after spending a summer looking at newspapers every day, I'm pretty sure that's what they're printed with after all.

Those of you who are at Fredonia for the first time, I'm glad that we can embark on this journey together. And for those of you who have been around for a while, I hope you'll find a better, weirder and bolder paper, of which is more thought-provoking, entertaining and engaging than ever before. Welcome to a new year at Fredonia, and a new year to follow The Leader.

Election 2016: Jill Stein is No Bernie Sanders

JAMES LILLIN

Staff Writer

Currently averaging a 3.6 percent on the RealClearPolitics aggregate of major national polls, Jill Stein is helping the Green Party reach new heights of popularity and recognition, considering it hasn't broken .4 percent of the final electoral vote since Ralph Nader ran in 2000.

Stein has succeeded in bringing in and consolidating huge swaths of Sen. Bernie Sanders' voters, while offering an alternative option for voters who view the Donald Trump-Hillary Clinton matchup as a particularly troublesome choice between the lesser-of-two-evils. Sanders voters, while seemingly more reluctant to turn Stein into a living meme, are nonetheless enamored by her progressive credentials, seeing her as a sort of Sanders 2.0. Stein herself has helped to cultivate this comparison by inviting Bernie to take over leadership of the Green Party, saying that "he could lead the ticket and build a political movement."

Plenty of essays and articles have been written tearing apart the reductionist lesser-of-two-evils view, urging pragmatism over idealism, especially in an election where a xenophobic, hate-mongering clownfish has a decent shot at the most powerful political office on the planet.

While I sympathize with the appeals to pragmatism, many of them cross a line into condescension that runs counter-productive to the goal of upping major-party turnout. There's a better argument to be made that doesn't delve into the complex and deeply personal morality of making a choice come election day: Jill Stein is not a good candidate.

Of all previous U.S. presidents, only four (Taylor, Grant, Hoover and Eisenhower) had never held elected office prior, but all either served as major war-time generals or as senior-level cabinet advisers to a sitting president. Stein has never held any type of elected

office or government position, and would be far and away the most inexperienced presidential candidate this year were it not for the aforementioned clownfish.

The presidency is not a game of ideological battles and rhetorical arguments, but a complicated, multi-tiered job requiring years, if not decades, of public service, foreign policy-knowledge and economic foresight. President Barack Obama said it best in a 2010 Rolling Stone interview: "If there were easy choices, somebody else would have solved it, and it wouldn't have come to my desk."

"There's a better argument to be made that doesn't delve into the complex and deeply personal morality of making a choice come election day: Jill Stein is not a good candidate."

Clinton and Stein agree on the vast majority of issues (many economic policies, gun control, abortion access, opposition to the TPP, demilitarization of the police and more), but they diverge slightly on many of the same points where Clinton and Sanders had their most contentious arguments. Clinton wants higher regulations on fracking, to remove marijuana from the Schedule 1 list of controlled substances, and make public college debt-free. Stein wants to completely ban fracking, legalize marijuana, and not only make public college free but

cancel all outstanding student debt.

But Stein also shares a penchant for extreme progressive idealism that occasionally seems more concerned with generating tight soundbites than it does reality. Her Green New Deal states that "we can, and must, shift to an economy in which 100 percent of our electricity is generated renewably," a noble goal with which it's hard to disagree. Unfortunately, she offers no details on how she'll achieve this goal, or any insight into the complex network of subsidies, opportunity-costs and free-market forces that would need to be fought against.

Instead, she offers empty platitudes like her assertion that the entirety of the U.S. will stand behind a sudden "World-War II scale mobilization" to achieve the Green Party goals.

She advocates for an immediate \$15 federal minimum wage further indexed to inflation, allowing no time for businesses to transition to the new environment. She advocates for unilateral nuclear disarmament, complete unambiguous elimination of all aid to Israel, and perhaps most disastrously, an immediate cut of at least 50 percent to the US military budget which, despite perhaps being a reasonable long-term goal, would have disastrous immediate consequences on both global and domestic safety and stability.

Moreover, Stein has a shockingly unscientific streak for a licensed medical practitioner. She has a relatively vague stance on vaccines and believes in placing a complete moratorium on GMOs, while the American Association for the Advancements of Sciences reports that 88 percent of scientists polled believe that GMOs are safe for consumption.

She believes that "we should not be subjecting kid's brains" to wireless internet, despite absolutely no evidence that it causes harm.



Charley Sheffler, senior video production and theater major

"I just started into my Fiction work, and I'm really excited for that."



Phoebe Langdon, senior audio/radio production

"My last hurrah."



Mondyna Prevot, junior biology

"I'm really excited about my new classes, and the environment at Fredonia is really different."

Meet The Leader

1. Colin Perry is the editor in chief of The Leader. He is a senior dual English and journalism major from nearby Cassadaga, New York. He enjoys reading, travelling, Bruce Springsteen and Street Meat. Among other honors, he once finished second place in an eighth grade spelling bee.

2. Connor Hoffman is the news editor for The Leader. He is a senior dual political science and journalism major from Buffalo, New York. He enjoys politics, tacos and reading.

3. Jordan Patterson is the assistant news editor of The Leader. He is a senior journalism major with a minor in criminal justice. He has written for the local newspaper, The Dunkirk Observer, and works a part-time job on top of going to Fredonia. He enjoys playing basketball and PS4. He believes Batman and aliens are real. Also, he is a brainwashed Pittsburgh Steelers fan from birth.

4. Amber Mattice is the editor to Reverb for The Leader. She is a sophomore journalism major with a minor in art history. She drinks coffee more than frequently, is obsessed with Shakespeare, and spends an obscene amount of time reading poetry and scrolling through Pinterest. Her favorite story to tell is how she once got lost in the subway in Japan and had to mime her way back to her hotel.

5. Curtis Henry is the sports editor for The Leader. He is a senior at Fredonia and is majoring in journalism with a minor in English. His hobbies and obsessions include participating in demolition derbies, playing fantasy football and writing. He describes himself as a “journalist, a promoter of chaos, and an advocate for dank memes.” You can find him either in The Leader’s office or on a bar stool at Lil’ Magill’s.

6. Travis LeFevre is the lampoon editor for The Leader. He is a sophomore majoring in journalism and criminal justice. In his free time, he enjoys video games, writing the funnies and shortening his life expectancy by drinking energy drinks.

7. Sam McCagg is the web editor for The Leader. He is a senior computer science major with a concentration in software development and a minor in web programming. He enjoys playing the guitar, weightlifting, soccer, field hockey, tennis, coding challenges and a tipsy night out with friends.

8. Maddy Carroll is the layout editor for The Leader. She is a junior media management major with a minor in visual arts and new media from Rochester, New York. In her free time, she enjoys going to concerts, cooking and tearing down any professionally made advertisements that use comic sans.

9. Rebecca Masiker is the graphics editor for The Leader. She is a senior BFA in graphic design major and art history minor. Rebecca is a graphic designer at Antefact Graphic Design, a freelancer, and completed an internship at the office of Creative Design at Fredonia. She enjoys researching art history, spending time with her two dogs, Hunter and Sir Reginald III: Archduke of Cuteness (aka Reggie), and eating pasta.

10. Corey Maher is the photo editor for The Leader. He is a senior majoring in media management, with a minor in leadership studies. Commonly referred to as “Photo Guy,” Corey has been an avid photographer ever since he received his first camera as a birthday present in high school. He also enjoys playing guitar, being overly critical of popular music and befriending complete strangers.

11. Kristen O’Connor is the copy editor for The Leader. She is a senior English, media management and public relations triple major. When she’s not fixating on improper semicolon use, she enjoys indulging in the luxuries of life, including traveling to beautiful places, reading contemporary literature, devouring macaroni and cheese, and petting cats.

12. Kevin Gleason is the business manager for The Leader. He is a senior majoring in marketing and theatre arts. Kevin enjoys choreographing dances and hanging out with his new friends here. Kevin is excited to go work at Disney World!

13. Matthew Donnelly is the advertising sales manager for The Leader. He is a senior dual major with business finance and public relations. He plays in a band with his two brothers around the Western New York area, called The Donnellys Band. This summer, he balanced a 56 hour work week with an online class and playing with his band as much as possible.

14. Brooke Atkins is the social media manager for The Leader. She is a senior public relations major with two minors in sports administration and athletic coaching. In her free time, she enjoys cuddling with her dog Cody, watching Netflix and taking long walks to the fridge.

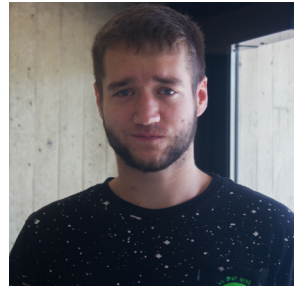
15. Elmer Ploetz is faculty adviser to The Leader. He teaches journalism at SUNY Fredonia. He previously spent 27 years in newspapers, the last 23 at The Buffalo News. He has also created video documentaries, radio shows and websites. He won his eighth grade spelling bee, but never got the dictionary that was to go to the winner.



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Women's volleyball looks to build on successful 2015 season

QUINTIN JAMES

Staff Writer

Coming off a 22-12 season and an appearance in the SUNYAC playoffs where they were eliminated by rival Oswego State, the Fredonia women's volleyball team looks to take the next step towards a title.

Some of the usual ingredients for success can be found in the team, including a returning pack of starters and high chemistry between them, but the question remains whether or not the Blue Devils will be able to make a serious run at a SUNYAC title. Assistant Coach Jon-Ryan Maloney said that expectations are high, but added that he has a group of players who are experienced and ready for the challenge.

"Yes, I certainly expect us to make the playoffs. We always keep our expectations high regardless of the ages of the players. That said, we have a lot of juniors and seniors working well together right now," he said.

Even knowing the expectations are there, the women's volleyball team isn't thinking too far ahead just yet.

"Every season we do the very best that we can. If a championship is the end result, great. If not, fine," Maloney added. "We

want to win as much as the next team, but we don't talk much to our players about needing to win championships. It adds an extra source of pressure that's usually not helpful. We play and coach simply to do our best."

Coach Geoff Braun said he understands the expectations, but is confident in his team and the leadership this year.

"As always, our expectations are to earn ourselves a post-season berth and win the conference title. We have a new leadership dynamic that I am excited about, and everyone has worked really hard so far," he said.

Maloney believes the real first test for the team this season will be a tournament in Cortland scheduled for Sept. 2.

"We haven't chosen an offense to run yet, haven't picked our top defensive players, and still haven't had our first scrimmage," he said. "Once those are settled and we've been through our first tournament in Cortland, we'll know more."

One player to look out for this year is senior Megan Collins. She is a two-year captain coming off a junior year that saw her play 27 games (9 starts), and had 136 kills, 18 service aces, 129 digs and 14

blocks two years ago. She looks to be one of the key players on the team this year who will be responsible for leading this time once the season starts.

Other players to look out for this year include junior Kristen Stanek and more, says Braun.

"[Stanek] came on really strong at the end of last season and then worked really hard this offseason. She could have a really strong year for us. We only have twelve on the roster but everyone can contribute. There is no weak link on this team," said Braun.

All in all, Braun has more than a few reasons to be excited for the new season, with the first home match versus Allegheny looming on Sept. 6. Later on, Fredonia hosts its Blue Devil Invitational tournament on Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 and a round of SUNYAC pool play on Oct. 21 and 22.

"It's always special to play in front of our home fans," he said.

Men's soccer aims for a successful season

Squad adds new players to chase playoff prospects

ANDREW RICHARDSON

Special to The Leader

The Fredonia men's soccer season was a little underwhelming last year, ending the season with a 3-12-3 record. The team looks poised to turn it around this season, though.

Electric leading-goal-scorer Parker Healy is back this year among many other seniors. As a younger team last year, things were tough. This year those young players are more experienced, and now they look to use their experience accordingly.

Assistant Coach AJ Grecco addressed the unusual situation brought forward by one player with an excited look on his face: for the first time in years, the roster will boast a player who has SUNYAC playoff experience.

"One new player — who isn't exactly new — who will stand out this season will be Brandon Butts. Brandon played for Fredonia last in 2010, which was the last year we went to the SUNYAC playoffs. With Brandon's experience, he will be a key part to our defense this season," said Grecco.

Brandon played in 14 out of 19 games in 2010 and started in six. As a defender and freshman, he was an integral part of the 2010 roster. He did a little bit of everything, including finding the back of the net on one occasion for the 2010 team.

Brandon's experience is expected to help this year, but if you watch any successful sports team, you will see their main focus starts with conditioning and mindset.

"I feel this year's team definitely has a different attitude than past teams. This year's group came in very fit for preseason and are very determined on getting Fredonia back to the top of the SUNYACs,"

said Grecco. "The players have been very focused thus far. Also, you can tell this group of players got very close so far, which is always a key for any successful team."

Senior Sam Greco is a key role player for the team, who figures to come off the bench this year.

"In the offseason, I used our recent unsuccessful seasons to keep me motivated all summer. I tried to focus on the weak areas of my game and stressed getting better in certain areas," said Greco. "While starting every game would be nice, I'm willing to play whatever role the team needs me to play to be successful."

Last year, Greco was eighth on the team in minutes per game and also totaled two assists, despite making most appearances from the bench. This time around, he's hoping to be a key player even in ways that statistics can't track.

"As a veteran on this team, I try my best to lead by example. We have our share of vocal leaders and individuals while I tend to be more reserved, and when you set a good example instead of just preaching ideas, others tend to follow suit," Greco said.

The motivation for this team should be high, with at least one obvious goal to strive toward.

"The only motivation we need for this season should be not making the SUNYAC playoffs this past year," stated Gondok.

Fredonia will open up the season at U.S. Merchant Marine in Baltimore on Sept. 3. The first home game of the season will be against Houghton College on Sept. 9 at 6 p.m.



The varsity men's soccer team practices on the astro turf field. Corey Maher/Photo Editor

Women's soccer features veterans and "game changers" for upcoming season

MORGAN MARSHALL

Special to The Leader

On the Wednesday before classes, the Fredonia women's soccer team's preseason began. The 2016 team roster has a total of 20 athletes for the current season. The Blue Devils will return with eight players that saw significant minutes last season, a new freshman class of six and two new transfers, who will also play a large role this year.

Chris Case is the head coach for the women's soccer team and Kyle Marvin is the assistant coach. Case is beginning his 15th season as head coach. Case explained that he has a core group of girls that are experienced and knows what it takes to win, and some are figuring it out and will be a work in progress.

"It is important that upperclassmen continue to help their teammates learn and have them all fighting and competing for the same thing," said Case.

Within the last two years, the team began weightlifting in the offseason with Fredonia's strength and conditioning coach Ryan Maloney. They started with two days a week and continued this past Spring with three days a week.

"The strength and conditioning has implemented accountability with where we are with our fitness and our strength," Case ex-

plained. "I feel that we have incoming players that will be game changers for us and have potential to make a great impact on the team with either a starting role or minutes on the field."

The captains for this season are seniors Maria Gordon, Alexis Moreland and Kaleigh Creeden. All three captains have played and started all previous years of their careers and are expected to play huge roles for the team this year.

Gordon, who has been a captain for two years, said she was "privileged and excited to be a leader on this team.

"I am looking forward to finishing my career with the same five girls that I started with my freshman year, and I am predicting an improvement from last season with the returners and new players," said Gordon.

"We have a good mixture of young and older players. I think our success will come down to if we can all work and mesh together as a team on and off the field," Moreland, a first-year captain said. "As a senior, it is hard to believe that it is my fourth season. But I know, not only speaking for myself but for the other seniors, we are all excited for this last season together and hope it will be the best yet."



The varsity women's soccer team practices on the astro turf field. Corey Maher/Photo Editor

Hoping to improve on last season's record of 5-12-1, the team is aware of the challenges it faces along the way.

"Being a leader on this team is exciting to me, but it is also difficult. I want to have a successful season as it is my last, and hope to by always leading by example," said Creeden. "I think we have an opportunity to be a strong team this year with the new players, but it will take a lot of hard work and dedication."

"Each of the seniors are good, strong players and will definitely contribute, but the biggest role they play is what they will do to get the team involved in what we are ultimately trying to accomplish with understanding the overall objective of striving for a winning season, and we will be great," said Case.

The Blue Devils will open up their season on Sept. 2 against the York College of Pennsylvania in Glassboro, New Jersey. Their home opener is slated to take place on Sept. 9 against Baldwin Wallace University at University Stadium.

Morgan Marshall is a member of the Fredonia women's soccer team.

Women's tennis planning bigger and better year

BROOKE ATKINS

Social Media Manager

The Fredonia women's tennis team is back on the court and ready to start their season with a bang.

After ending their last season 6-7 overall, the team has begun their preseason looking for a stronger finish.

The women ended their 2015 season in SUNYACs with losses against New Paltz and Cortland, but continue to be hopeful for this year.

Greg Catalano will be returning for a second year as head coach.

The roster this year will consist of 13 girls, five of which are seniors, as well as one junior, six sophomores and one freshman.

As a new season begins, one senior reflected on what her final year will look like on the court.

"It is bittersweet," were Phoebe Langdon's first words when asked how it feels for this to be her senior year.

The beginning of the end of something you love is tough, and Langdon is one of several Fredonia athletes who have been forced to acknowledge that.

"I have been on the team since my freshman year, and it has

really shaped a lot of who I am today as person, so saying goodbye is going to be hard," Langdon explains.

With a career that included an injury at the end of her freshman year, which required surgery, she is looking forward to retiring competitively and playing casually.

Langdon went on explain how much she will miss being on the team and playing the sport she loves every day. As a senior beginning your last season, you also begin to think of what you want to accomplish in your final season.

Being taught to lose with dignity and win with grace is something Langdon remembers every match and will continue to carry that into this year.

"This year, I want to savor every moment with my team and on the court and know that every match I played my hardest," Langdon added.

Another senior on the team, Leanne Hofstead, also described this season as bittersweet.

"It seems like just yesterday my friend who was on the team was convincing me to talk to the coach and look to join my sophomore

year," Hofstead said.

"I am excited to reflect upon how far I have come since being at Fredonia," she added.

The tennis team has had the opportunity to use the new indoor courts in Steele Hall and meet with a fitness trainer several times a week during winter and spring.

Hofstead also shared that the assistant coach has met with the team to share strategies to help improve their skills both individually and as a team.

"The team has been working hard during our first few practices doing drills, conditioning and challenge matches," she said.

Luckily for Langdon and Hofstead, they have a whole season ahead of them.

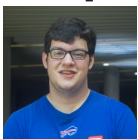
The women's season will open against D'Youville College on Sept. 3.



Illustration by Curtis Henry/Asst. Sports Editor

Commentary: Bills may have won offseason, but have lost preseason

Injuries and suspensions among big storylines in Bills camp



CURTIS HENRY
Assistant Sports Editor

It was hardly more than two months ago that Rex Ryan was standing at the podium and proclaiming that the Buffalo Bills had “won the offseason.”

One could make the case that Ryan had a valid point. The Bills’ starters and nucleus of the roster were all returning and healthy. The team had successfully re-signed tackle Cordy Glenn, guard Richie Incognito, and later, they would reach a six-year extension with quarterback Tyrod Taylor. The coaching staff also saw key pickups in Ed Reed and Rex’s brother, Rob. The intent of the offseason was to fix the defense.

In addition, Doug Whaley and the Bills’ management absolutely nailed the draft in May. The obvious holes on defense from a year ago were addressed by Buffalo’s first three picks in the NFL draft: defensive end Shaq Lawson, linebacker Reggie Ragland and defensive tackle Adolphus Washington. The three rookies were expected to fill voids in the defense’s front seven right out of the gate.

However, the Bills wouldn’t last one week prior to seeing Rex Ryan eat his words. One by one, the pieces in Buffalo began to fall apart as the team began packing for summer training camp at St. John Fisher College in Rochester.

The initial mess came one month before Ryan’s comments. Over a 24-hour period in May, it was announced that both Shaq Law-

son and Sammy Watkins would be having surgery: Lawson for a shoulder injury that had nagged him for months and Watkins for a broken foot.

That was only the beginning of the Bills’ misfortunes. As July and August rolled around, the Bills began to drop like flies. Karlos Williams showed up to camp more than 30 pounds overweight. Additionally, he found himself a suspension for substance abuse, and the second-year running back was cut last week.

Linebacker Reggie Ragland tore his ACL in a non-contact injury during camp. His rookie season is over before it began. Pass rusher IK Enemkpali tore his ACL and ended up being released. The list doesn’t stop there.

Manny Lawson faces a suspension under the league’s personal conduct policy. Rookie running back Jonathan Williams does as well, though it is common belief that his suspension will wait until 2017. The team’s highest-paid player, nose tackle Marcell Dareus, will start the season on the league’s suspension list for the second consecutive season.

To top it all off, two more Bills suffered ACL injuries in this week’s preseason loss to the Washington Redskins. Second-string tight end Chris Gragg and cornerback Jonathan Dowling each suffered season-ending injuries in Washington on Friday night. Gragg’s was

sustained from a hard, albeit legal, hit from DeAngelo Hall after he made a reception on a third and long. Dowling’s injury was non-contact and might be attributable to the subpar field conditions at FedEx Field. Gragg was essentially a lock to make the roster, and Dowling was making his case to make the cut with a preseason full of nice defensive plays and hustle on special teams.

Murphy’s law just seems to make its rounds through Western New York around this time of year. It’s evident that the Bills will need the dominos to begin falling their way soon, or else a 17th consecutive year without making the playoffs will be a dangerous possibility.

I’m sorry Rex, but although your squad “won” the offseason, you’ve definitely lost out during the preseason.

The Bills finish up their preseason in Detroit on Thursday, Sept. 1, prior to opening the year on Sept. 11 at 1 p.m. in Baltimore against the Ravens.



"Suitcase."
Ryan Daughenbaugh/Special to The Leader

"Trash statue" stolen and recycled at Tops

V. RAVIOLI
Staff Lamponist

Throughout SUNY Fredonia's history, money and budget cuts have been a constant source of contention. With the new school year in full swing, Fredonia's school administrators are right back to agonizing over whether funding should go towards campus employee wages or better things like the next gargantuan, five-year construction project.

After dishing out nearly \$100 million on the Science Center and the Rockefeller addition, Fredonia has found itself to be in a bit of a financial pickle. The unfortunate result of this is the cutting back of hours for the already broke student employees.

FSA worker Anita Jobbs voiced her frustration in a recent interview.

"I already sold one of my kidneys to pay for my textbooks this semester. The least the school could do is give us work and maybe, I don't know, auction off some of those hideous sculptures littering the campus," she said.

Financial adviser Harry Pitts responded to Jobbs' statement.

"I understand the burden of poverty, but if the students actually cared about their education, they wouldn't be so focused on the sweatshop-level jobs offered by FSA. If they applied themselves and skipped a meal or two every day, they could get the absolute most out of their schooling and worry about employment after graduation," said Pitts.

Some mystery person, however, took great heed to the student's words. A few days after the interview, students were seen flocked between Reed Library and Jewett Hall. They were staring at a large, rectangular patch of dead grass. It appeared "Suitcase," the sculpture created by Steven Siegel and composed entirely of garbage, was stolen in the middle of the night.

As if that wasn't odd enough, the Financial Aid Office employees were greeted by a generous check in the mail: \$5,000 to be precise. It doesn't sound like much, but Administrator Robin Monét mentioned, "After our annual financial purge, we need all money possible, no matter the source. Sometimes we even infect the water with

Giardia protozoa and take the profits from LoGrasso when students flood the building for treatment."

Along with the check was a copy of a receipt from a Tops Friendly Markets bottle return. The morning news revealed that a couple of nights ago, a masked individual was spotted in a Tops parking lot driving a pick-up truck with a mountain of plastic bottles and mangled snow fencing.

After an eventful first week back, most of Fredonia's residents are pleased with the turn of events. There's a little more space outside, a little less BPA seeping into the soil, and the school has enough extra money to keep all of Fredonia's student employees working for another month.

Faster than the speed of blame

Usain Bolt is faster than your partner's assumptions, new study suggests



TRAVIS LEFEVRE
Lampoon Editor

Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt has once again wiped the competition, earning three gold medals during the 2016 Olympics. He is so fast that a recent study done by Yale University determined that Bolt is faster than the assumptions made by your partner, or the same assumptions that spark every argument ever.

The study was conducted immediately after the Olympics, with Yale scientists flocking to Bolt hoping to work with him.

"We've been working with the math for quite some time, and the numbers were astonishing," said Dr. Allen, the lead scientist. "We found that he was faster than the comic book hero 'The Flash,' but we knew we could up the ante on that."

Bolt agreed to work with Yale on their latest experiment. With this experiment, he was tasked with running 100 meters in the time it took for test subjects to react with assumptions, clapbacks and meme references.

With Bolt at the starting line, he took a look at his odd competition, consisting of a faulty couple, a dysfunctional family at dinner and the admin of a meme page on Facebook.

The couple was sitting on the couch watching Netflix, the family just sat for dinner, and the meme poster just logged on to the computer.

"We wanted to see how he would fare in a variety of circumstances," said Dr. Allen. "The boyfriend received a vague text for the girlfriend to see.

"The family had to argue their differing political views, and the meme poster had to find the perfect meme. Mr. Bolt had to beat all of them as the ultimate test," Dr. Allen continued.

Wiping the sweat from his forehead, the starting gun fired and Bolt was off.

"At the twenty-five meter mark, the family had just begun discussing politics," said Dr. Allen. "We chose a family with heavily differing political views. The father is a conservative, and his son is way to the left."

Once Bolt hit fifty meters, the vague text came through the boyfriend's phone, reading "Hey."

At seventy-five meters, the meme admin began to download the meme he found to be perfect.

Bolt crossed the finish line just mere moments before "Who the hell is 'Mom'? Are you cheating on me with this bitch?!" echoed throughout the stadium, followed by the meme poster who found the Golden Pepe.

Last but certainly not least, the politically dysfunctional family sprung into a full-scale argument when the father called his son a socialist.

The Lampoon was able to meet Bolt to share his thoughts on the triumph.

"I am extremely humbled by this victory," said Bolt as he wiped his sweat-drenched face. "Now I know that if I ever get into an argument with my girlfriend, I can run faster than she thinks. That's a valuable skill to have."

Commotion with the Ocean

R&B star disappears, causes widespread panic

PATRICK BENNETT
Staff Lampoonist

Frank Ocean released his second studio album, "Blonde," last week to a lengthy list of praise from both critics and die-hard Frank-O-philes. In celebration of the R&B superstar's newest release, Frank, whose real name is Joey Fatone, held a public press conference in the parking lot of a Long John Silver's. The tune of the press conference shifted key as Ocean appeared and then vanished into thin air.

The conference itself was aesthetically pleasing. Ocean strategically planned for the event to be held at dusk on the night of a full moon. Fans sat by patiently munching on their fish dinners, discussing how "Blonde" was as important as the Bible, Kinder Eggs and the latest Snapchat filters.

Colors were a huge theme at the conference, with Ocean making sure that only cool and calm ones were presented.

"When my fans come out to this conference, I want their eyes to just melt underneath those relaxing cerulean tapestries that a man from an undisclosed location worked on his entire life. I think it's gonna change the way they see color and the way they see themselves in ten years. Shouts out mirrors and fonts," Ocean said.

Gauging the vibe of the audience was easy as pie once Ocean burst like a pimple from the floor of the stage. The crowd's

vibe oozed with pleasure and astonishment. Dressed in fully bedazzled koala leather, or leather extracted from ancient koala huts in eastern Australia, Ocean did what he does best. "I should be paying them. I should be paying y'all, honest to God," he crooned from the bottom of his sensitive heart.

Fans fainted in disbelief that their favorite low-key R&B god had actually appeared before their eyes. However, as Ocean held a beautiful note in a airlock tight falsetto, he vanished into thin air clouded with smoke from vapors. Fans became belligerent within a snap of a finger. The Lampoon tried their best to garner some reactions from fans.

"I heard [Ocean's first album] 'Channel Orange' in my mother's womb, and it changed my life. For this conference, I dyed my hair blonde in honor of his newest project. I'm only four. I got to see him in person, which is all that matters," optimist, pipsqueak and die-hard fan Ophelius Smith said. Other fans didn't share Ophelius' same sentiment.

"I'm absolutely and utterly saddened that the man would do this to us. Who is he? David Blaine? I took my girlfriend to this conference, and I was going to propose to her. She ended up leaving me for a

pigeon!" said heartbroken and newly single scenester Harry O'Doole.

In between sobs and pathetic throws of punches, the SWAT team was called to the scene. "Look, we've dealt with some pretty nasty situations: bank robberies, homicides, the aftermath of a wild Taco Tuesday. What was going down at that Frank Ocean event was unspeakable. I saw a grown man literally fill a kiddie pool with his own tears and dive off the top of a Long John Silver's into it. He suffered crippling injuries," SWAT team leader Dinko Prowler said.

Ocean's managers, the Earth and the surrounding stars from above, had nothing to say about their client's disappearance. Perhaps Ocean is planning the release of another album. Luckily to fans worldwide, TMZ and a handful of other reliable sources claim his next album title is "My Bad My Bad My Fault: Y'all Gonna Have to Wait Another Four Years for This One."

The rumors about the upcoming album have already garnered maximum critical attention standing at a solid one hundred on Metacritic.

Fredonia changes official mascot

Sports teams to be addressed as the Harambe State Harambes



Illustration courtesy of Edward Gallivan/Staff Illustrator

RICK HARRISON Staff Lamponist

Rick Harrison here, reporting from my pawn shop.

In order to pay tribute to the late Harambe, a gorilla who was killed at the Cincinnati Zoo in May, the athletics program will be changing its name and logo. The announcement came from Athletic Director Greg Prechtl early on Wednesday afternoon.

"We had tabled a name change for a few years now," Prechtl explained. "It grew tiresome for people to hear our name and say 'Oh, like Duke!' No crap, our teams have the same name as Duke. But please, stop comparing us to the scum of Division I athletics."

The opportunity was then seized to change the name to the "Harambe State Harambes."

"We just thought it was a great opportunity to honor the greatest of all-time," explained President Virginia Horvath. "It's not often you get the chance to do the right thing on such a large scale. We

definitely made the right call on this one."

We at the Lampon attempted to reach out to the Cincinnati Zoo for comment via Twitter, but the zoo promptly deactivated its Twitter account on Tuesday afternoon after the request. It grew apparent that the zoo had tired in recent weeks from all of the dank memes and responses they were getting on social media regarding Harambe. It got to the point that, on Monday, the zoo put out a cry for help.

"We are not amused by the memes, petitions and signs about Harambe," Cincinnati Zoo Director Thane Maynard said in a statement.

Clearly, people at the zoo do not understand how the internet works. Within the next 24 hours, the Harambe train gathered steam previously not thought possible. The backlash from the internet was the final push that Fredonia needed to green light the name change.

"Like I said, it's about paying homage to the GOAT," Horvath said. "Or in this case, the GORILLA [greatest of real/ imaginary large land animals]. Harambe was the best, and everyone needs to know that. Harambe State is a place where we can all recognize that until the end of time. Period."

Students across campus have had a positive reaction to the name change thus far.

"About three months ago, I would have pressed for us to change the name to Dat Boi University," said student LeRoy Jenkins. "But now it is all about Harambe. It will always be about Harambe. He is essentially the GORILLA of gorillas."

The new mascot will be donned initially by the women's volleyball team for their game on Sept. 3. After that, all sports teams competing in events for the school will sport the gorilla as their team logo.

"I am so excited for the season opener now," said Dan Smith, a soccer player who recently transferred from Brigham Young University after changing sports. "We are gonna go out there and kill them, man. Kinda like how that crappy parent at the zoo got Harambe killed."

If that is the mentality of all teams for this season, Harambe State athletics could make some serious runs in the SUNYAC playoffs this fall.



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Horoscopes

TRAVIS LEFEVRE

Lampoon Editor



You've been struggling with making it to class on time. If you want to avoid pedestrian traffic, go into the Williams Center, and take the exit on the second floor for a quick path to class.

ARIES



This weekend will be full of good vibes and heavy drinking. You'll soon realize that those "good vibes" are coming from mild alcohol poisoning.

TAURUS



I don't know, but a lot of people are saying that you are a very, very, very good friend. It's incredible, really. You make the best friendships. Believe me.

GEMINI



You've hit rock bottom, Cancer. Sign up for The Meaning of Life this semester, and try to get your life together before your next family reunion. You don't want to be the disappointment child, now do you?

CANCER



As much as it may tempt you, don't try to answer all of the professor's open-ended questions. Leos have a reputation for being pompous, so don't make it worse by being a smartass.

LEO



Signing up for that 400-level class wasn't your best move. Make up for that horrid mistake by dropping that lame class for Underwater Basket Weaving.

VIRGO



Your indecisive nature is catching up with you. If you keep it up, something will happen, or not. I'm honestly not too sure. What do you think?

LIBRA



All of that aimless walking up and down Thompson will soon pay off. All will be in envy of your godlike leg muscles.

SCORPIO



I know you thought that declaring three majors was a good idea, but that's three capstones you have to stress over in a single semester. That's, like, three times the normal amount of stress, and three times as many trips to the bars you'll make to deal with it.

SAGITTARIUS



You've worked hard this week. Treat yourself to a night of fun, only to regret it for years to come!

CAPRICORN



Love may have been hard to find lately, but don't be concerned about it. You're basically heartless, so everything will work out in the end.

AQUARIUS

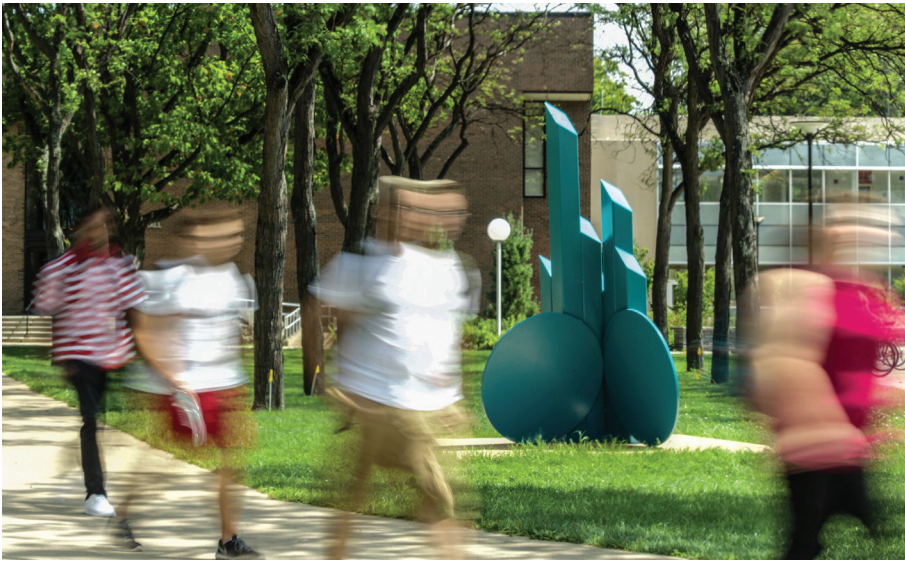


You've been getting forgetful, Pisces. Are you absolutely positive that you remembered to lock your door before you left for class?

PISCES



New view of the Williams Center from McEwen Hall
Alyssa Costello/Special to The Leader



Students walk past "Cutter."
Ryan Daughenbaugh/Special to The Leader



Some Like It Hot performs at Spectrums Luau Party
Ryan Daughenbaugh/Special Leader



Place setting at Spectrum's Luau party
Ryan Daughenbaugh/Special to The Leader



The varsity men's soccer team practices on the astroturf field
Corey Maher/Photo Editor