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Water boiling advisory has FSA quick to respond

SETH MICHAEL MEYER

Assistant News Editor

On the morning of Oct. 21, the students of Fredonia woke up to an email advising them not to consume the tap water without it being boiled and to conserve water.

The effect of what the email described as a water main break was felt immediately around campus. Both Tim Hortons and Starbucks menu options were reduced to products that exceed 212 degrees Fahrenheit (the boiling point of water). At the same time, Cranston Marche and William's Centre Pointe shut down their soda machines.

The students and faculty alike were optimistic that the problem would be resolved quickly but the advisory was not lifted for another four days, leaving many members of the community unnerved.

Darin Schulz, the executive director of FSA, is worried about how long the advisory went on and compared it to a similar situation that happened only a few years ago.

"This isn't something you'd normally expect to happen," Schulz says, "A day? Sure. Two days, maybe? Understandable. But to go on three, four, five days is very frustrating."

Schulz said that there is always plenty of bottles of water in reserve for this type of emergency, but the reserves were running thin by the final days of the advisory. By

Monday night, there was not a place on campus to buy bottled water.

"Everything's exhausted . . . we had to run to Sam's Club . . . and [get] two palates [of water]," said Schulz.

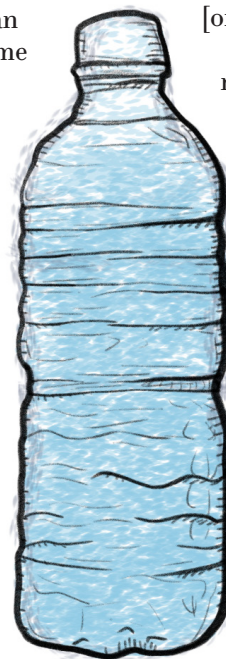
A Pepsi truck that arrived Tuesday morning finally replenished the water, but the water restrictions, Schulz said, are costly. He attributes most of the cost to the extra labor needed to boil all the water in the making of the FSA food.

Richard St. George, Fredonia Village Administrator, was overseeing the water main break of what was a 12-inch (in diameter) pipe, and said it had completely drained the water plant. The longest part wasn't in fixing it, he explained, but it was testing the water afterwards that is a lengthy process. "It's like an 18-hour turnaround . . . you have to wait for two of those tests to come back without bacteria," said St. George.

He has confidence in the process of fixing the problem. "Life happens and we address it as it happens," but that won't stop Darin Schulz and the FSA from being more prepared for a situation like this in the future.

Schulz wishes to propose the idea of purchasing an M-149 trailer, more commonly known as a 'water buffalo.' It is a military surplus piece of equipment that can hold up to 400 gallons of water. Schulz believes having that available will ensure the students' well-being and could ease the financial strain should something like this happen again.

Leslie Martinez-Garcia/Staff Illustrator



Featured:

•Athletics and academics clash: Sarah Bunk's story (pg. 14 - 15)



On the Cover:

Autumn leaves paint Fredonia in bright colors.

Angelina Dohre/ Photo Editor

'mAsk4CampusEquity' brings lack of stability to light



ANGELINA DOHRE

Photo Editor

This past Thursday and Monday, Fredonia's Chapter of United University Professions (UUP) held its biennial event for Campus Equity Week. This year's campaign was mask-making events, titled "mAsk4CampusEquity."

Since 2015, Fredonia has been involved with Campus Equity Week.

According to an email from UUP's Fredonia Chapter Vice President for Academics Bruce Simon, Campus Equity Week "seeks to promote awareness of the harmful consequences of the precarious situation of faculty in higher education, to organize for action and to build solidarity among stakeholders."

Simon said these mask-making events were mostly made to promote awareness.

"It's promoting the basic idea that our teaching conditions are your learning conditions, which is the core of all the Campus Equity Week events," he said.

"We want students to know that some of their teachers may not be getting health insurance, and this is more of a national problem, but some may not have offices, telephones or computers."

UUP Fredonia Chapter's officer for contingents, Anne Fearman, said adjuncts have a part-time contract that is renewed each semester but a lot of them take on a full-time load and still aren't paid enough.

"I make \$2,000 above poverty and I teach full-time so it's hard to get another job," she said. "There are only 40 professors on this campus that are tenure."

According to their website, the UUP is a union which represents the faculty and professional staff at the state-operated campuses of the State University of New York. They are the largest higher education union in the United States with over 30,000 members.

UUP is affiliated with the New York State United Teachers (NYSUT), the American Federation of Teachers (AFT), the National Education Association (NEA) and the American Federation of Labor-

Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO).

According to Fearman, the Fredonia chapter received a grant from AFT which ended up funding their "mAsk4CampusEquity" events.

Fearman has been an adjunct lecturer at Fredonia since she was a graduate student in 2002. She said she feels like she has been treated unfairly before.

"I've been here for 14 years but I could easily not have a job next semester," she said. "There is no protection whatsoever and really the union offers the only bit of protection."

According to Fearman, at the end of the day this issue ultimately hurts the students and their families.

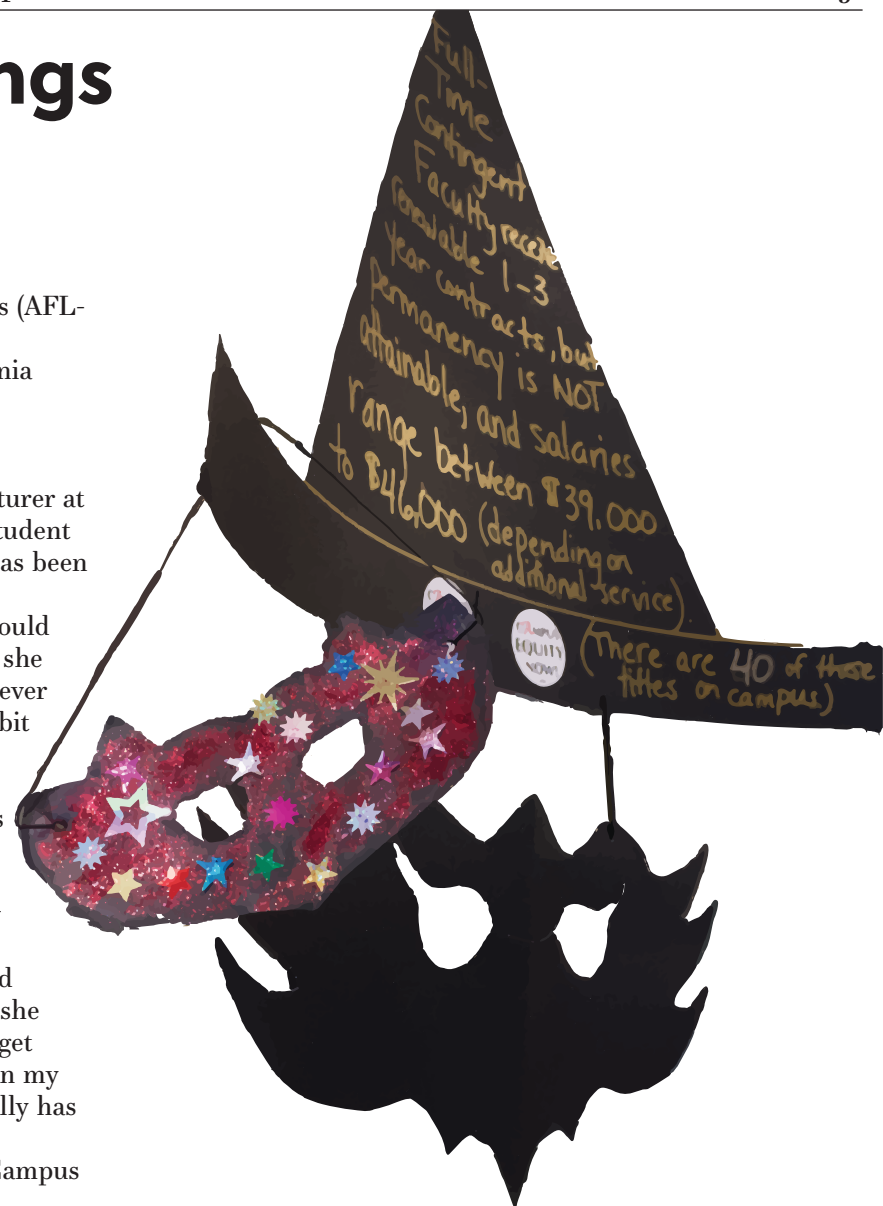
"If I were taking my daughter to a college and I saw that the majority of the classes were taught by people who didn't have any real title I would think 'Why am I paying so much?'" she said. "Why do I have to wait until I get to my junior year before I'm taught in my department by somebody who actually has tenure?"

A new resource added to UUP's Campus Equity Week Toolkit displays basic information about the extent of contingent employment in SUNY. It states more than 40 percent of UUP members are contingent employees, meaning they have no path to permanency.

Other statistics include that more than half of part-time, temporary professionals earn less than \$17,000 a year and one in three part-time academics earns less than \$200 per week.

When asked why things haven't really progressed with this issue, Simon said he has no idea.

"I don't understand it," he said. "I started being aware of this issue back in the '90s, back when I was in graduate school and was involved in the general workplace and so many universities, even ones with multi-billion dollar endowments are still cheating their students, essentially, and cheating their faculty."



A display for the mask-making event put up in the hallway between McEwen and Maytum that illustrated, via Post-it notes, the number of courses taught by contingent faculty.
Angelina Dohre/Photo Editor

“I’ve been here for 14 years but I could easily not have a job next semester,” said Anne Fearman, the UUP Fredonia Chapter’s officer for contingents. ‘There is no protection whatsoever and really the union offers the only bit of protection.’ ”

A writer's reunion: NYT bestseller Wendy Corsi Staub and Lucia Macro return to SUNY Fredonia

VICTOR SCHMITT-BUSH

Staff Writer

To some graduates, their time at Fredonia lives on only as a story. A good read it might have been, but it remains a memory, nonetheless.

For others, the story is still being written.

Staff and students alike will be pleased to know that Fredonia alumna and New York Times bestseller Wendy Corsi Staub, along with her editor, Lucia Macro, will be returning to Fredonia from Nov. 9-13.

As per the Writers@Work organization, "Wendy Corsi Staub is the award-winning author of more than 90 novels, best known for the single title psychological suspense novels she writes under her own name."

Macro has also attained great success throughout her career as an editor, working for several renowned writers such as Hazel Gaynor, author of "The Girl from The Savoy" and "The Girl Who Came Home" and New York Times bestselling author Karen Harper, whose upcoming novel is "The It Girls," and many more, according to Writers@Work.

Both authors will lead a series of events ranging from book signings to student workshops. They will even be available for open office hours in which students may ask questions and/or discuss a variety of things in relation to writing and editing.

According to Macro, their visit is about much more than publicity. There will be many opportunities for students to go to book signings, but she feels that the real treat is in inspiring students to succeed.

"... the purpose is to reach out to students who are interested in careers in publishing — not just as writers, but as editors. Or even if they want to know what my assistant does every day or what it is like to live in NYC."

Corsi Staub is a proponent of such virtues. "This isn't just about discussing writing with writers — which we always love to do — but about discussing what happens next, after you

leave college," she said. "We frequently talk about things we wish we'd known back then, when we were preparing to embark on life in the real world."

In other words, the road to adulthood is a hurdle by which no one comes back unscathed, but it is those who dive boldly into the abyss who come back stronger. Sometimes however, according to Corsi Staub, it wouldn't hurt to march into the unknown with a bit more than a positive spirit.



Publisher Lucia Macro (L) and author Wendy Corsi Staub (R) show off their 2015 release of "Blood Red."

Photo courtesy of their publisher Pamela Jaffee-Harper

"When I was an aspiring writer at Fredonia, I was a small town girl who wanted big things, and I probably spent more time trying to figure out how to achieve them than I did studying," said Corsi Staub. "It would have been nice to have gotten advice and guidance from someone who was already living the life I wanted to live."

In that same vein, Corsi Staub has become

her own hero. She has made appearances much like this one at a number of universities, imparting her own knowledge and experience to students, offering to them a personal and comprehensive experience that she wishes she could have had when she was a student.

She and Macro led a similar bit in Geneseo back in October 2015. According to Erin Carlo, a nonfiction speaker for Issue 4.1 of the Gandy Dancer, she spoke "about her writing life, her inspirations and motivations, as well as the adversity she has overcome along the way."

According to Carlo, much like that of this upcoming event, "Attendees were able to ask questions about writing, editing and publishing. Wendy and Lucia were exceptionally knowledgeable, and remarkably approachable."

This won't be the first time that Corsi Staub makes a special appearance in Fredonia. She explained, "I'm a big believer in remembering your roots and giving back to the people and places that sustained you in the past. So I have frequently signed and spoken on campus, and in 2008, one of the greatest honors of my life was to deliver the Commencement Address."

In this visit, much emphasis will be on Corsi Staub's newest and upcoming releases. Her new novel "Dead of Winter," which will be on sale Nov. 7, is set in Lily Dale, New York, a few miles away from Fredonia, and will be at the heart of much discussion.

She will also be introducing her novel that she completed in March titled "Bone White," to which she said "relates — or not — to the authentic setting in 'Dead of Winter.'"

Corsi Staub and Macro will be making their appearance at a number of places in and around campus, ranging from Fenton Hall, to the Williams Center, to the Science Center and even the Rockefeller Arts Center.

"Come see us," said Macro. "I promise we are super nice and interested in what you might want your future to be."

Ten Fredonians leave big impact on scholarship application



DAN ORZECZOWSKI
News Editor

On Jan. 3, the first day back to work after winter break, Dan Tramuta's phone rang. Virginia Horvath, president of SUNY Fredonia, was on the line asking if Tramuta knew that Sen. Bernie Sanders and Gov. Andrew Cuomo were about to announce the blueprints for the Excelsior scholarship program.

Tramuta, who was the former president of the New York State Financial Aid Administrators Association, now serves as Fredonia's vice president of Enrollment Services. For someone who has an extensive background in financial aid, he was still unaware of the Excelsior plans.

"Typically when something big like this is happening, I'm hearing something about it. I had no inclination as to what this announcement was going to be about," said Tramuta.

Although the scholarship's announcement was in January, its final regulations weren't presented to the Higher Education Services Corporation's (HESC) board of trustees until May 25. It took just five months to draft Excelsior's requirements and guidelines.

Even though administrators were aware of the scholarship's emergence, for many returning students, it was too late to receive any assistance from Excelsior.

Among a number of requirements, the scholarship is only granted to students who enroll in at least 12 credits per term and complete 30

credits per year. Because of the scholarship's late launch, the only way a student could fulfil the credit requirement (if they hadn't already), was to take courses over the summer — which students had to pay for out of pocket.

"Many students didn't have the time to understand, prepare or execute the completion requirements tied to Excelsior. They didn't know because [the scholarship] was introduced as a legislative initiative pretty late," said Tramuta.

Fastforwarding to June 4, Tramuta received another call. This time it was from the governor's office.

"HESC and the governor's office asked me if our Fredonia students could do a soft launch of the Excelsior application," said Tramuta. "So on June 6, the day before the application went live, I had 10 Fredonia students who actually went in and completed the application before anyone else saw it across the state."

Later that afternoon, Tramuta made contact with HESC and SUNY, requesting for a conference call. His focus group of students wanted to relay their experience.

Upwards of 40 screens were found in the application. If questions were answered in a particular way, the user's session would be terminated. Also during the soft launch, the focus group found that the application wasn't compatible on every web browser.

According to Tramuta, the focus group made a huge difference.

"Our students were terrific. They were

professional, they were strategic and they offered multiple suggestions to make sure that this application was tailored for student success," he said.

As a result of the focus group, the application's official launch was delayed from 12 to 18 hours later. Many of the students' suggestions were also implemented to adjust the application.

A total of just over \$2.2 million in scholarship money was dispersed amongst 557 undergraduate students this semester. Tramuta predicts that another 50 to 75 students will receive the scholarship once the Spring application period kicks off. This prediction is only a mere estimate though, since a date has yet to be set for the Spring application launch.

While many students across the state missed out on financial assistance because of the scholarship's late announcement, the program could see a similar situation come Spring time.

On Oct. 1, Cuomo gave an update on Excelsior's progress. He announced that 22,000 students attending public universities in New York have received the scholarship and said that the state "will continue to work to ensure that access to a college degree is not determined by family finances but rather is available to all who work hard and dream big."

Cuomo, who has declared that Excelsior is a first-in-the-nation program that provides tuition-free college, is up for re-election on Nov. 6.

His office refused to comment.

Excelsior by the numbers



TRAVIS LEFEVRE
The Scallion Editor

The Excelsior scholarship went into full effect this semester with approximately 12 percent of Fredonia's 4,631 undergraduates qualifying for the program.

In order to be deemed eligible for the scholarship for this current academic year, your aggregated gross income, or (AGI) must be below \$100,000.

Based on information provided by SUNY, a total of 45,281 students were deemed eligible to receive the Excelsior scholarship.

According to a statement from Cedric Howard, vice president of Enrollment and Student Services, 65 percent of Fredonia students who filed FAFSA (roughly 3,010 undergraduates) are above the \$100,000 mark.

As a "last dollar in" scholarship that is only applied after other scholarships take effect, the final number of Excelsior recipients at Fredonia, 557 in total, is only around 61 percent of the 899 students who were originally deemed eligible for the scholarship.

If a student's bill is completely covered by TAP, the Pell Grant, or any other form of financial aid, the Excelsior scholarship will not be applied to their bill.

In a press release from Gov. Andrew Cuomo's office from Oct. 1, the Excelsior scholarship is described as a "first-in-the-nation program providing cost-free tuition."

It could be argued that, due to the requirement that students must work in New York State for the same number of years they received the scholarship, the Excelsior scholarship isn't necessarily "cost-free." If

students were to leave New York state early, the scholarship would be converted to a interest-free loan.

The press release also hints that the scholarship played a large role in the fact that 210,000 students in New York state will be going to a SUNY or CUNY school tuition-free.

The press release from Cuomo's office states that there are approximately 22,000 scholarship recipients. While this is a relatively high number, it only contributes 10 percent to the 210,000 students who are in higher education tuition-free.

Currently, funding for the Excelsior scholarship comes from a \$87 million fixed allocation fund. According to the office of Sen. Catharine Young, the state budget has \$163 million in funding for this program.

The hurricanes have hurt more than just Puerto Rico

ALEXANDRIA NIEVES

Special to the Leader

Over a month since both Hurricane Maria and Hurricane Irma hit Puerto Rico, the American territory is still trying to get back to its original state.

Families are constantly worrying about their family members that are in any part of Puerto Rico.

While in constant contact with island residents, families are trying to get any update that they can on all of the mayhem that was left after the hurricanes.

One of Fredonia's staff members, Jose Rosario, has been a custodian at Fredonia for 40 years.

Jose Rosario's brother, Willie, currently lives in Santurce, Puerto Rico, 30 minutes away from San Juan.

Willie said to Jose, "I am happy, nothing happened. The house stayed up like Fort Knox."

Jose said, "I was very worried about him because we didn't hear anything." Jose and the entire Rosario family were worried to hear back from his brother after Hurricane Maria hit right

after Hurricane Irma. Willie contacted Jose the other day, and he is "doing great," Jose said.

Willie graduated from SUNY Fredonia, worked for American Airlines, retired and now lives in Puerto Rico.

"Hopefully he will be out of there soon," said Jose.

Also affected by the hurricane, Dunkirk Mayor Wilfred Rosas was trying to get in contact with his 79-year-old mother who moved back to Puerto Rico in 2007. Rosas asked everyone to help him get in contact with her so he'd know she's safe after the hurricane destruction.

About a month ago Rosas told WIVB that he couldn't reach contact with his mother. At the time, he had no idea if she was safe.

"The not knowing is the stressful part of this. Her last words to me were, she was praying to God and puts her life in the lord's hands." Rosas did eventually get in contact with his mother, who is doing well and is in good health.

Only handfuls of people have access to electricity, and most of Puerto Rico has been without power for weeks. Without electricity, everyone is having difficulties staying in contact

with their families here in the United States and people are dying because hospitals don't have the electricity to help everyone.

Though more than 75 percent of Puerto Rico has access to water, the United States territory is still trying to deal with the damages caused by the hurricanes and gain a new sense of stability.

“Families are constantly worrying about their family members that are in any part of Puerto Rico.”

Police Blotters

UNIVERSITY

Friday, Oct. 27, 2017

2:34 a.m. Nana Prahedwards was charged operating a motor vehicle without a license. An appearance ticket was given.

9:21 p.m. Matthew Solomon was charged with unlawful possession of marijuana. An appearance ticket was given.

Saturday, Oct. 28, 2017

3:30 a.m. Erin Donovan was charged with underage possession of alcohol. An appearance ticket was given.

3:30 a.m. Jacob Mazurkiewicz and Tyler Brill were charged with disobeying the sewer ordinance. Appearance tickets were given.

FREDONIA

Friday, Oct. 27, 2017

Samantha Hamilton, age 27, was charged with operating a vehicle without a license. An arrest was completed.

Darren Strong Jr., age 22, was charged with fourth degree grand larceny. He was held.

Maria Mankowski, age 19, was charged with unlawful possession of alcohol. An appearance ticket was given.

Dylan Moeser, age 19, was charged with disorderly conduct and possession of a fake license. An appearance ticket was given.

Sunday, Oct. 29, 2017

Nyrem Graham, age 18, was charged with disorderly conduct. An appearance ticket was given.

Andrew Bialy, age 18, was charged with littering, open container and underage possession of alcohol. An appearance ticket was given.

Ellis Renfroe, age 37, was charged with operating an uninspected vehicle, and operating a vehicle without a license. An appearance ticket was given.

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.

Battle of the New Bands rocks the MPR



Eerie Shores performs in the MPR at the Battle of The New Bands.
Bethany Clancy/Staff Photographer



The Fix competes at Battle of the New Bands.
Bethany Clancy/Staff Photographer



Vintage Pretty performs at this year's Battle of the New Bands.
Bethany Clancy/Staff Photographer

ELYSE GRIECO

Special to The Leader

The Music Industry Club (MIC) rocked the Multi-Purpose Room this past Thursday night with their annual Battle of the New Bands. This competition showcases some of Fredonia's most talented students.

It was created to give students an inside look on what it's like to work in the music industry world as well as how demanding it is to be a musician.

Over the course of a month and a half, these students, friends and strangers came together to form brand new bands. They were then in charge of recording their own EPs, consisting of two original pieces and a cover of their choice.

Each band was also in charge of finding their own manager who worked hard to gain publicity for their clients. A great effort was put in by every individual to piece together a show that would leave a long-lasting impression and hopefully snag them the title.

Kim Vanopdorp, a senior double major in music industry and public relations, is the president of MIC. Out of all four years of being involved in this event, Vanopdorp thinks

that this year's talent was something special.

"This was probably the most talented group of finalists we've ever had. Everyone that we heard was really great," she said.

Bands that participated in this competition started looking for members back in early September. Out of the five bands that submitted their EPs to the club's e-board, only three were chosen to compete in the battle.

"They have to do that all in under a month and a half. It's a really big time crunch for them, but that's the coolest thing about it. It's such a short amount of time," Vanopdorp said.

The stress level did not seem to put any of them behind.

The three chosen bands: Eerie Shores, Vintage Pretty and The Fix all came to the stage ready for a show.

Matthew Kowalski, a junior percussion performance major and drummer for Vintage Pretty, admitted that this competition was something he always talked about participating in.

"I heard about the competition through my friends who had asked me if I wanted to do it. We talked about playing together for a long time," he said. "I've known these guys for about three years now. We always talked about

doing this, and this was a good opportunity. I finally switched my major and I have more free time, so it was a really good coincidence that all of our times finally matched up."

The three participating bands played one set each.

Each set consisted of six songs, ranging from original compositions to covers by artists like Tom Petty and Childish Gambino.

The night came to a close with the crowning of the winning band, The Fix. They were chosen by a combination of the audience's votes, judges' votes and the performance of each band's manager.

Band member and junior music industry major, Kyle Lajoie, was extremely humble.

"I wasn't expecting much. We just came into it wanting to play for people. We also just wanted to get our music out, since we're obviously new. Social media can only do so much for us and we wanted to connect with people," he said.

Lajoie shared that his band had no future gigs scheduled prior to their winning.

Thanks to MIC and Last Call, The Fix will be able to play a show at Fredonia's local bar, BJ's in the near future.

Alison Pipitone: Buffalo Music Hall of Fame's newest inductee

BAILEY KUZMA

Special to The Leader

On Oct. 5, Alison Pipitone, an adjunct instructor for the Music Industry program here at Fredonia, was inducted into the Buffalo Music Hall of Fame.

"I've always liked music my whole life because my parents always had music on in my living room. They always played music," said Pipitone. "It was the days of [the folk era] so like Bob Dylan, Joni Mitchell [and] Leonard Cohen [were] always on, and so I grew up with it being very important. So that always continued."

Pipitone has always been attracted to songs and how they made her feel.

"I started playing guitar late, when I was like 18. That's when I really started playing. It was just so I could be in a band. That's why I started playing guitar. Then I found out I started to like writing songs," she said.

The first band Pipitone ever performed in was one she formed while living in Los Angeles. It was called The Monas and it was made up of her brother and two sisters.

"We didn't grow up together. My mother lived in California and my father was from the Buffalo area. So when I was 18 it was the first time we sort of all lived together, for the first time in many, many years. So for some reason we said, 'let's



Photo courtesy of the Buffalo Music Hall of Fame website.

start a band,' and so we started this punk band. It was an exciting time," said Pipitone.

The Monas lasted for about five to six years and played at all the clubs in L.A.

"We sort of had some success. So that was the first band I was ever in. And that was really the only band I was in until that band broke up because my sister moved to Colorado and then I moved back to New York. [And then I] just started doing solo stuff and had my own band," she said.

Pipitone moved back to Buffalo in the mid 1990s because she wanted to get away from the music business. But after she came back, her sister convinced her to go to Nietzsche's to sing in Michael Meldrum's weekly open mic. Meldrum liked what he heard and gave Pipitone a 45-minute songwriter spotlight.

Within about six months, Pipitone was signed to Dale Anderson's Hot Wings Entertainment.

"My band now is called the Alison Pipitone Band. It is now made up of two guitarists, I play guitar and a lead guitarist. And then drums, base and then a back up vocalist. Pat Shaughnessy is on drums, Graham Howes is lead guitar, Marc Hunt is on bass and Natalie Howes is on backing vocals," Pipitone said.

Over the past two decades, Pipitone has won countless awards, co-founded the Hamburg Music Festival, has released nine albums and has grown as a performer and educator.

Pipitone said she thinks of herself as a songwriter first, and then as a guitarist and singer.

Brews Under Review: Hang Time for a hangover



TRAVIS LEFEVRE

The Scallion Editor

I have no idea why anybody would let me write a beer review. I would hardly even call myself a beer novice.

Having recently turned 21, I always thought beer was trash. The only way I could get myself through a can of Bud Light or Busch is to shotgun it straight down the hatch. To my surprise, my world was shook when I had a taste of Hang Time, a seasonal Pale Lager at EBC.

I took a seat at the bar and awkwardly repositioned myself multiple times because I don't know the first thing about bar etiquette. Within a few minutes, I was given the glass of Hang Time.

Looking at the glass in front of me full of frothy lager, I considered my angle of attack for my first legitimate beer. What do I do with the foam? Do I drink that, too?

Apparently, the foam is called "the head," and, in short, Hang Time's head game is strong.

I ultimately decided to go in with an open mind and it paid off, big time.

So many thoughts went through my head.

How is this actually good? Is this what I've been missing with beer? Will "Firefly" fans ever get a reboot of the series? My mind was thoroughly blown with the revelation that good beer actually exists.

Without getting into the nitty gritty, there is absolutely no way I should have been able to drink any amount of alcohol due to the ungodly amount that I had the night before. I feel like it's safe to say that I should still be bedridden. However, even with my now-sensitive pallet, Hang Time went down smoothly and didn't give my stomach any fuss.

I hung out at the bar with my beer and watched the Bills game and pretended like I knew what was going on on the field. Like I said, I'm the last person who should be reviewing beer.

With most drinks, I have a tendency to get sick of it the more I have. But for Hang Time, the flavor didn't get old for me, and it's good to the last drop. It's a perfect beer for casual evenings and just to hang out with.

In beer speak, Hang Time has an ABV of 5.0 and an IBU of 25. I'm not entirely sure how either of those translate over to describe its taste, but I'm sure the beer connoisseurs that are

cringing at this column would like to know this information.

Having only delved into the cheap end of beers, I understandably had some negative preconceived notions about beer in general. I figured this would be a bad addition to a day meant to recover and recuperate, but all-in-all, Hang Time has to be my least regrettable alcohol related decision to date.

Like just about anything that has ever existed, there is no such thing as a perfect specimen and Hang Time is no exception. It's pretty good though, and I'm glad it was the beer that I lost my bar virginity to.

Rating: 4/5

Verdict: Hang Time was probably the best way to introduce me to beer that isn't readily available in a 30 rack. If you want to get into the beer scene, this is a good place to start.



Jesse Anna/Staff Illustrator



Step back into the strange town of Hawkins, Indiana

'Stranger Things' returns to Netflix



MOLLY VANDENBERG
Staff Writer

The long-anticipated season two of the science-fiction "Stranger Things" was released on Netflix on Oct. 27 with nine new episodes. This is a follow up to the first season that Netflix released in July 2016.

This second season takes place a year after the first. It was created, written, directed and co-produced by the Duffer Brothers.

The first season received critical acclaim with its eight episodes. For those who are unfamiliar, the show involves a mystery that takes place in Hawkins, Indiana in the 1980s. The moment the opening credits play, you're being transported back to a simpler time of "Ghostbusters" and Atari.

The initial plot from the first season centers around the disappearance of 12-year-old Will Byers, the search efforts for him led by his mother (Joyce) and friends (Mike, Dustin and Lucas) and the emergence of a young girl with mysterious powers.

The cast is full of well-known names, such as: Winona Ryder as Joyce Byers; Millie Bobby Brown as Eleven; Noah Schnapp as Will Byers; Finn Wolfhard as Mike Wheeler; Gaten Matarazzo as Dustin Henderson and David Harbour as Chief Jim Hopper, just to name

some of the characters.

Some new characters are introduced in the second season, such as Sean Astin as Bob Newby, who was Joyce's old classmate. You may recognize Astin as Mikey from "The Goonies." A challenge for the show will be attempting to find new actors that mesh well with the old ones.

This new season should also be introducing more storylines into the mix, like how Will is still recovering from his time escaping from the Upside Down, the return of Eleven and what happened to Chief Hopper.

If you really want to get into a series on Netflix but don't have the attention span — or the time — to keep up with shows that have multiple seasons with even more episodes, "Stranger Things" may be the best show for you.

It is perfect for those who don't like to "binge-watch." The story never feels to drag on, and the pacing within the episodes works very well.

The Duffer Brothers have confirmed that there will definitely be a third season. They are hoping to conclude the series with a fourth.

If you're a fan of Steven Spielberg, John Carpenter and Stephen King, check out "Stranger Things."

“The moment the opening credits play, you're being transported back to a simpler time of 'Ghostbusters' and Atari.”

The Cure for the Common Comedy has been found

The Second City brings plenty of laughs in time for Family Weekend

TEISHA MCELFRISH

Special to The Leader

Last Friday night, The Second City Touring Group kicked off Family Weekend by bringing the phrase “laughter is the best medicine” to Fredonia. As the weather is starting to cool off and summer is behind us, the troupe’s famous improvisation and anecdotal jokes were the perfect remedy to cure those fall blues.

This has been an anticipated event by the campus community, providing proud visiting parents and their college-aged kids a chance to bond through a night of laughter.

According to the Second City website, The Second City Touring Troupe opened its doors in 1959 and has been a stepping stone for those who want to make it in show business.

The troupe has been home to many different SNL alumni, including John Belushi, Dan Aykroyd, Gilda Radner and Tina Fey. The troupe is now one of the most highly sought after comedy groups in the United States, with its unique sketch and improv scenes that speak to the humor of every generation.

The group seeks to include diversity in their improv, with members of the LGBTQ community, those of color and minorities all being represented.

The cast on Friday night consisted of Alison Banowsky, E.J. Cameron, Mark Campbell, Katie Kershaw, Saurabh Pande, Jordan Savusa and Amy Thompson.

The event kicked off with a take on the modern-day millennial generation, with terms such as gluten-free, online dating sites such as Tinder and Christian Mingle and the impacts of today’s congress being poked fun at.

The troupe then began their well-known on-the-spot improvisation with suggestions from the audience, taken throughout the evening. The first suggestions were that of a teacher-student, an airplane and a bubble. The clan of seven then showed off their talents by creating scenes with each suggestion, the airplane being a crowd favorite.

Other suggestions throughout the night were Donald Trump, vacation and opera, with a “freeze” improv skit.

The Second City's **CURE FOR THE COMMON COMEDY**

Many important topics also were addressed throughout the night, such as hookup culture and feminism.

The group gave the audience what it promised through skits such as Brunch, where three working women gathered together and dramatized their stories on getting engaged.

“It’s only a Wednesday,” exclaimed Kershaw, as she gave her story on how she was tricked into going to the morgue to be proposed to.

Another crowd favorite during the evening was the mixtape skit, in which an audience member named Justine was pulled on stage with Banowsky, Kershaw and Thompson in their roles as engaged women. Cameron then stepped in and created mixtapes out of words from Justine, such as “camp counselor,” “Ferrari” and “Dame Judi Dench.”

The audience roared with laughter as Pande came on to the scene as a policeman, with one liners such as, “It’s 2017, why do you have a hand crank window?”

The troupe then broke out in song, creating a dance about Justine which received audience applause. The show ended with a skit revolving around the new world, with ideas being thrown out such as Universal Healthcare and equal pay for men and women.

Some more ideas that brought laughs were “no more cutting donuts in half; eat the whole donut,” and “no more crocs.”

Many Fredonia students came out to support the event and to get away from the stress of exams and deadlines.

“I came out to the event tonight to enjoy a night with my family,” said Danielle Jacobs, a sophomore biology major.

One major hit with the students was the privilege skit, which was funny but also addressed an important issue facing the United States today, which is that of stereotyping a person based on their gender or race.

“I thought overall it was funny but also had important hidden messages,” said Sam Schwartz, a sophomore liberal arts major.

As the troupe took a bow, they received a warm exit from the audience.

Those who didn’t get a chance to catch the event will have plenty more, as the comedy group tours all over the country with live shows every night in places such as Hollywood. The next stop for the cure will be at State College, PA on Nov. 3.



OPINION



From the Desk of Avril King, Social Media Manager

Help yourself

It's that time of year again. It's the middle of the semester, professors are assigning projects left and right and students are mixing their coffee with 5-Hour Energy in an attempt to get all of their work done.

As someone who has struggled with severe anxiety and panic attack disorder since the age of 9, I know how terrible this period of time can be. It feels like everyday, I wake up with a list of things about a mile long that I need to get done. In-between classes, an internship, a job and clubs, it's nearly impossible to find time to do my assignments, let alone eat, sleep or take a deep breath.

I know I'm not alone with this. A study from 2001 taken from the "Journal of American College Health" showed that only 11 percent of college students feel well-rested. In a survey by the National Alliance on Mental Illness, 64 percent of students that dropped out of college said they did so for mental health reasons.

So, how do we cope with this stress? College is not magically going to stop being difficult, and professors are not going to decide to give their students a break for the rest of the semester.

One term that has grown popular over the last few years is "self-care." Although this term carries different connotations for everyone, GoodTherapy.org defines it as "the actions that an individual might take in order to reach optimal physical and mental health."

The most common ways that people take part in self-care is by trying to exercise regularly, sleeping seven to nine hours each night, journaling and meditating.

However, most of us have heard of these remedies for stress before. What if we don't have time to incorporate these things into our over-packed schedule and what if they, quite simply, don't work for us?

After a little bit of research, I was able to come up with a short list of some simple self-care activities that will not take time out of your schedule. Hopefully you will find some tricks that you haven't tried yet.

- **Smile at people or give them a compliment:**

According to Shannon Battle, a life coach from North Carolina, complimenting someone else makes you feel good and like you are making a positive impact in the world. And who wouldn't feel great after making someone else's day?

- **Listen to your favorite music while you are getting ready in the morning or running to class:**

It should not surprise you to learn that hearing a certain song or artists can trigger certain emotions. However, listening to music can also do a lot for your physical well-being. Researchers in Europe have recently discovered that playing your favorite song can actually decrease your risk of heart disease because it triggers changes in your body that refine the lining of the blood vessels.

- **Take a short break by watching a YouTube video:**

It is important to give your brain a rest every so often when you are doing homework. Although this tactic is a bit dangerous because one video often turns into two, then five, and then you've wasted an entire night, limiting yourself to one YouTube video while you relax is excellent for getting out of your head. When we get stressed, we tend to ruminate over the things that are bothering us, which in turn makes us more stressed. Taking the time to think about nothing at all for a few minutes is a great way to reassess your situation and come back to your assignments with a clear head.

- **Let those F-bombs explode:**

Now, you probably shouldn't stand up and scream a swear word in the middle of your lecture. However, according to Dr. Neel Burton, expressing your frustration through a few choice words when you are struggling through an assignment can actually help you calm down and gain higher self-esteem. It can also make you feel like you have more control over a situation.

I hope everyone has a great rest of their semester, even if it is a little stressful. Don't worry, there's a light at the end of the tunnel!

EDITORIAL

Almost one year of Trump is the scariest thing about Halloween this year

Trump is the worst. We've said it time and time again. We've complained. We've yelled. We've shed actual human tears. And here we are a year later. The terrible Dorito man has almost been in office for an entire year and he hasn't gotten any better. He cannot act like a mature adult and he frequently says things that condone violence against large groups of people, specifically minorities. All he ever seems to do in times of crisis is take to Twitter like a giant toddler with his tiny baby hands.

It is no secret that Twitter has been an arena that Trump has utilized in order to broadcast his negative, ridiculous and unintelligent thoughts.

In 2013 Trump tweeted, "26,000 unreported sexual [assaults] in the military-only 238 convictions. What did these geniuses expect when they put men & women together?"

What did we expect? We don't know, maybe mutual respect between genders? Men and women working together in a productive and safe environment? Men and women able to fight for our country and not fight off sexual predators?

Sexual assault is absolutely unacceptable in any place of work. How we managed to elect a man who tweets such utter garbage is simply astounding.

He frequently calls the press "the enemy of the people" and let's not even get started on the concept of "fake news."

We, at The Leader, should have dressed up as the President's favorite

phrase for Halloween but alas. Perhaps another year.

When Trump was first elected and he began to spew his hateful garbage all over the place, we should have known then that his presidency would be a nightmare that gave Freddy Krueger a run for his money.

Unfortunately, he is the current president. He is still the leader of this country. People voted for him and continue to support him almost a year later. A year that has been filled with ignorance, hate and genuine fear from people that cannot stand by and let his words reign supreme.

A president is supposed to be a delegator, an inspiration to their fellow Americans, and the symbol of our nation. At most, Trump is an embarrassment to our country and makes America look like a joke. He hasn't even been in office for a year and has unraveled previous administrations' steps to improve universal healthcare, environmental issues, the freedom to protest, reproductive rights, gender equity in public bathrooms, justice for victims of sexual violence and the basic human right to exist in one's country without fear.

He is truly the scariest thing about Halloween this year and the fact that there's more time left to his presidency is the most unnerving thing to face in the years to come.

At this point, the good he would have to do by this country to make up for the damage he has done would be astronomical.

"A president is supposed to be a delegator, an inspiration to their fellow Americans, and the symbol of our nation. At most, Trump is an embarrassment to our country and makes America look like a joke."

Verbatim

What is your favorite emoji?



**Molly Barton, junior
social work major**

"Probably the crying-laughing face one. I feel like I use that one the most."



**Celina Kryk, junior
public relations major**

"I like the one that has two hearts. Like, the smaller pink heart with another one on top of it."



**Shannon Fitzgerald, senior
English major**

"I love the upside-down smiley face."



**Peter Dolce, sophomore
biology major**

"I guess the laughing face."



SuDi Wang/Staff Illustrator



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Bunk missing SUNYACs poses questions about academics and athletics

Women's tennis team bounced amid bizarre circumstances



CURTIS HENRY
Sports Editor

The Fredonia women's tennis team was ousted in the quarterfinal of SUNYAC play to SUNY Cortland at the start of the month. This was an unexpected early finish to what was otherwise a wildly successful year for the Blue Devils.

However, missing from the team as they took the court for the quarterfinal in Binghamton was a key cog in the team's rotation: freshman Sarah Bunk.

Bunk was en route to a historic season for the Blue Devils. Her 10-0 start to the season in singles competition tied her with teammate Anna Chiacchia for the most wins of all-time in a season for Fredonia. Opportunities to advance in SUNYAC competition could have supplied Bunk with her 11th and 12th wins on the year, surpassing the previous school record.

Instead, Bunk remained home during the weekend of Oct. 14-15 because of a conflict with her other passion and her major: music.

Bunk is a music education major and juggles her love for music and tennis in the Fall. Her participation in the school's music program and on an athletic team is an incredibly rare combination. Of all student athletes currently listed on Fredonia's athletic website, Bunk is one of only six that also commits time to the school of music. Her participation in Fredonia's orchestras and ensembles is with her primary instrument: the viola.

As a result of this commitment to music, Bunk was obligated to participate in the 60th Anniversary Hillman Opera Celebration Concert,

which was staged on Oct. 20 — five days after the completion of the SUNYAC tournament.

Although granted an excused absence from rehearsals by conductor David Rudge, Bunk faced a difficult decision. She could either participate in full in her athletics, or she could participate in full in the orchestra the following week.

"I was asked to excuse her for her tournament, which I did," said Rudge. "However, I told her that if she was unable to attend these rehearsals, she wouldn't be able to play as much in the Opera. She would play in the Opera, but not be able to play as much."

Rudge further explained the importance of these rehearsals.

"This is a really important show for all of us, make no mistake," he said. "Her being away that weekend would have caused her to miss out on six hours of rehearsals. I took the same approach that a coach would take with practice time in any sport. If you miss valuable practice time, there's a chance that you will miss playing time in the game."

For Bunk, the decision was a tough one that highlighted the sacrifices that come along with majoring in something as intensive as music while also committing time to a sport.

"I know he wasn't targeting me personally, as an athlete," said Bunk. "It was just a bad situation, and I didn't like that I had to choose between participating in one fully over the other."

As an NCAA division-III school, Fredonia's student athlete handbook does require course professors to grant athletes excused absences to participate in sporting events.

The policy reads as "when a student is directly participating in a university-sponsored program that takes him/her away from classes (e.g.,

athletics or research conference), the department sponsoring the program will provide the student with documentation . . . Such participation will be considered a valid reason for missing the work."

Although the policy is highlighted and seems to excuse student-athletes from conflicting classes based on athletic events, the ultimate decision as to whether or not a student can be excused from any given course comes down to the professor, as explained by Eileen Lyon.

"It is supposed to be an excused absence, but ultimately it is the professor's decision," said Lyon, who serves as Fredonia's Faculty Athletics Representative. "This is a case where the student was excused from her academics, but that excused absence was not without retribution. That is at the discretion of the professor."

Thus, the decision made by Rudge to excuse Bunk to play in SUNYACs on the basis of her time in the opera being cut down was one that was technically fair, although it was one that was tough. Time spent in rehearsals can't be made up in the same manner that a test can be.

When floated the idea of her classmates assisting Bunk with fine-tuning any musical pieces, Rudge stated that the workload would be less than ideal for other students.

"We were already running such intensive rehearsal schedules. It wouldn't be fair to ask others in the section to put in work to assist with someone who couldn't be at rehearsal. That would simply be too much work," said Rudge.

His acknowledgement of the workload is valid, but a member of the viola section made the claim that Bunk could have been caught up, should she have attended SUNYACs.

"I can't speak for the whole section, but I believe that we would have helped Sarah out if she had come to us and asked," said one of Bunk's section mates, who chose to remain anonymous. "We had already spent eight weeks rehearsing. At that point, we all felt pretty good. The weekend rehearsals Sarah would have missed were productive, but the tweaks we made could have been addressed within the section, I feel like."

This is, of course, all hypothetical. Bunk made the choice to stay home and put her academics first, rather than make the journey to Binghamton to participate in SUNYACs. The team was informed of her decision less than 24 hours before taking the court for the quarterfinals.



Courtesy of Fredonia Sports Information.

“We found out on Friday night at about nine [p.m.] that Sarah wouldn’t be there,” said team captain Olivia Miller. “It was stressful. That’s all I can say. None of us slept on Friday, we couldn’t have.”

The lack of Bunk’s presence from the tournament was felt in multiple waves. The team’s mindset was clearly altered without one of its best players in the lineup, and the loss of Bunk forced others on the team into new and unfamiliar roles.

Bunk spent virtually the entirety of the season playing second doubles for Fredonia alongside Adriana Speach. The two had forged incredible chemistry en route to an outstanding record on the season. Bunk’s absence thrust senior Chloe Karnisky into the role of being Speach’s doubles partner.

“I don’t blame them for the loss. There was no way for it to be prevented,” said Miller. “Anyone who knows tennis knows that when playing doubles, chemistry is so important. Having Sarah there would have made a world of difference.”

The team’s head coach, Greg Catalano, said that Bunk’s absence was not to blame for the team’s loss to Cortland.

“I told our young women that the other side of disappointment is opportunity,” Catalano said in a statement. “We were able to place someone in Sarah’s place that otherwise would not have had the opportunity. We can go on and blame the system for what happened, but it’s not useful.

“We will work on how to correct this situation for the future,” Catalano continued. “And hopefully Fredonia’s chance to become a state champion will prevail.”

While this is the sentiment you would expect from a coach as experienced as Catalano, his players were more certain of the match’s outcome had Bunk been present.

“Yeah,” Miller replied when asked if Bunk would have won her two matches at Binghamton. “Sarah wouldn’t have lost.”

Bunk reiterated this sentiment with a simple “I think I would have won against Cortland. I’m pretty confident.”

Her confidence is backed up by the fact that in their previous matchup with Cortland, Bunk claimed victories in both singles and doubles play. If available for SUNYACs, it stands to reason that Bunk could have flipped the best-of-nine score from 5-2 in favor of Cortland to 4-3 in favor of Fredonia.

With strong performances from Avril King in sixth singles as well as Mallory Mecca and King in third doubles, it stands to reason that Fredonia’s roster would have notched a needed fifth point and advanced past the quarterfinals.

The loss in the quarterfinals also prevented Miller, Chiacchia and Bunk from having the

opportunity to increase the individual win mark for the school to 12 apiece.

“It was frustrating to me that we had such a good season but were sent home so early,” said Miller. “We all had too good of seasons to get knocked out first round.”

Miller also brought up the commitment of being a division-III athlete and the priority it takes to commit yourself to a sport.

“All of us are here for our education, obviously. But I know that the opportunity to keep playing tennis factored into our decision to come here,” said Miller.

Miller brings up a valid point about division-III athletes. Athletes at this level do not receive academic scholarships or award for their participation in athletics. Thus, the commitment for athletes at the college level is a massive one with little to no reward, other than the love of a sport and competition.

Athletes at the division-III level often make their college choices coincide with their ability to pursue their sport for four more years at a competitive level. More than 99% of division-III athletes won’t play their respective sports professionally after college, meaning that participating in their sport at a competitive level while in college takes priority in many ways. When your college choice is influenced by athletics as much as it is academics, both facets of campus life tend to take on an equal priority.

Miller explained the frustration of the players by using a simple analogy.

“I get that it’s academics and that they are prioritized. But we have to find a balance.

“What bugged me the most is that she would miss playing time in the opera due to missing a rehearsal for SUNYAC championships. We would never cut someone’s playing time if they missed a practice because they had a performance,” Miller explained.

The wishful sentiment that Bunk could have participated in both activities to fullest capacity was shared by all parties involved. At the end of the day, the scenario with Bunk is not an isolated incident. It wasn’t the first time this has

happened, nor will it be the last.

Bunk’s conflict highlights the difficulty of maintaining a student-athlete lifestyle when the student aspect of your campus career involves something as taxing as music. It

also highlights the necessity for more specific policies regarding student-athletes and their respective sports. The

reality is that many athletes at the

division-III level

are recruited

in the same

manner as they

are at the division-I

level.

These athletes are

held to the same academic

standards as division-I athletes,

the same taxing practice schedules

as division-I athletes and are expected to

uphold the same ethical

standards as division-I athletes.

All of these expectations come with the harsh reality that none of these athletes are granted athletic scholarships.

Keeping that in mind, it is absolutely imperative to acknowledge that a division-III student-athlete should have a right to prioritize athletics as much as their academics. There is an obvious desire for more clear-cut policies for the student-athlete to be able to participate as both a student and athlete to the fullest extent possible in all circumstances.

For the time being, Sarah Bunk serves as a critical example of why the number of music majors in athletics is so diminutive. That

reason lies in the far too occurring sacrifice that accompanies being an athlete while also partaking in a program as taxing as music. Bunk

summed it up with one simple sentiment:

“I just wish things had been different.”

“The lack of Bunk’s presence from the tournament was felt in multiple waves. The team’s mindset was clearly altered without one of its best players in the lineup, and the loss of Bunk forced others on the team into new and unfamiliar roles.”

Fredonia has three top 10 finishers at SUNYACs

AIDAN POLLARD

Special to the Leader

On Oct. 28, the Blue Devils men's and women's cross country teams competed in the SUNYAC championship race hosted by SUNY Potsdam on a grueling and extremely hilly, looping course. The men came seventh out of 10 teams and the women placed fourth out of the same number.

In collegiate cross country, points are scored by the top five individuals from each team, with the sixth and seventh runners counting as displacement runners, who are scored only if there is a tie between two teams. Each runner scores points equal to his or her overall place in the race, and the team with the lowest score wins.

Brenna Donovan, a junior runner for the women's program, came ninth overall in the SUNYAC race with a time of 23:23.8 over 6000 meters, earning her a medal and a

spot on the podium.

"Honestly, just staying with everyone in the first three little loops [of the course] was important because in the last loop they were pulling away from me," said Donovan. "So if I let them get away then I wouldn't have even made the top ten."

Donovan was followed by junior Hannah Kurbs, senior Kristen Guarino, freshman Sarah Kurbs and junior Emily Maguire, respectively. The displacement runners were senior Madison Courtney and freshman Sarah Buckley.

"I'm very happy with everyone's performance. Especially our freshmen," said Donovan.

The Fredonia women scored a total of 110 points to come between third place New Paltz, and fifth place, Cortland. The meet was won by Geneseo.

The Blue Devil men had two podium finishers: Merlin Joseph, who came sixth overall in a time

of 27:13.7 and Ethan Francis, who came seventh in a time of 27:19.3, on the 8000 meter course. "A lot of it was just the hard work I did this summer," said Joseph. "I took a lot of time to reflect on the struggles I had last season, and it took a lot of time to get over it and it was time for a fresh slate."

Francis was inaugurated into the SUNYAC Hall of Fame after this race, due to his top 10 performances both in his sophomore year and this year. "It's pretty cool," said Francis. "Not a lot of people get to be in it, so it's nice to be added into SUNYAC and Fredonia history."

The scorers following Joseph and Francis for the men were sophomore Aidan Pollard, freshman Ryan Dunning and sophomore Kyle Egan. The displacement runners were freshmen Noah Watkins and Matt Erman.

The men scored a total of 158 points to come between sixth place Plattsburgh and eighth place New

Paltz. The men's race was also won by Geneseo.

All three podium finishers for SUNYACs have expressed a desire to make NCAA Division III Nationals, which requires a top 35 finish as an individual at the upcoming Atlantic Regional Championship to qualify. "I'm looking forward to being able to battle it out," said Donovan. "My eyes are still on [nationals]."

"It's a flat course, so there's nothing to stop me," said Francis. "I'm just gonna try to go out and close faster than I did today, and then hopefully qualify for NCAAs. I know even though my performance was the same as last year, I'm definitely a lot faster than last year."

The next event for the Fredonia men's and women's cross country teams is the Atlantic Regional Championship, which is being held by Houghton College on Nov. 11.

Editor's note: Aidan Pollard is a member of the Fredonia men's cross country team.

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The search for a new athletic director quickly wrapping up



AVRIL KING
Social Media Manager

Since 1997, SUNY Fredonia has known one person as the athletic director. Greg Prechtl was a Fredonia graduate with the class of 1969. He went on to serve as the head coach of the men's basketball team for 23 seasons, and he eventually took the position of athletic director.

In May of 2017, Prechtl retired having served the athletic department for 44 years.

Since that time, the search for a new athletic director has been underway. A search committee of nine members has dedicated its time to finding the right person to fill the position. Three of those members are student athletes.

The pool has been narrowed to four candidates, each bringing their own individual strengths, according to Jeff Meredith, a co-chair of the search committee and head coach of the men's hockey team.

"It's an important position," said Meredith. "It's an opportunity for a new era in Fredonia athletics."

The committee members are determined to choose the best candidate possible. That is why each candidate has gone through several rounds of interviews, met individually with former student athletes, and held public presentations on what they think a highly effective athletics department looks like.

According to Nicole Burrows, a member of the women's lacrosse team and one of three students on the search committee, these presentations were one of the most important steps in the search process.

"Our athletic department hasn't been doing well lately. We've kind of been in a stagnant spot," she said. "We have a lot of facilities that need to be replaced, redone. We need someone that's good at fundraising money for our department. We need someone that's transparent and can communicate well with the coaching staff and the student athletes as well."

Burrows is also vice president for the Student Athlete Advisory Committee at Fredonia. Therefore, how the next athletic director will interact with student athletes is one of her concerns.

"For the student athletes being able to talk to the director kind of shows . . . how an athletic director would be toward the student athletes and how they would react to certain situations that they might have," she said.

Communication outside of the Fredonia campus is crucial to the position as well.

"It's a pretty significant position because the athletic director not only leads the athletic department, but also oversees recreational programs for the community," said Eileen Lyon, Faculty Athletics Representative and history professor.

One candidate is Fredonia's own Megan Valentine. Beginning as the Assistant Director of Athletics and Recreation in 2010, she has since been serving as Interim Director of Athletics since Prechtl's retirement in the fall.

Beyond this are three other candidates: John Czarnecki, Athletic Director for Hilbert College; Gerald Fisk, Assistant Athletic Director at Elmira College; and Bill Wilson, Athletic Director at Pratt Community College.

From this time forward, the committee will reassemble to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of each candidate. Once the committee decides which candidate is the best choice, they will relay that information to Vice President Cedric Howard, who will ultimately make an offer to the first-choice candidate in about two-weeks' time.

Meredith is optimistic for the appointment.

"Freshman student athletes comprise about 15 percent of Fredonia's incoming freshman class every year, which is pretty substantial," he said. "Having a director that will be part of that and oversee that and have their new way of doing things, it's exciting to be a part of that process."

He, as well as everyone involved with the athletics department, is hoping for someone who is passionate about the school and its athletes. The person who fills that description, in their opinion, is the best candidate of all.

Men's basketball has big plans for upcoming season

JORDAN PURVIS
Special to The Leader

Last season the men's basketball team finished with a record of 10-15 and failed to reach the SUNYAC playoffs. The team hasn't been to the playoffs since the 2012-2013 season. Surely, getting back to the playoffs will be the team's top priority for the 2017-2018 season.

This year's senior class includes Dante Williams, Justin Tapper, Keith Ruiz, Ian Helps and Tommie Banks. When asking senior forward Ian Helps on what he wants to achieve before leaving Fredonia, he started by saying, "I have a couple things I want to do before I leave. For sure my first thing is giving Fredonia a SUNYAC championship."

Philip Seymore will be entering his fifth year as head coach for the

Blue Devils. When asking Seymore about areas of focus in offseason, he stated there are areas with room for improvement.


"We want to continue to improve on our defense from last year," said Seymore. "I believe that we will be a better rebounding team from the past this season. We know the better we take care of the basketball, the more opportunities we'll have to score and get easy baskets in transition."

Seymore needs to figure out how to overcome the loss of two key players sharp shooters, Richard De la Cruz and Kareem Brown. This past offseason was definitely an impactful one for Seymore and his coaching staff, as they added student athletes Derek Ice, Jonathan McDonald, Vinace Zangrana and a host of others.

Ice is a junior transfer from Jamestown Community College. He played 29 games for the Seahawks averaging 12 points, two rebounds and two assists per game. He is anticipated to have a big impact on the team this season.

The Blue Devils have a highly anticipated exhibition game against Fordham University on Nov. 3. The Fordham Rams are in NCAA Division 1, and currently compete in the Atlantic 10 Conference. Expect this game to challenge and provide a learning opportunity for the Blue Devils as they prepare for the rest of the season.

The Blue Devils will then kick off the 2017-18 regular season playing against Penn State Behrend on Nov. 15 in Erie, Pennsylvania.



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A sit down with Ian Helps



QUINTIN JAMES
Staff Writer

Coming into his senior season at Fredonia, forward Ian Helps has not only become the best player on the men's basketball team, but he has become a leader. It has been three years of learning and getting better and, now in his senior season, he's ready for one last run in the Fredonia blue.

Helps, in his three years at Fredonia, has been a consistent player on both the offensive and defensive ends of the floor. He has averaged 17 points, seven rebounds and one assist during his career so far. The former SUNYAC Rookie of the Year is looking to finish off his college career on a high note and lead this Blue Devil basketball team to more wins.

Sitting down with Helps, he shared his love for basketball and how playing early on in New York City molded his game and his attitude on the court.

"It's competitive, you have to work hard and I love it. That's basketball.

"Playing there [in NYC], you have to be tough at an early age. There's a lot of trash talk, it's inevitable, you can't let it get to you," said Helps.

Growing up in NYC, Helps was a Knicks fan, and his favorite player was Latrell Sprewell. Sprewell played for the Knicks in the early 2000s.

When asked about players he models his game after now, Helps named a few of the game's most versatile forwards.

"Blake Griffin and Anthony Davis because they can play in the paint, pass, handle the ball and shoot. They have all the intangibles."

Helps' freshman year at Fredonia was a learning experience both for the team and for himself. The adjustment to college ball was a bit of a challenge, and the team suffered a ton of losses. Their final record stood at 2-22. These losses were tough, but Helps and his teammates gained valuable experience through them.

"You have to learn a lot from losses. It's rough, but the best teacher is experience. Coach has been on me about getting better after losses.

"Coming into freshman year, I wasn't as strong and the game was more psychical and the guys were stronger. After our last game, I went to the assistant coach and we started a training regimen in the offseason."

This offseason, Helps worked on a few things to not only better himself, but also his teammates. With a lot of the opponent's attention focused on him, Helps is working on finding teammates easy shots when opponents try to double team.

"I wanted to be a better shooter with, free throws and jump shots. I worked on passing a lot as well, making my teammates better and helping out the offense."

When the question was asked if three-point shooting was going to be a part of his game this year, he jokingly laughed and said "you never know" but reiterated that he's not a shooter.

Free throw shooting has been one aspect of Helps game that he's struggled with at Fredonia, and he explained how working on his free throw shooting and also his mid-range jumpers will make him more of a threat this year.

The individual accolades are nice and look good on paper, but Helps and the rest of his teammates want to win and are motivated. He explained that he's hungry and has put in the work in the offseason and is looking forward to the season starting.

"I want to go out and win. Stats don't matter, I've done enough. I'm hungry to win. If we work hard every day, the wins will come."

A playoff berth is a goal of Helps and should be for the rest of the team. Helps wants to leave a mark at Fredonia and wants to be remembered as a player who did it the right way.

"I want to be remembered as a guy who left it all on the floor, no shortcuts, [and] someone who played their heart out every game."



Ian Helps (23), a senior on Fredonia's men's basketball team.

Angelina Dohre/Photo Editor

"You have to learn a lot from losses. It's rough, but the best teacher is experience," said forward Ian Helps.

Sabres Roundup

They're digging a hole they might not climb out of

DYLAN WEBB

Special to The Leader

Well Sabres fans, I wish I had better news for you. I could try to paint a better picture of this team. I could sprinkle in some fancy stat words to try and explain what's going on. But the fact of the matter is this: the Sabres have been bad.

Through two weeks of the season, Buffalo is already scraping the bottom of the barrel, and there doesn't seem to be many solutions on the horizon. After showing a lot of promise opening night against the Montreal Canadiens, that have not found their footing yet either, the Sabres followed it up by losing seven of their first eight games. This is all en route to the Sabres having the second worst division and conference record through two weeks. So what exactly has transpired to leave the Sabres in such a place so early on?

To start off, the goaltending has been, well, underwhelming. Robin Lehner has been a middle of the pack goaltender his entire career and that

is exactly how he has played to start the season, ranking 26 out of 47 eligible goalies in goals against average. Had it not been for a shutout victory against the Detroit Red Wings that number would have been higher, but we'll give him the benefit of the doubt.

The problem, in truth, lies in backup goalie Chad Johnson. In his seventh year in the league, Johnson is coming in as the 44 ranked goalie with six appearances under his belt. Combined these two have let up 44 goals through 12 games for the second worst mark in the NHL. The only team that has allowed more goals? The 0-10-1 Arizona Coyotes, who have let up 48 through 11 games. If the Sabres want to have any kind of impact this season, something needs to change at goalie.

Now goaltending is, admittedly, a fickle thing. This is also a season where Montreal Canadiens' goalie Carey Price, former Vezina Trophy winner, finds himself ranked just two spots above Johnson as the 42 ranked goalie. Things can and will change as the season develops, so early struggles at goalie can sometimes be overlooked.

But even if Lehner starts putting up better numbers, the offense needs to get clicking if the Sabres are to have any hope of making a run this year. Just for the sake of comparison, the Sabres have put up 29 goals so far this season. The Minnesota Wild have put up 30. The difference? The Wild have played nine games this season, while the Sabres have already played 12.

Now yes, I am comparing a Minnesota team that finished second in all the western conference last season to a Buffalo team that finished second to last in all the eastern conference, but the point stands. The Sabres have simply not been scoring goals, ranking 27 out of all 31 teams in goals per game. While the team's stars have been playing like they should, with Evander Kane and Jack Eichel leading the team in goals and assists respectively, the defense has actually yet to score a goal. And the best plus/minus on the team? Jason Pominville, with a plus three. If a more varied offensive attack doesn't start surfacing soon, this season might just be done before it really gets started.

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THE SCALLION

Melissa Neuburger/Special to The Leader

Student's report temporary superintelligence from contaminated water



JACLYN SPIEZIA
Staff Scallywag

The multiple water main breaks that occurred last weekend left Fredonia students to boil water before consuming it, as the water was contaminated. Prior to checking their emails, however, many students accidentally consumed the contaminated water by either drinking it or brushing their teeth.

At first, some of these students were feeling a bit sick and nauseous. Although the water is now clear and clean, some of these students have started to notice after-effects. Mutations include growing an extra appendage, whether it be a toe or a finger, as well as the discoloring of the belly button. Many students' belly buttons have turned blue.

Probably the strangest effect of all, however, was the report of superintelligence. There are a few students with documented cases.

"I went to take my genetics exam, and I swore I was going to fail it. I had barely studied, but when I got it back, I got the highest score in the class!" one student told reporters for The Scallion.

A female student said, "I started to have a tingling in my fingers, and all of a sudden I knew all of the answers to my professor's questions in class. I had the urge to raise my hand and I answered every one, whereas normally I sit quietly and keep to myself. After class my professor asked what had

come over me, and instantly I started talking to her about the theory of relativity, which I would normally know nothing about. Quite frankly, I was scared of myself." Most of the other students did not want to comment.

No one wanted to reveal their identity in fear of losing their newfound gift of superintelligence. How do we know they are superintelligent? We had them each take IQ tests to confirm the statement. However, one such student thinks that this superintelligence is only temporary and believes his is wearing off.

"I thought I didn't need to practice piano anymore because my fingers could easily slide across the keys without making any mistakes. I didn't study for my piano practical thinking that I would do just fine, but instead I mixed up a few of the keys," he said.

Therefore, since this effect seems to have a time limit, LoGrasso is urging professors to postpone exams until we can confirm that all students have lost their superintelligence as it is putting them at an unfair advantage in class.

After all, it's not like these water breaks happen often anyway. Although, we at The Leader definitely wish that we had gotten a taste of some of that superintelligence.



Hayley Patterson/Staff Illustrator

“*Nothing screams relaxation like committing a felony.*”

The Daredevil's Guide To Stress Relief

By: DOMINIC MAGISTRO
Special to The Scallion



Midterms are stressful and the work doesn't stop. Unhealthy coping mechanisms are common on college campuses, and that's why I've enlisted the help of Ken Evil, local stuntman, to compile this list of the top five ways to handle residual stress after midterms are over.

1. Skydive without a parachute

Six people have done it before, so why not be the seventh? If you can successfully survive a free fall without a parachute or other device, it's the pinnacle of stress relief. You just feel so weightless and, when you're laying on the ground with all of your bones broken, the only thing you can possibly think is, "Wow. This hurts. A lot." It's an elite club and you only get one chance, but you might just be among the lucky ones. If you aren't, there's no need to worry, because at least you won't have to worry about registering for classes next semester.

2. Contact the literal Devil

Well, they don't call him a daredevil for nothing. It's very easy to contact the man downstairs and bind him to your will. Then you can literally dare the Devil and make him do anything you want. Want to test the weightlessness of a free fall and whether or not it's survivable? Make him jump out of a plane. Want to get the apocalypse in full swing? Command him to have a child and get that Antichrist magic working. There are a couple of very serious hazards with this one, so don't try it at home. Make sure you have your circle made of salt to protect you from the lesser demons. Don't forget to anoint the binding circle with blood or he'll just be awakened, not imprisoned and bound to your will.

3. Swim across the Pacific Ocean

Swimming the English Channel is boring, overdone and overrated. There is only one way to truly relieve your stress: do something new and interesting. Everyone knows a nice dip in the pool can be calming. The beach is the perfect place to tan and let your heart soar with relaxation. The approximate 12,300 miles of swimming will make your mind ready for a nice day at the beach. Throughout your journey, the fish pee, salt and constant threat of creatures from the deep will keep your mind off of your horrid midterm grades, stressful advising week and those pesky holds on registration because of unpaid tuition bills.

4. Call in a bomb threat at Thompson Hall

Nothing screams relaxation like committing a felony. You'll never have to worry about midterms again because no college will want to admit a felon. The criminal record isn't the only benefit, though. The prison sentence will give you plenty of jail time to calm those nerves and quiet the voices in your head. Bonus points if you cause a midterm to be cancelled and other students don't have to go. Double bonus points if you call in two bomb threats at Thompson Hall in two weeks. Triple bonus points if you get at least eight police cars on the scene.

5. Nap it all off

Above all else, there's nothing like spending a few hours in your dorm room decompressing. There's no need to worry if you have a good, long nap. After every extreme stunt, Ken Evil goes back to his trailer and lays on the bed like a king, enjoying the peace and quiet of his own home. Curl up and catch some Z's. You deserve it. Especially after advising week.

Dulcinea Lord/Special to The Leader

David S. Pumpkins temporarily released from SNL dungeon

EMMA PATTERSON

Assistant Scallion Editor

Since last year's surreal Halloween episode, fans of SNL have been waiting for one man and one man only — David S. Pumpkins — to make his Halloween debut. An SNL intern discovered exactly where the seasonal SNL characters are kept when he was instructed to obtain Pumpkins for this year's Halloween episode.

"I guess there's a nicer way of saying this, but it's essentially a dungeon," the intern, who wished to remain anonymous, told The Scallion. "I couldn't believe what I saw when I went in."

The intern came upon a disturbing sight: David S. Pumpkins, last year's Diva of Halloween and "his own thang," in a fetal position, repeatedly muttering, "I'm David Pumpkins" under his breath.

Pumpkins reportedly pleaded with the intern to release him earlier in the season.

"You gotta let me out of here," he allegedly shouted from his fetal position. "This is MY TIME. Who else is gonna eat the candy corn left out by children? Who else is gonna throw toilet paper on people's houses? Who else is gonna yell 'ANY QUESTIONS?!' at unsuspecting strangers?!"

When the intern denied his request for permanent freedom, Pumpkins became somber.

"It's just me, Debbie Downer and Stefon down here," he said, wiping the dirt off his pumpkin suit. "I don't think I can take this for much longer."

When asked what he did in the dungeon, Pumpkins shrugged. "I mainly practice my finger guns and killer dance moves," he said. "You know, like any normal Halloween character."

After being released for the 2017

Halloween season, Pumpkins knew he needed to share his story.

"I guess my mom was wrong," he said sadly. "I'm not special enough to be my own thang."

"He has a mom now?!" The intern said incredulously. "I have literally thousands of questions. His story just keeps unfolding!"

As the SNL magistrates debate Pumpkins' fate, the Halloween Santa is making the most of his time spent outside the dungeon.

"It's not all bad," he said. "I have a new Halloween special coming out, I just got my hair done and it seems like the world may end soon anyway," he said enthusiastically. He put his arm around the skeleton man sitting next to him. "Plus, I have my best friend, Right Skeleton, with me through thick and thin." When asked about the whereabouts of Left Skeleton, Pumpkins' expression looked grave.

"He disappeared not long after last Halloween. He was the only one of us to escape. No clue where he is now."

An anonymous report claims Left Skeleton was last seen drinking coffee and looking contemplative at a truck stop between an Arby's and a tombstone engraver somewhere in the greater

Minnesota area.

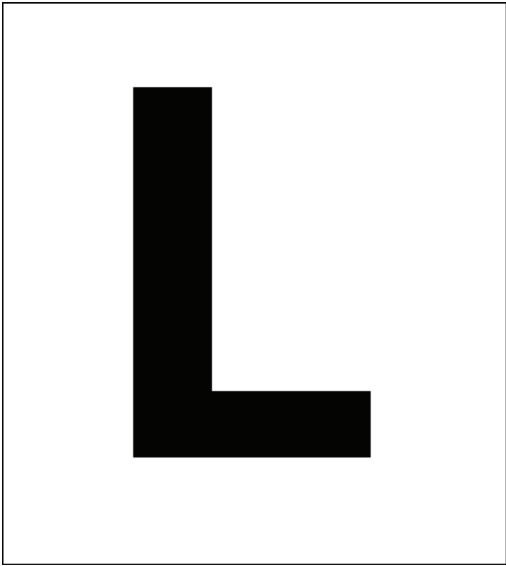
"Wherever he is, I hope he's free," David S. Pumpkins said. "Now if you'll excuse me, I have to go buy a new pumpkin suit. This one is covered with rat hair and dungeon slime."

The Scallion was informed by the intern that the David S. Pumpkins Halloween special would be in cartoon form, a fact the intern simply didn't have the heart to tell Pumpkins.

"He's a gentle soul," the intern said sadly as he watched Pumpkins prepare for his SNL comeback. "I'll let him live his little fantasy . . . until Nov. 1."



Alissa Salem/Staff Illustrator



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ALBERTO GONZALEZ

Staff Scallywag

Monday, Oct. 23, 2017

Uncontrollable screaming was heard coming from outside of the library around 10:30 p.m. Upon investigation, it was discovered the screams were coming from an excited Pokémon Go player who had caught a shiny Sableye.

A large group of squirrels were seen drinking out of a puddle. One frustrated thirsty student began to join them until there was a scuffle between the student and the squirrels over the water. University Police arrived and gave the squirrels a bottle of water.

Tuesday, Oct. 24, 2017

A student was seen marching around campus in what appeared to be a drunken stupor screaming to anyone who would listen about the benefits of drinking the “glorious rain water.” He became combative with people with bottles of water. Medics arrived and sedated him and took him in for treatment for drinking stagnant water.

A report of water bottles being stolen at a high frequency was filed on campus. With some investigating it was discovered that the local squirrel population had been stealing them and puncturing them to drink the water. It was also noted that they all seemed to recycle the bottles.

Wednesday, Oct. 25, 2017

Two freshmen were seen getting into a verbal altercation over the last advising spot on Friday. It was resolved when they were told by their advisor that he did not make their schedules and they couldn't be advised until they had a schedule mock up already made. They still have not been advised at the time of this publication.

A little girl's laughing was reported by multiple people in the library around 11:30 p.m.; the closer the laughing the less electronic equipment worked. After investigating the source of the laughing, a small vintage doll was found. It was taken into evidence but has since disappeared.

Two students on campus were caught with open containers. University Police showed up and immediately told them to close their containers so that nothing spilled out.

Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017

A student jokingly told his friend on the way to class that he was glad the bomb threat worked because it meant he got to skip a test. Police were tipped off and the student was taken into custody for questioning. Right as the student was explaining that they did not actually call in the bomb threat, another bomb threat was made, and the student was released.

Friday, Oct. 27, 2017

A party was broken up in Nixon when a student invited her RA to the party. When breaking up the party the RA found four other RAs, an RD and a professor doing a keg stand. The matter is still being looked into.

