

# THE LEADER

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# The Leader

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# NEWS

## President Horvath responds to racial incident



**CLAIRE O'REILLY**  
Editor in Chief

President Virginia Horvath released a statement regarding the latest racial incident that occurred in our community last weekend:

*"Dear Campus Community,*

*Some of you may be aware that another incident of racial bias has occurred this weekend within the Fredonia community. After an alleged altercation off campus, a Fredonia student posted a disgusting racist message on social media, and the image and racial slur were then shared widely. Racism and acts to demean others based upon their identity have no place in our community. This behavior does not reflect the University's values of being a place of welcome and respect for all, and we have an obligation to call these acts out and hold those accountable to the fullest extent possible by our policies.*

*I am working with leadership across campus as we continue to gather information related to this issue to determine next steps. I will send another update to the community by the end of this week.*

*I encourage all to continue to dismantle intolerance, hate, bias, bigotry, and ignorance. For any student, faculty, or staff member in need of support, we encourage you to seek help through the Counseling Center, Intercultural Center, the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and each other. Together, we can demonstrate that Fredonia is a welcoming place for all.*

*Virginia S. Horvath  
President"*

There will be more information to follow in our next issue, coming out Wednesday, Feb. 21.



**On the Cover:**  
A close up of ice using macro lens. Jessica Tompkins/  
Design Editor

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- From the desk of Travis LeFevre, managing editor (pg. 16)
- The U.S. has a new 17-year-old snowboarding prodigy (pg. 18)

# Vice President Cedric Howard wins award for outstanding performance



**JAMES LILLIN**  
Staff Writer

Vice President of Student Affairs Cedric Howard has only been working at Fredonia since August of 2016, but in that time he's been busy making waves in admissions, enrollment and residential life. In recognition of his work, Howard has been named as the recipient of the 2018 Scott Goodnight Award for Outstanding Performance as a Dean.

"Scott Goodnight was the founding chair of the organization that is now known as NASPA, the organization which most student affairs professionals are affiliated with, and it kind of governs our work as a profession," said Howard.

Howard's work with NASPA goes back for years, having served as a regional representative for NASPA and as a chair for one of its regional planning committees. In 2013, Howard won the western regional version of the Scott Goodnight award, but the path that got him there was a long one, starting as an undergraduate at Georgia College.

"I was very involved, I was a resident assistant, which led to me being an assistant housing director my senior year," said Howard.

Howard also served as an intramurals event coordinator, the president of a greek letter organization and as a student government representative, but it was a conversation with Paul Haufman, Georgia College's VP of Student Life, that set Howard on the path to school administration.

"I said I wanted to be a Human Resources VP for a Fortune 500 Company," said Howard. "His

exact words for me were, 'Eh, that's boring ... you're a student affairs type.'"

Hoffman then helped Howard secure a place at the University of Tennessee, where he pursued his masters in higher education administration, as well as a job as the Coordinator of Student Programs at the university itself. It was at the University of Tennessee where Howard first met his wife, who he credits as being vital to his professional and personal success.

"My wife has been the stabilizer that has helped my kids feel like they didn't have to give up anything," said Howard. "My wife and my mother have always been there for me, and they are the reason that I am where I am now."

After graduate school, Howard began working his way up the career ladder of academia, developing an impressive and diverse resume of jobs and skills. This eventually would lead him to the University of South Florida in 2002, where he first began honing his skill in enrollment management while working to start their department of Student Affairs.

"How I got into enrollment management was, really, a mistake," said Howard. "During my second year they realized they didn't have anybody to oversee enrollment management so they said, 'we want to expand your portfolio.' When I took over enrollment the school had 2,700 [students]. When I left, we were just under 6,000. That was in the span of four years."

Howard dedicated himself to involving students in the admissions process, asking them what their desires were, and removing the barriers faced by students throughout the

process. His work with Fredonia's admissions team is already paying dividends, with Fredonia welcoming its second largest freshman class on record this year.

"He really did a great job because he is an enrollment specialist," said Fredonia President Virginia Horvath. "... That's why I was so eager that he was a candidate and so eager to hire him, because he knows that field. He's been able to look at the way we've always done things here and say 'that didn't make sense,' and make real changes to the system."

Some of those changes include eliminating the cumbersome process by which batches of applications were looked over by committee, and expediting the process by making sure students who already meet Fredonia's academic standards receive their acceptance decision and an initial financial aid amount within five days of applying.

"Coming in, I realized we didn't have a recruitment issue, we had an admissions issue," said Howard. "Over the past three years this has been the caliber of student we knew we would admit to Fredonia. So why don't we just admit them? Why wait until February or March?"

Howard credits the sustained interest in Fredonia among prospective students to its excellent Performing Arts and STEM programs, but also notes that the uniquely collaborative environment at Fredonia makes it stand out from the rest.

"I think the thing that really differentiates us from other institutions is the 'Fredonia Family,'" said Howard. "It's not something you could necessarily understand just looking at it from the outside. This place is a family that cares about you, and the students and staff here care about both how you're doing, and how you actually feel."

Howard is modest about his effect on the institution, stressing that he's only a part of the excellent admissions and marketing teams that are working to revitalize Fredonia. His contributions, however, have definitely impressed Horvath.

"I see in him creativity, expertise and professionalism in his field, and he's genuinely committed to student success in all ways," said Horvath. "He has great ideas that you haven't even seen yet about what the residential experience here should be like. It's what made me really excited that we could get Cedric Howard here and it has not disappointed. He has exceeded even my already-high expectations."



Photo courtesy of Fredonia Media and Communication Dept.

**Fredonia Vice President Cedric Howard recently received the 2018 Scott Goodnight Award for Outstanding Performance as a Dean.**

# Fredonia experiencing little effect from worst flu season in decade



**SETH MICHAEL MEYER**  
Assistant News Editor

Wash your hands, cover your mouth and stay home if you feel ill. Few messages are more important than these as people across the country continue to brace themselves against an influenza season that, according to the New York Post, is “as bad as the swine flu epidemic nine years ago.”

USA Today reported that almost eight percent of visits to health care providers in the first full week of February were for flu-like symptoms. This is similar to the swine flu epidemic of 2009.

When it comes to college students, the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases find that 70 percent of undergraduates agree that getting the flu shot is important.

However, that does not reflect the amount of students who receive the flu shot, a shocking range of 8 to 39 percent. This fails in comparison to a 43.3 percent of all adults who received a flu vaccination last year, according to the Center for Disease Control (CDC).

In February of last year, the lethargy from college students to get the flu shot caused the largest influenza outbreak in decades. Within just two weeks, The College at Brockport saw 375 cases of the flu amongst their students, as NBC reports.

In an interview with NBC, Libby Caruso, director of Brockport’s health and counseling services, said, “I’ve been here 26 years and I have never seen anything like it . . . At its peak, we were seeing 50 students a day.”

The State University of New York system has been distributing free influenza vaccines to their schools for years, and Brockport is no exception. Even with zero cost, students are not compelled to get vaccinated.

Tori Martinez, one of the many Brockport students to contract the flu, told NBC, “Flu vaccinations just don’t seem like a necessity. I’m young and healthy. Even if I get it again, my body will fight it off within two days.”

So far, Fredonia is off to a relatively good start in combating the flu. Debby Dibble, the Director of the Student Health Center at Lo Grosso, says that flu contraction on campus is “a relatively small number,” and that “some of the kids that we have sent to the

hospital to get tested have come back as being negative.” “We’re seeing a little bit of everything,” Dibble said. The number

For those who do have the flu or symptoms of it, “toughing it out” is not an option, especially for the sake of healthy classmates.

“If they meet all of the criteria of the flu,” Dibble said, “we do not want them to be attending classes.”

If a student does have the flu and needs to be taken out of class for more than three days, the Health Center will contact Student Affairs on behalf of the student to excuse their absences. This leaves less worry for those avoiding treatment to maintain a good attendance record.

“I recommend that everybody gets the flu shot . . . regardless of how much of the flu viruses are covered in that flu shot, it still bolsters your immune system,” Dibble sanctioned.

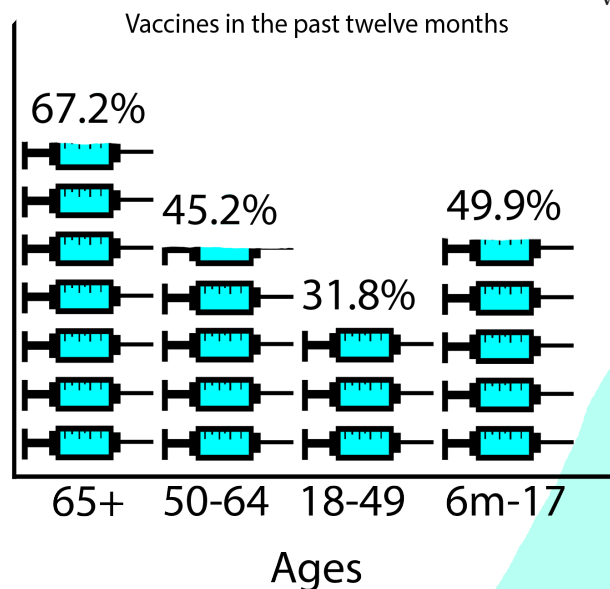
Along with vaccination, Dibble suggests simply taking care of oneself by getting enough sleep, staying hydrated, etc.

Despite the low number of cases of the flu here at Fredonia, there are many things to remember:

- Influenza is still on the rise. Dr. Anne Schuchat, the Director of the CDC reports, “We may be on track to break some recent records.”
- The 375-case outbreak at Brockport last February started, according to NBC, with “10 students complaining of high fevers, sore throats and coughs.”
- Even though someone may feel well,

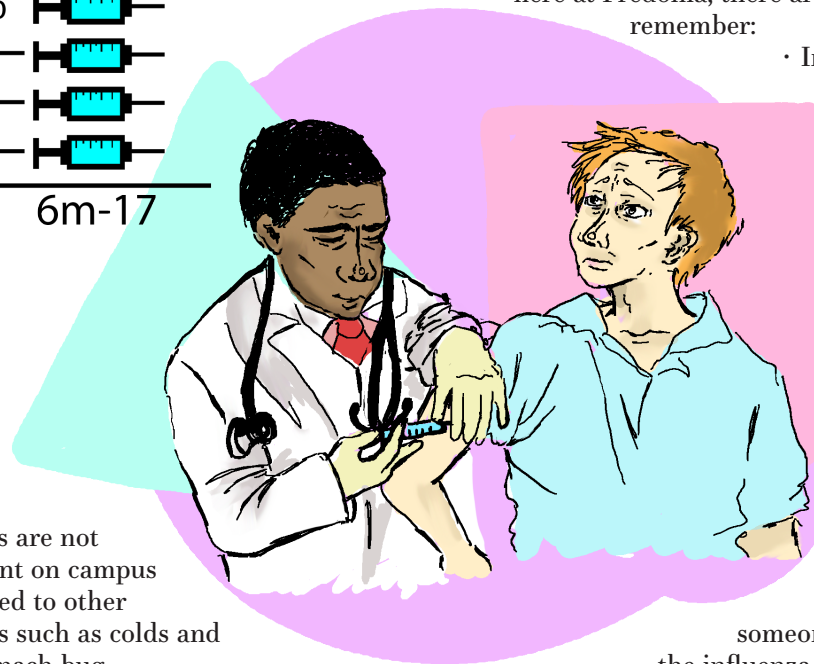
the influenza can be carried asymptotically up to 30 percent of the time (Harvard Health Publishing).

- The flu this year is deadly, claiming at least 63 children as of Feb. 3 in a flu season starting back in October. Wash your hands, cover your mouth, stay at home if you feel ill and get vaccinated.



of flu cases are not dominant on campus compared to other illnesses such as colds and the stomach bug.

The Health Center at Fredonia does not test for the flu, Dibble confirmed. Those who have flu-like symptoms may be sent to Brooks Memorial Hospital in Dunkirk for testing. But along with other SUNY schools, Fredonia does offer influenza vaccines while supplies last. “This year we have given away 300 flu shots and no longer have any here at Lo Grosso,” said Dibble. With no more flu shots to distribute, Dibble recommends those who haven’t been vaccinated to go to the local pharmacies for the vaccine, assuring that most health insurers cover the cost.



# Fredonia on ice

## A look into how campus deals with winter weather

**CHELSEA ANN BARON**

Special to The Leader

What's the deal with all the ice around campus?

If you haven't seen it, you've probably heard about students slipping in parking lots and on the sidewalks.

Alex Wagner, a sophomore international studies and Spanish major, has experienced the ice firsthand. She's slipped more than once while on her way to classes.

Where does she slip the most? On her way from Hemingway Hall.

"I honestly think it's part of keeping the student[s] safe to have a good plow system, and they're failing," said Wagner.

Other students have experienced the ice and snow a little farther away from the academic buildings.

"I parked in about three inches of snow in the townhouse lot," said Katie Fink.

Fink, a junior chemistry major, also mentioned how she slipped on black ice while walking from the townhouses to her car.

"Fredonia gets so much snow and they still don't know how to clean it up," said Fink.

Are the grounds employees actually failing, or is there more behind it?

After speaking with Kevin Cloos, director of Facilities Services, and Richard Newton, head grounds supervisor, it was evident that they are working as hard as possible to keep the grounds clear.

"When cars are parked in the lots, there isn't much the plows can do," said Cloos. "We can't get in between cars. We can't get to the parking lots, we're just stuck."

Newton also mentioned how difficult it is to plow on campus when the crew has to pause and wait for students walking to and from classes.

"When the students are walking to classes, it makes it tough to get down the sidewalk. We have to sit there and wait," said Newton.

There are 10 employees, including Newton, working to keep the eight miles of sidewalk, three and a half miles of road and over 3,000 parking spaces cleared and salted.

Cloos said, in total, there are roughly 21 acres of paved areas on campus.

Out of the 10 employees, only five of those are "seasoned employees," meaning they are trained on all of the equipment.

Although the grounds personnel are in charge of keeping most of campus cleared, places such as entrances, exits, handicap ramps and stairways

are the responsibility of the custodial staff.

Why is there still ice everywhere? There is only so much that salt can do.

"If it gets below a certain temperature, the salt doesn't work very well," said Newton.

"Each storm is different," he said. "When it's snowing out, it's a waste to put salt down."

This is because when the plows come through, the salt gets removed before it's had time to melt the ice.

Salt used in parking lots is more effective because of the weight and friction of vehicles, whereas sidewalks receive less traffic.

Like the salt, plowing only helps so much if the snow continues to fall.

"We may have cleaned [pathways] 20 minutes before class, but it snowed so heavy by the time [students] go to class they don't even realize we were there," said Cloos.

As does every job, the grounds crew has its priorities.

Roadways are top priority so emergency vehicles can access campus. Commuter lots for faculty and staff must be cleared, as well as the sidewalks.

"We make sure the areas around the busiest buildings are taken care of first," said Newton.

Dorm buildings where disabled students live are another top priority.

"We work with the Office of Student Disabilities and they provide a list of the routes and the locations [of] the students, [their] schedule[s], ... what [residence] hall they

live in and what building their classes are in, so [that] we can try to anticipate getting out before they do," said Cloos.

Timing is everything. Dorms and academic buildings are taken care of around 7 a.m. to make travel the most efficient.

If the temperature is in the low teens, it's safe for students to assume the salt is not working properly.

**"If the temperature is in the low teens, it's safe for students to assume the salt is not working properly."**



## Weekly Specials

### Monday:

11:00am-Close:  
\$0.50 boneless wings & half off pizzas!

### Tuesday:

5:00pm-Close:  
Kids eat free!

### Wednesday:

\$10.00 burger special!

### Thursday:

8:00pm: Trivia Night! \$5.00 pitchers and apps. Gift certificates available! \$5.00 FREE for every \$25.00 purchased!

# New workshops set up for student success



**ANGELINA DOHRE**  
Photo Editor

A new semester brings new opportunities for Fredonia students. The Office of Campus Life has developed weekly Student Success Workshops. These events will cover a broad range of topics that are beneficial for life during and after college.

The workshops were a new initiative started by Director of Campus Life, Mark Suida. He said the office has always facilitated workshops in leadership, community service, event planning and more.

“The Student Success workshops were specifically designed to allow students the opportunity to be exposed to workshops that focus on both personal and professional growth.”

According to Suida, Campus Life believes in holistic student development.

“In other words, these workshops can empower students to build skills and knowledge in social, emotional, physical, academic and job related areas,” he said. “By offering a menu of options, students can choose workshops that are beneficial and relevant to their needs.”

The office staff brainstormed and identified student needs. Faculty and staff were then asked to contribute and help positively impact the student experience around their key values and themes.

“Joyce Harvard Smith, Rachel Martin and the Campus Life intern, Alexis Gigliello, were instrumental in developing these workshops. I'd like to publicly acknowledge their efforts,” Suida said.

He also acknowledged how appreciative he is of the faculty and staff that are presenting workshops.

“This allows students to meet other faculty and staff that may not be a part of their inner circle. It is important for us all to go out and continually seek new knowledge and training.”

Gigliello, senior public relations major, explained her role in the workshops.

“Basically, I gave Campus Life a student perspective on what workshop topics I think students would find most interesting,” she said. “How to appeal to students, how often students would most likely be willing to come to these workshops, which locations would work best and what clubs or faculty members should execute the workshops to gain the most student interest.”

The Office of Campus Life presents:  
**Student Success Workshops Spring 2018**

These hands-on workshops will add opportunities to interact with peers, learn valuable life/career skills and are perfect for resume building. We're confident that you'll leave with a fresh set of skills and connect with key Fredonia faculty and staff members!

**Brief Overview:**  
Workshops will be held once a week, in the evening on Tuesdays and Wednesdays of the week.

Students who attend a minimum of three workshops will receive a certificate and recognition at the Leadership Awards Ceremony on May 2, 2018.

**Workshops:**

WEEK 1	JAN 22-26	Monday - Friday	<b>Spectrum Entertainment Board</b> Week 1, Welcome Back Programming (Follow Spectrum Fredonia on facebook)
WEEK 2	JAN 30	Tuesday 6:00 p.m.	<b>Career Development: Myers Briggs Type Indicator Personality Assessment</b> Week 2, Tuesday, January 30, 6:00 p.m., G103C Williams Center Presented by: Associate Director of Career Development, Mr. Christopher LaGrow
WEEK 3	FEB 7	Wednesday 2:00 p.m.	<b>Effective Event Planning &amp; Campus Life Forms</b> Week 3, Wednesday, February 7, 2:00 p.m. - Student Development Day, G103C Williams Center Presented by: Assistant Director of Campus Life, Ms. Rachel Martin
WEEK 4	FEB 13	Tuesday 5:00 p.m.	<b>Volunteer and Community Service Opportunities</b> Week 4, Tuesday, February 13, 5:00 p.m., G103C Williams Center Presented by: Coordinator, Volunteer & Community Services, Ms. Joyce Harvard Smith
WEEK 5	FEB 21	Wednesday 5:00 p.m.	<b>Advising and Choosing a Major</b> Week 5, Wednesday, February 21, 5:00 p.m., G103C Williams Center Presented by: Director of Academic Advising, Ms. Amy LeClair
WEEK 6	FEB 27	Tuesday 5:00 p.m.	<b>YOGA (Focus on Mind, Body, Spirit)</b> Week 6, Tuesday, February 27, 5:00 p.m., Dad's Hall Dance Studio Presented by: Employee Assistance Program Coordinator, Ms. Susan Hoch Murphy

**FREDONIA** Student Success Workshops, Spring 2018  
continued

WEEK 7	MAR 7	Wednesday 5:00 p.m.	<b>The Art of Public Speaking</b> Week 7, Wednesday, March 7, 5:00 p.m., S204D Williams Center Presented by: Communication Professor, Dr. Amanda Lohiser
WEEK 8	MAR 12-16	All Week	<b>Spring Break - Enjoy!</b> Week 8, no programming
WEEK 9	MAR 21	Wednesday 5:00 p.m.	<b>Healthy Cooking</b> Week 9, Wednesday, March 21, 5:00 p.m., Horizon Room, (adjacent to Centre Point) Presented by: Director of Dining Services, Chef Dean Messina
WEEK 10	MAR 28	Wednesday 5:00 p.m.	<b>Professionalism</b> Week 10, Wednesday, March 28, 5:00 p.m., G103C Williams Center Presented by: Business Professor and Student Organization, Dr. Susan McNamara and Enactus
WEEK 11	APR 3	Tuesday 5:00 p.m.	<b>Transformational Leadership</b> Week 11, Tuesday, April 3, 5:00 p.m., G103C Williams Center Presented by: Director of Campus Life, Mr. Mark Suida and the Leadership Street Team
WEEK 12	APR 11	Wednesday 5:00 p.m.	<b>Conflict Management</b> Week 12, Wednesday, April 11, 5:00 p.m., G103C Williams Center Presented by: Counselors, Mr. Jeff Janicki and Ms. Ivory Brooks
WEEK 13	APR 17	Tuesday 5:00 p.m.	<b>Financial Literacy</b> Week 13, Tuesday, April 17, 5:00 p.m., G103C Williams Center Presented by: Assistant Director of Financial Aid, Mr. Jeremy Conante
★	MAY 2	Wednesday 5:00 p.m.	<b>Leadership Awards Ceremony</b> Wednesday, May 2, 5:00 p.m., Multi-purpose Room Presented by: The Office of Campus Life

**New Club Collaboration Challenge**

- Presented at the Leadership Awards Ceremony
- Partner with another group or multiple groups to enhance programming
- Pick up a submission form in the Campus Life Office
- Groups will be reviewed on their creativity, impact and purpose.

QUESTIONS?  
Contact our office at: [fredonia.edu/campuslife](http://fredonia.edu/campuslife)

More Workshop Opportunities >>

Angelina Dohre/Photo Editor

A list of upcoming Student Success Workshops is currently on display in the Williams Center.

A different workshop is featured each week with no pre-registration and is free to all students. Various topics are tackled, such as professionalism, conflict management, financial management, community service and self-awareness. Service, leadership and professionalism are recurring themes.

Suida will host a workshop and focus on transformational leadership.

“This leadership theory highlights the importance of helping others become more and do more,” he said.

An analogy he sometimes uses in class to teach this type of leadership is the “great parent” concept.

“An effective parent motivates and inspires their child, but also challenges their child. They see potential in the child that a child may not see in themselves,” said Suida.

According to Gigliello, a few new topics will be explored at these workshops.

“Some important workshops that are new include the ‘Effective Event Planning and Campus Life Forms’ and the ‘Volunteer and

Community Service Opportunities,” she said.

“Those are two areas that I have personally seen clubs and individuals struggle with immensely, and although these topics are mentioned at Fall and Spring Summit, these workshops target everybody on campus instead of just e-board members.”

Suida hopes students will realize that they can learn a lot just by attending a supplemental workshop.

“Students need to create a developmental plan for themselves. What can you be doing now to stand out from the rest of applicants for a job or entrance into graduate school,” Suida said. “Fredonia has so many opportunities to engage in applied learning and campus life.”

In term of what the future holds for these workshops, they will be assessed after the semester ends to see what went well and what went wrong.

“We enjoy revising programs to meet new and different student needs and concerns,” Suida said. “I think you’ll see a version 2.0 in the future!”

# Students push for gender neutral bathrooms in Mason Hall

## MACI COSMORE

Special to The Leader

Transgender students are slowly gaining more rights on colleges campuses. Even so, people have begun taking steps to advocate even further, with one student starting a petition for gender neutral bathrooms in Mason Hall.

"I have heard people complain that they have to go to either the Williams Center or McEwen to find a gender neutral bathroom, so it just kind of seems like it's an on-going issue that needs to be taken care of," said Mol Stabell, a sophomore public relations major who created the Change.org petition and serves on the Pride Alliance

occupant restroom on campus was designated to that maybe a year and a half ago now or two years ago," Boerner said.

Although the process may seem as easy as bringing the issue to the school and making that change, there's more that goes into the process than a signature petition.

"My first initial thought to this is I wanna do a little investigating before I bring this forward to the president's cabinet," Boerner said. "The president has her direct supervisees, including myself that make up her cabinet. I think this should be a decision that the cabinet either should be informed about or makes for our campus."

those within the LGBTQ community, they allow the use of a name that properly expresses one's gender identity ... Whatever reason an individual has for using a chosen name, this policy communicates to individuals that they are welcome and valued on our campus."

"The Chosen Names Policy is in place, but requires a significant amount of work to ensure that our campus is in compliance with the policy that we set forth. So that's been kind of the focus right now," said Boerner.

Besides the gender neutral bathrooms and the Chosen Names Policy, the school also has gender neutral housing.

"We aren't necessarily advertising it or marketing in a way ... It sounds like we can do a better way of marketing that," Boerner said.

So how can the campus community join in to advocate for these causes?

Pride Alliance is among one of the many resources available to students to help advocate these issues.

According to their website, Pride Alliance is, "a group for support and celebration of the MOGII (marginalized orientations, gender identity and intersex) community on our campus." Their purpose is to, "establish the Pride Alliance for the purpose of promoting unity and pride among the campus and community members of all romantic and sexual orientations, gender identities, and expressions; and for helping to educate, foster respect for, and to provide a safe, supportive and relaxed environment for all."

The group advocates these rights, and have voiced for the small percentage of the MOGII community.

"I would just talk about it, like if there's something that's going on, just voice your opinion. Just keep doing what we are doing," Stabell said.

Boerner said, "We have work to do. We always have work to do because this is constantly evolving and changing . . . I think [to] a lot of students and faculty, it's just kind of second nature and they're engaging and they're able to implement these things as just everyday practice."

"I think there's always room for improvement. I think we have had a few prominent students who have helped us move in a positive direction and support for transgender and gender nonconforming students and people on campus," he continued. "We have actually had an employee that has helped us and pushed this as well. That helped challenge our employee side of things as well which has been positive from my perspective," he said.

**"Pride Alliance is among one of the many resources available to students to help advocate these issues."**

e-board.

The petition was created approximately two weeks ago and since then has over 350 signatures.

"I shared it with my suitemates and that was about it. Then I started seeing it through my Facebook feed that my friends were sharing it," Stabell said. "Once the petition [is] done, I do have a list of resources that I can take it to."

One of these resources being Bill Boerner, the chief diversity officer and co-chair of the Chosen Names Policy.

"I support this petition and if there are students who want to work with me or others to perhaps see if we can address this issue, I'm happy to help bring that forward," said Boerner.

Both Stabell and Boerner said that Mason is behind on receiving gender neutral bathrooms because the building lacks single occupancy restrooms.

"The restrooms that transitioned over to gender nonconforming spaces ... were all of our single occupant spaces. I think every single

Since Mason Hall is a public building, Boerner believes that creating a space like this would benefit the community.

"Mason Hall is a public space that's utilized by others within our community. I think there's an opportunity for us to figure out how we can navigate some of those community expectations as well, seeing as that space is not just for student and for faculty and staff use only," he said.

The Chosen Names Policy is another example of Fredonia advocating for its transgender and gender nonconforming students.

Stabell commented on the efforts of the Chosen Names Policy.

"I know with the name change program they have been fighting. They created it but they kind of stopped and didn't put anymore effort towards it until just recently," said Stabell.

Passed by the University Senate on Jan. 27 of just last year and approved by the Cabinet in August, the Chosen Names Policy states, "Chosen names can be vitally important to our students, faculty and staff for a variety of reasons. For

# 'Flipping the switch'

**Dr. McNair encourages Fredonia to become a student-ready college**



**VICTOR SCHMITT-BUSH**  
Assistant News Editor

According to Fredonia's "Right Serving, Right Sizing" final report of Fall 2017, with more than 30 percent of students enrolled from minority groups, Fredonia's diversity is reaching new heights. More students than ever are expressing their interest in ethnic clubs, and they are making new connections with people of all sorts of racial and ethnic backgrounds.

However, it has come into question whether campus leaders and staff have adequately adapted to the change in the needs of its new population.

According to Tia McNair, the vice president in the Office of Diversity, Equity and Student Success at the Association of American Colleges and Universities, it is up to the Fredonia faculty and staff to pay close attention to these needs. She believes that understanding and fulfilling the needs of diverse students on a diverse campus is vital to facilitating student success.

It was on Professional Development Day in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Williams Center that McNair introduced herself to Fredonia's pedagogy and management staff. She began by explaining that if Fredonia wanted its students to succeed, then it was "time to flip the switch."

"One of the main things that we ask ourselves is 'Are students college ready?' Well, are students college ready?" McNair asked the crowd. She walked closer to her audience, leaned forward and extended her hand over her ear, awaiting a reply.

The audience all unanimously shouted back to her, "No!"

"No, they're not, right? But there's a problem with focusing on students being college ready," she said. "What do you think our problem is?"

One professor signaled to her that he was willing to answer.

"We can't do anything to change it," he said.

She then smiled and waved her finger at him as if that was the exact answer she was looking for.

"For some, that might be true, but we're going to have an honest conversation today," she said. "We could spend all of our time sitting here as an institution talking about students being college ready. We can't change that, right? But, if we ask this question, 'Are colleges student-ready?' it changes the conversation."

McNair asked, "When you hear the concept, student-ready, what comes to your mind?"

She received several answers. Some professors

associated student-readiness with the idea that the faculty should focus more on hosting successful orientations, and others said it was merely to get students off to a good start, but it was McNair's follow up response that turned heads.

She explained, "Some students will be better prepared than others, but we have to actually know who they are. We need to understand their lived experiences, understand their background, understand their cultural wealth."

McNair placed heavy emphasis on the need for college staff to pay close attention to their vocabulary when describing minority students. She feels that universities are already doing them a major disservice when referring to them as underrepresented or at risk.

She said that universities should seriously consider saying "underserved" instead.

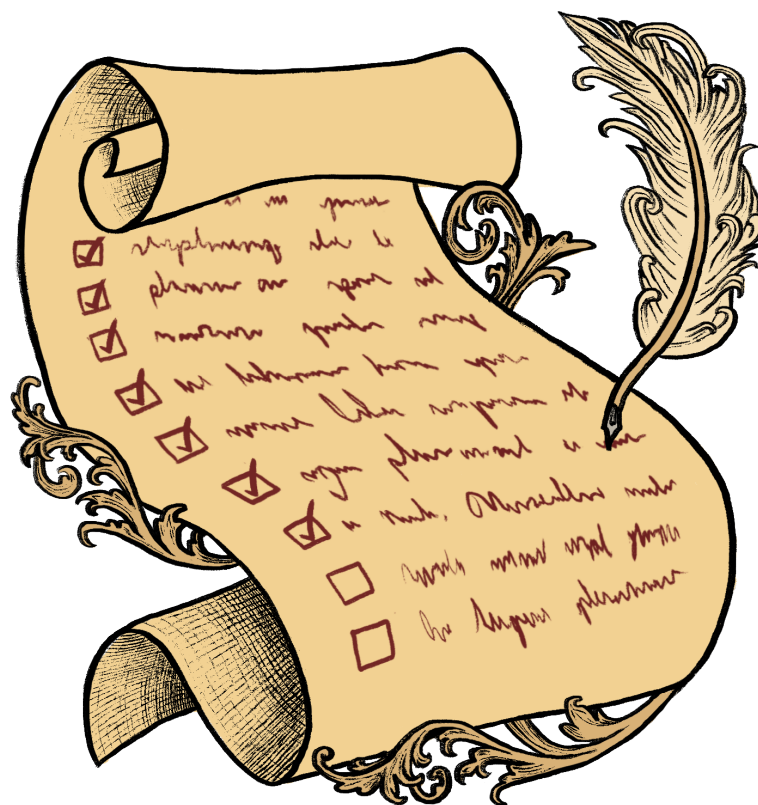
"We say underserved because it is not derogatory towards the students," she said. "We don't want students to think that there is something deficient in them."

According to sophomore biology major Brooke Shields, Fredonia is a fairly accepting campus, but she still feels that work has to be done.

Shields explained, "Academically, I do love my department. I do have a few campus moms and campus dads who motivate me to ignore all of the major challenges that I face as a minority student, but I don't think that the faculty is very diverse. I don't think I've ever seen people of color faculty members here, not in the biology department."

Shields comes from the city, so the shift in atmosphere from the busy streets of NYC to the rural atmosphere of Chautauqua county was a big culture shock for her.

"I didn't expect people to be as kind and open as they are here. I think that that's where the



Kathleen Fenton/Special to The Leader

close environment comes into play, but I also feel that the close environment brings into play the ignorance that happens here, too."

Both Shields and McNair have posited that ignorant acts that happen on college campuses like Fredonia are seldom intentional. Minority students are often underserved at the helm of good intentions. The paradigm shift that needs to take place, according to McNair, is the development of new student-ready policies and diversity training for staff.

"Our institutions are stuck in the past," she said. "If you have all of these diversities in population in a single institution, can you have a 'one size fits all' philosophy? No, you can't. That's what it means to be student-ready, that you're taking the time to look at the educational needs of all of your students."

She placed heavy emphasis on the word "all."

Perhaps McNair's most compelling message is that what Fredonia is experiencing at the moment is its own paradigm shift, and it is up to its faculty members and staff to adapt to this change with grace and understanding. Perhaps the most humbling thing that professors may have taken out of this event, is that they too have much to learn, and that the students themselves are their teachers, too. Perhaps, it is time to "flip the switch."



# POLICE BLOTTERS

## UNIVERSITY

### Monday, Feb. 5, 2018

8:47 p.m. Shane McLaughlin and Matthew Kennedy were charged with unlawful possession of marijuana and underage possession of alcohol. Appearance tickets were given.

8:47 p.m. Alexis Skowron was charged with unlawful possession of marijuana. An appearance ticket was given.

9:56 p.m. Markasia McCreary and Kortland Watson were charged with unlawful possession of marijuana. Appearance tickets were given.

### Thursday, Feb. 8, 2018

1:08 a.m. Tyler Favorite was charged with unlawful possession of marijuana. An appearance ticket was given.

### Friday, Feb. 9, 2018

Unknown suspects entered various residences halls and left advertisements. An investigation is on-going.

## Saturday, Feb. 10, 2018

8:17 p.m. Brandon Pierce was charged with drinking alcohol in a motor vehicle on the highway, failure to stop at a stop sign, operating a motor vehicle with a suspended registration and unlawful possession of marijuana. An arrest was completed.

8:17 p.m. Cassandra O'Connor was charged with drinking alcohol in a motor vehicle on the highway and underage possession of alcohol. An appearance ticket was given.

"Phishing" scam check was sent to victim. An investigation is on-going.

## FREDONIA

### Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2018

12:15 a.m. Ahou Nguessan, age 21, and Melika Madhoo were charged with disobeying the noise ordinance. Appearance tickets were given.

### Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2018

1:44 a.m. Jack Frank, age 22, and Michael Alexander, age 22, were charged with disorderly conduct. Appearance tickets were given.

### Saturday, Feb. 10, 2018

12:08 a.m. Taylor Speed, age 19, was charged with open container, unlawful possession of alcohol and littering. Bail was set to \$100.

1:44 a.m. Aileen Pacheco, age 22, was charged with a DWI and failure to keep right. A uniform traffic ticket was given.

### Sunday, Feb 11, 2018

Alyssa Stephens, age 21, was charged with open container and littering. Appearance tickets were 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.*



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# Life & Arts

## 'Black Panther' is creating a more diverse Hollywood

**MADLINE LITTLE**

Special to the Leader

As you all know, "Black Panther" is being released this upcoming Friday. It's being talked about all over America. It is the first superhero movie Marvel has created with all black characters, cast and directors.

A lot of Fredonia students are excited for the "Black Panther" movie.

"The movie is about a prince retiring to take his place in the Kingdom of Wakanda," said fifth year public relations major Anissa Scharborough, a member of the Black Student Union.

"The main character is King T'Challa. He is the 'Black Panther' of Wakanda. Wakanda is this technologically advanced city in Africa," explained senior video production major Joseph Gugino. "He faces powerful enemies and has to defend his people, in the legendary black panther suit," said Jelissa Samuel. The suit is made out of the most powerful metal in the world, mined in Wakanda.

President of the comic club, Harold Sheridan, believes "Black Panther" is a step in the direction of

more diverse films in Hollywood.

"I think 'Black Panther' will be just as big as 'Wonder Woman,'" said Sheridan. "We're moving into an era where movies aren't created by white director[s] with white casts."

Out of this movie, Samuel hopes to gain a deeper appreciation for how far we have come in entertainment. Scharborough had similar thoughts.

"It will create a sense of pride. All-black casts are rare in the movie industry. I am excited for my community and [me] to experience this amazing representation of ourselves," said Scharborough.

Students all around campus have been raving about the sneak peaks Marvel has put out so far.

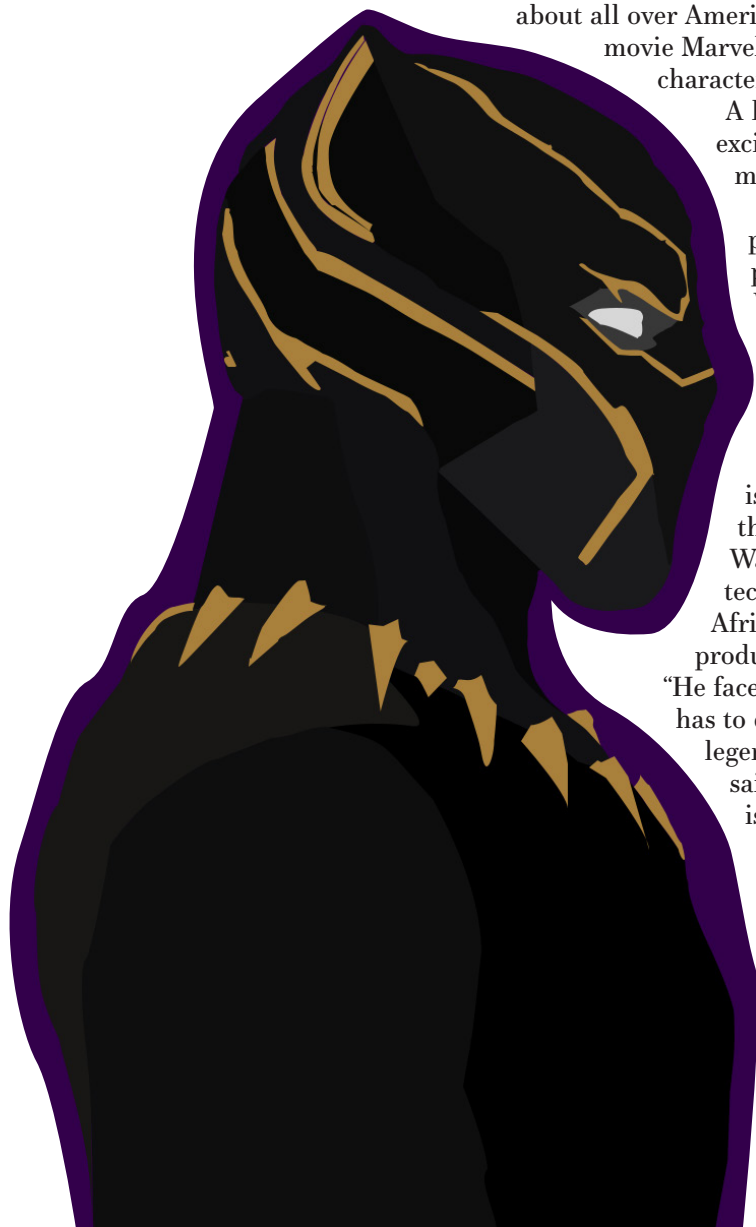
"The previews are pretty awesome. I'm familiar with all the characters and the design is really cool. The suit that King T'Challa wears looks as if it was inspired by the artist Brian Stelfreeze," said Sheridan.

Scharborough anticipates that "Black Panther" will be a hit in the movie industry.

"The previews are amazing and I'm full of anticipation for the full movie and the soundtrack. I am thrilled!" she said. "Considering that it is Black History Month, this is all about celebrating being black, whether it is those who paved the way for us or those helping to create a better tomorrow for us."

Samuel has reason to make the movie a big deal, she believes that "Black Panther" is honoring blackness.

"We decided to make this event huge because this Black History Month, we're celebrating blackness in all levels — including entertainment and media and this movie, which is anticipated to be really big at the box office is a movie that is celebrating blackness in a bold way," she said.



# Migos: Culture II review

**COLIN HART**

Special to The Leader

How much is too much? One year after giving us a bonafide classic, the Atlanta trio returns with a blockbuster sequel that is 24 songs and 105 minutes long. Somewhere inside “Culture II” there is a great album on par with the original, but to find it you must parse out all the filler. Absorbed by all the excess, the Migos seem to have forgotten music’s golden rule: quality over quantity.

Perhaps I’m being too harsh — there are no outright “bad” songs on this gargantuan release. The problem is exactly that: it is gargantuan without needing to be. Quavo, Takeoff and Offset are three of the most amusing MCs in the game right now, but two hours of Migos is bound to wear anyone down.

The trouble may be that the very best songs are located at the beginning and end. The first six tracks are incredibly forceful, with A-list assists from Drake (“Walk It Talk It”) and 21 Savage (“BBO”), while the final eight feature some of Migos’ best material

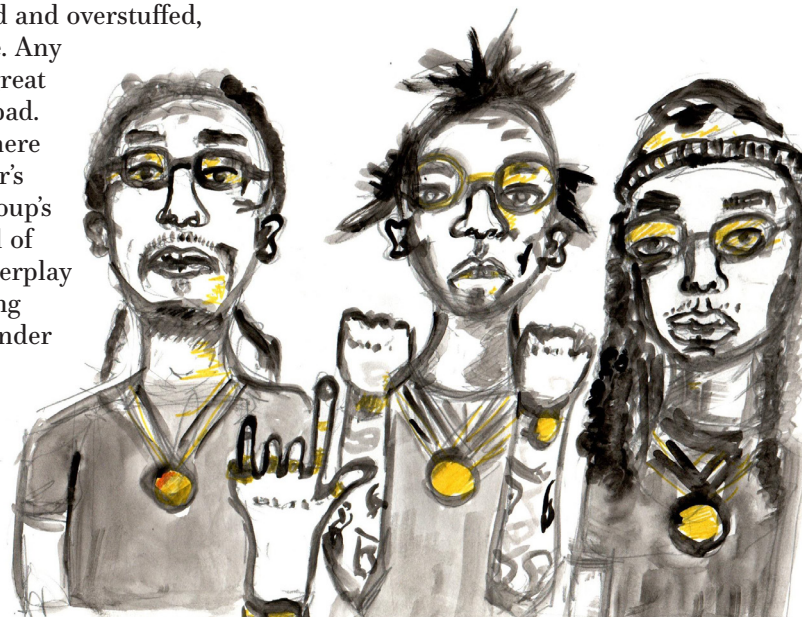
to date (“Too Playa,” “Made Men”). However, this structuring makes the middle stretch a bit of a slog, with only “Stir Fry” and “Gang Gang” able to stand out from the rest. It isn’t until Cardi B and Nicki Minaj turn up on “MotorSport” that “Culture II” gets rolling again.

Despite being bloated and overstuffed, there is still a lot to love. Any album with 10 good-to-great songs can’t possibly be bad. While there is nothing here as immediate as last year’s “Bad and Boujee,” the group’s lively, triplet flow — full of hilarious ad-libs and interplay — keeps things interesting throughout. Early contender for line of the year: “Diamonds on my wrist look like McFlurries.”

The Migos are a confident bunch, that cannot be denied. The production is top-notch — always a good choice to combine saxophones

and 2 Chainz — and the raps are as versatile as ever, but the ambition is lacking. “Culture II” is more of a sidestep than a progression forward, artistically speaking.

With this record, Migos remains a trap triumvirate to be reckoned with, but they sure could use a good editor.



SuDi Wang/Staff Illustrator

## Brews Under Review: Like a Ch-Ch-Ch(ocolate) Cherry Bomb

**MELISSA FUCHS**

Special to the Leader

As a college student, it’s always good to treat yourself along the course of the semester. This is especially true when you’ve tackled some of the bigger assignments or when you just need a pick-me-up.

Going to EBC, in my eyes, is a treat enough. EBC has some of the most delicious food the Fredonia area has to offer, and when I’m in the mood, I love pairing it with one of their creative brews.

I always strive to support local businesses when I can, and it’s a heartwarming feeling to know you’re showing some love to your community and the people who put their all into giving something for the community to enjoy.

Out of all the places in Fredonia to enjoy a beer, EBC is absolutely my favorite. It’s the Goldilocks situation for me — not too loud, not too cramped and absolutely welcoming with the aesthetically-pleasing details inside that can allow you to properly enjoy your meal and/or brew.

Honestly, visiting EBC West is a sensory adventure — there’s always something new and exciting for your taste buds to discover.

For this venture, I tried out the Chocolate Cherry Bomb. It’s described on the beer menu as “An imperial stout brewed w/ chocolate malt, dark sweet cherries, & love.”

It’s worth noting that I do not claim to be a beer expert by any means, but rather a novice who enjoys the occasional beer to unwind.

As noted on the beer menu, this imperial stout has an ABV (alcohol by volume) of 8.2 percent while its IBV, or international bitterness units, rang in at 32.

I, generally speaking, go with lighter beers, but being my first foray in stouts, this is definitely the way to dip your feet in the water.

I was a little nervous about the cherry aspect because I’ve had my share of good and bad cherry-flavored drinks (I’m looking at you, Starbucks’ Cherry Mocha), but it’s safe to say I was pleasantly surprised by this gem.

After taking a few sips, I couldn’t help being reminded of cherry tootsie pops, but it also made me think of cherry cordials for its perfect

marriage of a dark bitter chocolate and cherry taste.

The aroma of this brew for me is also somewhat reminiscent of a tootsie roll, while in appearance it has a reddish-brown hue.

What better way to show yourself some love this Valentine’s Day and, in the words of “Parks and Recreation,” “treat yo self,” than with the sweet taste of this stout brew from EBC West?

I think it’s safe to say The Runaways might even enjoy Chocolate Cherry Bomb for its sweet and rich fusion. This is one cherry bomb you want to rock your taste buds and try before this seasonal brew goes back into hibernation.

This sweet brew gets released around January in time for the holidays and is available until March or April.

Keep those Russell Stovers chocolates in their box and fill a glass with EBC West’s Chocolate Cherry Bomb Imperial Stout for a real chocolate treat for your sweet tooth to savor.



Jesse Anna/Staff Illustrator

# Kaleidoscope Series returns, brings laughs to Marvel Theatre

*SMIRK! Jokesters of Juggling and Kings of Chaos visits Fredonia*



**MOLLY VANDENBERG**  
Staff Writer

Many say that vaudeville-style comedy is dying, but it's still integrated in some parts of American comedy. It will always leave a lasting impact on our culture and the work we see from comedians in this day and age.

SMIRK, consisting of Reid Belstock and Warren Hammond, provided some insight to this comedic world on Feb. 9 at the Marvel Theatre as a part of the Kaleidoscope Family Series to a room full of all ages.

It's rare nowadays to see a show where everyone, even the parents and older adults, are laughing along as much as the children.

The duo entranced the audience with an hour of juggling, dancing, whip cracking, riding unicycles, rocket launchers and engaging in different slapstick antics. The whole time you were wondering what they possibly would do next, but it had the same "wow!" factor everytime they moved on to a new part of their act.

Belstock and Hammond have been compared to Abbott and Costello — a comedy duo active in the 1940s and '50s.

"In their movies, Bud Abbott really man-handles Lou Costello. While they get along and are funny, it's also very volatile. It's not, 'You go do this.' There's a few shoves, and he yells, 'You! Go do this!' I really want to push Warren's buttons and be slapped around for it," said Belstock in an interview with the International Jugglers Association. "We actually watch Abbott & Costello before

writing dialogue to try and get a sense of conflict between us."

These juggling partners didn't start off together. They actually have very different backgrounds.

Belstock began juggling at age 15 in efforts to overcome some fine motor skill impairment. He received his first performing opportunity at age 16. After high school, he went to study at the Barnum & Bailey Clown College. This is where he developed a lot of his slapstick comedy traits. He then went on to work at a Walt Disney College program with Director Lloyd Brant.

Juggling has changed for Belstock over the years.

"I think I enjoy juggling more from a social aspect than from an activity aspect now," said Belstock.

Hammond discovered juggling when he was 14 years old but didn't initially pursue a performing career. He went to the Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, N.Y., for biology and worked as a genetic engineer. However, he eventually gave up the idea of graduate school to pursue a career with juggling, as this was his passion.

Hammond has been trained by great jugglers and performers such as Evgeni Biljauer, Peter Davison, Michael Menes and Eric Farone. He toured with the off-Broadway show "Lazer Vaudeville" before partnering up with Belstock. He cites juggling for helping him break out of his shell.

The duo has two very different styles, but they compliment each other well.

"With Warren, I didn't want to be the vulnerable, soft, likeable nerd guy. I wanted to be more aggressive and I wanted to misbehave. I wanted to be a little more, not adult, but edgy," said Belstock in an interview with the International Jugglers Association.

SMIRK has earned awards such as the 2009 and 2011 International Juggling Association Silver Medal in team competitions.

Hammond also had advice to offer about jugglers thinking about going on to perform and the difficulties about performing with a partner.

"You need to know what's unique about this partnership that you've got . . . I come from a much more technical juggling background with some artistic background, while Reid has an amazing clowning and performing history," said Hammond in an interview with the International Jugglers Association. "Blending our two juggling styles has created something that I think is very unique. Find what's unique about your partnership, not just as jugglers, but as people."

**"It's rare nowadays to see a show where everyone, even the parents and older adults, are laughing along as much as the children."**

# Fredonia Radio Systems rocks the Steele Hall ice rink

**STEPHEN SACCO**

Special to The Leader

Last Friday night, Feb. 10, those in Steele Hall ice rink were slipping, sliding and skating. Skaters varied from all levels of experience, but it didn't matter if you weren't an olympic skater or the next Wayne Gretzky — everyone came to rock.

This traditional campus fundraising event wouldn't have been revived if it wasn't for the current e-board and members of Fredonia Radio Systems.

Noah Maciejewski, the radio's general manager, is a senior audio/radio and video production major.

"Rock N' Skate was an event that started 20 years ago, we brought [it] back two years ago," said Maciejewski. "I came into Fredonia undeclared, I figured out what I wanted to do because I joined the Fredonia Radio Systems." Maciejewski already has a job at Kiss 98.5, a radio station in Buffalo.



This year's Rock N' Skate offered food, drink, live DJs, a CD sale, basket raffles and more.

Walking into the rink, the atmosphere was different — it wasn't your usual brightly lit hockey rink. There were lights, no cameras, but lots of action. Sound services was hired to make sure that the DJ was able to set not only the melodic tone, but the visual atmosphere as well.

Ian Jackson, a senior sound recording

technology major who works for Sound Services on campus, helped coordinate the event.

"A club comes to us needing sound and/or lights for an event, we sit down [to] talk about the event specifically and what they want," said Jackson. "Then we come up with a package which is charged to the club's budget, then the day of the event we bring the equipment and set up."

The staff of Sound Services controlled the lights in coordination with the music from the DJ to provide a rockin' time for our community here at Fredonia.

Fredonia Radio Systems were also selling CDs that record labels had sent over the past years. There was a large turnout; the rink was

packed.

"Events like these give us an opportunity to bring the kids to have [fun]," said a resident of Fredonia.

SUNY Fredonia's Radio Systems will be hosting many more fun events throughout the semester.

## Mosswalk Review: Groove rock fills EBC West



**QUINTIN JAMES**

Assistant Sports Editor

Before going to EBC last Saturday night, I was wondering what I got myself into seeing a rock band perform. As an avid fan of hip-hop, R&B and jazz, a rock concert isn't my taste of music.

I never truly enjoy shows in Fredonia, whether it's at a bar or a house party, because the music played normally doesn't match what I like to listen to. That being said, when I ended up at EBC at 10:30 p.m., I didn't have any expectations. As I got there, the band Mosswalk were setting up their set.

The band consisted of four people: the keyboardist Ryan Cass, Jamie Sunshine on drums, Daniel Heuskin on bass, and Shaun McNamara on the guitar. Mosswalk is a Buffalo-based groove rock/jam band that "focuses on dynamic songwriting, sonic exploration and an immersive live experience."

When I saw this one their Facebook group page, it caught my eye, but I wasn't too sure what

to make of it. With four people playing different instruments, I was intrigued by the band because of their variety.

As Heuskin introduced the band, he explained that it was their first time performing in Fredonia, as they are a fairly new band. As they started performing, I enjoyed it from the first song. I love jazz music and Mosswalk's groovy, upbeat style drew me in instantly.

They performed two sets, the first including nine songs: "Hero Town" (Vulfpeck cover), "Sunday Drive," "Play," "Fat Cat," "Montreal," "Peaches," "Ship on the Shining Sea," "The Wind Cries Mary" (Jimi Hendrix cover) and "Without Eyes."

The venue was perfect for this type of band and the music reminded me of a café. The infusion of the bass and keyboard stood out. My favorite song from the set was "Ship on the Shining Sea" because it was relaxing, uplifting and the melodies were calming.

Before performing that song, the band explained that it was a new song, and the fact that it was so good live was a sign that

Mosswalk really put a lot into this show. Their song "Montreal" also was a favorite of mine. My roommate, who is a Montreal Canadiens fan, agreed. Their Jimi Hendrix cover is also worth mentioning, as it was groovy and funky.

After performing "Without Eyes," the band members had their first intermission, giving me the chance to talk to both McNamara and Heuskin. They heard about EBC and Fredonia from driving in the area, but this was their first time performing here.

Three songs were performed during the second set: "Jelly Jam," "The Newt" and "Elation." The crowd enjoyed those songs as much as the first set of songs. All and all, the show was a definite success and I enjoyed going to the performance.

Supporting local bands and artists is good for the community, and after a long week, it was nice to jam out to some groovy tunes and let loose. I doubt this will be the last time we hear about Mosswalk, and I hope more people get to listen to this band.

# OPINION



**DAN ORZECZOWSKI**  
News Editor

Apparently MLK's dream was to own a Dodge Ram.

After the company spent upward of \$5 million for a 30-second time slot in the country's highest rated event on television, more than 100 million people heard the words of one of Martin Luther King Jr.'s sermons, "The Drum Major Instinct."

We heard King's voiceover give an alternate definition to greatness when he said "recognize that he who is greatest among you shall be your servant." The excerpt of the speech used in the ad went on by telling listeners that anyone can step up and help others.

Why is this a big deal? Well, the ad lasted 30 seconds. MLK's sermon lasted for just under 39 minutes, and in that time, a whole lot more was said.

About a third of the way into the sermon, King warned his listeners about the "drum major instinct," which according to him, compels people to "live their lives trying to outdo the Joneses."

In the very next paragraph, King called out people who've been consumed by materialism by saying, "You've seen people riding around in Cadillacs and Chryslers who don't earn enough to have a good T-Model Ford."

Somehow, Dodge thought they were discrete enough to get away with using passages from a speech that denounces capitalism to get people to buy their trucks. Of all people to exploit, they chose a civil rights activist.

The ad comes after a rocky year for the NFL. Several teams throughout the season had players kneeling during the national anthem before every game to spread awareness of police brutality and systemic injustice, a demonstration that led to an explosion of controversy.

Regardless of your views on the kneeling movement, this advertisement was completely uncalled for.

Can't we look past the commercialism? What does a Dodge Ram have anything to do with MLK?

Tim Calkins, a marketing professor at Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management, said the decision to air the ad was a poor one. But he also went on to say that the ad was "well-intentioned."

Mr. Calkins, the only intention Ram had was to sell trucks.

So here's my call to action: look past the bullshit.

Things that have nothing to do with trucks, yet happened to be in the ad:

- Studying
- Working out
- Playing football
- Fishing
- Teaching math
- Jumping into a helicopter
- Getting a haircut
- Having a baby
- Playing more football
- Petting horses

**"Somehow, Dodge thought they were discrete enough to get away with using passages from a speech that denounces capitalism to get people to buy their trucks. Of all people to exploit, they chose a civil rights activist."**

# From the Desk of Travis Lefevre, Managing Editor

## TRAVIS LEFEVRE

Managing Editor

I guess you could say that I have something of an obsession with video games. Ever since I sneaked behind my mom's back and played "Halo 3" on my brother's Xbox 360, I was hooked.

I finally got around to owning my own Xbox 360, a special edition made for "Halo: Reach." Back when I was still an awkwardly developing teen, online gaming helped me make lifelong friendships. One friendship in particular has lasted for a solid eight years.

We've moved our friendship to the PlayStation 4 and eventually to social media, but were it not for our shenanigans on "Halo: Reach," from trying to form an "elite" combat unit to trolling people in creative mode, I would not have a the close friendship that I have with someone from the other side of the country.

It says a lot about us as a species that we can form such close bonds with people we've never physically met. Especially in this age of technology and information, we are always meeting and connecting with new people. Older generations have said that people, my generation specifically, have lost the ability to communicate because we're "always in our phones." I disagree with that sentiment.

I recall seeing a photo from back in the day before cell phones. It was a crowd of people on

a train, with everyone doing their own thing. Based on the context of the photo it looked like nobody was having communication with anybody else, but instead virtually everyone was reading from a newspaper or minding their own business.

So, respectfully of course, I find the sentiment that millennials and other young people are bad communicators to be nonsense. The way I see it, our communication skills have evolved with time.

We are an adaptive species who have adapted to the technology in front of us. I can hold a conversation with the random stranger in front of me, but I'd honestly rather text or call someone I know and am comfortable talking to. No offense to you John Joe, I just don't know you,



Photo courtesy of Patricia Maess.

and quite frankly, in the brief two minutes we are uncomfortable sitting next to each other, we won't become best friends. However, if you want to open up a conversation, by all means, I'm all ears.



## Verbatim: "What are you doing for Valentine's Day?"



**Dylan Webb, junior  
music education major**

*"I am engaging in extracurricular activities to forget that it's Valentine's Day."*



**Brad Butler, junior  
music therapy major**

*"I don't have any plans, honestly."*



**Jaclyn Spiezia, senior  
early childhood and childhood education major**

*"This is a great question for me in particular. Now that I am newly single I am going to go to Valentine's."*



**Amber Klusek, senior  
English adolescent education major**

*"Hanging out with my friends because I have nothing else to do. I'm probably going to have to grade some papers too."*



**Erika Deangelis, freshman  
criminal justice major**

*"I actually don't know because my boyfriend is seven hours away right now. We kind of already spent it over this weekend."*

Dan Salazar/Staff Illustrator



# SPORTS

## New athletic director means new changes

**CASSIDY HERMAN**

Special to The Leader

The new athletic director, Jerry Fisk, started making changes on Dec. 13, 2017. Almost two months in and he is proud of what he has achieved so far, and is excited for the future here.

Fisk arrived in Fredonia after holding the position as the assistant athletic director of event and facility operations at Elmira College. There, he was in charge of the athletic center multi-use off-campus facility.

One main priority Fisk obtained in Elmira and wishes to do so here as well, in a responsible manner, is provide the best student experience.

"I want to incorporate input and relationships with various stakeholders to make this possible," said Fisk. "These stakeholders include alumni, coaches, faculty, student athletes and the community. Coaches need to feel the love, and I want to be able to provide them with the best products available."

A few changes that Fisk has already made include basketball games and practices being moved from Steele Hall to Dods gym, coaches having a dress code and student athletes participating in "Celebrate Mondays."

The move the basketball teams made seemed to be a good one. A group of girls from the women's team agreed that they liked playing in Dods better, and they all had different reasons. Some were that the gym floor is better, the lighting is different and it's smaller, so the bleachers seem more filled up. Jenna Einink added that it is an all around better atmosphere to play in.

"It has been awesome to hear all the new ideas being shared and I have noticed that the energy within the coaching staff is different, a good different," said Tony Ciccarello, head softball coach. "I don't really mind the dress

code changes, I'll just have to get used to them, but I'm good with it."

"Celebrate Mondays' is an effort to reach out to the community, the region and other areas of campus," Fisk said.

Student athletes line up outside of an elementary school and give high fives to the students walking into school to show support and that the athletes care. Fisk felt like this was a great way to involve campus life with community life.

Fisk also explained that he has been working very hard to introduce leaders across campus. He feels that it is important to make a strong connection between the athletic department and the academic departments.

There are some new plans currently being set into motion and some ideas coming through as well. The athletic department wants to make it known that the Fredonia campus has "Blue Devil Pride." Fisk explained that he wants to have more branding inside and outside of the buildings around campus.

The department is working on installing televisions around Dods and Steele Hall to make individuals aware of athletic events taking place. There are already some televisions that have been installed, but there are more on the way.

The varsity weight room, once a bowling alley, is in the

middle of a redesign. The machines in the weight room are old and outdated.

"I don't want people to think of a dungeon or something unpleasant when they are going to work out in there," Fisk said.

There is also work being done in the general women's locker room that will be done for the 2018 SUNYAC Cross Country Championships.

An important project Fisk brought up is a student athlete seminar that he wants to put in place. It will be a quarterly program starting up in the fall. The seminar will cover things like mental health, sexual and dating violence, interview skills, leadership development and more.

Fisk wants to provide a place where we not only celebrate the big accomplishments, but the small ones, too. He feels that if coaches and

players give an intentional effort to congratulate small victories, that could help with wins and losses.

Not only does Fisk want to make this a positive atmosphere for student athletes, but he also wants athletes to know that there are more changes to come.

**"There are some new plans currently being set into motion and some ideas coming through as well. The athletic department wants to make it known that the Fredonia campus has 'Blue Devil Pride.'"**

# Last laps

## Senior day for men's swimming and diving team

COLIN HART

Special to The Leader

The Fredonia men's swimming and diving team wrapped up their season last Saturday with a loss to SUNY Cortland by a combined score of 95-164.

The Blue Devils finished the year with a disappointing 1-10 team record, a learning experience for the large contingent of underclassmen. But for the four seniors — Ben Chatley, Nathan Link, Graham Jones and Bill Bradley — this marked their last time competing in Steele Hall.

When talking about this year's senior class, head coach Arthur Wang points toward their resiliency.

"If I'm going to use an adjective to describe this group," said coach Wang, "this is the group

that stuck with it. By that I mean these are glue people who bought into my program and who really showed quite a bit of improvement in everything that they've done."

"Without diminishing their ability," continued Wang, "these were not super accomplished swimmers coming in. These guys stuck to it and improved significantly. They're glue people; they put forth their commitment for four years and they've achieved quite a bit."

Senior Bill Bradley, an English major, represents exactly what coach Wang wants out of his swimmers. A graduate of Dunkirk High School, Bradley was not highly recruited but put in the work anyways — he went from painstakingly re-learning butterfly techniques his freshman season to becoming a team captain three years later.

"We try to set a good example," said Bradley,

in regards to his fellow seniors. "You really need to work hard for swimming. You need to put the work in to get something out of it."

Even though the overall record suggests otherwise, the team has seen plenty of strong individual efforts this year.

Jones placed first in three events on Senior Day — the 200, 500 and 1,000-yard freestyle. Bradley also wrapped up a successful career with wins in both the 100 and 200-yard butterfly. Sophomore diver Christian Krasnek was once again a double-winner, coming in first off the 1-meter and 3-meter board.

Now that the regular season is over, the team's attention turns to the SUNYAC championships. The four-day event begins on Feb. 21 at Erie Community College's Flickinger Center.

## The U.S. has a brand new snowboarding prodigy - and he's only 17.

AIDAN POLLARD

Staff Writer

Think back to when you were a junior in high school. Now imagine you were the first 2018 gold medalist for the U.S. as well.

Redmond Gerard is the newest American Olympic gold medalist. He's a 17-year-old kid from Ohio, and on Sunday he went from dead last in the men's slopestyle snowboarding competition to taking home the gold. For reference, even Shaun White's first gold medal win was in 2006 when he was 20 years old.

As of Sunday afternoon, Red's medal is one of only two medals the U.S. has won so far, and it is the only gold medal for America. In the Olympic slopestyle snowboarding competition, each competitor has three chances to impress judges and garner the highest score possible. Going into Red's third and final run, he was sitting dead last, and in a last-ditch Hail Mary effort, he pulled together an 87.16-point score that secured him in first place. Gerard's first two runs were fairly rough and his best score going into the last run was a 46.40; so in his most important run, Red nearly doubled his previous score.

In his winning run, Gerard pulled off a 1440 degree spin, which is four full 360 degree rotations. After Red got his score and realized he'd edged out Canadian Max Parrot's best score of 86.00, he covered his goggles with his gloves

and let out a "Holy shit!" to an entire crowd of support cheering him on in temperatures well below freezing at the outside slope course in PyeongChang, South Korea.

Perhaps unexpectedly, Red was not a big Olympics fan as a child. In an interview with the Telegraph he stated, "I just didn't think I knew what the Olympics [was a kid]."

So not only did Red come from all the way in last place in the Olympics, he came from a place where he didn't even necessarily know exactly how big of a deal it was going to become for him.

This is not to say that Red was not qualified to be in the games to begin with, he's actually a well-decorated Junior and World Cup snowboarder. In 2015, he came fourth overall in the Junior world championships for slopestyle, and then in 2017 he stood first in the World Cup for slopestyle and fourth overall.

For an athlete of only 17 years, who stands 5'5" tall and weighs 116 pounds, Red's accomplishment on Sunday is nothing to brush over. This will likely be a life-changing event and massive boost to his professional career with snowboarding company Burton.

Red will also compete in the Big Air snowboarding competition on Tuesday, Feb. 20. There he will have the chance to qualify again for the final round and possibly bring home another medal for the U.S.

The Olympics will surely be filled with many

other electrifying moments, but for right now, Red Gerard is the most celebrated American athlete in these 2018 Winter Olympics.

**"For an athlete of only 17 years, who stands 5'5" tall and weighs 116 pounds, Red's accomplishment on Sunday is nothing to brush over."**

# SUNYAC Tournament on the horizon for women's basketball

## Can the Blue Devils put together a winning streak to end the season?

**ANDREW RICHARDSON**

Special to The Leader

This past weekend was a bright spot in a very up and down season for the Fredonia women's basketball team.

Although they did get blown out by Cortland 48-75 on Friday, the team showed solid effort.

They were able to come back the next night and destroy Oswego State 65-50. With a record of 9-15 this year, the Blue Devils are used to the win-one, lose-one types of weekends by now.

Despite this, players are saying that their coach has prepared them extremely well for the end of the season stretch.

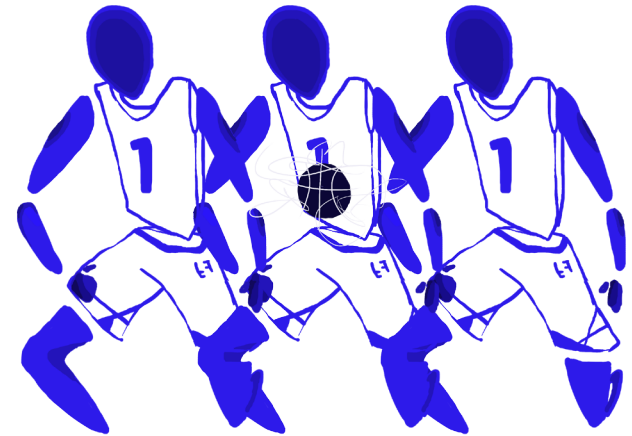
"Our coach has definitely prepared us well for the last couple of games in our season. We work hard in practice and spend our time focusing on what we need to do to win," said Sarah Sweazy, junior forward. "Our coach continues to tell us to not take any team for granted. Any team can win at any moment. The team that shows up to play will win. We want to be the team to win, and that is why we are working so hard to get better."

Well they certainly did not take Oswego State for granted; if they can keep up this same intensity, things should be a breeze to end the year against Buffalo State.

Although, many people on the team are already preparing for the SUNYAC Tournament.

"I think the best thing we could do as a team to be successful in SUNYACs is to trust one another and to simply play our game," said Heaven Rollek, sophomore guard. "We have some very talented post players, and a lot of our focus does tend to be to get the ball [to] them. As long as we can continue that and play good defense, we should win some games."

The Blue Devils have always been known for their post play and their defense. But the question is, will it be enough to take out some of the SUNY's best teams? With a regular season record of 9-15, one can only pray.



*KhrisSan Dunn/Special to The Leader*

The only thing we know for certain is that the Blue Devils have until Feb. 20 to prepare for this tournament. Hopefully, the head coach's vast playoff experience can help during the postseason.

## Men's track and field travels to Tiffin Dragon Invite

**JORDAN PURVIS**

Special to The Leader

Members of the track and field team performed well during the Tiffin Dragon Invite, as they wrapped up their seventh indoor meet of the season last Saturday.

Senior pole vaulter Justyn Haines from Albion, N.Y., finished in third place of the pole vault category with a 15 feet, 7 inches (4.75 meters) leap. As a result, he dismissed his previous best of 15 feet, 5 inches (4.72 meters) two weekends ago at the Rochester Institute of Technology Invitational.

When reflecting on his collegiate career over the past four years, Haines joyfully said, "I liked it. It was fun, I wouldn't have wanted to go to college and not be on the track team. I came to college because of track and my major, criminal justice and sociology."

He later added, "As a senior, it's a lot of pressure, because I'm in the national rankings to go compete for nationals, but I have to keep the pressure on to maintain in the standings."

Haines is well respected amongst his peers

and coaching staff.

"Justyn is an extremely talented athlete. I don't train with him since he's a pole vaulter and I'm a pit jumper," said Roan Baxter, Haines' teammate. "But the exchanges I've had with him have been great, and the amount of work he puts into his crafts inspires me to be better at what I do."

Haines is currently number two in the Fredonia all-time top 10 list for track and field.

Other notable performances from the Blue Devils in Tiffin, O.H., included freshman star Daniel Sudyn who capped off his best by recording a jump of 6.49 meters in the long jump category. Junior Nick Serafin concluded his day by coming in fourth in the high jump with a jump of 1.89 meters. Junior Francis Ethan ended with a time of 8.55.42 in the 3,000 meters. Senior Mitch Loiacano clocked a time of 2:00.50 in the 800 meters to finish off at third place.

The Blue Devils continue competition on Saturday at the Marc Deneault Invitational. The event will take place in Ithaca, N.Y., hosted by Cornell University.

**"I wouldn't have wanted to go to college and not be on the track team."**

# Three blue devils blow away the competition at RIT invitationals, look forward to regionals



## AVRIL KING

Social Media Manager and  
Assistant Sports Editor

Three women from the Fredonia track and field team made strides at the Rochester Institute of Technology last Friday, Feb. 2.

Brittany Feldman, a senior social work major, took first in the 400 meter sprint, finishing with a time of 59.49 seconds and beating 23 other women.

"It's always a good feeling when you know that you won a race," she said. "For me, I was still pretty upset with my performance. I really focus on the times I run instead of what place I finish in. So I was happy, but there is always room for improvement."

Sarah Couperus beat out 14 athletes to win the high jump. The senior social work major jumped over five feet, two and a quarter inches.

Still, the win was not the most important aspect to Couperus.

"I didn't feel any certain way when I won high jump," she said. "I was more worried about the height that I would clear that day instead of the place that I would finish in."

Finally, Rachel Williams, a senior music therapy and psychology major, was able to take first place out of 21 athletes in the 20-point weight throw, making it her first win in a college-level event. It was her second time throwing over 15 meters.

"I never pictured myself as a freshman throwing over 15 meters in the weight," she said. "It was just a really cool moment to see how far I'd come."

Williams also took second place out of 32 in the shot put, throwing 11.86 meters.

Now, the three athletes are not just looking forward to the championship SUNYAC meet held Feb. 23 and 24 at SUNY Brockport; they

all also qualified for the Atlantic Regional meet in Ithaca, N.Y., held March 2 and 3.

As seniors, they're looking forward to their lives after Fredonia.

"Since I'm graduating, that means this is my last season, which is a bittersweet feeling," said Couperus. "I'll miss competing with the team and doing the sport that I love, but I'm excited to start working more towards my future career."

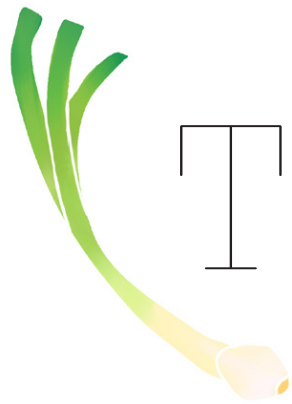
Although, Williams shared that she had apprehensions about moving on from the team.

"It's really weird to think about not being on the track team anymore," she said. "I've been throwing since freshman year of high school, so it's been eight years since I started. I don't know how I feel about the track team continuing on without me."

Still, there are a few more weeks left in the indoor track season, and each of the athletes could still qualify to attend the national meet held in Birmingham, Ala., the week after regionals. Hopefully this gives these three women the opportunity to reach their goals before their last season comes to a close.



Track and field athletes (T) Sarah Couperus, (R) Brittany Feldman and (L) Rachel Williams are all seniors at Fredonia. Courtesy of Fredonia State Athletics online roster.



# THE SCALLION

Melissa Neuburger/Special to The Leader

## Fredonia sophomore celebrates two-year anniversary with CIA agent spying from computer webcam



**JACLYN SPIEZIA**  
Staff Scallywag

Jennifer Bandinowitz was celebrating her two year anniversary with the CIA agent spying on her by planning a romantic evening in her dorm room on campus.

Her roommate was away at a volleyball tournament for the weekend, so it looked like Jennifer would have some alone time with the CIA agent, although it didn't matter if she was alone because she believed he was almost always watching her.

The night went as follows: Jennifer wanted her room to look nice so she set it up, placing fake candles all around and rose petals on the bed. She even made a soft jazz playlist for the evening. She knew he would be logging on to watch her sometime soon if he wasn't already watching.

Jennifer held a tiny present up to the camera. It was for the agent whom she did not know the identity of, so she went on to refer to him as Tom, because he was always peeping on her. She carefully opened the present and showed him it was a new video camera. She went on to install it to her laptop so he could see her better.

When she sat in front of her laptop, a notification appeared on Facebook from her friend. She read the message sent to her aloud and asked Tom how she should respond. No one responded. "You know me so well," she smiled and typed a response anyway.

"I bought this dress because I thought you'd like it," she said, standing up and twirling around in front of the camera. "Look how I set up the room tonight," she gestured, by picking up the laptop and spinning it so it was in full view of the room.

Suddenly there was a knock on her dorm door, which was subsequently flung open by her hallmate Sarah. When Sarah looked around at the room she became concerned. "Do you have a boyfriend coming over here tonight or something?" she asked Jennifer.

"No, just video chatting with this guy I've known for two years now."

"What guy?" Sarah asked, "Can I see him?"

"Well, no. I mean, I can't even see him . . ."

"What the hell do you mean, 'you can't see him?'"

"He's a CIA agent — he just watches me."

"Oh, okay. I understand. I've had one of those guys watching me too. You two have fun tonight."

And from the background of her laptop came a voice that said, "Thanks."

**"Jennifer held a tiny present up to the camera. It was for the agent whom she did not know the identity of, so she went on to refer to him as Tom, because he was always peeping on her."**



# Investigative Reporting: The Scallion discovers the origin of the dog food smell on campus



**EMMA PATTERSON**  
Editor of The Scallion

If you attend Fredonia, you know two things to be true: Lake effect snow and dog food.

After years of suspicion regarding the source of the dog food smell, The Scallion decided it was time to investigate. We began by talking to those most affected by the smell: the students.

"I actually thought I had escaped it," Polly Pocket, a sophomore, said through a government-issued gas mask. "I haven't smelled it in months. But I was walking to class yesterday and BAM! It just hit me." Even through the thick plastic covering her eyes, we could tell she was crying. "How could I have been so stupid?" She sunk to the ground, wringing her hands with anguish. "How could I have been so naive?!"

Other students reacted to the unappetizing scent with anger.

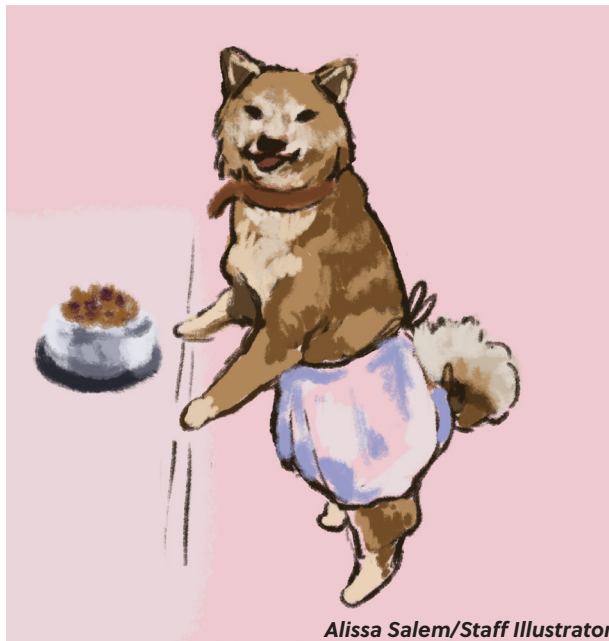
"It doesn't even smell like 'good' dog food," Gregory Hallington, senior, said in an interview, a bandana tied around his nose and mouth. "I think the real question is, what's with the generic brand of dog food? If they're gonna treat us like animals, I'd at least like a name brand thrown in," he said, tugging on the leash of his dog, who was desperately trying to run over to University Commons.

After similar interviews, we finally obtained worthwhile information.

"You didn't hear it from me, but I've heard rumblings that it's all coming from Cranston," Benny Full, a junior music industry major wearing a Halloween mask, told The Scallion. "I mean, you step into that place and it smells like a park and a Petco all rolled into one. Definitely suspicious."

This brought to mind Hallington's dog from earlier, who had seemingly wanted to go in the direction of Cranston. With this information in mind, The Scallion decided to go right to the source.

However, The Scallion's investigation into the kibble-y scent hit a wall as soon as we entered Cranston Marché.



Alissa Salem/Staff Illustrator

"Uh, no comment," one FSA worker said, appearing thoroughly uncomfortable as we asked him questions about the source of the smell. His bloodshot eyes swiveled in his head as one of our reporters, undercover as a student, grabbed a plate of "meat pockets" from the dinner shelf. The FSA worker's eyes betrayed the truth that his job forces him to conceal.

Plus, as he tried to bolt out of the kitchens, he tripped on an industrial-sized bag of

generic-brand dog chow, scattering both kibble and the cold, hard truth across Cranston's not-so-spotless floors.

The FSA has not yet commented on the aforementioned bag of chow, but if our investigation into the dog food smell pervading campus has taught us anything, it's this: don't eat the meat pockets.

## Stormi seizes Sunday time slot



**PATRICK BENNETT**  
Staff Scallywag

The past couple of months have been a psychological rollercoaster for fans of the Kardashian dynasty. Rumors were finally rendered truth as Kylie Jenner gave birth to the newest addition to the family, Stormi Webster. Luckily for longtime Kardashian followers, Stormi has already received her own TV show on the E! Network called "Stormi's Way."

"Stormi's Way" is a fresh new look at the Kardashian's family dynamic. Fans will be able to get an inside look at how often Stormi throws temper-tantrums, demands breast milk from her wet nurse and tries on the newest lip kits from her mother. Executive producers Ryan Seacrest and Jonathan Murray had lots to say about the new program.

"I'm really excited to see a fresh baby from a fresh uterus do fresh things in this political climate. I mean, this is Trump's America. My god! There was a void in my heart before this baby was born, but now it's filled. Stormi, baby, welcome to the family," Seacrest said, between sips of an alarmingly green iced tea.

Stormi has already become iconic on social media platforms, accumulating over one million followers on both Twitter and Instagram. Stormi's first selfie, captioned, "I'm finally born, y'all thought I was playin'" received rave reviews from such blockbuster superstars as Dwayne Johnson and Daniel Day Lewis.

"When I saw Stormi in those shades, just posing, I thought to myself, 'wow, this is brilliant material. This kid is bound to be a star,' and sure enough she landed her own television show. I'm excited to watch 'Stormi's

Way' this Sunday on E! Network," Johnson said, holding a dead gaze into the camera while obviously shilling for the E! Network.

Since the pilot episode was leaked on LiveLeak (weeks before its official premiere), many self-proclaimed television reviewers have spoken their thoughts on the first episode. Many said positive things, while others were more critical. Fredonia baby activist and ripped jeans collector, Celeste Mahoney, had some choice words about the pilot.

"When I watch a Kardashian show, I want drama. I want Kim crying over clothing lines, I want Kourtney kicking Lord Disick's dumbass to the curb, hell, I'll even take Kris Jenner making business deals. This show has none of that. It's basically Stormi demanding milk from her wet nurse who happens to be Kim's good friend Jonathan Cheban. What a joke!" Mahoney said.

# People claim that Super Bowl commercial "speaks to the blackness of their souls"



**ALBERTO GONZALEZ**  
Staff Scallywag

**"... the dead air acted as a catalyst to the idea that the black screen was really just a physical manifestation of the souls watching the game."**

First off, let's get one thing out of the way: this is not a Tide ad. As unfortunate as that is, a statement such as this is in stark contrast to the Super Bowl commercials which really upped their game.

From Danny DeVito running around asking people if they wanted to eat him, to Eli Manning and OBJ dancing like no one was watching, the ads crammed between mere seconds of actual football were more than just palatable. When there is such a wide selection of good ads, the conversation always naturally goes to which one was the best.

Well, there is a dark horse of the ads that immediately started garnishing a cult following. Some described it as an advertisement on pace to be the great work of art from this generation (sorry Starman), others called it a

multimillion dollar "equipment failure" that caused many fans to worry that their TV's were broken. Of course, we are talking about the 30 second black screen that happened in the middle of the second quarter of the most viewed football game on the planet.

There was an onslaught of conspiracy theories, but in the midst of the speculation something very interesting started to happen. Almost as if a nihilist switch had miraculously turned on in everyone's collective psyche, the dead air acted as a catalyst to the idea that the black screen was really just a physical manifestation of the souls watching the game.

In the aftermath of the capitalist propaganda machine, there was a 4,000 percent spike in Tide Pods in the days after the big game. A recently released consumer survey actually suggests the steep rise in sales has nothing at all to do with the Tide ads. This survey is instead giving all the credit to the black screen of death, which reminded everyone of their fleeting mortality and has caused them to always want a plan B option around.



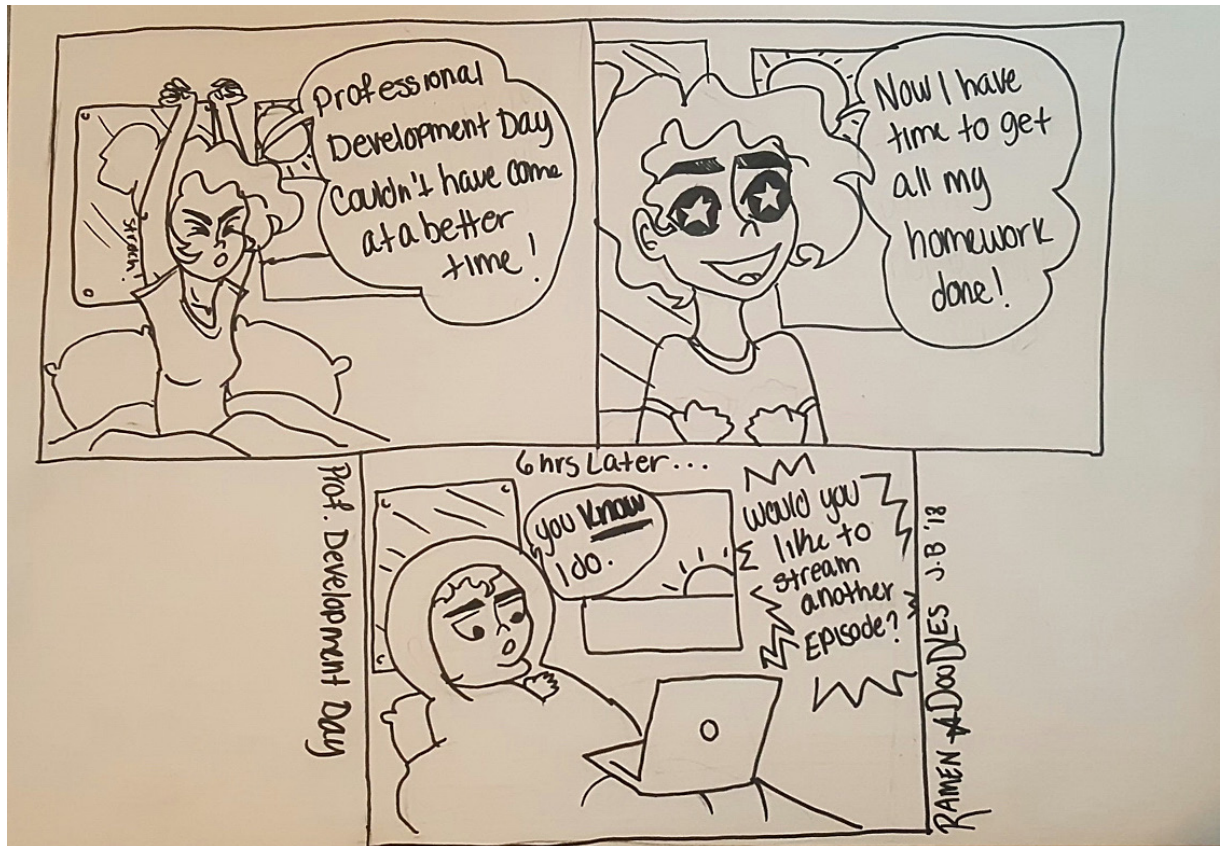
Hayley Patterson/Staff Illustrator

"Stormi's Way" is set to finally premiere on the E! Network this Sunday at 11 p.m. EST. Rumor has it that if you don't tune in to the show's premiere, Kris Jenner will show up to your doorstep and make your life a living hell.



**"Stormi has already become iconic on social media platforms, accumulating over one million followers on both Twitter and Instagram. Stormi's first selfie, captioned, 'I'm finally born, y'all thought I was playin' received rave reviews ..."**

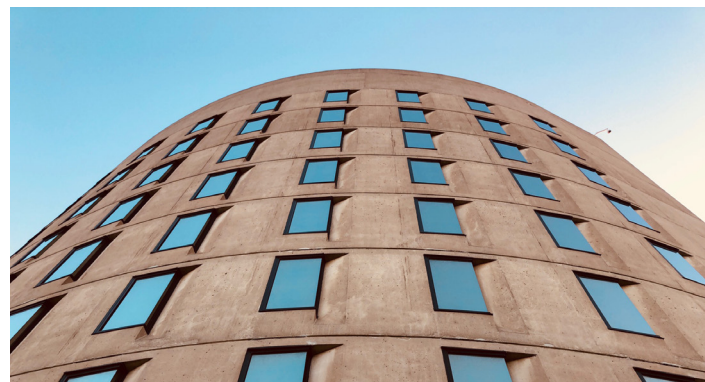
KhrisSan Dunn/Special to The Leader



The band Mosswalk performed at EBC West late Saturday night. Quintin James/Assistant Sports Editor



(T&B) Fredonia Radio Systems hosted the 2018 Rock N' Skate at Steele Hall Ice Rink. Photo courtesy of Harper Fischer.



Upward view of Maytum Hall. Jessica Tompkins/Design Editor