

THE LEADER L

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NEWS

Small crowds but big sales

E-commerce ushers in a new era of Black Friday shoppers



VICTOR SCHMITT-BUSH
Assistant News Editor

Black Friday was booming this year, but if you went to a big consumer chain like Walmart, Target or Macy's, you wouldn't have noticed a thing.

This is because the old hustle and bustle of Black Friday has become a thing of the past. With the advent of online shopping, deals that stretch back to days or even weeks in advance are becoming more popular. The rise of the internet and at-home shopping has made it possible for consumers and retail chains to prepare for Black Friday long before the doors open.

Kurt Layo, who is the managing director at Kurt Salmon, said in a New York Times article that "Retailers helped themselves by starting promotions much earlier this year to spread out the holiday shopping traffic and mitigate chaos. Their efforts appear to be paying off."

Consumers now, more than ever, are buying products online and picking them up at their local retail chains instead of pushing through huge crowds just to get a good deal.

Kathy Coon, who is a registered nurse and resident of North Tonawanda, said she noticed that the crowds at the stores she went to were unusually small, especially for the day after Thanksgiving.

"One of my biggest comments was, 'OK, where are all the people? How come we're not getting the crazy Black Friday experience?'" she said. "It was like a regular shopping day."

What could account for the small lines and relaxed atmosphere, according to Coon, was that many of the deals online were much better.

"For example, I got stuff at Kohl's that when

I went to the store, it was a couple more dollars there than what it was online," said Coon. "Online, it was free shipping or pick up at the store."

Adobe analytics — which tracks trillions in sales across almost all retail sites — reported that online consumers spent a record of \$5.7 billion dollars on Thanksgiving, which is a 28 percent increase from a year ago. Black Friday soared past that with \$6.22 billion dollars in online retail sales, 25 percent more than last year. Overall sales for Black Friday totalled \$25 billion dollars, which was up nine percent more than the previous year.

For some places, though, the traditional chaos and commotion of determined Black Friday shoppers was the same as it's always been. According to a FOX News article, an estimated 5,500 shoppers lined up at the doors of Mall of America (MOA), and some began waiting in line as early as 4 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day.

The USA's largest mall opened its doors at 5 a.m. and gave out gift cards to the first 200 people to enter. Everyone was greeted by Santa Claus and was given hot coffee at the front line.

Perhaps it's because of the holiday cheer that people are so drawn in by Black Friday. Every year, big consumer chains like Target, Walmart, Macy's and Kohl's are expected to bring in large, bursting crowds and put up extravagant Christmas decorations for everyone to see.

Katie Nasworthy, a shopper who was mentioned in an ABC News article, said she went to the mall instead of shopping online because she likes to see the Christmas decorations.

Coon mentioned that she loves the Christmas cheer that comes along with Black

continued on page 4



On the Cover:

The wintery wonderland of Fredonia.

Kristin Johnson/Staff Photographer

Meyer and Battaglia secure landslide victory, elected SA President and VP

JOSH RANNEY

News Editor

Before the Thanksgiving break, Fredonia students cast their ballots for the next Student Association President and Vice President.

After a two-day election on Nov. 13 and 14, Seth Meyer and Katie Battaglia were elected with 79.5 percent of the votes.

The final count had Meyer and Battaglia receiving 590 votes and challengers Bradley Zifra and Jimmy Kinney receiving 152.

Meyer said he and Battaglia are both committed and dedicated to the students of Fredonia.

"It's a great honor to be elected as president for the students," said Meyer.

Meyer said he is excited to get to work for the students.

"During my time in office, I will be holding myself to a great standard that I'll be working day in and day out to achieve, because that is what the students deserve," Meyer said. "We're in for great years here at Fredonia and I'm excited."

Meyer is a sophomore political science and communication major from Erie, PA.

Meyer currently serves as Speaker of the Assembly in the Student Association.

The last time someone went from speaker to president was with Jefferson Dedrick three administrations ago.

An election in the General Assembly to replace Meyer as speaker will take place when Meyer assumes office as president next semester.

Battaglia, a newcomer to the Student Association said, "I'm super excited to be in office. I'm very thankful that my peers voted for us."

She said she knows there are good and exciting things ahead for SA and the students of Fredonia.

"Seth and I are going to do great things for SA," Battaglia said.

Battaglia is a sophomore majoring in public relations and biology from Buffalo, NY.

Aside from her first run for elected student government office, Battaglia is also president of the Fredonia Field Hockey team and a member of the Alpha Lambda Delta honor society.

Battaglia said she chose to join Meyer in their run for office because she wanted to see an equal representation of all students.

"I sought changes I wanted to make in SA and for our student body," said Battaglia. "I want our student body to have more of a voice and be represented equally."

She also mentioned that she would like to continue the success and good reputation that current vice president, Hannah Apthorpe has developed.

"I want to take really good care of our clubs like Hannah did," she said.



The new Student Association Vice President Katie Battaglia (left) and President Seth Meyer (right)

Photo courtesy of Seth Meyer's Facebook page

Majority of students vote to keep student activity fee mandatory

JOSH RANNEY

News Editor

Two years after the last student activity fee referendum, the students of Fredonia voted again to determine if they wanted the activity fee to be voluntarily paid or continue to be mandatory.

After the two-day referendum vote on Nov. 13 and 14, along with the SA presidential election, the students elected to keep the fee mandatory.

The final tally had almost 3/4 of students choosing to keep the fee the way it is, by a vote of 587-200.

The mandatory fee ensures that all students pay into the student activity fee and therefore contribute to the overall Student Association budget.

From there, the Student Association allocates

the funds to student groups, programs and services that benefit the student experience.

All Student Association clubs, from Spectrum to club sports to campus media utilize the activity fee.

A major service that is funded by the students is the campus community bus.

The bus take students around the Fredonia-Dunkirk area so they can do shopping or relaxing at stores or restaurants, or commute between their off-campus housing and classes.

Before the vote, SA President Connor Aitcheson said that having the fee go voluntary could really impact the student experience.

Had the referendum turned up voluntary, there would be no guarantee that the right amount of funds for campus groups, programs and services would be there.

This would have likely resulted in slashing club budgets. But this is something that SA executives are happy to avoid with the student's decision.

SUNY enacted the policy entitled "Student Activity Fees" in 2004 which requires that a referendum be held every two years to determine the status of the activity fee for each university.

Since the 2004 implementation, Fredonia has continuously voted to keep the Student Activity Fee mandatory.

Aitcheson said earlier this month that to his knowledge, the activity fee at Fredonia has never been voluntary, and that streak continues with this vote.

The allocation of the budget for larger constituted groups will take place next semester.

Black Friday continued . . .

Friday, too, but she has her own reasons for avoiding shopping online.

"You have the old-fashioned people like me who need to see what we're buying," said Coon. "I can't trust what I'm getting on the internet. I like to go and see and feel and gauge what I'm getting that way."

This is true for clothes and accessories, but a majority of the online shopping that was done on Black Friday was of smartphones. Of the

\$6.22 billion dollars that were spent online, \$2.1 billion dollars were spent on mobile devices, according to Adobe analytics.

With E-commerce on the rise, be sure to look online for the best deals this Christmas season. Retailers are making a list of deals and you should check it twice, both in the store and on your phone.



Mattéa Gully/Art Director

POLICE BLOTTERS

UNIVERSITY

Sunday, Nov. 25, 2018

8:25 p.m. Katherine Heinrichs was charged with unlawful possession of marijuana. An appearance ticket was given.

Clothing was stolen from a laundry room in Chautauqua Hall. An investigation is on-going.

FREDONIA

Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2018

2:15 a.m. Stephany M. Navarro-Roldan, age 27, was charged with burglary in the second degree, criminal contempt in the first degree and harassment in the second degree. She was held.

Thursday, Nov. 15, 2018

1:55 a.m. Aeidi Boril, age 20, was charged with harassment in the second degree. An appearance ticket was issued.

1:55 a.m. Katherine M. Moz was charged with harassment in the second degree. An appearance ticket was issued.

1:55 a.m. Kaitlyn S. Downie was charged with harassment in the second degree. An appearance ticket was issued.

1:55 a.m. Alexandria M. Lamarie, age 20, was charged with harassment in the second degree, possession of a false license and littering. A uniform traffic ticket and two appearance tickets were issued.

Friday, Nov. 16, 2018

3:12 a.m. Heidy DeJesus, was charged with possession of a false license, obstructing government administration and false impersonation. A uniform traffic ticket of \$1,000 was issued.

Christopher Egan, age 21, was charged with leaving the scene of an accident. A uniform traffic ticket was issued.

Anne E. White, age 40, was charged with speeding in a zone. A uniform traffic ticket was issued.

Sunday, Nov. 18, 2018

James C. Holtz, age 65, was charged with failure to stop at a stop sign and consumption of an alcoholic beverage in a motor vehicle. Two uniform traffic tickets were issued.

Monday, Nov. 19, 2018

April Bennett, age 40, was charged with petit larceny. An appearance ticket was issued.

Sonia Martinez, age 70, was charged with leaving the scene of an accident, failure to keep right and operating an uninspected motor vehicle. An appearance ticket was issued.

Daisy M. Schultz, age 23, was charged with unlawful possession of marijuana. An appearance ticket was issued.

Wednesday, Nov. 21, 2018

Tyler J. Pelsey, age 18, was charged with criminal possession of stolen property in the fifth degree. He was transported to Chautauqua County Jail.

Monday, Nov. 26, 2018

Dylan S. Munson, age 23, was charged with failure to keep right and driving while intoxicated. Two uniform traffic tickets were issued.

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.

Life & Arts

Walter Gloor Mainstage Series' presents: 'Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson'

ATERAHME LAWRENCE

Special to The Leader

"Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson" is the Walter Gloor Mainstage Series' next big show. Making its debut in 2010, this comedic historical rock musical takes on the infamous legacy of the 7th president of the United States.

Jackson was best known for being a president for the common man who fought for the democracy of the American people.

He represented more than just democracy and national patriotism. Jackson stood for the expansion and freedom of America as well as all of its dark history and contradictions.

"Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson" is an emo-pop rock musical that will force everyone who watches it to lift up a mirror to our America and take a nice smack in the face from Andrew Jackson himself.

Fredonia Theatre and Dance faculty and director of the production Jessica Hillman McCord hopes that we feel challenged to think about this musical.

The importance of theatre isn't in its ability to entertain, but rather its ability to give lessons and transform the sometimes harsh reality of our world into the spectacle that is performance art.

Although it's in the title, I'm gonna provide you with a content warning anyway. There will be blood, blood and even more blood.

This isn't a gorey production, but definitely not one for people with a weak stomach, or a weak mind. Knife and gun violence should be expected and the cast definitely won't be holding their tongues.

Also, expect some not-so-casual punches about the historic American displacement and genocide of its indigenous people. Aside from that, you'll definitely laugh, probably gasp and, most importantly, think.

"It is very much about today; the racism, bigotry and discrimination, [and how] it is destructive," said McCord.

The musical will show everything from the young years of Jackson to his eight year term of presidency and all that transpired on American soil during that time.

Senior BFA musical theatre major Noah Barnes plays the lead role of Andrew Jackson. He has had several roles in Fredonia Mainstage musicals and says that this one is important, especially since it's his last production as a student. He suspects the audience won't like his character, and actually hopes that they don't.

To him it's the message of the musical that is most important. Seeing an audience that leaves the performance reflecting, thinking and changing the world around them is the best reward of playing the memorable Jackson.

Historical accuracy is an important aspect in getting this message across, although Jackson is charming, youthful, supported and loved by those around him, every person is three dimensional.

On the other hand he can be callow, careless and worst of all impulsive.

As an audience member of this upbeat musical, it can be easy to get lost in the true facts of the content being presented.

But the ugly truth is that the early years of America as a country were dark and Jackson

was responsible. The Trail of Tears, an American genocide, issues like discrimination, racism and bigotry are all present in this satirical production.

Hillman-McCord made sure that the message would not be lost, but rather punched and poked into you as you watch, listen and laugh. The message you ask?

"This is what happens with discrimination and hate. And unfortunately history has a way of repeating itself," said Jong Sang Rheu who plays Indian chief "Black Fox," a powerless leader in the face of historical forces he can't control.

If you want to be entertained by the amazing talent at Fredonia, educated and enlightened, this show is for you. Although there are many reasons why you should come out and see "Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson," the lessons it teaches is by far most important.

"Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson" will be up in Bartlett Theatre in the Rockefeller Arts Center from Nov. 50 to Dec. 8. Ticket Pricing is as follows: General Public \$50.00, SUNY Students \$12.00 and for a Non-SUNY Student/Child \$22.00. You can purchase tickets online or at the Fredonia Ticket Office.

The show is an hour and a half with no intermission. There will also be a Talk Back with the cast, director and the Native American Student Union on the Saturday of opening weekend following the show.

"'Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson' is an emo-pop rock musical that will force everyone who watches it to lift up a mirror to our America and take a nice smack in the face from Andrew Jackson himself."

Pause what you're doing

Interactive Theater Society hosts annual Applause for Paws

ELIZABETH SUSKI

Special to The Leader

An event based solely on helping an animal shelter? Sounds like a wonderful destresser before finals plague the campus.

Applause for Paws is an annual charity event run by the Interactive Theater Society (ITS) group on campus.

The event helps benefit the Lakeshore Humane Society, a no-kill animal shelter in Dunkirk.

This shelter thrives solely on donations and grants.

"There will be musical events with bands and acapella groups from campus

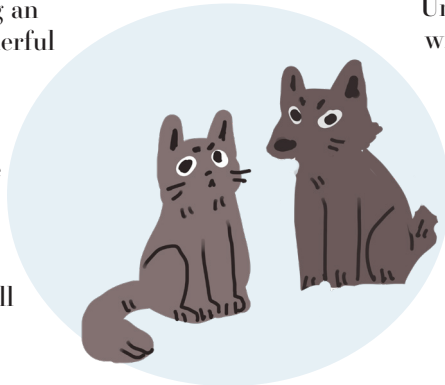
performing, as well as a raffle basket auction," said Kirsten Soos, a senior theatre arts major and president of ITS.

Unlike last year, performances will feature on-campus groups as well as local musicians.

And anyone can perform as a musical act as well.

ITS has put in weeks of prepping to execute this event.

"We have to set up all the staging and baskets, organize the performance roster, advertise on and off campus and organize games and activities. Our entire e-board and general body commit to this event," Soos said.



Mattéa Guldý/Art Director

This event is special to many members of ITS. "I like this event because I like giving gifts and it's a good way to celebrate before going home. And I think every group on campus should have a charity event," she said.

Everyone is welcome, including past and present students as well as Fredonia's community members.

Along with the raffling of several food-based baskets, there will also be a pie contest.

"Unfortunately, there are no dogs allowed in the multi-person room in Williams under [any] circumstances, so no dogs," said Soos.

The event takes place on Dec. 5 in the multi-person room in the Williams Center from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.

If you have any questions about the shelter, please visit www.lakeshorehumanesociety.org.

Fredonia club highlight: Much More Chill



ELYSE GRIECO

Life & Arts Editor

With more than 170 student organizations offered on campus, Fredonia has a club for every student with every interest.

Much More Chill is one of the many a capella groups open to the student body.

The club has been performing together for the past 19 years, sharing their talent with the rest of their community.

A capella groups are composed of singers who use their voices as their instruments. These musicians perform without instrumental accompaniment.

A capella was originally used for religious music and chants.

As years passed, this style has made its way into several different genres ranging all the way from rock to country.

In addition, with the recent success of the "Pitch Perfect" movies over the past few years, a capella has heavily impacted pop culture.

Much More Chill has a style of their own.

According to their Facebook page, "The group focuses on more contemporary music with heavy doses of vocal percussion."

Tyler Huk is a junior music education major with a concentration in voice.

He has been the group's music director for the past three semesters.

"I am in charge of holding and running rehearsals, teaching the arrangements to the guys, and shaping the songs with dynamics and all that fun jazz," he said.

Every spring break, the group goes on a statewide tour, performing at schools as close as Buffalo and as far as Long Island.

The tour doesn't only offer the group chances to perform.

It also gives them a bonding opportunity to better their friendships and make memories.

"My favorite part is definitely the [tour]," said Huk. "It really gives you the chance to get to know one of the guys in the group that you may [not] have been close to."

Huk is in his second year as a member of Much More Chill.

He found out about the group in high school from his friends who were already Fredonia students.

Huk became interested in getting to know the members and joining as a member.

"They really seemed like a tight knit group of guys that were all about hanging out, making music and having fun," said Huk. "Because of this group I've made so many friends and have been able to grow as a person, musician and vocalist."

Any member of Much More Chill will tell you they are more than an a capella group, they are a brotherhood.

"When you join the group, you are really accepting 14 other brothers into your family, and I wouldn't be where I am right now without them," he said.

Much More Chill's next performance will be their 23(+1) Days 'Till a Christmas concert this Friday, Nov. 30.

"There's gonna be a wide variety of music ranging from early 2000s alt rock to hip hop to some



Photos courtesy of Much More Chill's Facebook page @muchmorechill
Music notes by Olivia Connor/Assistant Art Director

current pop hits and maybe even a few throwbacks," said Huk. "The guys have put so much effort into this show, and I can't wait for everyone to see all of that hard work in the form of some great music."

In addition to a musical performance, there will also be a basket raffle to raise money for a cause that the group will be announcing the night of the show.

Much More Chill encourages their audiences to come decked out in festive attire to get in the holiday spirit.

The event will be held at 6 p.m. in McEwen 209 and is open to the public.

For more information on the event, please visit <https://www.facebook.com/muchmorechill/>.

Good Eats: A glimpse into Fredonia's changing restaurant scene

LEAH GRAZIANO

Special to The Leader

Though Fredonia may be a small town, it has a large variety of food to offer.

There are many food establishments that have called Fredonia home for years.

One in particular is Aloe Vera's Eatery located at 55 Church Street.

Aloe Vera opened its doors in 2015. The owner, Marissa Griffis, is a Fredonia resident.

"I was sick of this place opening and closing. It used to be a famous place called Hook and Ladder Deli. That was here for quite a few years and then, in-between that, a bunch of different people opened it," she said. "So I just decided I was going to open it one day. I wanted to bring it back to its roots and bring it back to what it used to have as far as freshness, the salads, the wraps, that sort of thing."

Aloe Vera's serves wraps, salads and homemade soups. They also feature a signature dish called the "cold plate."

The "cold plate" is a create your own plate that was inspired from the Hook and Ladder Deli.

Aloe Vera's has a chalkboard wall that is filled with specials.

Most of their business comes from Fredonia students and residents of the village.

"The bulk of our business is from the businesses around. We are kind of in walking distance to a lot of places," Griffis said. "We get a lot of people that have that half hour for lunch and it's quick and it's walking distance. We also do have a lot of students that come in and on Saturdays we have a lot of families that come in."

Aloe Vera's Eatery is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekdays and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays.

Fredonia also has space for new places to stop by and eat.

The Mustard Seed is one of the newest restaurants coming to Fredonia.

Right now, The Mustard Seed is located in South Dayton, N.Y.

It plans on opening its doors in town this coming March.

The Mustard Seed is run by pastor Nettie Puleff from the Fredonia United Methodist Church.

The restaurant began as a Bible study for women.

Puleff would feed everyone in the group and eventually she opened The Mustard Seed.

The name of the restaurant comes from the parable in the Bible.

"Jesus said that if you have faith the size of the mustard seed, you can say to this mountain 'move' and it'll move," she said.

"He laid that name on my heart because it was going to take a lot of faith to start a restaurant out in the middle of nowhere."

The menu offers choices that cater to everyone.

"We meet all dietary preferences. If you're gluten free, if you're dairy free, if you're vegan, if you're on a cancer diet or some special diet, I will come right out to the table and tell me what you can eat and we will make you something wonderful," said Puleff.

The Mustard Seed's kitchen is food safe. This means that those who have a certain allergy has their food prepared in a designated area to avoid contamination.

"We really compartmentalize our kitchen so that people can come in and never be afraid to eat," said Puleff.

What also makes The Mustard Seed different than other restaurants is that they provide a community jar.

"We have a community jar that people contribute to. Let's say you come in and 10 percent of your meal goes to something good, but it also provides meals for people who come in to eat who can't afford to eat," she said.

The Mustard Seed will be located at 51 East Main Street.

If you take a drive down Main Street, you can find the newly opened East Main Cafe.

It is located at 185 East Main Street where the old Kasia Coffee used to be.

It opened its doors this past October.

The manager, Nate Manning, is a 19-year-old electronic dance music DJ and producer who used to attend Fredonia.

"I was a marketing major. I took one semester. Towards the end is when we started to look at this place and literally the day that I handed in my papers to not attend for the next semester was the exact same day that we



The Mustard Seed Restaurant will open this coming Spring. Photos courtesy of Leah Graziano/Special to The Leader

signed the lease," said Manning.

Manning's family owns two other establishments, Manning's Fireside Manor located in Dunkirk, N.Y., and Tom's Family Restaurant located in Irving, N.Y.

They have been in the restaurant business for 7 years.

East Main Cafe's menu is American cuisine with a specialty in Greek. This is something that his family has done at their other restaurants for years.

Aside from that, they offer pastries and specialty donuts.

While on a trip to Philadelphia, Manning saw the wide variety of foods that he wanted to bring back to his cafe.

"This is what Fredonia needs, Fredonia needs different," Manning said. "We brought some different menu items in, some different ideas like the donut idea, and kind of matching it to what the place is. The place is very quirky, the place is very fun. It's a college hang out. It's a place that has a lot of potential once people find where it is."

East Main Cafe is open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekdays and 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekends.

So, what makes a good restaurant successful?

"I think that a successful restaurant has identified a niche with food that is in demand for our population. I think that it is healthy when we have a lot of different options," said Sue McNamara, a professor of management in the School of Business at Fredonia.

When students are in town, the amount of business that establishments get grows.

"If you run a good restaurant, serve good food, welcome both the community and students, you're probably going to be OK."



East Main Cafe brings American cuisine with a Greek flair to Fredonia.

OPINION

From the Desk of Mattéa Guldy, Art Director



Instagram: [matteea](#)

Twitter: [matteascorner](#)

VERBATIM

"What was the best deal you got, post-Thanksgiving?"



Jenelle Nyitrai, senior music therapy major

"I didn't do a lot of shopping, but I did go to a cafe where I got half off a specialty drink."



Lydia Turcios, sophomore animation illustration major

"I mean, I got a video game half off."



David Totaro, senior business major

"I actually didn't do any shopping post-Thanksgiving."



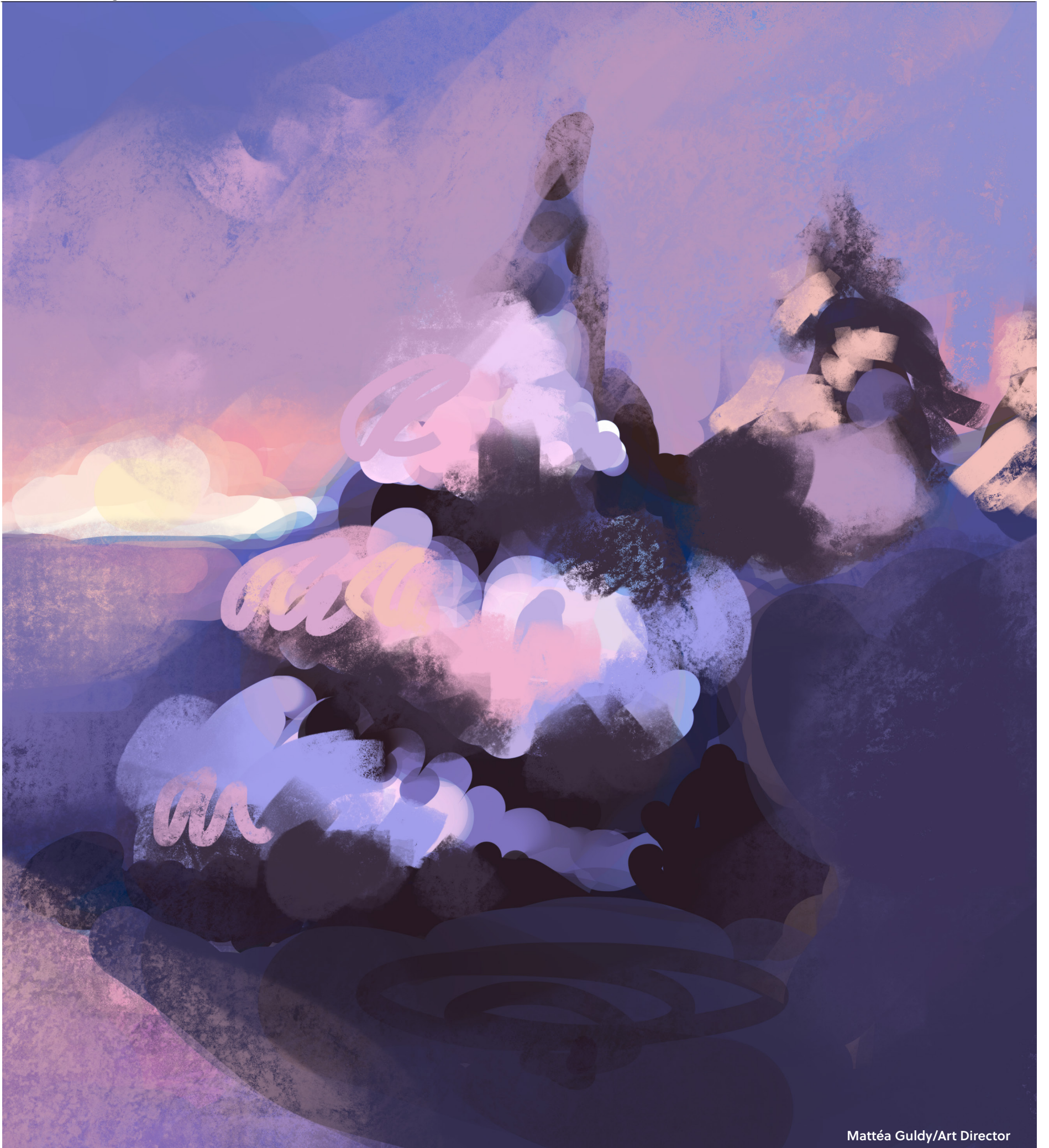
Connor King, sophomore business finance major

"I guess \$40 on a nice pair of sweatpants, but that's about it."



Mattéa Gully/Art Director





Let's get festive

Don't be a grinch, and keep reading



AMBER MATTICE
Managing Editor

By the headline above I'm sure you have gathered that this is going to be an article centered around the upcoming holiday season.

Don't get me wrong, I used to be very grumpy around this time of year with everyone spouting Christmas cheer before it was even December but alas, I've become what I hated the most. Oh well.

This season is great! Whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa or any other variation of a holiday during this time of year, there are a few universal things that deserve to be celebrated.

First, how beautiful it is. The snow on the ground, copious amounts of twinkle lights strung as far as the eye can see and the smell of hot chocolate in the air is hard to beat. While the cold will inevitably make me grumpy as I trudge through snow on my way to school, I also love to walk around campus

when the snow is falling. Something about it seems so surreal and lovely to me.

Which brings me to my next point, the warm beverages available during this time are to die for. Not literally, because this is a happy time of year and the spooky season has passed but you know what I mean. Hot chocolate is a must for me when it gets chilly and all I want to do is curl up underneath a blanket. But that's not all! Peppermint Mochas, toasted drinks from Starbucks and anything with cinnamon make for festive and delicious companions on your walk to or from campus in the snow.

Part of the appeal of warm drinks in the winter is the need to be cozy during the holidays. Cuddly blankets and soft pjs are staples of the season and being able to come home to something warm and comfortable makes the stress of this point in the school year a little bit more bearable.

Another reason that I have grown to love this time of year is how magical it all seems. Cliche, I know,

but stay with me. Everyone seems so much happier and this season is full of giving and shared laughter.

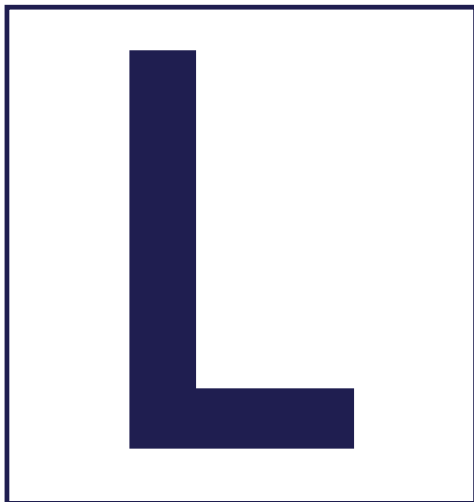
It makes me happy to see so much kindness being spread and, while I wholeheartedly believe there should be more kindness in the world consistently throughout the year, if an excuse is needed, this is it.

While Winter and celebrating the holidays is not everyone's cup of tea, I would recommend taking a moment to reflect and take a look at the world around you as the colder months progress and the end of the semester is quickly approaching. This time of year is full of beautiful things, opportunities for adventure, cute pictures to be taken and so much more.

I'll leave you with a quote by W.B. Yeats that I recently discovered that kind of encompasses how I feel about this time of year:

"The world is full of magic things, patiently waiting for our senses to grow sharper."

Kathleen Fenton/Staff Illustrator



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PHOTO GALLERY

All photos taken by Kristin Johnson/Staff Photographer



Frosty's hand



A photo collaged, moonlit night



Patrons stopping by to browse the Exhibition



Above (L): Alison Gugino poses with her self-portrait



Above (C): Erin Ruffino stands with her self-portrait



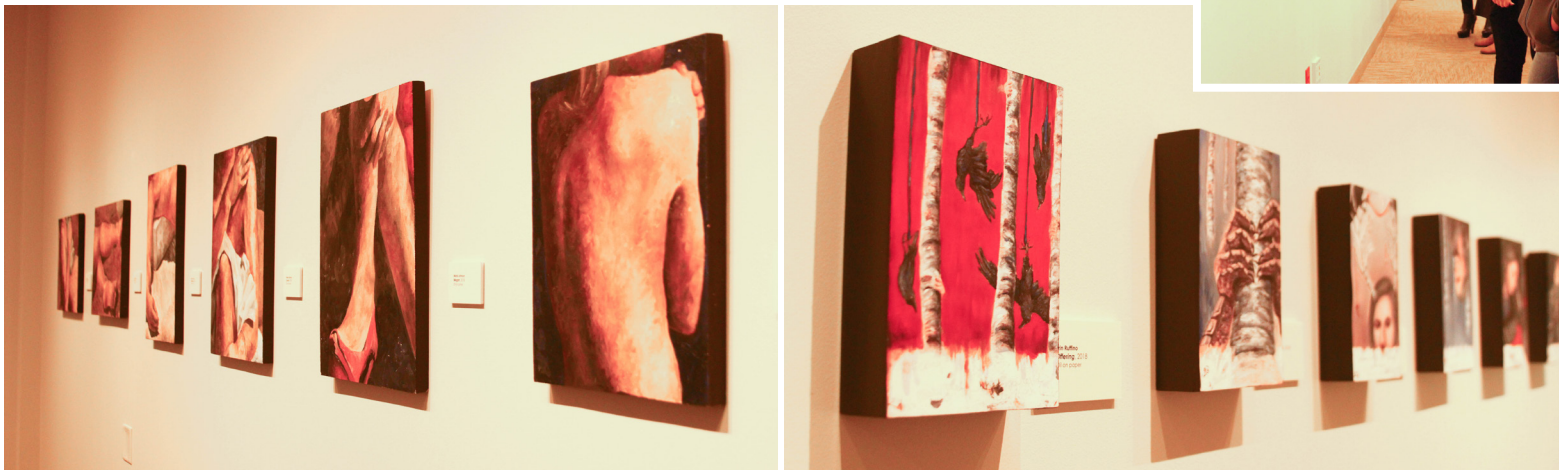
Above (R): Maria Johnson alongside two of their paintings

Below (L): Artwork by Maria Johnson shown at the Fredonia Technology Incubator

Below (R): Artwork by Erin Ruffino presented at the Fredonia Technology Incubator



Above: Exhibition visitors view the student's artwork



SPORTS

Fredonia athletics update

AIDAN POLLARD

Sports Editor

These past two weeks saw Fredonia hockey continue a strong start to the season.

Alongside Blue Devils hockey, Fredonia's men's and women's basketball programs seasons are now underway.

Both teams are winless so far in the season with both teams holding an 0-5 record as of Nov. 25.

The women fell to Penn State Behrend, Waynesburg and Nazareth.

The men suffered their losses to D'Youville, Washington & Jefferson and Waynesburg.

The women's team is playing their first season with their new coach Sarah Cartmill.

The men's team is coming off of a season where they accumulated only two SUNYAC wins against Potsdam and Buff State.

Blue Devils hockey is now 6-1-0 after an upset win against Oswego as well as wins against Cortland and UMass Dartmouth. The hockey team has been off to a blazing start that sets them up for a good pick to make the SUNYAC playoffs this season, as well as making the championship game.

After last year's championship loss to Geneseo, Fredonia will be looking to settle the score against the only team they've lost to this season.

This week will also see the first performances by the Fredonia men's and women's track and field teams as well as the Fredonia swimming and diving invitational, which is taking place this weekend.

The track and field teams will travel to Brockport on Friday for the Brockport Multi Invitational and the swimming and diving programs will host the invitational which runs from Thursday until Saturday.

For the most up to date Fredonia athletics information, go to <https://fredoniabluedevils.com>.

Can Fredonia ever become a sports school?

AIDAN POLLARD

Sports Editor

Maybe. But it would take a lot.

Fredonia isn't a Division I school, so we're not really in the running to be the next Syracuse, or even compete with UB for that matter. But a better question to ask would be what will it take for Fredonia's athletics to compete with some of the other SUNY and Division III schools?

Right now, Fredonia's sports are attended mostly by families of athletes and other Fredonia athletes, but how do we get showings like when we hosted lacrosse nationals a few years ago? Or the SUNYAC Championship hockey game hosted by Geneseo last season?

The first things that would need to happen are getting more competitive and getting much better facilities.

Since Fredonia's new athletic director Jerry Fisk started last year, new and better facilities are certainly at the forefront, but much bigger renovations are going to be needed to see any significant change any time soon.

Fredonia got a new performance center this year, where Fredonia athletes can all go to get strength and conditioning training from Jon-Ryan Maloney, Fredonia's strength and conditioning coach.

The performance center was a really strong and clever place to start renovating Fredonia athletics because the center is open to all of the Fredonia teams, so everybody sees the benefit.

Plus, two of the biggest selling factors that can get a recruit to come to a school are the

competitiveness of the school's programs and the quality of the athletics facilities. Starting with the performance center gives Fredonia the ability to give every single program a new facility to show off to recruits while they're visiting the campus.

The performance center is a great start, but it also can't be where the department stops.

Granted, Fredonia has also installed a new windscreen for the tennis courts as well as new bleachers in Dods gym so the basketball teams can play up in the gym instead of the fieldhouse.

But this job won't be complete until there is at least a new hockey arena. And a new indoor and outdoor track wouldn't hurt, either.

The problem with the Steele Hall Arena starts with the fact that there's only seating on one side of the arena, and it doesn't have that large of a capacity.

A new arena would both allow more spectators to come watch games as well as entice new and better recruits coming in to pick Fredonia over other schools with lesser rinks.

If a school can get better facilities, then the recruits it can bring in will be better, and the school will become more competitive.

Obviously, facilities aren't the only thing that can fix athletic departments, culture plays a part as well.

But culture can come from better facilities.

If a team has a better rink, track, court or field, they will probably be more proud of being an athlete at their school, jumpstarting a positive and competitive culture. And if a recruit sees that positivity, unity and competitiveness, they will be more likely to go to that school.

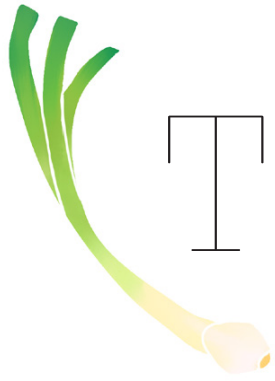
Getting more competitive as an athletics program has everything to do with being able to get more and more competitive recruits, and the highest-impact way to do that is will state-of-the-art facilities.

The other highest-impact way to make Fredonia into a sports school would be to introduce a football team.

But that comes with a ton of complications from where to put a stadium to Title IX restrictions.

So for now, to become more and more competitive we need to keep improving all of our facilities so that we can keep bringing in talented recruits that will help get this school onto the national stage in its sports.





THE SCALLION

Trump reduced to puddle due to light rain

DOM MAGISTRO

Special to The Scallion

On the eleventh hour of the eleventh day in the eleventh month of 1918, leaders from around the world put an end to the “war to end all wars.” For 100 years, the world has honored Armistice Day on that date, Nov. 11, with one glaring exclusion. In the United States, we celebrate Veterans Day.

Intended to honor veterans of every war in American history, Veterans Day is an honored tradition in the United States. Part of this honored tradition is the laying of the wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington Cemetery.

Despite the poor weather this year, world leaders got together to mourn the dead. Once again, the United States was the exception. Trump was busy, so he neglected to participate.

He wasn't too busy to step outside for a moment in the rain. As soon as he did, officials report seeing him shrink until he was a puddle of fake tan with a messy blonde toupee floating in the middle.

The officials immediately scooped as much of the 45th president as they could into the paper cones you can find near any respectable water cooler and promptly poured him into a bathtub. A vessel was constructed the next day and Trump poured inside.

“I'm just glad that I don't have to call Mike Pence our 46th president,” said Tyler Oakley.

“My new press pass is ready to ask this ooze what he did with the real president,” an excited Jim Acosta reported on CNN last night.

No one anticipated The Orange to melt into a puddle when stuck in the rain like the Wicked Witch of the West (sorry Elphaba, but the joke

is there) but no one was particularly surprised, either.

While it was annoying to see how much he complained about having to stand in the rain, while the veterans who fought for the country he is currently failing at being in charge of stayed dry under a tent, it was certainly in character for the villain of modern America's story.

Melting as soon as the rain touched him was a hilarious turn of events and, while the puddle is still technically the president, one can only hope that he evaporates before anyone finds a way to fix him.



Emily Kupp/Staff Illustrator

Student gets smacked by a pile of snow on top of passing car

**TRAVIS LEFEVRE and
AMBER MATTICE**

Editor in Chief and
Managing Editor

On the corner of Ring Road and Symphony Circle lies a pile of snow found guilty of a horrendously hilarious accident.

Jon Mason was just leaving class in Thompson to go back to his townhouse, ready to enjoy the rest of the day he had off. His plans went a different direction, however, when a car with a large stack of snow on top made a sharp turn onto Ring Road. The speed and sharp angle sent the snow flying off the roof and, according to sources, Mason “got fucking decked by that snow.”

“Man, that was wicked,” said Peter Mason, Jon’s brother. “I was walking right next to him and when I looked over he was just gone. That is, until I noticed him twitching on the ground from that hit.”

Jon has since been taken to Brooks

Memorial Hospital and has been treated for whiplash and intense frostbite. According to sources in the hospital, Jon looked like a real-life Rudolph with how red his nose was due to the cold.

The driver remains at large but according to witness accounts, copycat attacks have occurred on campus, with one individual going so far as to fill the bed of his pickup truck to the brim with snow and other miscellaneous Christmas materials saying, “In America, we celebrate Christmas. No

‘Happy Holidays’ on my watch!”

It seems that what was just an amazing accident that

happened by chance has turned into a campus-wide prank, with students waiting for their friends to cut across parking lots or begin their trudge home simply to hit them with snow on the tops of their vehicles.

Some students have even reported using their cars like noble steeds and having jousting-esque snowball fights in the parking lot. Packing their passenger seats full of snow, students have been seen chucking balls of ice at one another in-between classes.

Jon, however, refuses to go anywhere near large piles of snow and has been ducking out of fear (even when there is no one around him) that he will be the victim of this snow-based violence once again.

Peter, thoroughly enjoying his brother’s new found fear of the fluffy winter magic, is in the midst of curating the largest pile of snow on top of his car in the hopes that he can catch his brother of guard.

Jon, if you’re reading this, you better watch out.



Sitting SA President vetoes election, declares himself President for Life

TRAVIS LEFEVRE

Editor in Chief

Two weeks ago, droves of students opened their emails and voted for who they wanted to become the next president of the Student Association. While this is normally a time to look at who might be sitting at the top of the Fredonia's bureaucratic food chain, the process was disrupted when current SA President Conner Aitcheson vetoed the election and signed an executive order that declared him President for Life.

To celebrate his fair and just victory at the polls, President Aitcheson decreed election day be replaced with "Aitcheson Day," which is now formally recognized on all SUNY Fredonia calendars and is celebrated with a University Police Parade down Ring Road and through the center of campus on Old Main Drive.

"I mean, it's kinda bullshit, but who am I to say, he is the president, after all," said one student. "I guess that means he can kind of just do this stuff."

Other students have been critical of Supreme Leader Aitcheson's "dictator-like" move, but, after some talks with the administration, the protesters have backed down and since switched to his side.

"He made some really great points when we met with him, he was so open and willing to hear our critiques of him. He truly deserves to be President for Life," said former protester Leon Parsons, with two burly UP officers closely monitoring the interview.

The Scallion has reached out to Supreme Leader Aitcheson for a comment on his new administration and how being "President for Life" would work once he graduates. We haven't heard back from the reporter we sent out and have since received a letter in the mail saying "Don't send more reporters."

We're currently investigating in an attempt to find a connection between these two incidents.



Mattéa Guldy/Art Director

Ask Fairy Godmother



Your place to bippity boppity bitch

Dear Fairy Godmother,

Thanksgiving was SO relaxing, how am I supposed to come back to school for another month? The cold weather and finals make me miserable just thinking about it. My roommate also keeps playing Christmas music even though I've told him it gives me a headache. Do you have any tips for getting through the end of the semester without dying?

Please help,
Tired as Hell

Dear Tired,

Breaks like this exist to test your willpower; you have to show them who's boss. If you quit now, you'll be doing exactly what they want you to do. Button up your coat and lace up your boots because winter is coming and so are finals. Stock up on energy drinks and coffee (or maybe try cocaine) to keep yourself awake because sleep equals failure. Don't bother remembering due dates because they're bound to change so instead simply be vigilant every moment of every day for the next month. Ask your professors if you need help and remember that talking isn't the end-all-be-all of convincing tactics. If you have the pride of a chipmunk, however, you could just roll over and die. The school would keep your tuition and you'd be minus one degree. Why not just keep paying them for that almost meaningless piece of paper? Just like in gambling, the house always wins.

Sincerely,
Fairy Godmother

Dear Fairy Godmother,

The girls in my suite want to do Secret Santa to celebrate our first semester living together, but I have two problems with that idea: I'm poor and I don't like them. I thought about just disappearing and faking my own death, but I'd really like to graduate after putting in all this work. I could also move out, but that's a huge hassle. How do I either get out of this, or come up with a cheap gift for someone I dislike?

Please help,
Grinchy

Dear Grinchy,

I would recommend going along with the idea simply because you have to live with these girls, so avoiding tension is probably for the best. Gift ideas for someone you hate is an interesting concept that I've put a lot of thought into on your behalf. Cursed items are always my go-to for situations like this; any seemingly innocent gift can carry a nasty curse. Give your roommate a hairbrush that slowly makes her go bald. Gift the girl next door a mug that seeps carcinogens into her drink whenever she uses it. The holiday season can be fun even if you loathe humanity, you just need to know how to make your own joy.

Sincerely,
Fairy Godmother

Dear Fairy Godmother,

Over break, I accidentally ruined my own life. I was getting ready for Thanksgiving dinner and got frustrated with my makeup. My cousins are all hotter than me, so I try to put in a little more effort than just walking around the house in sweats with nothing on my face. Anyway, I was getting frustrated when I grabbed my eyebrow razor to get rid of some pesky stray hairs. My hand slipped. I shaved off half of my eyebrow. I didn't have time to mourn as my family was arriving soon so instead I hastily drew one on and tried to pretend I didn't want to die. Everyone could tell but they didn't say anything, probably out of pity. My roommate at school is going to mock me until the end of time. What can I do to prevent her from noticing?

Please help,
Browcllops

Dear Browcllops,

I struggled to write this letter through my tears. My abdomen hurts from laughing. I'm laughing with you, not at you, I assure you, dear. Your problem is one faced by impatient makeup fans everywhere but unfortunately, it's not one with a simple answer. You could continue to draw your brow on but as you stated, it isn't very believable. You could also buy a fake mustache, cut it to the shape and glue it to your forehead. If all else fails, simply make your roommate disappear and she'll never have another bad thing to say. Happy Holidays!

Sincerely,
Fairy Godmother

POLICE NOTTERS

Monday, Nov. 19

3:59 a.m. University Police were called to the scene of a hit and run. When confronting the driver, he had moved to the passenger's seat and claimed that the driver fled. He was charged with reckless driving and bad lying.

Tuesday, Nov. 20

3:45 p.m. A noise complaint was made in the Mason Hall vicinity. Upon further inspection, it was revealed to be music students sobbing because they had to stay on campus during Thanksgiving break.

Thursday, Nov. 22

2:52 p.m. University Police responded to multiple instances of violent outbursts across campus. Apparently, not even "Friendsgiving" is safe from political arguments and fistfights.

Friday, Nov. 25

7:50 a.m. University Police were called to provide backup at the local Wal-Mart to control the Black Friday chaos. Three officers were injured when one customer beat his way through the crowd with a rubber chicken.

3:25 p.m. Once again, University Police were called to Wal-Mart. The three aforementioned officers were put on administrative leave after refusing to go and relive their past trauma.

Saturday, Nov. 24

12:09 a.m. On patrol, officers found a student dragging a television across campus. When questioned. The student explained that he got it from Black Friday shopping but didn't have a car.

12:11 a.m. A television was reported stolen from the Village Townhouses. An investigation is on-going.



Tyler Meek/Special to The Leader

COMICS

CANNED PEACHES by Alissa Salem

