

FRANKLIN PAYS VISIT FOR

ART ADVOCACY

FREDONIA TO BE FEATURED ON 'SMALL **BUSINESS REVOLUTION'**

2.5.20 | Issue 15 | Volume CXXVI

FREDONIA SPORTS 2019 MISS AMERICA NIA

UPDATE

THE SCALLION 16

\$1.6 BILLION CORPORATION IS COMING TO FREDONIA

The Leader

Advertising: leaderad@fredonia.edu	
S206 Williams Center	Twitter @LeaderFredonia

Fredonia, NY 14063

leader@fredonia.edu

www.fredonialeader.org

Editor in Chief Elyse Grieco

Managing Editor Avril King

News Editor Aidan Pollard

Asst. News Editor Vacant

Life & Arts Editor Jessica Meditz

Asst. Life & Arts Editor Vacant

Sports Editor Dante Lasting

Asst. Sports Editor Carolyn Mullarkey

The Scallion Editor Joseph Marciniak

Asst. Scallion Editor Vacant

Web Editor James Mead

Asst. Web Editor Vacant

Design Editor Vacant

Asst. Design Editor Vacant

Art Director Olivia Connor

Asst. Art Director Jesseca Bennett Creative Director Natalie Opp Asst. Creative Director

Instagram @leaderfredonia

Facebook LeaderFredonia

Vacant Photo Editor

Asst. Photo Editor Alexis Carney

Copy Editor Vacant

Vacant

Asst. Copy Editor Jules Hoepting Anna Gagliano

Business Manager Vacant

Asst. Business Manager Christie Fils-Aimé

Ad. Sales Manager Vacant

Asst. Ad. Sales Manager Vacant

Sales Representatives Ariel Davis Noah Hulbirt

Social Media Manager Sarah Hughston

Asst. Social Media Manager Maddie McClelland Jules Hoepting Isabella DiStefano

Adviser Elmer Ploetz

The Leader is funded through advertising revenue and a portion of the mandatory student activities fee. It is published by the students of SUNY Fredonia. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means except as may be expressly permitted in writing by the editor in chief. All opinion writings in The Leader reflect the opinion of the writer, with the exception of the editorial, which represents the opinion of the majority of the editorial board. The Leader editorial board holds its staff meetings, during the academic semesters, weekly on Tuesdays at 7:50 p.m. Letters to the editor must be 350 words or less and have a deadline of 4 p.m. on Friday. The Leader is printed by the Buffalo News in Buffalo, New York and is distributed free on campus and in the surrounding community. Don't do drugs or you'll burn in Hell.

Proud member of The Associated Collegiate Press.

NEWS

Fredonia to be featured on 'Small Business Revolution'

CHRISTINE WHITECAR Special to The Leader

Our small town of Fredonia received some big news Jan. 28 at the Fredonia Opera House as "Small Business Revolution" co-host Amanda Brinkman took to the stage to announce our town's victory in the Small Business Revolution Contest.

Each day for a total of one week, viewers had the chance to vote online between five top towns to appear on season five of "Small Business Revolution," Fredonia being one of them.

Fredonia managed to keep the lead the entire week, the contest concluding on Jan. 28. That night, Fredonia residents, students and supporters alike gathered at the Opera House for a live stream event at 8 p.m. where the results were announced.

Hundreds rose to their feet as Brinkman appeared on stage shortly after Fredonia was announced the winner over the live stream broadcast.

"The crowd was so excited when it was announced that we had won. You could tell that everyone had put a lot of hard work into voting and getting their friends and families to vote as well," said Julia Haley, senior education major. "It really showed that everyone's hard work had paid off. It was awesome to see people from all ages celebrating Fredonia together," said Haley.



Residents gather outside of the Fredonia Opera House | Alexandria Nieves



On the Cover:

Activities Night in Steele Hall | Alexis Carney / Asst. Photo Editor

 $\mathbf{2}$

Campus clubs gather at spring Activities Night

OLIVIA BEILEIN

Special to The Leader

For students returning to Fredonia after a much needed winter break, the new semester can be a fresh start for many. Aside from new classes, there is the opportunity to look into new interests or discover people who share the same ones.

Activities Night, which happens in both the spring and fall semesters, is a chance to do just that.

The gathering hosts over 170 of Fredonia's recognized clubs and is open to not only students, but also the Fredonia community. For new students or someone who has never been to activities the night before, the atmosphere can be intimidating.

As someone looking to join a club, many prospective students say what draws them in is how the club uses their creativity in their table presentation. Those clubs that stood out the most had a lot to do with not only the members present, but also how they brand themselves. This can be based on if they hand out candy, have balloons attached to the table, a colorful poster or are giving away free items.

Aside from table decorations and free items, the enthusiasm of a group is also very important. If current club members are just standing there waiting for those who are bold and interested to approach them, it is less likely they will have much success. Whereas having someone reach out to you as you walk by could be what pushes a prospective student to sign up and feel encouraged.

Some of the largest organizations on campus are Fredonia's Greek life. Among these groups there are three sororities, three fraternities and one co-ed fraternity. All of these Greek groups attend activities night in hopes people will sign up for what they refer to as "rush" week, which is the following week after activities night.

What is important to note is that signing up at Activities Night does not guarantee you a spot in the group but rather an opportunity to be accepted after going through their decision process.

To many who wish to join a club on campus, having instant acceptance can be the deciding factor on whether or not they join.

Clubs such as the Philosophical Society encourage anyone who wants to "answer life's biggest questions" to join said e-board member Noah Teijeira. Teijeira who has been in the club now for two semesters also mentioned how they have been revamping the club in hopes to find people who are willing to learn and better educate themselves on "hot topics."



Campus groups set up for Activities Night. | Alexis Carney / Asst. Photo Editor

Having opportunities like Activities Night is a chance for this newly rebooted club to get their shared interest of philosophy out their for those who may be interested as well.

Fredonia is popularly known for being a sought-after music school, but for those who wish to keep their musical interest a hobby joining a music oriented club may be something perfect for them. The Percussion Guild has been around since the early 90s and explores the different kinds of percussion instruments. Mclain Hinkler is a second-year percussion major who encourages anyone to join. Having a wide variety of students in the club who share a love for music through percussion is the main goal, said Hinkler. They hold master classes and clinics quite often on campus for anyone interested.

Besides social clubs, there are also many academic clubs that can be helpful as students go onto their future careers after graduating from Fredonia. Public Relations Student Society of America is a great opportunity for public relations majors to gain reputable experience. It is also encouraged for anyone else in any major to join because in almost any career someone does, there is some form of public relations said sophomore member Melena DeBoe.

There is almost always something suited for anyone's interests. Activities Night may only happen once a semester but it is also important for anyone interested in a club to know that they can join also anytime throughout the year. Clubs are a great opportunity to expand one's knowledge, interests and friend groups on campus.

Activities Night, Spring 2020



Divine Sound performs, along with several other a cappella groups.





Students interact with members from organizations.

STEPS informs students about its club.



Photos by Alexis Carney / Asst. Photo Editor

POLICE BLOTTERS

Like University Police on Facebook for updates and info at "New York State University Police at Fredonia." 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.

UNIVERSITY

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Items were stolen from a locker in Mason Hall. An investigation is ongoing.

FREDONIA

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

10:48 a.m. - Marquell Lee Marshall was charged with aggravated assault and physical harassment. The suspect was held.

Wednesday, January 29, 2020

9:23 a.m. - Nicholas R. Eggleston was charged with aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

4:28 p.m. - Juan A. Collazo was charged with petit larceny. An appearance ticket was issued

Friday, January 31, 2020

4:18 p.m. - Bruce E. Salisbury was charged with aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

Saturday, February 1, 2020

12:36 a.m. - Michael V. Sheehan was charged with trespassing. An appearance ticket was issued.



Miss America Nia Franklin pays visit for arts advocacy

KATIE LENDA

Special to The Leader

Composer, arts advocate and Miss America 2019 Nia Franklin was proudly welcomed to Fredonia on Jan. 28 by the student organization, Ethos New Music Society.

Earlier that day, Franklin taught a master class for student composers, and later gave a lecture which was preceded by an



open Q&A session. Franklin touched upon topics including the struggles she has endured throughout her life, why she believes the arts are important, the real meaning of beauty and her journey of going from an everyday music student at East Carolina University to Miss America.

Franklin is everything one would expect Miss America to be: poised, intelligent and extremely talented.

She opened the lecture by playing her new single, "EarthSun," which is available on all streaming platforms.

Franklin then began discussing her love and passion for music and how it stems back to her childhood.

She found it completely fitting to become a composer as she had been writing songs and singing in church since she was very young.

However, during her college career, Franklin faced several challenges.

During this time, Franklin said that her father was battling cancer.

On top of that, Franklin also discussed the struggles she

faced in her music theory course, the difficulty of being a vocalist in the composition department and how being a woman of color in a male dominated field impacted her experience.

But nonetheless, she persevered.

"If there's something you want to do, don't box yourself in. You can't give up on yourself. If there is a goal you have, definitely fight for it," Franklin said.

Franklin experienced rejection as she began to enter beauty pageants.

She competed in multiple different pageants in her home state, North Carolina, but never secured the title of Miss North Carolina.

She decided to move on from pageants and began her career in New York City.

Several months after Franklin settled into her new life in New York, she received a call encouraging her to compete in the Miss New York pageant. She was skeptical, but ultimately ended up competing.

Franklin went on to win Miss New York, and then Miss America in 2019 after three years of competing.

When speaking on her experience, wins and losses in beauty pageants, Franklin said, "There is always room for improvement. I believe that wherever you are in your life is exactly where you are supposed to be. Trust that, and believe in yourself."

During the Q&A portion of the lecture, Franklin was asked



Nia Franklin during the Q&A | Lori Deemer / State University of New York at Fredonia

by a student about what can be done to encourage arts advocacy.

"It is really important to be present in the community when we are advocating for the arts," she responded. "It is crucial to empower children to follow their dreams." empower children to follow their dreams."

Lastly, Franklin was asked by another student about what her definition of beauty is, to which she said, "Beauty is soul deep. Looks will fade, and it's truly about your soul, your spirit and what you have to offer within."

She also said she follows the quote by poet John Keats, "Beauty is truth, truth is beauty."

Franklin elaborated on that quote, saying, "Whatever your truth is to you, that's your personal truth, because beauty is subjective."

Franklin's visit to campus allowed students of all majors to have the opportunity to have an open conversation on the highs and lows of one's career.

Franklin shared her personal experiences to convey to students to never give up, because dreams take time.



Nia Franklin with composition student Sierra Wojtczack. | Lori Deemer / State University of New York at Fredonia





Marion Art Gallery presents 'Contrasts in Clay' featuring Artists Kwok-Pong Tso and Susan Beiner

JESSICA MEDITZ

Life & Arts Editor

Marion Art Gallery's newest exhibit, "Contrasts in Clay," is the embodiment of minimalism and complex artistry in the most intimate of settings.

Sculptors Kwok-Pong "Bobby" Tso and Susan Beiner came to Fredonia from different experiences and walks of life to sport their individual, unique styles of art — producing an intriguing, contrasting effect to each visitor.

Upon walking into the space, visitors cannot help but be drawn to the sumptuous display of botanical structures that adorn the walls.

These pieces are the works of Susan Beiner, a mixed media ceramic artist whose work has seen plenty of the U.S., as well as international borders. She is currently based in Phoenix, AZ and works as an assistant professor of art at Arizona State University.

The inspiration for her work "stems from [my] interest in 18th century European porcelains. [I] began translating the painted surface of these vessels into layers of encrusted form and color," she said in her biography for her website.

Due to its size and ornate presence in the room, her sculpture titled "Synthetic Reality" immediately caught my eye.

This piece, as well as a good portion of the rest of her work, is made of porcelain, foam and wood.

A few steps down were two more especially lovely pieces of hers, titled "Unintended Consequences" and "Dark Drop."

I admired these pieces because they were displayed adjacent to one another, and the contrasting difference between the white and black coloring is nearly impossible to resist staring at.

These sculptures were created five years apart, so it makes you wonder if perhaps the more recent one was intended to act as a sequel to the first, if they were placed next to each other purposely or if they're even related at all. Speaking of ambiguity and relating pieces, Bobby Tso's artwork provides both of those elements for his audience.

Originally from Hong Kong, Tso is based in the midwestern part of the U.S., having earned his B.F.A. from Northwest Missouri State University, and his M.F.A. from the University of Iowa. He works as an assistant professor of art at Washburn University in Topeka, KS.

In addition to being an artist, Tso describes himself as an "object maker."

This self description holds true as the majority of his compositions resemble everyday objects, a good portion of them taking influence from vintage factory machinery.

Tso's artwork, "Motionality Version 2" is simultaneously simple and complex.

The piece is composed of clay, wood, plastics and metals and features circular panels with several threadlike structures conjoining them.

It appears to be a modern parallel to an early 20th century sewing machine — which would not be an unreasonable interpretation as Tso said he has a great appreciation for history.

Along with history, Tso said another important aspect to his work is "the relationship between humans and everyday objects, as well as the relationship between one object to another."

He also said that he purposely makes his work a bit childish and up for the viewer of the piece to decide what it means to them.

Although the appearances of Beiner and Tso's compositions completely differ physically, the one thing that bridges them together is the artistic, strategic usage of clay and other fine materials.

"Contrasts in Clay" will remain in Marion Art Gallery through March 8, so there is plenty of time to catch it before it's too late.

Excluding Mondays, the gallery is open from noon to 4 p.m. during the week. Friday and Saturday hours are noon to 6 p.m. The grabilities free and open to the public

The exhibit is free and open to the public.



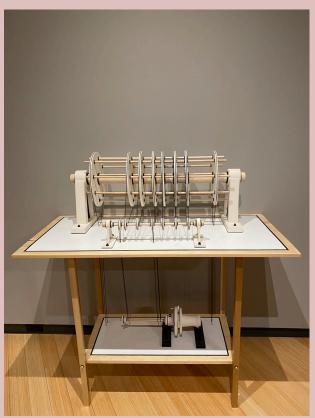
Kwok-Pong Tso (left) and Susan Beiner (right) standing between their artwork, (Susan's work is on the left while Kwok-Pong's work is on the right) after a successful show within the Marion Art Gallery at the Rockefeller Arts Center. | Derek Raymond



"Synthetic Reality" by Susan Beiner. | Jessica Meditz / Life & Arts Editor



"Unintended Consequences" by Susan Beiner. | Jessica Meditz / Life & Arts Editor



"Motionality Version 2" by Kwok-Pong Tso. | Jessica Meditz / Life & Arts Editor

David Dobrik is coming to SUNY Fredonia, but why? Yeah, we don't know either

ISABELLA DISTEFANO

Asst. Social Media Manager

If you've been watching YouTube for the past few years, the name David Dobrik may sound familiar to you.

That name will probably become even more familiar this spring, because he's coming to SUNY Fredonia.

According to Spectrum Fredonia's Twitter page, David Dobrik's Fredonia visit will begin on Friday, March 27.

But what about the concert that we have every spring semester? Instead of a musical performance, this year Spectrum invites a social media star to campus.

Dobrik started his career off on Vine, a six-second video sharing app.

Since the app no longer exists, he has moved over to YouTube, where he has well over 15 million subscribers.

His videos typically involve his friends and can be compared to Oprah, as he has given away fancy cars to those close to him, for example.

While this change of the usual act may come as a surprise, some Fredonia students can't wait.

"I think it's super cool that he's coming here and that someone can get so big on YouTube that they can tour colleges," said Claire Mancarella, senior communication disorders and sciences major. "I watch his videos. They're so fast-paced and fun; he really draws you in."

While many students are excited he's coming here, a few students reacted more coolly.

"It's kind of exciting to get a social media person to come. I'm a little concerned though because he's not a performer like everyone is used to in the past. I'm definitely excited to see what it's going to actually turn out to be," said Ronny Nissen, a senior adolescence Earth science education major.

In the past, Dobrik has given away things while on his college tour dates. But that isn't guaranteed to happen for Fredonia's stop.

Justin Taylor, a senior history major and third party insider to Spectrum's executive board, said that there was an "uneven divide within Spectrum's e-board between bringing David Dobrik or Bo Burnham to Fredonia's campus."

Taylor was asked by a member of the e-board to weigh his thoughts on the situation.

"All he does is go around and give people things. He doesn't tell any jokes, he's not a musician, he's not any of that," said Taylor. "In previous years, Fredonia has brought acts such as Kid Ink and Sal Vulcano with Chris DiStefano. So we were worried that it would be a small portion of the campus that would get to, in essence, reap the benefits of him coming here."

Taylor also said that "Spectrum used their whole budget on getting Dobrik to come [to Fredonia,] instead of using a part of their budget on Bo Burnham, a comedian, and than the rest of their budget on an opening performer.But with David Dobrik, we would be spending all of that money for one act to come. Supposedly, the contract he made with the school is not like he's forced to give anything away. He can literally just come, show up and that's it."

Taylor is unaware of what Dobrik will do once he does come to Fredonia. On Twitter, Dobrik has been seen in residence halls hanging out with students.

The Leader reached out to Spectrum for a comment on why Dobrik was selected for the spring show, but the club's president, Elizabeth Shearer, declined to comment on the matter.

OPINION

From the desk of Joseph Marciniak, Scallion Editor

Welcome back to campus everyone, it's good to be back (probably). If you're anything like me, you've got a million things to work on and your mind is on so many different topics it can be hard to concentrate and sit down and write a damn From the Desk Of article because you offered to write the first one again! Just me? Well, in any case, I have so many things on my mind, how about I just tell you about my taste in music right now.

Stuck in my head has been the album "Verses" by Louie Zong. It SLAPS. It's also extraordinarily wholesome, in particular "Just and Quail" and "Priscilla" stick out to me. These songs are certified bops that also warm my cold dead heart. Louie Zong in general just makes very happy music, so if you need a pick me up, I recommend his music.

Also frequently on my shuffle is the album "You Made Me Hurt" by Johnny and the Man Kids. You may be thinking "Wait, Joe, isn't that the band your brothers are in?" Yeah, so what? I'm allowed to like their music. And it's true, it slaps hard, and you won't see me admit that to my brother. John, if you're reading this, I'm lying, the album sucks, and I never listen to it.

My main homie has always been Saint Motel, though. I wait very impatiently for them to release the next two parts of their three part album "The Original Motion Picture Soundtrack." The first part was incredible, I vibe real hard to "Sisters" specifically. If you need a safe pop rock band, Saint Motel never fails.

Headshot | Joseph Marciniak

VERBATIM

How can they use the revitalization money to make Fredonia businesses better?



Heather Stein, sophomore video production major "We deserve a solitary Build-A-Bear."



Hunter Steinert, junior business administration major "I hope that the storefronts get a little spruced up."



Michael Lepsch, senior video production major "Using some of it to help companies move into the empty places downtown."

Graphic | Jesseca Bennett / Asst. Art Director

Ian Underwood, sophomore music performance: guitar major "It would be nice if they fixed some of the roads and filled the potholes."

SPORTS

Fredonia sports update

CAROLYN MULLARKEY

Staff Writer

It is a new year and new decade for Fredonia sports, but many of our teams are well into their respective seasons.

What is next or upcoming for our Blue Devils? Both men and women's basketball teams are off

to play Plattsburgh and Potsdam in away games. Track is also on the road this weekend with a

tournament in Utica. Here, at home, our hockey team faces both

Plattsburgh and Potsdam this Friday and Saturday. The games start at 7:00 p.m in Steele.

A big event at home is the only home meet for swimming. It is against Cortland and will be the day in which all seniors on both men and women swimming/diving will be honored.

The men's team seniors are Cameron Criss, Pranav Marala, Charlie May and Bradley Zifra.

The women's team seniors are Sam Angrignon,

Alyson Baumann, Lydia Gaughran and Sierra Parsons.

The meet starts at 1 p.m. on Saturday, and all Blue Devil support is encouraged. For full play reports including all updated stats and scores of past games, check out https://fredoniabluedevils.com/index.aspx



Remembering Kobe Bryant

ANTHONY GETTINO

Sports Editor

Sunday, Jan. 26 was just a normal day. The news was focused on Super Bowl LIV between the Chiefs and the 49ers. Then, there was a report. Kobe Bryant had died in a helicopter crash.

It didn't seem like it was real. TMZ had reported the crash, and no other news outlet had put out any information on the subject.

But it was. The LA Times put out an article saying that there was a helicopter crash and they would be giving out more information as they got it, but it was believed that Kobe was one of the victims.

To make matters worse, it was reported that one of Kobe Bryant's four daughters, 13 year old Gianna, was also a victim of the crash.

They were just going to a game at the Mamba Academy. A normal day in their lives, as Gianna was very invested in basketball and very talented. There was just too much fog in the Los Angeles skies that day.

A total of nine people died in that crash on Jan. 26. Payton Chester, Sarah Chester, Christina Mauser, Alyssa ALtobelli, Joe Altobelli, Keri Altobelli, Ara Zabayan, Gianna Bryant, and Kobe Bryant. All of their lives were cut short in the blink of an eye.

While everyone knew of how great Kobe was on the basketball court, with 33,643 points, five NBA Championships and one MVP, he was more than that. He was a husband and father, and a great one at that too. The reason he flew on helicopters so often was so he could spend more time with his kids, traveling from workouts back to his house in order to make it in time to pick up the kids from school, drive them to practices and just spend as much time as he could with them.

In the wake of Kobe's death, everyone was in a collective shock. The entire NBA community was turned upside down. He was such an inspiration for so many of the league's current players. No one thought he would die so suddenly.

What the players did the following days showed just how much Kobe meant to the NBA. When each game started, the team that won the tip would take a 24 second shot clock violation, then the other team would take either another 24 second shot clock violation or an 8 second half court violation, since Kobe wore both 8 and 24 during his career.

Along with this, the All Star game is being heavily influenced in honoring Kobe and Gianna, as one team is wearing Gianna's number 2 and the other is wearing Kobe's number 8. The final quarter is played to 24 as well.

I guess all these things just back up the famous quote by Babe Ruth: "Heroes get remembered, but legends never die."

While he may be gone, the legacy that he left for the younger generation will always remain.

Super Bowl LIV

Shakira and J-Lo perform at halftime. | Alexandria Walsh



Sports management club had the opportunity to attend Super Bowl LIV in Miami, FL. | Dante Lasting / Sports Editor



Fans gather around the field in anticipation of an exciting game. | Alexandria Walsh



Super Bowl LIV monument in Miami, FL. | Dante Lasting / Sports Editor



Entrance to Hard Rock stadium. | Dante Lasting / Sports Editor



SCALLION

\$1.6 billion corporation is coming to Fredonia to inject their pocket change and show our puny businesses how its done

JOSEPH MARCINIAK

Editor of the Scallion

Fredonia's small businesses are beaming after the news that this small town has won the "Small **Business Revolution.**"

The \$1.6 billion corporation "Deluxe" specializes

in revitalizing small businesses and ensuring they succeed throughout the future. And let me be the first to say, thank God this billion dollar corporation is showing us how it's done.

"Without the inspiration of Ty Pennington, or Jeff Bezos, I don't know if my business would be the same," Michael Scott, owner of Mike's Cereal Shack said in an interview. "I am glad that the fate of my small business has been saved by the fact that a huge corporation made a bunch of small towns battle over who gets approximately 1/14th of the CEO Barry McCarthy's yearly salary."

That number isn't made up, by the way. The CEO of Deluxe made 7,352,496 in 2018 alone. Wow, he must work really hard!

Other business owners have set up full blown

monuments to Deluxe in hopes they are chosen as one of the five small businesses.

Owner of the Ghost of Maria's Pizza, Maria Spizza, has a full portrait of Ty Pennington hung on the wall in hopes her business will stick out.

"We can only hope these fabulously wealthy people notice our poor poor struggling business and have pity

on our pathetic souls," said Spizza.

This next part of the article is for workers of Deluxe and Ty Pennington only, so please stop reading if you are neither.

(Uhh, hey guys, haha. I know I wrote some pretty mean stuff, but please pay my tuition. I promise I'll write another article next week about how amazing the company is. I'll even feature a picture of a muscular Ty Pennington; we have the people to make a photo like that. I'm sure the \$1,260,000 bonus your CEO got in 2018 was totally earned

and not made off the backs of working class people that will never make its way back into the economy through the facade of us being in a "trickle-down" economy. Again, love you guys, please pay my tuition



Fredonia invests in top-tier gaming lounge for Fredonia eSports; teams still suck

COREY DALE-MILLER Guest Scallywag

For those of you who haven't heard, SUNY Fredonia has been the recipient of a generous donation for a top-tier eSports gaming lounge. The lounge will be located in Schulz Hall and sports the Fredonia Blue Devil's color, blue. The lounge has already received a lot of praise from students, especially those who are participants in our very own eSports Club. We have it all now: 13 Alienware gaming desktop computers, two TV screens and three gaming consoles, including an Xbox One, a Playstation 4 and a Nintendo Switch. The room is a tapestry of beauty, sure to bring a smile to the faces of all those lucky enough to decide to visit it.

Unfortunately, despite all the odds being in our favor, this expensive addition of an eSports lounge to our great campus did not change the sad fact that our eSports teams suck. They suck so bad. And, if we're being honest, our worst team by far is our Dota 2 team. According to some research I did on Wikipedia, "Dota 2 is a multiplayer online battle arena video game developed and published



by Valve."

Now, I don't really know what that means because I did not bother to read the rest of the article, but I still have to write this, so here we go.

The statistics for our Dota 2 team are not pretty. In my research, I discovered that our team has never won a championship. In fact, they have never even won a single game. I attempted to reach out to the Dota 2 team captain for a comment, but I was unable to reach them.

It certainly appears that, despite the incredible addition of our new gaming lounge, our eSports teams are not stepping up to the plate. How could it be that throwing a massive amount of money at the Club did nothing to change their win rate. I'm no mathematician, but I think a continued record of no wins from our Dota 2 team makes them complete zeros. Get it? Because that's how many wins they have. LOL.

I sat down with eSports Club president, Kenny Price for a few hard-hitting questions. This is how he chose to answer them:

Scallywag: "So Mr. Price, how can you explain the devastating win rate we've seen from your Dota 2 team this season?"

Price: "I want to be perfectly clear. We do not have a Dota 2 team. I have done my best to relay this to you, and I am not sure what else to say."

Scallywag: "Dodging the question again I see. How can you defend a team with no registered wins? At this point, they might as well not even exist. That money could have been put to use on much better things, like the Fun and Logic Club"

Price: "I don't have any more time for this. We're done here."

So as you can see, folks, this is how I'm being treated. Maybe we could all learn something from this. The moral here is: Don't spend money on people who dodge questions. I for one sincerely hope that the next large donation that the school receives goes directly to our most intellectually honest newspaper section, The Scallion.

Graphic | Simon

A warm welcome to Geraldine, our first-ever gecko enrolled at Fredonia

MATTHEW BAUM

Staff Scallywag

The beginning of the spring semester has brought with it a variety of new faces to campus. Transfer students have wormed their way into the loving embrace of Fredonia, and the returning students are back to producing ungodly smells in the hallways of their residence halls.

One of these transfer students is named Geraldine Wilcox, a 14-year-old Tokay Gecko with a minimal spotting pattern. She is a sophomore history major, and she was accompanied by her friend, Savannah Wilcox, a sophomore arts and animation major with a minor in history. These two are both from CUNY Queens College, and according to Savannah, they made the transition because of certain logistical issues concerning Geraldine.

"Y'see, Queens was fine, but the administration had a problem with Gerri, going to class on her own," said Savannah. "That's bullshit! She deserves to be here just as much as I do! She was on the Dean's list, and she hardly ever bit anyone!"

Due to her gecko-specific requirements, Geraldine has a few special treatments. Her bed was taken out of her and Savannah's room, and replaced with a small terrarium with soft soil and small plants, and her meal plan has been supplemented by a six-month supply of crickets and 38 small mice, with their own enclosure in the Wilcox's dorm room.

The Wilcoxes were welcomed to SUNY Fredonia with each other transfer student, and despite a few odd looks from passers-by, Geraldine has been going to her classes. Her English professor, Ann Seigle Drege, described her reptilian student as "very attentive" and "full of thoughtprovoking viewpoints."

One main drawback for her friend and roommate, Savannah admits, is the temperature. "It gets very cold here, and she's got a sensitivity to too much thermal fluctuation, so I knitted her a sweater with a little 'F' on it."

A number of computer science and technical production majors decided to raise the bar, and designed for Geraldine a one-of-a-kind Class Cart. This unique mode of transportation has a built-in heat lamp, food and water dispensers, and USB port for her to plug in her laptop as she so chooses. In addition to keeping Geraldine warm, it also serves as a safeguard against unaware pedestrians who might have stepped on her on her way to class.

This semester, be sure to reach out and welcome the new faces you see around campus. They are kind, warm, funny, bright, and at least one has a breakaway tail. But you'll never know if you don't find out for yourself.



'Wait you're wearing a MAGA hat as a social experiment? That's so profound.'

DOM MAGISTRO

Staff Scallywag

Fredonia, N.Y. - Charles Watts was seen wearing a red hat with the famous slogan "Make America Great Again" printed in large block letters on it around campus. Watts walked confidently across campus Thursday morning, alone.

Known to be a very social person and rarely, if ever, separated from at least one friend, Watts' solitude was heard loud and clear. No one on the local campus wants to associate with anyone who could even remotely be interpreted as supporting Trump.

Even eating at Willy C's was a chore for poor Watts. His food took an extra long time to be prepared (a whole 20 minutes longer than normal!) and patrons threw garbage at him at regular intervals. One patron was cited as saying "that guy is a real jerk."

Now, my friend, what sort of reporter would I be if I didn't do my due diligence and have a conversation with the poor, malodorous lad? That would be appalling, almost as repulsive as the smell of body odor wafting off of poor Watts. I tell you, dear reader, as I approached the lion's den of Cheetos and NRA bumper stickers, I could hear Fox News blasting from Watts' dorm room.

"Don't worry bro, it's just a social experiment. I wanted to see who would let something so dumb like whichever lying politician we like get between us. It's really like Marvel and DC movies, bro. We like what we like and one is clearly superior, but it has no effect on what we're like. I'm a nice guy!" said Watts. Immediately, the smell of body odor became tolerable, perhaps even pleasant. I felt my heart racing and Watt's patchy neckbeard became something alluring. The way it accented his jaw as he slurred out "it's just an experiment to see who's really my friend" drove me crazy.

Ladies, gentlemen, and anyone else, I am here to tell you without a doubt in my mind that Charlie Watts is in fact very attractive, not a Trump supporter and perhaps even going to vote blue no matter who. This is excellent news for anyone with a blind date with him later this week as this blind date will in fact not cause you to go blind.

