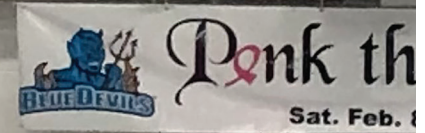
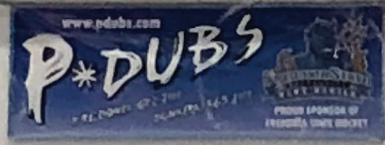


# THE LEADER

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# The Leader

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Proud member of The Associated Collegiate Press.

# NEWS

## Drop in yield for freshmen and transfers costs Fredonia 200 undergraduate students

**ALISA OPPENHEIMER**

Special to The Leader

Just last April, everyone was buzzing about Fredonia's largest incoming freshman class coming in the fall of 2019. We now face a new reality.

Over the past year, the drop in yield for both freshmen and transfers has cost the school 200 undergraduate students.

That's a large number that hopefully doesn't increase for the years to come.

For now, the question is why?

Fredonia's application rate went up 16 percent from 2018 to 2019. With the acceptance rate increasing, the rate of people transferring or dropping out within this past year has proven that Fredonia is not perfect.

Many upperclassmen feel it's due to admissions altering the requirements of getting accepted so that it's easier to get into the school.

Lauren Collorone, a junior at Fredonia, believes this to be the case.

"I remember when I applied, I truly didn't think I would get in," said Collorone. "So many people told me this was a super hard school to get into, and now I feel like so many people I know from home have been accepted,

or are currently attending."

Collorone also knows various students who have left or dropped out.

"All these students are getting accepted to increase our popularity, but then they actually come here and realize that college can be complicated, and they just give up or try somewhere new," she said.

We're all aware that Fredonia isn't Harvard, but does this rapid drop in students have to do with the tough academics?

"I wouldn't say the work or classes at Fredonia are extremely easy, but they're not extremely challenging either," said freshman Monica Pokoj. "I feel as though some classes are definitely harder than others, and it truly depends on the professors you have."

Pokoj began attending Fredonia in the fall of 2019; it was always her first choice when she was looking at schools.

She feels as though Fredonia will be where she graduates with the class of 2023.

Although she's enjoying her time as a student, similar to Collorone, Pokoj personally knew two people that dropped out this past year.

"In my opinion, they just weren't

**Continued on page 7**

### On the Cover:

Pink the Rink | Alexis Carney / Asst. Photo Editor



# New crustacean species discovered by assistant professor

**ANGELINA DOHRE**

Staff Writer

Almost 10 years ago, then-Yale graduate student Thomas Hegna began collaborating on research that would lead to a new discovery of crustacean species. Now a new assistant professor at Fredonia, Hegna recently finalized the project that has lasted since long before he received his Ph.D.

The project began when Hegna attended a conference at the Geologic Society of America and met his collaborator, Francisco Vega.

“[Vega] was presenting a poster for the first time on some of these creatures preserved in amber from Chiapas, Mexico, particularly the crustaceans,” Hegna said.

At the time, Hegna was aware of a new micro-CT scanner that was at Yale and decided to reach out to Vega about collaborating.

“I was interested in trying to CT scan some of the material he had,” he said. “For a variety of reasons, this project over the last 10 years has become hot and cold as we’ve had time to collaborate on it.”

This year, they finally had the chance to finish the project and push it out to the public.

Hegna recalls that he always had a passion for paleontology.

“This is a fascination that I’ve had since I was very little,” he said. “I come from a family of teachers, so teaching was a natural fit for me.”

This field is something Hegna considers as more than just a career.

“Paleontology is not only what I do professionally, but it’s also kind of my hobby,” he said. “It’s what I research in my free time and work on and think about in my free time. It is a true passion.”

So what exactly is this new crustacean species, and how did it end up in the amber? Hegna breaks down the basic contradiction of these fossils.

“Amber comes from trees. These crustaceans are aquatic,” he said. “How do you get the two to meet?”

The species found by Hegna and his collaborators is called *Caecorchestia bousfieldi* and also is known as beach fleas.

Similar crustaceans to this species have been observed in amber before. Previous hypotheses were one-off explanations,

stating they were washed in by a flood or blown in by the wind. However, other scientists discovered that resin-producing trees can release resin underwater in a permanently flooded coastal forest, known as a mangrove forest.

Another interesting point is that this crustacean species was blind.

“That’s something that you normally associate with cave-dwelling animals,” he said. “Of course, in this situation we’ve got no cave ... we can’t really explain that at this point because we don’t have the cave or the habitat. Indeed we may not ever be able to explain it, but that’s something very curious about these creatures.”

Hegna said the only thing that would continue this research would be new findings.

“I’m definitely open to that if we get new information on these preserved,” he said. “But at the same time, the field of amber studies and paleontology is getting kind of crowded, so I’m happy to work on things where the pace isn’t quite so quick.”

Instead of amber studies, Hegna plans to focus on other research and teaching classes at Fredonia.

“I don’t have any other ins to the amber community,” he said. “I’ll be concentrating on other projects at this point ... still dealing with crustaceans, but not with amber.”



Dr. Hegna | Angelina Dohre

# President Hefner: Who he is and what he's done since his return

**AIDAN POLLARD**

News Editor

"I don't ever describe myself. Other people talk about me — I don't talk about myself," said Interim University President Dennis Hefner.

It was a lighthearted answer, even though he seemed a little caught off guard by my question asking him to describe himself to the campus community. Especially those who may not even know that Hefner took over as university president last fall, as reflected by our poll of 46 students over the last week.

But if Hefner may not have the words handy to describe himself, and I have a suspicion most people don't, maybe I can



President Hefner sits in office | Alexis Carney / Asst. Photo Editor

take the liberty of helping out.

When I walked into Hefner's office to talk to him both about himself and about the successes and challenges of the fall semester, he took the time to ask about my classes, how I liked them and how I was doing. We held a conversation of small

talk like that for about five minutes. Hefner also gave me advice on where to go, what to do and who to try and network with as I prepare to graduate in May.

Needless to say, Hefner is an extremely busy man, and he didn't have to do that. He could've been short and cold with me. But he wasn't. He cares far too much about Fredonia's students for that.

Hefner is a tall man of slightly slouched posture and gray hair. Always sporting a suit, you can likely find him walking around campus, sitting with students at the library, or at a club event or in the stands of an on-campus game.

He takes the time to talk to students and even tends to remember some of them.

Since re-taking office last fall, Hefner has worked on some of Fredonia's most prominent programs and initiatives. He's helped launch an initiative to bring in and retain students after a drop in yield that cost the university 200 students.

"We are going through every academic program and looking at where there are unnecessary roadblocks for students and having those be eliminated," said Hefner.

Some of those roadblocks include GPA requirements for incoming students that don't necessarily reflect the requirements of the program.

Hefner has also helped secure funding for a solar panel array which will be the largest of any SUNY comprehensive college and create paths to all of Fredonia's master's programs from their respective bachelor's degrees.

"We had [made pathways] for some of the programs, but some we may not have had the baccalaureate programs at the time that would mesh," said Hefner. "It takes work to ensure that the degrees line up, and so [making the pathways] may take some changes to the baccalaureate programs, as well as some changes to the master's programs. Those changes have to go through a whole-campus approval process, and then when it finally leaves the campus, it then has to go to the SUNY system."

The SUNY system then reviews and has to agree upon the addition and alteration of programs. Programs may also have to go through yet another review at the State Department of Education.

"Of course there's questions going back and forth [about the programs]," said Hefner. "So it takes a while to make substantive changes in academic programs."

Even though Hefner has been no lame duck of an interim president, many Fredonia students either don't know he's currently holding the office of university president, or don't realize who he is, even though they may understand that the presidency has changed hands since last spring.

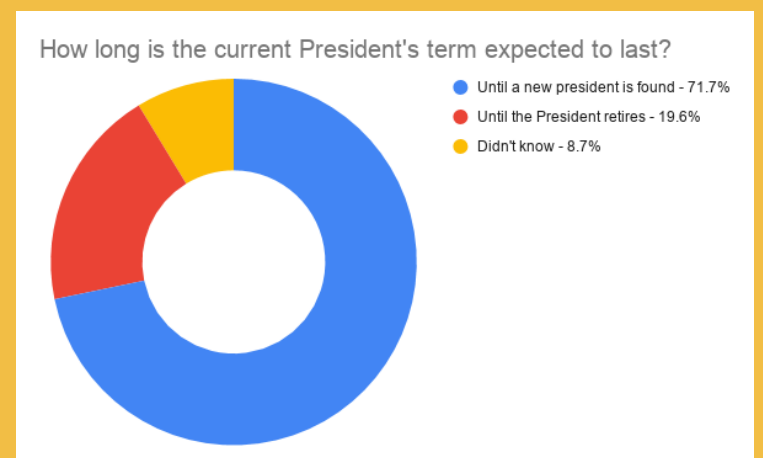
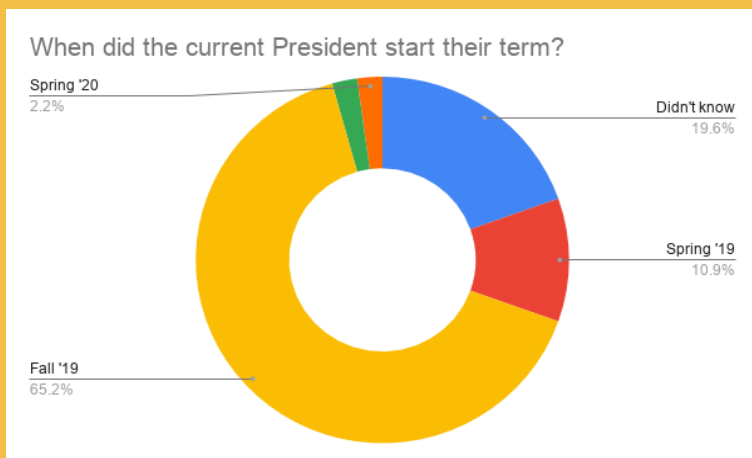
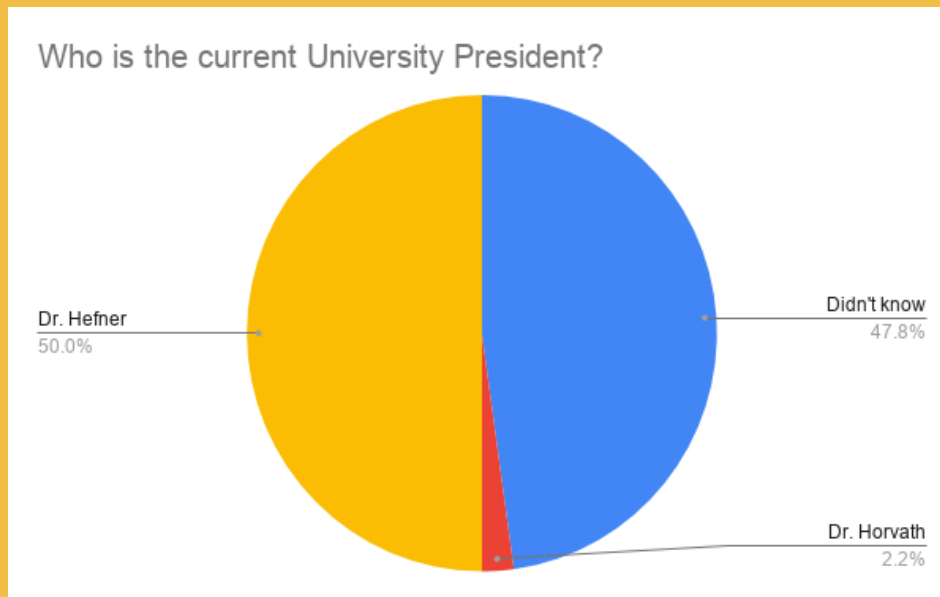
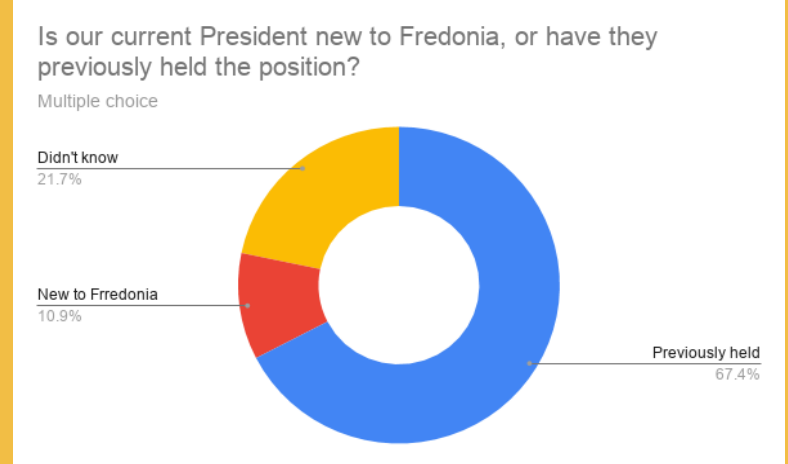
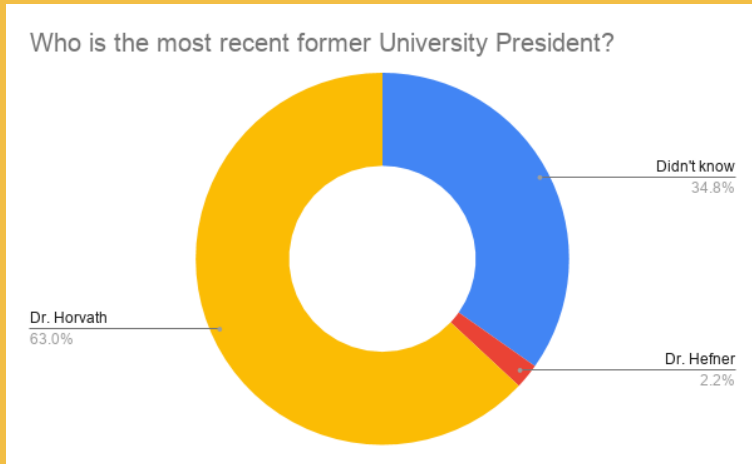
Continued on page 6

Over the last week, The Leader conducted a poll in an attempt to find out what students know about the current and former university presidents. The poll was answered by 46 students, and half of that sample either did not know who the current president is, or got the answer wrong. One notable answer to the poll's main question, "Who is the current university president?" listed the President as still being

Dr. Virginia Horvath, whose term ended last spring.

Also notably, most students sampled seem to understand that the presidency has changed hands, but many don't know who either the current or former presidents are.

Check out page 12 to see what students know about President Hefner.



### President Hefner continued ...

"I honestly didn't even know he was a thing," said sophomore Emily Fish when asked about the difference she saw between Hefner and Fredonia's previous president, Dr. Virginia Horvath. "Ginny once brought pizza to the library, so I liked her."

"I haven't noticed any major differences," said junior Ryan Dunning. "... I'm not the most in-the-know about campus politics. That being said, I would think [Hefner is] doing better [than Horvath] because he isn't being threatened with a vote of no confidence."

Hefner was well-accomplished during his first term as president as well.

"We put in [during] my first year, the very first four-year guarantee program at any New York university, public or private. That's the Fredonia in Four program," said Hefner. "I believe very strongly in assisting students with graduating, making sure that we are a student-focused campus. And so that was my very first really large initiative that I implemented..."

Hefner also made sure students had access to the classes they needed to graduate around the same time.

According to Hefner, access to classes had been a problem on campus at the beginning of his initial term.

Hefner is also known for his candy-making abilities. Yep, you read that right.

Growing up in California, Hefner's grandfather was a candy-maker and Hefner would spend a lot of time around his grandfather's stores.

"He's probably best-known for two things," said Hefner of his grandfather. "When the current San Francisco airport opened, his little candy firm beat every single candy-maker on the West Coast, and won the concession for the San Francisco airport."

Hefner's grandfather also developed a new method of making lollipops in which the colors wouldn't overlap or mix together.

When Hefner was a grad student with little money for things like holiday and birthday gifts, he began taking up the family trade and making candies as presents.

Now, he sometimes uses the gift-giving technique to get his foot in the door with N.Y. government officials.

"... And I know it sounds so simple, but [it's] one of the techniques I used to be able to get into offices in Albany," said Hefner. "People knew me [because] every December I would go to Albany, and I did it again this year, I went around and handed out little bitty boxes with only two pieces of candy in each one. But they knew me for that, so when I call for appointments, I could actually get appointments. And sometimes that's hard. And you've gotta get in front of someone to say why we need a Science Center."

## What's going on with Sunny's?

### TOPHER ELKINS

Special to The Leader

Sunny's is a popular nightlife spot for many here at SUNY Fredonia, but ever since students came back for the spring semester, they haven't been able to go out to the bar. The bar and nightclub haven't been open since after the new year, and the reason has been questioned by many.

Located on Water St. in downtown Fredonia, Sunny's is known as "Your favorite hotspot," according to their Twitter profile bio. This claim doesn't differentiate when you ask students on campus.

Christian Krasnek, a senior at Fredonia, said, "Sunny's was the best way to end your night downtown. No contest. Whether by yourself or with friends, Sunny's is always a good time."

None of Sunny's social media accounts have given any clue as to why the bar closed or gave any hint as to when they plan on opening up again.

On Jan. 22, Sunny's social media team posted on their Instagram page saying, "You've heard some crazy rumors. We're here to put them to rest. We're going to be closed for a few weekends, not months. Sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused, but we'll be back to rage soon & keep you

posted."

After that, however, they have been absent on all platforms.

When asking an employee of Sunny's what they know about the situation, we were told that they aren't allowed to say anything they know and told us to ask management.

The Leader reached out to Sunny's social media team on Instagram and asked if there was a member of the management team we could speak to about the closing situation. In return, they said, "There's nothing to know. We'll be open soon."

Many students wait to know when the nightlife spot will open its doors, but at this time, there's no timeframe as to when that is going to happen.

**Update:** Sunny's posted on Instagram that it will re-open on Thursday, Feb. 13.

**Retention rates continued ...**

prepared for the workload that college comes with and just thought it was another excuse to party and not do work, like high school," said Pokoj. "But, in reality, there are tons of reasons why someone would choose to transfer or drop out completely ... Some people might not be prepared, some may just be overwhelmed, or others may seek a different path in life."

Another thing that may need to be taken into consideration is the way in which Fredonia runs their "Jumpstart" day and orientation for incoming freshman.

"They should be reorganized and split up into more days," said Pokoj. "It was a ton of information when I went, and it was super overwhelming to have just one day with all this stuff coming at me that I needed to know ... That would be super helpful to really prepare incoming freshman to make sure they're comfortable in the environment and hopefully that in turn, makes them comfortable enough to stay."

As a transfer to Fredonia herself, Whitney Dann, a junior, feels differently about her first days as a student here.

"Fredonia is a really friendly environment that made transferring very easy," said Dann.

Dann is involved with multiple clubs and activities on campus and credits that to the way in which Fredonia welcomes its transfer students.

Like many others, Dann feels the only reason students would choose to transfer to other schools, or drop out, would probably be their ignorance in what being a Fredonia student really means.

"Once a student is on campus taking classes, they might realize this isn't what they had in mind," said Dann.

While we may not be able to completely get to the bottom of this without hearing from the students who left, what we can do is plan to improve yields for this spring.

Academic Affairs is currently reviewing all programs for obstacles for enrolling students.

A plan will later be submitted to the Provost to turn acceptances into deposits within the next five weeks.

Cedrick Howard, Vice President for Enrollment and Student Services, has not responded.

## 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****Wednesday, February 5, 2020**

A vehicle was struck while parked in Lot 9A. An investigation is ongoing.

**Saturday, February 8, 2020**

A suspect was found in possession of marijuana and tampered with a fire alarm. An arrest was completed.

**Monday, February 10, 2020**

A subject was harassed via social media. An investigation is ongoing.

**FREDONIA****Monday, February 3, 2020**

**1:50 p.m.** - Abner E Gonzalez was charged with unlawful imprisonment and harassment in the second degree. The suspect was released to a third party.

**6:17 p.m.** - Danielle N Braun was charged with criminal contempt. An appearance ticket was issued.

**Tuesday, February 4, 2020**

**2:25 p.m.** - Jacen J Weinkertz was charged as a result of a warrant. The suspect was held.

**5:11 p.m.** - Raymond E Johnson was charged with aggravated unlicensed operation of a vehicle.

**Wednesday, February 5, 2020**

**5:30 p.m.** - Juan A. Collazo was charged with petit larceny. An appearance ticket was issued.

**5:34 p.m.** - Eagleeye D. Stevens was charged as a result of a warrant.

**7:38 p.m.** - Anne M. Bouver was charged with operation of a vehicle with a suspended registration.

**Friday, February 7, 2020**

**12:04 p.m.** - Jefferson Elisofon was charged with possession of stolen property. An appearance ticket was issued.

**1:46 p.m.** - Latrece N. Stewart was charged with petit larceny. An appearance ticket was issued.

**3:15 p.m.** - Jalon S. Smith was charged with possession of stolen property. An appearance ticket was issued.

**8:35 p.m.** - Brittany M. Morgan was charged with petit larceny. An appearance ticket was issued.

**Saturday, February 8, 2020**

**2:28 a.m.** - Vincent Sobkowich was charged with violating the sewer ordinance. An appearance ticket was issued.

**Sunday, February 9, 2020**

**2:30 p.m.** - Megan Pauline Deike was charged with petit larceny. An appearance ticket was issued.

**Monday, February 10, 2020**

**1:50 a.m.** - Angela M Kellogg was charged with possession of stolen property, possession of a stolen credit card and aggravated unlicensed operation of a vehicle. An appearance ticket was issued.

**2:45 a.m.** - Gabriel Manuel Soto was charged with petit larceny. An appearance ticket was issued.

# Life & Arts

## Black Student Union celebrates Black History Month at Fredonia

**BRENTON NEWCOMB**

Staff Writer

This February marks the 44th annual Black History Month, and it's being celebrated strongly at Fredonia.

The celebration will be accompanied by Black Solidarity Week, a spirit week that will feature many interactive activities for students.

Responsible for leading the festivities is Fredonia's Black Student Union, a club that has aimed itself at encouraging the campus to honor the month in several ways.

Terron Brown, the president of Black Student Union, laid down their goal for the month and said, "We hope this month will empower and educate anyone on campus who wants to attend our events."

Black Student Union kicked the month into gear with its opening ceremony on Feb. 2, which paved the way for Black Solidarity Week.

Each day of the week involved dressing a specific way and helped to build up the energy for the month.

The week began with Bonnet/Silky Monday, followed by Twin Tuesday, Dress to Impress Wednesday, Throwback Thursday and concluded with All Black Friday.

Brown weighed in, saying, "Black Solidarity Week is truly about uniting people of color around campus. Our e-board wanted to create simple days where we could dress up and feel united together just by seeing each other."

The week called for creative expression and unrestricted spirit while simultaneously honoring Black History Month and bringing people closer together.

Brown expressed gratitude for those who participated in the event, saying, "It was amazing to have so many people participate, and we're very thankful for those who did."

Black Solidarity Week was just the kick-off for the festivities going on this month.

Feb. 8 called students together for an art workshop.

On Feb. 12 at 7 p.m., there is the "Still I Rise" gathering, an event for sharing one's story — discussing microaggressions and exchanging empowerment in a safe place.

All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

There will be a screening of "Poetic Justice" on Feb. 14 at 7 p.m. The film is a drama starring Janet Jackson and Tupac Shakur.

A presentation on generational wealth by Tavonia Evans will take place on Feb. 17 at 7 p.m.

There will be a workshop titled "Healing and Revealing" on Feb. 20 at 7 p.m. with a focus on healing from childhood trauma and sexual assault, led by Dark Yogi.

The celebratory month will wrap up on March 1 with a closing ceremony.

The common link between all the exciting events this week is the theme of unity or the feeling of coming together.

The events bring students together while supplementing students with knowledge and awareness toward those around them.

Deoniss Jackson, chairperson of Black Student Union's annual fashion show, said, "My favorite part of BSU is being around people that not only understand the culture that I grew up with, but the fact that I'm comfortable being around them, too."

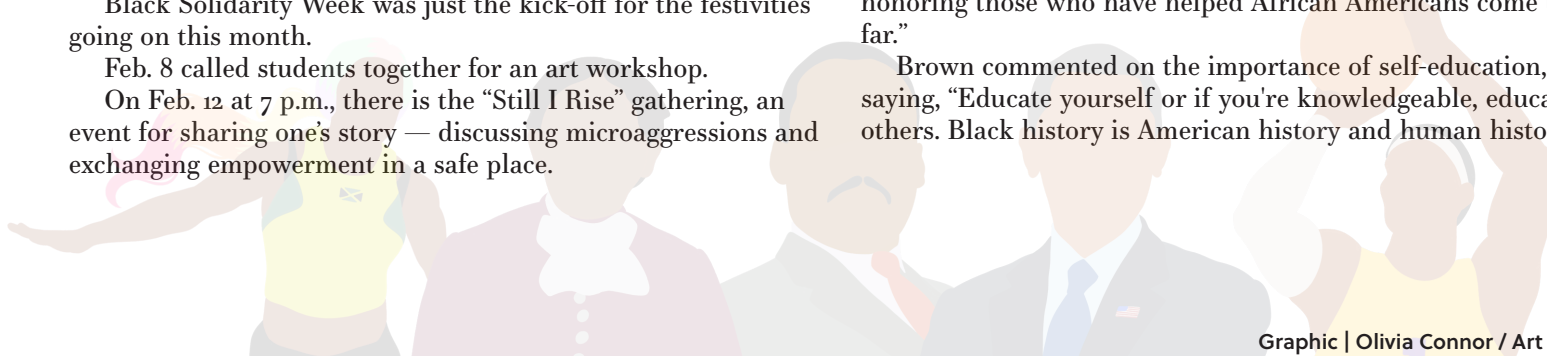
Jackson said she joined Black Student Union in 2018 for the sense of unity.

This relates to and achieves the overarching goal and mission of Black Student Union.

"[Black Student Union] strives to promote a feeling of unity and pride among students of African descent and other members of the college community," said Brown. "We are aiming to improve cultural and social development and increase black awareness on campus."

For those looking to participate in spirit of this month, Jackson said, "People can honor Black History Month by supporting the events that BSU puts on, remembering and honoring those who have helped African Americans come this far."

Brown commented on the importance of self-education, saying, "Educate yourself or if you're knowledgeable, educate others. Black history is American history and human history."





## Stress relief is only one brushstroke away

### ALYSSA BUMP

Special to The Leader

There is one thing that college students universally experience: stress.

Between exams, internships and the buildup of student loan debt, it is common for students to feel anxiety.

In fact, according to the American Psychological Association, 41 percent of college students struggle with anxiety. So, the question remains: what can be done to ease this stress?

Various groups and resident assistants in Fredonia are now taking action to host events that will help students de-stress. Many of them are resorting to craft-related events.

One of these groups is known as WHOA, or Weekend Hang-Out Activities.

On Feb. 1, the group hosted a paint-your-own flower pot event in Tim Hortons. They also provided free succulents to put in said planters to take home.

One of the organizers of this event, Marilia Riva Andrade said that, "WHOA plans free events every weekend for students to attend on campus, it gives students a nice break from the hecticness of college."

Sixty-three students attended this event on Saturday night. The original goal WHOA set was 50 participants.

Looking around this event, it was evident that people were expressing themselves creatively.

One student painted a recreation of "The Starry Night," while

someone else painted Baby Yoda holding a succulent.

When asked why they chose to do an artistic craft that particular weekend, Richard Sanders, another organizer of the event, said, "We have noticed that students tend to enjoy painting and making something they can take home. Painting is a soothing and stress-relieving activity."

Sanders and Andrade are not the only people that have noticed this trend.

The American Art Therapy Association found that 45 minutes of creative activity lessens stress in the body. Regardless of whether or not someone is artistic, this creative expression will still reduce stress for virtually everyone.

Kaitlyn Gatto, one of the participants of Saturday's event, said artistic expression helps her relax.

She said the reason she came to this event was to, "get some R&R. It's nice to have an opportunity on campus that allows you to find happiness in something other than your studies."

Jamie Gaiser, a resident assistant in Hemingway Hall, also hosted an artistic event on Jan. 30 where residents could paint wooden letters.

Gaiser said, "I thought letter painting would be a nice stress reliever. My goal is to allow residents to unwind."

Disney Hall's Craft Room reopened on Feb. 3. This week's activity is to create vision boards.

The Craft Room is open Monday through Wednesday 6 p.m.-9 p.m. and Saturday from 4 p.m.-7 p.m.



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Sales Manager.

## Last Call Entertainment and BJ's Fredonia bring DIY bands Sun Pilot, Second Suitor and Superficial to the stage

**EMILY RASULO**

Special to The Leader

Last Call Entertainment put on yet another fun night of local music this past Wednesday at BJ's.

This week's lineup consisted of bands Sun Pilot, Second Suitor and Superficial.

With Sun Pilot and Second Suitor coming in from out of town, the Fredonia favorite, Superficial, brought in a significant crowd that got to be exposed to two new, terrific bands.



Second Suitor plays at BJ's | Jesseca Bennett / Asst. Art Director

Starting off the night were BJ's newcomers, Sun Pilot.

This rock trio from Elmira played their first show of the decade for a crowd of brand new listeners, and they did not disappoint.

Their blues-y style of playing brought a less familiar sound to BJ's, but nonetheless still fit the overall vibe of this long-lived music bar.

Although new, Sun Pilot is already set to release new music soon and has a couple upcoming gigs in the Buffalo and western New York area.

Second on the bill were Binghamton natives, Second Suitor.

Although I had never seen this band before, I could tell that some people in Fredonia's music scene were familiar with them due to their previous performances with the more well-known Fredonia band, Kill the Clock.

Similar to Kill the Clock, this band's early 2000s, pop-punk



Superficial | Jesseca Bennett / Asst. Art Director

style of playing had a very nostalgic feel.

As someone who grew up in the early 2000s listening to pop-punk, I was easily able to appreciate this band's performance.

Headlining Wednesday night's show was Fredonia's own Superficial.

Fredonia students Kyle Osmun, Matt Gucinski, Sarah Poremba and Matt Fedczuk make up this indie/synth pop band that has been a local favorite since the very beginning.

Noting influences such as The White Stripes and The 1975, this band plays an impressive set consisting of both original songs and covers.

Superficial started their set with their original song, "Not the Same," which features a slight rotation in members on different instruments.

The performance of this song specifically shows the true talent and versatility of this band and its members.

It is probably my favorite song on their debut EP, "Superficial.," which was released this past August.

Superficial also covered the song "Sex" by The 1975, and this is another favorite performed by the band.

"No one quite does The 1975 like Superficial," said Dan Doyle, member of Last Call Entertainment.

Last Call Entertainment is an entertainment booking company run by current Fredonia students and alumni, aiming to promote and support the local music scene.

Last Call Entertainment puts on the Wednesday night shows at BJ's, as well as other shows around Buffalo.

Coming to just one of their events will truly make you understand the value of supporting local musicians and the DIY music community in general.

# OPINION

## From the desk of Isabella DiStefano, Asst. Social Media Manager

The most common mistake I see in my major is when students do not get involved within their campus and beyond. This is such a mistake and a wasted opportunity. I would know: I was one of those students.

At the beginning of my college education, I couldn't be bothered with getting involved with campus media. I didn't want to form connections with my peers or professors. I just wanted to go to class, get my work done, and leave. This was easy to do at a community college. It was high school 2.0.

It wasn't until I transferred to Fredonia that I realized how important it was to get involved. I watched a few of my peers accomplish so much in such a little time, and it made me think about my future. What did I have to show for myself?

How was I going to get a job as a writer if I didn't have articles to show? How was I going to be a reporter if I didn't have a reel to show? I wouldn't. I would be a graduate with a piece of paper, and that would be it. A piece of paper and a college name will not get you far.

I was lucky. I had professors pushing me to get involved and encouraging me to build my resume.

Within a year, I had become a social media assistant for *The Leader*, a camera person and news writer for WNYF and completed four internships.

I pushed myself out of my comfort zone for a year. I forced myself to take any and every opportunity to benefit my future career.

My first internship was with The Buffalo Music Hall of Fame in the fall of 2018. Did I want to be a video editor? Did I want to be a cameraman? I wasn't sure. All I knew at that time was that I was interested. I wanted to learn any skills that I could. Although I knew nothing about editing video and barely any knowledge of camera work, I walked away from that internship with beginner knowledge of video editing. I learned the basics of Adobe Premiere, which would benefit me a year later in a video-based course. This internship helped me get outside my comfort zone and pushed me to join campus media.

A few months later, I had been accepted to go to the Future Now Media and Entertainment conference in NYC to network among top executives and professionals within my field. It was terrifying; this was my first time networking. But, I walked away

from this experience with knowledge, connections and increased confidence.

Later that summer, I took on two internships at the same time, in addition to my full-time job. Looking back on it, I wouldn't recommend it to anyone. It was stressful. But, it taught me how to push myself, be accountable and manage time.

The first summer internship I received from reaching out to the founder of the conference I had attended in NYC. With this internship, I learned how to create social media content as well as how to use Hootsuite. Did I want to be a content creator? Yes, in a sense — but I learned that I'd rather create content for myself than someone else.

In my second summer internship, I learned how to write food reviews and travel pieces. This was amazing, because I had previously wanted to be a travel journalist, but I let that dream die. This internship resparked a once-dead passion and allowed me to live out that dream for a few months. This past semester I had an internship with the Transfer Mentoring Program on campus. This internship taught me event planning skills along with mentor skills. It showed me first-hand how passionate someone can be about their job, a passion I hope someday to have.

For a year, I forced myself to be uncomfortable in the hopes that it would help my career. A year later, I'm extraordinarily grateful for those that have been my internship supervisors. Each

one of them has made an impact on my life. I've had internship supervisors that provided me with constructive criticism and genuinely wanted to see me succeed. They would go out of their way to help me. I've had internship supervisors that are incredibly passionate about their work and field. This passion has inspired me. And I've had internship supervisors that have caused me to question this field and have left a bad taste in my mouth.

But, if I hadn't gotten out of my comfort zone this past year, then I wouldn't have gained the experiences that I have. I wouldn't have the resume that I do, and I wouldn't be able to show future employers what I can do. I encourage everyone to get out of their comfort zone, and try something that will benefit their career and future. All it takes is a little determination.



# VERBATIM

## Name one thing you know about President Hefner



**Goose (Heather) Stein, sophomore  
video production major**

*"Uh, he came out of retirement to be our interim - I think that's the word - anyway, he came out to be that president when he could have chosen not to."*



**Nora Lauber, freshman  
music industry major**

*"Nothing, no idea."*



**Lucas Butchko, senior  
English major**

*"He makes homemade candy."*

**Sophie Wojciechowski, sophomore  
communication: public relations and  
journalism major**

*"Uhh, he used to be the president before and now he is again. I've seen him a total of three times, all times he was giving some sort of speech and uh, he's pretty tall."*

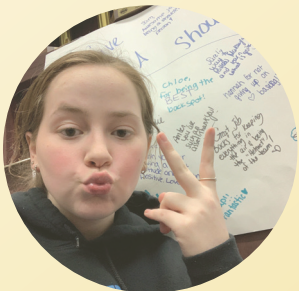


**Sara Auchenbaugh, sophomore  
biology major**

*"He was the president of SUNY Fredonia in the past."*

**Bradley Klemens, sophomore  
psychology and LGBTQ studies major**

*"I know literally nothing about him."*



**Julia Green, junior  
business marketing major**

*"I didn't know he was the president."*

**Sofia Trevisani, freshman  
business major**

*"I don't know anything about the president."*



# SPORTS

## Super Bowl LIVE and in person

**DANTE LASTING**

Sports Editor

For football players, getting to the Super Bowl is not an easy thing to do and is every player's dream. For me, it was an experience of a lifetime, and it was a trip I will never forget.

The game on Sunday was amazing, as anyone would expect, but the real work started the day we got into Florida.

We arrived on the morning of Jan. 29 and did not have much time to relax once we got in. We had to check into our motel in Dania Beach then get to the volunteer headquarters in Miami before getting to our first shift of the week at the Super Bowl Experience. It all started to really sink in that we were going to be a small part of the biggest game of the year after we checked into the headquarters and got our credentials.

Along with those came a lot of free stuff from the host committee to wear throughout the week. We received a dry-fit polo shirt along with a quarter-zip sweatshirt and a windbreaker. The Miami host committee paired up with clothing brand Perry Ellis, who designed all the volunteer gear.

After that, we made the journey over to the Super Bowl Experience. The Experience was housed in the Miami Beach Convention Center. With traffic in and around Miami being very hectic, it would take about an hour to go 20 miles or so. Once we arrived at the Experience, we received another set of credentials: a Swell water bottle and a teal long-sleeve that we needed to wear while we worked.

The Miami Host Committee and the NFL did a really nice job with the Super Bowl Experience. It was perfectly placed at the spacious Miami Beach Convention Center where for the week before the Super Bowl it was transformed into an NFL fan heaven. From the moment I stepped into the enormous main showroom, my inner fan came out, and I was like a kid in a candy store.

For the fans who bought tickets, there was so much to do and you could really spend the entire day there. From current and former players signing autographs, to taking pictures with the Lombardi Trophy, every Super Bowl ring and some Hall of Fame bronze busts. There were also more interactive activities from being able to walk



Dante Lasting at Super Bowl LIV | Dante Lasting / Sports Editor

across the NFL Draft stage, walk into your favorite team's locker room and test your skills at every part of the NFL combined.

A few of the members of our group were stationed at the 40-yard dash, which was one of the more popular activities. There was a lot of running around that night, and not just from those competing, but from me as well.

My job was to bring the runners' phones, wallets and bags down to another volunteer by the exit, so they did not have to worry about hanging on to it while they ran. As the night went on, more and more runners wanted me to film them as they ran the 40-yard dash with their family and friends.

By the end of the night, our whole group realized how much time and effort that goes into just one day of Super Bowl week.

Thursday, Jan. 30 was another long day as we were all up early for a three-hour training at Hard Rock Stadium from 8:30-11:00 a.m.

Continued on page 16

# Fredonia sports update

**ANTHONY GETTINO**

Staff Writer

Gameplay | Alexis Carney / Asst. Photo Editor



This weekend brought along a huge weekend for Blue Devils athletics.

There were many important contests that happened, but none were bigger to the community than the Pink the Rink game that happened Saturday night. The crowd at the game was electric for such a great cause.

Pink the Rink is the Fredonia Athletic Department's way of supporting breast cancer awareness, as many people are affected by the disease every year. The home game this past Saturday represented the 14th annual Pink the Rink at Fredonia. The crowd and the team raise awareness by wearing pink, as that is the color representative of breast cancer awareness. Members of the community are encouraged to make a donation to this cause during the game.

Jersey sales became available at the end of September, and for a donation of \$250, anyone would be allowed to place the name of a cancer survivor on the hockey player's nameplate. Instead of wearing their own name that night they will be representing the cancer survivor whose jersey they will be wearing. At the end of the game, the donor will get the game-worn jersey from the player during an on-ice ceremony.

The game is played in February due to that being National Cancer Prevention Month.

Facing off against Potsdam proved to be a challenge, but one that the team wouldn't back down from in their pursuit of a playoff spot. Scoring for the Devils on the special night was Bryce Witman, Tommy Martyn and two goals by Victor Tracy. The game ended in a tie in overtime at a score of 4-4.

As for some of the other teams that competed this weekend, it was a mixed bag.

The men's basketball team lost both road contests, the first a 65-71 loss at Plattsburgh followed up with a 71-76 loss at the hands of Potsdam. The leading scorer against the Plattsburgh Cardinals for the Blue Devils was De'Quan Smith with 12. The most points scored against the Potsdam Bears were by Dydy Bryan with 16. They play New Paltz on Friday night and against Oneonta Saturday afternoon right here at Dods Hall.

As for the women's basketball team, they won both of their games with Anna Chiacchia leading the way with 21 points in a 70-58 win over Plattsburgh. The next day, the Blue Devils won an overtime thriller against Potsdam 94-87, with Katie Pitcher and Audrey Craffey both scoring 27. The women's team will also play New Paltz Friday night and Oneonta Saturday afternoon at home.

Both the men's and women's swimming and diving teams had their meet canceled at Cortland Saturday.

They have the SUNYAC Championships February 19-20 in Buffalo, N.Y.

The women's track and field team competed at the Utica College Blue and Orange Invitational this past weekend. Many solid performances at the meet, including Maddie Sohl in the triple jump, with a seventh-place finish, as well as a seventh-place finish in the 4x400 meter relay by Sarah Buckley, Emily Fish, Morgan Ashton and Ali Dixon.

As for the men's track and field team, they too traveled to Utica with some solid performances themselves. Collin Barmore ran a 1:57.16 in the 800-meter race, taking third place overall



Players line up during the game | Alexis Carney / Asst. Photo Editor

and qualifying for the regional championship. He was also a part of the 4x400 meter relay that took second place, along with Will Guagliardo, Toby Onuoha and Alec Wright. Onuoha also took fourth in the high jump and fifth in the triple jump. Other scoring performances include Daniel Sudyn taking sixth in the triple jump and a sixth-place finish for a second 4x400 relay team consisting of Ivan Torres, Griffin Dombroske, Matt Erman and Topher Elkins.

Next up for the men and women's track and field team is the SUNYAC Championships hosted at Brockport University on Friday, Feb. 28 at 3 p.m. and Saturday, Feb. 29 at 10 a.m.

For all final scores, stats, team schedules and information visit <https://fredoniabluedevils.com>.

# Top 5 sports moments of the last decade

**CAROLYN MULLARKEY and DANTE LASTING**

Staff Writer and Sports Editor

We are now more than a full month into 2020.

For the last decade, across all sports, many firsts have happened. Athletes have blossomed, retired and it seems as though it would be virtually impossible to rank the top five sports moments from 2010-2019. All sports were taken into account from amateur to professional, from college to the Olympics and so forth.

## 5. NCAA 2018 tournament UMBC vs. Virginia

This event made Jaius Lyles an overnight star. This was the first time in Division I college basketball history that a No. 16 seed defeated the No. 1 seed. In 134 years, this had never occurred. It was a game that shocked the nation and made history. The UMBC Retrievers not only defeated the Virginia Cavaliers, but by a whopping 20 points.

The final score was 74-54.

## 4. There's a first time for everything

In the last 10 years, across various sports, many teams have won their first championships in franchise history. The Raptors, Blues, Cavaliers and Eagles all were the top team in their own leagues for the first time in their own franchise history.

The Toronto Raptors won their first NBA championship this past spring after beating the Golden State Warriors four games to two. With the help of finals MVP Kawhi Leonard, the city of Toronto got its first major sports championship since the Blue Jays in 1993.

The St. Louis Blue won the Stanley Cup for the first time in their 2018-2019 season, also just making it into the decade. They won four games to three against the Boston Bruins, rematching from 1970, the last time the two teams faced each other for the championship when Boston came out on top. At the time, the Blues were the oldest franchise to have never won the cup.

This title is now shared between the Sabres and Canucks.

The 2016 NBA finals between the Golden State Warriors and Cleveland Cavaliers marked the first championship win for the Cavs. This is still LeBron's most recent NBA championship, as he brought a title back to his hometown. His block that shut down Andre Iguodala in game seven earned the Cav's first title and brought a championship trophy back to Cleveland for the first time since 1964.

The 2017 season was a huge one for the city of Philadelphia. The Eagles beat the New England Patriots in a high-scoring affair. The Eagles won 41-33 and made famous one special play, the Philly Special. For the underdog Eagles, this was their third Super Bowl appearance and a rematch with the Patriots from the 2004 Super Bowl.

## 3. Retirements and final games

Athlete reigns come and go, and some pivotal careers met their ends this last decade with some very impressive final shows.

Peyton Manning retired in 2016 after winning his second Super Bowl in his 17-year career. He holds 20 NFL records, including most MVP awards with five and most touchdown passes in a single season with 55. The former first overall pick had one of the best NFL careers and will definitely be a first-ballot Hall of Famer next year.

2014 was a huge year for baseball. It was the captain's last season and the year of Derek Jeter's amazing final game. Easily ranked as an elite final game ending Jeter's final at-bat with a game-winning walk-off home run. Baseball fans alike, not just Yankee fans, remember that moment and the end of a great era in baseball.

The last influential retirement/stellar final game performances would not be a complete list without the late Kobe Bryant. In his final game, he was still breaking records, scoring 60 points.

He was the definition of an athlete with grace and grit. Recent events are remembered in the sports world even more, and that night will always stand out.

## 2. Tiger Woods wins the Masters

At the tail-end of the decade, Tiger Woods managed to win the Masters in 2019 and get to put on that green jacket for the first time since 2005.

Woods' win came at the end of a five-year drought filled with numerous health issues and back surgeries. Upon his return in 2018 after recovering, he played as if it was 1996 again.

Those who are at the top have the furthest to fall, and the Tiger was at an all-time low and managed to make it back on top, proving he still is the best golfer to date.

## 1. Cubs curse finally broken

The 2016 World Series between the Chicago Cubs and the Cleveland Indians has been deemed one of the greatest of all time. The series was monumental for baseball fans all over

Continued on page 16

### Top 5 moments continued ...

the world. The Chicago Cubs won the World Series after a 108-year drought, including the 71-year span of the curse of the Billy Goat. The game was the first to have a rain delay and the fifth time in history for a game seven to go into extra innings. Chicago fans and even people who just like to cheer on the underdog had a lot to celebrate during the whole series.

The 2010s were a progressive time for the world of sports with many positives and negatives.

Many more highlights occurred, but the top moments are a hard topic to debate about. Now that it is 2020, the sports world has a fresh new decade for more memories to be made.

With so many big sports moments throughout a decade, it was so hard to just choose five. Here are two honorable mentions that just missed the cut.

### Honorable Mentions

The Fastest Man Alive - Usain Bolt was put in the spotlight around the world in the 2008 Beijing Olympics. However, he is still the fastest man alive and received six Olympic gold medals and eight gold medals at the World Championships in the last decade before his retirement in 2017.

The United States Women's Soccer Team - The women's team made headlines by winning the World Cup, not once, but twice in the last 10 years, with the championship in 2018 being the most recent. This was a huge accomplishment that made strives for female athletes everywhere.

### Super Bowl Experience continued ...

The training was a lot of common sense information that most of us already knew, but we did get what we were to wear on Super Bowl Sunday. We all received another polo, a gray rain jacket and a Super Bowl hat. After that, we got a bite to eat at Cafe Metro before another shift at the NFL Experience from 1 - 6:30 p.m.

With all these Super Bowl events spread out between Miami Gardens, downtown Miami and Miami Beach, public transportation was not an option. The whole group split into two, and we filled up two minivans driven by Professor Becker and Dr. Fischer. At all times, getting in and around the Miami area was filled with traffic, which meant that we spent a lot of time driving, which led to some crazy conversations.

On Friday, we had time in the morning to enjoy the South Florida weather because we did not have to be in downtown Miami until 1:30 p.m. It was a nice change of pace because instead of being at the Convention Center, we were volunteering at Super Bowl Live.

Super Bowl Live was an outdoor fan festival located at Bayfront Park. There were a lot of different activities and sponsored events along with food and live music. This was a free event for anyone to attend, which was different from the NFL Experience, which you had to buy a ticket to get into.

Our group was spread out all over the park, and I was placed at the NFL Pro Shop with Alexandria Walsh. We both were placed at the exit of the shop interacting with people as they left.

Saturday was a lot more of the same as we were back at the Convention Center for the Super Bowl Experience. It was the last day of it being open, so there were a lot of people there trying to get as much in before it closed for good. For that shift, they had

me stationed at the NFL FedEx Air Challenge. This was where the fans had three attempts to throw footballs at three targets at different distances.

Super Bowl Sunday might have been the longest day out of all of them, but it was the most amazing experience.

Now, the company that was in charge of all the volunteers was not the most organized and when we got to the stadium in the morning. There was a lot of confusion and standing around. But once they placed us where we needed to be, my excitement started to pick up.

They split up our big group so that two people were on the 100 level, two people were on the 200 level and the remaining eight people in our group were on the 300 level. The 300 level was where most of the media were stationed and where they set up to watch the game. So, our job was to greet the media and fans as they came up to our level and guide them to where their section was.

We mostly stood and explored a little bit until around 2 p.m. when they opened the gates. To see all the excitement on fans faces as they entered the stadium and came up to their section was unlike anything else. I saw little kids bright-eyed and in awe of where they were and older people who had waited 50 years to see their Chiefs make it to the big game.

Once the game started, there wasn't any foot traffic on our level, so we were able to go in the aisle and watch. To be able to experience the Super Bowl, the halftime show and the trophy ceremony after was unlike anything I have been able to be a part of.

The game itself was great, and it is something I will never forget. I am so grateful for the opportunity I was given to go on this trip, and I would not trade it for anything.

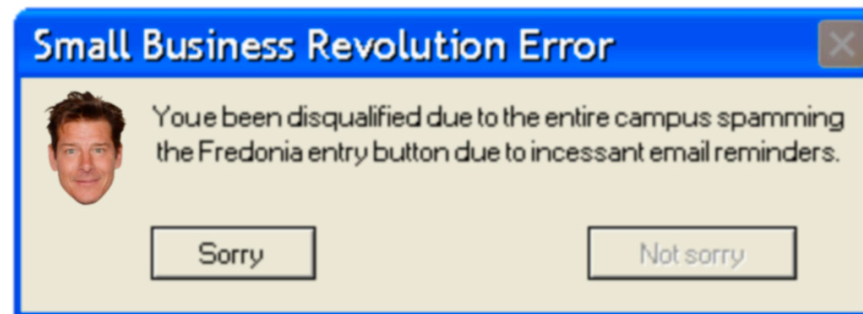




# THE SCALLION

Satire for modern Fredonia

## Fredonia disqualified from 'Small Business Revolution'



### DOM MAGISTRO

Staff Scallywag

That's right, you heard it here first, folks. The Village of Fredonia has been disqualified from the prize of a \$500,000 investment after a claim that fraudulent voting has occurred. Apparently, the daily emails coercing daily votes from people who do not live in the Village of Fredonia and will not visit downtown Fredonia when they attend school at SUNY Fredonia constitute as voter fraud.

Ty Pennington, best known for being the guy that yells "Move that bus!" and co-hosting "Small Business Revolution," announced recently that season five will not be recorded in the Village of Fredonia, N.Y. It will instead be hosted in the town of Buford, Wyo.

"I'm sorry, Revolutionaries, but it seems that the State University of New York at Fredonia sent out daily emails and coerced thousands of votes out of college students who paid for that email account to be used for school purposes, not winning competitions. That said, I suppose we're left no option but to pack up our camera crew and move that bus to Buford," tweeted Pennington.

Buford is a beautiful town with a population of one. It boasts a single house, a post office and a gas station. I bet that after the "Small Business Revolution" fluffs it up a bit and invests in its small business, the town's population will skyrocket exponentially.

Pennington reportedly punched a hole in the drywall of his office when he found out about the university's trickery.

"Are you serious? I really have to go to Bu-frick nowhere, now? And I have to be excited about it?" Pennington said. Sources say Pennington then burst into tears at his desk, turning a framed picture of Fredonia face-down before losing control.

It is good to know in these trying times that at least one industry in America still takes voter fraud seriously.

Do not fret, Fredonia residents, there is always next season. Just because you were disqualified as a finalist for the season five recording does not mean you are disqualified forever.



## Jeb Bush DOMINATES Iowa Democratic Primary caucus, receiving 100 percent of delegates

**JOSEPH MARCINIAK**

Editor of the Scallion

In a surprising landslide in the Iowa Democratic Primary, 100 percent of delegates were pledged to Jeb Bush. Many believed it was due to errors in the app they used, but the DNC has confirmed that Jeb Bush has won.

Many Democrats are outraged, but not surprised.

“We probably shouldn’t hedge all our bets on Iowa to decide our president, but eh, screw it. Vote blue no matter who, right?” Chicago native and world-renowned hot dog-eater Garry Hunderson said.

The DNC released a statement, hoping to ease the belief the caucus may have been rigged. In the statement, President Thomas Perez of the DNC said, “We promise we have done nothing to change these results. Really, I can’t complain: Jeb is a man of integrity! Not only that, but thank God it’s not Bernie because these PAC funds gotta keep rolling in.”

Buttegieg was one of the first to reply to the results, and apparently didn’t actually look at them, as he immediately declared victory.

“Wow. That is all I can say. I cannot believe our campaign received more votes than any other campaign, and we have won Iowa,” Buttegieg released in a statement. “On to brighter pastures, where we will hopefully gain the support of more people, like the people of New Hampshire, black people, Nevada, black people, South Carolina (Note: Are there white people here who will vote for me?) and black people please god we need more votes from black people.”

Buttegieg appears to be pushing for more votes with African Americans, as he has surprisingly low votes amongst that demographic.

Steyer was also quick to respond, saying “Even if this article were true, the results for me would be the same, and I’d have no delegates. No skin off my nose really.”

Bush had little to say, other than “Hey everyone, I’m Jeb Bush.”

Truly a statement for the ages. We support Jeb!

# Next year's Super Bowl halftime show to feature John Leguizamo, Casey Affleck

**MATTHEW BAUM**

Staff Scallywag

The Super Bowl is a massive sporting event, with its annual viewers consisting of football fans, chicken wing dip fans, loud noise fans and a seemingly overwhelming number of live performance experts. The most popular musicians are invited to take the football world by storm for about a week, because the dudebros that watch it get to have a negative opinion about everything that isn't the ol' pignskin.

This most recent halftime show has faced some backlash due to the content displayed by world-renowned Latina musician/actresses Jennifer Lopez and Shakira. The content in question is, despite the confusion displayed by some, the physical forms of aforementioned world-renowned Latina musician/actresses Jennifer Lopez and Shakira.

"Whoa, these women have BODIES? And they're showing them OFF? Witchcraft!" Some were heard saying.

For those who are unfamiliar with the annual mockery of the lyrical intermission provided for free from a number of top-tier performers, this outcry would seem ridiculous, but everyone who's gone around the Super Bowl block would know that this is all too familiar.

In an attempt to stop the masses from making a habit of meming the hell out of the Super Bowl halftime show, the NFL Halftime Committee has decided to announce next year's performers early, which is a shame, because

this attempt to quell the internet trolls has only made them stronger.

It was announced that John Leguizamo and Casey Affleck have been chosen to be the singers between the second and third quarters of the Big Game 2021. That's right, Ben Affleck's less-famous brother and the guy who played Sid the Sloth from the "Ice Age" franchise have signed on to sing next year at the Super Bowl.

It seems like everyone has the same opinion about this choice: they absolutely love it.

Kyle Van Fleet, a sophomore communication major with a snapback hat collection and a forearm tattoo of a tiger playing the electric guitar, said that the choice was a delightful change of pace.

"The problem with the past halftime shows is that they highlight the worst of people — the unrealistic body standards, the hyper-extravagance of the super-rich, all of it. And by having two c-list celebrities without any incredible features, those problems disappear," said Van Fleet.

The whole world has decided that this is the way they want to go. Instead of having the best performers in the world doing the thing they do best, we've collectively decided that we would rather have a subpar performance from two people who peaked around 2007 to satisfy the uninterested music types who have to join the family for Sunday night football.

Good.

I'm glad this is the path we've chosen.

# What's that, Fredonia?

## "How does being back in Fredonia make YOU feel?"

### ALEXANDRA WALSH

Guest Scallywag

**Ferris Bueller,**  
**Senior business major minoring in days off**  
*"School started already?"*

**Michael Cera,**  
**Freshman film studies major**

*"I miss my mom's cooking. Her cooking isn't the best, but it's better than what we got going on here."*

**Donnie Ozoff,**  
**Junior tea-spilling major**

*"People call me the TMZ of this place, so being back means I get to hear all the gossip. Watch out, you might be next on my radar. Anyway, did you hear about Janice? I got so much tea on her."*