

THE LEADER



Students network, find jobs and internships. See inside page 6

NEWS | 2

LIFE & ARTS | 7

SPORTS | 15

THE SCALLION | 19

BUSINESS CLUB'S ADOPT-A-NON-PROFIT PROGRAM

FREDONIA ALUMNA ALYSSA MORASCO GIVE LECTURE, ADVICE TO STUDENTS

MEN'S BASKETBALL COACH LET GO

IF THERE IS EVEN A TOUCH OF MALARKY, I'LL GIVE YA A BEATING YOU WON'T SOON FORGET

The Leader

Advertising: leaderad@fredonia.edu

S2o6 Williams Center

Twitter @LeaderFredonia

Fredonia, NY 14063

Instagram @leaderfredonia

leader@fredonia.edu

Facebook LeaderFredonia

www.fredonialeader.org

Editor in Chief

Elyse Grieco

Creative Director

Natalie Opp

Managing Editor

Avril King

Asst. Creative Director

Vacant

News Editor

Aidan Pollard

Photo Editor

Vacant

Asst. News Editor

Vacant

Asst. Photo Editor

Alexis Carney

Life & Arts Editor

Jessica Meditz

Copy Editor

Vacant

Asst. Life & Arts Editor

Vacant

Asst. Copy Editor

Jules Hoepfing

Anna Gagliano

Sports Editor

Dante Lasting

Business Manager

Vacant

Asst. Sports Editor

Carolyn Mullarkey

Asst. Business Manager

Christie Fils-Aimé

The Scallion Editor

Joseph Marciniak

Ad. Sales Manager

Angelina Dohre

Asst. Scallion Editor

Dom Magistro

Asst. Ad. Sales Manager

Vacant

Web Editor

James Mead

Sales Representatives

Vacant

Asst. Web Editor

Vacant

Social Media Manager

Sarah Hughston

Design Editor

Vacant

Asst. Social Media Manager

Maddie McClelland

Jules Hoepfing

Isabella DiStefano

Art Director

Olivia Connor

Adviser

Elmer Ploetz

Asst. Art Director

Jessica Bennett

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. 'Tis but a flesh wound.

Proud member of The Associated Collegiate Press.

NEWS

Business Club's Adopt-a-Non-Profit Program takes on Lakeshore Humane

ALISA OPPENHEIMER

Special to The Leader

The Fredonia business club has created a new program to help out non-profit organizations in the surrounding community.

The Adopt-a-Non-Profit Program was formed as a way for the club to gain hands-on experience in coordination with a non-profit from the area.

For their first year, the club chose to help out the Lakeshore Humane Society in hopes of improving their organization in areas such as the organization's finances, inventory, policies, environmental impact and volunteer recruiting.

"We looked at a bunch of non-profit organizations and we ended up picking the Lakeshore Humane Society, and so we're taking a bunch of our general body members, splitting up into groups based on what the Humane Society needs to improve on, and we work in our groups using what we've learned in school, as business majors," said Molly Gibbs, business club president.

The Lakeshore Humane Society is a non-profit, all volunteer, no-kill animal

shelter located in Dunkirk.

They were established in 1980 and have since grown, expanding their services to the entire north end of Chautauqua County.

"When Lakeshore Humane Society started out, they were doing rescues out of somebody's garage, and now we have a physical building in which we've probably held 500-plus animals a year," said Jennifer Cameron, treasurer of Lakeshore Humane Society.

Cameron not only puts her time into the routine tasks of a treasurer for Lakeshore, but is also a cat cleaner once a week, runs the organization's fundraiser "Fur Ball," and teaches as an adjunct professor in economics at Fredonia.

She has been with Lakeshore for four years now.

"With [Lakeshore's] growth, we are held to some rules and regulations and are trying to be consistent, and you know, it's all volunteer run, so it means nobody's paid on staff," said Cameron.

When the business club approached her with the idea of taking on Lakeshore for the Adopt-a-Non-Profit, she coordinated with the group on what she thought had to be worked on

Continued on page 5



On the Cover:

Marjorie Plaister of the Career Development Office tables outside of the Career and Internship Expo in the Williams Center Multipurpose Room.

Role of journalism in advocacy speaker to address Fredonia campus

CASEY HUBER

Special to The Leader

Mustafa Mohammad Hasan, a journalist advocacy speaker, is coming to Fredonia.

Hasan will be speaking about his journalism experience from working with youth movements and the Iraqi people.

His primary newspapers are Al Aalem news and Al Jadeed news, both based out of Iraq with active websites and social media.

Average readers are in their early 30s, making the outlets effective for protestors who fall largely in that age range.

Protests in Iraq have been calling for a regime change, more of a focus on the economy, implementation of democratic governmental structures and other related issues.

"Social media is especially important in reaching this demographic," Hasan said.

ISIS used social media as a recruitment tool to radicalize Muslims.

"People were psychologically broken," Hasan said.

After the defeat of ISIS, Hasan said topics published shifted from war news to rebuilding, along with questions of culture.

Representing the Perennial Fellowship program, Hasan will be speaking across the United States.

This speaking tour will be Hasan's first time in the U.S.

Doing talks in Iraq since 2016, Hasan has worked with teams focused on bringing light to people's stories.

Their work has ranged in topics from human rights to ISIS.

During his first time writing about people's stories, Hasan estimates he received 2,500 individual stories within the first year.

Publications were posting 10 to 12 stories a day through social media and the web.

Hasan is also the founder of Khanjgaan, a non-profit based

out of Iraq.

"Khanjgaan is a youth project that implements campaigns, field activities and social media to influence public opinion and mobilization to promote social cohesion, human rights, peacemaking, countering extremism and breaking stereotypes," their LinkedIn states.

Hasan and his wife, Alla, spent their honeymoon near Baghdad distributing aid to a refugee camp in 2015.

"Most of the items we distributed with our hands; we were scared that the residents of the camp wouldn't receive them," Hasan said.

The lecture is open to all students, faculty, staff and the public.

Hasan will arrive Thursday, March 12 from 3:30 to 4:50 p.m. in the Williams Center, Room S204-ABC.



Coronavirus outbreak causes SUNY to call students home

SETH MICHAEL MEYER

Special to The Leader

New York Governor Andrew Cuomo announced last Wednesday that both SUNY and CUNY will call some of their study abroad students home.

In a health alert from the State University of New York, the directive details that SUNY and CUNY students studying in China, Japan, Italy, Iran and South Korea will be brought back to the United States and will go through a two-week quarantine.

Naomi Baldwin, the director for Fredonia's Office of International Education reports that for Fredonia, this impacts four students who were studying abroad this semester. Two Fredonia students, along with two other SUNY students will be brought home from Fredonia's Italian program. Baldwin's office is also in contact with another Fredonia student studying in another SUNY school's Italian program. Another affected Fredonia student saw their program cancelled before they could depart for South Korea.

Baldwin, in reference to Cuomo's statement Wednesday, said students abroad could either arrange their own flight home or travel on group flights being arranged by the state.

"Students coming back on NYS chartered flights have a choice to self-isolate at home or go to a dorm," Baldwin said.

The students were expected to start returning home over this past weekend.

The extent to which the evacuations will affect the students' academics is still to be completely determined, though Baldwin notes that many programs are switching to an online format for students to complete their semester coursework.

Baldwin, who has worked in the international education field for 20 years, says this is the first time in recent memory of a virus being so disruptive for study abroad programs. Despite this global event, Baldwin urges students not to disengage from global learning.

"When we experience global events like this, I think it underscores the importance of building global competence skills and connections to people in other nations and from other cultures," Baldwin said. "[It's important to avoid letting] fear cause additional disturbance or social isolation."

Though the cancellation of study abroad programs this semester poses disruption and challenges, Debbie Dibble, Director of Fredonia's Student Health Center, says that Gov. Cuomo made the right call.

"The health and safety of the SUNY Fredonia students is of great importance to the university, whether they are pursuing their education at our home campus or anywhere in the world," she said.

For Dibble and the rest of Fredonia's administration, they hope that preventative care can stop the virus from arriving at Fredonia's doorstep, but they aren't wasting time implementing precautionary measures. Dibble explains that there is a multidisciplinary task force that has met to discuss preparations if COVID-19 became too close for comfort.

This time of year, Fredonia students are usually bombarded with emails about getting your flu shot, but this season COVID-19 has the world's attention. This, Dibble believes, isn't necessarily a bad thing.

"I think that the news about COVID -19 has enhanced the importance of taking care of yourself, and being aware that there are simple actions that you can take every day to stop the spread of not only COVID-19 and the flu, but other cold viruses," said Dibble.

Dibble urges students to take cautious measures in their daily lives such as thoroughly washing hands and avoiding sick people. For updates about the Coronavirus, students are asked to visit the Fredonia Health Center website.

On Monday the Coronavirus was reported to have infected 111 thousand people across the world, with nearly 4,000 deaths and 62,000 recoveries.

Adopt-a-Non-Profit continued...

on most for the organization.

“It’s got to be a beneficial relationship for the students and for the non-profit,” said Cameron. “So I kind of looked at ‘where are some areas we need help with,’ and asked if the students would be interested in helping with those things.”

When it came down to choosing which non-profit they wanted to help, the club wanted to choose a place that everyone felt good about dedicating their time to.

“We wanted to pick something we were all passionate about,” said Gibbs. “We’ve met for the past three Sundays, we’re meeting again next week and it’s been three hours each time, and we also each do an hour during the week of our own time. So, picking something that we’re passionate about and want to be working on makes it so much easier to devote time into every week.”

Throughout the three weeks they’ve begun working with the organization, they have established groups within their club, each working on the different aspects of business for Lakeshore.

“Our go-green group is working on making Lakeshore more sustainable and environmentally friendly,” said Gibbs. “Another group is our finance/inventory group, who are going through and seeing what [Lakeshore] could be spending money on and helping with the inventory system at the organizations boutique.”

“The last two groups are marketing, who are working on volunteer recruiting, due to the organization’s need for younger volunteers, and finally the policy group, who are creating policies for the area’s that the organization doesn’t already have any, like fundraising.”

At the end of the semester, once the business club has applied their skills to the Humane Society, they will present their entire process to the organization’s board of directors to decide whether or not to move forward with the changes.

“Ultimately, it is up to the board of directors to decide whether we

adapt or not, but all ideas are great, so we will take that into great consideration,” said Cameron.

The business club will also be presenting their work at the regional level, competing in the Community Service Project on March 28.

“We are required to prepare a 15-page report describing all of our work throughout this program,” said Emily Johnson, business club secretary and Phi Beta Lambda chair. “We will then defend our report, and we will present the content and answer any questions from the judges.

“Our presentation team is made up of Jason Opferbeck, Molly Gibbs and myself.”

The club will be competing against other chapters throughout the state who have performed a project and completed the same requirements.

If the club places in the top two, they will have the opportunity to move on and present at the National Leadership Conference against chapters from all across the United States.

“It is our hope, with how active we have been throughout this process, that we will place well at the upcoming conference,” said Johnson. “Based on my past experience with competitions, I feel that if our team continues to work as well as we have, we can move on to the National Competition this summer.”

As of right now, the business club’s Adopt-a-Non-Profit Program has great potential not only for Fredonia students, but for the non-profits in the community as well.

The program is more than likely something the business club sees themselves continuing throughout the years to come.

“Anything that goes well we definitely want to do again, and this is going really well so far and there’s a bunch of places that could use our help,” said Gibbs.

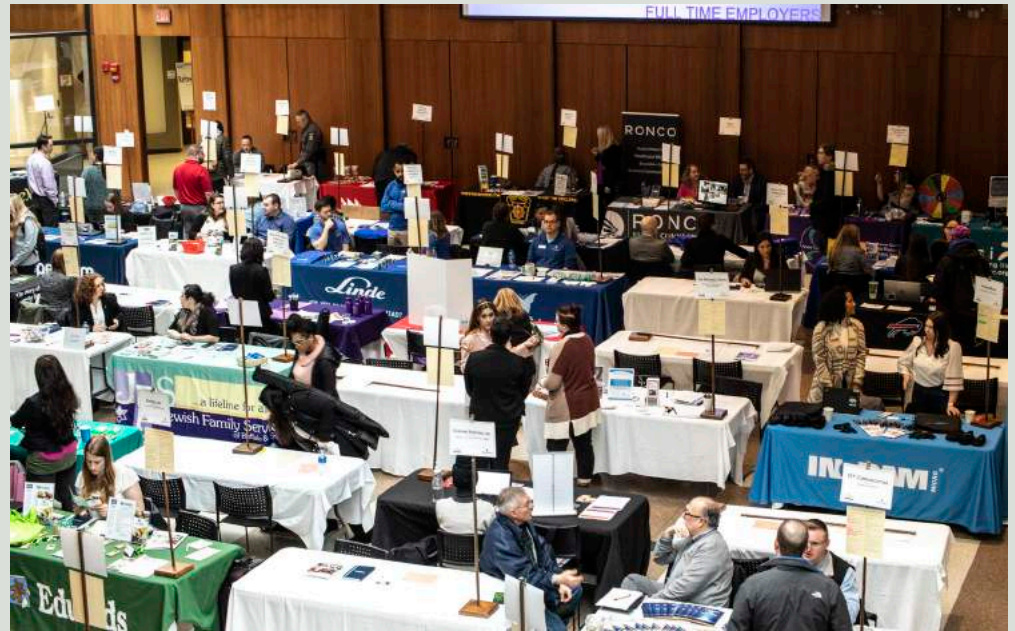


**Get ahead.
Study abroad.
Pursue a special interest.**

Study at UB—or anywhere in the world—and earn college credit!
Choose from more than 2,000 credit-bearing courses on campus. Not in Buffalo this summer? Choose from more than 200 online courses.

.....
FIND A COURSE OR TWO THAT’S RIGHT FOR YOU AT
UBThisSummer.buffalo.edu

 **University at Buffalo** The State University of New York



Wednesday, March 4, Fredonia students and community went to table to learn about potential job and internship openings.

Fredonia hosted a Job and Internship Expo in the multi-purpose room of the Williams Center. The Expo went from 1 to 4 p.m., giving Fredonia students and community alike an opportunity to speak to over 90 employers. Both following and prior to the expo, multiple organizations also held interviews at the Career Development Office.

From internships to full time positions, many attendants came in looking for something specific. "I feel like it's something my mom would want me to do because she's been on my back about not getting an internship," said Myer McColsky, a junior at Fredonia.



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, March 3, 2020

5:10 p.m. - Berniece Adajiah Jacobs was charged with menacing in the third degree. An arrest was completed.

8:53 p.m. - Michael Joseph Digiulio Jr. was charged with unlawful possession of marijuana. An arrest was completed.

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Items were stolen from Reed Library. An investigation is ongoing.

A student received unwanted texts and messages. The student was advised and the investigation was closed.

Thursday, March 5, 2020

A vehicle was damaged in Lot 5. An investigation is ongoing.

Friday, March 6, 2020

Graffiti was found in RAC. An investigation is ongoing.

Saturday, March 7, 2020

A letter was stolen from the Fredonia sign. An investigation is ongoing.

Ongoing harassment of a student by an ex-boyfriend. An investigation is ongoing.

Sunday, March 8, 2020

11:49 p.m. - Isabelle Maureen Suriano and Nathan R.

McAvoy were charged with unlawful possession of marijuana. Arrests were completed.

VILLAGE

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

11:30 a.m. - Marc M. Strusa was charged with harassment (threat via phone/computer/email). The suspect was held.

Thursday, March 5, 2020

10:08 p.m. - Hector O. Dejesus was charged with petit larceny. An appearance ticket was issued.

Saturday, March 7, 2020

12:49 a.m. - Gioavinni Diaz was charged with disorderly conduct and resisting arrest. The suspect was held.

7:45 p.m. - Dillon M. Smith was charged with disorderly conduct. An appearance ticket was issued.

Sunday, March 8, 2020

12:14 a.m. - Kevin P. Loftus, Dylan Moeser and Michael J. Wright were charged with violating the noise ordinance. Appearance tickets were issued.

4:35 p.m. - Alicia M. Christopher was charged with petit larceny. An appearance ticket was issued.

9:47 p.m. - Hannah E. Mikulec was charged with underage possession of alcohol and open container. An appearance ticket was issued.

9:47 p.m. - Patricia Allison Polito, an out of state resident, was arrested. An appearance ticket was issued.

Life & Arts

Fredonia alumna Alyssa Morasco gives lecture, advice to students

MARCIA HUNT

Special to The Leader

Do you ever wonder what careers are waiting for you after leaving Fredonia?

SUNY Fredonia alumna, Alyssa Morasco, came back to her alma mater on March 5 to give a lecture on museum career paths.

The presentation, which included exclusive photos from her various museum jobs, went into detail about the many possible career paths for art majors and her post-graduation experiences.

She opened her lecture by playing the music video for Beyoncé and Jay Z's "APES**T," which features the two artists singing in front of world-renowned artwork in the Louvre museum.

Morasco, who has held top positions in well-respected museums, takes her audience behind the scenes of the typical art museum, not only giving them a better appreciation for museums, but also showing them the opportunities that exist in the art world.

Morasco went into detail describing the lesser-known museum jobs: registration, conservation, art preparation, installation, collection information and her area of expertise, collections management.

After breaking down the requirements of each job, the bulk of Morasco's lecture was about her personal journey navigating the art world and advice for the audience hoping to pursue a career in the art world.

Her first museum job was being on an all-female art preparation team at the Albright-Knox Art Gallery in Buffalo.

After working in California, she worked her way up to the head of collections management at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

Now, she is the director of Collections Management at the Lucas Museum of Narrative Art, which is a start-up museum that is not

yet open to the public, founded by George Lucas.

Understandably, Morasco found herself at a loss for words when asked about the opportunity.

"George Lucas is my boss ... it's kind of insane," she said.

Morasco graduated from Fredonia in 2006 with a degree in art history.

This was the first time she had been on campus since her graduation, which she described as "surreal."

She was compelled to come to lecture at Fredonia after recalling how greatly the school and art department fostered her learning.

"In general, I felt very supported in Fredonia, so it definitely built my confidence ... It definitely plugged me into the community of artists," she said.

Despite feeling like she graduated with the proper knowledge of the arts, Morasco recalled feeling unsure about her professional future upon graduating from college. She wanted to share what she's learned with students who find themselves in similar shoes.

Morasco has some advice

for young artists. One of them is, "To take every opportunity to get experience in all different areas of museum life."

In fact, Morasco's completion of the Fredonia Gallery practicum course was one of the main things that Albright-Knox took into consideration when hiring her.

"You can still be a successful artist and have a day job. You are also still successful if you have a contract job," was another piece of advice.

"Success is in your mindset. It's not feeling like a failure. Enjoy what you're doing and keep making your art. Real-world experience usually trumps anything else."



Alyssa Morasco smiles with art history Professor Leesa Rittleman | Derek Raymond

Sigma Tau Delta to present Open Mic Night at Literacy Volunteers Bookstore

KATIE LENDA

Special to The Leader

Sigma Tau Delta, Fredonia's English Honor Society, is set to host an Open Mic Night on Wednesday, March 11 from 7:30-9 p.m.

The event will be a night filled with creativity where students will be able to read their personal work, or some of their favorite pieces to those in attendance.

Open Mic Night will be presented at the Literacy Volunteers Bookstore.

Literacy Volunteers is a nonprofit organization that aims to promote adult literacy in Chautauqua County.

Many of the adults that Literacy Volunteers teach are those that are new to the English language.

All of the books have been donated and are sold at an affordable price.

The proceeds of the books sold go directly to the Literacy Volunteers Organization.

The Literacy Volunteers Bookstore is also operated solely by volunteers, and all proceeds of Open Mic Night will be donated to their organization.

Sigma Tau Delta also works with The Literacy Volunteers Organization through their on-campus book sales.

Students will have the opportunity to buy affordable books in McEwen Hall sometime next month.

Dr. Ann Siegle Drege of the English department has been the

faculty advisor for Sigma Tau Delta for over 10 years. Drege assures students that may be nervous to share their work that the event is very informal.

When asked what students can expect from the event, Drege said, "It will be a great evening, listening to our peers share their favorite works, while relaxing in the bookstore. There will also be time during the event where students can buy books at a great price and it all goes for a great cause."

Junior English adolescence and psychology dual major and president of Sigma Tau Delta, Paige Rzepka, gave some insight into how students can benefit from the event.

"This event will ideally promote a positive atmosphere for those sharing their work — or the works of others — and those listening," said Rzepka. "It'll be a peaceful night to step away from daily stressors and take time to find a new book or two."

Since the event is off campus, transportation will be provided for students without a means to get there.

The option to carpool with members of Sigma Tau Delta will be provided — meet at 7:20 p.m. on the day of the event in the lobby of Fenton Hall to do so.

This event will be held at the Literacy Volunteers Bookstore, located at 12 Park Place, across from Village Commons.



Fredonia native's artwork on display at new Art Market

ALYSSA BUMP

Special to The Leader

Many Fredonia students claim that there is not enough to do off campus, but on 50 W. Main St, the opening of a new art exhibit might change that.

The grand opening took place on March 7 at 4 p.m.

There, guests mingled and admired artwork created by Joe Sorci.

For the past 30 years, Sorci has been a professional painter and sculptor. He's had his artwork in several public and private art exhibits throughout the U.S. and even Europe.

Why would such a renowned artist come to Fredonia?

Sorci is a Fredonia native and grew up here until he turned 18. He has also lived in Nashville, T.N. for 14 years.

The Art Market featured 11 different paintings and five sculptures.

The sculptures were made mostly out of steel, which happens to be Sorci's favorite medium to use when making art.

Most of the paintings featured had black stripes throughout the entirety of the canvas. There were also a variety of words on the canvas.

Every piece of his art that was displayed in The Art Market is for sale, ranging from \$300 to \$8,600.

Even though these prices may be too much for the average college student to purchase Sorci's art, people are encouraged to still come and view the art for free.

A Fredonia art student, Alisia Glasier, came to the grand opening to view Sorci's art.

She said, "I think the art here is a great representation of contemporary painting and what's coming in the painting world.

It's very interesting, I like that this is the type of art coming to Fredonia."

A large sculpture was in the center of the exhibit, which resembled a tribal mask of some sort.

Interestingly enough, it was titled "Mask #2."

When asked where Mask #1 was, Sorci said, "Mask #1 was too big to get into the door. It's about nine feet tall."

Sorci said he's always been fond of tribal masks and he really enjoys creating them.

He added that his inspiration to create art is, "The journey of creating it. Sometimes the art kind of just talks to you."

The Art Market is owned by Professor Ted Sharon, and it is important to note that Sorci's art will only be there for six weeks.

The Art Market is open on Thursday and Friday from 4-7 p.m. and Saturday from 12-4 p.m.

For more updates about The Art Market, their Facebook and Instagram is @mainstreetstudios50.



Closing Black History Month: Thank you BSU

BSU closing ceremony participants | Alyssa Bump



ALYSSA BUMP

Special to The Leader

February may only have been 29 days, but Fredonia's Black Student Union made each one count.

February is Black History Month, a month that celebrates and remembers people of African descent.

This month reminds people to dig deeper, celebrate their race and remember the importance of black history.

In President Ford's own words, he wanted America to "Seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history."

According to Terron Brown, Black Student Union's president, "BSU's mission is to promote a feeling of unity and pride amongst students of African descent and other members of the college community, while bringing awareness to social and cultural issues. This is extremely important to us because Fredonia has a black community on campus that needs space to just exist. We aim to be that space."

Black Student Union has hosted a number of events during Black History Month.

On Feb. 2, they started off with an Opening Ceremony to celebrate a joyous month. Food was offered, and it was free to enter.

Following the Opening Ceremony, BSU organized a Black Solidarity Week.

Similar to a spirit week, it spanned from Feb. 3-7. The themes of the week included Twin Tuesday and All Black Friday, just to name a few.

Immediately after, BSU presented an art workshop with DNTWATCHTV. This event took place on Feb. 8.

On Feb. 12, they hosted an event called "Still I Rise." This event was described by BSU as, "An intimate gathering expressing microaggressions followed by an exchange of empowerment."

An event like this is important, Brown noted, especially because Fredonia is a predominantly white campus.

On Valentine's Day, BSU had a viewing of the movie, "Poetic Justice." The documentary, "Hidden Colors" was also viewed during February.

Tavonia Evans, a successful app creator, came to Fredonia on Feb. 17 to explore black chain and cryptocurrency. She also discussed building generational wealth.

Dark Yogi spoke on Feb. 20 about how to overcome childhood and sexual trauma.

The last event for Black History Month was the Closing Ceremony, which took place on March 1.

The evening started out with music and mingling. Anyone was welcome to come to this event.

Similar to the Opening Ceremony, this event was free and offered great food.

Thanks to FSA Catering, guests were welcomed to feast on salad, rice and beans, mac & cheese, fried chicken, fish and cake.

Before the attendees ate, however, they were treated with an outstanding performance from Divine Sound.

This gospel choir performed the Black National Anthem and "Rain."

Videos of the performances are available for viewing on Instagram @divinesound_.

To end the ceremony, Nelson Clark, the event coordinator, gave an overview of the events hosted during Black History Month.

A general body member of Black Student Union was honored at the ceremony, Marie-Anne Conde.

She was given the opportunity to speak to the audience, where she expressed how grateful she is to be a part of a diverse group at Fredonia.

Each time someone attended a BSU event during Black History Month, their name would be entered in a raffle. At this ceremony, seven awards, ranging from gift cards to DVD sets, were given to people who were drawn from this raffle.

The five executive board members that were seniors also received gifts at this ceremony, which were cords to wear at graduation.

Brown said, "Closing Ceremony is a great way to end Black History Month by honoring those who have supported us throughout the month, as well as to just celebrate together in one space. We love to give back to members as much as we can."

VERBATIM

How concerned are you about the coronavirus?

Jake Nentarz, junior business management major

"I worry about my older family and how fast it's spreading."



PJ Brooks, sophomore childhood inclusive education major

"I'm not as nervous as my mom is."

Matt Holic, freshman music industry and Spanish major

"A little, probably should be more worried."



Nora Lauber, freshman music industry major

"Not super worried, like on a scale of one to 10, 10 being super worried, I'd say I'm like a three or four."

OPINION

From the desk of Aidan Pollard, News Editor

Once upon a time, the media was, generally speaking, trusted: back when the New York Times really was the paper of record, all the way up to when Walter Cronkite was the most trusted man in America. The news media has brought us some of the most important revelations in American history, like when the Washington Post broke the Watergate scandal through the investigations done by Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward. Largely, the idea of calling the media “fake” and treating them as the enemy, rather than a source of information and truth, is very modern. At least on a scale this widespread.

That’s not to say the major news outlets haven’t walked themselves right into this problem. In an ever more corporate America, unchecked capitalism can cause widespread misinformation in the media. This led to the ability for Donald Trump to attack the media directly and cause Americans to distrust their media.

The 24-hour news cycle has become the new norm, due to near necessity for most major media outlets. But there are inherent issues that can cause misinformation when companies put ratings ahead of accurate reporting. It happens whenever an anchor is on air and says something along the lines of “we’ll update you as the story develops.” This attitude toward news allows for speed to be favored over quality, allowing more mistakes to be made.

Print journalism used to be, in some sense, a haven from this. But as digital takes over print, it becomes just as susceptible to the need for any individual outlet to get the news out faster than its competitors.

To be fair, the 24-hour cycle does have its benefits, but they are restricted to severe disasters like Hurricane Harvey or Sandy or Katrina and to attacks such as the ones on 9/11. These are times when learning things the moment information becomes available can help save lives. Most other times, the cycle is used just so an outlet can be the first to report on something.

This cycle comes from pressure for ratings, and has become the new norm as it becomes further successful for more outlets.

With intense ratings pressure comes sensationalism. The Weather Channel produces graphics for news outlets that they are able to use during their weather forecasts. But some of the graphics they include in their service are things like flipping and crashing cars, people and snowmobiles falling through ice and power lines made to look like they’re falling through a station’s news studio. All of this has to do with making the news more sensational than it may actually be, so that companies can increase their ratings. This is downright dangerous. When things that are sensationalized in the news don’t turn out to be as interesting or as dangerous as they’re played up to be, it causes desensitization and distrust in the public when something big

actually does happen.

Ratings also come into play when a media outlet tries to create an ethos. Despite effort to remain unbiased, every television station, news publication and radio station inherently has its own ideas and agenda. For example, Fox News and the Wall Street Journal both skew to the right of the political spectrum, while NPR and the New York Times skew to the left.

Outlets like CNN and the New York Post remain closer to the middle. Outlets need to build these identities to separate themselves from other places that cover national news. If all of the media was completely unbiased, there would hardly need to be more than one outlet to effectively cover the news. But with such widespread perspectives from which different outlets report the news, it’s impossible for the media not to conflict with itself on what actually happened on any given day. Media outlets’ political slants become particularly evident when news analysis and news commentary come into play. When some viewers, listeners or readers take their favorite outlet’s word as law, misinformation gets spread quickly.

Media outlets also, in many cases, work to protect their advertisers. In 2006, Fox News was going to report a story that claimed most milk sold in the US is unfit to drink, due to the inclusion of certain hormones that can cause cancer. The manufacturer of some of the milk in question, Monsanto, was a major advertiser for Fox, and the journalists were asked to change the story by Fox, but wouldn’t. The story was killed due to advertiser pressure from Monsanto, and the journalists were offered money to keep quiet on the story. They refused, and were eventually fired from Fox News.

This kind of protection of advertisers comes as a response to companies not wanting their money pulled from a news program. The nature of investigative journalism leaves corporations vulnerable to criticism, as journalists look for the things that can help the public learn the truth about what goes on behind closed doors. Moreover, the Monsanto situation points to the idea that advertisers hold all the power, screening stories even before they air. If they buy in with enough money, advertisers can cancel any story that doesn’t fit their best interests.

Lastly, corporations have been merging. Today, five corporations control most of the media Americans consume: Comcast, The Walt Disney Company, AT&T, CBS Corporation and Viacom. Major news operations are owned by these companies, like ABC, which is owned by Disney. That means the same company who makes Good Morning America makes all the new Marvel and Star Wars movies. That’s not inherently bad, but it can cause major conflicts of interest when reporters face pressure not only from advertisers, but from the corporations they work for.

In 2018, the Sinclair Broadcast Group made dozens of local news anchors read a message during their newscasts. The message was about promising not to be “fake news” and that misinformation is “all too common” in modern media.

Looking past the surface-level, it was a corporation forcing its employees to juxtapose a nearly identical political message to localities all over the U.S. There were multiple edits of the stations reading the message, which play out like dystopian propaganda videos. Corporations should not be able to force broadcasters to recite messages that serve only the corporation and not the localities in which anchors and reporters broadcast.

All of these issues with misinformation in the media come from capitalistic tendencies left unchecked. Advertisers should not have the ability to screen stations’ stories, and stations should be protected from advertisers who threaten ad-pulls based on the content of the news. The media should shift away from the 24-hour news cycle.

Some stations are doing just that. HBO’s Vice News runs only once a week, focusing on really getting to the center of a couple big stories, rather than abridging big stories to make room for other stories. Big media conglomerates desperately need to be broken

up so news stations can return to a sense of agency and autonomy over what they cover.

This is all handled in Noam Chomsky’s idea of manufactured consent. He claims media outlets are highly effective propaganda machines, manipulating their audience through market forces like rating-focused broadcasts, internalized assumptions like political biases and agendas, and self-censorship like Fox News’ Monsanto story. Chomsky says this is because “... the general population are ‘ignorant outsiders.’ We have to keep them out of the public arena because they are either too stupid or if they get involved they will just make trouble. Their job is to be ‘spectators,’ not ‘participants.’ They are allowed to vote every once in a while for one of us smart guys. But then they are supposed to go home and do something else like watch football or MTV or whatever it may be.”

For anything to change about what news is presented to the public, we as a people need to take account for our own ignorances and learn hard truths we’d rather ignore. We need to make informed decisions on what we believe to be the whole truth based on unbiased consumption of information that may be outside of our comfort zone, so that we’re no longer having our consent manufactured for us.



SPORTS

Men's basketball head coach let go

DANTE LASTING

Sports Editor

The Fredonia men's basketball team is moving on from their head coach.

On March 3, the university's HR department sent out a vacancy announcement for the position. Philip Seymore was hired in 2013 and fulfilled his contract, which ended after this season. The Canisius graduate brought over 25 years of coaching experience, but had mixed results over the seven years at Fredonia.

Fredonia's Athletic Director Jerry Fisk weighed in on the coach's release.

"When coaches' contracts are up, that's the time we take a look at how everything is going with the program," Fisk explained. "You will never hear me say anything bad about coach Seymore. He is a tremendous human being who cares about his players a lot, but we had not seen the sustained success that we were hoping during his tenure as head coach."

The Leader did an interview with the former coach and some players when he was first hired in 2013. Jordan Debolt interviewed Seymore and he was asked why he chose Fredonia. He said that "Fredonia State also presented a challenge of getting the basketball program to the NCAA tournament, which has not happened in a long time."

Philip Seymore was unable to bring the team to the NCAA tournament during his time at Fredonia.

Debolt also interviewed some of the players on that team about the new head coach.

Players like junior guard Rasean Parris and sophomore guard Kevin Federation are excited to get going and were impressed by what they saw in their chance to meet their new coach.

"I've gotten a chance to meet Coach Seymore," Federation said, "and my first impression was that he is all business, and he knows a lot about helping his players improve on their own individual games."

Parris was impressed by what he saw as well. When asked about what the new season would bring as far as adjustments, Parris was a man of few words.

"Not sure as of yet," he said. "Both (Seymore and former Head

Coach Kevin Moore) have willful personas, but only the season will tell. We are undermanned; however, if we come together, the sky's the limit."

Seymore led the team to a 6-19 record in his first season and did not have much success on the court here at Fredonia. His best season came in the 2016-2017 season with 10 wins, and his overall record was 39-133.

The hiring process is underway to find his replacement. The athletic department has put together a search committee for this position. The university is accepting applications for the position of men's basketball head coach until March 23. Then they will conduct multiple over-the-phone and in-person interviews until they can select the best candidate.



Philip Seymore | State University of Fredonia of New York at Fredonia

Fredonia Sports Update

DELANA THOMAS

Special to The Leader

The spring season has begun here at SUNY Fredonia. The men's baseball team and women's lacrosse team season have



Nic Fiore | Jerry Reilly / Sports Information Director

already played a few games these past few weeks.

The men's baseball team played in Myrtle Beach this past weekend and faced Johnson and Wales Friday, but lost 5-2. On Saturday, they faced Lehman in a doubleheader and won both, 19-8 and 10-7. On Sunday, the Blue Devils faced the Penn State Berks which resulted in a 6-4 loss. The Blue Devils are now 3-3.

The Leader got a chance to get a few words from Nic Fiore, a senior shortstop about this upcoming season.

After a strong season last year, what do you expect from your team this year?

Fiore: We didn't like the way things ended last year. We started off strong, but we didn't finish strong. A majority of the team from last year is coming back, so the experience there is going to help a lot. The depth of our team combined with our experience is going to take us as far as we are willing to go. We were picked in a three-way tie for fourth in the preseason SUNYAC poll. We didn't like that, so we are playing with a chip on our shoulder and expect to make the playoffs again. Only this time make some noise in the tournament.

This is your fourth and last season here at Fredonia, what will you look forward to this upcoming season?

Fiore: The thing I'm looking forward to the most is taking the field with my teammates this year. There's a lot of seniors and it's the last time we will be able to do that. We want to enjoy it as much as possible and make as many memories as possible. It's our last year and our goal is to make a positive impact on the baseball program here. And that all starts with winning.

The women's lacrosse team faced Albright College on Saturday. Unfortunately, the Blue Devils lost 15-5 to the Lions. On Sunday, they flipped it around and won 16-13 against the SUNY Poly Wildcats. The Blue Devils are now 1-1.

We also got a chance to get a few words from Maddy Haney, a senior attack about this upcoming season.

It is your fourth and final season here playing for Fredonia, what do you look forward to the most this upcoming season?

Haney: The thing I look forward to the most this upcoming season is it being my/our strongest year yet. I have grown as a player and an individual every day since freshman year, and I am so excited to give it my all and see what I can do on the field that will help out my team in the best way possible this season. From the team aspect, we have so much potential this year to get lots of wins, we have great returners as well as freshman who came in well prepared and who have already adjusted to the college level very smoothly. I am so excited to see us bring more wins this season, especially in California, and see the major improvement from last year. Every day is a new day, and I am excited to take on the challenges with my teammates and coach every day and see what we can do best all the way until that last buzzer of my lacrosse career. I hope to make my last season the best season that Fredonia Lacrosse has seen in a while.

This past weekend, the men and women's track and field team competed at the 2020 All-Atlantic Regional Track & Field Conference indoor championship. Cassie Serafin, a junior, finished 14th for the long jump. A few highlights from the men's side, the 4x400 final finished in sixth out of ninth. Collin Barmore, a freshman, finished in sixth place for the 800 meter dash.

Looking ahead to this upcoming spring break, the men's baseball team, women's softball and lacrosse teams travel all around the country. The men's baseball team travels to Florida to play 10 games, three of them against SUNY Plattsburgh. The women's softball team also travels to Clermont, Florida to play 12 games over the break. The biggest traveler of the break is the women's lacrosse team. They head over to Redlands, California to play two games but will still practice throughout the break.

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



Maddy Haney | Jerry Reilly / Sports Information Director

NBA postseason brings opportunities

ANTHONY GETTINO

Staff Writer

This season in the NBA has been different than the five years that came before it.

The difference is that the Golden State Warriors are bad. With that said, the Warrior's absence from the NBA Finals, and the postseason altogether brings an opportunity that teams are trying to not let pass.

In reality, there are only four teams that can win the league with their rosters. The Milwaukee Bucks, Los Angeles Clippers, Los Angeles Lakers and Boston Celtics.

All of these teams have the three ingredients needed to win in today's NBA. First is star power. The Celtics have Jason Tatum and Kemba Walker, the Clippers with Kawhi Leonard and Paul George, the Bucks with Giannis and the Lakers having Anthony Davis and LeBron James.

The next thing a team needs is depth. The Lakers have the

worst supporting players out of this group, but with Dion Waiters coming into the fold after being bought out of his contract, they should have enough with just how good their two best are.

The Celtics have a great nucleus of players with Jaylen Brown and Marcus Smart leading the group. The Bucks have the best roster in the league in most categories, so there should be no question about their depth, and the Clippers have Marcus Morris and Pat Beverly leading what could be considered the most talented all-around roster.

The last thing a championship team needs is the ability to win on the road. If you could play every game at home, the Philadelphia 76ers would be my pick to win it all hands down, but since they become chopped liver on the road, they won't even get through the first round. All four of these teams above can win on the road just as well as they can win at home.

With all this being said, I'm picking the Lakers in six over the Bucks with LeBron scoring 33 points in the closing game.

Graphic | Olivia Connor / Art Director



Your Ad could go here

Stop by The Leader office and talk with our Advertising
Sales Manager.

Opinion: Houston Asterisks face slap on the wrist ... how on Earth can they recover from this?

CAROLYN MULLARKEY

Staff Writer

Cheating and baseball.

They kind of go hand in hand since the 1919 Black Box scandal.

It has evolved over the years, of course, from corked bats, Pete Rose's betting, pine tar, steroids, and now technology.

By now, the world knows the Astros will be exposed for cheating, and this scandal has evolved more into shaping the MLB in the future ... positively or negatively though?

That hasn't been determined.

If somehow you've avoided hearing about what had happened, essentially, the Astros were caught using secret cameras to steal signs from centerfield so that they could then be relayed to the dugout, then to the batter.

Now, stealing signs is a part of the game.

It is totally legal and one of the most interesting parts.

The thing is, you can't use technology to do it.

Now, the Astros for sure aren't the only team utilizing technology or other shady tactics.

The Red Sox were caught using Apple Watches, The Cardinals hacked into databases ... so this isn't anything new. Not that it excuses it, but it is something important to remember and consider.

Bottom line "everybody is doing it" is still not a defense.

Were the Astros a talented team and probably did not have to cheat to land themselves to win in 2017 and make it there in 2019?

Probably.

It is the fact they won, in my opinion, that makes people the most upset.

Teams that aren't winning but still cheating aren't going to get into the spotlight and take any heat.

The idea follows that of Jose Altuve's walk-off two-homerun off of Aldoris Chapman, which took the Yankees out of the series.

That is something now that is always going to be questioned and take away from everything they truly did work for and discredited any titles or wins received between the years 2017-2019.

The punishments received were less than a slap on the wrist.

It wasn't just a one person job.

This was multiple people directly involved in this scheme and even more so that knew it was going on despite maybe not being involved directly.

In the Astros organization alone, General Manager, Jeff Luhnow and manager AJ Hinch have each been suspended for the 2020

season without pay.

Of course, Alex Cora and Carlos Beltran were both let go from the Red Sox and Mets, respectively.

Back to Houston, they've been fined an underwhelming \$5 million and forfeited their first and second round picks in the 2020 and 2021 seasons.

Now this isn't a lot to unpack, but baseball money is known for being ridiculous.

Gerrit Cole's contract of \$324 million just proves that \$5 million to a major league baseball team is absolute chump change.

The losing round picks sucks for them, but it's not detrimental at the end of the day.

No titles or championships were revoked.

That was the entirety of their punishments besides losing credibility, loyalty and respect by baseball teams, players and fans alike.

That is probably worth more than anything the MLB organization gave them.

A few things are for sure this upcoming season:

1. The Astros are going to be watched like hawks, especially in their dug out. No trash cans will be lying around or any banging will be happening under any circumstances.
2. One statistic the Houston Astros will be leaders in if not hits ... hit by pitches. That's been proven enough so far in Spring Training and I don't think its over yet.
3. I would pay a lot of money to go to the first Yankees vs. Astros regular season game and just watch Aaron Judge's interactions with Jose Altuve.

In about 2 weeks, the regular season begins.

The 2020 season, I think will be one of the most interesting ones yet as it progresses closer to October.

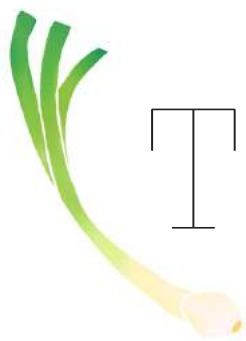
Will the Astros try and play up this "underdog story" in a very Yankees fashion?

Who will represent the American League?

I can't say just yet, but I know it will be one hell of a series.



Graphic | Jesseca Bennett / Ass. Art Director



THE SCALLION

Satire for modern Fredonia



I swear to God, if there is even a touch of malarky I'll give ya a beating you won't soon forget

JOSEPH R. BIDEN

Candidate for United States President and Guest Writer
(Actually just Joseph Marciniak, Scallion Editor)

Folks, this race is getting real serious. Dang nabit, I don't have time to address all the issues.

Well look, I've got some pretty strong opponents; they know what they're doing. And the thing — what I'm trying to say here is that there's — you folks know, my opponents — there's a lot of malarky going around. And what I intend to do — I'm gonna put an end to it.

I plan — and you can quote me on this — I plan to beat the hell out of anyone who has any sort of malarky.

I'm a certified Obama-Barden Democrat, the good kind. We believe — you won't hear this from my opponents — we believe in getting things done.

Just look at my record: I beat the hell out of my ol' pal Mitch McConnell's behind in high school. I don't — and I'm being

serious — I don't mess around.

Folks, I'm fighting for you. I'm not fighting for the folks who — the big guys, those guys that don't need help — I'm beating the hell out of 'em, because they're darn tootin' full of malarky.

So kiss your mama and tell your Aunt Jean that ol' Uncle Joey is runnin' — and we've got — well look, we've got more support than any candidate, because — and I'm gonna get things done!

Bernie thinks he's gonna win because of his — he's got his gadgets and young people — and the Socialism. How about we have some common sense — get some common sense politics, Bernie? Where's the Bernie fightin' for the little guy — where's the go-getter Bernie?

Look folks, all I wanna say is this: no malarky! I love that phrase, my mama down in Nevada — malarky doesn't run in my family, and it shouldn't in yours, either. If you bring — well look, if you bring any malarky, I will beat the hell out of you.



Graphic | Olivia Connor / Art Director

Fredonia to introduce alternative transportation for inclement weather

MATTHEW BAUM

Staff Scallywag

The students at Fredonia have been put through the weather wringer, with wind, waves and whiteout wreaking havoc on the commute from one end of campus to the other. To combat this stress, Jess Tuitt, the head of the university Department of Transportation, has set in motion a plan for more efficient transport for students.

During the winter months, the bus system that makes its route around campus will be replaced by teams of sled dogs, according to Tuitt. Then, as the weather gets warmer and the heaps of snow inevitably melt into water and flow down the street, the dogs will be given warm shelters, and a gondola will be utilized to get students from academic buildings to residences, and vice versa. Both of these units of transportation will be manned by the lovely drivers here at Fredonia, and they are currently in classes to become certified commercial gondoliers and dogsled drivers.

Tuitt, who was introduced as the head of Fredonia's Department of Transportation eight years ago, said that she was waiting for an opportunity like last week's weather to finally arise.

"I'm so glad that conditions have fluctuated so violently in the last several days," she said when she was asked about her enthusiasm for the project. "I've wanted to replace the

bus system since I first joined this lovely school, and all of my suggestions are more fuel-efficient and clean than the current system."

Along with the dog sleds and gondolas, the bus route will change into an eight-seat bicycle route during the more temperate months, where if a student wants to catch a ride, they have to pedal to the metal. Not only will this be an easy and productive way to burn calories, but it will also provide a scenic view of up to seven other tired and bored students, as each seat faces into the middle of the vehicle.

Tuitt has also suggested a few alternatives to the transportation of students off campus as well. She has started speaking to the mayor of Fredonia about installing a massive ski-lift-style chair conveyor from the top of Maytum Hall to the Walmart parking lot if students ever need to get away from their stresses while also having three hours free in their schedules. Similarly, there are some early discussions about providing Segways students can sign out, for when they feel like cruising around the nearby towns in an especially ridiculous way.

It's an exciting time to be a student without a car in Fredonia. Fingers are crossed that no tornadoes or hurricanes hit us anytime soon, because they may lead to paragliding and/or liferaft options to get from one place to another.



Graphic | Olivia Connor / Art Director

I'm not like other girls, I do things that other girls do



Graphic | Olivia Connor / Art Director

HANNAH BLIDY

Staff Scallywag

(Disclaimer: you don't have to have a period/menstrual cycle to be a girl. Whether you identify as a woman all the time or some of the time, this article is for you. Perhaps you're just interested in reading it. Whatever floats your boat.)

Omg, don't you hate when your period is just like so bad and cramps and bloating, blah blah blah ... Okay, now that the cis men have stopped reading, let's get into the real article.

I'm not like other girls: I wear messy buns. I don't do my makeup and I don't like the color pink. I wear leggings and a sweatshirt every day. I listen to country music because I hate pop music. I don't wear tight clothes and I don't straighten my hair every day. Aren't I so quirky?

Well, here's the thing: I'm not like other girls either. I listen to classic rock and wear combat boots. I dye my hair fun colors. I wear all black. I wear lots of black eyeliner. I like flannel shirts, my vans and I ride a motorcycle. Aren't I hardcore?

Hey, I'm not like other girls! I write poetry about my feelings. I have glasses. I like wearing cardigans. I hate being forced to read, but I love reading of my own accord. I only wear a little bit of foundation and mascara, maybe blush sometimes. I love playing Minecraft and my Nintendo 3DS. Aren't I goofy?

Guess what? All of those things (well most of them), describe one girl.

It's me! I'm the girl!

What's that, Fredonia?

"Wait, who are you?"

ALEXANDRA WALSH

Guest Scallywag

Darth Vader

Senior Sith Lord major

"I am your father."

Freddy Krueger

Freshman psychology major

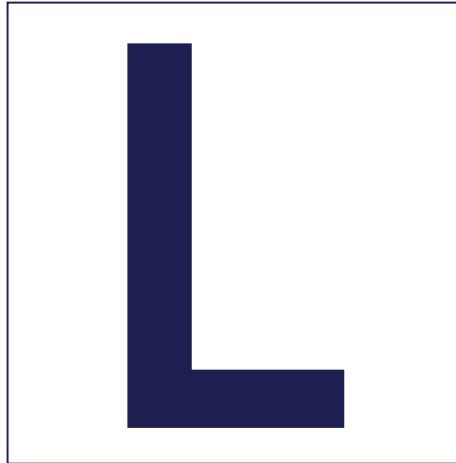
"Your worst nightmare."

Charli D'Amelio

Too young to even be in college Tik Tok major

"People always ask who I am, not how I am."

Renegade, renegade



**Work for
THE LEADER**

Positions Available

**In writing, reporting,
art, photography,
editing and more**

Come to our office!

**S206 in the Williams Center
Email us at leader@fredonia.edu**