University review of President Horvath released
A landmark survey has been done on the first few years of the President’s tenure.................................................1

Kahn & Selesnick art gallery
Humor and dystopia collide in a new exhibition in the Marion Art Gallery.................................7

Editorial: Beyond Brock Turner
Release of former Stanford student from prison hints at deeper issues............................10

Buffalo Bills: Takeaways from the first week
Our columnist’s thoughts after a tough loss on the road...................................13

Trump and Clinton get ready to rumble
Forget the presidency — a new heavyweight champion will be crowned in November.........14

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This semester, the University Senate released the results of a survey review they conducted last semester on President Virginia Horvath. Although there were many strengths listed for her, there were also a few areas of concern noted in this review.

The review team was selected by the University Senate in February 2016, and they created a survey with three main questions regarding Horvath’s performance as president. The survey asked people how they felt under Horvath’s leadership, what strengths and positive changes has she brought to the University, and what suggestions for improvement they would make for President Horvath. The committee also supplemented the survey with internal and external reviews.

Dr. Rob Deemer, who recently ended his tenure as University Senate chair, explained that Horvath asked for her performance to be reviewed and that this kind of review is typical of a vice president, but not typical of a president.

Some of the strengths this review mentioned were her dedication to shared governance, her open and collaborative leadership style and her open and engaging communication skills.

Horvath explained just exactly what she thought was her most important strength listed in this review.

“That one of inclusion is really important to me, because it also includes respect for diversity, respect for the people who are involved in decision making,” said Horvath in an interview last year. “In a community like Fredonia, where we really do want people to get along and work together, the fact that there were positive comments about that, that was important to me.”

However, the review was not entirely positive, as some areas of concern were included.

One of them was that some felt the rebranding efforts by the University were a costly failure, and that some of the elements of the rebranding, specifically the new logo and website, stripped the campus of its identity.

Horvath explained that she felt the rebranding was necessary to bring our university into the 21st century, and that the rebranding was mostly done using Fredonia talent and wasn’t as expensive as some thought.

“We did it all in-house, and it was our own design team that came up with our logo,” said Horvath. She explained that the University Senate then voted on a few different logos. She also mentioned that most of the money spent for the rebranding effort came from the University's branding and trademark account that is made up of royalties the University earns off promotional material sold.

Deemer explained why he thought some people might feel differently from Horvath.

“To change from one thing to another is just a very hard thing to deal with at any point,” said Deemer. “It’s almost to the point that where it would be impossible to make everyone happy. There’s always going to be a portion of your collective community that is not going to be happy because they wish it had gone in another direction or they wished it had stayed where it was or whatnot.”

Despite some hailing Horvath as a great communicator, some felt that Horvath should communicate her plans even more to the university.

Deemer feels that it’s a tough job for Horvath to please everyone when choosing a communication style for a few reasons.

“I think part of it is because different people hear different things or pay attention,” said Deemer. “The people who are very interested in things like diversity inclusion, rightfully so, they have been very happy with the way that President Horvath has been communicating through that because they are really focused on that.”

Deemer said that there are other people who may be more interested in other issues and feel that Horvath isn’t paying enough attention to their issues.

Horvath said communication is a challenge that every leader has to overcome.

“I took very seriously that people said that they wanted more communication from me. They don’t just want me to send memos. They want me to be listening to them, as well,” said Horvath. She mentioned that she plans to communicate with the community in more frequent and varied efforts in the future.

Overall, Horvath said that she enjoys this kind of constructive criticism, and that she feels she can use this survey to better serve the university.

“I was really happy with [the review],” said Horvath. “I like that we had more than 400 responding to the survey, and I really liked that the committee did such a qualitative analysis. They really did a good job of saying what are the most important things from this to bring forward. It will help me. It will help a lot.”
Rockefeller’s return

RAC addition project on pace for October unveiling

JORDAN PATTERSON
Assistant News Editor

The nearly $40 million Rockefeller Arts Center project continues, with all classrooms in the building expected to be fully functional by January.

The approximately 40,000 square-foot new addition includes two brand new dance studios, ceramics and sculpture studios, two acting classrooms and a dedicated shop for painting set pieces. Classes opened in the new addition of the art building, but classes in the old wing were moved around campus due to ongoing renovations.

Due to the renovations on the second and third floor of old Rockefeller classes will remain elsewhere.

During the current Fall semester, there will be a “phase-in” leading up to Rockefeller’s opening. At the start of the semester, the new addition was open for classes including scene and costume shops in the old structure. The second and third floors of the original structure are being renovated but will be finished in time for the official unveiling set to take place Oct. 21 through 23, during Homecoming weekend. There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony and a program in Marvel Theater with numerous speakers.

“I’m very excited about this because it feature the work areas of art,” said President Virginia Horvath. “The new spaces in Rockefeller Arts Center showcase what is distinctive about studying the arts at Fredonia: the quality of the professional training for those who perform on stage and those who work behind the scenes.”

The central idea with this project was to bring arts programs under the same roof. The dance program will be able to move into Rockefeller out of Dods Hall, while computer labs used in illustration and design courses have left McEwen Hall.

“This project addresses the current needs of our visual and performing arts programs for more and better space, allows us to grow and brings nearly all of the arts programs into one complex,” said Ralph Blasting, dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts.

Horvath expressed her gratitude for the architects who headed this project, Deborah Berke Partners.

“They did a wonderful job… it’s consistent with the design of the rest of the building.”

Horvath was pleased with what they paid, around $39 million, for the end results, which she called “impressive.”

Senior BFA sculpture major Julian Perez was also impressed with the new addition. Perez mentioned how having a separate room for the clay mixer and the glaze room is much more convenient.

“The new wing has been more accommodating in terms of workspace,” Perez said. “I now have more room for larger projects and more room to make my studio space homey and my own.”

A view of the new Rockefeller addition.

Ryan Daughenbaugh/Special to the Leader

‘Growing into the future’

College of Education receives prestigious CAEP accreditation

JORDAN PATTERSON
Assistant News Editor

After a long process, Fredonia has passed all of the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation’s (CAEP) standards, becoming the first college to do so in New York.

CAEP, the sole education accreditor in the nation, recently informed Fredonia that they had been officially accredited after qualifying per the organization’s standards. The five standards include pedagogical knowledge, clinical partnerships, candidate quality, program impact and provider quality, according to CAEP’s website. For the next seven years, Fredonia will be preparing for the next accreditation, and improving upon its Educated Preparation Programs (EPPs).

For Dr. Christine Givner, the dean of the College of Education, it’s all about “growing into the future.”

Starting in 2004, all New York universities with EPPs were subject to national certifications or accreditations. Up until 2013, the accrediting was given by two different groups, NCATE and TEAC.

After a growing sense of political backlash against public education and universities towards their education programs over the last decade, those two organizations wanted to refine their oversight and improve education nationally. The two groups combined and formed CAEP, the current accreditor of EPPs.

Givner was reluctant to agree with the backlash, but she, among others, saw this as a great opportunity for Fredonia.

“It was a reinvention,” said Givner.

According to Givner, CAEP developed all new standards, and the education field, in general, wanted “to transform Educated Preparation Programs to be the very best that [they] can be.”

Universities that were transitioning from the old standards to the new ones were given three options. The first and second options were that they could stick with NCATE or TEAC’s standards through the next accreditation. The third option was to embrace the new CAEP standards.

Up for accreditation in 2015, the University, after an unanimous vote among the Professional Education Council at Fredonia, decided in 2013 that they would run with the new CAEP standards.

“We decided that we would be bold and be pioneers in terms of taking on the new CAEP standards and become an early adopter,” Givner said.

E lecting to become an early adopter meant that the 29 education programs, undergraduate and graduate, would have to change their methods to meet the brand new regulations.

Without any guidance documents or any structure to follow, the University went in blind and prepared for over two years.

“It was kind of like a moving target,” Givner said, referring to keeping up with CAEP standards as they evolved over the last three years. Over the course of Fredonia’s preparation period, CAEP started with just three standards and ended with five.

Givner was also aware that other universities nation-wide that chose to be earlier adopters were dropping out. According to her, the CAEP office called Fredonia to encourage them to stick with them because “more than half of [the early adopters] had dropped out.”

Over the last three years, Fredonia had to report back CAEP with formal reports even before the CAEP team assigned to Fredonia could visit the campus.

In September 2015, that team finally arrived on campus. After a great visit and a pat on the back per se, they left and Fredonia had to wait for its official accreditation.

Soon enough, the University would hear back and was informed that it had passed all five standards, making Fredonia the first in New York and one of the first in the U.S. to do so.

“To be an early adopter, I think it demonstrates that we have faculty and staff who really are experts in their field,” Givner said.

President Virginia Horvath shared similar sentiments and agreed that this certification can be useful to attract potential education majors.

“It’s important because it gives us certain credentials to all the teachers who graduate from that program,” said Horvath. “The fact that we came through that review with no issues, no problems and only accolades for our program is really a credit to our College of Education.”
Fredonia’s Visual Arts and New Media Department is facing numerous changes this year as it adapts to a new location in the $37 million dollar expansion added on to the Rockefeller Arts Center, an expansion which includes new areas for sculpting, drawing, animating, and illustrating.

Leading the department is the newly appointed Dr. Michele Bernatz, a veteran teacher and Fredonia alumni who earned her PhD from the University of Texas at Austin. “Her teaching style is very structured and writing focused, follows syllabus to a T, and she is always willing to go over when you have a problem,” said animation and illustration major Anna Gilmore, who graduated last spring. “I know that she has big shoes to fill with [former chair] Bob [Booth] leaving,” said Gilmore, “but I really liked her and think she will do a great job.”

“Her passion is infectious and her classroom is always a fun environment to learn in,” added acting and art history double major Joanna Shapiro, who also graduated last spring.

According to Dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts Ralph Blasting, Bernatz’s appointment was made in the same fashion as other department chairs, involving the department’s own selection and subsequent approvals from him, Provost Terry Brown and President Virginia Horvath.

“I think it’s a fantastic appointment,” Blasting said of Bernatz, “and I look forward to working with her.”

As the Visual Arts and New Media Department begins planning for the upcoming years, it’s also looking to combat the falling enrollment numbers that have been felt by every department, not just at Fredonia, but across the SUNY system.

“Recruitment is our top goal, currently, trying to get more students into every area of the art department,” said Blasting, adding that “we do already have a very large department, about 190 majors in Visual Arts and New Media, which is among the largest in SUNY.”

Hoping to utilize the unique advantages that the department has, Blasting believes that the diversity of the department will continue to be an effective and compelling draw for students. “The trick with art students, and with all students, is to give to them a great deal of opportunities and choices across their chosen field,” said Blasting. “We know that when a student comes in at 18 years old they may not know, nor should they know, exactly where they want to end up in four years,” he said. “A student may come in, thinking they want to be a graphic designer, only to find that they are an immensely talented and passionate sculptor, so we aim to recruit for the whole array of majors in the department.”

The seven specialized BFA programs, as well as one generalized BA tract, may be a fantastic draw for students, but the most compelling reason for a prospective student to choose Fredonia may wind up being the new expansion to Rockefeller Arts Center.

“I’m very optimistic that the new space will help with enrollment,” Blasting said, “and I know that the faculty is excited about it as well … Faculty members are ultimately our best recruiters, and fantastic teachers are what get students passionate and interested in a new school. It doesn’t hurt that our new facilities are far and beyond what most other SUNY schools offer.”

The Visual Arts and New Media Department is planning several events to celebrate the opening of the new space, including activities in all the new sculpture studios during homecoming weekend as well as a public sculpture-pour of molten metal in the new foundry.

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**Visual Arts and New Media Department looks to the future**

New semester brings new chair and more

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**Office of Volunteer & Community Service hosting annual community service fair**

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**Come to our office!**

S206 in the Williams Center

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Police Blotters

UNIVERSITY

Monday, Sept. 5, 2016

1:45 a.m. Two subjects were allegedly jumping the fence by Old Main and Residence Row. A report was filed.

2:02 a.m. Three subjects were seen jumping the fence by Lot 19A. The subjects were picked up, and a report was filed.

Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2016

2:05 p.m. A class ring was found in the Williams Center. A report was filed, and the ring was logged and stored.

7:57 p.m. Ryan Del Prince, age 20, was reportedly arrested for unlawful possession of marijuana, cocaine and another New York State driver’s license. He was issued an appearance ticket.

7:57 p.m. Chelsea Shea, age 20, was arrested for unlawful possession of marijuana. She was issued an appearance ticket.

Friday, Sept. 9, 2016

9:17 p.m. A black organizer book was found. A report was filed, and the book was logged and stored in temporary evidence.

9:49 p.m. Two keys were turned into UPD dispatch. A report was filed, and they were logged and stored in temporary evidence.

FREDONIA

Monday, Sept. 5, 2016

Jodi Messere, age 37, was arrested for petit larceny. She was issued an appearance ticket.

Sunday, Sept. 11, 2016

Dalton Drennon, age 18, was arrested for open container, littering and unlawful possession of alcohol. He was issued an appearance ticket.

All information printed in The Leader’s police blotter is a matter of open public record. No retractions or corrections will be made unless a factual error is shown. Anyone who is cleared of charges has the right to have so printed. It is the responsibility of the accused to provide notice and proof of the dropped charges.

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Feeling over matter
Inside the Kahn & Selesnick art gallery reception

KRISTOFER HARRIS
Staff Writer

No matter what medium it is presented in, art has the capacity to impact an individual in several ways. One of the best things art can do, however, is inspire. Inspiration is what came to many as the Cathy and Jesse Marion Art Gallery debuted the first major exhibit of the semester, Kahn & Selesnick: “Truppe Fledermaus and the Carnival at the End of the World.”

Composed between 2012 to 2015, the collection is a mixture of humor and dystopia. On several different mediums one can find the distortion of the human form. For example, there is a photo of a person with an animal head and another painting of a body comprised entirely of fish.

One of the highlights of the exhibit is a piece seen almost instantly when entering the gallery. It is a trio of prints with human-like figures covered in different items. Another interesting installation was another trio, this time displaying three human bodies submerged in water and flora, continuing with the idea of altering the human body.

The duo of Nicholas Kahn and Richard Selesnick, who have known each other since studying together at Washington University in St. Louis, have had their art featured in several publications and have lectured at several institutions.

The exhibit is part of the Visiting Artist Program (VAP) sponsored by the Department of Visual Arts and New Media. With this program, artists give their insight on their art and the world around them, hopefully inspiring students, faculty, and community members alike.

Phil Hansen, a junior visual arts and new media major, was moved by the pieces showing the success of the VAP.

“The first thing that stood out to me from these guys’ work when I walked in here was the focus on the human form, which is something that I’m really interested in … incorporating into my own work. [The human form] is such a relatable form; it’s what we are. There is so much you can express with it and [you] can do so many different things with it, but there is always that familiarity.

A presentation will be given by Kahn and Selesnick on Thursday, Sept. 15 in McEwen Hall at 8:30 p.m., along with an Art and Business Luncheon at noon on Friday, Sept. 16 at the Technology Incubator.

For some, admiration for the art comes from what the actual artist is willing to go through for their work.

“I started climbing in the Adirondacks when I was 53 years old. I’ve done some rock climbing, and I have completed all 46 of the high peaks of the Adirondacks. I really feel that this is real art. This particular pose is so essential to what he is doing and his grasp is tender. I enjoy this piece,” said community member Wally Latimer on piece which a had a person in a compromising position on a mountain.

Katie Lawrence, a student currently studying at JCC, was drawn to the dark surrealism the art conveyed.

 “[The exhibit], it’s a certain flavor of strange that meshes nicely with Lovecraft’s aesthetic. It makes me think about how I see the world when my eyes are closed,” she said.

Lawrence was referring to the writings of H. P. Lovecraft, an American author known for his work in horror fiction.

Lawrence also added, “I think one of the interesting aspects that I’m definitely feeling from this exhibit is art allows for a representation of the world that is more based off of feeling than matter.”

The exhibit will continue to be featured in the Marion Art Gallery through Nov. 18.
Kasia Coffee holds first *B-Side jam session

MOLLY VANDENBERG
Special to The Leader

Most Friday evenings are spent unwinding with friends and contemplating your weekend plans. For some of us, this includes checking out favorite local bars or restaurants in the area. However, if you’re ever bored of the typical downtown Fredonia scene, Kasia Coffee, located on 183 East Main, stands as a relaxing alternative.

Last Friday was the first *B-Side Uke Jam session at Kasia. The session is intended for ukulele enthusiasts who are slightly beyond the beginner level. All are welcome to attend no matter your playing ability; however, knowing basic chords will make life a bit easier.

The session is led by Dr. Jill Reese, assistant professor of music education. She provides ukuleles for all who attend, so if you don’t have your own uke, don’t let that stop you from coming. There are plenty and more to go around.

This is also a great opportunity for students to connect with the local community because a large number of community members are usually in attendance.

Even if you don’t know anything about the ukulele or how to play an instrument, you can still come listen to people jam to songs like The Beatles’ “Eight Days a Week” and Bruno Mars’ “Count On Me” — all while enjoying an iced coffee and a scone.

If you’re interested in checking out a jam session in the near future, there will be a newbie jam on Sept. 26, a community uke jam on Sept. 30 and a campfire sing-along on Oct. 12. They also have jam sessions every final Friday of the month.
Review: Broadening horizons one note at a time
Faculty concert in King Concert Hall showcases the new organ

SHENECA SHARPE
Staff Writer

With the addition of the new organ in King Concert Hall, the only way to celebrate Fredonia’s new renovation was, of course, providing a concert for community members and students. The performance featured faculty members such as Dr. Ji Hyun Woo, Dr. David Cowell, Natasha Farny, Sarah Hamilton and Dr. Andrew Seigel performing pieces of their choice. It was a concert that had to be experienced firsthand to truly understand how the organ shook the room as the pianist played every key and the passion the professors displayed when playing their instruments.

Many music education majors were in attendance, and they all had good things to say about the concert and the performances.

“My favorite was the second piece with Dr. Andrew Seigel in the second movement. It just felt like a dance, like it came right out of one of Tim Burton’s movies,” said Alyssa Young, a junior music education major.

With a newly renovated organ in place, there was a lot of worries about whether it would sound different than the old one.

“I like it. It’s interesting. It’s new age and doesn’t have this dead cathedral feel to it,” said Rachel Isabell, a sophomore music education major.

Young agreed with the sentiment, adding “I think it sounds fantastic! From its acoustics especially with the music coming through King, it simply sounded wonderful. Not to mention that it’s physically beautiful as well.”

King Concert Hall was decently packed and filled with a majority of music majors and community members. Sadly, not many outside of the music field were seen in attendance.

“People who aren’t music majors should come to these events because music has so much to offer, and there’s a lot to explore. I understand that most people can’t sit through Mozart and Beethoven, but you can learn a lot more than just the music. You can see the passion people put into it, the time and the work. It’s just inspiring from one musician to another,” said junior music education major Brittany Sanford.

Inspired is how most people felt sitting through the concert, alongside a sense of awe at the passion and dedication on display. Even though it was only an hour and a half, watching the performers put their heart on stage somehow made it seem shorter.

“Freshman music education majors should come to these concerts and events. You can see a lot of the different aspects of performing that you wouldn’t get in the classroom,” said Young, speaking to the exposure to the arts students can receive in their free time.

The next time a concert like this comes around, students should go, especially the ones outside of the world of music. It’s a great way to immerse yourself in a culture you never thought had so much depth and mystery. To broaden someone’s horizons is best started with the arts. To go back into the past and listen to the music from back then to see how it’s comparable today is interesting and insightful.

The professors and students that helped to make this possible deserve a standing ovation for the work they’ve done and the horizons they helped broaden.

September

9/6-11/18

Marion Art Gallery
Kahn & Selenick:
“Truppe Fledermaus and the Carnival at the End of the World”

9/15

Visiting Artist Program
Lecture will be held in McEwen 209 at 8:30 p.m.
Nicholas Kahn and Richard Selenick will hold a lecture to discuss their exhibit “Truppe Fledermaus and the Carnival at the End of the World” featured in the Marion Art Gallery.

9/16

Nicholas Kahn and Richard Selenick Luncheon
From 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. at the Fredonia Technology Incubator
Kahn and Selenick will be speaking on their personal and professional experiences as artists in regards to music videos, fashion shoots and published books. Lunch will be provided. Registration is required and seating is limited. Admission is free.

9/18

“Folk in Fredonia” Music Series
Fredonia’s annual “Free-For-All” concert at 3 p.m. in the Fredonia Opera House
There will be music, stories and an overall fun environment Admission is free. Tickets are required and available at the Opera House’s box office.

9/19

Faculty Showcase
Recital starts at 8 p.m. in Rosch Recital Hall
A variety of musical talent will be presented. Fredonia’s School of Music professors will be showcased such as Anne Kissel, Andrew Seigel, Laura Koepke, Wildy Zuwailah, I-Fei Chen, MiKyung Kim, Jamie Sampson, Roderick Macdonald, Alec Dube and Kieran Hanlon. Admission is free.

9/21

Rita Moreno Convocation Lecture
The presentation will start at 3 p.m. in King Concert Hall
It is titled “If You Quit, You Can’t” and will follow the 2016-17 Convocation theme of “Creativity and Perseverance.” Admission is free. Tickets are required and are available at the ticket office in the Williams Center.

9/24

James Welch Recital
Recital starts at 8 p.m. in Rosch Recital Hall
Other music faculty will be featured, such as Mark DuBois, Daniel Ihasz, Julie Newell, Laurie Tramuta, Marlene Witnauer and Elizabeth Widzius. The audience will hear romantic and contemporary music from composer such as Erich Korngold, Camile Saint-Saens, Robert Schumann and more. Admission is free.

9/30

Community Ukulele Jam Session
From 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Kasia Coffee Shop
Beginners are encouraged to play from 6 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Everyone else is welcomed to jam for the rest of the night. Extra ukuleles will be provided. Admission is free.
Opinion

Guest Op-Ed: It’s not okay

PRESIDENT VIRGINIA HORVATH
Special to The Leader

Last weekend, I was alerted to several threads on social media about destruction of property in a yard on Temple Avenue. Most troubling to me, as threads continued to describe other acts of vandalism and disrespect, was a statement from a community member that said, “We pay the taxes ... we keep our property ... and it [is] okay for students to do whatever.”

It is not okay. Fredonia students, you make such a positive difference in the communities we serve with thousands of hours of service through volunteering, internships and field placements. I am proud of these efforts of so many students, faculty and staff. But all the good that you do can be tarnished quickly by a few people when residents have their plants destroyed, their property broken and their yards littered with trash. None of you — or your families — would tolerate such behavior at your own homes.

There have been many discussions about increased security and consequences for those who damage property. We will soon have a community forum to discuss these possibilities, and I hope the Student Association’s Campus Community Relations Committee will be involved in the conversations and resulting steps.

But at the core, this isn’t about patrolling, policing and punishment. It’s about character. So I’m asking you to show that you are responsible and respectful. When you are walking around town, please get to know your neighbors, and treat them and their property with respect. Don’t cut through yards, as this can be frightening to residents. Trespassing also sends a message that you feel entitled to walk wherever you want. Think of the people who live in the homes you pass, and treat them as you would your own family members who are sleeping before going to school or off to work in the morning. If you are in a group and someone suggests doing something stupid, like going onto someone’s porch or breaking their flower pots, stop them. When you party with your friends, keep it small, and keep the noise down. Alcohol may explain some of the behavior, but it doesn’t excuse it. Please look out for each other, and help each other be good citizens.

Editorial: Outcome in Turner case points toward deeper and systemic problems

After serving only three months in county jail, half of what he was originally sentenced, convicted sex offender and former Stanford University student Brock Turner went home early on Sept. 2.

His release has sparked national outrage once more, as his already-lenient sentence was cut short. Since his release, droves of people have showed up outside the police station as well as his parent’s home to protest, holding signs with phrases such as “Castrate Rapists” and “If I rape Brock, will I only do 3 months?”

What these sort of remarks and actions fail to recognize is that Turner’s case is not an isolated incident. Turner is fully to blame for his actions but his short sentence and early release are part of a bigger and more pervasive problem. What he did was dehumanizing and despicable, but unfortunately, he is one among many. The justice system that upheld a six-month sentence, when six years in prison was recommended with the potential for 14, is to blame.

While this trial’s conclusion deserves to inspire outrage, it is evident Turner is not walking away from this without any repercussions. The message Judge Aaron Persky conveyed in his sentence is horrifying, and while a reasonable person would understand and empathize with the hurt and anger of the protesters, it’s unclear whether the violent rhetoric being used will bring lasting or beneficial change.

There is another uncomfortable dimension to this sort of response. The signs held by some protesters reinforce the idea that violence and rape are acceptable forms of punishment and revenge. Anger is acceptable, but violence is not. It’s The Leader’s hope that the outrage seen is for something that will bring about change. This world does not need more violence in it. Real revenge would be upsetting the system that ultimately allowed this to happen in the first place.

Verbatim

“If you could study abroad, where would you go and why?”

Dillan Sears, freshman engineering
“I would go study abroad in Italy because I would love to see Venice and go on a gondola because I’ve never been on one before.”

Samuel Baez, freshman video production
“I’d probably study abroad in China or in Hong Kong. I would go there because they have really good film companies.”

Jessica Lioy, sophomore molecular genetics and medical technology
“Somewhere in the Bahamas, because I like the warm areas, and I like to see all of the different flowers and trees and the different cultures down there.”
From The Desk Of Curtis Henry, Assistant Sports Editor

Ask me how I’m doing sometime. Go ahead, ask me. I’ll smirk and respond in the exact same way just about every time.

“I’m just living the dream.”

So many people perceive this as some nonsensical and sarcastic response; that my life is shitty and that I am just being a smartass. At one point that was true. Currently, that is entirely false.

I absolutely love Fredonia. I knew it the first time that I ever visited this campus as a 17-year-old with no direction and no sense of self. From the minute I set foot on this campus, I knew it was a place that I could see myself for four years.

I love everything about this place. I love that I can call it a home. I love the people, the campus, the bars, the culture. I also love that, as a freshman aged 18, it gave me a legitimate chance to bottom out.

Most people lack an understanding of who I am, where I come from. They know that I’m outgoing, outspoken, a little rowdy and obviously passionate about the things that peak my interests. I love destroying cars for recreation. I love the Buffalo Bills and playing fantasy football. I love enjoying a drink with people I’ve come to know, and I love to write about sports.

That’s all really wonderful. It isn’t inaccurate; people rarely see me without a smile on my face. The reason is because Fredonia genuinely gave me the chance to turn my life around.

My decision to come to Fredonia probably saved my life. As a senior in high school, my life was a trainwreck. At that point I was two years removed from the suicide of a close friend. I had never felt such disconnect with my parents and my family. I was never home and I was rarely sober.

My senior year of high school I was nearly unable to graduate because of the amount of absences and late arrivals I had, somewhere around 20 “sick” days and 50 tardies. Due to illness, I was never in class on time. The only illnesses I had were hangovers, an unknown addiction to anyone but myself. My final two years of high school were spent drinking until I could sleep at night, and no one would have known there was anything wrong with me. I kept to myself, claiming that my illnesses were the result of migraines, strep and bronchitis, all of which I had a lengthy history of.

I lost more than 50 pounds between my junior year of high school and the time I graduated when I didn’t have 50 pounds to lose. I showed up at this campus at 6’3” and 155 pounds soaking wet. The people I met as a freshman and the lifestyle I began to follow led me to incredibly reckless patterns of behavior.

I wouldn’t go to bed drinking every night. Instead, I probably drank two to three times per week, with the lone goal of getting as messed up as possible. People recall me as the “funnel guy,” for the neon funnel that I’d drag around with me when I went out. That thing was disgusting and it served one purpose: to make alcoholism fun.

The only problem is that alcoholism isn’t fun. I throw up all the time and my weekends were entirely unproductive. I quickly found out that I could avoid throwing up with a simple remedy: marijuan

Anyone who says that pot isn’t addictive is lying to themselves. While it may be true that it isn’t physically addictive, anything in the world can be mentally addictive.

Video games, sex, alcohol, weed, cigarettes—it doesn’t matter. If you enjoy it and become dependent on it, it’s addictive.

As a second-semester freshman, it was obvious that I was addicted to getting stoned and getting drunk. It was obvious that I had suffered from addiction, depression and anxiety for three years. It was obvious that I was a trainwreck.

Yet no one around me viewed my behavior as anything out of the ordinary. I was just another college kid who liked to party. I was just enjoying my newfound freedom. I was having fun, and I was carefree.

Everyone around me had a falsified perception of my own reality. They were wrong about me, and so was I. I wasn’t having fun. I was miserable. I was unhealthy. I was gaining weight and I was struggling.

My asthmatic lungs were slowly overwhelmed by the amount that I was smoking each week, and in April of my freshman year, I reached a breaking point.

I had driven home on a Tuesday night and was outside smoking a bowl in my usual regimen: get stoned, drink water, fall asleep. That was the order of things each night, otherwise my anxiety would prevent me from keeping my eyes shut. That particular Tuesday was the night before Easter 2014.

It was there, on the front steps of my house in little Hemlock, New York, that I felt my lung collapse.

The only way I can explain this to people is the feeling of the wind being knocked out of you. Only, instead of regaining your breath after 10 or 15 seconds, you never regain your breath in full. I spent about twelve hours gasping for air, hoping to regain my breath, and I never did. I was too stubborn and too afraid to tell my parents that I had lost my breath, and I returned to bed for the night.

It wasn’t until the next morning that I was taken to the hospital, where I would reside for 11 days. I would spend my Easter in a hospital bed with a partially collapsed right lung, my left lung restricted from inflammation.

My oxygen levels were being monitored at about 75 percent. If you need a reference, that’s approximately the same as an 80-year-old lifelong smoker who is being treated for stage II emphysema.

I came back from school with a new enemy: prednisone. After confinement to a bed for two weeks and being administered the highest dose of steroids for an adult allowed by law, I had gained 25 pounds in roughly 14 days.

If that were the only side effect, it would have been amazing. Unfortunately there were others. I didn’t realize how severe my allergies were to the drug, and eventually the hormonal imbalance inside my brain was too much.

On May 13, 2014, the day that I returned from my freshman year of college, I had a grand maul seizure. I was unconscious and convulsing for nearly 10 minutes, and the episode put me back in the ICU of Strong Memorial Hospital.

That day was the turning point. That was rock bottom—knowing that my addiction and recklessness had screwed up my body so badly that I had put myself in a hospital twice in less than a span of a month.

I sought help. I saw a psychologist who helped me learn how to love myself. I learned how to enjoy a beer as a means of relaxation, rather than confiding in liquor as a solution to my lingering mental problems. I came back to Fredonia looking to leave behind any trace of my former tendencies, and I did so by changing majors.

Switching into the Communication Department here at Fredonia is the single best choice I’ve ever made. I’ve met so many people who have influenced me in a positive way, from professors to past RAs that have been in my department.

The college experience is meant to be an enjoyable one, not one to destroy your self-worth. The past two years I’ve learned that. I’ve done things that an 18-year-old me would have never dreamt of. I’ve learned things that I didn’t know needed to be learned.

I’m now age 21. I have found all of my callings in life, whether it’s destroying cars, fantasy football or writing about sports. I know what I’m good at and I enjoy doing it. I know how to enjoy things in moderation and, for the first time in years, I truly know how to be happy.

It’s no longer a mask. It’s no longer sarcastic.

Next time you ask, know that I am genuinely living the dream.

Photo provided by Curtis Henry
The beginning of a long, game-filled weekend first called for a home match for the Blue Devils against the Allegheny Gators. Sweeping the three sets improved the team’s overall record to 3-2.

This was also the home opener for the women’s volleyball team. The first set was no competition for the Blue Devils, taking the win 25-17.

Starting out the second match a little relaxed, Allegheny jumped ahead to take a 17-11 lead of the Devils. After pulling themselves together, Fredonia rallied back to get the next four points. Down by one point, Fredonia’s Kailey Falk stepped forward to have back-to-back kills.

Before bringing home the match win, sophomore Rachel Aiello completed the final point for the set. Falk, having three out of the four team kills, contributed to Fredonia winning 29-27.

Set two ended with a nail biter, the same way match three began.

After losing the first two sets the Gators jumped on the opportunity to get ahead early in the third game with a 10-5 lead.

The next ten points and the lead came from junior Courtney Poirier, who stepped up to the service line with no fear. Poirier smoked a pair of aces by the Gators and Stanek contributed four kills.

A rally back from Allegheny tied it at 22-all, but not long before Stanek had a solo block and a kill to win the final match.

With 10 offensive kills, Falk led the team followed by Stanek with 9 and Megan Collins with 8.

Junior Hallie Christopher had 22 assists and freshman Amanda Mosack appeared with 14 in her first home match.

“For the season, I am determined to make it to the SUNYAC playoffs and would like to make it to the NCAA tournament,” Poirier said of season’s goals.

After a big sweep at home, the women traveled to New Paltz for the Hawks invitational. In the opening round, Fredonia lost their first games to Stevens with a score of 3-0 and Stockton 3-2.

Coming up big against Stevens was Stanek, who led the women with 9 kills. Following behind her was Christopher with 13 assists. The final set scores against Stevens were 25-23, 25-4 and 25-18.

Not giving up without a fight, the Devils won two sets versus Stockton with scores of 25-19 and 25-20. Stockton took the win for the middle sets with scores of 25-19 and 25-17. After closing matches, Stockton 15-11 claimed the tiebreaker.

Leading the team with 14 kills and four blocks, Collins came up strong, followed by Aiello with 11 kills and Stanek with 10.

Christopher showed up with 52 assists.

Starting off day two with a record of 3-4 did not stop Fredonia from coming out strong and sweeping Saturday’s matches.

In the game versus Saint Mary, the Devils won all three sets with scores of 25-20, 25-12 and 25-18.

Big players of the matches were Stanek with 10 kills, Collins with nine kills and two blocks followed by Christopher with 35 assists.

The team finished out the tournament with three more set wins against Sage College, 25-18, 25-17 and 25-20.

When asked what the highlight of the weekend was, Poirier stated winning the last match of day two. They were determined to leave the tournament with a winning record, and that is just what they did.

“After losing two matches, we rebounded the second day for our next two games,” Poirier said.

After rebounding, Poirier also talked about “improving and continuing to work on our communication and trying to keep our energy up.”

Key players were Stanek, Collins, Mosack and Poirier.

The ladies finished the invitational at 2-2, now with a record of 5-4. Next weekend the Devils will be on the road again at the Union/Sage Crosstown Tournament.
The Bills’ defense appeared to be a heaping mess of unknowns heading into Sunday’s season opener in Baltimore against the Ravens. Injuries to rookies Shaq Lawson and Reggie Ragland, the suspension of Marcell Dareus for the first four games of the season, and the recent cut of veteran linebacker Manny Lawson left four question marks on the Bills’ front seven heading into Sunday.

Yet it wasn’t the defense that would fall flat in Baltimore.

The Bills offense came out on Sunday looking flatter than the Mountain Dew can you left open on your nightstand about three weeks ago. You can check, it’s still there. I know it is.

The offense was only able to hoist a single score on Sunday in what would ultimately be a loss for the Bills, the scoreboard reading 13-7 in favor of Baltimore at the conclusion of 60 minutes. LeSean McCoy was responsible for the touchdown, a one-yard run which came midway through the second quarter and cut Baltimore’s then-10-point lead to three.

The only scoring play to occur in the second half on Sunday for either team would be off of the foot of Justin Tucker, a 37-yard field that split the uprights in the fourth quarter. The field goal was Tucker’s second of the game.

The Bills’ offensive struggles were simply too much for the defense to make up for. The Bills only accounted for 160 total offensive yards on Sunday. By comparison, the Saints’ second-string receiver Willie Snead accounted for 172 receiving yards on Sunday in his matchup against the Raiders. To say the Bills’ offense was bad on Sunday would be the understatement of the century.

The Bills were beaten again by the injury bug on Sunday, losing star offensive tackle Cordy Glenn to an ankle injury in the first half. He was promptly replaced by third-year Alabama product Cyrus Kouandjio, but his absence was apparent as Tyrod Taylor spent the rest of the game with little time to stand in the pocket.

There are some positives to take away from Sunday’s less-than-stellar performance. The defense looked much more like the dominant unit from 2014 than the 2015 defense that, often times, was out of sorts. Unfortunately for Bills fans, neither of those rosters made the playoffs. Nor did the rosters that the Bills boasted for the 14 years prior to that.

Yet Sunday’s defensive unit looked dominant. If not for a 66-yard Mike Wallace touchdown that ultimately proved the difference, the Bills’ defensive unit played more than well enough to win. If dominant performances ensue in the coming weeks, there is no telling how good this defense could be upon the returns of Shaq Lawson, who is expected back between weeks six and eight, and Marcell Dareus, who will return week five.

The final verdict?

Week one was sloppy, but there’s still a lot of hope and a lot of football left to play in Buffalo. The defense looked great. There are reasons to hope that, if Greg Roman’s offensive unit gets it together, the Bills can finally put an end to the longest current playoff drought in all of sports.

**Women’s tennis season has strongest start in years**

PHOEBE LANGDON
Special to The Leader

The Fredonia women’s tennis has opened its season looking the best it has in years. Despite their lack of a preseason, the Blue Devils have started off with a 3-1 record. The last time they had a winning record four matches in was in 2010.

The Devils dominated in their first match, showing a 9-0 score against D’Youville at The Miller Tennis Center in Buffalo. Failing to use the momentum from their first match, the team traveled to Penn State Behrend where they fell to the Lions 7-2.

The two points both came from the singles courts with a default at fifth and an upset by freshman Anna Chiacchia at third. Chiacchia lost her first set 6-2 but rallied back and got the second set 6-3. In a tiebreaker for the third set, she managed a 10-2 score for the win.

Chiacchia has been a serious addition to the team and is currently sporting an undefeated singles record of 4-0. Paired with sophomore Olivia Miller, first singles, the two demonstrate textbook chemistry.

Olivia Miller, 1-3 in singles, fights vigorously in every match she plays, never giving up on a point.

“I felt better playing doubles with Olivia. It made it better having her out there to calm my nerves,” Chiacchia said after their first match as a pair. Miller also described how well their skills complemented each other and how the chemistry on the court was undeniable.

“I think this is going to be a successful year for us in doubles,” Miller added.

Especially considering their underclass status, time will only tell what will come of their young talent. Other underclassmen featured throughout the lineup include sophomores Adriana Speach 2-2 at sixth singles and Christine Thomas 1-1 at third doubles.

Saturday, Fredonia recovered from their Behrend loss with a big win against Brockport, beating the Golden Eagles for the first time in six years. Leading the stampede was the third doubles team of Thomas and senior Phoebe Langdon who defeated their challengers 8-5.

On the singles side, Chiacchia defeated her opponent 6-2, 6-2. Kurnisky easily earned the win posting a 6-1, 6-1 score. Speach claimed sixth singles, with a 6-2, 6-2 victory.

The deciding point came from senior Halse Dickson, who won her first set 6-2 and her second set 7-5.

Coach Catalano said that winning this match was “validation” for him that his team’s hard work has paid off. This proves that all our hard work over the three year[s] that I’ve been here has paid off,” Catalano said.

The following morning, the Blue Devils traveled to the Murray Athletic Center in Pine Valley, where the team would face Elmira College for the first time.

“They exceeded my expectations,” Catalano said after the team claimed a 6-3 victory, ending Elmira’s eight-match home win streak that dated back to 2014-15 season.

Second and third doubles featured the experienced senior captains Dickinson and Chloe Cohen and Langdon and Leanne Hoefstand. According to Coach Catalano, both doubles teams outsmarted their opponents and exploited their weaknesses.

“My seniors are playing with poise and are setting the perfect example for the new girls. Their leadership is outstanding,” Catalano said.

Again, the lower half of the singles lineup proved how crucial their role is, showing victories from third through sixth singles.

The Blue Devils look to continue their hot streak with another SUNYAC matchup on Wednesday versus Geneseo at Steele Hall at 3 p.m.

As for the rest of the season, Coach Catalano says he wants to stay positive and take things one match at a time.

*Phoebe Langdon is a member of the women's tennis team.*
Get ready for the rumble of a lifetime folks, because “red state” will soon have a whole new meaning.

World Wrestling Entertainment has announced that it has signed a contract to determine the next president of the United States. A new approach is being taken this time around by pitting Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump against each other in a tag team steel cage match. The winner of the fight takes the greatest prize of all: the Oval Office.

“We’re going to win. Everybody says so,” said Trump, prepping for the fight in his gold gilt home gym. “We’re going to beat Crooked Hillary, and we’re going to win so much.

“We’re going to win so much that they’re going to get sick of us winning, and then guess what? We’re going to win again,” Trump continued.

Professional wrestler Triple H was assigned to organize the fight between Clinton and Trump. He thinks it’s the best way to settle the presidency.

“We figured since no one really likes either of them, this would be a good way to hash it out,” said Triple H. “The White House called me up asking if I wanted to put it together and I was stoked.

“I think this is the best option for two unlikable candidates. We get a clear victor, and we get to watch them bleed out in the process. It’s definitely a win-win,” Triple H continued.

The match will also have vice presidential candidates Tim Kaine and Mike Pence on the sidelines, ready to take over once either presidential candidate has had enough. Kaine has been training for months now, and he believes that he and Clinton will win the fight.

“I’m ready to take on those chumps,” said Kaine as he roundhoused a slab of meat. “Just let me at ‘em. I’ll show them how a real VP does it.”

On the sidelines, President Obama and former President George W. Bush will be coaching the candidates for the fight.

The Lampoon was able to sit down with Bush to see why he accepted the offer to coach Trump, even though it has been made pretty clear that Bush doesn’t support him.

“There’s an old saying down in Tennessee, I know it’s in Texas but probably Tennessee: if you can’t beat’em, join’em. My brother tried to beat Trump, but that obviously didn’t go so well,” said Bush. “So since we couldn’t beat him, I joined him.”

The fight is scheduled for Nov. 7 and is only one small payment of $499 on pay-per-view. For a limited time, VIP access is also available for $999. With the VIP bundle, you get front row seats with Bernie Sanders, Jill Stein and Gary Johnson.
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The United States and Russia have had a long love-hate relationship with one another. Today is no exception. From teaming up in World War II to constantly fearing nuclear war with each other, Presidents Barack Obama and Vladimir Putin have now ushered in a new age of war between their nations. This is not a war of violence, but a war of passive aggressiveness.

New intel has leaked that over the past four years, Obama and Putin have been engaging in conversation 24/7 through burner phones and social media. All of their conversations are brief and provide no real context.

“I was looking through the messages, and they just reminded me of my daughter’s phone,” said Noah Guy, an agent for the National Security Agency. “They’ve been having one-worded conversations, usually ending with ’fine’ or ’K,’ and they’ve been poking each other on Facebook all the time. I really don’t understand it.”

The two world leaders haven’t seen eye-to-eye on most recent issues, and that relationship shows through the string of texts they’ve sent back and forth, most of the messages asking how they are and what they’re up to.

“It’s almost like they’re trying to fix a broken relationship, but then they find a new way to piss each other off,” said Guy. “I’ve noticed that trend in their messages.

“I’ll read the texts, and things seem to be improving, and then Russia invades the Ukraine, and it all goes back downhill. It’s like these two get some sick kick from it. The conversations usually don’t go much further than ’How’s Russia?’ or ’How’s the U.S.?”’ Guy continued.

According to agent Guy, Obama’s phone once autocorrected “How’s Russia” to “No Russian,” which almost started a third world war. It took three months to calm Putin from an honest autocorrect error, and Obama swore he wasn’t playing “Modern Warfare 2” again.
Devastating news has been going around about the recent Zika spraying that inadvertently killed off millions of honeybees. What was intended to be a heroic effort toward the destruction of the Zika virus in the U.S. has tragically resulted in an unbelievable drop in honey production and, consequently, the closing of General Mills factories all over the country.

While the threat of the Zika virus had been in the news for some time, significant political issues surrounding how to eradicate the disease began recently as Democrats and Republicans gathered to discuss passing a bill that would put $1.1 million toward fighting the disease.

While the idea itself sounded foolproof, it came with a disheartening catch. After all, it wouldn’t be politics without unnecessary obstacles, right? In this case, Republican Sen. Mitch McConnell stated that this Zika bill would only be approved under the condition that they defund Planned Parenthood.

McConnell stated in an interview, “I thought it would be an open-and-shut case. If Democrats care as much about the wellbeing of women and children as they claim, they should swallow their pride and agree to fund Zika eradication and forget about the asinine concept of women’s health for a year or so. There’s no room for any of that feminazi nonsense in Congress.”

Needless to say, this was not a compromise Democrats would easily accept. However, desperate times call for desperate measures, and they gradually came to the realization that fetuses would be better protected through Zika eradication than Planned Parenthood, with all of its voodoo and whatnot.

There was a boastful celebration among the Republicans over their victory towards the abolishment of the Zika virus. This happiness, however, was cut drastically short when beekeepers all over the treated areas cried out that all of their bees had died.

It turns out, a primary ingredient in the insecticide for Zika-transmitting mosquitos is known to have devastating effects on honeybees when exposed. The death of these bees and the resulting honey shortage led to the heartbreaking realization that General Mills would have to shut down.

Sen. Mitch McConnell followed up with Fox News in a more recent interview expressing his remorse for the hasty release of the insecticide: “I was so thrilled when we won the battle in defunding Planned Parenthood, along with defeating the Zika virus, that I completely ignored the long-researched facts about the chemical itself. If I had known that I would have to give up my most beloved breakfast choices for a stupid virus, I never would have passed the bill to begin with.”

While beekeepers and cereal aficionados are currently struggling to regain their financial stability, at the very least, Planned Parenthood is up and running again, and the controversial insecticide has been recalled.

If anything good can come from this whole experience, it’s that the Microcephaly Foundation (MF) is expected to gain an abundance of research subjects in the next year and reveal even more exciting facts about the effects of the Zika virus on unborn babies. Also, the drop in the production of Honey Nut Cheerios has forced children and seniors everywhere to eat their bran flakes and led to a historical drop in irritable bowel syndrome.
All are Welcome!

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Aries

Your drunk uncle went to Sunny's with you this weekend, did a "Cat Daddy" and burst into flames, as if having your uncle with you at Sunny's wasn't embarrassing enough. The stars loathe dance moves from 2011.

Taurus

You really tried. You thought your professor's use of a Harambe meme in lecture made them a funnier and more relatable person. Your thoughts will change when they give you a pop-quiz on the all-time best Paula Deen recipes. Nobody will pass.

Gemini

Gemini, you protesting your morning yoga class Kaepernick-style is not scoring you any points with that girl who's into Egyptian literature. Bend your leg behind your head like you know you can!

Cancer

If you happen to drink a venti Starbucks coffee laced with PCP and flip President Horvath's vehicle over, promptly hide in an El Diablo Azul burrito bowl. Nobody will be able to find you.

Leo

We stars smell an extremely pungent aroma coming from your dorm room. After ultimate Frisbee practice, you are supposed to wash your shorts, not let them ferment. You should have received signals after your roommate moved out last week.

Virgo

Congratulations on smuggling your pet Chinchilla, Randy, into your dorm room. Little did you know, it was possessed by Lucifer. We stars recommend you bring Randy to the exorcist, located at the Fredonia vape shop.

Libra

You may spend your birthday weekend with a raccoon family in a dumpster next to Maria's Pizza. Don't worry, we all go through this. Your friends are good people: "It was just a prank, dude."

Scorpio

You may want to channel your inner Ryan Lochte this weekend, but not by swimming. Eating at Willy's twice a day is enough to satisfy your vandalous Lochte instincts. Your stomach may send you a text reading "chill."

Sagittarius

You may still be worn out from attending Burning Man, as you should be. Those artisanal bracelet makers had every right to throw bottles of pink moscato at your head. Take a big breath, and finish that 20-page paper due tomorrow. Enjoy.

Capricorn

As your sign's spelling suggests, you have survived this semester so far off of Capri Suns and sweet corn. This is not healthy. The stars recommend a Busch Light enema. At least you won't need to spend cash at BJ's for drinks. Cheers!

Aquarius

You can't erase the thought of Steven Tyler's earring collection out of your mind. Always wear flip-flops to the shower to prevent these intrusive thoughts.

Pisces

You may admire Kenny Ortega and all things "High School Musical," but you will never be him! Just face it. You're destined for a career as a kale shake barista.
Visitors interpret Kahn & Selesnick’s 3 rows of art part of the Carnival at the End of the World gallery.
Andrew Camera/Special to The Leader

#7 Maria Gordon chases the ball.
Corey Maher/Photo Editor

#16 Sammy DeFranks, #13 Brian Theuerkauf, & #20 Parker Healey defend the goal.
Corey Maher/Photo Editor

Professor Matthew Aubeuf plays the Gyil at the Study Abroad Fair.
Corey Maher/Photo Editor

New Rockefeller dance studio.
Ryan Daughenbaugh/Special to The Leader

Kyle McGinty playing “Brothers & Sisters.”
Alexandria Nieves/Special to The Leader