Food trucks flock to Fredonia for first-ever festival

NUNET CLITANDRE
Staff Writer

On Thursday, April 27, the Office of International Education will present Fredonia’s first-ever Food Truck Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Food trucks from all around western New York will be on campus selling unique eats and treats right out of Jewett Hall’s parking lot.

Buffalo-native business Anderson’s is among those food trucks that will be in participation, whose signature dish is their beef on weck sandwich and their signature frozen custard. Among the other food trucks participating will be The Great Foodini, Macarollin, Thai Me Up and Lloyd’s Taco Truck.

Maria Gordon, senior public relations and Spanish dual major and an intern at the Office of International Education, stated that “this is the first time Fredonia is ever holding an event like this. We’re really hoping to make this an annual thing.”

Gordon also commented that she hopes this will be an event that can bring the campus of SUNY Fredonia and the town of Fredonia and Dunkirk together so that they can all bond over a common love of great food.

“I’m most excited for The Great Foodini,” said junior music industry major Elliot Tessmer. “I heard they have some banging quesadillas with buffalo chicken. I’m gonna have to get at least three.”

Graphic by Daniel Salazar/Staff Illustrator

On the Cover:
Mike Tomasulo greets a dog at the Lend a Paw dog walk on April 23, 2017.

Andrew Camera/Staff Photographer
Right Serving, Right Sizing leaves uncertainty for department futures

DAN ORZECHOWSKI
Assistant News Editor

Each department within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) is preparing for significant scheduling changes and curricula adaptations. Right Serving, Right Sizing (RSRS), the plan initiated by President Virginia Horvath, is expected to help combat Fredonia’s low enrollment.

In a RSRS report, Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences Joseph Andy Karafa explained that departments could potentially undergo course deletions, curricular changes and program mergings.

“[RSRS] is not code for downsizing,” said Karafa. “A few areas within CLAS are investigating new majors.”

Karafa believes that RSRS has led to new opportunities. He explained that student expectations and industry demands are more likely to be met now that “things have been streamlined to decrease time to degree” and that “curricular reconfigurations are in the works.”

In the same RSRS report, Karafa cited the Philosophy Department as a potential place for reorganization. Due to its “steadily declined” enrollment, he wrote that “an examination of merging this department with another within CLAS is worth consideration.” Karafa noted that at this stage, “such a review is only a recommendation.”

In a memorandum response, Stephen Kershnar, the chair of the Philosophy Department, strongly opposed a department elimination, which according to Kershnar “would be the result of the sort of merger Dean Karafa describes.”

Between the Fall of 2011 and 2016, CLAS has seen a 24 percent decrease in undergraduate enrollment. Multiple departments, including Philosophy, have paid the price.

Since 2008, the Philosophy Department has averaged 33 majors per year. This year, there are 19.

Kershnar said that the elimination of the department’s introductory course in the lecture hall setting is a large factor to the enrollment dilemma. According to Kershnar, the course elimination, a move made by administration, stripped the department of its “best recruiting tool.”

The savings from a Philosophy Department elimination would be marginal, according to Kershnar.

Per Kershnar, the savings from removing the Department would be equivalent to the cost of three additional classes and a stipend for the chair, roughly amounting to $15,000 per year in the short term. Kershnar argued that “there is no need, financial or otherwise, to eliminate philosophy.”

Neil Feit, a professor in the Philosophy Department, echoed Kershnar’s opposition.

“The result of a merger would mean that philosophy professors would work in a department where the chairperson is not a philosopher or, perhaps eventually, vice versa,” said Feit. “A non-specialist chairperson lacks the expertise to oversee philosophy courses, assess the philosophy curriculum and oversee the hiring of philosophy instructors.”

Philosophy’s five-year plan for RSRS includes increasing enrollment, continuing research productivity and developing interdisciplinary courses. Particularly, the department will focus on providing high quality instruction in a “diverse array of classes” to tackle low enrollment.

While Kershnar thinks that “there is little reason to believe that [enrollment] will remain down,” Karafa thinks otherwise.

“This is, unfortunately, a national trend for the humanities,” said Karafa. Despite the obstacle, Karafa offered a silver lining. “That said, I see exciting things coming out of the humanities at Fredonia.”

As examples, he said that “World Languages and Cultures is working on a significant revision of its curriculum, which I believe will make it much more relevant and competitive. History is looking to integrate applied, hands-on learning opportunities throughout its curriculum.”

Even though there may not be a department elimination, Karafa assured that “if a department or major were eliminated, those students currently enrolled in the major would be allowed to complete their degrees.”

While defending their department, Kershnar and Feit both referred to the Philosophy Department’s graduate placement. Kershnar listed numerous “top notch” law schools and philosophy programs that Fredonians have went on to pursue. Programs at Indiana, Syracuse, Arizona Law and Wake Forest Law are just a few, according to Kershnar.

Feit said that “it must also be recognized that merging the department would jeopardize future success in placement, for several reasons. For one thing, the letterheads and titles of professors who recommend students for programs would be compromised.”

Ryan Norton, a senior dual major in philosophy and English, is also hesitant about a possible department merge.

“I think that if they found the right department to merge with, it might make sense,” said Norton. “But, as someone that’s in both English and philosophy, those are very different departments. They have totally different tones. They have different styles of teaching and interacting with students.”

Norton labeled his philosophy professors “some of the best” he’s ever had. Norton also admitted that philosophy isn’t among the most popular majors, but according to him, philosophy made him feel like he fit in.

Still, in Karafa’s eyes, RSRS will lead to better curricula.

“Specifically, I believe that we will have created degree programs that will appeal to prospective students, employers and graduate or professional programs. I am very pleased with how well the faculty tackled this difficult process.”

Illustration by Edward Gallivan/Staff Illustrator
Village and University prep for ‘Fred Fest’

JORDAN PATTERSON  
News Editor

The annual Fredonia party to end all parties is upon the small community yet again: Fred Fest.

Depending on who you ask, the response to those two words will either be negative or positive and sometimes in the small grey area in between.

This year on the weekend of the unofficial Fred Fest, the Village of Fredonia has taken precautions to prepare for the chaos.

Last year, Mayor Ahanasia Landis said that there were around 70 arrests and that the majority of those arrests were from outsiders. This year, those who are arrested on this specific weekend will get their names and pictures posted on the Fredonia Police Department’s Facebook page as a deterrence for getting out of hand. Also this year, there will be a judge “on call” to arraign those arrested to get them on their way that night.

Landis wants to avoid the Sunday after all of the parties leaving Fredonia looking like a “war zone.”

Last year, there was a concern about party goers violating the sewer ordinance far too often. Most businesses won’t let non-customers use their facilities, so the Mayor will be installing port-a-potties throughout town to accommodate this concern. Another issue the community has to deal with is littering, so there also be an increase in garbage cans available around town.

“There’s no excuse now;” Landis said. Landis wants to pass a resolution to bring food trucks to be parked on Church St. to give people quick access to food.

The biggest concern from the Mayor’s office is safety.

President Virginia Horvath, Vice President for Student Affairs Cedric Howard and Chief of University Police Ann Burns reiterated this sentiment. Howard will be experiencing Fred Fest for the first time and has heard stories about how crazy it gets.

A general consensus about the disruptive behavior that accompanies Fred Fest is that it attracts outsiders.

After a glass window was shattered by an out-of-town student who was checked into Fredonia, administration banned visitors in the residence halls overnight.

The overall opinion of Fred Fest was that it’s something that happens that the campus administration and the village has to deal with. The Mayor wanted to emphasize that she didn’t want people to think that she doesn’t want them to have a good time. She just wants everyone to be safe and not at the expense of the community.

Horvath, on the other hand, worries about the students the entire weekend.

“It sit with my phone in my hand and my heart in my throat,” Horvath said of Fred Fest weekend.

She expressed her admiration for Fredonia students and how proud of them she is, but she cannot be proud of this weekend. The main reason Fred Fest isn’t officially sponsored by the campus anymore is because of what takes place in the village.

The massive parties, the blackouts, the arrests and the disrespect for the village all fall back onto the University when they put their name on such an event. Burns admitted that this isn’t a Fredonia specific problem but it’s directly related to the alcohol and the party scene across all campuses.

Though the administration acknowledges that students want to unwind at the end of the semester, the concern for students safety never leaves their minds.

Lend a Paw dog walk brings canines across campus

CAMRY DEAN  
Staff Writer

This past Sunday was the perfect day for live music, dog-walking and doing your part to raise awareness and support a good cause during National Autism Awareness Month.

HAIL! Fredonia Records, Fredonia’s resident record label, held the Lend a Paw dog walk to raise money for the Institute for Autism Research (IAR) at Canisius College.

According to their website, “The Institute for Autism Research (IAR) is an interdisciplinarily collaborative research center dedicated to understanding autism and related developmental disorders and enhancing the lives of those affected and their families,” and the April event was the perfect opportunity to support the institution.

Last year, HAIL! raised money for IAR by recording and releasing Cassandra Kubinski’s “Not So Different” with Kubinski, Fredonia alumnus Mary Ramsey of the 10,000 Maniacs and John Rzeznik of the Goo Goo Dolls.

On April 23, over 300 people and dozens of dogs met under the clock tower on campus for the mile walk around Ring Road at 1 p.m. Among those who walked was a group from New Directions in Buffalo.

New Directions Youth and Family is a non-profit agency for children that serves New York and beyond. The agency currently has 23 different programs, including the Randolph Children’s Home, that focus on behavioral, emotional, and educational issues in children.

Alison Stiglmeier, senior social work major, and Emily Morton, junior criminal justice major, work as recreation counselors at the Randolph Children’s Home and were able to work with HAIL! to bring a group from the organization to the dog walk. Stiglmeier is a recreation counselor in the Adventure Recreation department of the organization.

“The Adventure Recreation department is an important and unique part of the youth’s therapeutic treatment during their stay at the Children’s Home,” Stiglmeier said. “As a recreation team, we interact with the youth through sports, hands on activities, outdoor activities, community involvement, [while] teaching life skills. We provide opportunities for the youth to be able to have unique normative experiences while in placement care.”

One of the opportunities was the Lend a Paw dog walk and seven young ladies from the ages of 15-17 were able to enjoy the day at Fredonia.

Working with Leah Wacienga, a senior music industry and audio/radio production major and product manager for HAIL!, the group was able to get t-shirts for the event at a reduced cost as well.

“Leah was awesome to work with and was incredibly willing to work with us,” Stiglmeier said. “All of the ladies loved their t-shirts, and [they] are a memorable object for them to hold onto. They all had positive feedback [about] how much fun they had, their favorite dogs and how cool it was to be on a college campus,” Stiglmeier added.

Immediately following the walk, guests were invited to a reception at the outdoor amphitheater for food and live music until 5 p.m.

Guests enjoyed performances by Fredonia’s all-male a cappella group, The Guerrillas, Ayden Wickman, Deanna Quinn and Timothy Mitchum.

Generously donated by Walmart, hot dogs and hamburgers were available, and all proceeds from the afternoon, as well as ticket sales, were donated to IAR.

Overall, HAIL! Fredonia Records was able to raise more than $3,000 for IAR.
Pride Alliance to screen documentary on Islam and intersectionality

JAMES LILLIN
Staff Writer

On April 26, 2017, in McEwen 209 from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Pride Alliance will host a screening of “A Sinner in Mecca” by documentarian Parvez Sharma, followed by a discussion with Sharma immediately after the screening.

The idea for the event originally came when Pride Alliance’s adviser, John Arnold, stumbled across “A Sinner in Mecca” on Netflix and was blown away by the film.

“The title and description immediately intrigued me because positive documentaries and films about Islam are rare, but one about a gay Muslim man undertaking a critique of contemporary conservative Islam and its repression of its LGBTQ community is unheard of,” said Arnold. “I found this film to be brave, sensitive, nuanced, informative and enlightening not only about Islam itself, but its engagement with contemporary issues of gender identity.”

“A Sinner in Mecca” documents Sharma’s journey to Mecca, as well as his own struggle between his faith, his race and his sexuality. It was this intersectional viewpoint that compelled Arnold to reach out to Sharma.

“Intersectionality stresses that gendered and sexual identities do not exist in a void, but instead are shaped and molded by race, ethnicity, religion, age and socio-economic status,” said Arnold. “I attended the meeting as one of the advisers for Pride Alliance and as board members threw out names, I suggested Parvez Sharma. Though a gay Muslim from India, he now lives with his husband in [New York City.] Everyone liked the idea, we asked, and he accepted our invitation.”

Sharma recently hosted a screening and talkback session of “A Sinner in Mecca” at Harvard University, demonstrating the film’s current relevance.

“To be completely honest, now is as important a time as ever given the current political climate,” said sophomore women’s and gender studies major Vanessa Leounis. “Sharma is an openly gay Muslim man, and I think it’s very important for people to see and recognize that intersection, especially with the events that take place during the film.”

Leounis is the current vice president of Pride Alliance, and hopes that Sharma’s film helps to foster tolerance at Fredonia.

“I want people to walk away understanding that each and every one of us is different, and we don’t all experience life the same way,” said Leounis. “None of us are the same, and that’s what makes us all important.”

Arnold believes that Fredonia’s overall progressive attitude will make for an especially engaging and impactful screening.

“His appearance … underscores the progressive seeking spirit that pervades this campus and demonstrates Fredonia’s openness to diverse communities and the commitment of this campus to inclusiveness,” said Arnold. “This is particularly the case in light of our current political climate with its anti-immigrant stance and anti-intellectual tone.”

Arnold also sees this as a particularly valuable opportunity to educate students on the reality of Islam, a religion that he feels is too often unfairly maligned.

“I would hope that a student attending this event will have learned something about Islam that they did not know previously and also leave with an affirmation of our common humanity and interconnectedness with one another,” said Arnold.

The event is free, unticketed and open to the public.
**Police Blotters**

**UNIVERSITY**

**Wednesday, April 19, 2017**

4:48 p.m. Someone was stuck in an elevator in Thompson Hall. A report was filed.

5:04 p.m. Someone was stuck in an elevator in Reed Library. A report was filed and the subject was evacuated.

**Friday, April 21, 2017**

8:52 p.m. Selena Ragland, age 20, was charged with unlawful possession of marijuana. A report was filed and an appearance ticket was given.

**Sunday, April 23, 2017**

6 p.m. A silver watch was turned in from Reed Library to University Police. A report was filed.

7:20 p.m. A Fredcard was turned in to University Police. A report was filed and an email was sent to the owner.

**FREDONIA**

**Tuesday, April 18, 2017**

Heather M. Payne, age 25, was charged with second degree robbery. She was released to probation.

**Saturday, April 22, 2017**

1:42 a.m. Sean P. Hill, 19, was charged with unlawful possession of alcohol and littering. Bail was set at $100.

1:42 a.m. Ryan L. Schiller, age 18, was charged with unlawful possession of alcohol, littering and an open container. Bail was set at $100.

**Sunday, April 23, 2017**

1:41 a.m. Timothy V. Ramcoobeer, age 21, charged with an open container. 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.

---

**Campus Edge at Brigham**

**APPLY NOW**

Now accepting applications for the 2017/2018 school year and immediate move in.

**Apartments**

2 bedroom units.

Low semester pricing includes ALL UTILITIES!

**Townhouses**

2 bedroom, 1.5 bath. Low semester pricing includes heat, hot water, cable, and internet. Washer/dryer in unit.

**DON’T WAIT!**

Reserve a unit now.

Call 716.672.2485
campusedgeatbrigham.com
Orchesis celebrates differences in ‘Mosaic’

ZOE KIRIAZIS
Staff Writer

If you were to ask the president of Fredonia’s dance company, Orchesis, a dancer is “someone who’s not measured by their technique, but the hours they spend practicing.”

On April 20 and 21, at Fredonia High School, Orchesis produced their annual spring concert titled “Mosaic.” Fifteen pieces were performed at the concert out of 18 pieces that originally auditioned. Styles of dance ranged from contemporary, ballet, hip-hop, vogue and modern.

Chris Victor, a senior dance major and treasurer of Orchesis, came up with this semester’s title. Victor commented that picking a title is the hardest part in producing their semester concerts. The e-board chooses their shows’ titles so that they hold a special meaning to the company.

“We are all artists. We all have so many differences and unique qualities to ourselves, and I wanted to celebrate these differences as opposed to rejecting them,” said Victor.

Madeleine Goc, senior English education major and president of Orchesis, said that “Mosaic” represents what Orchesis, as a company, represents. “Mosaic actually means two things. It means the physical art, a piece of art created by a bunch of small pieces that come together to make a bigger one. Which is how we know it, but mosaic is a noun that describes the process of making it,” Goc said.

For the event’s promotional poster, Victor photographed their company members portraying the small pieces of art, starting in plain white t-shirts and then slowly adding bright-colored face paint. The final product featured all the photos of the dancers embedded into Orchesis’ logo creating the company’s own mosaic.

One addition to this production is that Goc added an original poem at the beginning of the show. Her poem, “Mosaic,” displays what the company is all about and what the show title means to members of Orchesis.

“In the past we’ve created these titles, and it means something to us, but the audience is kind of like ‘run-of-the-mill, do what you want.’ We have felt such strong meanings in our titles, we haven’t connected that to our audience. And this semester, we are finally bringing them into the concept of our show,” Goc said.

Orchesis presents ample opportunities for students to dance, take part in masterclasses from peers and professionals and the chance to choreograph their own pieces. Some choreographers take part in their pieces as dancers and some others do not.

Goc choreographed a hip-hop piece to Chris Brown’s song “Forever.” She grew up watching and listening to Brown’s music and music videos. She would watch bits of videos before pausing the tapes and trying to figure out the movements she saw.

“‘Forever’ is about always having that moment on the dance floor … It’s the, I’ll forever remember this company of dancers,” Goc said.

Senior dance major Tess Grosvenor credits Orchesis as the start of her collegiate dance career. Grosvenor has been a part of the company since her freshmen year as a dancer and choreographer. This semester she choreographed a piece titled “Flattery?” based on the quote, “Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery.”

“I’ve always questioned this. Is ripping off someone else’s work really flattery or is it lazy and disrespectful?” Grosvenor said. These questions became the basis and inspiration for her piece.

Victor choreographed an anecdote to Aède’s “All I Ask” titled “These Are My Words.” His piece was the only duet choreographed and presented in “Mosaic.”

Other pieces performed at the event included “The Cage” with choreography inspired by hit Netflix series “Orange is the New Black” by junior education major Jenn Urda. Hit 90s song “Motownphilly” by Boyz II Men got a makeover with a hip-hop piece called “Girlz II Ladies” choreographed by sophomore sculpture major Rosalina Pena.

Orchesis was fortunate to have Tyler Malone, dancer at Lehrer Dance Company in Buffalo, as a guest choreographer who placed his piece on seven dancers titled “Seven.” Orchesis means something different to each member of the company, and they each have their own hopes for the company in the future. “I want Orchesis to continue to give people a place to be … You’re not just that shard of glass, your shard of glass is part of something bigger,” Goc explained.

Victor’s first home at Fredonia was Orchesis Dance Company.

“It doesn’t matter how strong your dance ability is or how good your technique is. There is a place for anyone with a strong passion to dance in Orchesis,” he said.

To the next generation of Orchesis, Grosvenor encourages freshmen to “find something or someone that inspires them and go for what they want.” She explains that if it wasn’t for Orchesis, she wouldn’t have continued to be a dancer or have pursued a BFA in dance here at Fredonia.

“You want to choreograph? Choreograph. You want to perform?
Big Band and Jazz Band take over EBC

MOLLY VANDENBERG
Staff Writer

Fredonia is definitely known for its lively music scene. Sometimes you need a little break from the common rock or punk shows.

On April 22, Ellicottville Brewing Company’s upper level was packed with people of all ages in anticipation for the jazz tunes to come from the Fredonia Big Band and the Fredonia Jazz Ensemble.

Fredonia Big Band opened to a very enthusiastic crowd. The music was fitting of the space in EBC, even though it was cramped for the players. It was like EBC was once a jazz speakeasy in a past life, and if not, definitely just for the night.

The soloists in the group received many enthusiastic cheers as people held their drinks up in the air. Some familiar tunes were integrated into the music such as “Pop Goes the Weasel” which made an appearance in the form of a trumpet solo.

The Big Band has been around for a significant amount of time on campus and in the area.

“The Big Band itself started as a jam band that played funk tunes at bars. It started in the early 2000s, and around 2007 it grew into a big band,” said Tye Granger, a junior music education and performance on saxophone double major. Granger played the lead tenor saxophone in the Fredonia Big Band.

The Fredonia Jazz Ensemble’s set closed out the night. The Ensemble has played EBC in the past, and it was obvious from the positive crowd response that their performance was long awaited.

This event was hosted by the Fredonia Jazz Workshop. They’re an all student-run group that aims to promote jazz on Fredonia’s campus. The bands involved include the Fredonia Jazz Ensemble, the Fredonia Big Band, Fredonia Jazz Combo and Carousel Strings.

All of these bands are completely student-run, with student directors as well.

“We have one concert on campus every semester, but most of our gigs are off campus to prepare our musicians for the ‘real world,” said Granger.

If you want to get your jazz on, keep your eyes posted for upcoming performances next semester.

English seniors host community events to explore animals in literature

BETHANY CLANCY
Staff Writer

This month the Chautauqua-Cattaraugus County Library System is teaming up with Fredonia’s Department of English capstone class to explore the topic of animals in literature. This features a variety of readings related to animals.

The capstone class is doing this to replace the NEA’s Big Read that usually happens every year. The local library reached out to Emily VanDette, associate professor of English, hoping to do something along the lines of a Big Read.

For those who are unfamiliar with what the Big Read is, it’s a national program that offers grants to support organizations in developing community-wide programs which encourage reading and participation by diverse audiences. The Big Read focuses on one book, but this year, VanDette wanted her program to revolve around a theme so more books could be incorporated. The theme being, “Animals in Literature.”

The class will be working with libraries ranging from the Silver Creek, Fredonia, Dunkirk, Jamestown and Ripley areas. According to the Campus Report, students will lead book discussions, debates, writing workshops and other events that explore animal and human agency, empathy, animal sentience, voice and consciousness. This series is for all ages, reading levels and interests. This is able to happen due to a grant from the Carnahan-Jackson Fund for the Humanities.

The capstone class gives the students experience in their English major, applying it and getting the community involved. There are several opportunities calling for community involvement, including a “Be Kind To Animals” panel which will be held in Reed Library on May 4 at 4:30 p.m. as well as many others.

This class also gives students a chance to work their other interests into the community work too, especially when making posters for the overall theme and with each individual program.

VanDette says her favorite part of this program is all of the room for safe debating, where everybody can freely get their opinion out. One of the ones mentioned was revolving around animal consciousness and whether or not dogs remember.

Revolving her capstone class around this has made her realize that libraries aren’t dead, they’re still the heart of reading. Every time the class meets, they discuss the events along with the turnout and so far have experienced a lot of success. The class is also taking an extra step and raffling off a laptop donated by the local company DFT, with proceeds going to two local humane societies. The drawing will be at the panel in Reed Library on May 4.

Illustration by Leslie Martinez-Garcia/Staff Illustrator
Diverse bill raises dollars for dogs at BJ’s

MORGAN HENDERSON
Special to The Leader

BJ’s, Last Call Entertainment and the Senior Challenge Committee came together to give a good show for a good cause. It was the owner of BJ’s idea to have an event for the Northern Chautauqua Canine Rescue in Westfield, as his own dog was adopted from it.

Last Call Entertainment wanted to team up with the Senior Challenge Committee to showcase senior musicians.

“We figured it made the most sense to combine the two,” Aidan Licker, a senior double music industry and audio/radio production major and co-founder of Last Call, said.

It was a $5 cover for fans under 21 and a $1 donation for those over. Throughout the show, Last Call walked through the crowds with buckets, yelling “For the doggos!” Everyone was eager to give more money.

“It went really well, and everyone seemed to have a good time. That’s the best we can ask for when we put on shows. Plus, we raised over $800 for the Canine rescue,” Licker said.

“I donated, and I loved the idea of making it for the dog shelter,” Eduvijez Sanchez, senior double international studies and public relations major said. “Fredonia, both the school and the community, has a great music scene. It dominates a lot of what the local community and college students are doing. To see individuals using those talents to bring people together not only through music, but through helping a charity such as the canine rescue is incredible,” Sanchez said.

“I donated, and it was super fun to hang out with good people and good vibes while helping the puggers,” Louise Zollinger, a senior English and French double major, said.

The night consisted of hip-hop, a brass band and punk rock. “I thought the talent was very diverse. I liked that it wasn’t just one style of music the whole night,” Sanchez said.

Last Wednesday was unique and it showed. “That was one of my favorite shows of the year so far that we’ve done,” Licker said.

First up was Tan Air, who didn’t disappoint. Licker was also featured in one of Tan Air’s songs. It was obvious that the crowd enjoyed the combo.

“Tan Air is a real good friend of mine. I used to make hip-hop music but have recently faded away from it to get into other genres, but when he asked me to do a song with him, I couldn’t say no. It was really fun to share the stage with him for a little bit,” Licker said.

Next was Fred Mills Brass Band. “The Fred Mills Brass Band was my favorite. I haven’t really seen anything like that in a bar, and I was surprised how much everyone enjoyed them too,” Sanchez said.

The trombone players walked off the stage and into the crowd. Fans parted for them to take a lap, and they cheered as they passed by. They also had the crowd rowdy during their covers of “Sweet Dreams” by The Eurythmics and “Seven Nation Army” by The White Stripes.

“It was interesting because we have never played with a rapper or a brass band before, but that being said, it made for a really fun, high energy show,” Austin Darling, a senior English major and lead singer of Filthy Gorgeous, said.

When Filthy Gorgeous came on, fans were immediately loving it. They either took their chances in the mosh pit or stood behind the bouncer pushing the flailing bodies forward.

“Filthy was awesome, and they revealed a couple new songs which was cool,” Matt Lumpkin, a senior history major, said.

Lumpkin chose the mosh pit. “Their energy was as crazy as their sound,” he said.

“The crowd was great as always,” Darling said. There was a lot of dancing, screaming and crowd interactions.

“There’s no better feeling than having people in the crowd scream our lyrics at us. It’s just amazing to play for people that respond and are on board for everything that is happening on stage. And they were that way for every act. It was great,” Darling continued.

Overall, last Wednesday was a brilliant success. “It was a great show. Nights like that remind me why I go to Fredonia,” Zollinger said.

Writers’ Ring finishes year with poetry festival

AMBER MATTICE
Life & Arts Editor

Poetry is a unique art form when it stands alone but when a performance aspect is added and people come together to perform their own poetry in one place, it becomes something more.

On April 27, Writer’s Ring will be hosting their annual poetry festival in the Costello Community Room in the Rockefeller Arts Center from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

This year, Devin Johnson, a freshman audio/radio production major, and Skye Mitchell, a junior physics, engineering and English triple major, will be co-hosting the event alongside Fredonia alumni Goddess X.

X is based in Washington D.C. and is currently working on getting her first book published.

“Goddess’ poetry is heartfelt and carefully crafted with a dedication that is hardly heard of in this generation of multi-genre artists … We are very excited for Goddess to come and headline our event and add a professional’s touch to our readings,” said senior English major and Writers’ Ring Secretary Anthony Licata.

According to Mitchell, Johnson is particularly excited to be hosting the event alongside X.

“We may [perform] a small piece, but I know Devin is super excited to have this chance to stand with his idol and mentor, Goddess X, on the same format again.”

There are several students slated to perform their works at the poetry festival, some of which include Sisana Siriphanh, a senior video production major; Kanard Lewis, a junior audio/radio production major and Kezia McShine, a senior theatre major.

For many students in Writer’s Ring, this has been a relatively quiet semester for the group, and they are hoping to end it by celebrating poetry and the student writers on campus.

“I think the poetry festival, especially this upcoming edition, is an important time for all of us to get together and celebrate an underappreciated art form. Poetry is an ambiguous art, and although it can be ridiculed for this ambiguity, it is this diverse storytelling ability that makes the poetry so powerful,” said Licata. “We are very excited to have the focus of our event be on student performers this year. [It’s] a great opportunity to showcase the talent and heart of Fredonia’s writers and performers.”

The event will give students a chance to hear the unique voices of writers on campus of all majors and to hear pieces that many have been working on throughout the semester.

“I personally love going to poetry festivals because there’s always an amazing variety of people to talk to and to hear from. Everyone has a different view of the world, and this poetry festival is the perfect format to explore that,” said Mitchell.
COLLEGIATE HOUSING
Park Place
70 Brigham Road

Quality. Affordable. All Inclusive.
$2,790 per semester.
- 24hr maintenance
- Secured entry with intercom
- Off-campus location

One Price Covers Everything
- All utilities included
- Free high-speed internet
- Free cable

Call 716.393.2993
www.theparkplaceapts.com
Fredonia Dance Ensemble features seniors’ final hurrah

LERON WELLINGTON
Staff Writer

Talented dancers. Choreography from around the world. What is there not to like? This week, one of the campus’s annual favorites returns.

The Fredonia Dance Ensemble, showcasing student’s year long work, will grace audiences with new and quality dance pieces from April 27 to 30 in Marvel Theatre. In its 11th consecutive season, we can expect to see choreography from the dance faculty and guest artists. Jasmine Mattar, a senior dance major, said that audiences can anticipate seeing pieces that tell many different stories. “[There is a] wide variety of stuff. You are going to see comedic pieces, ones with a lot of energy, and some emotional ones too. And every one has a point,” she said.

Works from the Paul Taylor 2 Dance Company, Attack Theatre and Lehrer Dance Company are special treats brought to the campus from residencies.

John Lehrer, who is choreographing his piece “Chuchi,” is looking forward to seeing it on the Marvel stage. “It’s been great because it’s just as beneficial for me as it has been for them. It’s a piece that already exists but it becomes very different when I give it to them. It’s very exciting to see where we’ll go with it and see the students adapt to the choreography,” said Lehrer.

The seven pieces to be performed range in style from Latin jazz to modern and have been rehearsed throughout the year.

Mamiko Nakatsugawa, a sophomore dance and theatre arts minor, is performing a number of pieces and appreciates the range of each piece.

She said, “Each piece has different stories. They all have important things to tell. I think audiences can see the same stories, but impact them differently on each person.”

Christopher Victor, a senior double dance and audio/radio production major, has performed in FDE, three times and this will be his last performance here. “I will definitely miss performing here and I have learned so much each year from professors and guest choreographers,” he said.

The students have been in rehearsals all year long and have learned to prepare themselves for the physically demanding pieces. Jasmine Joyner, a senior dance major, said, “Being that we are seniors, we are able to be in more pieces. Being that we are upperclassmen it’s more time consuming. You have to have the right mindset to help prepare your body physically and emotionally.”

Tickets can be bought in the Ticket Office and are $20 for the general public and $15 for students and children.

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.

The Leader
From the Desk Of Connor Hoffman, Managing Editor

With less than a month left, I have been doing quite a lot of reflecting on my past four years at this wonderful institution many of us call home. My time in Fredonia has taught me so much about not only my studies but also life in general.

I believe that a few important shout-outs are necessary before I leave Fredonia.

My first shout-out has to go to the community of this university. Fredonia is such a welcoming and accommodating place. Some of the nicest, kindest and most interesting people I have met, I met during my time here at Fredonia. Before I came here, I never imagined that I would become so connected to my university.

Fredonia also deserves some serious recognition for their dedication toward promoting intellectual discussion and not silencing opposing views. As a conservative, I had always worried before I came to college that I would experience some of the horror stories we have seen of universities discriminating against conservatives. Fredonia has made it their goal to seriously defy that kind of attitude, and never have I experienced repercussions for my conservative beliefs.

Another important shout-out goes to the Fredonia Mock Trial team, which was really the first club that I got involved in. Mock Trial helped me learn how to think on my feet and create or answer tough questions to present my case. It also taught me how important research and preparation is with any presentation you give.

The Fredonia Student Association is another organization that I believe deserves a shout-out for making me the person that I am today.

One huge lesson I learned in SA is how to work together with people that have different views than mine. As a journalist, I must be able to see all different kinds of perspectives, and SA really helped me see different kinds of perspectives.

Also, SA taught me the importance of public speaking. It taught me that, to get my message across effectively, I would need to be able to persuade others with those valuable skills.

I think my most important shout-out, though, has to go to this wonderful paper that many of us call a family.

After I lost my campaign for SA president, I didn’t think that there was any chance for me to be in charge of an important organization, but The Leader proved me wrong. I was blessed with the opportunity to be the paper’s Managing Editor this year.

The Leader, since the day I started writing for them, has opened their arms to welcome me. I mean, they even allowed me to have my own column called “The Conservative Corner” and have allowed me to have basically complete control over the content I covered and how I covered it. In fact, they loved to see that kind of diversity of opinion introduced into the paper. Not many young conservative writers have experienced this kind of acceptance at their college papers.

One personal, final shout-out has to go to Colin Perry, our editor in chief, who has been my mentor since he was News Editor and I became his assistant last year. Colin has taught me so much about being a leader and a journalist, and I am forever grateful for the guidance that he has provided me. Everything that I know as an editor is because of the excellent leadership and education that he has provided me with.

He has taught me the importance of being accommodating to your writers, but not too accommodating to the point that they take advantage of your kindness. He has taught me how to not be so one-sided and to see multiple perspectives in every story.

Most importantly, Colin has taught me how to be patient with a controversial story and make sure that I talk to necessary people. Whenever I find out a juicy story, I am very quick to want to write it up and publish it, but Colin has made sure that I don’t let this interest affect our paper’s reporting.

I have never seen a person so dedicated to helping people grow as writers as Colin, and I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

Thanks for everything, Fredonia. It’s been quite a journey here for the last four years.

Why we should be cautious about ‘13 Reasons Why’

MADDY CARROLL
Design Editor

When I was 14, I read “13 Reasons Why” by Jay Asher. Since the TV adaptation “13 Reasons Why” recently aired on Netflix, it has flooded my newsfeed with people recalling how much they loved the book and that they couldn’t wait to watch the show.

As far as my experiences go, it always felt like I was missing something. A lot of my classmates loved the book, and while I found it interesting, there was just something about it that didn’t sit right with me. I have found myself re-examining my initial reactions and subsequently, I am not the only one disappointed by it.

I want to mention that I have not seen the show nor have I read the book since high school. However, with the reviews I have read of the show, I believe my initial reaction to the book had some validity.

For anyone who is unfamiliar with the book, it is about a high school student named Hannah who committed suicide. She recorded the 13 reasons why she killed herself on tapes and left them for the narrator, Clay, to find.

As a 14 year old, I first found Hannah to be dramatic and like she wasn’t trying hard enough. My immediate after-thought is, “What is wrong with me? This character committed suicide, that is a horrible thing to think.” It’s not, however, when a story like this is told the way it is.

My first problem with “13 Reasons Why” is that Hannah’s character seems dramatic and like she isn’t trying because that’s how she was written. This perpetuates incredibly harmful stereotypes about people who have mental illnesses or suicidal ideations/tendencies.

The reason Hannah leaves these tapes for people is almost like a form of revenge that glorifies killing herself. Although many things and people can contribute to someone killing themselves, that choice lies with that person alone. I think it simplifies the complexities behind suicidal thoughts and is unnecessarily cruel to the people she leaves them to.

Again, I have not watched the show, but based on the original book and on reviews of the show, the depth of Hannah’s mental illnesses is not covered sufficiently. Mental illness is one of the most, if not the most prevalent reasoning behind suicide. Not to include this in the story is negligent and problematic.

In addition to that, I have read that no resources are given throughout the show. This is again negligent and leads me to believe that mental illness and suicidal behavior are being exploited to sell a show. I will recognize, however, that the book does include these.

As someone living with multiple mental illnesses and having experiences similar to Hannah’s, I find that the book and show do not accurately portray the issues and, at least as far as the book is concerned, is honestly insulting. That said, these are incredibly important topics to discuss. Right around the time I read the book was when I started struggling with my mental illnesses and I do not remember it being a source of comfort or guidance.

Starting a dialogue about depression, PTSD, bullying and all the other issues the book involves are relevant and often times paramount to an individual’s well being, especially high school students. These issues are bigger than one single person and I think one thing the book does a good job of is starting a conversation. These are hard things to talk about, but there are options and there is help.
This Summer, Resolve to Stop Your Slacktivism

JAMES LILLIN
Staff Writer

There are countless ways that I’ve hurt the movements I love most. There are times when I don’t have the energy to be respectful to people on my social media who have views that I find disagreeable, and have let conversations devolve into “8-Mile”-esque insult duels to the rhetorical death.

I have shared Tomi Lahren videos with lengthy rebuttals, not stopping to wonder if 90 percent of her views and with lengthy rebuttals, not stopping to

a condescending sneer to people who have legitimate disagreements with us, hurt the movements I love most. There

or who grew up operating on a different worldview. These sayings are a great way to combating the untethered hatred of the other. These sayings are a great way to

develop into “8-Mile”-esque insult duels disagreeable, and have let conversations

blind to the megaphone that we are pat ourselves on the back, but ultimately

tolerance of my side rather than on placing the focus of my activism on the

Love-based activism doesn’t work when we’re not making any actual points, suggestions or arguments, and it robs our opposition of their humanity.

The most moving Facebook post I saw during the 2016 election was from a single mother of two I had worked with over the summer. She wrote that she had been struggling for a decade to raise her beautiful children, and that she voted for Barack Obama hoping to see a change in her life. She wrote that she hadn’t seen that change in the slightest, and that her state in life seemed worse than when Obama took office.

She was disgusted by the things Donald Trump was saying, but only had so much time to get news in between work and caring for her children, so she was just as worried when she heard the FBI was reopening their case against Hillary Clinton. She was placing her vote for Trump despite his racial rhetoric, despite his bragging about assault, because she needed to see some type of change for her children, and so she cast her vote for the “change candidate.”

I’ve been torn down on social media for arguing that not all Trump supporters are hateful, racist or sexist by virtue of their vote, and this is a position I still hold today. Working with this woman was one of the great joys of my life, and I have similar love for plenty of Trump-supporting friends and family members.

If you have unfriended every conservative friend you have on Facebook for posting a single article mirroring their beliefs when your own Facebook is overflowing with memes about how Trump is a Cheeto-dusted hate Zamboni and his wife is a mail-order bride, please reconsider doing so in the future. It’s fine to create a giant echo-chamber for your own beliefs, but don’t fool yourself into thinking that your sharing and retweeting is doing any good.

There are many things you can do this summer to make a real, tangible impact, and here are a few:

Join the Indivisible movement at indivisibleguide.com, created by real congressional staffers who are taking the lessons and tactics learned from the Tea Party to use against the current administration. Even reading their page will give you valuable information.

If you haven’t voted when you were able, or do not know the name of either your Senator or your Congressperson, then even gleefully sharing news about Trump’s falling approval ratings is almost criminally hypocritical. Remedy this, save their numbers in your phone, and the next time you read about some dreadful news from the White House or your area, pick up the phone for a minute-long call to their aides before hitting “Share” on Facebook.

Download the Countable App, which will inform you of all current votes your representatives are making, as well as giving you suggestions about constructive ways to express your opinion.

Sign up for ResistBot, a free text-based service that will allow you to turn your texts into messages that are actually faxed to your representative’s office.

Donate to Planned Parenthood, the ACLU or a local candidate gearing up for a race. It doesn’t have to be much, but even a little counts.

Keep friends in your sphere who disagree with, and who can challenge your beliefs as much as you can challenge theirs.

Nobody can be expected to be an activist 100 percent of the time. Have fun, share some memes, and roast some unpopular politicians over a bonfire at your 4th of July party. But when it comes down to it, resolve to do at least one action of substance a week. As young citizens we have a lot of power we can use this summer, but it won’t mean anything unless we actually do it.

Verbatim

Veronica Mehl, senior BFA ceramics
“Not really. I think it’s a way to cool down, so why not have a party before finals?”

Frankie Mulkey, sophomore political science
“I don’t think that Fred Fest itself is a problem. I think that the fact that the campus took it away is an issue, because there used to be events on campus during that weekend and kids who didn’t really want to leave campus to have fun would stay on campus and do those things, and now that it’s gone, they’re more likely to to leave and go out drinking.”

Matthew Clark, junior computer science
“You never really hear much about students getting hurt, so in that regard I guess it’s alright. It’s just more of a problem for whoever has to clean up the entire [Village.] I’m sure police get a headache from it.”

Alison Mandara, junior education
“I’ve never participated because I’m a transfer student, but to the community, yes, because all of the garbage … I feel like people who live here are annoyed by it.”
Men’s baseball eliminated from playoffs by Brockport

QUINTIN JAMES
Staff Writer

While Fredonia’s men’s baseball team had winning momentum going into a doubleheader against Brockport, they were ultimately eliminated from SUNYAC playoffs on April 23.

Before their big series with Brockport started, the Fredonia men’s baseball team had two games on their schedule that were very important to them. A home game against Alfred State and a road game against I-90 rival Penn St. Behrend were on the schedule, and Fredonia was looking to keep their momentum up from last week.

Fredonia returned home to face Alfred State in another non-conference game late in the season. Fredonia scored four runs in the first two innings and held a firm grip on the lead, until the seventh inning when they gave up three runs. In the bottom of the eighth inning, senior Liam Kelly laced an opposite field, bases-clearing triple to widen the lead for the Blue Devils. The Blue Devils used a few pitchers in the game after starter Jake Horford threw two scoreless innings and only allowed a hit before giving it up to the bullpen.

Fredonia got solid contributions from sophomore Noah West and senior Zach Lyman, who combined to throw four scoreless innings and only allowed one hit as well. Senior Alexio Medina capped off the second inning with a two-run single and led the offensive attack for the Blue Devils. They got contributions from many players, including junior Joshua Crocetti, who had two singles and two stolen bases, senior Ciro Fratantoni who had two hits and an RBI and senior Matt Wilhelm who also had an RBI on the day.

The next game Fredonia had before they played Brockport was an I-90 battle on the road against Penn St. Behrend. Fredonia stretched its non-conference win streak to five as a rain-shortened game saw the Blue Devils win 8-2.

Sophomore starter Ben Atkinson went six strong innings, allowing two runs on six hits but kept them from scoring any more runs. He was relieved by fellow sophomore Luke Kuczewski who threw a scoreless inning.

The Blue Devils started the scoring in the second inning, scoring four runs, with two coming from a Joshua Crocetti two-run triple. They would add a run in the fourth on back-to-back doubles and three more runs in the fifth, capped by a two-run double by freshman Joseph Coene.

This weekend, the Blue Devils started an important three game series against conference opponent Brockport. With Fredonia’s conference record sitting at 3-9, they needed to win most of their remaining conference games to have a spot at the SUNYAC playoffs.

The first game on the doubleheader was a nail-biter that saw the Blue Devils blow the lead in the ninth and give up a back-breaking home run in the tenth to lose 2-1. Starter Jake Horford pitched an amazing game going eight and one-third innings, giving up one run on five hits and five strikeouts. Though he walked five, he pitched a masterful game and almost had the shut out. He was relieved by Zach Lyman who took the loss playing one and two-thirds of an inning and allowing the go-ahead HR in the tenth.

After scoring a run on a fielder choice in the fourth, Fredonia couldn’t muster any runs off of the starter from Brockport. Getting 10 hits off a pitcher and only getting a run must be a tough pill to swallow, because they also left nine men on base during the game.

Talking to Coach Matt Palisin, he noted that the strength of SUNYAC teams are pitching so capitalizing on opportunities is very important to win games in conference.

“The strength of the SUNYAC has always been pitching. Games are going to be low scoring and close. We won some close ones where I’m sure the other team felt the same way,” Palisin said.

They had to quickly regroup as they had to play a doubleheader. In this seven-inning game, the Blue Devils blew another chance at victory in the final minute that basically put an end to their playoff hopes. They were bitten by the long ball again, as a late home run would spell defeat for the boys in white and blue again. Kuczewski had a quality start, going six strong innings, allowing four earned runs and striking out four.

Fredonia started the game by scoring two runs on a throwing error by the Brockport third baseman in the second inning. Brockport would counter with two runs of their own in the third and a run in the fourth to take the lead back from Fredonia. A passed ball in the sixth allowed Steve Zaprowski to score the tying run before Brockport would score two in the seventh on a two-run home run to do Fredonia in.

The last game of the series would be won by Brockport 10-2 to complete the sweep and eliminate the Blue Devils from playoff contention. Fredonia surrendered 19 hits and were down 9-2 after four innings. This loss put the Blue Devils at 16-16 and 3-12 in SUNYAC play.

Palisin explained that the team still had something to play for and they have a goal in mind before the season ends. “We are looking to get to 20 wins. We are looking at posting a winning record and keeping the I-90 Cup in our rivalry with Behrend, a perennial 30-win team,” he said. “We are 13-4 in non conference games and beat some pretty good competition. We just needed to be better when it counts.”
The legend of Pinto Ron
The Leader lands an exclusive interview with the Bills’ biggest superfan

CURTIS HENRY
Sports Editor

Ken Johnson’s streak of 373 consecutive Buffalo Bills games attended is impressive, but it isn’t impressive enough. At the least, it is not impressive enough for the man who is affectionately known in Buffalo and nationwide as the ultimate fan.

“Yeah, it’s at 373 games. I hate that number,” he scoffed. “I’ve got to wait until the season starts for the number to go up. So for now, I’m stuck saying ‘373’ each time someone asks me where the streak is at. It’s annoying. I’m sick of it.”

He’s a software engineer in Victor, N.Y., during the week. Come weekends during football season, Johnson embraces one of the best aliases in all of sports: Pinto Ron.

Three hundred seventy-three games in, and with no signs of slowing down, Pinto Ron is everything that epitomizes being an NFL superfan. He will be celebrating his 60th birthday later this year, but is adamant that he does not plan on breaking the streak anytime soon.

The count of 373 doesn’t only include Bills home games: it accounts for each and every game on the Bills schedule since the team’s 1994 season opener. That’s a lot of football and a lot of miles.

“Naturally, I started going the year after they went to the four straight Super Bowls,” said Johnson. “It has still been a hell of a time.”

Johnson is also a season-ticket holder for Sabres home games, but the Bills are his true passion as a fan. The tailgating of Pinto Ron has become legendary in league-wide fan circles, and the story of his pregame rituals have been told all over the country. He has been featured in publications like USA Today, VICE magazine and Complex, and he has even seen airtime on ESPN’s “Sunday NFL Countdown.”

His pregame routines are as random as they are spectacular. Nothing gets you prepared for an outdoor sporting extravaganza Buffalo in the cold of December quite like ripping a shot of 100-proof liquor from a bowling ball. If consuming alcohol isn’t on your pregame agenda, worry not: a myriad of game day appetizers await you on the hood of Johnson’s red 1980 Ford Pinto wagon.

(Suddenly, the name “Pinto Ron” is making a little bit more sense.)

If you really don’t care about food and drinks and are only interested in creating chaos, have no fear. There are even options available for someone like you, like taking part in Pinto Ron’s signature ketchup and mustard ceremony that takes place 90 minutes prior to kickoff each time the Bills play a home game.

“When it started out about 30 years ago, it wasn’t at all what it has become today,” explained Johnson. “It started out as a simple contest to see how far we could spray ketchup and mustard onto a burger accurately. Eventually, we got too far and I would be getting ketchup and mustard on me. Just a little.”

That little ketchup and mustard stain somehow blossomed into a full-blown coat of condiments, and the act would soon become a full-time ritual.

The most impressive part of the feat? Probably how long it takes Pinto Ron to clean up.

“Only takes me about 10 minutes to clean up. I’ve got a pretty strong routine going,” said Johnson, chuckling.

Beneath all of the rowdiness, excitement and alcohol consumption that accompanies a Pinto Ron tailgate lies a burning question: Is it hard to be a fan of a perceivably bad team?

“I don’t think about them as a bad team, especially now,” said Johnson. “I know about the drought. I know there have been struggles. The truth is, I’m there every game to see the Bills win on that day. If I think they’re going to lose a game, I don’t go. And I haven’t missed a game in 24 years.”

Johnson is a part of a Buffalo fan culture that will not quit on these teams, regardless of the perpetual losing that has plagued the city in this century. Since 2000, only four NFL teams have fewer wins than the Bills: the Texans, Raiders, Browns and Lions. Discount the Texans, who were absent from the league in 2000 and 2001, and only three teams have fewer wins than Buffalo in an equal amount of regular season games played.

However, even the teams with fewer wins than the Bills this millennium have clinched a playoff berth at least once, something that has eluded Buffalo for a tally of 17 consecutive seasons.

“A good Bills fan needs to be in a constant state of denial,” said Johnson with a laugh. “I know I am.”
Sabres Spotlight: Is Pegula’s impatience hurting or helping?

CHRISTIAN EVANS
Special to The Leader

Buffalo Sabres owner Terry Pegula is at it again with yet another year of complete housecleaning of one of his beloved Buffalo sports franchises. Reports came out early last Thursday morning that Sabres Head Coach Dan Bylsma and General Manager Tim Murray had been relieved of their duties. This came only one day after multiple reports had been made saying that Sabres star forward Jack Eichel quoted that he would not sign a contract extension with the team if Bylsma remained the head coach.

After these reports had risen, Eichel came right out and, to his credit, personally disputed those reports by saying he had no interest in sabotaging his coach or making management decisions.

If that were the case, then why did it only take less than 24 hours for both his head coach and general manager to be fired after him saying that? Only one person can answer that question, and that is Pegula.

Many fans are starting to question the decision-making process that Pegula has. He has not shown that he has any patience. He simply seems to make moves based on what he hears and sees in the media, as opposed to making his own decisions based on what he believes is best for both the Buffalo Bills and Sabres organizations.

The dismissal of top staff at the Sabres is reminiscent of Pegula cleaning house at the Bills, removing Rex Ryan and company, though they did still keep GM Doug Whaley around. How much longer will he last? My guess would be not too much longer.

From their standpoint though, there is some common understanding. Since they have taken over both franchises, they have not been successful at all. That has to be extremely frustrating for them since they promised the fans that both of their teams would finally bring home a championship and be winners. This could be the reason for them becoming impatient with their head coaches, but they have to learn that patience is sometimes the key to success.

However, everything that the Pegulas have done for the city of Buffalo cannot go unnoticed. They have genuinely saved the city by bringing in loads of money and rebuilding much of the waterfront. They care about the people of Buffalo with all of their hearts and want to make the city great again.

But talk about having a ton of stuff on your plate; these people are owners of two major league sports franchises and are rebuilding a city from the ground up. Maybe it’s time for them to take a step back and focus more on rebuilding Buffalo and let the sports people handle the sports stuff.

Returning to Eichel, the fans have known for a while now that there was much dissatisfaction coming from the players regarding their head coach. Players like goaltender Robin Lehner openly admitted to the media mid-season that many players were not doing what their coach was asking them to do during games. When the coach cannot get his players to play for him, you know there needs to be a change one way or the other. You either have to fire the coach or trade away the player. In this situation it would be absolutely ludicrous for the Sabres to trade the face of their franchise after spending two full seasons of losing just to get him.

An interesting comparison to this situation might be when the Tampa Bay Lightning gave Vincent Lecavalier the captaincy in March of 2000 when he was only 19, making him the youngest captain in NHL history at the time. Lecavalier constantly butted heads with his head coach, John Tortorella, in the following two seasons, and questions started funneling out from the fans and the media about whether or not the head coach would be fired or if the star player would be traded. Interestingly enough, both Tortorella and Lecavalier remained with the organization, and two years later the team went on to win the Stanley Cup.

So, did the Pegulas make the right move by canning their team’s head coach and general manager? Were they afraid of Eichel possibly wanting to leave and made a knee-jerk reaction to what they heard in the media whether it be true or not? I guess we all will have to wait and see what’s to come of all of this. The Tampa Bay story is a little disheartening when you look at it now as a Sabres fan.

The question now is whether or not the Pegulas are moving too fast for their own good.

THIS SPACE COULD BE YOURS!
Advertising with The Leader is a great way to reach students and the Fredonia community!
Email us at leader@fredonia.edu today!
TSA officers begin inspecting genitalia at bathrooms

JACLYN SPIEZIA
Staff Lampoonist

TSA officers have been stationed at bathrooms across the nation to ensure that citizens must use the bathroom to which their genitalia matches, regardless of their individual gender expression.

Bathrooms where TSA officers are stationed are barely being used, however. Reporters have asked people why they are not using these bathrooms.

"I don't like it," Sissy White said. "I go to the bathroom and before I can even get in, a TSA officer man grabs me by the pussy."

White continued, "It should not be okay to do that to a woman without her permission. I mean, unless he plans on running for president. Then no one will care, but yeah," she said while chomping on her gum rather loudly.

Some men in question had similar responses about disliking it when "other dudes were grabbing at their crotches."

Even if you have the "right" genitalia, you still might not get access to the bathroom, however.

"I was turned away," Joe Broe said angrily, adding in an uncomfortably deep voice, "Apparently I don't look 'manly enough,' whatever that means."

"I thought I was supposed to feel safer but now I just feel violated."

JACLYN SPIEZIA
Staff Lampoonist

PATRICK BENNETT
Staff Lampoonist

In a surprising turn of events, the popular airline you associate with humiliating assault, United Airlines, has taken a tip from PepsiCo advertising in serving the cold drink to help eliminate onboard violence. United Airlines CEO Boris Dilitant had much to say about the Pepsi cola.

"These vending machines gotta go. When my kid misses an easy home run in tee-ball, I crack a Pepsi cola. And stuff, I was super pumped — I was just drives me to drink," sophomore accounting major Chelsea Indigo said while sipping on a freshly chilled margarita.

Other students went as far as actually tipping over any and all vending machines that dispensed the cold flavor of Pepsi.

"I'm so pissed! The Pepsi corporation's systematic usage of oppression on us human beings just drives me to drink," sophomore accounting major Chelsea Indigo said while sipping on a freshly chilled margarita. "I'm really not on, but I just feel it in my bones," senior Brent Beckham said.

Perhaps this strategy will eliminate the onboard violence that has recently been in the news," Dilitant said, coincidentally drinking a Pepsi out of a can.

Supermodel Kendall Jenner was surprised to hear that United Airlines had taken notes from her beautiful and culturally relevant Pepsi ad.

"When I first heard that they are like using Pepsi as a, like, way to stop fighting and stuff, I was super pumped — I was so pumped that I decided to buy a yacht, sail the Italian sea and go scuba diving with all of my friends. I charged them gas money for my yacht! It's my way of giving back," Jenner said in an interview conducted over a live Instagram stream.

While Jenner seemed grateful for her commercial being used in a positive light, students at Fredonia were outraged.

Various protests were held in and out of the Tim Hortons in the Williams Center.

"I'm so pissed! The Pepsi corporation's systematic usage of oppression on us human beings just drives me to drink," sophomore accounting major Chelsea Indigo said while sipping on a freshly chilled margarita.

Other students went as far as actually tipping over any and all vending machines that dispensed the cold flavor of Pepsi.

"These vending machines gotta go. Pepsi is whack as hell! I really don't know what I'm doing or what I'm on, but I just feel it in my bones," senior Brent Beckham said.

When it came time to actually see the results of the usage of Pepsi to lower violence rates on board, the numbers came in, and scientists were shook. The drink had actually lowered the rate of violence but unfortunately increased the rate of obesity- and diabetes-ridden passengers on board.

United Airlines will continue to use the Pepsi strategy, as they call it, to keep the peace.

Illustration by Madison Spear/Staff Illustrator
Lampoon Review: ‘DAMN.’ by Kendrick Lamar

ALBERTO GONZALEZ
Staff Lampoonist

“DAMN.” DAMN! This album can be best summed up with the word DANG, because dang it is good. That, of course, does not mean that we did not have some criticisms for the album.

The album starts with “BLOOD.” and immediately it seems as if K. Dot, Lamar’s stage name as a teenager, is suffering through a traumatic brain injury as he is taking forever to get through his story of being shot by a blind woman he tried to help. The end of the song ends with an audio clip from the White House-approved FOX news, in which they talk about Lamar’s song “Alright,” and accuse his last album, “To Pimp a Butterfly,” of inciting violence.

DNA.
This is the next song up, in which Kung Fu Kenny delves into the substance of his deoxyribonucleic acid and what it means to be the one-and-only K. Dot. This song was only three minutes long, and that is clearly not enough time to list off all 3-billion chemical bases that makes up his genome.

YAH.
This song is perfectly named for exactly what you should say when someone asks if you like this song. Did he not spell-check his stuff? I do not know how such an obvious error could have made it all the way to the final product!

ELEMENT.
Kung Fu Kenny is the most in his element in this song.

FEEL.
I was feeling this song. In the context of the song he was probably not feeling it as he was coming to terms that no one was praying for him. HOW DOES HE KNOW THAT?? Is he God? Does he have an inventory of all prayers ever to be prayed? Is it just one specific religion or all of them? This song opens the door to so many questions.

LOYALTY. FEAT. RIHANNA.
Rihanna is in it so it has to be good, right? I just hope for Lamar’s sake that he came with that feature money when he met her.

PRIDE.
Here is a song that Lamar must be proud of. Halfway through this album and it seems like the whole one-word song titles thing is not going away. This song is pretty catchy, and I find it constantly getting stuck in my head, so if you like having songs hold your brain hostage, “PRIDE.” is for you.

HUMBLE.
Hey, this is that song everyone is always playing!

Update: The music video for this song is really weird.

LUST.
A song called “Lust.” has a weird young British child speaking in it… not sure what is going on here, but I will remind you that the deluxe version of “good kid, m.A.A.d city” had a tinted-out minivan on the cover.

In the music video, Lamar was dressed up as the pope. Are these all random facts or is he trying to tell us a dark secret? You can decide.

LOVE. FEAT. ZACARI.
Who the heck is Zacari????? Update: This is the second song you can listen to if you love giving your brain Stockholm syndrome.

XXX. FEAT. U2.
U2? REALLY?? U2?? So many questions! First off, U2 still is around? Second, why are they on this album? Is this why no one has really heard from them since that time everyone with an iTunes account was forced to have their album, and now they are just hiding on hip-hop albums? Lastly, after listening to this song 15 times in a row I have no idea where Bono is actually hiding in this song. Let’s just hope he isn’t clapping in the background; HE NEEDS TO STOP CLAPPING.

FEAR.
This song is not scary at all; what a let-down. Lamar raps backwards for a little bit in this song, so maybe there is something scary in there, but if that is the case, with the exception of one-word song titles, it should have been named “COMPLICATED CONDITIONAL FEAR.”

GOD.
I guess Lamar is definitely not an atheist, which is pretty weird for being a millennial.

DUCKWORTH.
IT’S HIS LAST NAME! Last name, last song.

Illustration by Kara Cekuta/Staff Illustrator
The Leader

Video game bandit convinced the arrow shot through head was ‘just the wind’

TRAVIS LEFEVRE
Lampoon Editor

While on guard duty at an underground camp outside of Rorikstead, a video game bandit was the victim of a gruesome attack, having an arrow lodged in his head by an unknown assailant.

The arrow seems to have caused brain damage to the victim, as he believes his injury doesn’t exist and that what he experienced was just a mere gust of wind.

The bandit, who wishes to remain anonymous, has no clue that his injury is as serious as it is, causing some of his friends to become concerned for his wellbeing.

“I saw him over by the fire pit at first. Something must have startled him because the next thing I know, he jolted up, drew his dagger and wandered down a tunnel as if he was searching for something,” said Ragnar the Red, a friend of the bandit. “I heard him say ‘must have just been the wind’ before calming down. His response was odd because we were in a cave and caves don’t really have wind, especially as deep down as we were. Once he came back into the light of the fire, I was horrified, but he just brushed the thing off like it was nothing, the stubborn bastard.”

The bandit has since been living his life as if nothing has changed. He continues to join his friends in caravan looting, village sacking and extorting money from helpless travelers. They’ve called this technique the “toll road” and claimed that it was inspired by the New York State Thruway Authority.

“I’ll tell you, this is the way to live. I’ve never been so rich in my entire life,” said the bandit from his fur tent in the dark cave while viciously bleeding from his wounds.

The assailant has been described as mute, armed with a literal arsenal of weapons and extremely dangerous. He holds leadership titles in the local chapter of the Dark Brotherhood and the Thieves Guild, as well as being the Headmaster at the College of Winterhold and a Thane to every Jarl in the province of Skyrim.

“I saw him once! He took down a dragon all by himself, then he sucked the soul out of it! Not in the gross way though, so I should probably phrase that better,” said a random bystander with a bottle of Skooma in his hand.

If you encounter this dangerous individual, do not pursue him, because he will kill you, and he’ll be able to avoid justice one way or another because that’s just how being a protagonist works.

Police Notters

FORREST ECKERT and JACLYN SPIEZIA
Special to the Lampoon and Staff Lampoonist

Thursday, April 20, 2017
On Thursday night, a student was found wandering the road looking into holes. When questioned, the student responded that he was looking for pot.

Friday, April 21, 2017
A ballerina filed a complaint at Cranston. She reportedly said that the food wasn’t “on point.”

A group of local teens were caught stealing bikes on campus. University Police later found that they were turning them into unicycles.

Saturday, April 22, 2017
On Earth Day, University Police responded to the call of a figure in the woodlot. The figure turned out to be missing student Jack Shepard. During a follow-up interview, Shepard expressed that he had gotten lost trying to be one with nature.

Sunday, April 23, 2017
A disgruntled basic college girl was found crying outside Starbucks, banging on the glass windows, demanding another unicorn frappuccino. She was sedated and released in New York City where Starbucks is still serving said product.

Monday, April 24, 2017
Just another manic Monday, a girl had a psychotic break outside University Commons. She kept saying that she wished it was Sunday. However, after further investigation, it turned out that it was just another manic Monday.

Later in the evening, a physics student was found in Mason Hall stealing a violin. The student claimed they were investigating string theory.

Tuesday, April 25, 2017
A goose was fined for double parking. When handed the ticket, he told the officer, “Just put it on my bill.”

A man was seen scaling the wall of Maytum Hall. Many people started to crowd around, concerned. The crowd broke apart, however, after one person recognized him to be Spider-Man.

Wednesday, April 6, 2017
A student was found after hours in the observatory, trying to communicate with a UFO. It turns out there was no UFO. It was just the moon.
Members of The Leader pose at the second annual Campus Media Banquet at the College Lodge on April 21.

Patrick Ryan/Special to The Leader

Kaitlynn Covell poses with her dog, Zoe, at the Lend a Paw dog walk.

Andrew Camera/Staff Photographer

President Virginia Horvath (left) stops by Lend a Paw with dogs Freddie and Donna and husband Brooke.

Andrew Camera/Staff Photographer

#17 Khee Nance gets ready to hit in a game against Brockport.

Angelina Dohre/Staff Photographer