Fredonia’s budget situation is ‘not the end of the Earth’

DAN ORZECHOWSKI
News Editor

Since the early 2000s, Fredonia has been in a financial deficit. Throughout the years, this hasn’t been a huge problem, but now that reserve funds are dwindling, the issue is more of a concern.

The future of the budget was discussed for much of a University Senate session held Monday afternoon.

In the Fall, Fredonia saw a boost in enrollment and welcomed the second-largest freshmen class in the university’s history.

Vice President for Finance and Administration Mike Metzger (who assumed his duties this past summer) told the Senate that increased enrollment is “not going to be enough.”

President Virginia Horvath has been working closely with Metzger to develop a plan for the next academic year.

“I’ll be the first to admit,” said Metzger, “when I started [as vice president] in July, I did not anticipate this process to take as long as it did.”

Although no specific figures were mentioned, Metzger said that the budget increased only slightly in certain areas.

“The only increase that is in the current budget numbers for next year is an increase in negotiating salaries . . . and where we’ve moved money [over to the state],” said Metzger. “We were paying a state expenditure out of [the income] from the residence halls, which is incorrect.”

When asked if the state knows that Fredonia doesn’t have spare cash, Horvath answered: “The [state] does not provide what we call a maintenance of effort. Do they not know, or do they not care? I cannot begin to guess.”

Horvath said she had explained the situation to a state senator prior to other budget discussions.

“He said to me, ‘well, do your best,’” Horvath said.

“You would not run a business like this,” continued the president. “You would not have an institution not able to set its prices, and not be able to control its costs — two things that are determined outside of us.”

Fredonia has two types of reserve funds: restricted and unrestricted. Restricted funds, usually set aside for buildings, cannot be touched. As for the unrestricted funds, they’ll be used up by the next fiscal year, according to Metzger.

Horvath said the situation is “not the end of the Earth.” She encouraged the Senate to keep the same positive attitude from a year ago.

“The state budget was approved, but there were no surprises in there. There’s no increase [of financial aid], even though I really appreciate the effort from our unions to lobby for increased aid,” said Horvath.

The president told listeners that Fredonia “isn’t going to be rescued by the state,” and that the school will have to handle the issue independently. To do so, Horvath said the university will have to work on maintaining increased enrollment, cut costs and explore new revenues.

Fredonia’s budget will not be finalized this month, but there will be a public budget presentation held on April 30 in Rosch Recital Hall at 11 a.m.

Horvath said Fredonia “is not the first domino,” meaning other universities in New York are in similar financial situations. Specific schools were not mentioned.

In an email sent last week to the campus community, Horvath said “very difficult choices” will have to be made, and that cuts are inevitable. Those cuts will be based on Fredonia’s “mission, commitments and focus on student learning.”
Spring cleaning for your social media accounts

‘Writers @ Work’ panel offers advice, tips for creating positive social media presence

MONICA MANNEY
Special to The Leader

Have you ever gotten a random message on Facebook or Twitter? As creepy as random people on the internet can be, you may have to pick up their tactics to land your post-graduation job.

The English department’s “Writers @ Work” series featured four Fredonia alumni discussing the work in their fields.

In the hour-long conversation about social media, one thing that was unanimous among the graduates was the importance of social media in terms of networking and creating your image.

“You don’t know where your next job is coming from,” said WNY Children Marketing and Community Impact specialist Courtney Gfroerer when discussing the importance of having a clean profile.

According to the panelists, being aware of what you put on the internet is one of the first steps in marketing yourself.

“A couple months before graduation, I went through and deleted all my old pictures on my Facebook,” said Sylvanna Dussan.

They also discussed the importance of knowing how to navigate privacy settings. When privacy settings are on, people can still see some of your photos, and they may not be the ones that will represent you in the way you want potential employers to see you.

“I put my Facebook on private and then realized that people could still see some photos . . . they weren’t that bad. Just like St. Paddy’s day in Fredonia,” said Erin Dorozynski with a laugh.

Once you have a clean profile on Facebook, it may be time to check the rest of your social media. Having professional posts on your Facebook, but cat memes on your Instagram, may give employers mixed messages.

“Your messaging should say the same thing and be consistent. Your messaging has to be the same across all boards,” said Gfroerer.

If cat memes are your forte, it might be best to keep them to your private profile for your friends and keep them off of your public one.

According to the alumni panelists, once your profile is clean and consistent, students should reach out to potential employers on social media platforms.

“Send a message with your LinkedIn request.
Don’t just send the general message,” said Gfroerer.

Each panelist shared an experience of LinkedIn connections with no message.

Each were ignored.

Networking on social media is important because, as Bill Nye says, “Everyone you meet knows something you don’t,” and the internet has millions of people you don’t know.

Landing your job might include reaching out to those people and asking about your aspiring job.

Students looking to create a positive social media presence on LinkedIn can stop by the Career Development Office in Gregory Hall for tips and advice.

“According to the alumni panelists, once your profile is clean and consistent, students should reach out to potential employers on social media platforms.”
Cosmic transformation talk draws in large turnout

ANGELINA DOHRE  
Photo Editor

Students, faculty and community members gathered for last week’s Brown Bag series. Dr. Neal Evans from the University of Texas at Austin presented “Extraterritorial Life: A Scientific Inquiry.” He focused on cosmic transformation and the scientific explanation of life beyond Earth.

Opening remarks were made by Fredonia physics professor Michael Dunham. He is one of several Fredonia professors who helped direct this year’s Brown Bag series.

Other professors include psychology professor Jack Croxton, biology professor Scott Medler, computer and information sciences professor Michael Scialdone, communication professor Roslin Smith and politics and international affairs professor Ivani Vassoler.

Evans began the talk with how to approach extraterrestrial life. “We’re going to say, How can we deal with this in a scientific way?” he said.

To approach this topic in a scientific manner, Evans explained how to calculate answers to questions like “How many communicable civilizations are in our galaxy?” and “Is there more than just life out there; is there intelligent life?”

“We approach these questions through something called the Drake equation,” he said. “That means we’re going to do a little bit of mathematics, which usually induces that state of reaction in people, but it’s really straightforward mathematics.”

Attendees were given a Drake equation worksheet and Evans explained each factor of it. The first factor that’s considered is calculating how many stars are formed per year. We must assume that life exists on planets around stars.

According to Evans, the best way to communicate with outside intelligent life would be through radio waves.

“We have the capability to communicate,” he said. “Do we have the interest in communicating? The capability and interest are both part of this next factor: what fraction of planets with intelligent life actually develop a technological civilization that’s capable and interested in interstellar communication?”

The next factor gets rid of the rate, which is how many per year, and turns it into a number. This number shows how long a civilization lasts.

Smith helped submit and obtain finances for Evans’s flights and accommodation from last year’s Carnahan Jackson Fund. “Dunham worked with Evans, and so he did all the arrangements with him,” she said.

According to Smith, the talk was very informative.

“As an amateur cosmos enthusiast, I loved his talk,” she said. “I even liked the Drake equation worksheet and had 200 possibilities for intelligent life out there.”

Junior video production major Natalie Harden attended the talk and was intimidated at first when presented with all the information.

“Once I stopped trying to understand I started to get it,” she said. “I didn’t like how I left knowing only a little bit more about the mystery of space. I would definitely go to future talks because maybe the next one will give me better understandings on the subject.”

Troops are being sent to the southern border

SETH MICHAEL MEYER  
Assistant News Editor

In a controversial move to protect the southern border, President Donald Trump announced in a memorandum Thursday that he would send members of the National Guard to protect the 1,254-mile border.

In the memo, many arguments were made to support the decision made by the president, including the excessive trafficking of opioids, “extensive” illegal immigration and the surging worry of Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13), a notorious criminal gang that the President says is, “systematically exploiting our unsecured southern border to enter our country and develop operational capacity in American communities throughout the country.”

“The situation at the border has now reached a point of crisis,” the memo reads “The lawlessness that continues at our southern border is fundamentally incompatible with the safety, security, and sovereignty of the American people. My Administration has no choice but to act.”

The first group of troops from Texas are already being sent to the border soon with hundreds more troops from different states following. “State officials said 250 Texas National Guard personnel would be dispatched to the border within 72 hours,” reported The New York Times on Friday.

The New York Times also reported that Republican governors Doug Ducey, of Arizona and Susana Martinez, of New Mexico, have vowed to dispatch a portion of their troops, while the Democratic governor of Montana, Steve Bullock, has refused to send support despite the president’s order.

President Trump has expressed interest in mobilizing up to 4,000 servicemen to occupy the border. General James Mattis, the U.S. Secretary of Defense, has signed an authorization to fund the mission for up to 4,000 troops with the provision that they [be under the] command and control of their respective governors.

In recent weeks, the president has mentioned the emergence of a caravan of immigrants from Honduras and other Central American countries. The caravan, which once amassed 1,000 migrants and refugees, arrived at its final stop in Mexico City with 150 members, the Associated Press reported.

In a tweet from President Trump, he refers to the caravan and relates it to the actions he has initiated to secure the southern border.

“The Caravan is largely broken up thanks to the strong immigration laws of Mexico,”
Legislation supporting sexual assault prosecution fails to make state budget

JOSH RANNEY
Special to The Leader

It’s budget season for the New York State Legislature, and one particular item is being left out of the latest cut of the state budget: The Child Victims Act (CVA), which would extend the statute of limitations for those charged with child molestation.

The NYS Senate Democrats promoted The Child Victims Act. They hoped Governor Andrew Cuomo including it in his budget would represent the progress in activism against sexual assault and provide momentum to the cause of sexual assault survivors.

Melanie Blow, a sexual assault survivor and chief operations officer of the Stop Abuse Campaign, told the New York Daily News, “It’s really upsetting; it’s really disappointing, but we’re not giving up either. We have come so far.”

The Child Victims Act would implement a one-year window to try cases of sexual assault that would have previously fallen out of the timeframe of legal statute of limitations.

The New York Daily News also reported that Senate Republicans submitted a proposal at the 11th hour of budget talks that supported the one-year window against individuals charged, but not against the places where they worked or were associated.

The proposal was supported by institutions like the Catholic Church, Orthodox Jewish community and Boy Scouts of America, according to the News.

This would mean that in situations where allegations of sexual assault come out after the death of the accused, the institution they were associated with cannot be held responsible for reparations.

The Child Victims Act was a piece of legislation that was essentially supported and not supported on party lines, with Senate Republicans being the opposition keeping it out of the state budget.

Republicans hold the majority in the Senate by three seats, with a majority of 32-29. Democrats and other advocates have previously said if the CVA was to be kept out of the budget, they will turn their focus to two special elections in the Senate to be held later in April.

The controversy surrounding sexual assault, and the rights of the accused versus the accusers in the New York State legislature, comes on the heels of movements like #MeToo, #TimesUp and “It’s On Us” that have gripped national headlines for over a year.

The CVA debate has also occurred amidst the Catholic Diocese of Buffalo releasing a list of 42 priests who have been accused of sexual abuse.

There will be another opportunity to get the Child Victims Act passed before June, when the legislature adjourns for the summer. By which time, Senate Democrats could potentially narrow the Republican majority to one seat.

the President tweeted, “Because of Trump Administration’s actions, Border crossings are at a still UNACCEPTABLE 46 year low. Stop drugs!”

A Pew Research study reports that there were 11.3 million illegal immigrants in the United States. Those undocumented people make up 3.4 percent of the U.S. population. This number has seen a slight relative decrease each year since its peak in 2007.

The same study suggests that Mexico may no longer be the source of the majority of the U.S.’s undocumented population. Since 2009, the Pew Research report explains that the number of illegal immigrants from Mexico has decreased, while undocumented peoples from Central America and Asia has increased.

As American service members mobilize to the border, the security measure is being scrutinized across the country. CNN makes the case that this measure cannot help border control directly. “Federal law prohibits the military from being used to enforce laws, meaning troops cannot actually participate in immigration enforcement,” CNN stated.

They further mentioned similar instances during the Obama and Bush administrations where the National Guard was deployed to the border.

“In the past, they’ve served in support roles like training, construction and intelligence gathering.”

“Since 2009, the Pew Research report explains that the number of illegal immigrants from Mexico has decreased, while undocumented peoples from Central America and Asia has increased.”
OnCourse slowly but surely becoming more popular

Back in Spring 2016, Fredonia’s online learning system, ANGEL, was not only replaced, but unplugged and turned off by its host software, Blackboard Learning. The intentions were clear. ANGEL was an outdated service, and it was time for Fredonia to make a decision that would ultimately change the way that students and faculty interact online.

According to Lisa Melohusky, the instructional design specialist on Fredonia’s Educational Technology board, OnCourse is run by an open-source learning system called “Moodle.” She said that it’s a much easier host to work with than Blackboard because it costs half the price, while at the same time introducing a broader range of features. Moodle allows for more flexibility between staff and students.

“There’s about 70 activity or resource types that [faculty members] can add to a course,” said Melohusky. “Faculty usually adopt like two or three of the strategies and repeat them throughout the course. If they do discussion boards, they’ve probably adopted ‘Moodlerooms Forums,’ and they use that regularly.”

But it isn’t just the faculty that has the option to change and mess around with different features.

New or prospective students might be surprised to see that when they go to their homepage on OnCourse, they can customize a number of settings, such as placing course blocks in different corners of the page and even creating their own personalized blocks.

According to William Atkinson, a senior childhood education major, even though there are plenty of cool new features, some crucial elements of OnCourse are being underutilized by its staff.

“The gradebook is [never used],” he said. “My professors started using grade book quite a lot in the beginning, but now it’s like completely nothing. I don’t know my grades unless it’s midterms or close to the end.”

Atkinson feels that the gradebook should be used more often. He explained, “It helps us determine how well we are doing, and it gives us incentive to pick ourselves back up when we aren’t doing good.”

The educational technology board is aware of this. According to Melohusky, OnCourse is a relatively new online learning system, and they are consistently offering workshops for professors to help them to become more familiar with its customization features.

“We offer training every month on OnCourse,” said Melohusky. “And since Nov. 2015, we’ve had almost 300 faculty members attend ‘Intro to OnCourse’ between that time and now to learn the basics.”

Even so, Melohusky admits that teaching faculty how to use the gradebook can be difficult.

“The gradebook is the piece that probably gives people the most problems because there are so many options,” she said. “Professors have to narrow down which ones suit their grading style.”

She explained that extreme effort is being made by the technology board to teach faculty how to mess around with different settings but, as of now, the workshops aren’t as active.

“It’s really quiet right now because everyone is doing advising,” she said. “It will pick back up at the end of the semester, and then we’ll do more over the summer. People will pop in just to grab that workshop.”

Senior molecular genetics major, Mam Deng, also contends that the major issue with OnCourse is that a significant number of professors aren’t quite familiar with it yet.

He said, “I know I’ve had experiences where the professor thinks our grades are posted, and I’ve had to tell them that we can’t actually see them. Then it becomes a whole back-and-forth process to get that settled out.”

Deng even said he’s had to take matters into his own hands and walk professors through the system.

But as far as it being underutilized, Deng’s experience differs from Atkinson’s.

“I think most of the professors in biology and chemistry are using the gradebook,” he said. “There are a few who still are technologically uninclined. That’s the best way to word it, but they all attempt to use it, and most of them use it successfully.”

Professors and students might be pleased to know that Fredonia’s webpage offers a link to LYNDa, an online tutorial site that has a breadth of free-to-use workshops. Fredonia provides a direct link to LYNDa’s OnCourse tutorials.

“There’s a whole bunch of Moodle training on LYNDa,” said Melohusky. “If a faculty member likes to do a self study, they can go to the LYNDa videos and play them side-by-side as they’re working through their course.”

With OnCourse’s current faculty utility rate at 65 percent, more and more professors are becoming familiar with the program, according to Melohusky.

“It’s a pretty good number, and that’s the increase we’ve seen,” she said. “It started at like 57 percent when we first loaded.”

She believes that OnCourse is only growing as time moves on, especially because it is run by Moodle, which originated in Australia, moved its way into Europe and eventually into the United States. It is an open-source system that allows for extreme flexibility.

According to her, innovation is key with this software. Despite some minor communication issues between professors and students, the direction that OnCourse is taking is a positive one.
Dr. Dale Tuggy gives lecture on Buddhism

STEPHEN SACCO
Special to The Leader

Dr. Dale Tuggy, known for his work and research in philosophy of religion, hosted a lecture called, “Why I am not a Buddhist,” which was sponsored by the philosophy department and society.

Tuggy said, “[Buddhism] is the fourth biggest religion in the world . . . you can’t get to be the fourth biggest religion in the world unless it works pretty well for people. It has to fit with human nature well enough to become that popular.”

In order to not make the mistake of misinterpreting Buddhism, Tuggy took the audience through a “Diagnosis and Cure,” which is a methodology that can be applied when analyzing all religions in order to come to a concrete consensus.

“Without understanding this, you really don’t get the tradition. In other words, a diagnosis of what the fundamental problem is that faces human beings. What is it at bottom that is really messed up about us?” said Tuggy. “And there’s different diagnoses that different religions give. And then there’s a cure, and a cure is supposed to be a way to positively and permanently resolve whatever that problem was.”

When going through this process, Tuggy found a problem with the way the Buddhist religion interprets reality in relation to the “Self.” Specifically, in the Buddhist religion, it is known as the “no-self doctrine.” Tuggy made an analogy to how Buddhism interprets reality.

“When you think properly about what human beings are, this analysis just dissolves them away. It turns out that there aren’t selves . . . if you don’t believe in yourself, then you won’t be concerned with what happens to yourself,” said Tuggy.

To explain this further, Tuggy gave an example.

He said, “But there is no soul, according to the no-self doctrine. There [isn’t] a substantial lasting person. So this doesn’t seem to make sense.”

Another important subject that Tuggy focused on is the Buddhist notion that human desire is a distraction and holds us back from reaching “nirvana.”

“Think about strong desire as the hindrance to getting the cure. Isn’t some strong desire appropriate and important? Isn’t it important to be attached to and have strong desires for your children, your spouse or friends?” he asked. “I mean, why not just go all-in that way, why try to hold back? At least of what’s in the bounds of right and wrong. If you’re on the right side of that line, what’s wrong with strong desire?”

Tuggy basically said that Buddhism supports the notion that not only reality, but the whole idea of self-persona, is an illusion.
POLICE BLOTTERS

UNIVERSITY

Tuesday, April 3, 2018

A crosswalk sign was stolen outside the Williams Center. An investigation is ongoing.

Thursday, April 5, 2018

12:15 a.m. Malachi McNair, Kennadee Grisham and Arelle Pearson were charged for possession of marijuana. Appearance tickets were given.

VILLAGE OF FREDONIA

Monday, April 2, 2018

Emma Isaac, age 18, was charged with speeding in a zone and operating an unregistered motor vehicle. Uniform traffic tickets were given.

Neoma Marren, age 18, was charged with unlawful possession of marijuana. An appearance ticket was given.

William Welshy, age 20, was charged with unlawful possession of marijuana, underage possession of alcohol and open container. Bail was set to $150.

Wednesday, April 4, 2018

Andrea Gullo, age 48, was charged with disobeying the noise ordinance. An arrest was completed.

Friday, April 6, 2018

Peter Byrne, age 20, was charged with underage possession of alcohol and open container. Bail was set to $50.

Saturday, April 7, 2018

Samuel Phillips, age 21, was charged with open container. Bail was set to $50.

Miranda Covert, age 19, was charged with open container, littering and underage possession of alcohol. An appearance ticket was given.

Sunday, April 8, 2018

Rachel Minnolera, age 21, was charged with open container. An appearance ticket was given.

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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Fredonia Art Forum demoted from ‘constituted’ to ‘chartered’

QUINTIN JAMES  
Assistant Sports Editor

Last Thursday, the Student Association (SA) held a general body meeting in room G-26 in McEwen Hall, where they voted on the status of Fredonia’s Art Forum and their program “In Site/On Site.”

Fredonia Art Forum creates different programs, such as “In Sight/On Site,” which brings sculptures to our campus. Art students collaborate on picking sculptures and contacting the artists to bring the art here, as well as helping to install these pieces of art.

To many art students, this is a valuable, hands-on experience that can only be beneficial to their studies.

The constituted group was called to court by SA after the group missed both their budget meeting and General Assembly (GA) day, failing to approve a new budget and causing concern in the art community.

As the meeting started and the topic was brought up to the crowd, the art students attending quickly made their voices heard.

Members of the art programs argued that if not funded enough, “In Sight/On Site” would cease to exist, because they wouldn’t have enough money to pay artists to come to campus. They mentioned that students appreciate the art on campus and vouched for the continuation of funding.

Treasurer of Art Forum, Alexandra Viola, explained how important sculptures are for Fredonia.

“Sculptures on campus add character and [make] us unique,” she said. “It shows that the community and campus supports visual art. It creates attachment to campus and makes students more comfortable.”

Art Forum would also go from a constituted group to a chartered group. SA considered this to be a slap on the wrist, as Art Forum had committed “many violations.”

As members of SA and members of the art programs went back and forth, the room became very on edge, and the topic’s conversation pushed an hour.

After much debate, SA called to end all questions and vote on funding for “In Sight/On Site.” SA came up with a compromise that “In Sight/On Site” be funded by General Admission with a budget of $3,250 per year.

Members of Art Forum weren’t necessarily happy about the decision to lower the group to chartered status, but they are satisfied that their programs will still be funded.

Viola mentioned that Colin Hass, event coordinator, reached out to people in his class to come support them in the meeting, and from there, word of mouth brought the large crowd to the general body meeting.

Now that they’re rebranding, Art Forum is trying to spice up the group and create some new buzz on campus. Viola explained the different events they had coming up, including a new sculpture coming later this month.

“The Thundercloud” by Coral Penelope will be installed in mid April, and we will be having [an] installation party in the Rockefeller lobby after,” she said.

Other events include button making, a nature walk/stretch and, potentially, a visit from Corah Lorow, who is an alumna of Fredonia Art Forum.

“The constituted group was called to court by SA after the group missed both their budget meeting and General Assembly (GA) day, failing to approve a new budget and causing concern in the art community.”
... [Fredonia's music scene] helps bring people together

American Nosebleed, among others, makes their debut at BJ's

This past week at BJ's, three bands that have never played at the bar before, took the stage. Opening the show was Fredonia's own Eerie Shores. Eerie Shores is a four-piece pop/punk band that mixes in other genres like blues and alternative rock. Although this isn't their first show in the area, it was their first time hitting the stage at BJ's — which is quite the accomplishment.

The band is made up of Dan Calderone, a sophomore double major in music industry and communications, Alex Vasiloff, James Sprecker and Cheikh Proctor. They played mostly originals and then covered A Will Away's “My Sitter” halfway through the set. Towards the end of the performance, they even invited a Fredonia favorite, senior exercise physiology major Jorian Holka, up to sing a song.

When it comes to local music and local shows in the Fredonia scene, Calderone said, “There’s so many talented musicians here of every genre just waiting for their chance to play, so places like BJ’s, the houses and the college itself gives the perfect place for people to start their career.” He continued with, “BJ’s especially is such a staple venue to Fredonia in the sense that if you play there, you feel like your band is ready to be taken seriously in the industry.”

Up next was American Nosebleed. This show was a big deal for them because it was actually their first show ever. Most members of the group had played BJ's before, however they had never played together as a band. The members hail from different groups like The Traditional and Super American, which always bring a big crowd to the venue.

Fredonia's music scene has a lot of roots in pop/punk, so American Nosebleed brought a new type of sound to the stage. Vocalist Anthony Musior has an angry yell to his voice, making the band have a sound more like Bungler or Turnstile.

“Having heavier bands isn’t too far off from the bands we usually bring. Bungler used to play here a lot, and we’ve definitely had bands that are more on the hardcore/punk side come through before,” said Lexi Reyngoudt, a senior audio/radio production major. “It’s kind of like a breath of fresh air to have a band with heavy riffs and vocals, since we don't have them often, and I could tell the crowd was loving it.”

Closing out the show was Ghostpool. Relatively new to the Buffalo music scene, Ghostpool has a heavy mix of pop/punk, with an emphasis on the punk in their sound. Since their start, they have been pretty quiet up until this winter. With a sound similar to Joyce Manor and Title Fight is no doubt that they were a crowd favorite.

Reyngoudt further commented on Fredonia's local music scene. “It’s really important because it helps bring people together,” she said. “Building this local scene has been such a treat because no matter what band comes through Fredonia, there are bound to be people in the crowd who fall in love with the band and want that band to keep coming back.”
Fredonia’s police department hosting community cleanup

STEPHEN SACCO
Special to The Leader

April is the month of the Earth, which means it’s time to clean and tidy up our environment.

This is the first year that the police department is hosting a community cleanup, and they wish to continue hosting these types of events in the future.

What would SUNY Fredonia be if it wasn’t for the village residents and public/private organizations contributing to the community?

Since we have residents and organizations who care, we as college students should care about the community by giving back. Not as a college and village separated, but as a united front making Fredonia greater for all.

Mike Hodkin, a police officer and proud resident of Fredonia, coordinated the cleanup happening April 15. Hodkin is bringing together student organizations at SUNY Fredonia with local organizations and businesses.

Hodkin said, “So far the community support for this cleanup has been spectacular. We are expecting a good turnout . . . Delta Phi Epsilon will be attending . . . in addition Delta Chi and Sigma Kappa have members attending, the Family Church of Fredonia plans to attend also . . . so far we have received donations or support from Howard Holt Realty, Midtown Realty, Old Main Inn, Joey Conti Photography, Home Depot, The American Legion Post 59, Glenn Acres Nursery and The Chautauqua Star . . . we also have members of the Fredonia police department attending with their families.”

With that being said, check out the Fredonia police department’s Facebook page and spread the word to help the community via social media.

Kristopher Thompson, the current president of the Delta Chi Fraternity explained the significance and history of the fraternity’s community service in Fredonia.

Thompson said, “The Delta Chi Fredonia Chapter has been proud to serve the community the past 26 years and looks forward to serving it in the years to come. In the past, we’ve participated in the Fall Sweep, The Fredonia Lion’s Club White Cane Safety Day, Relay for Life and more. It feels great doing something that can help so many people, and we always look forward to new opportunities to grow both individually and as a brotherhood.”

Not only Delta Chi, but SUNY Fredonia’s greek life in general, has been contributing to community service in Fredonia for years.

If you want to come out and support, the cleanup will be from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 73 Water St. Snacks and refreshments will be provided, along with cleaning supplies.

Hodkin explained how important this event is to the community.

He said, “The more support we have, the more we can accomplish. Our goal is to have no street forgotten . . . Officer Ben and his fiance Mariah are co-organizers with me and have really helped me get things up and running.”

There will be another community clean-up the Sunday after Fred-fest, which is also encouraged.

‘To keep it simple, this album bumps’
A review of Rich The Kid’s ‘The World is Yours’

ELYSE GRIECO
Assistant Life & Arts Editor

A debut album can really set the tone for the new artists career to come.

Rich The Kid’s “The World Is Yours” dropped last week and, if I do say so myself, it’s quite impressive for a rookie.

The album consists of a solid 14 tracks. It features artists like Lil Wayne, Kendrick Lamar, Chris Brown and Future.

For this review, I set aside a week strictly dedicated to Rich The Kid’s music.

When it comes to me enjoying music, it’s all about the beat. If a song has a good melody, odds are I’m a fan.

After listening to this album on repeat, I can honestly say that most of his songs are extremely catchy. I kept finding myself singing the lyrics to “End of Discussion” and “Plug Walk” in my head as the week went by.

The album’s second track, “New Freezer,” could be classified as the Atlanta rapper’s biggest hit to date. Although this song’s lyrics make Rich The Kid sound like he’s already made it in the rap game, some would argue that this album does not really stand its ground.

I suppose one could say that his lyrics do lack substance and that his use of ad libs and swear words is unnecessary.

Yes, maybe I did a tally of how many times he said the word “bitch” on the album . . . and, yes, maybe I did count over sixty times in the first eight tracks.

However, I would argue that profanity is somewhat necessary in the hip-hop scene. It’s part of the culture.

Don’t get me wrong, I am no expert on music.

Nonetheless, I do think that “The World is Yours” shows a lot of potential.

I believe that we will see big things from Rich The Kid in the future.

To keep it simple . . . this album bumps.
**Final curtain call for senior BA theatre majors**

**STEPHEN SACCO**  
Special to The Leader

May is near and that means senior capstones are here. The BA theatre capstones are some of the most diverse capstones. Their projects will be presented this Saturday, April 14, at Bartlett Theatre from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

This event is very significant to these seniors since they will be leaving us in May. Not only did they put their hearts into these projects, but also their blood, sweat and tears.

Hannah Wagner, a senior dual major in theatre and public relations, with a minor in dance, will focus on her art of dance. Her piece is titled “Balance” and features Rasaboxes, which is an Indian dancing technique. Nine boxes resemble nine emotions, and there is a center box which is extremely important in bringing all the emotions together as one.

Wagner vividly recalls what specifically intrigued her about dance.

She said, “I went home one day in the middle of the school year and I was like, ‘Mom, I want to dance.’ And she was like, ‘Really? . . .’ So we found a studio that my best friend went to, and they had a girl in the room showing different styles of dancing. She put on a pair of tap shoes and started tapping. I was like, ‘That one. That one right there. That’s the one I want to do.’”

Wagner laughed recalling the memory.

Wagner will showcase “Balance” at 2 p.m. in Bartlett, on Saturday.

Madison Breslin, a senior theatre arts major, and De’sean Cruz, a dual major in theatre arts and media management, collaborated together on their piece.

What is significant about all of these productions by the BA theatre majors is that they will all be displaying physical theatre with little to no dialogue.

Concerning what arching themes are in Breslin and Cruz’s piece, Breslin said, “The theme of the show is the eternal world affecting your inner world . . . there is a part where you will see us being tainted by the outside world.”

Cruz explained further. “The way the production symbolizes the lifespan of a human and how it plays into that reincarnation cycle . . . where the constant struggle to fight each other or love each other, those dichotomies, it’s always repeating,” he said.

Cruz commented on the goal of the production. “We’re not performing,” he said. “There’s an audience, yes, and witnesses watching the show, but we’re not performing. This is us telling our stories to each other and the audience has that eternal ‘looking in.’”

If you want a look into these stories, they will be told from 3:20 p.m. to 3:50 p.m. in Bartlett.

Lastly, the closing show will be conducted by Nicolas Williams, a senior double major in theatre arts and music.

Williams’ piece “Kinesthetic Response” will be from 4:20 p.m. to 5:20 p.m. “Kinesthetic Response” is music and dance based on improv performance.

Williams defined improv as, “. . . an instantaneous experience of the creative process.” “Figuring things out in the moment instead of trying to find a perfect product,” he further explained.

Concerning Williams’ process in approaching his capstone, he said, “letting my instincts guide my thought and letting go of any preconceived notions of what I want it to be.”

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**CHIAVETTA’S**

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“Famous For Taste.”
Implemented in the spring of the past academic year, the "Right Serving, Right Sizing" plan encouraged academic department heads to review their own curriculums in an overall attempt to increase enrollment for future classes.

The plan also set out to add more courses, integrating multiple disciplines, hopefully encouraging student interest in certain fields and increasing overall class sizes.

There was also the threat that classes with low enrollment would be cut completely and entire majors could be fully integrated into others. As this plan was in its preliminary stages of being implemented, there were considerations that the philosophy major would be eliminated and the courses would be scaffolded into the English major.

As a major in both philosophy and English, I have experienced and learned about the outright differences across these departments. To associate philosophy as synonymous with English paints in dangerously broad strokes; in fact, it is ignorant to think that these two subjects cover the same things. There is so much more to philosophy than people realize or give credit for, and many people do not understand the versatility of a BA in philosophy. With a lot of different subject matter and routes that a student can take, philosophy offers a myriad of options for a student willing to explore those options. I, myself, will be using my philosophy degree to pursue a degree in law, as well as a PhD in philosophy with a concentration in deductive logic.

Philosophy is a very broad subject; there are far more options for a student than just asking skeptical "well how do you know?" questions. You can study history of philosophy, morality, virtue ethics, meaning of life, business ethics, legal philosophy, logic — the list goes on and on.

Fredonia offers Intermediate Deductive Logic, for example, which is an extremely challenging and rewarding course, though it is not offered at many institutions. Arguably, this has been my favorite course at Fredonia.

I firmly believe that philosophy is a strong and academically rewarding discipline, offering multiple avenues for the hardworking student to study. With incredibly talented, dedicated professors and a stimulating course load, philosophy should be here to stay.
The Buffalo Diocese could do so much more

DAN ORZECHOWSKI
News Editor

Last week I wrote an article that connected a former chaplain of Fredonia’s Newman Center to sexual violence, and it was one of the toughest pieces I’ve had to write.

I come from a small New England town, where Catholicism dominates the community. Growing up, Sundays seemed longer than any other day of the week. My siblings and I would twiddle our thumbs in Sunday school as we impatiently waited for mass to end. Occasionally, one of us was rewarded with staying home after acting sick.

Going to church can be tough for kids. Thankfully, a good amount of my classmates were in the same boat. An exclusive group of us even had a secret language we would use to signal to each other across aisles.

Despite having to sit through mass, I still enjoyed seeing my community come together once a week.

While I was writing last week, I feared that I could ruin this for folks in Fredonia.

The Rev. Edward J. Walker, who worked closely with the local Newman Center, then known as the Newman Club, was one of the 42 priests listed by the Buffalo Diocese to have been accused of sexual abuse.

Although he died in 2002, Walker is still remembered by many. I continuously questioned whether it was appropriate to print a story, not only about a dead priest, but a priest who was seen as a trustful person.

Printing the story days after Easter was another hard decision.

As my colleague Seth Meyer and I continued to piece together the story, more and more people started asking me: what’s the point?

Why would we waste our time writing about something that happened decades ago?

The point was to make a call for action.

Just because this man is dead does not mean others should prop him up on a pedestal and remember him as a good person.

Of course, a trial never happened, and we may never know if Walker actually committed these crimes. I, as everyone else should be, am a believer in people being innocent until proven guilty.

However, every name on the list provided by the diocese had multiple allegations against them. The courage it took for survivors to come out and talk about their experiences is incredibly admirable and should not be overlooked.

One sexual predator is too many. Now we’re talking about 42 of them just in western New York alone.

Simply providing a list of alleged abusers is not enough from the Buffalo Diocese. Unlike the list that was just provided by the diocese of Erie, P.A., Buffalo’s list failed to give any locations and dates from when accusations took place.

When asked by WKBW Buffalo if more information will be added to Buffalo’s list, Diocese of Buffalo spokesman George Richert said, “I just cannot say definitely at this time.”

That’s unacceptable.

We should not be protecting people, whether they’re alive or not, if they’ve committed such crimes.

Accepting that someone in your community, someone you could trust and talk to, is or was, a perpetrator is no easy task. I get that.

But voices are stronger in numbers. The amount of allegations and survivors do not deserve to be ignored. They’re not crying wolf here.

“Simply providing a list of alleged abusers is not enough from the Buffalo Diocese. Unlike the list that was just provided by the diocese of Erie, P.A., Buffalo’s list failed to give any locations and dates from when accusations took place.”
How do you know when spring has finally arrived in Fredonia?

Ian Gonzalez, senior computer information systems major

“How it’s 60 degrees and it’s actually rain instead of snow.”

Ian Fairchild, senior history major

“When they have the balloons on the trees and the squirrels are out again.”

Mikaela Wilson, sophomore history major

“People are outside more. Also it smells so nice outside, in general.”

Leah Ferger, sophomore biology major

“I guess when it starts to get warm out but like it’s not doing that, so I don’t know. Fred Fest is always spring but it’s sometimes cold for that too.”
A lifetime of achievement
Former athletic director to receive Damore Award

COLIN HART
Special to The Leader

“I thought I could do a decent job given the opportunity.”

These are the words of former SUNY Fredonia Athletic Director Greg Prechtl, who is set to receive the Dr. Patrick R. Damore Distinguished Service Award this May in recognition of his lifetime contribution to the SUNYAC Conference. He’s referring to accepting the role of Fredonia State athletic director back in 1998. A “decent job” may be an understatement.

Yet Prechtl is not receiving the Damore Award simply for his success as athletic director; this is a lifetime achievement. From student to student-athlete, coach to AD, Prechtl has put his stamp on the university — and the SUNYAC conference — through his decades of service and experience.

Prechtl, a native of Dunkirk, NY, enrolled at SUNY Fredonia in 1965. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in English upon graduation in 1969, while also playing for the men’s basketball team. Dr. Pat Damore, who coached the Blue Devils’ varsity team at the time, helped foster Prechtl’s ultimate desire to become a coach.

After one year of teaching high school, Prechtl returned to SUNY Fredonia full-time in 1973. Along with becoming the Alumni Hall residence director, he also served as an assistant coach on the men’s basketball team. He became head coach in 1978 and would hold the position for 21 years.

“I had a good time playing, and I enjoyed my coaching career,” reflected Prechtl. “The people I coached under initially were very good and very dedicated to their craft. Not many people wouldn’t pursue an opportunity to coach a sport they played, at the university they played at.”

Given the opportunity, Prechtl ended up doing far more than a decent job. He coached some of the most successful men’s basketball teams in the university’s history. He worked hard to create a winning culture, which included scheduling games against Division I opponents such as Purdue, Virginia Tech and Indiana State.

During his tenure, the Blue Devils won an ECAC title and a SUNYAC championship, reached the NCAA Division-III Tournament, finished with 22 regular season wins in 1992 (still a program record) and produced a number of great athletes, including two-time All-American Chris Hughey (1985, 1986).

On top of the team success, Prechtl also received many individual accolades, including SUNYAC Coach of the Year and New York State Division III Coach of the Year honors.

Yet Prechtl isn’t one to put himself first. In fact, he accepted the role of athletic director in 1998 to free up time for his family.

“I was committed to the basketball program,” said Prechtl, “but I also wanted the opportunity to see my son play a little bit.”

At this point, Prechtl’s son Rob — who would later throw javelin for Miami of Ohio University — was just entering high school.

As athletic director, Prechtl knew his role had changed. Yet he still took influence from his longtime mentor and one-time coach, Dr. Pat Damore, who had also served as the first commissioner of the SUNYAC Conference.

“He was a good guy,” said Prechtl. “He was always well-prepared and he was fair in how he distributed resources. He always tried to make sure things were balanced — the tail wasn’t wagging the dog. He wasn’t doing things to benefit one institution; he was trying to give everybody a fair chance of success.”

Prechtl took the same approach when it came to overseeing SUNY Fredonia’s various athletic programs, allocating resources fairly and making sure everyone, regardless of sport or gender, was on the same level.

During his time, he made several notable upgrades to the facilities, implementing the Steele Hall Natatorium, University Stadium and the Fitness Center. He also oversaw renovation of the softball fields and the outdoor tennis courts.

Having retired in June 2017, Prechtl’s legacy is still influential on campus and will be felt for a long time.

“He’s a genuine, nice guy and really passionate about what he does,” said Avril King, a double major in journalism and public relations and sophomore tennis player. “He had somewhat of an old-school approach, but you could tell he truly cared about the program.”

Upon retirement, Prechtl was named Fredonia Director of Athletics Emeritus. It was only a matter of time before he received the Damore Distinguished Service Award. He commented on the many influential figures who have previously received the honor, but is specifically proud of the award’s namesake.

“Pat was similar to a father figure to me,” said Prechtl of Dr. Damore. “He was a steady influence in my life and a social conscience to me.

“From student to student-athlete, coach to AD, Prechtl has put his stamp on the university — and the SUNYAC conference — through his decades of service and experience.”

He’s somebody I still see twice a week for coffee in the morning. I have a lot of respect for the man. He accomplished a whole lot in his career, more than what other people would ever dream of accomplishing.”

The same can be said of Prechtl.
‘Around the World for Yeardley’ continues to raise awareness on Fredonia’s campus

AVRIL KING  
Social Media Manager and Assistant Sports Editor

For the second year in a row, Fredonia will be participating in an awareness walk for domestic violence. “Around the World for Yeardley” is an event recognized by all SUNY schools, this year on Wednesday, April 18 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The walk, which is taking place around Dods and Steele Hall, has been organized by Fredonia’s Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), most notably SAAC President Ben Chatley and SAAC member Sierra Parsons.

The initiative was created in memory of Yeardley Love, a lacrosse player from the University of Virginia. On May 3, 2010, just three weeks before her graduation, Love was beaten and killed by her ex-boyfriend.

After her death, Love’s mother and sister created the One Love Foundation as a way to prevent such tragedies from occurring on other college campuses. As Sharon Love, Yeardley Love’s mother, said in her testimonial on the One Love Foundation website, “… relationship abuse is a public health epidemic and … young women in Yeardley’s age group are at a three times greater risk for being in an abusive relationship than any other demographic.”

In December of 2014, three athletes from the women’s lacrosse teams from Boston College and University of Virginia came together to create Yards for Yeardley, which is where this year’s event stems from.

“It’s basically a way for us to improve and increase domestic violence awareness on campus while kind of having some fun at the same time,” said Chatley, a senior double major in social studies education and history.

For his work in bringing this campaign to Fredonia, Chatley was awarded the Unsung Hero Award from the One Love Foundation in the spring of 2017. Since the event was so successful in spreading the word on domestic violence last year, it was brought back again.

With around 300 members of the campus community already signed up, it is clear that the message is being heard this year as well.

“We’re hoping to break that 300 by the time it rolls around,” said Parsons.

And the event is not just for individuals. Campus groups, such as ResLife, are invited to participate, as well as each of the sports teams.

“I think, just as athletes, it resonates with us because Yeardley Love was an athlete,” Parsons, a sophomore education major, said. “So it kind of just shows us that these bad things can happen to anyone. It’s important for our campus and our athletes to spread that awareness.”

Several of those walking are also participating in memory of those that have fallen victim to domestic violence.

This is including Chatley, who was a member of the SUNY Brockport swim team in his freshman year of college, alongside Alexandra Kogut. Kogut, who was also a freshman, was killed by her boyfriend in her dorm room in September of 2012.

“There are a lot of people that, just from hearing about domestic violence and relationship problems, know someone that’s gone through that or someone who has had to experience those tough times or adverse effects,” said Chatley. “By increasing awareness and growing everyone’s knowledge for these horrific type of events, it’s a way for us not only to remember them, but also to make sure it’s not something we ever experience.”

Registration for the event is free to all who would like to participate. The first 500 people to walk four laps around the course automatically win a free t-shirt and are entered to win several raffle items for each additional lap.

The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence estimates that around 20 people are physically abused by a partner every minute in the United States. Around the World for Yeardley and the One Love Foundation exist to put an end to this reality. By showing its support, the Fredonia community can as well.

Elizabeth Levengood/Staff Illustrator

“By increasing awareness and growing everyone’s knowledge for these horrific type of events, it’s a way for us not only to remember them, but also to make sure it’s not something we ever experience,” said SAAC President Ben Chatley.”
Vegas is gonna do it
NHL expansion team making playoff debut

AIDAN POLLARD
Assistant Sports Editor

This NHL season has felt like a cheesy ’80s movie where the Vegas Golden Knights are the protagonists.

When the NHL announced a new expansion team, almost no one thought anything would come of the Golden Knights. The team was drafted by choice, but each team could “protect” players, meaning that big name players like Sidney Crosby, Henrik Lundqvist or Alex Ovechkin couldn’t be drafted to the Golden Knights.

The Golden Knights didn’t enter the season empty-handed, though. The team managed to get Marc-Andre Fleury and Malcolm Subban. Aside from that, the team was mostly a ragtag group of A- and B-listers who were only supposed to set the foundation for a franchise.

Instead, Vegas brought a team that dominated right from the start and started shattering records as soon as they possibly could. The previous record for wins in a first season was by the Florida Panthers with 34. The Golden Knights have 51 as of April 7.

Vegas is leading the Pacific Division with 109 points, followed by the San Jose Sharks with 100. They are fifth overall in points in the NHL. They trail the Predators, the Bruins, the Lightning and the Jets.

Despite not being the highest scoring team, Vegas has a winning record against all the other division-leading teams. The only teams they haven’t beaten are the Minnesota Wild and the New York Islanders.

On paper, Vegas isn’t the strongest team in the NHL. But there’s no telling what the motivation of a Cinderella story can do.

It would be completely unprecedented for a modern NHL expansion team to make the playoffs, let alone win the Stanley Cup. According to FiveThirtyEight “Vegas is ... lapping the field of expansion teams across every major pro sport.”

Even when accounting for how the way other pro sports’ records are distributed, Vegas’ inaugural season is unprecedented.

Vegas’ success can probably be attributed to coaching more than anything. With a team that started off with no huge name or elite skaters, the Golden Knights were able to focus on working together as a team rather than relying on one or two studs to do all the work.

This is a problem that can be seen with a lot of the low tier teams in the NHL. Teams like Buffalo, the Islanders and even the Rangers now aren’t gelling as a whole. They’re relying on players like Eichel, Tavares and Lundqvist to carry the programs.

Vegas may even come out of this season with the NHL MVP. William Karlsson is third in the NHL for goals scored, trailing only Patrick Laine and Alex Ovechkin. Obviously, the MVP spot will have a lot to do with how the playoffs work out, but Karlsson is certainly not out of the question.

Not to mention, Marc-Andre Fleury has the most wins and has tied Carter Hutton of the Blues for a .931 save percentage.

More than any of this, I want them to do it. I believe they can. And with both the Sabres and my hometown Islanders out of the playoffs, I have no other horse in this race.

Vegas may not be the statistics’ perfect choice, but neither were the Mighty Ducks.
LinkedIn launches new website for introverts

Nothing quite illustrates the terrifying and nausea-inducing reality of adulthood like LinkedIn, the website dedicated to making the lives of thousands of inadequate man-children 1,000 times more stressful. But as the introverts continue to take over the world, (mwa ha ha ha), LinkedIn made the decision to launch a new website specifically designed for all the timid job-seekers out there: OnlyALittleLinkedIn.

“When I saw that LinkedIn created a sister website designed specifically for those who hated Heads Up, Seven Up as a kid, I was thrilled,” one Fredonia student said from the comfort of her dorm room, where she emailed us her thoughts about the new site. “I can’t stand the normal pressure of being a college student and getting a notification from LinkedIn every five seconds about connecting with some classmate I barely know who has way more accomplishments than I do makes the stress even worse. With OnlyALittleLinkedIn, I can only connect with people who match my accomplishment level. That way, I never have to come to terms with my inadequacy!”

OnlyALittleLinkedIn is designed for those who prefer small groups, planned interactions and predetermined amounts of stress. One of the site’s most popular features is its uber-specific job filtering system.

“Now, I won’t be inundated with job descriptions that say ‘expert,’ ‘consultant,’ ‘analyst’ or even ‘three-to-five years experience,’” one student wrote us via text message. “I can choose jobs that are specific to my ambitions, like ‘remotely-based car mechanic’ or ‘pizza whisperer with a sports management degree.’”

A representative from OnlyALittleLinkedIn detailed further the characteristics of the website that make it different from LinkedIn.

“To start, you won’t be unpleasantly surprised by an anxiety-producing notification in the middle of your Saturday game night,” he said during a phone interview. “OnlyALittleLinkedIn operates strictly during normal working hours, so your meaningful conversation won’t be thrown off by the reminder of impending adulthood.”

The site is also working to change the heart-thumping moment when you check your email inbox and see a message from a potential employer. All the emails it sends out have a smiley face and a non-threatening phrase in the subject line, like ‘Someone totally cool and not at all intimidating just responded to your application,’ or ‘Don’t be alarmed, your fifth grade teacher just connected with you and now she knows all of your minor accomplishments, but it’s okay because you know for a fact that you’re further in life than she probably thought you’d be right now.’

LinkedIn recently announced its plans for another new website, LinkedInToLove, which will operate as both a professional and online dating site for the perpetually needy.
Graduating senior requests refund from payroll office

JACLYN SPIEZIA
Staff Scallywag

This year, Jane Schmuck is completing her time at SUNY Fredonia with average grades and cords from a few insignificant clubs. After five years of doing nothing at this university, she is almost ready to snatch her degree from the hands of President Horvath.

Just like many other graduating seniors, she has student loans that will probably follow her to her deathbed. Unlike other students, though, Schmuck is doing something unique. She is requesting a refund from the payroll office.

“I’ve done it. I’ve attended college. But it didn’t live up to the unrealistic expectations I had from movies and TV shows. I thought college was just going to be a whole bunch of drinking and partying, but they actually wanted me to study and do work and stuff. It was ridiculous! How am I supposed to find the girl of my dreams, make friends for a lifetime and join a sorority, and then do school work on top of all of that? I came here with the assumption that I would have a budding social life. If I didn’t want a budding social life, I could have just gotten my degree online and talked to no one.”

Schmuck feels that she didn’t receive her money’s worth for her education. After applying to graduate programs and being rejected by all three of them, she has started to question how valuable her degree is and whether it is even useful.

“Why would I pay thousands of dollars for something if I’m getting nothing from it in return but a measly job I could’ve gotten without going to school? I didn’t even have a budding social life because no one came and knocked on my door when I sat alone in my room all day and invited me to hang out with them,” she said. “I literally was always bored but, I mean, I wasn’t about to start doing homework in case someone did stop by!”

Many people think that Schmuck is “bold” in asking for her money back, but others think she is doing the right thing.

One newly accepted freshman on a tour around campus said, “I agree with Schmuck! It’s not like she was forced to come here. She chose this school and trusted that her mediocrity would suffice.”

We also decided to ask an irrelevant older gentleman who did not go to college what he thought about the matter.

“It’s crazy that kids these days need to pay big money so that they can obtain jobs where they make such little money! If none of ‘em went to college, then who’d they hire? Nobody, that’s who!”

The question that still remains, however, is whether or not she will get her money back. Do you think Schmuck should get her money back unlike every other graduating senior before her who got a useless degree? Tell us in the comments section! We’d love to hear your thoughts!
Soon to be college grad completely loses it

Tod Ramsey, a SUNY Fredonia senior, was found on the top floor of Maytum Hall throwing anything imaginable at the windows — the windows that don't open and have non-breakable glass.

A SUNY Fredonia employee said, "By the time I got back to my office from my lunch break, everything that was previously on my desk and my chair was in shambles in front of the windows."

A janitor, Mariam Stroud, who witnessed the breakdown said, "He must've really wanted to jump, because when he couldn't get the windows open or break them he started crying like a little baby."

Ramsey allegedly used everything around himself, including his body, in an attempt to break the glass.

"I would've stopped him, but I was just completely in shock," Stroud said. "I was in shock because of how much stuff his noodle arms could throw," she later explained.

University Police eventually arrived at the scene after that long walk from Gregory Hall and that long elevator ride up to the top floor. They calmed Ramsey down by telling him to "suck it up" and "get it together."

Ramsey was taken to a nearby mental facility where he stayed for three days.

Ramsey's parents said it was very unlike him to act so angrily.

"He usually just smokes a lot of pot and listens to a lot of Modern Baseball when he's feeling discouraged," Leah Ramsey, his mom, said.

After a relatively quick recovery, Tod Ramsey spoke to us about the roots of the disaster flower he sprouted that day.

"I've been having a bad couple weeks," Ramsey said. "It started with the fact that I graduate in a month and I'm still an English major. Then everyone and their mom told me I was never going to get a job. Then I told myself I would never get a job because I'm lazy and naturally an idiot. Then I did all the math for how much debt I was about to be faced with. Then I remembered I don't have a fraction of a plan for where I'm going to live and that only means one thing: moving back in with my parents. How can I go on?"

"But that last straw was when they cancelled Burger Wednesday," he continued, talking to reporters. "I mean, if that's off the list, then give me one more reason why I should get up in the morning. I'll wait." They sat for a while before they realized they were never going to come up with anything.

Ramsey is now down to only having half a breakdown every two hours. His coping techniques include "growing up" and "getting over it."

"I've been having a bad couple weeks," Ramsey said. "It started with the fact that I graduate in a month and I'm still an English major. Then everyone and their mom told me I was never going to get a job . . ."
ALBERTO GONZALEZ
Staff Scallywag

It is officially that time of year again. Midterm grades are starting to sink in, winter is lasting a little too long and somehow all of your classes decided now is a really good time for you to earn the majority of your grade by having projects, papers, exams and practicals all in the span of two weeks, with many due on the same day!

One Fredonia student, however, has had a life-altering experience in the midst of all the academic madness. While cramming for exams three days in a row, the student found that on the fourth day around noon, the sleep-induced paranoia and extreme exhaustion subsided, and a new sensation took over. Pure bliss, clarity and clairvoyance far beyond any conceivable level imaginable washed over the student.

The student now spends most of their time preaching the ways of not sleeping, claiming that if they were to tell exactly how everyone could reach this state it would lead to many negative things, only disclosing that forgetting sleep is the first step.

Although studying and attending any non-mandatory classes are now things of the past, recent exam and quiz grades show that this student was able to get a perfect score on everything since they have forgone sleep.

A recent stress test analysis from Fredonia’s Exercise Science department reveals that this student who hasn’t been physically active in many years is somehow in peak physical condition with seemingly unlimited stamina; most tests had to stop as a result of the equipment not being able to keep up.

This revelation has already had some big impacts on campus. In the last three days, four grants have been secured by the student to catalyze the efforts on campus to revitalize and upgrade most buildings.

There has been a negative impact as well, it seems. As this student obtains more and more followers, it has become clear how extreme a feat it is to be able to ascend into this new level of Nirvana-like perception. On a hunch, Dr. Ferguson is taking genetic samples to see if there is anything unusual, but this process can take years if done alone.

In the meantime, more students are beginning to fail their classes. An unusual and probably attributable problem to the sleep deprivation is that all of those who have been in constant close proximity to the clairvoyant one have showed a dip in their cognitive, physical and social abilities. Even just sitting down with this student, I must say that afterwards I felt very drained and like I was in serious need of a nap.

The student did tell me they would only sit down and discuss the details with me if I mentioned in this article that they need more people to join them. In fact, helping others out is so important to the student, it seemed as if every other thing said by them was about needing more people to help. I guess it just goes to show that when you know everything, it is much more important to help others to such an extent that it becomes a need!

Edit: After sending this original article to them for approval, they insisted that I emphasize that they prefer “fresh students” who aren’t already drained.

“While cramming for exams three days in a row, the student found that on the fourth day around noon, the sleep-induced paranoia and extreme exhaustion subsided, and a new sensation took over.”

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ACROSS
I. Another word for wood chippers
II. Stewart who sang “Maggie May”
III. An off-stage whisper perhaps
IV. Canker Sore

DOWN
1. Berkeley school in the Pacifc-12 Conference
2. What one does with The Leader
3. It’s not called a soccer game. Instead, it’s ___
4. Tisdale who starred in High School Musical movies
5. Grime, “Aw ___”
6. Tools that are usually found in garden sheds
7. Colonel Mustard’s board game
8. Carmelo Anthony’s new home

Positions Available
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