Fredonia seeks students to share skills and hobbies for Mini Maker Faire this fall

‘I would love to see more students getting involved to share their art-making abilities’

JACOB SANTOS Special to The Leader

In October of last year during Fredonia’s homecoming weekend, the campus held its second annual Mini Maker Faire. The event welcomes attendees of all ages to engage with “makers,” which are artists, engineers, crafters and scientists, to share their knowledge and skills.

The Mini Maker Faire provides a series of tactile activities such as 3D printing, rocket launching, recycled art making, woodworking, and more.

Last year’s event was held in the Fredonia Science Center and Williams Center. It comprised of nearly 90 makers, some of whom were Fredonia students.

Fredonia is seeking students to participate in the event to showcase their hobbies and abilities, whether it’s music, dance, visual arts or science. A large portion of the event’s attendees are children, who are enthusiastic to learn all there is to offer.

“We want student makers,” said Holly Lawson, an associate chemistry professor and project shepherd of the Fredonia science center.

Lawson is one of the main coordinators of the Mini Maker Faire.

“I would love to see more students getting involved to share their art-making abilities,” she said.

A handful of Fredonia students, ranging in skills and academics, participated in last year’s faire. One of whom was junior molecular genetics major, Alexander Shapiro, who demonstrated 3D printing.

“The event is about everyone making what they can and are good at,” he said. “I was surprised we had a lot of children who were genuinely interested.”

Event coordinators are hoping this fall’s Mini Maker Faire will be an even bigger success with the help of college students to share any kind of “maker” skills they have.

A meeting will take place on May 8 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Science Center atrium. The meeting is for all students interested in learning more about the possibilities of showcasing their skills by becoming a maker for the Mini Maker Faire. For more information, please visit www.fredonia.makerfaire.com
Laurie Tramuta: recipient of SUNY Chancellor Award of Excellence for Adjunct Teaching

Walking in to Mason Hall, the home of the renowned Fredonia School of Music, one can never fail to hear the exuberant voices of Fredonia's finest vocal students. It is not only the students' talents that can produce such wonderful singing, it's also the hard work and dedication each student has put into the art, along with the guidance of their inspiring mentors of Fredonia's voice faculty.

Amongst the voice faculty, Laurie Tramuta has been recognized for her astounding dedication to the program and to her students for more than 20 years in receiving the SUNY Chancellor Award of Excellence for Adjunct Teaching.

As described by Tramuta, the process of receiving this award started with a nomination of which was prescribed by her long-time colleague and fellow voice faculty, Angela Haas. “It was a huge honor to me,” Tramuta said, referencing her adjunct status in the department. “I have a wonderful department so I truly feel like I'm part of [it]... [The award] was, to me, validation that yes, you are considered a part of us.”

Despite being a part-time professor, Tramuta doesn't believe there is a disconnect between the adjunct and full-time faculty. “I think it's the nature of what we do and the collaborative work that we do,” Tramuta said. “At the beginning of my career it was different; now they're so used to having me here, I'm like part of the family.”

Tramuta started lecturing at Fredonia in 1993 teaching Music Play & Self, a required course for music education majors. In 1999, Tramuta started her own voice studio in the School of Music. Before she started teaching at Fredonia, Tramuta taught elementary school music in the Dunkirk Public School system. “[Elementary school] is where my heart is. I love the little ones,” Tramuta said.

She recalled a time when she was reluctant to teach college students, saying she was content with the elementary level. “I had many opportunities to move up to different levels... but I never took them.”

Tramuta said that only after a drawn-out debate with her former voice teacher did she begin teaching in her own studio. Tramuta fell in love with teaching her own studio and has been at it ever since. “We have great kids here... I always get these wonderful students so I'm a very, very lucky lady.”

Of her students, Chris Knapp, a sophomore music education student is very grateful for Tramuta's mentorship. Knapp transferred to Fredonia in the fall of 2017 and believes Tramuta is “the sole reason that [they] assimilated into Fredonia so well.”

Knapp, having aspirations of becoming a high school teacher, looks up to Tramuta as a role model. “She is the most caring person... and will do whatever needs to be done to see you succeed,” said Knapp.

To Tramuta, teaching at any level is about bringing joy. “At [the college] level, it's amazing to be able to make a difference and help,” Tramuta said. “And at the lower level, with my little kids, we did huge units of playing the recorder and just the joy and excitement.”

Tramuta explains a balance in work ethic is important when it comes to teaching her students. She enjoys having fun with her students, but she also urges her students to diligently work at being better and to hold a high value for singing. “If you can get up and sing in front of a group of people... even if you never sing again, that skill of having the confidence to be able to stand up straight and offer something and show a little piece of yourself is invaluable.”

To the future educators, Tramuta believes that, above all, they must like kids of all ages. “I have learned so much from them and they have made me a better teacher because of their passion,” she said.

Leading by example, the award-winning Tramuta urges her students to find joy and passion in their careers and have a continual drive to better themselves as she claimed, “to see the results of your labor is incredible.”

“'We have great kids here... I always get these wonderful students so I’m a very, very lucky lady,’ said Tramuta.”
Trump’s first international militaristic endeavor: bomb Syria

JOSH RANNEY
Assistant News Editor

Streaks of light from both missiles and anti-aircraft fire lit up the skies over central and southern Syria two weeks ago.

The American missile strike was carried out along with support from allied forces from the United Kingdom and France.

Threats and discussion of possible retaliation began after Syrian President Bashar al-Assad allegedly issued an attack on Syrian civilians outside of the capital of Damascus using chemical weapons. The attacks killed 42 men, women and children.

On April 10, President Donald Trump said the U.S. was looking at a “forceful” response to the chemical attack. Adding that officials from the White House and the Pentagon were considering a lot of options militarily, and that a decision by the White House and the Pentagon were considering a decision would be coming “shortly.”

Great Britain Prime Minister Theresa May echoed Trump’s response.

“We are working urgently with our allies to assess what has happened. But we are also working with our allies on any action that is necessary,” said May.

Hostilities involving Syria trace back to the Cold War. Russia has a history of supporting, and continues to support, Syria and the Assad regime.

After the recent chemical attack, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said the chemical attack in Damascus was staged, although the U.S., U.K. and France all say they have proof the attack was carried out by Assad. This evidence has yet to be disclosed.

Russia, which has troops stationed in Syria who are defending the Syrian government from the U.S.-backed rebels, said that any retaliatory attack on Syrian or Russian troops would start a war.

Nevertheless, after a week of deliberation between Trump, May and French President Emmanuel Macron, a strategic military attack was devised.

The attack was carried out with strikes hitting three designated targets in Syria. The targets were chosen specifically to cripple Syria’s chemical weapons capabilities.

There were other strategic targets as well: a research center, a storage facility, an equipment facility and a command post.

Pentagon spokesperson Lt. Gen. Kenneth McKenzie told a press pool that the attacks were a “serious blow” to the Assad regime. According to McKenzie, strikes hit “at the very heart” of the chemical weapons program.

Although the Pentagon said that these strikes were very damaging, they did not eliminate Assad’s chemical weapons capabilities completely.

After the attacks, the Russian response was quick. Russian President Vladimir Putin said the air strikes were an “act of aggression” that could “have a destructive effect on the entire system of international relations.”

After these attacks, the United States and its allies are still left with uncertainties. According to Vox, Assad could potentially use chemical weapons on civilians again, the U.S. and its allies could bomb Syria again, or Assad could attack the 2,000 U.S. troops in Syria.

Regardless, tensions in the Middle East are heating up once again. But this time, Donald Trump is calling the shots for the United States.

POLICE BLOTTERS

UNIVERSITY

Monday, April 16, 2018

9:19 p.m. Connor French was charged with unlawful possession of marijuana. An appearance ticket was given.

A student reported that an unknown suspect entered into her room without permission. An investigation is on-going.

Tuesday, April 17, 2018

A student had property stolen from her room. An investigation is on-going.

VILLAGE OF FREDONIA

Thursday, April 19, 2018

A student reported that they received a harassing text. An investigation is on-going.

Friday, April 20, 2018

2:38 p.m. Anthony Hunter was charged with criminal possession of marijuana. An arrest was made.

The fire extinguisher was activated in McGinnies Hall. An investigation is on-going.

Friday, April 20, 2018

Kelsey Blackley, age 20, was charged with third degree assault. An arrest was completed.

Najalee Mendoza, age 20, was charged with third degree assault. An arrest was completed.

Henry Jensen, age 91, was charged with speeding. A uniform traffic ticket was given.

Saturday, April 21, 2018

Allison Kowalik, age 18, was charged with open container and underage possession of alcohol. Appearance tickets were given.

Avery Miller, age 19, was charged with open container and underage possession of alcohol. Appearance tickets were given.

Alberto Rivera, age 40, was charged with using a cell phone while operating a motor vehicle. A uniform traffic ticket was given.

Brian Clyde, age 32, was charged with disobeying the sewer ordinance. An appearance ticket was given.

James Pazderski, age 20, was charged with open container, underage possession of alcohol and littering. Appearance tickets were given.

Sunday, April 22, 2018

Anthony West, age 41, was charged with fourth degree criminal mischief. He was held.

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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Kid Ink to heat up Fredonia
‘We didn’t want someone who was a one-hit’

This year’s winter has been long and drawn out. The cold and dark afternoons have bled into late April, marking as one of Fredonia’s most shivering springs of recent year. Even so, Fredonia’s most esteemed student-run events planning team is heating things up.

This coming week, Spectrum Entertainment will be bringing back that summer vibe with their Spring Concert — Fredonia’s biggest event of the year.

Featured on the big stage this year will be Todd Collins, also known as Kid Ink. He is an American rapper best known for his debut album, “Up and Away,” which he released in 2012, and his first major studio album, “My Own Lane,” which he released in 2014.

According to junior social studies education major and Spectrum President, Nick Crampton, “We like to mix it up, so we went rap this year,” he said. “We thought he was a great choice because he’s been in the music industry for years now. He knows the routine. He knows how to put on a show, and he has a lot of material.”

Last year, Spectrum put together an alternative rock concert with New Politics and Joywave. This year, according to Crampton, Kid Ink was an obvious choice because of his track record.

“We didn’t want someone who was a one-hit,” said Crampton. “Kid Ink has so many songs. He has three songs with over 100 million listens on Spotify.”

Kid Ink’s most popular song is “Show Me” with over 175 million views, followed by “Promise” with over 134 million views and in third is “Be Real” with over 125 million views.

Crampton is hoping to sell as many tickets as possible this year, but with finals coming up soon, he feels that the number of attendees won’t be nearly as staggering as they could be.

“Realistically, if we can shoot for a fourth of the campus to come, I think that would be really good,” he said. “I think if we get 1,000 people to come, that would be great.”

According to Crampton, students should take note that presale is the way to go. The tickets are much cheaper when bought prior to the day of the event.

“The tickets are only $8 for students, and then you can bring up to two guests,” he said. “Guest tickets are up to $12, but on the day of the concert, tickets will be $10 at the door [for students] and $15 for guests.”

The event will be held at the Steele Hall Fieldhouse and the doors will open at 6:00 p.m. Even though Kid Ink will be the headliner for this event, he will not be the only entertainment on stage.

“We have two openers,” said Crampton. “One of them is a student, a student DJ. His name is Kris Thompson. He will be playing for 20 minutes just djing. The other opener is EAR Entertainment, and they feature former students and alumni.”

EAR Entertainment is an independent record label and management company led by Ian Robinson, a graduate student at Buffalo State who also studied music business industry at Fredonia.

“I’ve watched one of their music videos when we were looking for an opener,” said Crampton. “It was well-done, so I figured that it would be a great idea to have him and his crew be a part of the show.”

To keep everything running smoothly, Spectrum will be receiving a lot of help from organizations and communities on and around campus. Volunteers from the Kappa Sigma fraternity will be assisting with project management both before and after the event. The university police will also be there for security and the Fredonia Sound Services will be managing the audio equipment.

“We’re very excited,” said Crampton. “The tickets are still on sale. Come and get them. I think it’s going to be a really good show. Even if you don’t like rap, I think you’ll still still enjoy it because it’s very mainstream.”

According to him, Kid Ink is more of a party rap. It’s not quite as hardcore and raw as some other artists out there.

Crampton concluded, “He gives off more of a summer break, party vibe. That’s what we are shooting for. This is our biggest event, so I think it’s a no-brainer whether students should go to this event.”
Fredonia has helped me grow as a person and thus as an artist
Senior visual art and new media students put on final showcase

BETHANY CLANCY
Staff Writer

With the semester coming to an end, so is the time left for the seniors here at Fredonia.

Every year, the visual art and new media (VANM) students that are graduating have the opportunity to put some of their favorite works in the Cathy and Jesse Marion Art Gallery located in Rockefeller Art Center.

This year, since the art department couldn’t fit all 18 students in one exhibit, the senior showcase has been split into two weeks.

Each gallery has an opening reception with snacks provided by FSA. It gives the artists an opportunity to answer questions about their displayed work and for their friends, professors and other students to view what they have worked on throughout the semester.

The first of the two gallery openings happened on April 13, which was titled “Paraskavedekatriaphobia: a fear of Friday the 13th.”

Courtney Cutter, senior BFA photography major with a minor in art history, titled her collection, “Belladonna.”

“It includes five photographic portraits of five different women — including a self portrait. Choosing my photographs was the challenging part, I initially shot two different portfolios, and ended up combining the two to create a stronger and more compelling concept,” Cutter said. “One of my portfolios was solely based on fashion photography and learning to work with the lighting and placement of the model, while the other portfolio was a narrative portrait series of women, which is what eventually influenced the combination of these two portfolios.”

Belladonna identifies the aesthetic of images drawn from the 1950s, paying close attention to dress and self-expression. Every image projects the idea of dual personalities: the relationship between inner self versus outer self.

These images reflect lust and desire, while focusing on the representation and empowerment behind the female gaze. They address the issues of the stereotypical 1950s housewife, where women were taught to be conservative and to be the caregiver of the household in the utopian society. These photographic narratives represent the desires of each woman shown, giving empowerment to other women who also possess similar desires.

The title “Belladonna” is an Italian word meaning “fair lady.” Scientifically known as “Atropa belladonna,” it is commonly known as “deadly nightshade,” a poisonous plant with its first known use dated in 1597.

It has been said that women of this time used the plant as a cosmetic to give their skin a natural pallor.

The toning and desaturated aesthetics in each photograph refers back to the title, “Belladonna,” incorporating the cosmetic use of the plant as a means for beauty, while also poisoning its user.

“The message of this series is not the traditional aesthetic of ‘sex sells,’ but about the empowerment of each model and their expression of femininity,” Cutter said.

Cutter opened up about where she sees herself post-graduation and in the future.

“After graduation, I would hopefully like to land a position within a company, working in commercial/fashion photography, while also doing some freelance work on the side. Right now I am applying to multiple companies in hopes that I land a spot, and, more importantly, I am making some valuable connections with people that are already are currently in my desired career.”

The next portion of the senior show will take place on April 27 and will feature work from several artists, including Karissa Lubberts.

Lubberts is a VANM and art history double major. She shared the story behind the work she'll be including in her senior show, and she discussed her journey throughout her years at Fredonia.

“I’ll be including an installation of narrative embroideries that show intimate and close moments with loved ones,” she said. “I began making these works at the beginning of last semester and fell in love with the medium of embroidery as well as depicting moments I hold close to the heart.”

“As a double major in art history and visual arts, I enjoy both looking at and making art,” Lubberts continued. “The majors work really well together and the work I do in the classroom impacts what I do in the studio, and vice versa.”

Lubberts has hopes and plans for her future post-Fredonia.

“I’d like to go into museum education, and am proud to say I’ve accepted a summer internship in the Education Department at the Albright Knox Art Gallery in Buffalo,” she said. “To me, that is a dream come true and I couldn’t be more excited for it to start.”

She also reminisced on her time here at Fredonia, along with how it has impacted her art.

“It’s hard to sum up how my four years at Fredonia have influenced my work; it’s completely changed it, and Fredonia has helped me grow as a person and thus as an artist,” she said. “I came to Fredonia to concentrate in drawing and painting and had never worked three dimensionally before. I quickly realized I wanted to change my concentration to sculpture and pick up a minor in art history . . . .”

Lubberts credits her time spent here with motivating her to do her best work.

“I wouldn’t trade my time at Fredonia for any other university. The small class sizes, dedicated professors and the friendships I made in the studio pushed me to work hard and discover what I love,” she said. “I think that’s how Fredonia has influenced me in all aspects. I was challenged to discover what I love and work hard through that process.”
The first Saturday that finally flirted with 50 degrees fell on the same day as Fredonia Music Industry Club’s “Soulstice Jam” event. Sunshine, soulful music and sweet-tooth satisfiers all filled Dod’s Grove this past Saturday.

The music and art festival, formerly known as “Life is Art,” featured all kinds of musical performances.

The set list included The Tins, Ugly Sun, Kites and Powerlines, Cooler, Heavy Tides, Feed the Rhythm, Spencer, and Dynamic Intonation.

Music Industry Club members Sophia Auteri and Maya Cason had beaming grins as they greeted attendants while collecting tickets at the door.

“It’s a great way for students to promote their music on campus. They have been selling their own CDs and merchandise here, too,” Auteri said.

But musicians weren’t the only artists getting their name out there. Several vendors were set up with art and homemade goodies.

Most of the vendors included art students at Fredonia who set up their work to sell, while also promoting their name and social media.

One of the student vendors included photographer Patricia Maess, who had a table set up to sell her postcards and other pieces of work.

Couple Daniel and Denise Zafuto ran a vendor for their small business, “House on the Hill Bath Therapies.” It includes bath salts, soaps, lotions, body mists and more.

The Zafutos run the company in Forestville, NY and have appeared in the Fredonia Farm Festival in the past. They were invited by Music Industry Club to bring some of their collection to the event for the day. The two work together to make their products from scratch.

“He does all the hard work, I do the easy stuff,” Denise said, pointing to a box of lego shaped, mini bars of soap which she created herself.

Attendants occupied themselves between sets by playing can jam, exploring vendors and trying the several different snacks offered.

“They have cotton candy, popcorn and cake pops,” freshman and liberal arts major Callie French said. “It’s such a cute little event.”
I’d App That:
Finding peace with Pacifica

MELISSA FUCHS
Staff Writer

There are just a few weeks left in this semester and the panic has set in for many, including myself. This is especially a stressful time for graduating seniors looking on the horizon at the future.

Regardless of the time of year it is always a good idea to check in on yourself. As we rapidly near the finish line for this semester, checking in on yourself is even more important with all the academic pressures of final projects and exams.

This week’s app review allows you to do just that with Pacifica, an app available both on iOS devices and Androids. While the app is free, some of the features prompt you to upgrade for either a $8.99 monthly option, $4.99 yearly option, or the rather pricey one-time payment of $199.99 for the lifetime option.

The app offers a rather diverse selection of features. Pacifica packs a health section to track sleep, exercise and time spent outside. It also includes a “hope board” where users can provide themselves with reminders of their hopes for the future, a goals section for smaller daily benchmarks, a variety of meditations for users to explore and a section to take a glimpse at “thought traps” while providing a way to refrain from them.

Out of all the features, I would say that the ability to track emotions and the meditations were some of my favorites.

I personally have had trouble focusing and clearing my thoughts in the past when trying to meditate. With the options Pacifica provides (especially with the peaceful soundscapes selection) I found I was able to navigate the meditation much easier and found it to be a rather enjoyable way to clear my head.

The most notable is the mood feature which can be set up to give notification check-ins, then you can share how you feel on a scale of great, very good, good, okay, not good, bad and awful. The check-in also allows you to input more specific emotions you may be feeling from quite an extensive list.

Another aspect that Pacifica provides — which is a really nice provision — is the option to connect users to a therapist if an app perhaps doesn’t work for you. The app also allows for therapists to incorporate the app as a way to both assign homework and review any progress made.

The app provides emergency resources too, should users be in crisis and need to talk with someone.

Pacifica and its features are a well-rounded solution that covers all the bases in order to overcome the stress from any final projects and exams.

Good luck with your semester, and don’t forget to take some time for self-care with Pacifica; a perfect app solution for your end-of-semester woes as it provides numerous tools to utilize in combating anxiety and stress.
VERBATIM

What’s the craziest thing that’s happened to you this semester?

Sara Lebowitz, junior childhood education major with a biology concentration
“The major differences in the weather and the one day they cancelled classes because it snowed so much. The way that they’ve been collecting all of the broken branches and how they kind of just let them sit for an entire week or two in the street without picking them up. That was ridiculous.”

Leah Graziano, junior journalism major
“I learned that there’s a dog on campus named Luke the Corgi and he’s famous on Instagram. I had no idea. I followed him yesterday and it was the best thing I’ve ever done this whole semester.”

Kyle Mascara, senior physics major
“The craziest thing I’ve seen is the mad dash to get parking. They’re like vultures and it’s genuinely crazy to watch. I once stood by the Science Center parking lot and watched people circle.”

Sean Smith, senior video production major
“Being interviewed while wearing a woman’s shirt.”

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‘I expect that none of the lacrosse team members have spoken, as they [were] instructed not to discuss’

Coaching change for women’s lacrosse

QUINTIN JAMES
Assistant Sports Editor

Last month, the Fredonia lacrosse team went to Florida for the tournament “Spring Fling.” When the team left for Florida, their head coach was Amy Simon, who was in her third year in the position. Simon, after graduating from Fredonia in 2012, was hired in June 2014 to coach for her alma mater. In her three years at Fredonia, she had a 27-29 coaching record.

After the lacrosse team came back from Florida, there were new coaches at the helm for women’s lacrosse. On the Fredonia website, it says that women’s soccer coach Chris Case and women’s basketball coach Linda Hill-MacDonald were now co-interim head coaches for Fredonia lacrosse.

With the sudden change in coaching that early in the season, many questions arose as to why that occurred.

When Athletic Director Jerry Fisk was asked about what happened in Florida with the women’s lacrosse team, he directed all questions to the Director of HR Mike Daley saying, “I expect that none of the lacrosse team members have spoken, as they [were] instructed not to discuss.”

Daley addressed the question about the Florida trip by stating, “It is the policy of Fredonia to not discuss personnel matters with [anyone] other than those directly involved or their designated representative.”

Sports Informations Director Jerry Reilly, when asked about the topic, forwarded the question to Fisk where he reiterated that “no one can discuss a personnel issue or anything that allegedly happened . . .”

Multiple Fredonia coaches and players declined to comment.
Vegas is doing it

AIDAN POLLARD
Assistant Sports Editor

Even if the San Jose Sharks sweep the Golden Knights in round two, Vegas’ season will be an accomplishment exceeding any other expansion team in the history of sports.

The Vegas Golden Knights have not been subtle, nor have they understated their success in any way throughout this NHL season. Between their witty and arrogant Twitter account and their beyond record-breaking season, Vegas has not been willing to pull any punches going into the playoff season, and the LA Kings didn’t even come close to shutting them up.

Vegas swept the LA Kings in the best-of-seven round one series to move on to round two of the NHL playoffs. The Golden Knights shut LA out in both the first and last games of the series. They will go up against the Sharks, who also swept round one against the Anaheim Ducks, in round two.

The Golden Knights won three out of the four of their games with the Sharks during the regular season. As the only two teams who swept their round one competition, Vegas and San Jose are likely to be extremely fresh and well-rested going into round two.

Vegas’ record against the Sharks clearly puts them as the favorite, and if Vegas moves on to the semi-finals after round two, it would just further the merit of their historic season.

I think the western conference semi-finals are going to see Vegas facing the Nashville Predators and the eastern conference is going to see a matchup between the Pittsburgh Penguins and Tampa Bay Lightning. After that, for all intents and purposes, it’s a toss-up.

Vegas is my favorite to win the whole cup, but that isn’t to say the competition they’ll have to face are pushovers.

Nashville and Tampa Bay have both had extremely strong seasons. Both teams led their divisions with more points than Vegas led the Pacific Division. Even if Vegas ends up against the Winnipeg Jets in the semi-finals, they’ll have their work cut out for them.

Winnipeg is another team that led the Golden Knights in points throughout the season, but, just like the Predators and the Lightning, the Jets have a losing record against Vegas.

To Vegas’ advantage, all the teams that have a winning record against the new franchise are either out of the playoffs or didn’t make it in to begin with. It seems like Vegas spent all their bad games on bad and mediocre teams this season. The only teams Vegas has never beaten are the NY Islanders and the Minnesota Wild.

The Islanders finished their season second to last in their division, and the Wild lost to the Jets in the first round of the playoffs.

The round two schedule hasn’t been announced yet, as there are still four series to be completed before the round can start, but Vegas will be facing off against the San Jose Sharks for a minimum of four games in the upcoming seven game series.

For all fans of the new team or just fans of sports history in general, Vegas’ run through the playoffs this year is one to keep a very close eye on.
Los Angeles Angels: Shohei Ohtani

JORDAN PURVIS
Special to The Leader

The Los Angeles Angels are off to a great start this season. They currently have a record of 14-7 and lead second in the American League West.

In part of their recent success on the field, it is evident that Shohei Ohtani is the real deal and deserves credit for delivering stellar pitches on the mound, as well as hitting home runs to the geyser rock pile in Angel Stadium.

This past offseason, several teams such as the Chicago Cubs, Texas Rangers, Los Angeles Dodgers, Los Angeles Angels, San Francisco Giants, San Diego Padres and Seattle Mariners expressed their desire to acquire the two-way Japanese star. After numerous meetings, 23-year-old Ohtani decided to sign with the Angels this past December, headlining the biggest acquisition during the Winter Meetings.

Ohtani previously played for the Hokkaido Nippon-Ham Fighters of the Nippon Professional Baseball Pacific League. In the past five years in Japan, Ohtani hit 48 home runs, 166 RBIs and had a batting average of .286.

With 21 games into the season, Ohtani is hitting .342 with three home runs and 11 RBIs. On the other hand, on the mound he’s 2-1 with a 3.60 ERA and 19 strikeouts and four walks.

Ohtani isn't the first Japanese-born player to receive this amount of attention from baseball fans across the United States. Hideki Matsui is notable for playing with the New York Yankees. Through 10 years of playing in the big leagues, Matsui hit .289 with 175 homers and 760 RBIs.

Masahiro Tanaka is another example. He started his career in 2014 and, since then, he's been 54-30 with a 3.65 ERA and 622 strikeouts.

Lastly, we cannot forget about Ichiro Suzuki. Let’s appreciate the fact that he's still playing the game of baseball at 44 years old. Suzuki has been in the majors for 18 years now and has received accolades such as Most Valuable Player, Rookie of the Year Award and even a batting title.

Ohtani is just one of the few pieces of the puzzle for the Angels organization. But his presence, whether it’s on the mound or the plate, will help increase the team’s chances of winning games.

The last time the Angels were in the playoffs was in 2014. The Kansas City Royals defeated the Angels in the American League Division Series.

With a newcomer such as Ohtani, as well as existing members like Mike Trout and Albert Pujols, can the Angels be a potential threat to the Houston Astros, the defending champions in the American League West this year?

“Ohtani is just one of the few pieces of the puzzle for the Angels organization. But his presence, whether it’s on the mound or the plate, will help increase the team’s chances of winning games.”
At the college level, for kids to spend their entire Saturday to come and raise money for a good cause is a crazy feeling'

Relay for life returns to Steele Hall

On Saturday, April 21, the organization Colleges Against Cancer (CAC) and the Office of Voluntary and Community Services conducted the annual Relay for Life event in Steele Hall. Relay for Life is an event that lasts from 4 p.m. to 4 a.m. The walk is to benefit the American Cancer Society.

Individual students or groups on campus are allowed to sign up online to participate and pay a fee that goes towards fighting cancer.

Co-presidents of Colleges Against Cancer, Sabrina Horn and Taylor Chwalinski, who have been part of the group since sophomore and freshman year respectively, talked about the process of setting up this event up.

“I try and contact people in sports, clubs and other members to register people for the event. I also supervise the day of Relay and bring performers in,” said Chwalinski.

“I make the schedules, email the groups, and set up games for the event,” said Horn.

Both members have known people affected by cancer, and this event is very important to both of them.

“My high school friend passed away from cancer. Money also goes to transportation for families [and other] expenses. $100 can help 10 patients,” said Horn.

“I have family members and friends affected by it so this event means a lot for me. At the college level, for kids to spend their whole Saturday to come and raise money for a good cause is a crazy feeling,” said Chwalinski.

Some of the activities during Relay for Life include Capture the Flag and scavenger hunts that keep the participants engaged during the 12 hour event.

“There are raffle baskets, donations from people in the community, and a fight back ceremony [celebrating those who lost their life to cancer],” said Horn.

Each hour brings a different stage in the event meant to uplift everyone and keep people active.

“Every 30 minutes there’s a performance, music or a ceremony so we’re never really sitting down,” said Chwalinski.

“It’s not hard for the E-board but, for the participants, I recommend lots of coffee.”

Fundraising an event like this takes a lot of work, but the E-board of CAC do their best to spread the word by social media and word of mouth.

As of April 17, College Against Cancer had raised $10,777 of their $15,000 goal and have been getting a steady contribution from many different groups and individuals.
Peaches Maloney’s desperate attempt at fame
Fredonia student aims to be Insta famous

PATRICK BENNETT
Staff Scallywag

Fredonia marketing major, Peaches Maloney, recently made desperate attempts to try and become Instagram famous after breaking up with his beloved girlfriend Debbie McIntyre, who he used to date on- and-off for a five-year period in high school. “This will show her that I’m a real man, and I’m loveable,” Maloney said in-between insanely large hits of a Juul vape cigarette. “I think he’s just going through a tough period. Breakups are never easy. His strategies at marketing his personal brand have been successful so far. I’m rooting for him,” marketing professor Lewis Shandling said, standing a little too close to oncoming traffic in Hannah Montana-brand flip flops.

Before starting his new Instagram persona as “Mad Money Maloney,” Maloney used to post pictures of random things on his account. These pictures included paper towels, katanas, cute cat pictures, “really cool” cans of Monster energy drink and selfies of himself donning apparel by Ed Hardy. The new account presents a whole new can of Peaches.

“I’m selling your curling iron for a bag of Flamin’ Hot Cheetos at the gas station if you don’t let me ride my dirtbike in the house!” Maloney screamed to his Auntie Cheryl in a front facing video posted last weekend. The video, among others, highlights one facet of Maloney’s particular brand: engaging in heated unnecessary discourse with family members. Those who follow the Instagram account are already fed up with the antics.

“At first I kind of thought he was cute. Like, he had this dad bod thing going on with this ‘dead inside’ kind of look. Now I hate this guy. I get a notification every hour on my phone when he goes live on Instagram. I wish someone would wake me up from this nightmare,” Yolanda Parks, a freshman, said.

Many followers of the account have voiced their concern regarding Maloney’s desperate grabs for attention while using Instagram’s live stream service. The concern mainly revolves around Maloney’s preference for evacuating his bowels while streaming. “It’s like, bro, I’m trying to eat a tuna fish sandwich and this dude is on the toilet ripping hits from his Juul. Enough is enough,” Mike Polizzi said, while benching his scrappy roommate.

Maloney continuously gets banned from using his account but somehow finds a way back. His latest post highlighted the emotional turmoil of losing his “star-crossed lover” Debbie McIntyre by way of a picture of the couple with the caption that read “Give me another chance, baby. You’re mine forever.” McIntyre, who was reluctant to give an interview, commented on the post, saying “go to hell.”
Trump appoints Mr. Krabs as new treasury secretary

The newest member of the White House is . . . wait, you won’t be able to guess who it is! That’s because it is Mr. Krabs, a goddamn fictional character! When real people are not to trust, Trump decided he’d stop “draining the swamp” and start draining the fictional sea where SpongeBob lives in a pineapple.

Trump knew that Mr. Krabs would be a suitable worker since he has also been running his own business for quite some time. At the Krusty Krab, Krabs is in charge of finances and keeping the Krabby Patty formula a secret. That definitely makes him qualified to account for federal money, since it’s not like he would take any for himself. After backlash against his decision, Trump reasoned that Krabs’ stinginess would prove to be helpful to ensure the U.S. wouldn’t spend money on unimportant things like education and would instead focus on giving tax cuts to people in the top one percent of wealth in the U.S., and things of the like.

Some people are calling Mr. Krabs a crustacean out of water, as this is his first time on land, but Trump disagrees. “You’re wrong; he’s actually a fish,” Trump tweeted in defense of his new treasury secretary. However, Mr. Krabs did send out a tweet saying, “Well, I’m actually a crustacean, so they aren’t wrong,” and Trump replied, “Okay, so . . . you’re a fish.”

Akin to President Trump, Krabs doesn’t keep his money in the bank because he doesn’t trust the IRS to file his tax returns. Instead, Krabs has been tracking the money by keeping it all in the safest place he knows of: under his mattress. It may be a little bit uncomfortable, but Krabs doesn’t seem worried about his back.

In an interview, Krabs said, “a pain in my back is the least of my worries here in this white jungle.”

Wait . . . our interview has been cut short, as we are being told, along with Mr. Krabs, that we must immediately leave the White House. It’s just that we are having a difficult time finding our way out.

“Well, we’re sorry that you were fired, Krabs. We guess that you should’ve cared more about watching your back afterall,” We say to him as we stare down Trump outside the White House, his fence acting like a wall between us. But we still are watching him through the cracks.

“Hello, I like money”
The FBI reveals what they found under Michael Cohen’s bed: ‘It is beyond description’

“The troll was found with notes of insults that could potentially be used in future tweets. For longer tweets he had a Madlib format ready to go.”

MORGAN HENDERSON
Staff Scallywag

The FBI searched Michael Cohen’s hotel room a few days ago in search of evidence that he bribed people in the sex industry for Donald Trump. They found more than the evidence they were hoping to find.

On his bedside table they found pornographic magazines from the ’90s. Certain women had circles on their faces and half those women had check marks as well.

There were also packages lining the walls. There were no addresses on them yet but the FBI says they contained Gucci bags and Louis Vuitton shoes.

Perhaps the most disturbing thing they found was when the FBI went to search under Cohen’s hotel room bed. An FBI agent said, “I will never forget that face.”

They also found a wise cracking troll. Reportedly he is on deck at all times to harass America when Trump and Cohen simply aren’t satisfied with how many tweets they can produce or how many porn stars they can pay off.

When the troll was questioned, he said, “You’re attacking America,” and “You’re all a bunch of flunkies!”

Trump responded with something similar. People are beginning to wonder who is the real mastermind behind his tweets.

The troll was found with notes of insults that could potentially be used in future tweets. For longer tweets he had a Madlib format ready to go.

He ended up being a key witness in Cohen’s case. When the FBI asked the troll where Cohen’s important files were located, he responded with “Everything’s on his laptop, the password is WRONG69.”

After he attempted to hide one of his biggest secrets from the FBI, Cohen’s most influential client came out of the woodwork, Natasha Bedingfield. And the rest is still unwritten.
The Scallion Psychic’s predictions for the last month of classes

GILCHRIST SHIPTON
Staff Scallywag

Oh, how the time has flown by! It feels like just yesterday we were looking in from the beginning of the semester. As this semester comes to an end, the events that will precede have come to me in much more clarity than before, and I feel compelled to tell you of it.

First, the lights will flicker and there will be no one there! The concert on campus will be meh, but at least you can say you saw Kid Ink, I guess . . .

Caffeine-laced hysteria will slowly take over the campus and tighten its grip right until the point of graduation for some. The end of the semester will bring tears of many different origins, some grade-induced, some of sadness and some of pure joy. So make sure to wear your rain boots!

The weather will finally start to warm up, but soon it will get so hot that you need to lather on suntan lotion which will become greasy and get all over your car seats and clothing. This also means that many of us will realize we did not utilize the extra few weeks of winter and will need to hit the gym immediately.

Then you will find out that you probably didn’t pass that class you hoped you would pass, and that your summer job is just as awful as it was before. How is it that you’re not even done with this stressful semester, but you somehow already miss Fredonia?

You will find true love, but just for this summer. You and some aloe vera will become best friends. You will often think about how you hate being bored and miss having tons of work to do. And then you will be sad because you love having stressful assignments and staying up for 72 consecutive hours. Don’t worry; this still all hasn’t happened yet. So for now just enjoy the stress and remember that it will all be over soon. The real question we must ask ourselves is, how soon is now?

Overall the semester will have been one that was anything but lack luster. It was full of promise and did not disappoint! Let’s pretend that one class wasn’t as much of a disappointment, and that next semester we will all definitely be much more motivated . . . at least until the second week of the semester.

“How is it that you’re not even done with this stressful semester, but you somehow already miss Fredonia?”

KhrisSan Dunn/Staff Illustrator
Work for
THE LEADER

Positions Available
In writing, reporting,
art, photography,
editing and more.

Come to our office!
S206 in the Williams Center
Email us at leader@fredonia.edu.
Why the hell is it still snowing?! IT’S APRIL!!!

A fellow canine attendee smiles for the camera. Photo courtesy of Elliott Tessmer.

A young maker engaged in the fun at previous Maker Faire. Photo courtesy of Fredonia science professor, Holly Lawson.

A fellow canine attendee smiles for the camera. Photo courtesy of Elliott Tessmer.