

THE

# LEADER

SUNY FREDONIA'S  
STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER



## Marching for Change: Black Lives Matter Sexual Misconduct Protests

FREDConnect

1 Student, 46 Mountains

How My Education Became a  
Catch-22

The Scallion



# THE LEADER

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Photo cover by Alexis Carney, Photo Editor

Left to right: Black Lives Matter march organizer, Tim Snider, talks with President Stephen H. Kolison, Jr.



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We live in the past. By the time your brain processes the present, the present is in the past.

# We want YOU to vote in the 2020 election

**CHLOE KOWALYK** - Special to The Leader

Nov. 3 marks the date of the 2020 U.S. general election, and students need to vote now more than ever.

SUNY Fredonia has fully equipped its students to get involved and informed.

Fredonia's own American Democracy Project, chaired by Dr. Angela McGowan-Kirsch, aims to educate students on voting and politics and engage them in civic issues.

The ADP has created several on-campus and virtual events for all Fredonia students to attend. These events include watch parties, voter campaign drives and a discussion on Constitution Day.

McGowan-Kirsch said that "Students' voices will not be heard if they do not vote."

Only 41 percent of all Fredonia students voted in the 2016 general election.

"It's disheartening," McGowan-Kirsch said. "What does that mean for the future of our democracy?"

To get more topics such as college tuition, job opportunities and the economy on the table again, students need to vote.

That way, ideas presented in Congress will be more beneficial to us, rather than the senior citizens who have been active voters in every election.

Another way to get involved is to join the Fredonia Democracy Initiative.

The FDI is a non-partisan club open to all students who wish to learn more and get involved in politics.

In recent years, the FDI has had guest speakers, taken a trip to Albany, met with state lawmakers and even had lobbying events. This year, however, most events will be virtual to keep students safe.

FDI president, Tom Sheffield believes that all students should be involved in the voting process.

"You can be in your own little bubble and think that it doesn't affect you... [voting and politics] are a part of everything. It doesn't matter what you do,"

Sheffield said.

For example, voting can impact funding, education quality, policies in place and jobs lost from the pandemic.

Other students have been buzzing about the upcoming election.

Senior Tim Snider said, "I think we are at a time when it's important now more than ever to vote. Not only are we voting for the next president of the United States, we are voting for the



direction in which we want our country to go."

They added that "exercising a person's right to vote is one of the basic rights that this country was founded upon. There are many people around the world that don't have the liberties and freedoms that we as United States citizens take for granted."

Acting on your right to vote is so crucial, especially when considering the movements and protesting for rights that women and Black Americans have

fought for.

Freshman Kelly Aguilar said that she plans to get involved with the election-themed events this semester.

Aguilar said that the events this semester are "a great opportunity for [students] to understand what it's like hearing candidates and making their own decisions."

She believes that every student has a "voice that deserves to be heard" and that her classmates should act on that.

Voter registration closes on Friday, Oct. 9 this year. For any additional information or assistance when registering to vote, visit ADP's information page.

To get involved with the FDI, you can contact [tsheffield@fredonia.edu](mailto:tsheffield@fredonia.edu) or follow their Instagram [@fredemocracy](https://www.instagram.com/fredemocracy) and fill out the Google form in their bio.

The ADP can be contacted via [mcgowan@fredonia.edu](mailto:mcgowan@fredonia.edu) and on Facebook and Twitter. A list of their events can be found down below.

When it comes to your voting power, Sheffield said, "Keep fighting the fight."

List of ADP events:

- Oct. 7, 9 p.m. - Vice presidential watch party via Zoom
- Oct. 9 - Voter registration post-marked by
- Oct. 15, 9 p.m. - Presidential debate watch party via Zoom
- Oct. 22, 9 p.m. - Presidential debate watch party via Zoom
- Oct. 27 - Absentee ballot application due
- Nov. 3, 8 p.m. - Election Day/ election night results watch party via Zoom

# This week in COVID

**ALISSA OPPENHEIMER** - News Editor

To put it lightly, it's been a rough couple of weeks at SUNY Fredonia.

Every week, almost every day, there is something new added to students' plates regarding their safety in the hands of COVID-19.

During our fifth week of classes, Fredonia saw an increase in cases. The total number of positive cases increased from 89 on Sept. 14 to 96 total positive cases as of Sept. 22.

At this time Fredonia's COVID-19 dashboard said there were nine active student cases, and two active employee cases of COVID-19.

To strengthen communication with faculty and students on our university's COVID-19 standing each week, President Stephen Kolison previously discussed a weekly email update.

On the night of Sept. 17, Kolison addressed updated guidelines advised by SUNY.

"We have new guidance from SUNY pertaining to the COVID-19 cases threshold to 'pause' or suspend in-person learning for two weeks," he wrote.

In the memo sent from SUNY Chancellor Jim Malatras' office, he informed all SUNY schools of a revised policy of measuring the percentage of positive COVID cases in individual two-week increments.

"The Chancellor's Office sent all SUNY Presidents a memo yesterday clarifying the 14-day timeframe for measurement," said Kolison.

The memo said: "For purposes of New York State Department of Health's mandatory requirement to suspend in-person learning... campuses should measure the percent of COVID positive of their total on-campus population only during individual separate 14-day periods and not as a rolling average."

The memo referenced in Kolison's email also listed each period organized

by dates of that specific week.

The first period went from Aug. 28 to Sept. 11, the second is from Sept. 12 to Sept. 25, the third is Sept. 26 to Oct. 9 and so on, up until Dec. 18.

Based on this newly implemented guidance, Kolison informed everyone that if we at any point reach 100 positive cases in any of these 14-day periods, all in-person learning will be changed to remote for two weeks.

However, Kolison said that he isn't just taking the Total Campus Administered Tests into consideration in regard to shutting down.

"Let me indicate we will not rely only on the TCAT to determine whether we should pause in-person instruction. The Cabinet will monitor other variables including non-campus administered tests involving our students, faculty and staff to help make such a determination," he said.

"In addition, I will provide you an early alert for pausing in-person instruction should our positive cases begin to look precarious. I will not take us to the brink before acting."

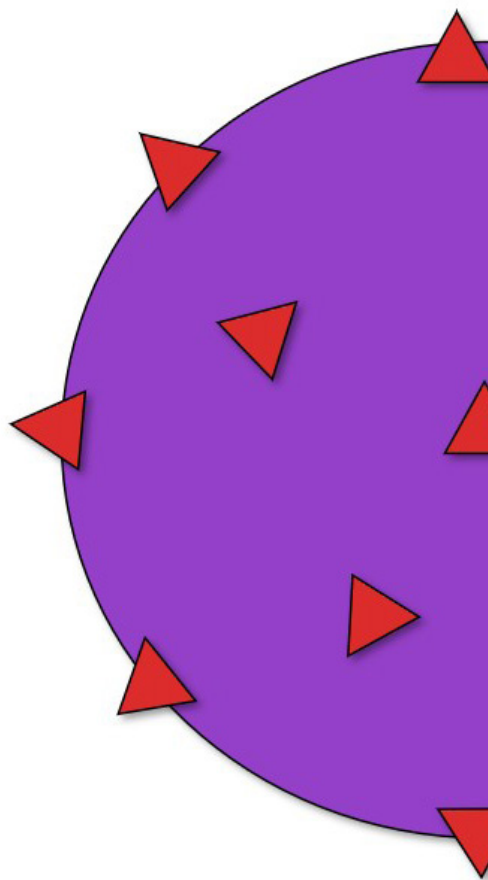
Beginning on Sept. 18, another round of surveillance testing was conducted. Up to 400 students were tested, or approximately 10 percent of our student population.

According to an email sent by Enrollment and Student Services on Sept. 15, the Student Health Center works in coordination with Brooks Memorial Hospital in order to conduct PCR Testing.

"Specimens are couriered to the local lab at Brooks Memorial Hospital and results are shared with the Student Health Center. Students are then notified of their results by the Student Health Center," they said.

If a student is randomly chosen to be tested, they will be contacted by Fredonia, and must proceed with the testing process in order to remain in good standing as a student.

Enrollment and Student Services said,



"If a student is an on-campus student and fails to present for testing, they will lose their privileges to live in the Residence Halls and attend any on-campus activities including classes. If a student is an off-campus student and fails to present for testing, they will lose their privileges to attend on-campus classes and activities."

In the past few weeks, Fredonia has increased the number of students taken

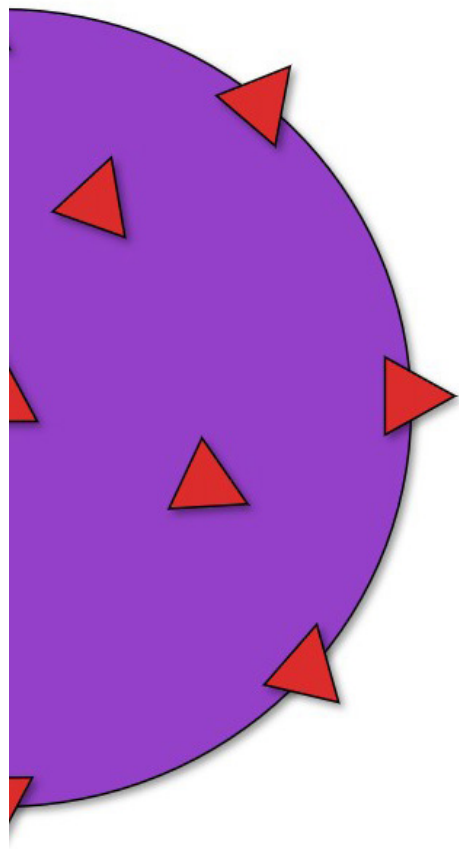


in for surveillance testing, and with this, we've had some great outcomes.

It was announced that in last week's pool, out of 337 students, there was only one positive test result.

This is good news for us, but the pandemic has continued to spread all over the world, so we still must remain cautious.

"While I continue to pray for no positive cases, a result of one positive out of 337 could be described as 'good,' given



the contagious nature of this virus. Of course, while this could be seen as 'good' news, the worst thing we can do now is let our guard down," said Kolison.

"The pandemic is far from over, and new cases nationally are reported to have increased by 15 percent. Hence, we must not let our guard down. We must continue to be #FREDstrong and avoid large gatherings, wear a facial covering and social distance," he continued.

At the time of publication, Fredonia said they will increase the amount of people in testing pools. Based on guidance from SUNY, those numbers are intended to reach as high as 1,000 people.

Kolison's most recent campus-wide email said, "...in light of the new guidance we received last week from SUNY, we will soon need to conduct 1,000 tests a week. No, that is not a typo. One thousand tests per week is what we need to achieve going forward."

With this increase of pool testing, many are wondering how this will be possible for Fredonia.

"As you can imagine, this will require additional resources and investments, and we are working on the logistics to make this happen. We hope to have the process for achieving this new expectation in place by the end of next week," said Kolison.

If you've taken a look at Fredonia's COVID-19 dashboard lately, you may have noticed some changes.

On Sept. 24, President Kolison sent out a campus-wide email, which discussed various topics, one of them being the newly revised COVID-19 dashboard for our school.

The local dashboard has been removed, and only presents the SUNY-wide dashboard — where you now have to manually select "Fredonia," to see our status individually.

Kolison wrote: "To eliminate any confusion over which dashboard is the authoritative source for information, we will remove our local dashboard and embed the SUNY dashboard on our website. Notwithstanding, we will continue to collect all the information we need internally to guide local decision-making."

While this may alleviate confusion for some, some students have voiced contrasting opinions regarding the topic.

In a virtual classroom discussion, one student took the floor to voice the origin of their confusion with the dashboard.

"They changed the dashboard again to make things easier, but what's more

confusing is having to figure out and understand a new dashboard set-up each week," one student said.

"I also liked having something that was like, just for us," they continued.

Though all the information needed is now easily accessible as a whole, there are changes being made every week, and it's hard to keep up.

Hopefully, with this increase of testing, we will not see an increase in positive cases.

To make this happen, we must all take the necessary steps to avoid the spread of COVID-19.

On Sept. 28, SUNY Chancellor Jim Malatras announced the updated SUNY-wide standards for any student that violates any and all protocols of COVID-19.

In a SUNY-wide email Malatras addressed the topic: "Intentional or otherwise, there continues to be some individuals violating these critical measures on campuses, increasing the chances of spreading the coronavirus and shutting down on-campus activity. We want all of our students to have fun and enjoy campus life, but we must do so safely," he wrote.

The new policy will be set in place by Oct. 1, until further action is taken by Malatras.

The policy allows for students to be sanctioned for violating protocols including intentional violations of COVID positive students, failure to self-isolate, failure to quarantine, prohibited on-campus or off-campus gatherings (both hosts and attendees), violations of face masks or social distancing requirements, contact tracing and failure to comply with campus health protocols.

If violated, students may face "suspension from academic and/or housing access with continued access to their academic program via remote learning only (if available and as subject to campus policy and process), an academic and/or housing suspension, or permanent dismissal from the institution."

# Welcome to Hendrix:

## A firsthand account of quarantine at SUNY Fredonia

**JAMES MEAD** - Managing Editor

Lauren Jenkins is a first-year student at SUNY Fredonia. Coming to Fredonia from out-of-state, she was excited to get out of her house and experience college.

Yet four weeks later, she had to be quarantined. She followed all of the safety guidelines — masks on campus, six feet apart where possible, washing her hands with soap and hot water — but on Tuesday, Sept. 8 at 12:08 p.m., she received a call from “NYS Contact Tracing.”

“I picked up the phone; I was absolutely terrified,” she said. “I was just sitting in my dorm with my roommate, and they were like, ‘Hi, is this Lauren?’ ‘Yes, it is.’

“So, you came in contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19.”

“I had no idea where it could’ve come from, and they told me that they couldn’t tell me for confidentiality reasons,” she continued.

She would later learn that a coworker for her on-campus job in FSA had expressed concern to their manager that she was waiting for COVID-19 test results.

According to human resources, there is written documentation that said her coworker did not feel pressured into coming to work.

However, Jenkins did not know any of this when they were assigned a shift together.

Ultimately, her coworker called in sick to a later shift when she developed a cough.

She eventually tested positive, and Jenkins still knew none of this when she was told that she was exposed.

“They asked me if I was having symptoms,” she said, “I said no, because I wasn’t... but they also told me that I would be getting a call from a nurse, which would’ve been a nurse from the Student Health Center.

“I didn’t actually ever get that call. I had to call myself.”

She called around 4 p.m. — no response.

At about 4:30 p.m., she received a call back.

“They talked to me, and they told me I’d have to go into quarantine for a week, because I was already a week out from when I came into contact,” Jenkins said, “I came in contact on Sept. 1.

“They told me that I should be expecting an email from Residence Life about going into quarantine, and that email would guide me through the whole process.”

Because she didn’t have any symptoms, the Student Health Center would not test her on campus.

She asked about other options, and was told she could get tested if she had her own personal car to visit WellNow Urgent Care, which handles COVID-19 testing, but according to its website, “enforces in-car triage for all patients” as one of its safety measures to protect both its staff and other patients.

Because she did have her own car, she was able to get tested immediately following this phone call.

“I tried to do everything as quickly as possible...” she said,

“I was under the impression that this would happen very fast.”

When Lauren returned to campus, she was hoping for guidance from Residence Life — yet she still had not received an email.

“I’m pretty sure I placed two calls,” she said, “one to the Office of ResLife, and one to the campus Health Center, because I wanted to know why I didn’t have an email...but at that point, it was after 5 p.m., both of those offices were closed, so they didn’t pick up.

Because Jenkins lives with a roommate, there would be no way to properly quarantine herself while sharing the room.

And because she was expected to self-quarantine immediately, there would be no way for her to pick up food in the meantime.

“My roommate was kind enough to pick up something from Willy C’s for me,” she said, “so I could — you know — eat dinner.

“After I ate dinner and still no email, I was really concerned, so sometime around 7:45-ish, I went downstairs to talk to an

R.A. that’s on duty... when I told him the

situation I was in, he was really concerned... He had no idea what to do, so he said, ‘Email Adrian [the residence director where they live] — that’s about all you can do — and stay in your dorm. So I did: I emailed Adrian, my R.D., and waited...’

By 9 p.m., with no response and no email, she decided to call University Police.

“I called U.P. as a last resort at the recommendation of my mother,” she said. “My mom told me, ‘You’ve got to call U.P., because somebody’s got to figure out what to do.’ U.P. actually gave me the most information out of everybody.

“They said, ‘Well, they’re still getting a room ready for you. You’ll be moved in in the morning.’ I was still freaking out, because I thought I was going to be out within the hour at 4 p.m., and now here I am at 9 p.m. being told I’m not going to be moved out until the morning.”

When asked to clarify what else University Police told her, Jenkins said, “That was it. That was the most information I



Hendrix Hall, photographed by James Mead



had gotten from anybody. I was just happy to have any information at that point.”

While she was relieved to know the status of her quarantine room, that didn’t answer how she could protect the health of her suite and her roommate.

She remembered that by pure luck, people had moved out of her suite, leaving an empty dorm.

Upon asking about it, she was permitted to use it as a makeshift self-quarantine room.

“It was wild. It was interesting, because you’re in an empty dorm, where it’s not like when you come here [a designated quarantine dorm], where they have things ready for you. It’s just an empty dorm,” she said.

“I didn’t think to pack sheets...so I slept on a [bare] mattress with a blanket. And a pillow,” she continued, “It wasn’t fun.”

The makeshift quarantine dorm couldn’t solve the problem of the suite’s shared bathroom, but it did allow her to minimize her roommate’s exposure in case she tested positive.

Jenkins received her first email from Residence Life at 9:38 a.m. on Wednesday, the next day.

In it, Kathy Forster, the Director of Residence Life, told her that they were working to identify a space to move her into as soon as possible, but, “With that being said, I want to be able to get you lunch today and possibly dinner in Hemingway delivered by our staff.”

“It was an implication that I possibly wouldn’t be moved out until later in the day,” Jenkins said. “One of the observations I made in that situation was, ‘The only help I’m really getting is from my friends and family, I’m not really getting any help from anyone who works for the campus.’ Granted, I was still glad that they were going to deliver me food, but then again, that’s a basic necessity.”

The email included additional information for what to expect in quarantining at Hendrix Hall as attached files.

It made clear to pay attention to any information regarding FSA food delivery.

Jenkins did not receive breakfast, because that is sent alongside dinners the day before, but received lunch at 1 p.m.

Responding to rumors about the quality of campus-delivered food, Lauren explained, “It definitely wasn’t a horror story, but it wasn’t the most fun experience either.”

According to FSA’s website, all food deliveries come from Cranston Marche, and appear to cost a similar amount as typical meals there.

The form for meal requests also mentions that, “If you don’t have a meal plan there is a foundation fund that will cover the cost,” although the specifics of that are unclear.

Jenkins received her next steps in the afternoon.

“During that class, I get a call around 3:30 [p.m.] from Kathy,” she said. “When she called me, she said, ‘Hey, can you move out around 4:00?’ I didn’t know exactly when class was going to end today, but I just wanted to get out of that room, so I said, ‘Sure.’ I already knew that I could leave class early if I needed to...so I just decided to go.

“I sent her [the professor] a private Zoom message letting her know that I would be leaving early, and during the Zoom call I was listening to everything, but I was also getting my stuff all packed up and ready to go.”

When it came time to leave, Jenkins packed her things and followed instructions from the phone-call — go to Hendrix Hall, and there would be someone waiting to let her in.

She struggled to move everything by herself from her room on the second floor over to the front entrance of Hendrix, but fortunately was living in a nearby residence hall to avoid a longer trip.

A wagon was provided in the main lobby of her residence hall for her to use, but in the confusion of the situation, she was not aware until the person waiting for her at Hendrix asked and went to retrieve it.

They entered Hendrix through a side-door.

“On my way there, I’d asked him a couple of questions,” she said, “I asked him, ‘Why did it take so long?’ and he said, ‘Well, they were clearing out a room for you.’ I was [thinking], ‘Okay, so it takes 28 hours to clear out a room?’ I’m assuming they were probably actually waiting for someone to recover or something — I don’t really know. They couldn’t tell me anything other than that.

“I also asked him, ‘Aren’t there like a hundred quarantine suites?’ and he said, ‘No, there’s 27.’”

While Jenkins estimates that there are about 100 rooms in Hendrix Hall, she explained that only one person is assigned per suite, drastically cutting the number that are available.

According to Michael Metzger, Vice President for Finance and Administration, the university is now additionally leasing 24 units from Park Place Apartments with the intent to house quarantine students.

How that may impact the quarantine/isolation process for students is not yet widely known.

Upon entering Hendrix Hall, she was given a key to her dorm and an informational packet.

Some of it, such as the FAQ section, was repeated from prior information to make it a centralized reference guide.

She had to take separate trips up the stairs to move her things, but wasn’t restricted on how many trips she could take while moving in.

“Obviously nobody could help me or touch my stuff, because I’m a biohazard right now, essentially,” she said.

When she did settle into her room, she noted everything that was left for her usage.

Those items included an oscillating fan, blankets, sheets, a pillow, eight towels, a thermometer, multiple sets of plastic silverware, two Styrofoam bowls, a bar of soap, Tylenol, cough and cold medicine, a small box of tissues, a large bottle of disinfectant, paper towels and some snacks.

“There [were] a lot of bottles of water...” she said, “there was a time when I had 11 in my dorm for a good time.

Contrary to popular belief, they actually do give you a dorm-fridge, and a dorm-sized microwave. I’d heard a lot of horror stories saying they didn’t have them. Maybe they just didn’t have them ordered yet, and there were too many people coming in, so people weren’t getting clean rooms.

“I have the stuff that I need here, and I’m thankful for that... It’s definitely a lot better than I thought it would be, but the road to get here...”

She later continued, “That whole 28 hours where I was just entirely unsure of what was going to happen was probably some of the worst time of my life.

It was scary, it was anxiety-inducing, it was frustrating... It’s a lot going on for one person to handle in a very short amount of time, and I don’t feel that I’m being treated with much

sympathy. There is some... but I think that it's almost a bare minimum at this point. They're doing the bare minimum to not get sued."

She also brought up a concern: "I come out [on Sept. 15]. What happens if I test negative, and then I come out and I get contact traced again, and I have to do this again?" "I have little to no faith at all right now [in SUNY Fredonia's handling of COVID-19]," she said, "especially because I'm directly facing it... I'm now seeing the reality of how they're actually treating people and not just hearing outside stories. I know what it's like to be going through their systems, and it's

not fun, it does not feel good in the slightest."

Ultimately, Jenkins has tested negative for COVID-19, and she has now left quarantine.

In a follow-up email, she shared her final advice for students entering quarantine through the school: "Brace yourself, and prepare for the worst. While the school will provide you with most necessities, quarantine/isolation is an ever-changing situation.

"You never know what might change next."



Standing Against Sexual Predators march, photographed by Sara Weaver



# Fed up and fighting for change: Fredonia students protest administration's failure to deal with sexual misconduct allegations

SARAH HUGHSTON - Social Media Manager

JESSICA MEDITZ - Editor in Chief

**[Content warning: this article discusses allegations and descriptions of sexual misconduct]**

One month ago, an Instagram post took the Fredonia community by storm.

The anonymous, now-deleted Instagram page claimed that a current freshman theater major at Fredonia hired someone to hack into the Snapchat accounts of eight girls in April 2020.

"He posted teaser images of us, and then said he would send them to whoever was willing to describe how they would degrade our bodies. Our UNDERAGE bodies," the post said.

Outraged, students gathered at LoGrasso Hall on Aug. 30 to protest in response to these accusations and the administration's silence on the matter.

Many in Fredonia's student body were upset and uncomfortable with the accused student attending classes.

This was evident through the resharing of the post to different social media platforms by students and alumni.

Additionally, a petition was started by Michaela Farley, titled "Get a threatening individual kicked off of campus."

It now has almost 10,000 signatures.

While the petition's signatures come from many places, that's almost equivalent to the entire population of Fredonia, NY.

The comment section of the petition is filled with concerns for students' safety and disapproval with the university's way of handling the situation.

One comment read: "Campus police knew about this all along. Fredonia, stop staying silent about this. Don't put students at risk."

When contacted by The Leader, Chief Brent Isaacson of University Police declined to comment.

A theater major at Fredonia who has class with the accused student asked to remain anonymous for their safety.

They said, "I feel concerned not only for myself but for my peers... [and] that it is unfair that we have to be vulnerable

with [them] in the room. It's unfair that [they] can stay in [their class] but if we have a problem with [them], we have to drop our required class and take it next semester."

With many students concerned about their safety on campus, sophomore exercise science major Justina Eodice, took action.

She organized the campus protest, titled "Standing Against Sexual Predators at SUNY Fredonia."

Its purpose was to express student discouragement with the administration's handling of this situation.

Eodice feels that "this campus has a violent history of sexual abuse, but for some reason it's always been something everyone has just been silent on."

"The whole situation with [the accused student] was just kind of my breaking point. I couldn't sit back and sign a petition and not do anything... So I made the decision to have this protest in order to give the students a platform to speak on their pain and frustration," Eodice continued.

The protest began outside of LoGrasso Hall with at least 100 students, and looped around campus twice, the second time stopping in front of President Stephen Kolison's house.

The crowd chanted emphatic phrases such as "believe survivors" and "silence is violence," until Kolison eventually came out of his house to address the group.

Kolison acknowledged the frustration of the students, and assured them multiple times that their safety was his No. 1 priority.

Several protesters urged him to take action, saying

"We're counting on you," and "Please don't let us down."

The crowd then asked if he would join the walk back to campus, and he agreed.

A few hours after the protest, he released an email stating, "Please know that I heard you. I heard your stories. I shared your stories with my administration afterward. We will organize a meeting with you very shortly to discuss your concerns."

After reading the email, Eodice said, "I believe the president is with us, I believe he empathized with our anger and pain. But most of all I think he was moved by the way we came together as a community and made our voices heard. I hope to speak with him and others higher up in the administration to speak more on implementing new policies and perhaps having more education on



Photographed by Derek Raymond

and perhaps having more education on rape culture and sexual assault here at Fredonia.”

In response to the uproar among students, Fredonia’s administration has held several meetings. In attendance at one of the meetings was Lylens Lubin, Fredonia’s senior class president.

“It was good to get a better understanding of the situation,” said Lubin.

“There have been a lot of rumors and false information. If something happens with a student before they’re enrolled in a state college, that college has no jurisdiction to deal with it.”

Lubin feels the university is taking the situation seriously and handling it accordingly.

He declined to make any judgement on whether the allegations against the student were valid.

“Just know that the school has taken all of the necessary information and this was settled in legal matters,” he said.

While it is uncertain what action the administration will take regarding this issue, students said they will not give up the fight for their comfort and wellbeing.

Shouts for justice echoed through Fredonia’s campus. Survivors could hear how many people were advocating for them.





Students say it's now up to the administration to take action and display how they will react to survivors' stories.

When asked about future plans for the movement, Eodice said, "Because COVID numbers are increasing at a fast rate, probably not right now [in-person protests]. But I do have some ideas on how to spread more awareness."

The Leader contacted the accused student via FredMail asking if they'd be willing to comment on the protest and the allegations.

The student responded that they had seen the email from the Leader, but did not offer any response to questions by the

time this story was uploaded.

No records of legal charges against the student have been found, although the original Instagram post said the case had been investigated by law enforcement officials.

For a live-Tweeted overview of the protest, you can visit The Leader's Twitter page.



Photographed by Derek Raymond

# Black Lives Matter: How Fredonia students made it more than a hashtag

JESSICA MEDITZ - Editor in Chief,

HAWA TEJAN-COLE - Special to The Leader

Chants of "What do we want? Justice! When do we want it? Now!" echoed through downtown Fredonia on Saturday afternoon.

The voices were those of over 150 Fredonia students coming together to stand in solidarity with Black students at Fredonia, and with the Black Lives Matter movement as a whole.

The march began at Barker Commons, where participants were separated into smaller groups to follow social distancing guidelines.

Tim Snider, a senior at Fredonia and the organizer of the protest, reiterated this point to the students and that the intention of the protest was to remain peaceful.

"I am willing to do whatever it takes to make sure that this institution knows that Black lives matter, they matter today, they matter tomorrow, they matter forever," said Snider.

"I think Fredonia has sat by for too long and neglected to show any type of support for the Black community, especially after the events of this summer... We pay thousands of dollars in tuition to go to an institution such as this one to develop new ways of thinking, new skills and new ways of becoming a productive member of society. Yet when it comes to using those skills for things that we believe, they get scared."

Racial justice is a topic that college students are all too familiar with.

This past summer, the internet was filled with outrage toward the system and support for marginalized communities in response to the murders of unarmed Black people by police.

Fredonia students are no exception to this.

In addition to using social media platforms to promote anti-racism, some students have participated in protests in their own communities and worked on activism projects of their own.

SUNY Fredonia is no stranger to incidents that have been considered racist, either.

Just three years ago, a photo of a man in blackface at an off-campus Halloween party circulated on the internet.

Upon leaving the starting point, marchers made their way down Temple St. to campus.

The march paused briefly in Dods Grove, where students made speeches to the crowd.

One of these students was Abdullah Yusuf, a senior at Fredonia and a cofounder of the clothing brand, Jiggy By Nature.

Another was Lylens Lubin, the senior class president, who thanked everyone for coming out to support.

The march's last stop was Central Ave., specifically to the home of the university's president, Dr. Stephen Kolison.

A few moments after waiting, Kolison came outside to address the students and make a statement about how he plans to help Black students feel comfortable.

Several Black students at Fredonia are dissatisfied, and they argue that racism is upheld by the lack of diversity and higher education representation.

Deoniss Jackson, a 2020 graduate of Fredonia, re-

turned to her alma mater for the protest.

"One thing that we've been asking for is that all faculty and staff [have] diversity training. We've been approved for it for years, and it's never happened, she said.

"Another thing that we notice is that for Black students to have something that makes them feel comfortable too, they have to create it [themselves]. We have the Intercultural Center... and Admissions put on plenty of events, but they only cater to one community. They're never welcoming to Black students; we walk in and they're looking at us [with] side eye."

Promoting racial equity on campus means admitting more students of color, hiring more diverse faculty members and expanding curricula to educate students about racial justice.

At a predominantly white institution such as Fredonia, Black students ask for campus officials to recognize that they need safe spaces where they can have a reprieve from anti-Black racism while providing them with tools and support to do so effectively.

Kolison's response was nothing short of supportive.

"I want you all to feel [that] you belong at this university," said Kolison.

"I work very hard to make sure that you feel this is your home, that you feel you can do well at this institution. It doesn't matter where you come from... at this university, we want to do everything we can to make everyone feel like they belong, that is my commitment to you."

The students applauded, and Kolison marched back with the group to show his support.

Despite being threatened with disciplinary measures as severe as expulsion, Snider said they have not faced any consequences from Fredonia faculty as a result of organizing the protest.

"I had a private conversation with [Kolison] after the protest and will be setting up a meeting with him along with other school leaders to work on a project surrounding the Black community," said Snider.

In support of the protesters, cars honked, community members came out on their porches to cheer them on and others joined the march themselves.

The march was peaceful, and most of the response around town was positive, except for a few people that drove by to make opposing remarks.

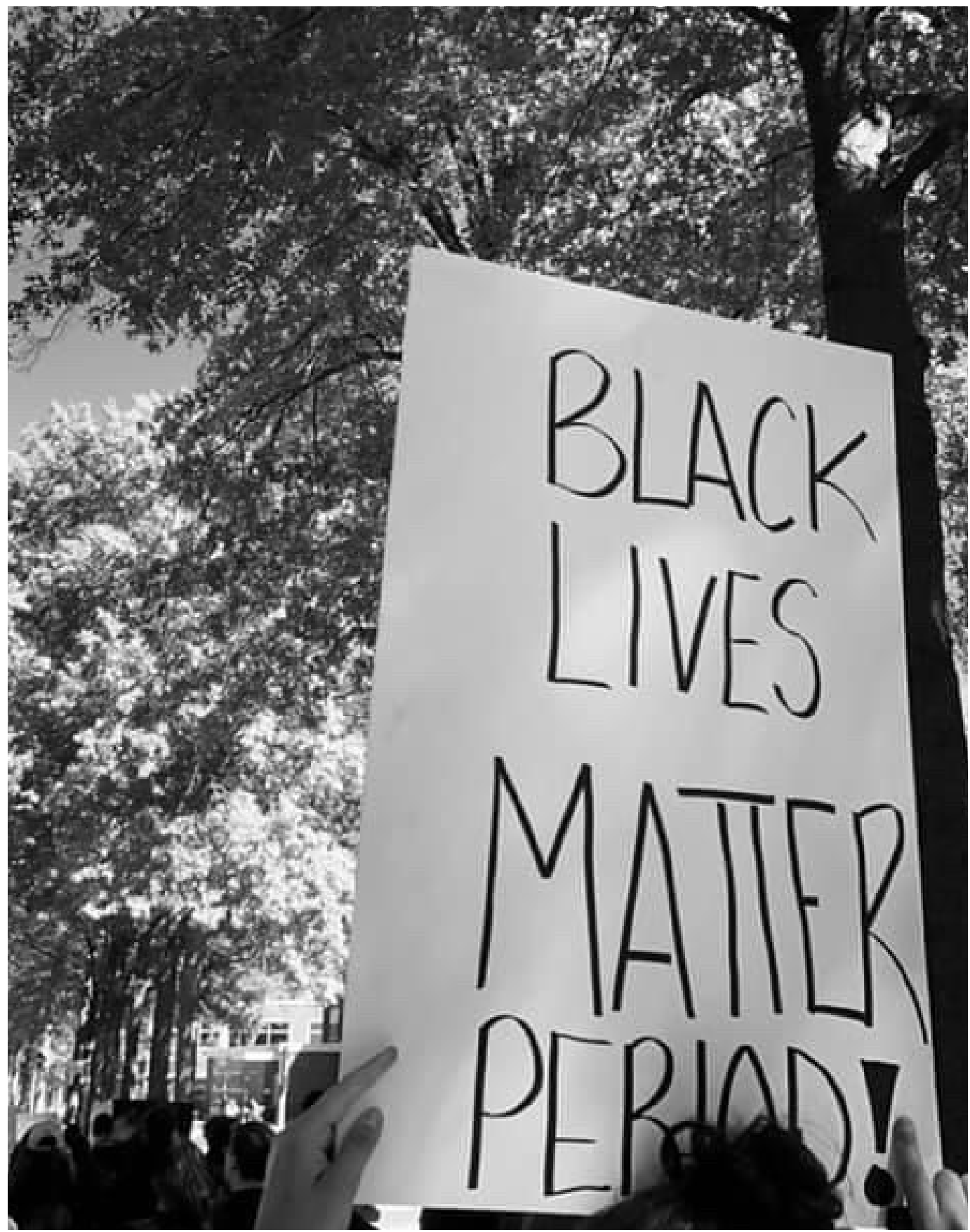
That didn't discourage anyone, though.

"We are in the middle of a great movement for equality; it would be negligent if we didn't stand up and fight for what's right," said Snider.

"We have a duty as human beings to stand up for each other when one of us is being pushed down. I think more importantly though, it is such an important thing to have this protest because it shows that the students of Fredonia aren't just staying silent. In this type of movement, silence is violence and I am determined not to be a part of that."

Neither were the other students who walked beside them.







STOP  
KILLING

To Silence Us  
is to uphold Anti-  
**B** LACK RACISM

IF YOU THINK IT'S HARD TO BREATHE WITH YOUR MASK TRY BEING BLACK!  
WHY LISTEN TO A UNIVERSITY AT DOESNT LISTEN TO US!

FREDONIA  
BLACK LIVES MATTER

AMERIKKA  
BLACK MOTHERS TEARS KEEP GRAVEYARD GRASS GREEN!  
-KALE NELSON  
BLM

BLM  
LET LIVE ME





KNOW  
JUSTICE  
KNOW  
PEACE

Black Student  
Shouldn't have to  
Survive a  
PW II

WHITE SILENCE  
EQUALS  
WHITE CONSPIRACY

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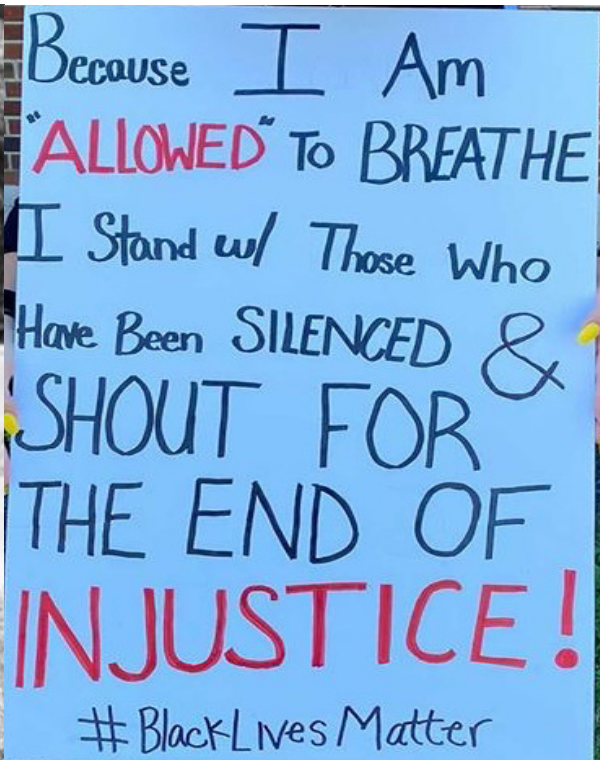
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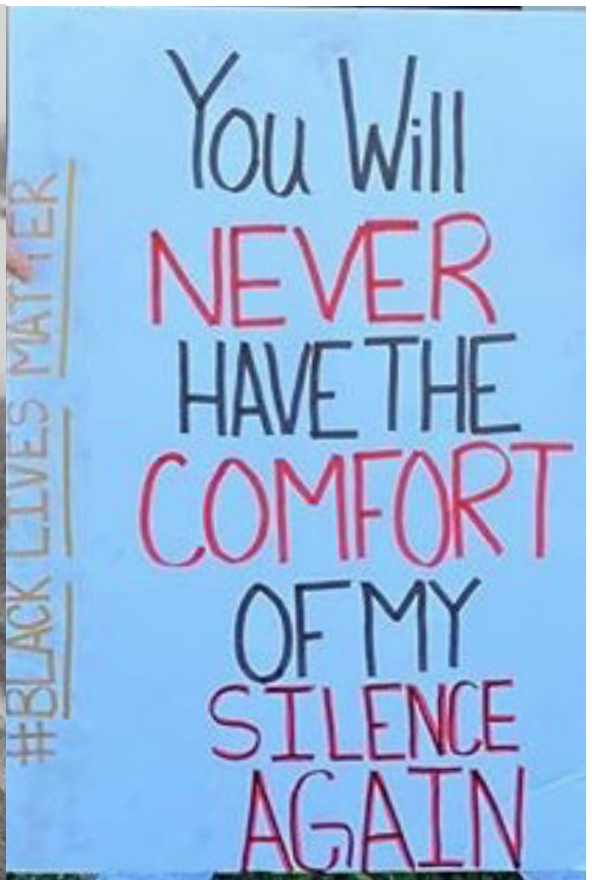
UNAPOLOGETICALLY  
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Photos courtesy of Deoniss Jackson





# Life & Arts

## A day in the life of a performing arts student during COVID-19

**CARLY SUMMERSON** - Special to The Leader

Students across the country, regardless of grade level, have been adjusting to the new normal of online learning.

For college students especially, there are many majors that can be easily accommodated to virtual lessons.

However, there are several that are dependent on in-person classes in order to learn certain material.

Various majors at Fredonia have been drastically affected by the new online transition — specifically the performing arts.

Being a college music, theatre or dance student in 2020 is something like no other.

Many might wonder how these students at Fredonia are really feeling about their class situations this semester.

Meaghan Lawrence, a sophomore music education major, has had several opinions on how she has been getting used to her new version of music classes. Out of her 15 classes in total, 10 of them have gone remote.

Regarding the difference between her workload, Lawrence said, “Music majors take a lot of classes and credits each semester, and it’s hard to mentally remember everything you’re supposed to be doing when it’s all online.”

Typically, these majors are performance-based and dependent on having rehearsals.

There is only so much they can do online while still receiving credit and the same education as past students who had everything in-person.

Remaining positive about her online classes, Lawrence said, “I think they’re effective, but nothing beats in-person

learning.”

“I think it’s weird that a lot of 100-level general education classes are in-person, but not my personal lessons, conducting classes or rehearsals. It’s frustrating that they can’t have them in person, but I don’t know how they could do them otherwise while keeping all of

spacious dance studio, which is why many of these students may feel that they’re in an unfair situation.

Even if Fredonia could offer in-person classes in these particular programs with all the correct safety precautions, it would still risk the health of students and staff.



Stock Image

“When I first learned half of my dance classes were all online, I cried and was disappointed because I hadn’t been in a studio since March,” said Von Ohlen.

“I was glad ballet was in-person because that is my base class for everything else. I think for my general education classes, it isn’t helping [being online] because people are cheating on exams and are developing bad study habits. For my major, with Zoom dance classes I feel

like it’s not as personal. I’m not getting the correct corrections I need.”

Obviously, being able to give every student at Fredonia satisfaction but also a feeling of safety at the same time can be nearly impossible.

These students come to college in order to receive the right education for their future careers, but that education isn’t the same as it was before.

It’s difficult to know when things anywhere will be considered normal again.

No one knows what the futures of these majors could look like if everything continues to be virtual in upcoming semesters.

With the thought of these students in mind, though, maybe there will be some sort of change.

Fredonia’s safety measures in place.”

Music, theatre and dance majors all share a similar feeling this semester and have a lot in common with their classes from having rehearsals, ensembles and more.

Leah Von Ohlen, a sophomore BFA dance major, also shared her experience with the current online situation in the dance program.

“I’m only in the studio twice a week for my one class. I’ve been taking the rest of my dance classes in my dorm room and common room, so it’s been hard. I’m also dancing on a sprained toe joint and the floor in my common room isn’t as safe as the dance studios,” Von Ohlen said.

It can be very different having to dance in a dorm room rather than a

# “The Future of Inclusion” at SUNY Fredonia



## CHLOE KOWALYK - Special to The Leader

On Friday, Sept. 11, The Office and Council of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion sponsored their first event of a three-event series, “The Future of Inclusion.”

The first event, titled “The Future of Inclusion: Students Discuss the Summer of 2020 and Campus Culture” featured seven diverse panelists.

Dr. Saundra Liggins, the interim Chief Diversity Officer and host of the event, informed the more than 65 participants that the objective of this event was to “give students of color on campus an opportunity to share their thoughts and experiences as a result of the events of the summer.”

The panelists featured were Jillian Beard, Crystal Robinson, Brendon LaLuz, Tiffani Robinson, David White, Ivory Brooks and Miranda Shelansky.

Each panelist discussed their experience with COVID-19, quarantine, remote learning and the recent incidents of racialized violence and protests in the U.S.

Beard spoke about how she felt as if we are “living in a history textbook,” and how surreal everything happening is.

Robinson advised new college students to “push [themselves], but know when to take a break.”

Especially being online and shut off from the rest of the world, students’ mental health is important during times like these.

Robinson said that the opportunity to speak in the event “provided a safe environment of catharsis.”

“Racism is still here,” she said. “I respected the other panelists’ perspective and found comfort in knowing that I did not fight this battle alone.”

White spoke on the ways he and his family kept positive during quarantine, and told a heartwarming story about making TikToks with his daughter.

Having 80 people register for the event meant so much to each of the panelists.

Robinson said that with COVID-19,

“It was so easy to lose yourself and lose that human connection that we all value — and here we have a group of people, who by registering for the event, basically said, ‘I hear you. I see you. I’m here.’”

Overall, the students and faculty in attendance were treated with several perspectives on the bizarre happenings of the summer.

The next event in the “Future of Inclusion” series will take place at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 15, and will feature writer and LGBT activist, Tiq Milan.

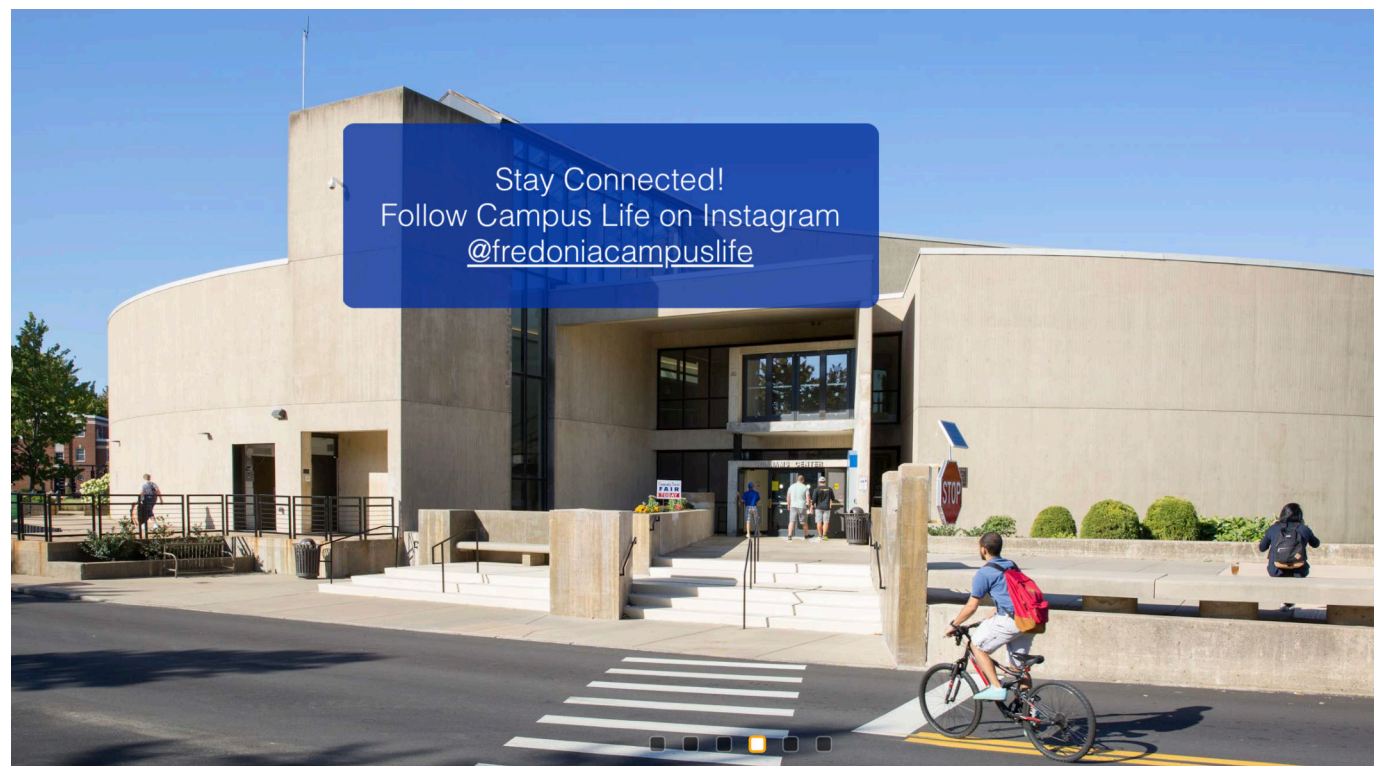
Milan’s event is titled “The Future of Inclusion: Innovating a Post-COVID World.” He will deliver the inaugural Collingwood Distinguished Lecture for Diversity.

All students are welcome to attend, but they must register.

Be on the lookout via email for future events and the final “Future of Inclusion” event sponsored by the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.



# FREDConnect: Fredonia's new student portal



Stay Connected!  
Follow Campus Life on Instagram  
[@fredoniacampuslife](https://www.instagram.com/fredoniacampuslife)

## HAWA TEJAN-COLE - Special to The Leader

Confused about how to get involved on campus during COVID-19?

Fredonia's Campus Life has launched an easy way to interact with the 170+ clubs and organizations here on campus.

FREDConnect is a student portal that highlights Student Life events and campus clubs.

It also assists clubs and organizations with conducting their business matters such as organization registrations and outdoor events.

Having FREDConnect is especially helpful for clubs to recruit members this semester due to current circumstances and not being able to hold an in-person Activities Night.

Clubs such as Black Student Union, various dance teams and Greek Life have their information on FREDConnect.

Important information about the clubs is provided to students, including their general meeting place and time, if there are dues or a certain GPA required

to join and their mission statements.

If a student is interested in a club, a contact email is listed so they can get in touch with the club's president.

"The inspiration for FREDConnect came from conversations with students, faculty, staff and focus groups," said Mark Suida, Director of Campus Life.

"In previous years, we used third-party vendors, and the staff was confident we could create a unique student portal that would leverage and integrate our university's event calendar, which is called Localist. By working with Jeff Woodard and his team, we were able to create a Localist page for each organization. Many thanks goes to ITS staff members, Mike Gerholdt and Justin Jakubowicz for working hard with us to customize a platform specifically for SUNY Fredonia. I am also thankful for Rachel Martin's [Assistant Director] dedication with assisting in designing and launching this unique portal."

Student clubs are encouraged to post

their events under the "Events" tab.

Currently, there are many activities hosted by the Student Association and Campus Life.

The Let's Talk "Anxiety Party" is a safe space for students to have peer-to-peer interaction, vent out emotions and gather coping skills.

The Unstuck workshop is a virtual workshop hosted by the Fredonia Counseling Center to help individuals deal with difficult emotions.

All of these events are designed to engage students socially, emotionally and intellectually.

It is hoped that FREDConnect provides a fresh and new approach to engaging students digitally.

For more information, follow Campus Life on Instagram: [@fredoniacampuslife](https://www.instagram.com/fredoniacampuslife).

Be sure to login to FREDConnect to check out all of its features and the information it has to offer.

# How is Greek life recruiting new members in the midst of a pandemic?

**CARLY SUMMERSON** - Special to The Leader

There is no doubt that this semester is drastically different than any other.

Colleges across the country have had to undergo numerous changes in order to bring students back to campus during a global pandemic.

With that being said, SUNY Fredonia has come up with safety regulations for the fall 2020 semester to protect the wellbeing of students.

However, the current circumstances have left students wondering how clubs and organizations will meet safely during this unusual semester.

Greek life in particular has been severely affected by all the new regulations. The way sororities and fraternities normally recruit new members has now been completely altered.

In previous years, Greek organizations would have recruitment events in person and on the Fredonia campus to meet potential new members.

Now, neither of these recruitment strategies are possible.

The leadership teams of these organizations have been working diligently to be able to have a successful, but also safe plan for their fall recruitments.

Kelsey Callea, a senior and the president of Delta Phi Epsilon, has been working on a plan with her fellow sisters that follows Fredonia's new safety regulations.

Callea mentions that since this semester is very different, it was tricky to come up with ways to reach out to prospective members.

"We're really utilizing our social media right now and our Facebook interest group page," she said.

"We're constantly updating our Instagram with recruitment information... Anyone who is following us, we add to the interest group — which has more detail about all of our upcoming events."

With Activities Night being moved online via Flipgrid, every club created

videos in order to get their name out to incoming students.

"We also made a recruitment video in place of our normal Activities Night, which I think was very helpful as well. [It was] just to give everyone a glimpse of our sisterhood and what we're all about," said Callea.

All three of Fredonia's sororities have had their own plans for recruitment week, but there is a common theme with most of their events being virtual.

"Since we were planning on meeting in person for a few events and having the rest virtual, and now switching back to all virtual, we have to finalize our schedule... Our final schedule will be posted on our Instagram story in the next few days," said Callea.

Regarding the bonding of new members with current sisters of the sororities and past traditions, Callea said, "Not having that face-to-face interaction and bonding time we usually get with each fall semester will be hard. We're definitely doing everything we can to make things as normal and positive as possible, while keeping the safety of our girls and potential new members in mind."

Past traditions of the sororities and fraternities have certainly been affected by all the new changes.

"As far as our past traditions are concerned, there's definitely a lot we had to cancel and events we can no longer hold, which is super sad because these events and fundraisers are a huge reason we're in this sorority," Callea said.

Jordan-Christopher Purvis is also a senior and the recruitment chair of Kappa Sigma.

Similarly to the sororities, fraternities have also taken advantage of social media during this time.

"Word of mouth and social media are our most prominent way of communicating with those interested in joining the fraternity," said Purvis.

"We are planning on promoting ourselves to connect with students across the entire campus through our Instagram account."

As far as Kappa Sigma's recruitment process goes, Purvis said, "Similar to other Greek life organizations across the country, we plan on having a virtual recruitment process. Ours will start Sept. 14 until Sept. 20, in which we will have an event every other day (Ex. Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Sunday). Safety is our biggest concern right now, not only for our brothers, but also for students interested in rushing."

Purvis also said, "This semester won't be the same as it once was before. That goes for both our recruitment and pledging process. Nevertheless, we're going to try to have the best semester possible. Overall, we're working diligently with the Greek life administrators to ensure safety for students and the community of Fredonia."

Fredonia's Greek organizations will definitely be going through a challenge this semester, but each has come up with ways to make everyone feel safe and welcomed during this new change.

Be sure to keep up with Fredonia's Greek life's social media accounts for more updates regarding their recruitment week:

Delta Phi Epsilon (@fredonia\_dphie)  
Sigma Gamma Phi (@sigmagamma-phifsu)

Sigma Kappa (@sigmakappa\_fsu)

Kappa Sigma (@kappasigfred)

Delta Chi (@fredonia\_dchi)

Sigma Phi Epsilon (@sigep\_fredonia)  
and Fredonia's Panhellenic Council (@panhelfsu).





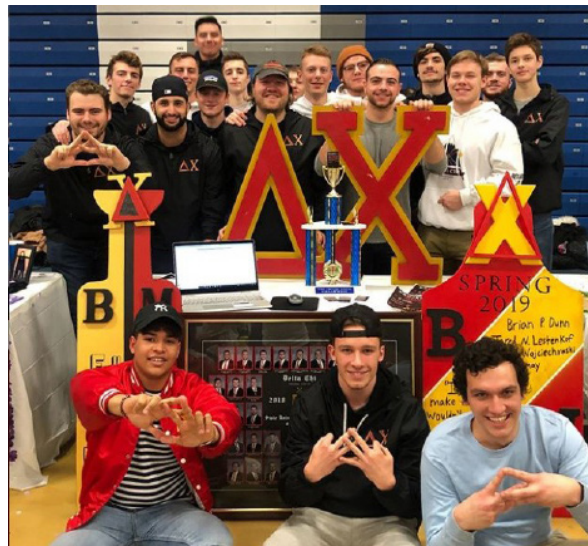
Sigma Kappa via Instagram @sigmakappa\_fsu



Sigma Gamma Phi via Instagram @sigmagammaphisu



Delta Phi Epsilon via Instagram @fredonia\_dphie



Delta Chi via Instagram @fredonia\_dchi



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# Caitlin Sweet's "Portraits of Society: Mental Effects"

ALYSSA BUMP - Life & Arts Editor



Caitlin Sweet's solo art exhibition shines a light on the harsh reality of societal pressure.

"Portraits of Society: Mental Effects" features 15 acrylic paintings that have been created over the past three years.

In her artist statement, Sweet said, "This group of paintings is a visual glimpse into the effects society has had on my mental health throughout the last three years."

Sweet took art from different series of hers and created a cohesive exhibit by grouping some images together while letting other pieces stand alone.

"When certain paintings are grouped together, it allows the viewer to ask themselves how they are related and what stories they tell," she said.

"The spaces in between the paintings gives the viewer's eye a break before moving to the next image."

The paintings in this exhibit vary from realistic depictions of the human body to more abstract styles.

The images portray the feeling of being uncomfortably vulnerable.

Sweet said, "These paintings represent the angry silence, the sexual objectification and the mistreatment I have experienced in life."

One of the paintings, titled "Silenced" is an abstract piece that shows a hand covering someone's mouth.

Contrary to the name, this painting is loudly unsettling and chilling.

According to Sweet, "Numb" is her favorite painting because, "it was the first painting that really started to represent how I was feeling at that time."

Sweet hopes to bring awareness to mental health issues that society causes.

She even included statistics in her artist statement, which reveal the staggering amount of people that struggle with mental health.

"It's not just me it affects, it's a lot of people everywhere," said Sweet.

Members of the community have visited the art exhibition, and the show has forced them to acknowledge how much these issues affect people.







When referring to the stigma behind mental health, Sweet said, “A lot of people don’t talk about it or they feel like it’s a thing you shouldn’t talk about.”

This exhibit has the ability to connect with people from all walks of life.

The paintings tell the stories; the viewer just has to pay attention.

Sweet is a senior drawing and painting major, and will be graduating after this semester.

The exhibition is located on the second floor of Rockefeller Arts Center in the Emmitt Christian Gallery.

Originally, Sweet’s work was supposed to be displayed during the senior showcase at the Cathy and Jesse Marion Art Gallery after Thanksgiving break.

However, due to COVID-19, no students are allowed to return to campus after Thanksgiving.

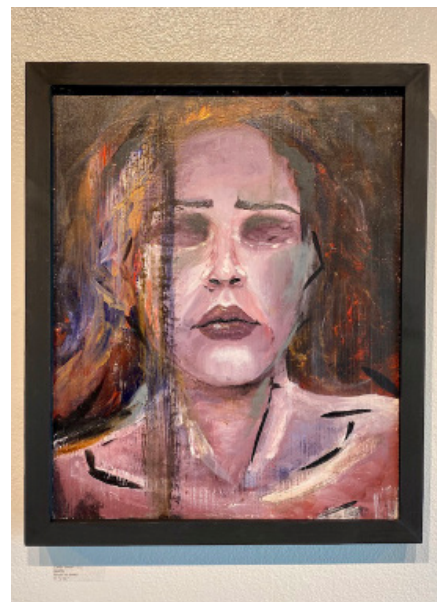
Sweet’s work will be displayed in the Emmitt Christian Gallery until Sept. 21, and is open for viewing from 7 a.m.-11 p.m. on weekdays.

Her work will also be shown in the Darwin R. Barker Library when it reopens in October.

In 2021, Sweet’s work will be exhibited in the Saratoga Springs Public Library from May 25 to June 27, as well as in the Uncommon Grounds Coffee Shop in Albany from June 28 to Aug. 2.

As of right now, all of the art in Sweet’s collection is still for sale. For any inquiries, please contact the artist directly at [csweet.arts@gmail.com](mailto:csweet.arts@gmail.com).

You can also find more information on her website at <https://caitlinsweet.carbon-made.com> and her Instagram [@cait.sweet](https://www.instagram.com/cait.sweet).



Photos of Caitlin Sweet’s “Portraits of Society: Mental Effects” art gallery, photographed by Peter Howlett

# SPORTS

## NBA Playoffs recap/predictions for finals

**GRIFFIN DOMBROSKE** - Special to The Leader

The NBA Conference Playoffs have taken some of us by surprise this year, sporting some of the best games and memorable moments viewers have seen.

The first round went relatively according to plan with both the Celtics and the Raptors taking the win against the 76ers and the Nets respectively.

This was then followed up with a landslide victory of the Heat over the Pacers, with the Bucks beating the Magic coming up on its heels.

The second round games in the Eastern Conference were highlighted by the upset of both the number one and two seeds.

Jimmy Butler led the Miami Heat to a decisive victory against the Bucks and MVP Giannis Antetokounmpo.

For the East's second upset, the Raptors took a hard fall against the Boston Celtics in a hard-fought battle.

In the finals so far, the Miami Heat lead over Boston 2-1. I think this series could be directly impacted by Tacko Fall's defensive performance in the paint, as the Heat's Goran Dragic recent games have implied he has been driving more recently than in the past.

On the West side, (metaphorically speaking of course) the Los Angeles Lakers cruised through the first round in 4-1 fashion against the eighth seed Portland Trail Blazers, who had to have a play in-game against the Memphis Grizzlies to get to that point.

Once into the second round, the LeBron-led Lakers squad lost the first game of the Conference semi-finals to the Houston Rockets before winning the next four in route to a conference finals berth.

The Rockets got to the second round of this year's playoffs by defeating the rebuilding fifth seed Oklahoma City Thunder in seven games.

The Los Angeles Clippers, who had the second seed in the West, had more trouble than their city-sharing partners, needing to go six games in the first round against the Dallas Mavericks before ultimately falling to the Denver Nuggets in seven games.

The worst part of this was the fact that they held a 3-1 lead in the series before losing three straight games.

The Denver Nuggets are used to 3-1 comebacks, as that was their second in as many series so far.

In the first round of the playoffs, they trailed the sixth seed Utah Jazz 3-1 before coming back and forcing seven.

Utah guard Donovan Mitchell had a chance in Game Seven to send the Nuggets packing with a buzzer-beating, three-point attempt that rimmed out as time expired.

This leaves us with just the first seed Lakers and the third seed Nuggets in the Western Conference Finals, with the winner moving on to the NBA Finals against one of the Eastern Conference teams left above.

The Lakers are already up in the seven-game series 2-0 thanks to the dramatic Game Two finish Sunday night, where Denver was leading until a last second, buzzer-beating three pointer by Anthony Davis.

How this year's playoffs shape out will have a large part toward how people view LeBron James' legacy, as he has a chance to win one of the most influential championships

in the Lakers history. The passing of Kobe Bryant has impacted the franchise heavily, as well as his fourth overall.

My prediction is that the finals will feature the Celtics facing off against the Nuggets.

Looking at the Lakers' track record, through not only the season but also the competition, many would believe that Los Angeles is on a roll and will likely not be stopped anytime soon.

However, the Nuggets have become the first team in NBA history to come back on a series twice in a single playoff run.

With that in mind, it may not be likely, but I would very much like to see them in the finals this year.

For the finals, I believe the Denver Nuggets are going to take the trophy home over the Celtics, in a 4-3 victory.

I think the Nuggets are going to play it safe and let the Celtics get ahead to lead them into a false sense of security. Then they will come back in historic fashion, claiming the trophy after their fourth 3-1 series comeback of the playoffs.





# Why esports are sports

IVAN TORRES - Special to The Leader



Photographed by Dante Lasting

In recent years, the esports community has gained a huge following in a short amount of time.

The success of esports can be attributed to streaming platforms such as Twitch and Youtube. Not only did these platforms help, but first-person shooter games such as Counterstrike, Call of Duty and Overwatch have as well.

Controversy has always surrounded competitive video gaming being titled “esports” and if it can be considered a sport.

Whether you like it or not, though, esports is a sport.

Let’s first look at the definition of a “sport.”

According to Dictionary.com, a sport is “an activity involving physical exertion and skill in which an individual or team competes against another or others for

entertainment.”

How do you interpret this definition?

Let’s take a look at two terms within the definition of sport.

Physical exertion is the activity of exerting your muscles in various ways to keep fit. Even though we think of vigorous activities such as playing football and basketball as physical exertion, according to the definition, the simple push of buttons on your keyboard could be as well.

Daniel Kane, a student at the U.S. Sports Academy, did experiments as to whether or not physical exertion occurs when playing video games.

When we think of physical exertion we think of actions like running or lifting. These are activities that will make your heart rate increase and blood pressure rise.

In 1994, gamers’ blood pressures and heart rates were measured while they played video games. They measured this using “15-point Borg Ratings of Perceived Exertion (RPE) or the 10-point Borg category ratio (CR10)... Using RPE and CR10, a participant looks at the scale and determines how strenuous the activity feels.”

The results showed that the gamers’ heart rate and blood pressure increased.

Now let’s take a look at the term “skill.” Skill is defined as “the ability to do something well.”

The CBS channel on YouTube covered a documentary on esports training called, “Esports: Inside the relentless training of professional gaming stars”.

In the documentary, a professional esports player named space said that he plays Overwatch between six and eight hours daily, seven days a week.

Esports journalist Richard Lewis also discussed that professional gamers experience burnout, anxiety and depression like athletes in other sports as well.

The stress and depression gets so bad that professional esports teams, such as LA Valiant, hire team psychologists to deal with the stress.

Dr. Doug Gardner explained that a lot of players have a “badge of honor” mindset. The more hours they put in, the better they perform.

The CBS documentary also covers players developing injuries from excessive gaming.

Professional gamer Indie has developed lower back pains as well as sharp burning pains in his wrist and thumb.

The documentary said that, “wrist injuries have become prevalent in esports and may end careers before they even get started.”

Overall, esports gamers are impacted mentally just as much as other athletes, and they experience the same drawbacks as well.

If hunting, fishing and golf are considered sports, then there’s no reason that gaming shouldn’t be as well.

# 46 of 46: An amazing Fredonia feat

**ANTHONY GETTINO** - Sports Editor  
Photos by **Mickie Wadsworth**

Fun fact: there are 46 high peaks in the state of New York.

Another fun fact: we here at Fredonia have a student who has hiked them all.

Mickie Wadsworth, a senior Music Composition major, is the only person I've ever heard of who's accomplished this feat, but they say that if you're able to, it should be on your bucket list.

"If the person is in shape and prepared with the proper gear, the views and journey are amazing," they said.

"There are smaller challenges like the Lake Placid 9er, Fire Tower Challenge, Saranac 6er and Lake George 12ster for people who want to get more experience before tackling the 46er challenge."

"Er" after a number indicates how many peaks the total of the group of peaks is, with a 46er being the entire grouping of high peaks in New York State.

Wadsworth is originally from Lake George, where they started this expedition with a friend.

They only started by hiking around the surrounding area of Lake George, then decided to try a few high peaks and see how they were.

From that point on, Wadsworth and their friend were hooked, and decided to go for all 46 in New York.

However, it isn't all easy climbs and beautiful views.

"I would say that there isn't necessarily a 'most difficult' peak," said Wadsworth.

"Everyone has their one or two that they really hate and the reasons are different. They are all challenging, but I personally thought that the Seward Range was the hardest. It was three high

peaks and over 20 miles. The day I did it, it was super hot and the bugs were insane. That's why I personally found it the most difficult one. Allen was also really hard because you have to climb up a rock slide that's covered in very slick, red slime."

As is with life, there are certain things that come easy for some and harder for others, just like these high peaks of New York.

such a big goal finally be accomplished, [it] left me thinking about what to do next. I saved Big Slide Mountain for my last peak. I ascended via The Brothers which offered amazing views along the way."

Another one of these spoils was Wadsworth's favorite peak: Grace Peak.

The reasoning why wasn't just because of the view at the top, either.

"It [Grace Peak] is part of the Dix

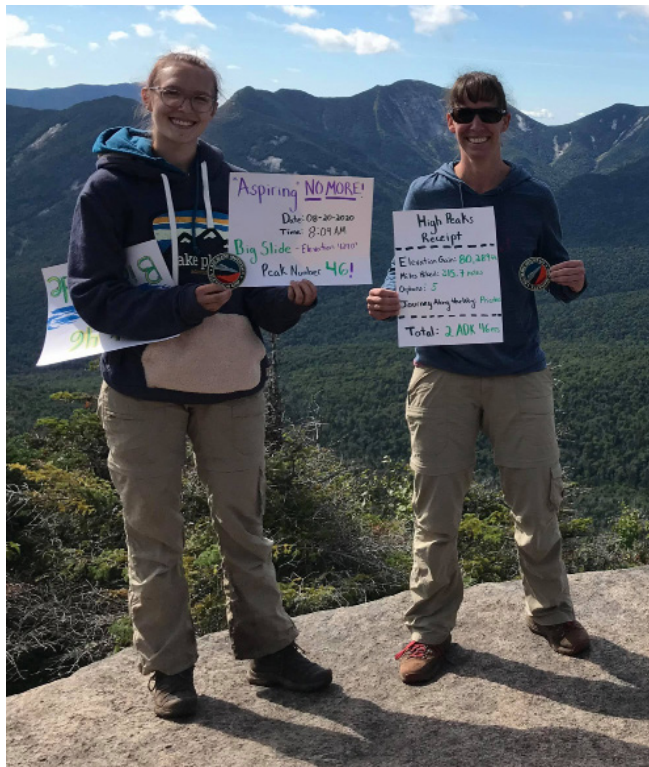
Range, which consists of five high peaks. I hiked Grace by going up the Macomb rock slide, over the summit of Macomb and the summit of South Dix. The trail then leads to Grace Peak. It was recently renamed from East Dix after a person named Grace Hudowalski who was the first woman 46er. I really liked Grace Peak because the views from the summit were beautiful. It was a large summitt and there were a lot of different outlooks and places to explore."

According to Wadsworth, hiking is great motivation to do some pushups and situps in your dorm room when you're about to watch another episode of Avatar or Riverdale.

"It's a great motivator to stay in shape when I'm at school because I can't go hiking at home if I haven't been physically active during the semester."

If you too want to start hiking high peaks but don't know which

one to start with, head over to <https://www.adirondack.net/things-to-do/hiking-trails/adirondack-high-peaks/> to learn more details about each and every one of the 46 high peaks in the state of New York.

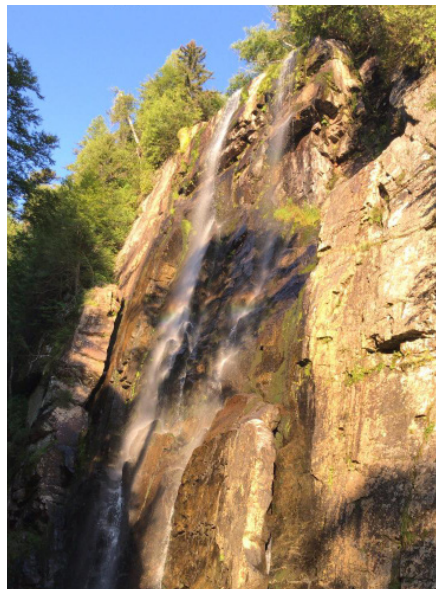
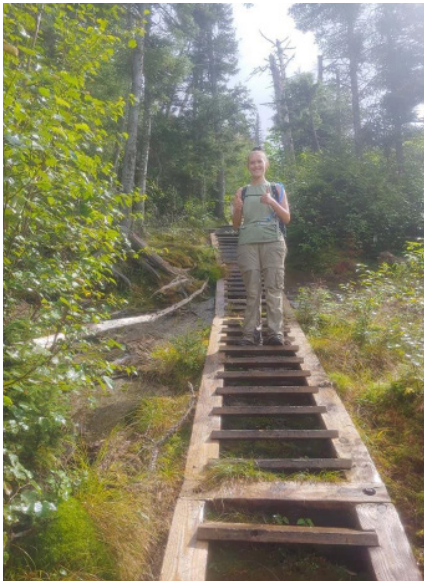


Left to right: Mickie Wadsworth and Danielle Fitzgerald on top of their 46th peak

But with the challenges come rewards as well.

For Wadsworth, one of the best rewards was the last peak of the journey: "I was so excited when I made it to the top of the last peak. It was bittersweet because it's something that I had worked on over three summers, and to have







# OPINION

## How my education became a catch-22

**JAMES MEAD** - Managing Editor

I want to be clear on this: I love SUNY Fredonia, and I believe in the SUNY system.

But that's why it pains me to say that I've lost faith in its leadership.

Gov. Cuomo refers to colleges as "canaries in the coal mine," saying that how we reopen with COVID-19 will set the path for K-12.

Does he understand what that expression means?

Miners would take caged canaries into the tunnels with them, not because they'd chirp a warning when dangerous gases accumulated, but because they'd be the first to die.

The miners weren't listening to the canaries, they were looking for their corpses.

It's apt though, because in the same way, our schools haven't been responding to student or faculty voices — they've been watching for student and faculty cases.

With over 600 cases shuttering SUNY Oneonta, we have our first dead canary.

Alarms are going off, but the rest of us are wondering who's next.

I returned to campus because I believe that in-person education is more effective than online, but a problem emerges when my in-person education develops a reasonable chance of being unsafe.

Suddenly, it turns the straightforward question, "Which do you prefer, in-person or online?" into a catch-22: "Which do you prefer, your education or your health?"

That was not included in my tuition.

I was always given a warning that COVID cases may spike, that a quarantine dorm would be prepared for students and that classes may go remote again.

I guess I just "trusted" my university in the same way that it "trusts" its students.

I trusted that my governor wouldn't

allow schools to reopen if he didn't feel they'd do so safely.

I trusted that the entire SUNY system wouldn't elect to reopen campuses if they didn't have the resources to support it.

I trusted that when my school was crafting policies, they were doing so following the best guidelines available.

Yet somehow all of that trust now turns out to have been built on a universal delusion that no students would act recklessly.

My school has reached over 75 confirmed cases of COVID-19, and I suspect more, given that our dashboard only shows evidence of around 166 students having been tested.

Our new SUNY chancellor, Jim Malatras, said, "...we understand people want to party. But individual responsibility plays into the collective good, so your individual actions have enormous consequences on everyone else in your college community."

I believed when he spoke that there were contingencies.

Even at a smaller university like Fredonia, what are the odds that all 4,221 students — or a significant enough number to contain COVID cases — would act responsibly?

That is not to claim that many students aren't to blame for flouting the health of their community, but no one is entitled to feign surprise that in a group of over 4,000 young adults, some would do so.

Since I believed that there were policies in place to handle those outliers, I let obvious red flags pass by:

The 13th SUNY chancellor, Dr. Kristina Johnson, resigned in June, abandoning over 400,000 students in the midst of a pandemic after she found a conveniently higher-paying position at Ohio State University.

Her successor, "a loyal ally of Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo," was appointed by

late August through closed-door sessions by the SUNY Board of Trustees, who were themselves largely appointed by the governor. For bypassing public input, they received not only a vote of "no confidence" from faculty representatives and the SUNY Student Association, but condemnation from my own assemblyman.

At Fredonia and many other schools, the touted "daily health screenings" amounted to a list of COVID-19 symptoms and a "yes/no" checkbox as to whether a student has any. There's no enforcement to fill it out, and no way to enforce students to fill it out accurately.

The initial plan for testing amounted to waiting to test until after symptoms, and pool-testing a random sample of the student population (so far, just 76 out of 4,221 — our second pool test will only be revealed later this week) once every two weeks. This wasn't because measures like entry testing were proven to be ineffective — rather, it was "unknown" whether they would be effective.

The Fredonia administration distributed and sold masks which they were later forced to admit were ineffective — somehow realizing weeks after everyone else that if the purpose of a mask is to reduce transmissions from breathing, you should not be able to clearly feel your breath through it.

Now I can only come to one conclusion: I feel set up.

We were brought back to campus under the pretense that our schools "trusted us," yet they've had years of experience dealing with students.

Gov. Cuomo admitted in recent remarks that, "...part of the college experience is socializing, I know many people who are on this phone call when they were in college, they socialized, I know many of them went to parties, many of them consumed alcohol and did all those things."

They know how students behave, and



they knew that there would be reckless individuals.

Despite that, the plan to avoid a resurgence of COVID-19 from colleges has largely amounted to a “Just Say No” campaign, with late revisions after watching their neighbors fail.

Even after parties began at Fredonia, joint statements from our local police chiefs indicated that they felt, “troubled by recent reports of students gathering in violation of social distancing mandates,” but failed to mention how they’re



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putting a stop to it — just that they’ll “work to identify those persons who put our community’s health at risk,” and share the information with our school.

Was the expectation that a stern talking-to would prevent students from “socializing?”

“So you wanted a party,” Gov. Cuomo said last Monday, “OK, now you have to go to remote learning, which means you basically stay in the dorm. It’s a function of discipline and compliance.”

Are all 75 known cases at Fredonia from parties?

What about the 651 cases at SUNY Oneonta?

How many parties, and how many attendees do you think accounted for those numbers compared to the willful negligence of university and state officials?

With thousands of new cases popping up across colleges in the U.S., we’ve already witnessed the natural end of this trust narrative.

Colleges close or outbreaks begin, and administrators admonish their students with phrases like, “We trusted you to behave like adults — and you failed us.”

Never mind the majority of students seen walking on campus with masks, doing their best at social distancing: our school, our administration and our politicians want to discuss the parties that went on.

They want to discuss how, after we betrayed their trust, they took charge: they ordered more testing, enforced stricter policies and did all of the things we hoped of them in the first place.

This narrative was written against us all along.

But let’s stop discussing the parties for a moment, because there’s another narrative that’s been building: I no longer feel safe at school.

It’s heartbreaking, and I’ve never felt this way before.

Yet, I’m far from alone.

There are reports of students being contacted and informed that they’ll quarantine for 14 days with only an hour of forewarning.

They complain of little to no guidance on what the procedure will be — and unfortunately, they sound credible.

Faced with the outbreak in Oneonta, Gov. Cuomo sent what he called a “SWAT team” to their campus.

He was well aware of the imagery that conveyed, even while the reality only meant 71 contact tracers and eight case investigators.

He wanted to sound tough.

A student there described how, “they’re pulling kids out of their dorms at two in the morning by one guy in a hazmat suit shoving them in a van, and no other campus personnel [are] giving them any information.”

Even the New York Times wrote

about this.

I commend my school and many others for creating a COVID dashboard and providing transparency with daily updates — yet I’ve gone to bed feeling anxious every day this week, because each morning contains my only meaningful insight into what’s happening.

Everything from social media is a rumor.

Everything from my university officials is misleading or deliberately vague.

I’m disgusted at the blatant gaslighting I’ve witnessed from my school and SUNY about how our school has the “ability” to test for COVID, or how SUNY has suddenly innovated with the idea of a SUNY-wide tracker when it had months to come up with this before campuses reopened.

When they were already at 334 cases, the president of SUNY Oneonta said, “I don’t think our plan actually did fall short.”

She pretended that all plans would’ve failed.

Where is the leadership? My university officials defer to the president, who defers to the chancellor, who defers to the governor, who defers back to the university officials for each campus.

Statewide guidance claimed that schools should shut down for two weeks upon reaching 100 active cases or 5% of the on-campus population becoming infected, but only days after SUNY Oneonta met the criteria for that, it had to shut down the campus for the full semester.

Why should I trust that my university will be able to respond any differently?

We were told that we should anticipate “clusters,” yet full university closures within two weeks of reopening is clear evidence that we did not.

Even now, SUNY is ignoring advice from some of the nation’s most trusted advisers on COVID.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, the director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said that sending students home after an outbreak would be, “the worst thing you can do.”

Dr. Deborah Birx, the White House coronavirus response coordinator, advised students, “Do not return home if you’re positive and spread the virus to your family, your aunts, your uncles, your grandparents.”

**Continued from previous page**

Yet truthfully, most students wouldn't know if we're positive.

We haven't been tested.

For those that have been and do test positive, Fredonia's official response is that, "[the] SUNY System recommends that students who test positive be sent home, unless they are not able to travel home or do not feel safe returning home."

Never mind the safety of the communities these students are returned to — it qualifies as one less active case on a SUNY campus, and one less canary that gets counted.

Should we have even returned in the first place?

Outwardly, of course, there were briefings, and meetings, and task-forces and strike-teams — but everyone knew that ultimately, the cost of college is for the "college experience," and that value plummeted as soon as it became fundamentally unsafe.

Yet our colleges never acknowledged that it became fundamentally unsafe, because to do so would jeopardize enrollment — not just money, to be fair, but jobs.

Students were pressured to keep at-

tending because the promise of a degree at the end is what we've been told will determine our careers.

Faculty, staff and communities were pressured to invite us back because their livelihoods depended on us returning.

And all of us were made into canaries. I only wish I could've understood ahead of time that we die in that metaphor.

Disclaimer: The number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 mentioned in this article reflect what was known at the time of its publication.

## Positive

**ALYSSA BUMP** - Life & Arts Editor

"Positive"

A one-word Snapchat. In my head I wondered, "Positive? What's that even supposed to mean?"

I would say that is a pretty inconsiderate way of telling someone that you have COVID-19, but maybe that's just my personal opinion.

I sit in my dorm room and stare blankly at the wall.

I start to feel heat rushing to my head. I am still breathing, but I can't get enough air into my lungs.

Am I already sick or am I just panicking?

After cases started doubling, I took it upon myself to go to WellNow Urgent Care in Dunkirk to be tested.

I was in contact with the composer of the one-word message the day before I got tested.

I am overreacting. After all, I tested negative.

Since I got tested after being in contact and it still came back as negative, that means I'm fine, right?

Well, apparently not.

As most people do these days, I resort to Google to answer my questions.

I typed in, "Are COVID-19 tests reliable?" and clicked enter.

To my dismay, I found that Harvard Medical School's website said, "If you are tested on the day you were infected, your test result is almost guaranteed to come back negative, because there are not yet enough viral particles in your nose or saliva to detect."

My heart sank. I thought that since I

was negative, I was fine.

Suddenly, I felt like I couldn't breathe. I had gone to work thinking I was



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negative, and now I am finding out that my test results are useless.

So I got tested again, and I was told one word once again — positive.

I'd be lying if I said I wasn't scared.

I hate being scared, but I hate admitting when I'm scared even more.

For me, the illness itself is the easy part.

But I am isolated by myself, and all there is to do is think.

I can't help but think this college got one over on me.

I stay up at night wondering who I could've infected, and then I wonder who they infected.

The chain reaction goes on and on.

The illness isn't bad for me, but it could potentially kill someone else.

I never wanted to come back to Fredonia for in-person learning.

Over the summer, I emailed my advisor and said, "I was hoping to move in and be back on campus, but I feel as though the potential dangers outweigh the in-person learning."

I was hoping that I could have an entirely online schedule, but my requests were denied.

They told me it would be impossible for me to go online.

But now I sit in my house, quarantined with my father, and I wonder, "Impossible? I'm doing online right now."

So how impossible was it actually?

And why did it take me getting COVID-19 for me to be able to take my classes online?

They don't care about my well being; they care about my money.

It costs \$3,825 to live on campus per semester.

My meal plan costs \$2,450 per semester, and that's the cheapest one available.

If I had gotten my way and lived at home this semester, the college would have lost \$6,275 from me alone.

At the end of the day, Fredonia is an institution that needs to make money, and they used me to do so.



Now I have COVID-19 and I am paying thousands for a dorm I'm no longer allowed to live in.

When I was first notified that I needed to quarantine due to being in contact with a positive case, the Health Department said that the school would be in contact with me to transfer me to the quarantine building.

After hours of waiting with no call or email, I took it upon myself to go home so I would not risk the health of the other residents in my building.

I packed my bags, and drove almost two hours to quarantine safely at my house.

I never ended up being contacted by the school about where or if I was quarantining.

After self-quarantining for six days, I ended up receiving the positive test results.

After receiving said results, I notified the school immediately by calling the Student Health Center. They then called me later that day to ask additional questions about my symptoms.

About two days later, Enrollment & Student Services emailed me.

They said, "Our office was contacted by a faculty member who indicated you were unable to attend classes due to quarantine. Are you in contact with the SUNY Fredonia Health Center?"

So how does the school still act as though they are not informed when I have gone out of my way to let them know that I am positive and quarantining?

I have done everything right, but Fredonia still continues to fall short in the aid they provide.

I washed my hands repeatedly, used hand sanitizer whenever I was out and wore a mask everywhere I went on campus — not the defective #FREDstrong masks either.

It may seem like Fredonia is only failing me through this process, but this failure has undeniable consequences that need to be noted.

Because Fredonia failed to support me through quarantining on campus, which then forced me to go home, my dad will probably get COVID-19, too.

My dad is 52 years old.

COVID-19 can put a much larger toll on him than it has on me.

Not only is he risking his well being because of Fredonia's handling of my



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case, but also his job.

He will now have to quarantine for two weeks as well, meaning he will not be able to go to work.

Will my family be able to make ends meet this month?

As for my mother, she has high blood pressure and severe asthma, meaning she is high-risk.

She is currently living with my grandparents because it is too dangerous for her to be near me.

It pains me to know that I have a virus that could cause her irreparable damage.

What if she somehow contracts it?

In a time like this, I wish I could have her by my side to get me through this. But doing this alone is something I have gotten used to.

I would say I am disappointed in Fredonia, but that would be an understatement.

They have shown me that #FREDstrong is a ploy. It is nothing more than an illusion that I am safe and cared for.

My advisor told me I'd get through this experience.

I am sure I will, too. But the fact of the matter is I shouldn't have to.

# What it's like to be a freshman in college during a global pandemic

**CHLOE KOWALYK** - Special to The Leader

The outbreak of COVID-19 hit me just as hard as I'm sure it hit all of you.

It was as if everything had fallen to the ground, shattering into pieces.

Each piece was a memory that would not be made — our final musical, our senior prom, our graduation.

There would be no more days laughing with friends on our way to class.

No more memories to be made staying late at school to help out with our favorite clubs.

No more events to plan for the school year, each one canceled.

We had no idea that on March 13, we would not only be walking out the doors of our high school for the last time, but that we would also be exiting a chapter of our lives prematurely.

That was it. I was starting college now.

I felt almost as if I had grown up quickly in the months spent in quarantine, with news that there were growing positive cases of a global pandemic.

At first, I was in disbelief. My friends, my teachers and I all believed that we would be back in June.

No one expected that we would never return.

After finding out we weren't going back, everything went numb.

I was crushed that I had just missed out on what I had been told would be the greatest year of my life.

I was deeply troubled that this virus had not gone away "in a few weeks" like we had been told.

I struggled with the fact that this was very real, and people were getting sick and dying.

Fear had stricken me, and I had no idea what to expect at Fredonia.

Arriving at Fredonia, I was welcomed with joyfulness and optimism.

I was a little weary, attending school and living on a college campus in such a time, but I was at ease seeing everyone practicing social-distancing and wearing masks.

The compliance of most students was very admirable.

Making friends and meeting new



Stock image

people poses quite a challenge when you need to stand six feet apart and cover half of your face.

It's comical trying to smile at someone when you see them in Willy C's or trying to confirm that you do recognize them, and aren't just raising your eyebrows at a confused student.

My classes are a pretty good mix of online and in-person. For all of my classes, the professors are very understanding and accommodating.

Fredonia has done a very good job of making sure that we don't feel distant and isolated.

Several activities are available safely on Zoom or in-person with proper guidelines in place.

With clubs starting up, I have found something valuable to put my time into.

However, college now is not what I expected back in 2018 when I was looking into schools and taking tours.

I never imagined that we would be going through a global pandemic and the amount of responsibility that we students would hold to keep the community safe.

I never imagined that the notorious COVID-19 would make its way so casu-

ally into my everyday life.

Adding in the word "mask" to my daily recitation of "keys, wallet and phone," as to not forget anything before going somewhere has become second nature.

It is seemingly muscle memory for me to go straight to my hand sanitizer as soon as I walk into the room, being cautious not to touch anything.

Something I've learned throughout quarantine and this bizarre time is that getting yourself out of your comfort zone is very crucial.

I have learned that I cannot expect myself to grow as a person without having the courage to do something unfamiliar to me.

Writing about what you already know is no way to become better.

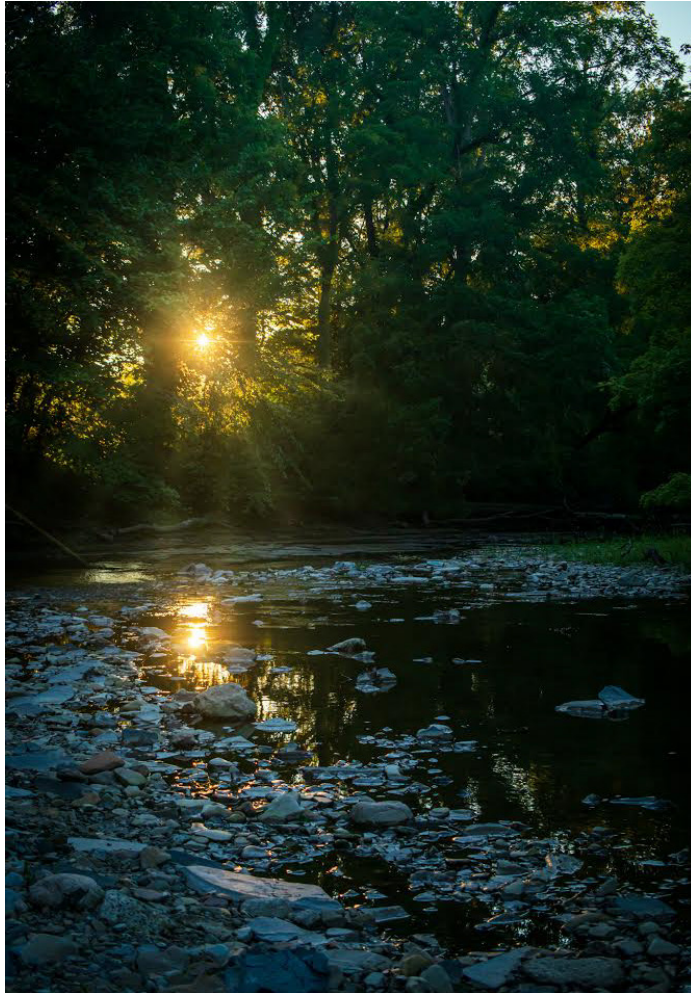
This semester is nothing like any of us could have imagined, but let's try to make the most of what we have.

Optimism and hope are our greatest weapons.

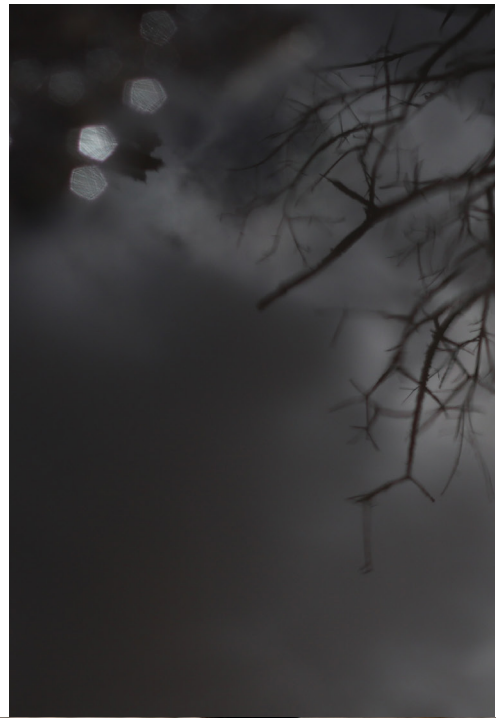
Be safe, and wear your mask.



# Through the lens of Alexis Carney, Photo Editor











Photographed by Alexis Carney, continued



# Through the lens of Sara Weaver, Staff Photographer

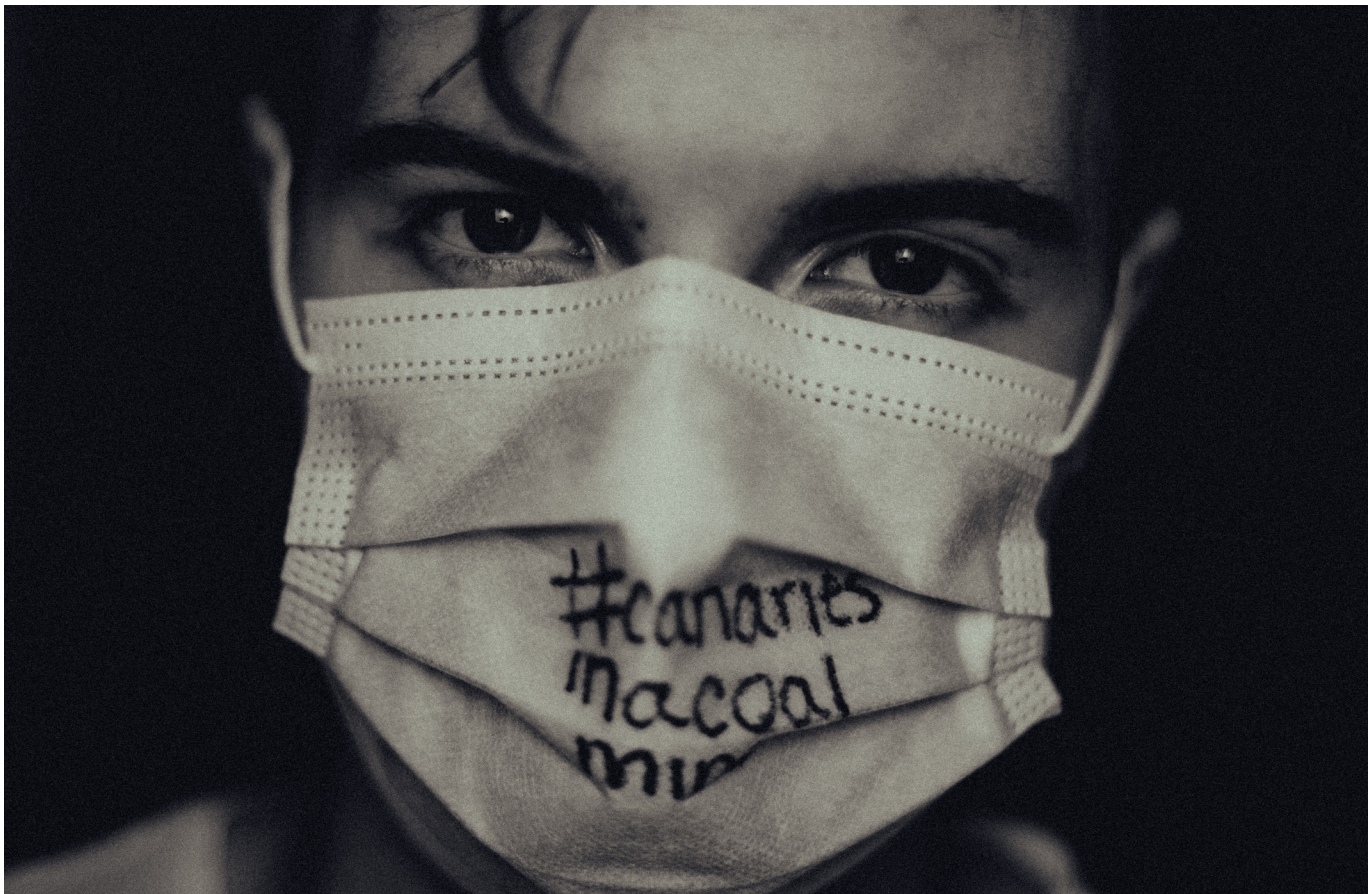








# Through the lens of Derek Raymond, Staff Photographer















# THE SCALLION



## Top five criminal activities available to you this fall

THALIA MAGISTRO - Staff Scallywag

Sometimes the desperate need to commit heinous crimes on campus comes to you. I get it. Filthy criminals like you don't stop, and why should you? That's why I've compiled a list, in no particular order, of the top five ways you can get put in the slammer this semester.

### 1.) Wear your mask like an idiot.

Whether it's a quick jaunt to the bathroom in your dorm or a walk across campus to get to one of your two in-person classes, masks are required to cover your nose and mouth at all times. Quite simply, the easiest crime to commit on the daily is "forgetting" your mask. It's so easy, and everyone will look at you like you just kicked a puppy. I promise you, if you don't feel the rush associated with committing a crime while your mask hangs off of one ear, then you must be a hardened criminal, in which case, consider crime number two.

### 2.) Take two sets of silverware when you go to Cranston.

Look, I know there's the union worker at the entrance, but they won't do anything. Even if they notice, you really think they care enough to stop you? Maybe you need a second fork, maybe you need that spoon for your ice cream back in your dorm. Look, it's a crime, you're stealing from FSA and it's totally worth it. Walk away with pride knowing that you're really sticking it to the same man that charges clubs five dollars for a gallon of lemonade. Speaking of beverages, number three is a limited time offer.

### 3.) Drink the tap water.

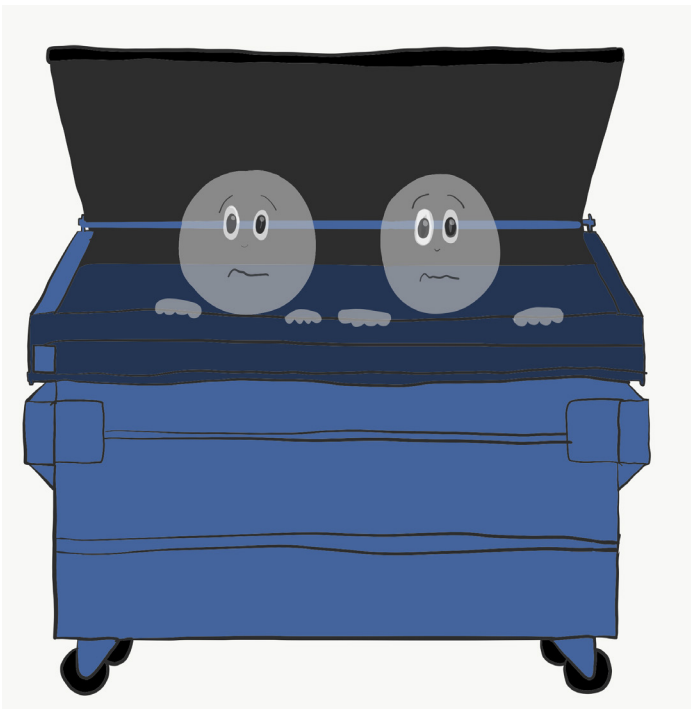
Ignore that boil water advisory from the village and you'll have one hell of a time. It could be brain-eating parasites in the water or whatever else is found in Lake Erie. Either way, if you want U.P. at your door, just take a little sip from the water fountains on campus. I'll give you a high-five if you manage to fill your entire water bottle before the alarms start blaring.

### 4.) Participate in any physical contact whatsoever.

Since I mentioned high-fiving, I should say that it is a crime in and of itself. Whether it's a high-five with one of your friends or having intimate relations behind a dumpster near a certain residence hall, physical contact of any kind is illegal this semester. Felons like yourself should already know that and have thought of the best ways to sneak into your friends' dorms so you can enjoy some physical contact. We're all touch starved, but it doesn't even compare to the solitary confinement you'll be put in if you're caught by U.P.

### 5.) Criticize Fredonia in a public forum.

Perhaps the most dangerous, heinous and violent crime you can commit this semester is suggesting that perhaps Fredonia should be handling any issues slightly differently. Don't ever insinuate that FSA shouldn't ask student workers to come into work despite not feeling well. God help you if you take to Facebook to organize a protest over the way Fredonia handles racism or activism against racism. Perhaps you think you should tweet your opinion about how locking the side doors 24/7 isn't going to actually stop the spread of COVID-19. I warn you, sir, do not think this will go unnoticed. Of all the crimes I am listing for you, criticizing Fredonia is the one with the least amount of payoff and the greatest amount of danger associated with it. This will not get you in the slammer, this will get you the folding metal chair attached to jumper cables kept on the roof of Maytum. Consider yourself warned.



Graphic by Sarah Hughston



# Don't worry guys, we don't have to protest anymore: Fredonia put out a vague statement again, we're good.

JOSEPH MARCINIAK - Scallion Editor

The outbreak of COVID-19 hit me just as hard as I'm sure it hit all of you.

Fredonia is struggling. From the first week of classes, several protests have taken place, fighting for causes such as accountability for sexual predators and Black Lives Matter.

It is, however, safe to say that our voices have been heard. The following email was sent to all students regarding the issue that matters most to them (whatever that may be, you can just fill in the blanks):

## STATEMENT FROM PRESIDENT KOLISON

Dear Fredonia Students,

It has come to my attention that students have been protesting the recent \_\_\_\_\_. In fact, when the protests reached my house, I was invited to walk with students, and I accepted the invitation.

Fredonia students have a right to protest, and feel safe in their own community.

Firstly, I want you to know that we hear you, we understand your concerns about \_\_\_\_\_. It is on the forefront of our minds.

We promise we will do something, in the future, definitely, to address this, just not right now. Sorry.

Regardless, I understand your concerns, and will do my best to deal with \_\_\_\_\_.

Thank you.

*Dr. Kolison*

Wow, inspiring. The president said so much, yet so little about what we were protesting for. It really goes to show that they are listening, and that's it!

We are so glad to hear the minimal amount of information about the causes we care so deeply about; it really goes to show that they really are listening. We're definitely not just screaming into an empty void that swallows our voices and continues with the status quo.

The Scallion had the joy of interviewing a senior official at Fredonia, who agreed to answer our questions provided they didn't specify anything.

"I think the students definitely have a right to be concerned about whatever it is that concerns them, and maybe, if it's in the budget, we will be able to take that call to action and deal with the problem that is maybe occurring. But remember, Fredonia is a great school, I don't want any possible incoming students to be turned off by the protests. "Maybe protest on a day when the tours are slow."

Inspiring. We only hope the students hear these fantastic words.

We just want to thank the president, and everyone, really, for doing such a fantastic job and sending out these short statements as quickly as possible.

Not communicating any possible changes is definitely the right way to go, and we always stand and applaud when one of these statements is released.

# Apple unveils new **Water**, **Earth** and **Fire** properties

**MATTHEW BAUM** - Assistant Scallion Editor

On Sept. 15, Apple unveiled the new generation of iPad, the newly-upgraded iPad Air.

Tech nerds and Steve Jobs fanboys around the world were blown away by the initial announcement, but they failed to hear the more life-changing announcement that immediately followed it. It had been revealed that other Apple licenses were also hitting shelves in the coming weeks.

It seems as though the devices under the names iPhone Water, iPod Earth and MacBook Fire will be in some way connected to the iPad Air, but it is not incredibly clear how.

The elemental themes that are present with these new products are reminiscent of the Avatar: The Last Airbender series, which has recently experienced a return to the public eye.

It is not yet known how the Apple devices are tied to the Nickelodeon franchise, but given the corporation's ability to seemingly do anything, there must be some sort of connection behind the scenes.

This will have been the first time since March of last year that Apple has shown any plans for revamping iPods, but in the trailer it appears that the iPod Earth will have the ability to survive in two meters of molten lava, as well as boasting an impressive 23-hour battery life and an astonishing 1.25 terabytes of internal storage.

The iPhone Water has attributes that will make it the perfect device for the family on the go.

With a total of five breathtaking Ul-

traHD cameras, both front-facing and back-facing, this will be the go-to choice for the perfect posts.

The phone also has a non-Newtonian fluid SynthMetal screen, a first look at the future of tactile technology.

When utilizing the SynthMetal settings, users will get the chance to get a sense of what the objects they see on-screen would feel like in the flesh.

Another benefit of the newly-discovered tech property is its optional self-defense precautions.

By downloading the iPrepare app onto an Apple Watch, users can control the SynthMetal that forms their screens outside of the bounds of the exterior shell, using the material to ward off unwelcome advances with a series of water-bending-style moves, ensuring maximum safety in dire situations.

The Macbook Fire has a flamethrower feature. That's it.

You can open an app that says "Flamethrower Feature" and the Macbook turns into a flamethrower.

I couldn't tell you why the Apple executives thought this was a good idea, given that people don't carry these devices around, but that's the reality of the situation. It is what it is.

These new additions to the iFamily are sure to be a smash-hit for any devoted Apple customer, but they won't come cheap.

In order to be approved for an ad-



Graphic by Sarah Hughston

vance release, interested parties must defeat Tim Cook in an Agni Kai, a duel between two people that primarily involves hand-to-hand combat and a series of devastating firebending blows.

As we all know, Cook is in fantastic shape, and it has been rumored that he can even redirect electrical currents, so it will be a challenge to claim your pre-released iGear.

For those looking to have premium tech on their hands, or people who just want to beat up Tim Cook, this is your time to shine.

Best of luck, warm regards and be sure to keep up to date on the highly anticipated Samsung Universe, slated to be released by November.



# HOROSCOPES

HANNAH BLIDY - Staff Scallywag

## ARIES

since aries is the first sign of the zodiac, i always feel like it has to be the funniest horoscope because it sets the mood for the other signs. but for this one, you're sh\*t out of luck buddy. you don't deserve a funny horoscope. deal with it.



## TAURUS

uwu :) you've so fwiggin' cute widdwe babey :) agh! be cawe-fuw!! you awmost hit me wif dat punch! :(



## GEMINI

people always say that you're two-faced because you're a gemini. i prefer multi-faceted. also you do talk sh\*t about everyone so don't act like you don't.



## CANCER

little baby man. little tiny small little baby man. you're a little baby little baby man huh? little baby man.



## LEO

idk, you're giving me zuko vibes from ATLA this week. what pent up rage are you repressing, leo? figure it out before the fire nation comes to get ya.



## VIRGO

it's christian girl autumn, and i know you're fully ready for it, virgo. get out those knee high boots and plaid infinity scarves, my friend. let's go to a goddamn pumpkin patch.



## LIBRA

i'm allowed to slack on the libra horoscope because i am one and libras already know everything so it's not like i would say anything they wouldn't already know!!! oh by the way you're so absolutely stunning and perfect in every way. <3



## SCORPIO

ugh capricorn is so annoying, don't you think? god i hope they don't read this.



## SAGITTARIUS

oh sagittarius. how i wish i understood you. always starting some stupid drama thing just for the hell of it. what is your motivation behind that? do you really just like being that messy?



## CAPRICORN

you're spending so much time on tiktok you're turning into those guys who said "daviniky???"



## AQUARIUS

did you know that cardi b and megan thee stallion wanted lizzo to be in the WAP music video? i thought that they would have invited you.



## PISCES

here's my advice to you: don't get too caught up in what other people are saying about you. ESPECIALLY scorpio.





