

THE

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LEADER

SUNY FREDONIA'S
STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER

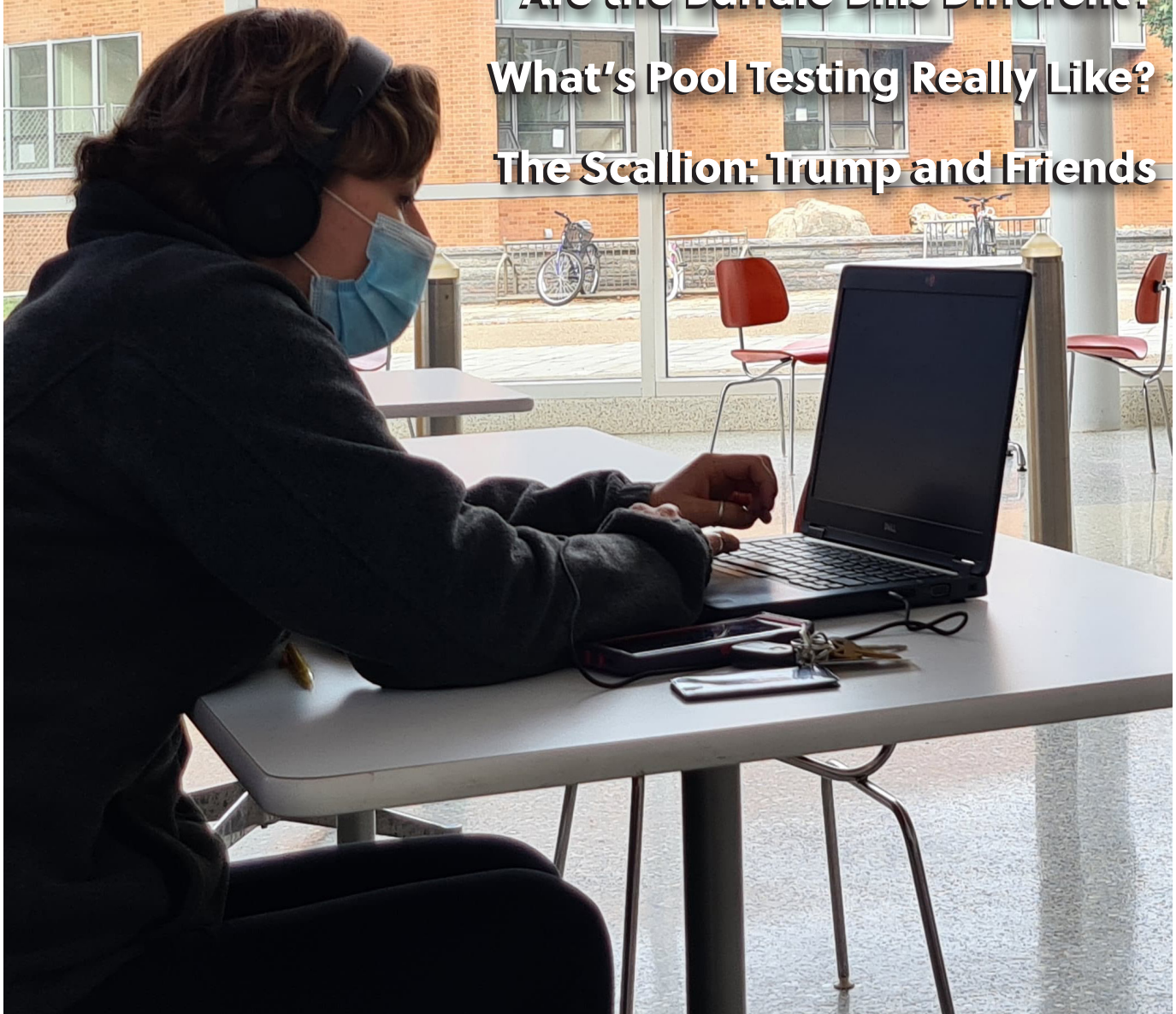
ResLife Cracks Down

**A Conversation with the
Family of George Floyd**

Are the Buffalo Bills Different?

What's Pool Testing Really Like?

The Scallion: Trump and Friends



THE LEADER

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What's in this issue?

News - 3

- This Week in COVID
- Buddy Brewster's: A New Alehouse in Town
- ResLife Cracks Down on Dorm Visitation Policies

Life & Arts - 6

- "Your Vote Matters" Virtual Event
- A Conversation with the Family of George Floyd
- Local Favorite Bands Release New Music

Sports - 12

- Are This Year's Buffalo Bills Different?
- LeBron's Legacy After the Finals
- Injuries in the NFL

Opinion - 15

- What's Pool Testing Really Like?

Photo Galleries - 16

- Alexis Carney
- Sara Weaver
- Derek Raymond

Scallion - 20

- Free Penicillin in FSA Food
- A Moving Hank Hill Impression
- Trump is the Healthiest Man on Earth
- "So Much for the Tolerant Left..."

Photo cover by Prince Hunt, Special to The Leader
Jules Hoepting, junior, attends class online in the Science Center.



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Funny numbers in roman numerals: DCLXVI, LXIX, XIII, and CDXX or IVXX.

This week in COVID

ALISSA OPPENHEIMER - News Editor

With six weeks left until the end of our semester, hopes in Fredonia are high that we will finish strong without having to switch to fully remote learning.

In the past two weeks, our campus has had great outcomes in results of the random pool testing.

Just last week of Oct. 4-10, 357 students were randomly selected for pool testing.

Out of those 357, there were a total of zero positive COVID-19 test results.

To try to minimize the spread of COVID-19 on our campus as much as possible, in the following weeks Fredonia will increase the number of people randomly selected to at least 750 people per week.

Although this news brings optimism, the virus is still a threat.

While the Fredonia community has seen progress in the past two weeks, two other SUNY schools have paused all in-person learning due to high numbers of positive COVID-19 cases.

One of these schools is SUNY Cortland.

At the end of the first week in the two-week monitoring period, 22 new positive cases were recorded on Cortland's COVID-19 dashboard.

This brought Cortland's number of positive cases in that two-week period to 58.

In order to have maintained an in-person learning system, the school would've had to have under 42 additional cases before the end of that two-week

period on Oct. 9.

By Monday, Oct. 5, at 101 total positive cases, Cortland announced a pause on all in-person learning under guidance of the New York State Department of Health.

With this, Fredonia's campus-community should take into consideration how quickly things can change for us.

continued.

"We must remain vigilant to keep everyone safe and stay open."

In maintaining guidelines, it has also been announced that all on-campus events for Fredonia Family Weekend of 2020 have been cancelled.

In his announcement, Kolison stated: "The health and safety of the entire Fredonia family is the university's top priority, so out of an abundance of caution, we will not be bringing families to campus this fall."

"We know this is disappointing news — especially to those of you who had planned to join us for an event-filled weekend," he said.

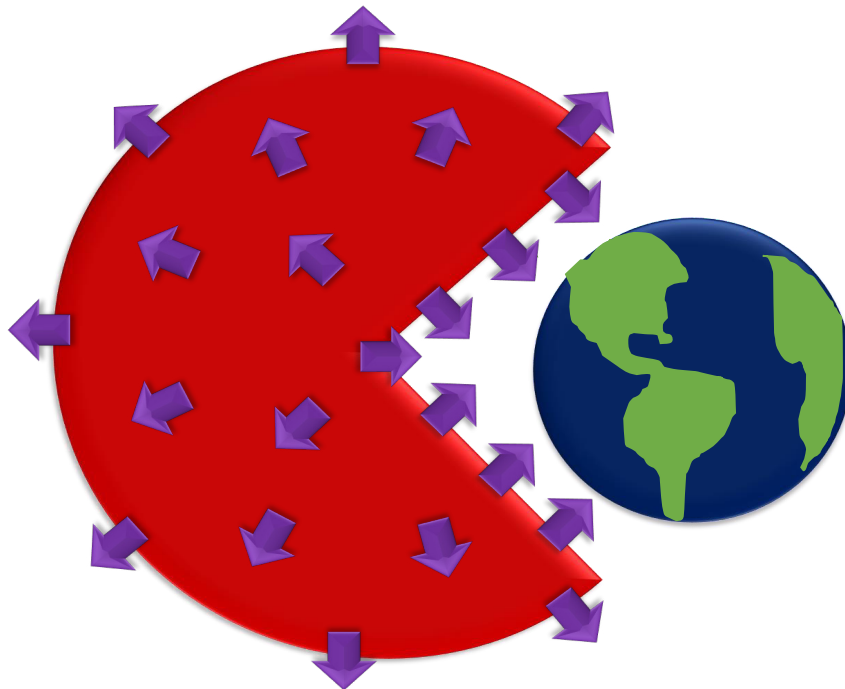
In place of this, groups including Campus Life and Spectrum Entertainment are in the process of organizing various virtual events for that weekend.

Though it may not feel the same, it's important for the campus-community to abide by COVID-19

guidelines so that the rest of the semester can remain in-person.

For more information and updates on COVID-19 regarding our campus, students can utilize the following resources:

- Fredonia COVID-19 dashboard
- Chautauqua County COVID-19 information
- SUNY COVID-19 case tracker
- New York State COVID-19 information
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



Graphic by Jules Hoepfing

In his Thursday update on Oct. 8, President Kolison discussed his enthusiasm, but also his hesitations.

"With about six weeks to go before in-person instruction concludes this semester, I am cautiously optimistic that, with our continued vigilance, we will be able to hold the line against COVID-19, keep the campus safe, and remain open," said Kolison.

"Am I nervous about this? Let me admit that I am. I know that it does not take much for the virus to spread and threaten the lives of a large group of people. I think about this every day," he

Buddy Brewster's: A new alehouse in town

CHLOE KOWALYK - Special to The Leader

With the recent closing of Wing City Grille in Fredonia, a new alehouse, Buddy Brewster's, has come to take its place. Owned by the same family as Wing City Grille, Buddy Brewster's is now located at the same address.

The alehouse is named after the owner Andrew Carlson's dog, Buddy, who has passed away.

Opening the restaurant has created 50 new jobs for the community.

The restaurant is only open at 50 percent capacity in response to New York State's COVID guidelines.

To ensure the customer's safety, the staff at Buddy Brewster's has implemented a new tabling system.

"Our goal is to protect the safety of our patrons here," Carlson said.

All tables are six feet apart and every other booth is used to allow for proper social distancing.

Carlson's staff also received an extra 30 hours of training on sanitation and other safety measures. All employees must wear masks and have their temperatures taken before starting each shift.

Since Carlson's previous business, Wing City Grille, closed last spring, he consulted the help of SUNY Fredonia business students.

According to Dr. Susan McNamara, an associate professor of business at Fredonia, "The students performed a marketing research project on the potential rebranding of Wing City and Carlson's vision. They surveyed over 100 people and identified the strengths of Wing City [from] which to build upon for the next project, as well as market tested several of the potential new names [and] brands."

Fredonia students had a substantial impact on the new business.

Carlson said that the experience was a positive one and that he and McNamara "decided it would be great to have the students help in the community."

"We are big fans of the college," he

said.

The students were able to obtain experience in their field of study and according to McNamara, "The experience for the students offered a great learning lab as well as helped build their resumes with applied experience."

Participating students were Fredonia alumni: Scott Boehnke, Alexis Terruli, Kathryn Rowan, Andrew Masiello and Jakob Hudson.

Buddy Brewster's is serving all 12 local drafts on tap and features a brand new bar with drinks poured at a perfect 27 degrees.

Carlson aims to have the restaurant be a place that families can enjoy, too.

The alehouse doesn't just have a great selection of beers, but also features a variety of meals.

Their biggest seller is the pulled pork, which is house-smoked pulled pork piled high with their BBQ sauce and topped with cheddar jack cheese and onion straws.

Carlson personally recommends the Brewster's nachos, which are loaded with fresh ingredients and the house's own beer cheese.

Also offered are dips, sandwiches,



wraps, burgers, steaks, fish, mac and cheese, fries and salads.

Carlson said that he and the staff hope to, "serve great food, offer draft selections and serve it with a smile on our faces."

The restaurant also takes online orders, available now through the service, Toast.

Buddy Brewster's is open Sundays through Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Fridays and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

On Thursdays, the alehouse hosts trivia nights from 8-10 p.m.

You can visit their website and view the whole menu at BuddyBrewsters.com.

You can also like their Facebook page, titled "Buddy Brewster's Ale House."



Photographed by Derek Raymond

Fredonia ResLife cracks down on enforcing dorm visitation policies



Image by Eva Bobeck her FREDCard was only

CHLOE KOWALYK - Special to The Leader

As Fredonia continues to allow students to live in dorms and continue in-person instruction, new guidelines have been set in place to ensure the safety of on-campus students.

As of last Friday, students may only enter residence halls from the front door.

Card readers are now installed in front of the RA office in all residence halls. Students will now tap their FREDCards, and an image of their face and the residence hall they live in will pop up on the RA's computer screen.

This allows RAs to easily determine which students live in each hall and who they are.

According to Kathy Forster, director of Residence Life, the method of using color-coded stickers on one's FREDCard to distinguish one's residence hall was always a temporary solution.

"Students are getting creative for ways to visit others," Forster said, by purchasing the same stickers and propping open the side doors.

The new guidelines do not greatly change the job of RAs and RDs. They simply need to clarify that the student

trying to enter actually lives in the residence hall, then clear the computer for the next student entering the building.

Many card readers were tested over the summer, with McGinnies Hall being used as a test hall to experiment with the new method on actual students. The trials began a few days before the email was released to all students explaining the guidelines, and Forster described it as a success.

The new entry system went into effect on Sept. 25, and will be in effect whenever the front desks of the residence halls are staffed, and from 9 p.m. until 7 a.m.

If you do not have your FREDCard handy, you can provide your name to the RA instead.

The only exceptions to these rules are Gregory Hall and University Village.

This system will be in effect until the New York State Department of Health suggests more relaxed restrictions.

The new card reader method was implemented after 197 COVID-related incidents were reported across campus, which was overwhelming for RAs and RDs.

ResLife wants students to stay safe by wearing their masks, practicing social distancing, following campus and state guidelines and not allowing other students into their rooms.

Pool testing will now be increased to 1,000 students per week.

If we continue to have low numbers of positive cases, ResLife hopes to allow students to visit other Fredonia students in the residence halls.

Fredonia student Sam Glorioso feels that residence hall rules "aren't really that effective."

She explained that

checked once or twice the entire semester, all in the first three days of her living on campus.

"People can easily sneak people in through side doors; all you have to do is open it from the inside to let them in. It's really inconvenient to have to pop in the front door every time, especially when your room is right next to a side door," Glorioso said.

"I just feel like if [ResLife] wants this to be effective, they have to have someone at the desk at all times to make sure you always have to tap your card."

However, ResLife appreciates students doing their best to continue life in the residence halls and the measures they are taking to stay safe.

Even after 31 years at Fredonia, Forster explains that this year is "different [from] every other year."

She said that her goal is to "engage students in a safe way, but still build a safe community."

If students have any questions or concerns, they can reach out to ResLife at reslife@fredonia.edu

Life & Arts

“Your Vote Matters!” virtual event

ALYSSA BUMP - Life & Arts Editor

The upcoming 2020 presidential election is less than a month away.

With tensions high and political polarization across the nation, there is no doubt that this election’s results will have a huge impact on the American people.

With that being said, the importance of voting has been stressed by many. Even social media sites, such as Snapchat and Instagram, urge people to register to vote.

The process of voting may seem overwhelming to college students because many are first-time voters away from home.

Thanks to the Intercultural Center at Fredonia, a virtual event titled, “Your Vote Matters!” was hosted on Oct. 15. The event focused on young voters on how to register and vote.

David White, the Director of Multicultural Services at Fredonia, began the Zoom meeting by giving opening remarks.

White introduced Miles Thompson, the main speaker of this event.

Thompson graduated from Fredonia in 2014 with a degree in political science and minors in sociology and anthropology.

Thompson recently founded Civic Citizens, a non-profit organization that helps the average person find the resources they need to become civically literate.

“Civic Citizens takes the best publicly available resources out there and puts them all in one place,” said Thompson.

Valerie Cella, the founder of The College Voter, was also a speaker at this

event.

Cella explained that The College Voter is, “a student-run non-profit that works to engage people in a different mindset about how we all interact with our vote.”

Attendees of the event were encouraged to ask questions about the process of voting and other important concerns.



Stock Image

“Some of these rights can be taken away. They are not set in stone. Whether you want that or not, that is all determined by your vote.”

- Miles Thomson

White gave out free Civic Citizens t-shirts to everyone that asked questions.

During this event, Thompson explained why this election is so important to college students.

Issues like student loans and the current pandemic are a huge concern that students are directly affected by.

It was also explained that many eligible young voters do not actually go out and vote.

In the 2016 presidential election, only 51% of eligible voters under the age of 40 actually voted, compared to 70% of

those over the age of 55.

Thompson made sure to include many rights that Americans now have due to voting. Some of them include: women’s rights, public schools, minimum wage and environmental laws.

“There are a lot of people out there who really did fight for a lot of these rights here.” Thompson continued, “Some of these rights can be taken away. They are not set in stone. Whether you want that or not, that is all determined by your vote.”

Thompson also explained the importance of doing research and voting for governors, representatives, district attorneys and senators.

People who are elected into these positions directly affect citizens as well, if not more closely than the president.

Attendees were then shown how to use

Civic Citizens’ website in order to get the most information.

Many other important steps for voting were shown, including how to register, check your voting status, request an absentee ballot and find a

polling place.

Towards the end of the event, Thompson and Cella talked about their recent podcast together, which can be found on The College Voter’s website.

After the event was over, Thompson said, “I believe that the event added value by emphasizing the reason students need to take part in this election. As college students are not typically exposed to civics in their schooling, we were glad to fill in that gap and serve as a resource.”

Multicultural Support Services hosts “A Conversation With The Family of George Floyd”

KATIE LENDA - Staff Writer

Shock, advocacy, racism, justice and love — these were the key words spoken by Angela Harrelson, Selwyn Jones and Nyle Fort at the Multicultural Support Services’ event, “A Conversation With The Family of George Floyd.”

An hour-long conversation is not enough to honor the life of Floyd, or to discuss ongoing racial injustice in the U.S.

However, it was through Harrelson and Jones’ strength, and Fort’s knowledge and wisdom that the conversation via Zoom on Sept. 24, resonated with attendees.

The conversation began with an opening from David White, the Multicultural Support Services Director.

White said he “knew immediately this was a conversation to be held on campus.”

He was excited to have the opportunity for Fredonia’s campus to engage in such a meaningful conversation.

“My hope is that attendees will get honest and real perspectives on the impact and importance of George Floyd’s untimely demise. I hope an increase in familiarity with the wrongs of social injustice and racism is achieved,” White said.

Nyle Fort, a mentor, activist and scholar, mediated the conversation.

Fort opened the conversation by comparing this topic to that of a “food buffet.”

He said, “We’re gonna put some food on the table for thought. Some of that food you may be familiar with. Some of that food may look unfamiliar to you and it may be a little scary. And that’s alright.”

The conversation then shifted to Harrelson and Jones recalling memories

of their nephew, who was known to the family as Perry.

Harrelson recalled Floyd as funny and loving; he especially adored his mother.

Jones and Harrelson both described how Floyd grew up in poverty, but also how these struggles made him into the loving person he was.

Jones said, “He always wanted to laugh and smile. We couldn’t have any food sometimes, but we had love.”

Fort asked Harrelson and Jones about their initial reactions when they found out the painful news about their nephew.

26. You close your eyes and listen to that audio, and you can hear a man. Fight, suffer, hatred, racism, control, power, sadness. That’s what you hear when you look at that video and see my nephew,” he said.

Harrelson and Jones use their grief as a means to create social change through advocacy for racial injustice.

Harrelson described how it was very difficult for her to start advocating after her nephew’s death.

However, she said that, “someone needs to be a voice for Perry,” despite how emotional it may be.

Jones said, “I can’t stop fighting. This has consumed my whole life. Your generation can teach your children how to treat people with empathy. Young folks like yourselves are the ones who are going to make the change.”

Fort closed out the conversation by discussing what we can do to be actively anti-racist.

Fort said, “We need to have an understanding of what racism

is. We need to have conversations, but we can’t stop once the conversation ends. The conversation is supposed to call us to action and convict us to do more than what we’ve done.”

There will be an encore viewing for the event on Oct. 14 via Zoom at 8:30 p.m.

Take part in this important conversation, and help create lasting change in our country.

Encore viewing of the Conversation with the Family of George Floyd
Meeting ID: 957 9584 5123
Password: 6321731023

<https://www.justiceforbigfloyd.com>

<https://justiceforbreonna.org/>



Uncle of G. Floyd
SELWYN JONES

Activist, Mentor & Scholar

NYLE FORT

Aunt of G. Floyd
ANGELA HARRELSON

Harrelson said that she found out about Floyd’s tragic murder through the media.

She described a phone call she received from a reporter, asking her about Floyd.

Harrelson was in shock and did not believe the reporter in saying that her nephew had been murdered by police.

She then proceeded to check her cell phone. Harrelson had dozens of missed calls from family members regarding the situation.

She then turned on the television, dropped to her knees and sobbed when she saw Derek Chauvin’s knee on her nephew’s neck.

Not to anyone’s surprise, Jones was also in disbelief when he heard about his nephew.

“I have not been the same since May

Local favorite bands release new music



Fans in the crowd of Ghostpool's performance at BJ's Fredonia. Photo by Jake Amadori.



Beach Tower members: O'Brocta (bottom right), Fonesca (bottom center), Bessey-Nolan (bottom left), Zareski (center right), Donnelly (center left) and Terry (top). Photo by Meghan Crouth.



Photo courtesy of Eerie Shore's Instagram, @eerieshoresband

EMILY RASULO - Special to The Leader

The music industry has taken a hard hit during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In the current age of the industry, bands both big and small rely on the business of live music to make their living and grow in popularity.

With the absence of live shows happening for the indefinite future, the local music scene in Fredonia misses seeing their favorite bands play at BJ's and house shows.

However, some local favorites have made good use of their time off, releasing new music.

If you are in need of some new music in your rotation and want to support some local musicians, here are some suggestions for you.

Eerie Shores: "Cover Me"

The Fredonia alumni in Eerie Shores just put out a new single titled "Cover Me" in late August.

This new single was a heavily anticipated return for the band after the release of their debut EP, "Wicked Disposal" last fall. The growth and maturity of the band and their sound is evident in this most recent release.

While the band says that "Cover Me" was written well before the current state of the world as we know it, the raw, emotive lyrics of the song can be applied now more than ever.

According to the band, the song is about "living and trying to grow in an unforgiving world, and not knowing where or who to turn to when you're overwhelmed with life's curveballs."

I think that many listeners can relate to this overall sensation of feeling hopeless when you feel as if you have lost all control, especially during a global pandemic.

In true Eerie Shores fashion, this song is filled with heavy guitars and instrumentation that will keep you interested until the very end.

"Cover Me" as well as the rest of Eerie Shore's discography can be streamed on Spotify, Apple Music and Bandcamp.

Ghostpool: “Tripped Up” and “Look at the Mess We Made”

Punk is not dead.

Another favorite among the Buffalo and Fredonia scenes has blessed us with two new singles after not releasing any material since early 2019.

While many avid fans of Ghostpool have heard these hard-hitting songs at live shows for quite some time, it is certainly exciting to now be able to stream these songs at their leisure.

“Tripped Up” was released July 31, and was accompanied by a music video with footage from Ghostpool’s show at BJ’s last December.

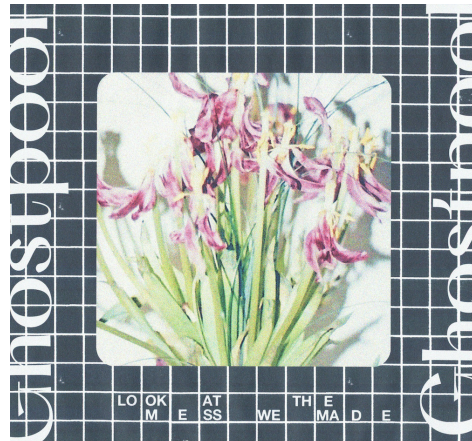
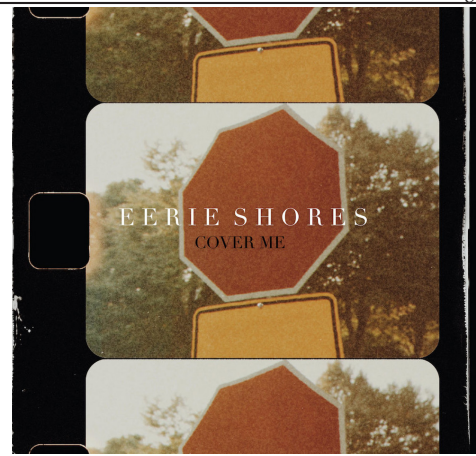
This song has the potential to be stuck in your head for days, while also giving you the dose of modern punk music you have been craving — one of my favorite aspects of Ghostpool’s music.

The band released another single, “Look at the Mess We Made” two weeks later on Aug. 14.

Both tracks reflect Ghostpool’s heavy punk influences and movement toward a heavier sound overall.

HAIL! Fredonia Records will be working with Ghostpool this year to assist in promoting the band’s latest projects, including these new singles.

“Tripped Up,” “Look at the Mess We Made” and the rest of Ghostpool’s discography can be streamed on Spotify, Apple Music and Bandcamp.



Beach Tower: “A Beach Tower EP”

Calling all indie and alternative fans for this one.

Beach Tower is one of the newer bands to the Fredonia scene, after participating in Music Industry Club’s Battle of the New Bands last fall.

While the band did not win the competition, these guys have wasted no time establishing themselves among the local scene, and have already released a debut EP that has been well-received by their Fredonia peers.

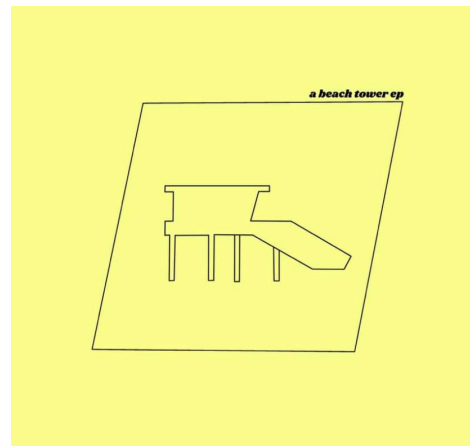
The EP consists of four songs, and each of the tracks display Beach Tower’s dreamier indie-pop sound that is very enjoyable and easy to listen to.

The instrumentation and harmonies on the first track, “In My Bed,” immediately drew me in, and these impressive aspects of Beach Tower’s sound remained consistent throughout the whole EP.

Beach Tower is made up of Fredonia sophomores Cascio Fonseca, Jonathan Zareski, Ryan Terry, Evan Donnelly, Patrick O’Brocta and their manager, Connor Bessey-Nolan.

I am really excited to see where this band goes throughout their next few years as students at Fredonia, as they have gotten off to an incredible start.

“A Beach Tower EP” is available on all major streaming platforms, including Spotify.





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| Monday, 10/19, 4pm: | Writing a Strong Statement of Intent |
| Tuesday, 10/20, 3pm: | Applying to Graduate Programs at Fredonia |
| Wednesday, 10/21, 2pm: | The Speech-Language Pathology Graduate Application Process |
| Wednesday, 10/21, 4pm: | All Things Grad School: A conversation with a Graduate Assistant, and prospective graduate student! |



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SPORTS

Are this year's Buffalo Bills different?

TYLER PACOS - 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 accordingly 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

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.



Stock Image

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,

Diverging path: What this Finals means to LeBron's legacy



Stock Image

ANTHONY GETTINO - Sports Editor

In his 17th season in the NBA, LeBron James is still trying to forge his path among the all time greats.

With four MVPs, 16 All NBA awards, an assist and scoring title and three Finals MVPs in three championships, he is one of the most decorated players of all time. He also has six other Finals appearances where his team didn't come out on top.

There are many different viewpoints on what makes someone the "G.O.A.T." (Greatest of all time), and one of the most brought up reasons that LeBron isn't there yet is his lack of rings.

That's what makes this Finals so important to his legacy.

With a win here, James will get his fourth ring at age 35, and a team that has some cap space to make some moves and a top five player in the league in Anthony Davis, meaning he has the next few years to go for one more ring to get to that elusive five.

If the Lakers lose this Finals — which could happen even though the Miami Heat seemed down and out after the

first two games, but have since clawed their way back to a 3-2 series — things get much murkier.

Lebron would need to win two more rings in the twilight of his career in order to get to five. Now, the reason I keep saying that he has to get to five rings is that he already has been to the Finals so many times in his career that Lebron doesn't get the benefit of the doubt anymore.

Many players who are in that G.O.A.T. discussion got eliminated early in the playoffs many times, but when they got to the biggest stage, their teams delivered and they got rings.

Michael Jordan never lost a Finals appearance in six attempts, but his team was eliminated from the playoffs seven other times before reaching the final round.

Kobe Bryant has five rings in seven Finals appearances, but also didn't make it to the promised land in nine other playoff appearances.

This is also a year that Lebron James doesn't have an excuse to lose.

In his first Finals appearance with the Cavaliers, that was a team that he willed through the playoffs before being swept by the Spurs. James had one more year in Cleveland where his team didn't make the Finals before leaving for the Heat.

With the Miami Heat the next four years, he had the hiccup against the Mavericks, then the back to back wins, followed by the loss to the still dynasty-esque Spurs once again.

James then returned home to Cleveland to try to lead the Cavaliers to the promised land for the first time as a franchise. This turned out to be quite difficult, as he had the Golden State Warriors to deal with for the next four years, a new dynasty of their own.

James was able to lead the first 3-1 series comeback in the history of the NBA Finals to beat them once, but also lost the other three times. Once due to injuries to his team, the other two times because of Kevin Durant joining

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the Warriors and a poorly made roster during his last two seasons in Cleveland.

What isn't lost here is that there were no years without James in the Finals starting at his time with Miami in 2010 until he left Cleveland in 2018. LeBron had a streak of eight straight seasons going to the Finals, a streak that none of the other greats come close to matching.

There's a chance that LeBron becomes the games all time leader in points and in the top five all time in assists.

Even if that's the case, losing the Finals against a statistically inferior team will cement him outside of the greatest of all time debate.

But a win?

The debate may just be beginning if that's the case.

Injuries in the NFL

GRIFFIN DOMBROSKE - Special to The Leader

Ever since the NFL started back up in September, one of the leading questions brought up has been why it seems like every team is having a higher concentration of injuries than ever before.

In the first week of games, a startling amount of big name players were injured, including Christian McCaffrey, Jimmy Garoppolo and Saquon Barkley.

This spike in injuries has everyone pointing all of their injured appendages at either one of two culprits.

The sudden increase could be a direct result of either a lack of high-intensity practice or an excess of high-intensity practice.

The former would make sense because if a player or team has too many easy practices, then they can become used to a lax playstyle — meaning when they step onto the field, their bodies would not be ready to perform the way they need to.

The other possible candidate for these injuries is too many high-intensity practices.

If a team works too hard for every practice, it can break down the body much faster, which is generally fine, but if no rest or easy days are taken, then the body has no chance to recover and rebuild what was lost during the practices.

Both of these reasons are probable, but the cause of the injuries is likely from a third reason: the COVID-19 restrictions and policies.

Here at SUNY Fredonia, we have policy and restriction changes every week or two, so it can be assumed that it is much more frequent at the national level.

With all of these sudden changes, players are forced to adapt to a different practice schedule every week.

This means that not only are the players probably highly stressed, but their schedules are probably not lining up like they normally do.

This causes more stress for the players and the coaches.

The people at the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine have done many studies related to the effects of stress on an athlete's body, and they are fairly conclusive.

The more stressed an athlete is, the higher the chance of injury.

So the top athletes in the NFL — who already have the stress of needing to go out every week and perform — have the additional stress of not knowing what will come as of next week.

With all of this in mind, it's honestly surprising that there haven't been even more injuries than we've seen in these first five weeks.

If you're a student-athlete here at Fredonia, keep all of this information in the back of your mind.

Just because you're not a national athlete doesn't mean that stress does not have a negative affect on your body.

Make sure you keep your work, social and athletic lives balanced in order to optimize your college experience.



OPINION

What's pool testing really like?



Image by Eva Bobeck

Sarah Hughston - Social Media Manager

On Tuesday, Sept. 22 I got the dreaded email; I was selected for pool testing.

The email was fairly straightforward: watch an informational video, sign up through the SUNY COVID Test website and show up on time.

While anxiety played out every bad scenario in my mind, I clicked on the “How to Swab” video and breathed a small sigh of relief.

At least the tests were saliva-based and I didn't have to do a nasal swab. I would have, of course, but it doesn't sound ideal.

My testing time was that Friday morning, so I had a few days to mentally prepare.

As someone who hadn't done any testing for COVID-19 yet, I wasn't sure what to expect.

So, I clicked on the sign-up link. I had to create an account with an email, which was easy enough. Once I had an account, I could fill out the rest of my information, like emergency contacts and insurance details.

As long as you have a copy of your insurance card on you, it's a fairly simple process.

By the time Friday came, I felt a little better about the test. I was still nervous

about it, but I knew I'd feel better knowing for sure I didn't have it.

The email told me the testing time was 8:30 to 10 a.m., meaning I had to show up anywhere in between those times.

I was glad my test was in the morning, since according to the email I couldn't “eat or drink anything, including chewing gum, mints or lozenges within 30 minutes of reporting for [my] test,” in addition to not brushing my teeth within 3 hours before my test.

I headed to the back entrance of Steele Hall at 9:30, tired and still nervous.

There were about 50 people in the gym, all socially distanced, helping students or taking the COVID tests. I followed the blue X's on the floor, and waited in line until it was my turn to get my temperature checked.

Once they asked me the same questions that are on the daily health screening and took my temperature, I moved on to the second checkpoint.

At this station, I swiped my FRED-Card and they asked if I had brushed my teeth or ate or drank anything.

After moving to the next checkpoint, I

needed to login to the SUNY COVID account that I had created. One of the helpers instructed me to click the “register a new test” button. The website clarified that I hadn't eaten or brushed my teeth again, and then I was allowed to move onto the next station.

Once I stood in line for a while longer, the person at the table read me the barcode to identify my test while I typed them into the website, and then read them back to confirm the numbers were correct.

After my test was registered, I was given the vacuum-packed swab I would be using to take my test and was instructed which line to go into next.

The lines moved pretty quickly until this point, where I stood in line for maybe ten minutes. Once I got to the front, I was directed on how to take my test by a volunteer.

The person behind the table opened the test package for me and handed me the vial. I had to unscrew the swab, pull my mask down, and rub it under my tongue and around my gums. It was completely painless and quick.

I pulled my mask back up, and then flipped the swab so it would screw into the solution in the vial, creating a sealed test.

Once I put my tube in the collection tray, I was given a hand sanitizer and was officially free to go.

Luckily, I didn't have classes during these times, though they were handing out passes if needed.

Over the next few days, I checked my email obsessively.

Four days later, I finally got an email with the subject “Pool Testing Results:” I tested negative.

I took my first deep breath all week.

A few days later, I got another email: “You have been randomly selected through stratified random sampling to be a part of an upcoming pool test.” Again.

At least I knew what to expect this time.

Through the lens of Alexis Carney, Photo Editor





Through the lens of Derek Raymond and Sara Weaver, Staff Photographers





Image by Sara Weaver



Image by Derek Raymond



Image by Sara Weaver

THE SCALLION



Wow, thank you: FSA has been providing us with free penicillin in our food!

MATTHEW BAUM - Assistant Scallion Editor

It's no secret to the students here at SUNY Fredonia that our school's first priority is the wellbeing of their residents. We are provided expert medical care, our words have an impact on the culture at school and they have the decency to prepare us for in-hall fires at any time of day — sometimes going the extra mile and waiting until 11 at night to set off the lovely fire alarms.

All of this, however, is in the past, as it has been leaked that there are some truly heartwarming events going on behind the scenes at Cranston Marche.

Last week, I was informed by an inside source that free penicillin has been slipped into some of the food options, for the purpose of increasing our daily intake of vegetation.

The penicillin is reportedly sourced responsibly, growing free-range right by the food it will be integrated into.

This is wonderful news, as it slips right into the flavor of the food we're already eating!

It is so nice of the staff here to go out of their way to care about healthy eating habits.

Along with counting as one of the five-a-day recommended vegetable sources, penicillin can also fight off diseases such as throat infections, pneumonia and scarlet fever, and can blend in easily into all of our favorite foods.

It is fair to note that, since I have been on campus, I have

not been at all sick, and I would like to believe that this is because of Fredonia's attention to detail and quiet dedication to the greater good.

This addition to our diet options on campus is just one of several new steps taken by the administration to improve the conditions of life here for students.

Starting next semester, all of the sidewalks will feature

booby traps and fun obstacle courses, to ensure fulfillment and exercise to everyone on their way to and from classes.

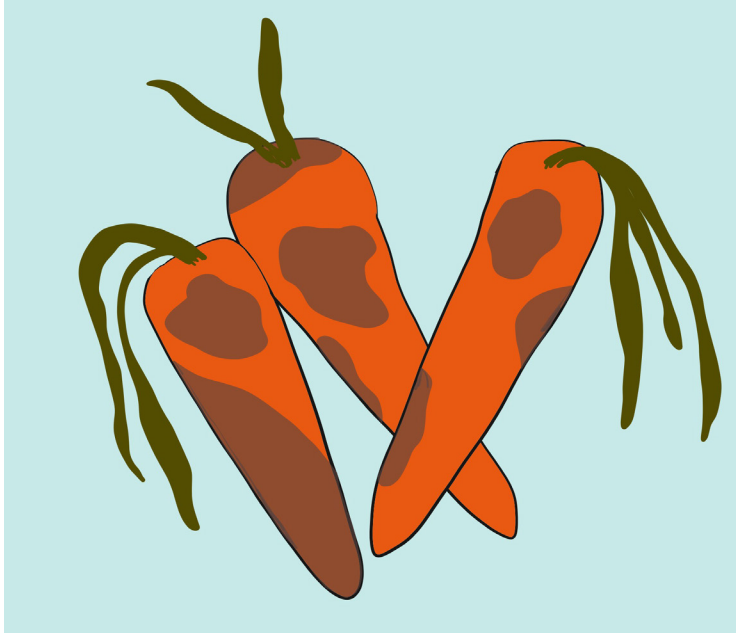
The traps we have gotten a sneak-peak at so far include trip wires, poison ivy and a snake pit outside of Thompson Hall, which will provide students who fall in an opportunity to learn about our slithery reptilian friends up close.

Another change that is being implemented will be the addition of an early-morning alarm, set to go off from all of the broadcast speakers at 5:15 each morning.

This will be the wake-up call for the students living on campus each

morning, and it will be followed by a refreshing workout routine we can all participate in from our dorm rooms.

You can say what you will about SUNY Fredonia, but you can't say that they aren't making their students stronger citizens.



Graphic by Sarah Hughston

My friend's moving Hank Hill impression



Graphic by Sarah Hughston

BRIAN CECALA - Guest Scallywag

I was chilling with my buddy Kyle during these unprecedented times, when out of the blue he turned to me and said, “Hey Brian check this out...”

What happened next was like a slice of heaven — Kyle had managed to do a PERFECT Hank Hill impression from the hit T.V show ‘King of the Hill.’

I had to share this with the world, so here’s the transcript of our interview.

Me: Thanks for sitting down with us, Kyle. Now how did you discover you had such a gift?

Kyle: Well I like the show and I always thought, “that Hank guy sure does have a silly voice,” so I just tried my best to copy it.

Me: Could you do a bit of it for us?

Kyle: Now Peggy, I sell propane and propane accessories.

Me: Wow. Just incredible. It’s like listening to the real

thing.

Kyle: Thanks.

Me: Do you think this is what America needs in these unprecedented times?

Kyle: Yeah there has been an unprecedented amount of division and stress for American lives and sometimes we just need to sit back and take a lil’ giggle at the small things.

Me: Can you do it again?

Kyle: I have a sense of humor, I laugh at Tony Danza.

It was at this moment I put my hands on my face in shock and I realized I had been crying euphoric tears of joy.

It was as if all the bleeding and pain I had ever felt in my life had never happened.

I was at peace and unity with the universe, we melded into one and for this brief moment of singularity, I understood what genuine meaningful happiness felt like.

Trump is now officially the **healthiest man on Earth** according to scientists, according to Trump

JOSEPH MARCINIAK - Scallion Editor

Well resistance comrades, pack it up. We’re done.

No celebrating Trump being dead anymore, because today on a Fox News interview, Trump announced that scientists are saying he’s the healthiest man on Earth.

That’s a big blow to me and my fellow resisters.

The interview, conducted by Tucker Carlson, was clear and concise, and the president did NOT beat around the bush.

“Scientists — they say — they say it’s a miracle. How can this be, they say. They say I’m the healthiest, I’m so healthy you wouldn’t believe. The scientists, they say I’m the healthiest man on Earth. It’s incredible,” the president said.

Tucker Carlson really put it best when he said, “The left is gonna be so disappointed to find out that this virus really isn’t that bad. Just suck it up, snowflakes!”

Ow, right where it hurts. Pack it up, comrades, let’s just go home and get out of here.

We all know it was Trump’s muscular and heroic body that saved him from the virus, not the fact that he got the best medical care in the country while still downplaying the fact that thousands are dying from the virus.



Graphic by Sarah Hughston

“So much for the tolerant left...”

Racist says after leftist calls him a racist

MATTHEW BAUM - Assistant Scallion Editor

We ask hard-hitting questions here at The Scallion.

One question we have been mulling over in our head since the dawn of time is: “Who is the snowflake?”

We realize, though, that this may be too deep and difficult of a question to be asking in general. So, here’s a description of who a snowflake is.

A man on Twitter who goes by the display name of “Jerry” and the username “JerryTrump4Ever” has started a ruckus amongst Twitter users.

A certain leftist had posted a tweet that said, “If you support Trump, you are a racist.”

Jerry responded, clearly flabbergasted at the statement. Absolutely appalled. Stumped. “I’m no racist. I just like Trump. I think he’s cool and he likes everyone, even white supremacists. And black people... I think.”

With that, he caused the greatest political uproar on this leftist’s Twitter account.

People from all over replied with a variety of information. Many responded with clarifications on what Trump’s character is like, though some had wacky insults from, “Boo, you smell like cheese,” to, “Haha funny man go waaah.”

One was just a graphic image of Trump and Pence smooching! Unbelievable content!

On his own Twitter account, Jerry had posted many rants and comments, all of which were vaguely referring to those who replied to him.

“What the heck is up with these libtards? They’re all acting like sheeple right now with the way they’re repeating each other. They definitely aren’t making valid points at all! Fake news!”

Sheeple. Ah, yes, sheeple. Jerry always seemed to call them sheep when they all made similar conclusions. Obviously, they

were all copying each other and had no thoughts for themselves ever, he thought as he watched Fox News.

Many of these so-called “libtards” found these tweets and made fun of them as well, saying things like, “Oh poopie doopie, you’re upset?”

One reply, though, caught him quite off guard.

“You’re racist,” it said. “Do you know what white supremacists are?”

Jerry was thrown for a loop and didn’t respond until two days later. He was absolutely shaken by this question, for it had a lot of depth in it, apparently.

Everything was on the line because of this question. He could be seen as a white supremacist — not like it’s bad!!!! He could be seen as a... bad man!

He had conjured something up during his inactive period, though. “Yeah, they’re in fun clubs. You guys are so mean! So much for the tolerant left!”

Got ‘em! He knew he got ‘em.

They’re really thrown for a loop now, he thought. All this work they put into being nice? Down the drain! I am no racist.

In celebration, he took his mask, wearing it under his nose, ordered a confederate flag from Amazon and put it in his

yard as soon as he got it.

That’ll show ‘em not to mess with a real proud American white man.

“White pride,” he whispered, a teardrop rolling down his face. Solidifying his own statement, he repeated, “White pride.”



Graphic by Sarah Hughston

HOROSCOPES

HANNAH BLIDY - Staff Scallywag

ARIES

(you are small in this scenario)
hello littel tiney babie you are
small! !!!!



TAURUS

~~~~~living lifeeeee <3



## GEMINI

move it move it babey i know u  
love to dance!



## CANCER

squeak squeak lil mousey babie  
so small!!!!!!!!!!!!



## LEO

nothing bad ever happens to the  
kennedys!!!!!! WHA



## VIRGO

babie little babie



## LIBRA

emo phase making a come back  
huh?



## SCORPIO

agghhhhhghh!!!!!!!!!!!! punch  
somethin!!!!!!



## SAGITTARIUS

you just lost the game



## CAPRICORN

i like writing the horoscopes in  
chaos mode



## AQUARIUS

queso queso queso queso queso



## PISCES

boopsie! just gotcha!!!!!!!!!!!!  
heehehehehehehe



