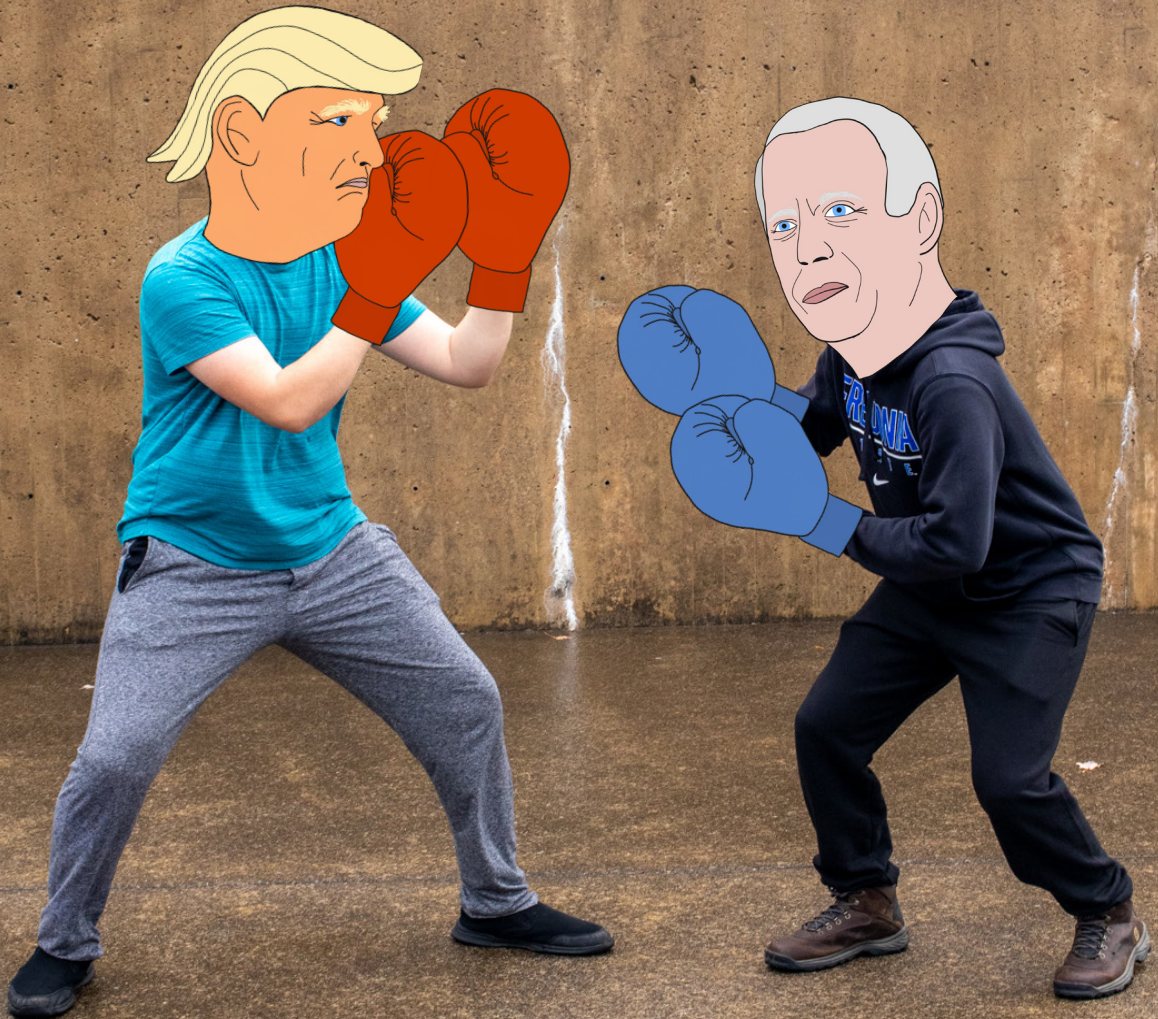


Issue 3 | Volume CXXVII  
**ELECTION EDITION**

THE

# LEADER

SUNY FREDONIA'S  
STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER



**Black Lives Matter  
Mural Petition**

**Sports: Responding to COVID-19**

**How College Students are Affected**

**SUNY Responds  
to Executive Order**

**10 Reasons Kamala Harris  
is my #GirlBoss**

# THE LEADER

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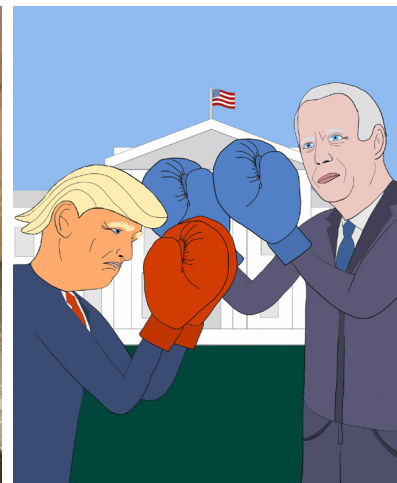
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Photograph by Alexis Carney, Photo Editor. Joseph Marciniak (left) and Derek Raymond (right) pretend to box each other in the amphitheater.

Illustration by Sarah Hughston.



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If insects and humans literally see things differently, then which version of vision is correct?

# This week in COVID

**ALISA OPPENHEIMER**

News Editor

We've made it through our ninth week of classes and Fredonia has kept up the diligent work in preventing the spread of COVID-19.

In the past month, Fredonia was required to increase surveillance testing per SUNY guidance on Sept. 4.

With this, pool testing went from every other week, to every week and now to every day. The capacity of random students selected has increased drastically compared to where we started, and it continues to increase weekly.

Fredonia went from testing 64 students in one week, to 324 students, to 375, to 1,100 students selected this week for testing.

Within these past weeks we've seen great progress.

As of Oct. 14, Fredonia conducted a total of 1,529 pool tests with a return of only two positive cases.

Now, with over 1,000 students being tested weekly, it's likely we may see the number of positive cases increase.

In his past weekly email updates, President Kolison often discussed the results of that week's pool testing, but this week he more-so emphasized the greatness in scale of the number of people selected for pool testing, and made it clear that he will discuss the results early in the coming week.

"This week we saw our largest pool testing. As you may recall, we started conducting about 80 tests a week, made our way to about 150 a week, then about 350 a week, and this week we ramped up to 1,100 student tests, plus another 180 faculty and staff that will be tested tomorrow," he said.



**A pumpkin demonstrating to its peers how to wear a mask. Photographed by Jules Hoepting.**

He also expressed his pride in the efforts made by his students.

"Your support and participation, and the logistics to make all of this happen, are simply remarkable. Our local newspaper described us this way: 'SUNY Fredonia has been a model campus.' I couldn't be more proud," said Kolison.

According to Fredonia's COVID-19 Dashboard, in the most recent 14-day period of Oct. 10 to Oct. 23, there are a total of 10 estimated positive cases.

In reinforcing the health and safety of our campus-community, Fredonia has continued to increase the number of students being tested, stayed consistent in sanitation efforts and more recently, has implemented their newly established schedule for weekly pool testing.

The schedule was created to ensure that all individuals of the campus-community are included in testing, giving more accurate results of our COVID

status as a whole.

To find the schedule, students can go to [fredonia.edu/returning/weekly-testing-schedule](https://fredonia.edu/returning/weekly-testing-schedule).

As we slowly reach the end of the semester, it's important that every member of the campus-community take all the proper steps in preventing the spread of COVID-19.

For more information regarding COVID-19 on 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

# Petition to bring **BLACK LIVES MATTER** mural to Fredonia

ELLE NUNZIO

Special to The Leader

In this ever-changing political and social climate, the students of Fredonia's Black Student Union are taking a stand.

A petition was started in the group's name that calls for a Black Lives Matter mural to be added to Fredonia's campus.

This mural is very similar to those that have popped up all over the country in cities like New York, Seattle and Tulsa, among others.

The President of Black Student Union, Jameila Burton, emphasized how this mural could be empowering to the minority students of Fredonia.

"I think this is important because, as a student of color — I'm a senior, and I feel like I haven't been welcome since I've been here," she said.

Burton added that the mural wouldn't just be in support of Black students, but of all minority students across the board.

The mural would be decorated with the flags of various identities across the LGBTQ+ spectrum, as well as representation for other minority students.

The petition, started by Tim Snider, was shared multiple times across social media platforms and was fairly successful. However, there has been backlash from those who oppose the movement.

"We had almost 1,000 signatures, then when I went to go check the numbers again, it had been deleted," Snider said. He added that the petition was flagged for "offense language."

In addition to the petition being removed, chalk graffiti was found on the ground outside of Fenton Hall earlier this week that opposed the Black Lives Matter movement.

University Police could not be reached for a comment.

However, Black Student Union is not short of supporters.

Protests and marches in support of the Black Lives Matter movement have taken place in Fredonia, both on campus and off, since early summer.

One march passed by the Lanford House, the residence of SUNY Fredonia president, Stephen H. Kolison.

The protest drew Kolison outside, where he listened and spoke to the students present, ultimately joining them in their march.

President Kolison later sent an email

able and safe."

Both Burton and Snider see this as a challenge for SUNY Fredonia, as they both expressed their displeasure with the university's response — or lack thereof — to racially motivated harassment and graffiti that have occurred on campus in the past.



"2020-06-26-Oakland-California-Protest-Murals\_1,246" by Daniel Arauz is licensed with CC BY 2.0.

to the student body in support of the march and the movement.

Despite their setbacks, the petition organizers won't back down.

A new petition has been started, and although it hasn't yet been as successful as the first, Black Student Union and their supporters are still hopeful that they'll achieve their goal.

Burton said that she hopes this mural will be a beacon of hope for current and future minority students on Fredonia's campus.

"Being a Black student, it can be intimidating and frustrating at times because you feel like what you say [doesn't] matter. Seeing that mural, it's like, 'okay I do matter, I do have a voice, I am able to be on this campus and feel comfort-

They hope to see administration rise to the opportunity to support their minority students.

"It's a test to prove whether or not the Fredonia administration is behind the students, and if they're not, I'm happy to say this isn't the end. [We] are prepared to keep fighting. We're not stopping here and we're not staying silent," said Snider.

At the most recent count, the new petition shared on Facebook multiple times by Snider, was at just over 400 signatures.

# Chautauqua County looks for poll workers

**CHLOE KOWALYK**

Special to The Leader

Getting involved in the election is as important in 2020 as ever.

Besides voting, there are plenty of ways that students can get involved.

A great place to start is with The League of Women Voters.

LWVUS has been around for 100 years since women first got the right to vote. The League aims to “encourage informed and active participation in government, work to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influence public policy through education and advocacy.”

The president of LWVUS, Mary Croxton, said that the League is “not just for women.” Her husband, former chair of the Psychology Department and professor at SUNY Fredonia, Dr. Jack Croxton, is a member.

Another great way to get involved is by working the polls.

For the past few weeks, Chautauqua County has completed poll worker training.

Poll workers and election inspectors are in charge of ensuring that eligible voters are processed fairly and efficiently. Each of the workers must attend a paid class and are even paid \$11.80.

While poll worker training is complete and Chautauqua County is no longer in need of new workers, the County is still looking for volunteers to help ensure the safety of voters.

The Chautauqua County Board of Elections said, “We are still hiring for door people to control flow relating to COVID restrictions and hand out masks and for inside poll workers to sanitize.”

This is a great opportunity for those looking to gain resume-building volunteer work and to get involved in the election process.

Grace Kara, a student at Fredonia, has gone through the poll worker training. She said that the people in charge of the training were “very kind and

helpful.”

Kara also explained that the trainees “wouldn’t have to go in worried because new trainees are paired up to work with people who have worked at the polls before.”

Another student, Maddie West, got



Stock image from Pexels by Element5 Digital.

involved by counting ballots in her hometown.

West said that the Niagara County Board of Elections “basically had me organizing and alphabetizing ballots... I had the opportunity to meet people and network which will be beneficial after school.”

“Everyone there was amazing and it was a great experience that I look forward to doing again,” she said.

Another great way students can get involved is right on campus. The American Democracy Project is always

looking for new members.

The goal of the ADP, chaired by Dr. Angela McGowan-Kirsch, is to educate students on civic issues and encourage them to be well-informed voters.

They are nonpartisan and unbiased, and all students are welcome to join.

Finally, the easiest way to get involved is by voting.

West said, “It may not seem important or that one vote from someone does not matter, but they do. We are the ones going out into the world soon to get jobs, homes, pay bills and have families. This election will dictate how those things look.”

One LWVUS member, Gail Crowe, said that the “United States is a democracy — a form of government that is ‘of, by and for’ the people. It’s not something apart from the people, imposed on us from the outside.”

“When we invest time and energy into something, we care more about it... actions that keep us involved in the democratic process help us care about and appreciate our democracy and freedoms. Seeing democracy in action, first-hand, shows us how the people’s voice has consequences for all of us.”

Early voting started on Saturday, Oct. 24, and further dates and times are as follows:

Tuesday: Oct. 27, noon to 8 p.m.

Wednesday: Oct. 28, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Thursday: Oct. 29, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Friday: Oct. 30, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Saturday: Oct. 31, noon to 5 p.m.

Sunday: Nov. 1, noon to 5 p.m.

Students can contact the ADP at

ADP@fredonia.edu and follow them on Instagram @adpfred.

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**Fredonia, NY 14063**

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**Greystonenaturepreserve.com**



# Life & Arts

## How SUNY is responding to Trump's executive order on combating race and sex stereotyping

**ALYSSA BUMP**

Life & Arts Editor

On Oct. 8, all Fredonia students and faculty received an email from the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

The email addressed the Trump Administration's executive order on combating race and sex stereotyping, issued on Sept. 22.

The email summed up the lengthy order by saying, "In short, the order says, 'it shall be the policy of the U. S. not to promote race or sex stereotyping or scapegoating in the federal workplace or in the Uniformed Services, and not to allow grant funds to be used for these purposes. In addition, Federal contractors will not be permitted to inculcate such views in their employees.'"

The email goes on to explain that some universities and institutions have already shut down their diversity programs and training.

Thankfully, Fredonia plans on continuing their diversity, equity and inclusion activities as scheduled.

Saundra Liggins, the interim Chief Diversity Officer, said that the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion works to create policies that prohibit discrimination and create trainings that address sexual violence issues.

Liggins also said that, "Members of the campus-community also come to the Diversity Office if they want support regarding a discrimination or sexual assault issue."

The office has hosted two Zoom events this semester that have promoted inclusion at Fredonia.

One featured Tiq Milan, a Black trans activist, writer, public speaker, social media consultant and LGBTQ+ advocate, and the other brought students of color together to discuss the impact of COVID-19 and the racial unrest due to police violence that took over our country this past spring and summer.

With some diversity programs already shutting down, some students were scared that Fredonia may follow suit.

"SUNY Fredonia's training does not include any of the language that the executive order describes as 'divisive.' I think that the executive order shows a clear misunderstanding of what happens in training sessions," Liggins said.

Section 2 (A) of the order explains



Stock Image from Pexels, by Fauxels.

nine definitions for what "divisive concepts" mean.

These concepts include, but are not limited to: promoting that one sex is superior to the other, promoting that the U.S. is fundamentally racist or sexist and promoting that an individual's moral character is determined by their sex or race.

Liggins pointed out that, "Fredonia students should feel no significant changes due to this executive order. It does not impact what or how faculty members can teach, so nothing will change in the classrooms."

On Oct. 23, President Stephen H. Kolison sent out an email to all students and faculty where he addressed the federal executive order.

In response to the order, SUNY issued a statement, which Kolison signed.

Kolison stated, "The order conflicts with who we are as an institution." Below, SUNY's Statement on the Importance of Diversity Training was included.

The statement said, "This prohibition on the discussion of 'divisive concepts' is in direct contravention of The State University of New York's goals, our academic freedom and our constitutional rights to free speech and expression."

It goes on to say, "We object to the unwarranted, illegitimate overreach."

The statement also addresses potential discomfort that comes with discussing such topics.

"Facing the reality of discrimination was never meant to be easy. Indeed, the science of implicit bias reveals truths that may cause discomfort, and it is in that place of discomfort that individuals find motivation and courage to interact with others in ways that promote fairness and create greater cultural understanding."

Students are welcome to sign the statement to show their support for the importance of diversity training. There are already hundreds of signatures showing support for the statement.



# #BeTheChangeInClimateChange: Recognizing how the presidential election will affect climate change

**JORDAN CAHILL, SARAH MAYFIELD, JUSTIN COHAN  
AND JOE CASEY**

Specials to The Leader

Climate change is a worldwide issue that will affect all of us more and more in the coming decades.

According to the NASA Earth Observatory, 2019 was the second hottest year on record.

While the Earth has gradually gotten warmer over time, we've seen temperatures skyrocket across the globe in the past decade.

We're also witnessing the rapid change within the climate.

According to an article by Alec Tyson for Pew Research Center, "Six in 10 adults now view climate change as being a major threat to the wellbeing of the U.S."

That number is only going to continue to grow as temperatures keep rising and the earth grows warmer.

This topic is important to college students because it could dramatically impact our futures. With the candidates debating about issues such as the Green New Deal and fracking, changes are already starting to occur.

#BeTheChangeInClimateChange is a student-based group that works on educating others about climate change and helps encourage other students to vote on Nov. 3.

Also found on social media platforms as @votefredonia, their goal is to help make SUNY Fredonia students aware of the dangers of climate change and to show them how heading to the polls can help solve this existential crisis.

While saving the Earth from climate change is something that we can't do individually, what we can do is help support those in positions of power who are willing to do what it takes to combat climate change.

Hot topics such as the Paris Climate Agreement, the Green New Deal and possible climate change positions in the White House are all ideas that need support come Nov. 3.



Stock image from Pexels by Markus Spiske.

This election will determine the course of climate change actions and policies in the next four years, which affects the future of all college students.

A 2019 United Nations general assembly meeting concluded that we only have 11 years to stop irreversible damage to the environment from occurring, so the importance of voting for climate change support in this election has never been more necessary.

To find out what candidates are in support of solving climate change issues, you can visit [OnTheIssues.org](http://OnTheIssues.org), a website where you can look up any candidate and see where they stand on such issues.

#BeTheChangeInClimateChange can also help answer questions about voting.

Visit their blog at [www.votefredonia.wordpress.com](http://www.votefredonia.wordpress.com), where they will provide steps informing you of how to cast your ballot this November and other student voting matters this fall.

You can also follow their Instagram and Twitter pages @votefredonia to find more information.

**Water levels in 2013 and 2019 at Indian Head Cove of Georgian Bay, Lake Huron. Located in Tobermory, Ontario, Canada.  
Water levels have increased mainly because of post-glacier rebound.**



"Indian-head-01" by cadyellow is licensed with CC BY 2.0.  
Photo taken in 2013.



Photographed by Jules Hoepting, Design Editor, in 2019.

# SUNY Fredonia journalism professors host pre-debate meetup for students on Zoom

CHLOE KOWALYK

Special to The Leader

Voting in the 2020 presidential election is as important as ever.

To help students navigate the election process, Dr. Angela McGowan-Kirsch, an assistant professor in communication and avid supporter of student voters, asked journalism professors Mike Igoe and Elmer Ploetz to host a pre-debate meetup.

Both professors are former media professionals and have experience in print and broadcast journalism.

The meetup safely occurred on Oct. 22 via Zoom and was open for all students to attend.

Igoe and Ploetz provided students with an unbiased understanding of the candidates and what topics to expect to be discussed during the debate.

The professors informed students on topics such as media bias, the agenda and how the debate will be covered by the media. They even enabled students to get involved by answering questions and starting a conversation.

The pre-debate meetup was held just an hour before the debate. After the meeting, students were encouraged to watch the debate, keeping the newly-learned information in mind.

Igoe, who lived in China for three years, emphasizes the importance of people in America voting.

“Voting is a freedom; we should not take it for granted,” he said.

Since China is a communist country, voting is extremely limited, as the country does not have a universal suffrage law.

He hopes that the meetup got students thinking about the election and that students would be excited about going to the polls on election day.

A major goal of the meetup, as Igoe said, is to “make sure people do vote” after registering.

Igoe expressed that students and eligible voters need to watch the debate to identify more issues and to “see what the candidates are all about.”

“Students don’t appreciate what they have,” Igoe said in response to eligible voters who do not register.

He believes that since the right to vote is not guaranteed to everyone in the world, such as in China, those who have that right should exercise it.



Stock images from Pexels by Rosemary Ketchum.

The meeting was fairly fast-paced, and students were able to communicate with each other and ask questions through the chat as well.

Attendees also had the chance to hear from the unique perspective of Scotland native Roslin Smith, a professor at SUNY Fredonia with experience in

digital media.

Ploetz feels that the meetup was successful and that it helped many of the students. He said that hopefully, the meetup “helped them understand how the media thinks about coverage for these kinds of things.”

The professors provided not just an understanding of the debate itself, but also a different way of looking at the media coverage and media bias that will be present all over social media and TV after the debate is over.

Ploetz recognizes that many students are navigating the election and voting process for the first time.

He said that for students on campus, “the American Democracy Project... is a really good resource to start with and ask questions.”

Ploetz also explained that wherever you are located, a great resource is The League of Women Voters, which has been around for 100 years now.

The League of Women Voters is not just for women, but for anyone looking to get involved.

He further advises that when deciding who to vote for, be sure to “do your research and figure out what stands [the candidates] take.”

Ploetz stressed that third-party votes aren’t as important this year and that they are almost symbolic.

“All it does is give someone in the major parties an advantage,” he says.

In partial states, such as Florida, voting is incredibly important as it can greatly impact who wins the election.

“If you don’t vote, you don’t have a right to complain,” he said.

Ploetz noted that young people should try to get involved in the election process and exercise their right to vote.

Without student involvement, issues such as student debt and tuition won’t be brought up.

Voting is extremely important, especially for those of us seeking change.

We cannot expect change without getting involved and exercising our right to vote.

# An album review of “**POTUS**,” written and performed by David W. Jacobson

**CHLOE KOWALYK**

Special to The Leader

The term “POTUS” is an acronym for “President of the United States,” a fitting title for David W. Jacobson’s presidential perspective-themed album.

Jacobson’s album highlights many of the lesser-known U.S. presidents and presents each song as a first-person narrative from that president.

The album, consisting of 11 different songs, highlights several aspects of American history.

Jacobson has created music since he was just 13 years old, writing the beginnings of lyrics and chords during middle and high school.

Raised in New Jersey, Jacobson explained that music has always been “a part of growing up.”

Jacobson said that he saw Bruce Springsteen in concert as a kid, and that “guitars were central back then.”

This is a huge part of where his inspiration to make music came from.

He decided to write the songs in the album because he, “realized how little he knew about American history apart from the highlights,” and recognizes that “there were a lot of gaps in [his] knowledge of American history.”

Listening to “POTUS” can help listeners gain a new perspective on American history and the presidents that were a part of it.

Jacobson started writing the songs back in 2015 and started by listening to podcasts about American history.

While creating “POTUS,” he hoped to make his music more personable and aimed to have a musical theatre-like feel to the music.

When listening to the music in the album, listeners will gain a unique perspective on our country’s history.

Jacobson said that he wrote the songs both to educate his listeners on American history, and as a fun side project for him to work on.

He has made a few other albums while working on this one.

Writing the songs has been a long process. For instance, Jacobson wrote the song describing Nixon’s impeachment before Trump was even elected into office.

He also had fun writing the music. “1799” is a parody of Prince’s song “1999,” and “Crying at Your Grave” is a “jilted love song.”

“I really wanted to have a human element that you can take as something other than what it is,” said Jacobson.

According to Jacobson, the strongest song on the album is “Shanties.” It is told from the perspective of Herbert Hoover, as he complains that the run-down towns in cities are called “Hoovervilles.”

However, Jacobson said he has the most fun performing the song “Nothing Left to Do,” which is about President Franklin Pierce, who was terrible at his job.

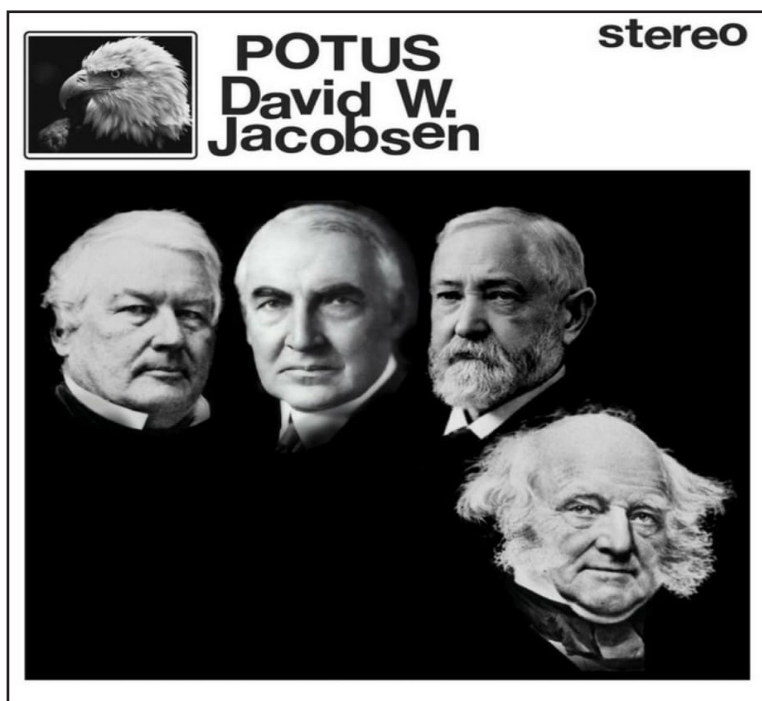
In preparation for reelection, Pierce’s party declined his re-

quest to re-run, choosing another candidate to run in his place. As a response, Pierce stated, “There’s nothing left to do but to get drunk.”

Possibly more intriguing than the music, is the album art. The cover features four U.S. presidents, much like the cover of The Beatles’ album, “Meet the Beatles,” depicts each Beatle.

The “real kicker,” as Jacobson explains it, is that the four presidents featured on the album cover aren’t even discussed in any of the songs on the album.

The feature presidents are also lesser-known, and Jacobson explains that he did this to, “give them



some representation.”

Jacobson is a solo artist through and through. He said that while playing in a band has great social aspects, playing solo makes it, “easier to do things on your own.”

Jacobson wants people to know that anyone interested in American history will surely get a kick out of his album.

The album is closely related to a singer-songwriter folk genre, but also hints at musical theatre.

Personally, I really enjoyed listening to “POTUS,” and I’d recommend the song “1799.”

I feel that Jacobson has a unique voice and the fact that he creates the music on his own makes the album even more impressive.

Many of the songs are fun and lighthearted, and even teach the listener an often undiscussed aspect of American history.

Anyone interested in Jacobson’s album can listen on YouTube, Spotify, Apple Music and visit <http://davidwj.com/> for an explanation of lyrics and access to his other albums.

# Six songs to get you through election night 2020



PARENTAL  
ADVISORY  
EXPLICIT CONTENT

## GABRIELLE LOHR

Special to The Leader

Picture this: it's Nov. 3. You've watched President Trump and former Vice President Biden face off like a pair of '90s Rock 'Em Sock 'Em Robots approximately 1,873 times by now.

You've intently listened to town halls, watched countless interviews and have heard the phrases "Make America Great Again" and "Come on, man" so much that you're ready for this thing to be over already.

You're stressed. Who wouldn't be?

Music has been proven effective as a form of therapy and, according to a 2011 study analysis by Harvard, noticeably lowers anxiety.

So here are six songs to ease your election night anxiety and distract you from the mess that is the year 2020:

### 1. "Power" by Kanye West

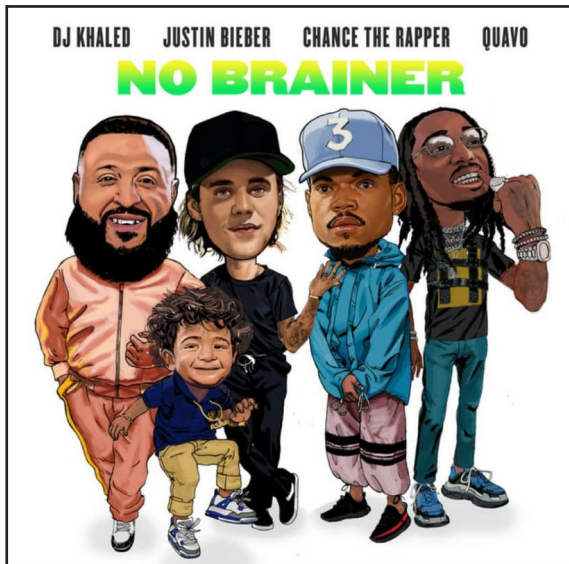
During election season, there's one thing on people's minds: power. West's "Power" takes a look at the sheer force of an individual. With lyrics like, "No one man should have all that power," which follows a less-than-humble first verse about personal leadership abilities, the track emphasizes the impact that anyone in power can have over those who follow them, both literally and figuratively. The song calls out current issues within the United States with the lyrics, "The system's broken, the school's closed, the prison's open," emphasizing the cracks within the United States criminal justice system.

### 2. "No Brainer" by DJ Khaled, Justin Bieber, Chance the Rapper & Quavo

President Trump was quoted at the Republican National Convention saying, "This is the most important election in U.S. history." No matter which side of the aisle you're on, this statement is fervently agreeable. Most Americans are set in stone in terms of the candidate for whom they will cast their vote. As Justin Bieber said, "Baby, it's a no-brainer. It ain't that hard to choose."

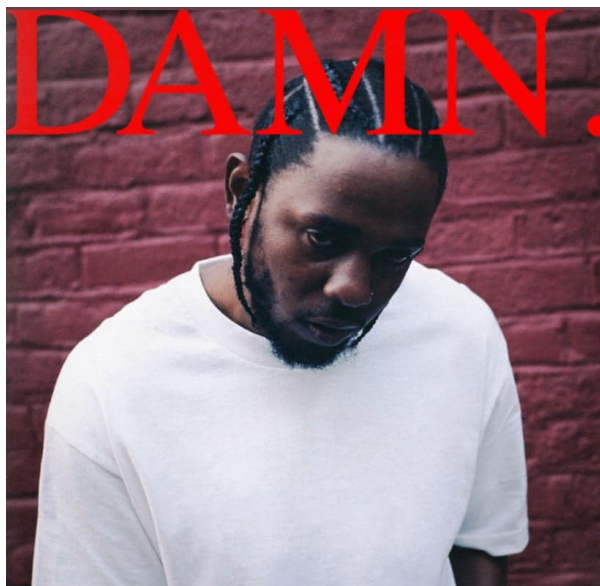
### 3. "Seven Nation Army" by The White Stripes

A staple at any sports venue, "Seven Nation Army" has an infectious and immediately recognizable bass guitar riff. The track's angsty tone is further exemplified with the lyric, "I'm gonna fight 'em off. A seven nation army couldn't hold me back." An election year always brings out the inner Gossip Girl in every Washington, D.C. politician. The Capitol seems to become a personal boxing ring for anyone related to or associated with a presidential candidate. "Seven Nation Army" represents this bad blood and determination to fight off a candidate through the power of slander, with the idea that both Biden and Trump will fight each other off without any fear of being held back or crossing the line.



4. “Humble” by Kendrick Lamar

The word “humble” appears to be conveniently absent from the dictionaries of almost every politician. With the iconic lyrics, “Sit down, be humble,” front and center, Lamar’s Billboard Hot 100 number one track warns individuals to have a sense of self-awareness. We’ve been hearing each candidate read off of their extensive list of accomplishments for months now in what seems like a never-ending saga that I like to call, “Look America, I’m better than him.” While it’s important to have an extensive understanding of each candidates’ qualifications, I can imagine that we’ll all be on the verge of losing our minds if we’re forced to listen to these ego-competitions any longer. Not to be repetitive, but gentlemen, sit down, be humble.



5. “Better Days” by The Goo Goo Dolls

As if 2020 wasn’t already a dark cloud filled with natural disasters, famous deaths and you know, a hint of pandemic, we had to throw in a presidential election because why not? “Better Days” is a somber plea from The Goo Goo Dolls for the return of days that we once knew. The song begins with the heartbreaking lyrics, “You asked me what I want this year and I try to make this kind and clear, just a chance that maybe we’ll find better days.” Any listener will immediately relate to the heartfelt wish of the Buffalo-born band. Another striking line from the song is “Tonight’s the night the world begins again,” lyrics that embody the hopeful feelings of every voter come election night.



6. “Bye Bye Bye” by \*NSYNC

Finally, this boy band classic will put you in a giddy mood no matter how Election Night ends. Will you be saying “Bye Bye Bye” to President Trump and welcoming former Vice President Biden into the White House? Or will you be saying “Bye Bye Bye” to 47-year political veteran Biden? Either way, the lyrics, “I want to see you out that door, baby bye bye bye” are sure to resonate with voters across the country.





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# SPORTS

## How the **NFL** is facing COVID-19

**TYLER PACOS**

Special to The Leader

The NFL is already seven weeks into the 2020 season, and has had quite the challenge to face this year due to COVID.

Games are being re-scheduled every week and tests are being performed every day. It has been a very busy seven weeks for the league so far.

Despite all the extra steps the league is taking, the NFL isn't the only league that has "re-opened" since the start of the pandemic.

Almost every major sports league has begun to hold practices or games since being forced to halt all play and meetings back in March.

Some leagues have traveled around the country to face opponents, such as the MLB and NFL.

Other leagues did something that would allow no fans at all: the bubble format.

The NBA and NHL have just recently completed their "bubble" playoff format, and were able to do so successfully with no cases reported throughout all teams and staff personnel that were granted access to the bubble.

Nevertheless, these two leagues have all games inside an arena or stadium under normal circumstances, so the bubble format seemed to be the only option.

For the MLB and NFL, all games are held outside in open air stadiums, except for a handful of NFL teams who have a roof on their stadium with proper ventilation so air from the outside is able to circulate in.

The league has also left it up to the teams to allow a limited



Stock image from Pexels by Pixabay.

number of fans into the stadium, depending on the state COVID-19 protocols.

The NFL conducts testing on a daily basis for every team player, coach and staff member that travel with the team and even when they host a home game.

When a player or staff member has a positive test, they are automatically put into isolation along with anyone who comes into close contact with them.

Once they perform two negative tests, they are allowed back with the team.

The league has been very good at rescheduling games so that it gives the teams time to recover and reset.

Masks are not required during games, but they are required during practices, meetings and during travel.

Coaches always wear masks, even during the games.

If these rules are not followed, the team will be fined at first, but if caught more than once, the consequences could include

losing future draft picks — which, in most cases, can be worse than a fine.

Given the circumstances, COVID is still a prominent issue in America as of right now, and there is no definite answer as to when it will be over and when the world will return back to normal.

The NFL and other leagues have stepped up during these unfortunate times, and have been able to help fans and players return to some sense of normalcy by resuming play safely.

# How sports stadiums have adapted to COVID-19

**GRIFFIN DOMBROSKE**

Special to The Leader

Sports stadiums were once a place where thousands of fans would rejoice or despair in unison at the outcome of a big game.

During these pandemic times, however, many of them have converted into field hospitals or testing sites.

At some point near the beginning of quarantine, state governors were pushed to make many decisions that could result in heavy tolls on the population of their respective state.

With this over their heads, the governors spurred the National Guard into action.

Impromptu testing sites cropped up over the nation, including 10 NFL stadiums, several racetracks and dozens of other facilities that were normally used for sports during season.

With hundreds of thousands of people sick from the coronavirus, hospitals have been filled to the brim with excess patients.

In order to combat this, some of the very same stadiums have been converted

into field hospitals to increase the patient space for nearby hospitals.

For example, the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in New York City, home of the U.S. Open, was planned to be turned into a 350 bed facility.

The 12 courts of space offered around 100,000 square feet of opportunity, leaving more than enough room to take some pressure off of the surrounding hospitals.

This also isn't the first time that sports were utilized to relieve the stress on hospitals.

In 2005 after Hurricane Katrina, the Superdome in New Orleans was converted into a field hospital for those who were economically or physically damaged by the disaster.

Additionally, when a 6.4 magnitude earthquake struck Puerto Rico this past January, relief workers ended up handing out food and water on baseball, track



"Covid Testing Dodger Stadium" by Chris Yarzab is licensed with CC BY 2.0.

and soccer facilities.

Over the last decade, sports facilities have answered the call to action in order to save many lives.

Without this help, not only would past disaster relief have gone much less smooth, but today's pandemic related pressure would be multiplied by a significant amount.

## Stick to sports

**ANTHONY GETTINO**

Sports Editor

You see them in the comments of any professional athlete's posts or tweets.

"Stick to sports!"

But why should these athletes have to?

They're people the same as the rest of us, and like all of us, they have opinions.

Many pro players have opinions on politics. With the election coming soon, you see advertisements on TV, signs in people's yards, bumper stickers, and more.

So why as soon as it comes from a platform of an athlete is it considered taboo?

I see Tweets all the time from random people on why you have to vote and the importance of voting and politics right now, but those are just random people on Twitter. Imagine someone you've idolized your entire life says to go out and vote and that voting is so important. You're far more likely to go out to the polls and cast a vote. So why are pro athletes told not to spread these messages?

It isn't like they're telling people who to vote for, just spreading the message on

how important voting really is.

Sports are just their jobs. Telling an athlete to stick to sports and stay out of politics is like telling an accountant to stick to numbers. It doesn't make any sense. Why would their occupation determine whether or not they can talk about other things?

These players have a large following. If voting is so important, then why are you telling LeBron James to take off his "Vote or Die" t-shirt? Why are you trying to block the message that these players are trying to send their fans on how important voting is and why they should vote?

Trying to confine athletes into a box that they aren't allowed out of isn't right. They shouldn't have to stick to sports.

Let these athletes use their voices, use their platforms and educate the public on matters that are important to them.



"River City Kick Ball 2011" by Gamma Man is licensed with CC BY 2.0.

Thought bubble added by Jules Hoepfing.



# Athletes use their platforms to make change

**IVAN TORRES**

Special to The Leader

Due to unjustified shootings, racism, fake news, police brutality and much more, America might be the most divided it's been since segregation.

Over the years, it feels as if no changes have been made to settle the oppression in our country. This has caused star athletes to use their platform and make real changes.

One of the most well-known athletes, LeBron James, opened up the I Promise School in 2018. The program was founded to replace poor education systems that have lingered in the city of Akron, Ohio for so many years.

The education system is so poor, according to The New York Times, that “some [children] as young as 8 were considered at risk of not graduating.”

So how does this help the oppressed? The population of the school is 60 percent Black, 15 percent English-language learners and 29 percent special education students.

What seems to have been a project in the works is turning out very promising.

A nationwide performance test administered by an evaluation association called NWEA revealed that improvements have been made as both third and fourth graders went from scoring in the lowest percentile to the ninth percentile in reading.

“In math, third graders jumped from the lowest percentile to the 18th, while fourth graders moved from the second percentile to the 30th.”

Ninety percent of the students who met the standards surpassed 70 percent of students district-wide. The growth measured between the year before the program started to now was substantial. It was so substantial that students' test scores increased at a higher rate than 99 out of 100 students.

Speaking of James, the entire NBA protested in support of the Black Lives



Matter movement during the playoffs this year.

The Milwaukee Bucks players decided not to play in game five against the Magic to show their support. This resulted in a meeting, which took place with several teams including both the LA Lakers and the Clippers.

This conversation took place with players, coaches and team governors. They came to the conclusion that “teams who own and control their stadiums will work with local election officials to convert their facilities into a voting location to allow for a safe in-person voting option for areas vulnerable to COVID-19,” according to Reuters.

This is great because it's giving people who live in populated areas another location to go vote, and in many cities voting locations are very limited for the population size.

Due to the NBA protests, the influence was so great it affected what the NBA courts look like. The NBA bubble court had a large Black Lives Matter logo printed in the middle of the court right above the NBA logo. Before games, players get on one knee right behind the

line wearing long-sleeved BLM shirts. What's so effective about this is that it raises awareness, and whether they support the movement or not, people will talk about it — which is the whole point.

The NBA is not the only league to do this.

In the NFL, many players kneel, link arms and raise the Black power fist during the national anthem. Similar to the NBA, the NFL has made changes as well.

The greatest change which shocked the sports community was the changing of Washington's football team's name. Previously named the Redskins, “the recent Black Lives Matter protest has provided a new impetus for change,” NPR.org reported.

As of now, there's no replacement name for the team besides “The Washington Football Team;” however, next year, there will be.

It's great to see how much progress has been made due to athletes using their platforms to fight against racism, discrimination and prejudice. Many of us look forward to seeing what's next in line for change.

# OPINION

## Biden v. Trump: Climate change

ANNA GAGLIANO

Copy Editor

As the election draws near, it's unlikely that there are many people left undecided on who they're going to vote for. With that being said, comparing potential policies and promises of the two presidential candidates is still vital and necessary. One issue of great importance is the climate crisis.

Let me preface this article by saying that the planet has just over a decade until the effects of climate change are irreversible and humankind will have to face the consequences of that. The U.S. plays a huge role in climate change, being the second-largest producer of greenhouse gasses and emissions in the world. America needs a leader that understands the gravity of this and will commit to changing our ways through legislation before it's too late.

In the most recent debate, Biden referred to climate change as an "existential threat," and expressed the need for urgent change starting with legislation. A look on Biden's campaign website reveals his extensive two trillion dollar plan to achieve 100 percent clean energy in the U.S. by 2050.

Despite this, Trump claimed it would cost \$100 trillion during Thursday's debate. In addition to Biden's plan, he has expressed how he'd like the U.S. to be a role model for the fight against climate change among the other countries of the world. In short, the science of climate change is sound, and Biden believes it and has a concrete plan if he is elected.

On the other hand, Trump has changed his stance on climate change many times now. In 2009, he signed a

letter that was published in the New York Times that called for legislation to fight climate change. In 2012 he, called it a hoax created by the Chinese, though he's since claimed that was a joke. In more recent years, he has come to his conclusion that it is most certainly not a hoax, but that he doesn't

to create 10 million jobs in the clean energy industry. Not only is this more sustainable for the planet, it would strengthen the economy and could give many who lost their industrial or manufacturing jobs in the pandemic new hope.

Biden's campaign website has a climate and energy section with three different subsections about handling the climate crisis, creating more clean energy and fighting against environmental injustices, which are able to happen more easily now since Trump repealed 99 EPA environmental rules. Many wetlands were stripped of protection, coal and oil industries were allowed to produce more pollution and some wildlife protections were erased. As a result, impoverished communities typically home to IPOC are more at risk to environmental pollutants.

All in all, when it comes to climate change, Trump seems to just want to talk about and argue against Biden's plans and ideas

instead of giving his own. A Google search can lead one to Biden's environmental beliefs and potential policies, but Trump doesn't seem to have any clear stance on helping the environment. His "promises kept" website does explain how he allowed oil and gas companies to "unleash" production in the U.S.

The U.S. needs a plan to protect our planet. To put it simply, Biden has one, Trump does not. That's not a feeling, it's a fact, and whether you choose to care or not is up to you, just don't forget, we only have 10 more years for you to decide.



Stock image from Pexels by Anna Shvets.

know if it's man made — it is. Trump has yet to make any substantial plans for combating climate change other than saying that while he wants "very, very crystal clear clean water and clean air," he doesn't want to "close up our industry." Which is a bit ironic, since it was his administration's mishandling of the coronavirus pandemic that led to the loss of 740,000 manufacturing jobs this year.

To avoid this job loss Trump believes will happen if the U.S. moves towards clean energy, Biden's climate change plan encourages this shift and plans

# The Naturalized American

**JULES HOEPTING**

Design Editor

I am an immigrant to America.

You probably wouldn't have guessed it by looking at my white skin and hearing my Western New York accent, but it's true.

I have always been officially Canadian, but I have been unofficially American for as long as I can remember.

When I was 18 months old, my just-out-of-graduate school single mother decided to leave Canada and head for The States to take a job as a vegetable specialist for Cornell Cooperative Extension. A lucky landing, but still a scary jump to take.

Because of that jump, however, I grew up in America. I think of Thanksgiving as being in November instead of October. I think in Fahrenheit. I look in my wallet and expect to find pennies, non-color-coded bills and an absence of two-dollar coins.

My memories of Canada consist of visits to my grandparents' farm, going on camping trips and hiking the Rocky Mountains. I am a proud Canadian, and that may be because I don't know the country's flaws well enough; I like to use Canada's stereotypical "nice" reputation as a scapegoat for the things I don't like about America. (Those negative depictions of Americans being arrogant and entitled and saying "huh?" and "what?" a lot? Doesn't apply to me; I'm Canadian, which means I am inherently polite and say "pardon" and "sorry" a lot).

From 2009 to 2019, I was a permanent resident of the United States of America, which meant I held a green card. Green cards remain valid for 10 years before you have to renew them; after holding a green card for five years, you have the option of applying to become an American citizen if you are 18 or older. Once you become a citizen, you do not have to renew your citizenship.

When 2019 came around, I had no idea where I wanted to end up living permanently. I wanted to keep my options open, so I decided to apply to become an American citizen rather than



renew my permanent residency.

Depending on your circumstances, it can be extraordinarily difficult to be eligible to become a citizen. Factors such as your skill sets and if you have family or a spouse in the U.S. heavily determine how easy it is to obtain citizenship. Because I was a white Canadian whose mother was asked to work in the country for her specialised knowledge

in onion crop research, it wasn't all that hard for me.

The first step in the process is filling out the Application for Naturalization form, the N-400, to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The form can easily be found online.

Questions consisted of expected things like your name, your address, information about your spouse, your



Continued from previous page.

children, your parents and more. The form asks for the specific dates of every time you left the country within the last five years.

Questions consisted of unexpected things, like if you ever killed someone, if you were a part of a terrorist organization and if you've ever been involved in the Communist Party or any other totalitarian party. The form specifically asks you if you worked for or were associated with the the Nazi government of Germany between March 23, 1933 and May 8, 1945.

Once the form was all processed, the USCIS sends you a paper letter and an email of when you need to go to the local office to take your test. Luckily for me, the closest location was in Buffalo, only an hour away.

The test was easy. There were 100 potential questions they could ask you which you were provided with to study ahead of time. You were given 10 questions and had to answer six correctly. The difficulty ranged from "What is the name of the President of the United States now?" to "When was the Constitution written?" (it's 1787, not 1776).

As for the reading test, you had to read one of three sentences correctly. For the writing test, you had to write one of three sentences correctly.

To prove I could write in English, I had to write the sentence "Citizens can vote." Seriously.

My initial thought was that the test was too easy. How does writing three common words prove I can write in English? But as soon as I thought about the immigrants who had to learn English as a second language, I became more sympathetic. If applicants got to the testing portion of naturalization, they most likely understood English decently. Being a person of monolingualism, I have no place to diminish those who are even partly bilingual.

Once my testing was complete, the proctor told me I had passed. I asked him about something suspicious I had read while signing documents; that I was going to give up my Canadian citizenship. I asked him if I could be a dual Canadian-American citizen, and his response was that I was a dual citizen in Canada, but only an American citizen in America.

That bothered me. It still bothers me. Why can't I simultaneously be Canadian and American? Especially when dual citizenship is allowed in numerous other countries. The single-citizenship policy seems to be coming from a place of ego: from pride on a pedestal.

Another letter and email were sent. On Sept. 26, 2019, I was set to attend a naturalization ceremony in the auditorium of Erie Community College in Buffalo. I was a part of over 100 immigrants who were going to say the Naturalization Oath of Allegiance to the United States of America.

We waited in line, handed in our green cards and were given a thick envelope filled with citizen swag: a registration form for voting, a registration form for a passport, a book about the constitution and a letter "from" President Donald Trump. The president assured us that "all Americans [were] now [our] brothers and sisters" and that "when [we] pledged [our] heart[s] to America, [America would return] her love and loyalty to [us]."

It wasn't until I was in the auditorium that it occurred to me becoming an American citizen was a huge moment for a lot of people. I went to the ceremony by myself; I sat in a chair surrounded by strangers seated with their significant others. Workers of the ceremony went around, ensuring everyone received registration forms for voting. Permanent residents could not vote, but citizens can; they wanted to make sure we knew. Workers went around, accepting the

filled-in forms.

After everyone had trickled in, there were opening remarks followed by a patriotic song performed by — I kid you not — a quartet of old white men. A living stereotype. They sounded quite good, though.

One by one, announcers listed the names and countries the new Americans were originally from. Each person who was announced walked to the front of the auditorium, accepted their certificate of citizenship, took a picture and walked back to their seat. The atmosphere was supportive, patriotic. A few more speeches were given. Then all the new Americans joined the quartet to sing the national anthem that I already knew by heart.

We all dispersed. I drove back to the Fredonia campus.

When I got back, I proceeded to utilize my citizen envelope "goodie bag."

I applied for an American passport.

When I received that passport, my place of birth was written-in as "Canada." Not "Newmarket, ON, Canada," just "Canada." The specifics of where I was born doesn't really matter — I have no connection to Newmarket, anyhow. But, by omitting even the province, the U.S. is reducing where people are from to just the county. Being from New York State isn't the same thing as being from Texas, is it?

Again, it doesn't really matter; it's just a whiff of ethnocentric perfume. And mind you, many countries wear the same perfume.

In addition to a passport, I registered for mail-in voting, so that I could vote easily while on campus.

I figured that if I wanted to critique the U.S., I ought to utilize my right to vote — even if my singular vote doesn't mean much statistically.

I figure, if my vote means as much as a penny does to a millionaire, at least I can say I gave a penny for my thoughts.



# College students will **alarmingly** be affected by the election



**AMANDA SCHEIB**  
Special to The Leader

Emergency blue light on Fredonia campus. Photographed by Prince Hunt.

This is a crucial year to vote for all Americans, but especially college students.

Pertaining to higher education and the predatory loan sharks that come along with college, Trump has not made this a focal point in his debates or policies during his campaign — even though there are somewhere around 42 million student loan borrowers.

This is unnerving due to the fact that 70 percent of college graduates start off their lives in debt.

“The average balance is around \$30,000, up from \$10,000 in the early 1990s, and many borrowers owe \$100,000 or more. The typical monthly payment is \$400,” according to an article for CNBC.

Trump has put little effort and

thought into a policy that details undergraduate students, including Fredonia students, to pay our monthly bills for around 30 years.

Biden plans to chop 10 years off of Trump’s plan, leaving us to pay 20 years at 5 percent income rates.

A topic that everyone has been talking about relating to loans is student loan forgiveness.

Trump wants to completely disregard anything to do with student debt forgiveness, while Biden wants to fix the policy put into place by George W. Bush.

For undergraduate students, Biden wants to dismiss up to \$10,000 for everyone, while also restoring bankruptcy shieldings.

On top of this, Biden pledges to make community college and training programs free for two years of attendance.

“The plan would invest \$50 billion in workforce training programs and \$8 billion in upgrades to community college technology and facility infrastructure,” according to an article for NPR.

If we really dive into what Trump has said about higher education, his focal points have been promoting nationalist ideals and cutting budgets for student debt loans.

Women’s rights have evolved in the last decade, but something yet again has stopped progress.

It is called separation of church and state, a term created by the Founding Fathers.

You can relate this to our government, especially when it comes to abortion.

Donald Trump has fought hard against abortions. You can see this in his new supreme court nominee, Amy

Continued from previous page.

Coney Barrett, or his former attorney general Jeff Sessions.

When it comes to the decision to choose, Trump thinks not.

Our president wants to completely ban abortions with expectations of rape, incest or if the woman's life is in danger.

He has said that he is in favor of banning abortion up to anywhere after 20 weeks of pregnancy.

The funding of Planned Parenthood was never something Trump supported.

Planned Parenthood does not only help women receive safe and affordable abortions, but also STD and cancer screenings, therapy for rape victims, sex education and more.

This is the frightening part, because The Hyde Amendment prohibits any government fundings for abortions under Medicaid, unless the mother is endangered, or it is due to rape or incest.

Essentially, Trump would strip all other programs Planned Parenthood has to offer other than abortions from funding.

He wants to repeal the Affordable Care Act, which helps women receive affordable birth control. Repealing it would also make anyone over the age of 18 forced to buy their own insurance.

This means that all college students would have to be able to afford health insurance on top of our crippling loan debts.

Biden's stance on female reproductive healthcare has been shaky throughout history.

At one point, he tried to cut funding that would essentially grant women reproductive rights; in 2020, Biden has done a full 360.

Biden supports repealing The Hyde Amendment, so that abortions could be covered with federal funding. He also wants to protect Roe v. Wade, restore federal funding for Planned Parenthood and support a woman's right to choose in general.

Ultimately, Joe Biden is for everything that Donald Trump wants to take away for women's reproductive rights.

The economy is a bit trickier when it comes to our next president.

No matter who wins, the next man up



Students in McEwen Hall. Photographed by Jules Hoepting, Design Editor.

will inherit one of the worst economic stances to date, with record job losses, plummeting stocks and even higher numbers of homelessness and medical bills.

One of the bigger policies that has been talked about throughout the presidential race are taxes.

Joe Biden's stances on taxes include: raising taxes on anyone that makes more than \$400,000 yearly (while keeping taxes the same for anyone that makes less than that), raising corporate taxes from 21 percent to 28 percent, forcing sanctions on tax havens, raising taxes on foreign profits and raising long-term capital gain tax rates from 23.8 percent to 40 percent.

Biden focuses on raising taxes near the top five percent and anyone who uses loopholes in the laws to avoid paying them. This tax raise will most likely not affect middle class families.

Trump focuses more on corporation tax cuts. He, "signed the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act into law, which lowered the corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent and changed the income level of individual tax brackets (the highest tax bracket saw their rate fall from 39.6 percent to 37 percent)," according to Marketplace.com.

After these cuts, the economy grew

2.9 percent after two years.

Trump has also discussed another tax cut, calling it "Tax Cut 2.0."

This would be aimed for middle class individuals, and would cut taxes by 10 percent, helping lower taxes on families that need a tax break.

With a tax break on the higher one percent and corporations as well, the upper class would see some sort of influence, negative or positive.

Dealing with job growth, Biden plans to create 18.6 million new jobs and higher wages for most workers.

Income would increase, on average, around \$4,000 for Biden's plan.

Trump's policies regarding new jobs would produce 11.2 million jobs by 2025 with little to no increase for incomes. The economy, women's reproductive rights, taxes, student loans and higher education all affect undergraduate students to some degree.

This election is something that college voters should care about — because in the end whoever wins will change the way we live our lives.

Whether you care deeply about the right for women to choose, you have stocks invested or if you are about to graduate and looking for opportunities in the job field, you should use the voice you have by voting.

# How to know you're voting responsibly

## AMANDA SCHEIB

Special to The Leader

This election has proved itself to be monumentally influential, and will surely be one for the history books.

People are lining up to vote in massive amounts unlike ever before.

Our current president, Donald Trump, is on the side of the conservative Republican party, and our former vice president, Joe Biden, could be labeled a “middle of the road” Democrat.

For his 2020 presidential campaign, Trump continues to stand by his policies that he ran with in 2016.

This year, he will focus on the refining of immigration and economic issues (like taxes) and new, reformed healthcare along with the new issue of COVID-19.

Related to the virus, Trump and Vice President Mike Pence are criticized for the misfire and irresponsible actions to contain COVID and its impact on American lives.

Our executive branch claims their response was adequate, yet they still have over 200,000 American lives to answer for.

Biden and his running mate, Kamala Harris, focus mainly on reversing many of the plans Trump has proposed or enacted during his presidency.

On top of reversing policies, Biden promotes combating climate change, achieving racial justice, creating affordable healthcare and controlling the pandemic.

When comparing and contrasting policies, Biden is cautious with reopening the economy due to COVID, without increased and adequate testing.

Trump wants to push for a stronger economy despite the health risks.

He does not support a mask mandate, leaving this responsibility to individual states and their governors to propose one.

Biden supports a national mask mandate and believes that the federal government has the right to enact one.

Another main difference between the

two candidates is the issue of membership with the World Health Organization, which can be seen in the category of foreign affairs.

America was involved in the WHO before Trump took office, but he submitted a notice of withdrawal to remove us from the organization this year.

He claims this is because of their response to the “China virus.”

Biden has said multiple times that his administration, if elected, would remain a part of the organization and attempt to heal wounds created by Trump.

Some similarities that both candidates have related to COVID are as follows: plans to expand federal COVID-19 testing, to support the reopening of schools safely and effectively and to fast track the research on a possible vaccine.

An important topic that not only affects the U.S., but the whole globe similarly to COVID is climate change.

When analyzing Republican and Democratic stances, they are quite different.

The Republican candidate is unclear on most climate change policies. This is due to the simple fact that Trump does not believe in climate change.

In an interview circa 2015, Trump said, “I believe in clean air, immaculate air... But I don't believe in climate change.” In the fifth Democratic Debate, Biden said, “I think [climate change] is the existential threat to humanity.”

Trump has removed the U.S. from the Paris Climate Accord, an agreement between many countries around the world to reduce greenhouse emissions and help protect the environment.

Biden has proposed a \$2 trillion policy to help fight climate change and remove carbon emissions by 2035 in addition to creating 10 million jobs in clean energy.

As for common ground, both candidates support hydrofracking in some capacity, but hydrofracking primarily harms the environment.

The major producer of emissions other than big corporations are fossil

fuel productions.

Trump openly endorses the use of fossil fuels, while Biden has an unclear stance.

The Trump administration has rolled back over 100 major environmental regulations that would help contain adverse effects on the climate.

Biden considers protecting the environment a top priority, while Trump does not believe in the so-called “phenomenon.”

Voting this year is of great importance.

All of the topics listed will affect the U.S. as a whole, not just yourself and your families.

If it affects you, it will most likely affect others in Utah, Iowa and Texas, who might not have a voice like you do.

Being informed is more crucial than ever before. Voting according to your individual values and opinions is normal, but this year let's vote informed and responsibly.

Let's be on the right side of history this year.



Stock image from Pexels.

# THE PRESIDENTIAL ~~DEBATE~~ FIGHT!

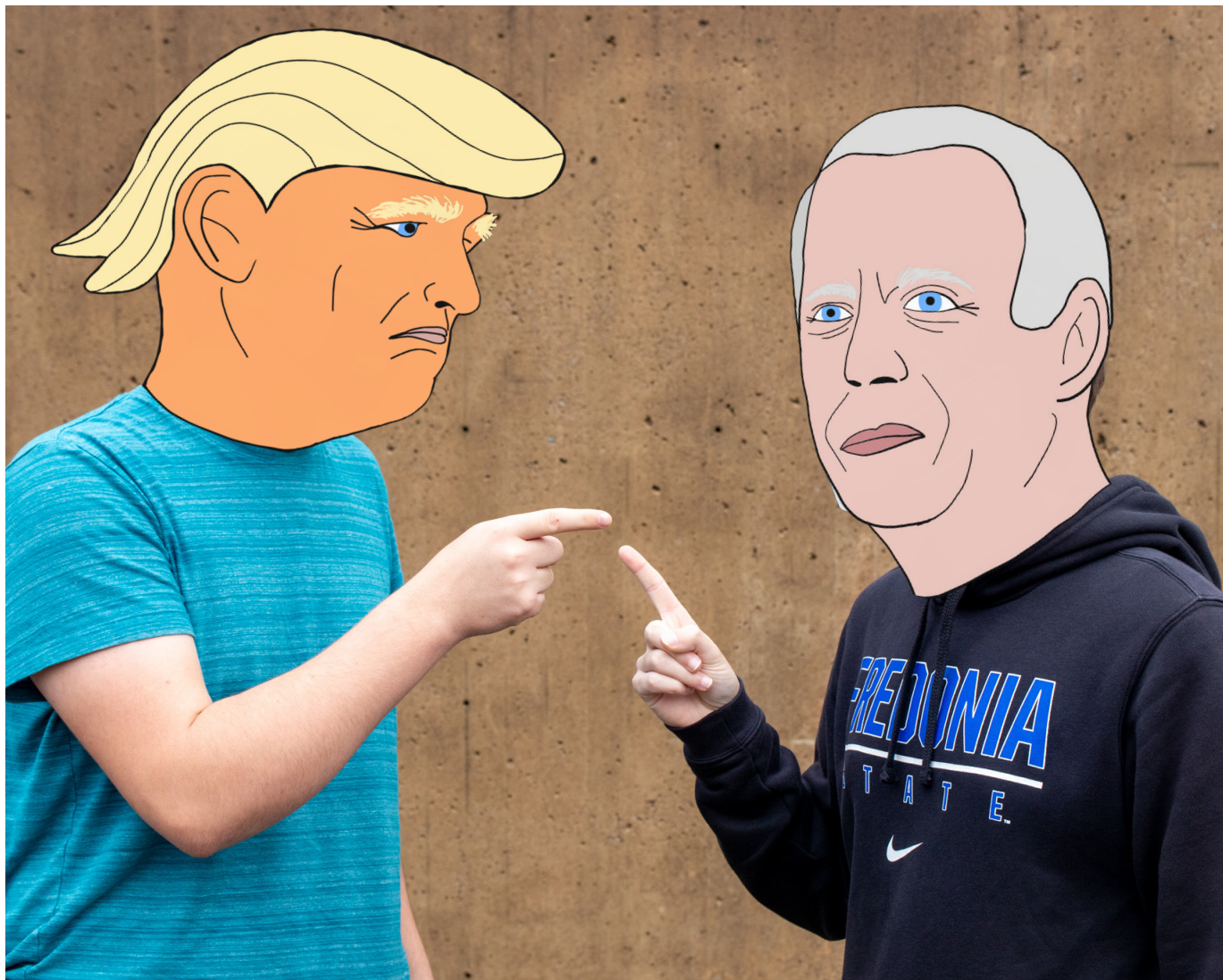
PHOTOGRAPHS BY ALEXIS CARNEY

GRAPHICS BY SARAH HUGHSTON

JOSEPH MARCINIAK (AS TRUMP)

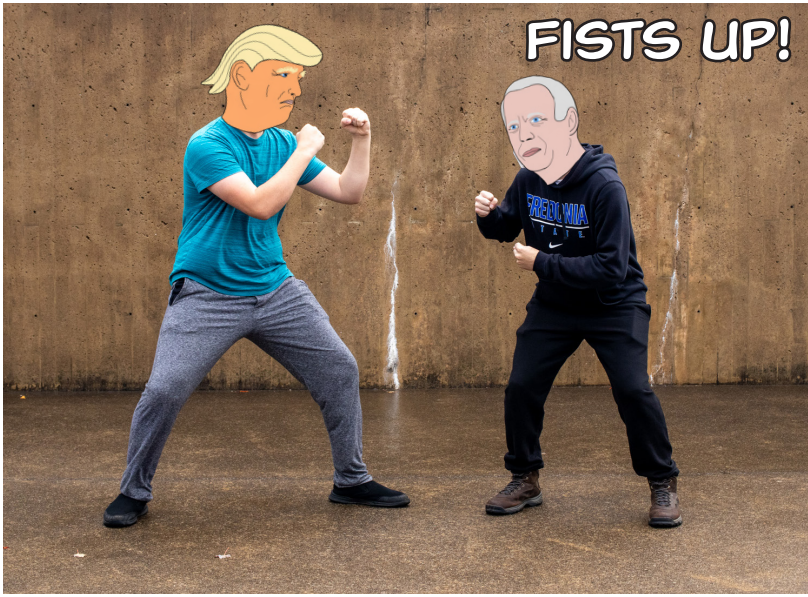
DEREK RAYMOND (AS BIDEN)

JULES HOEPTING (AS REFEREE)

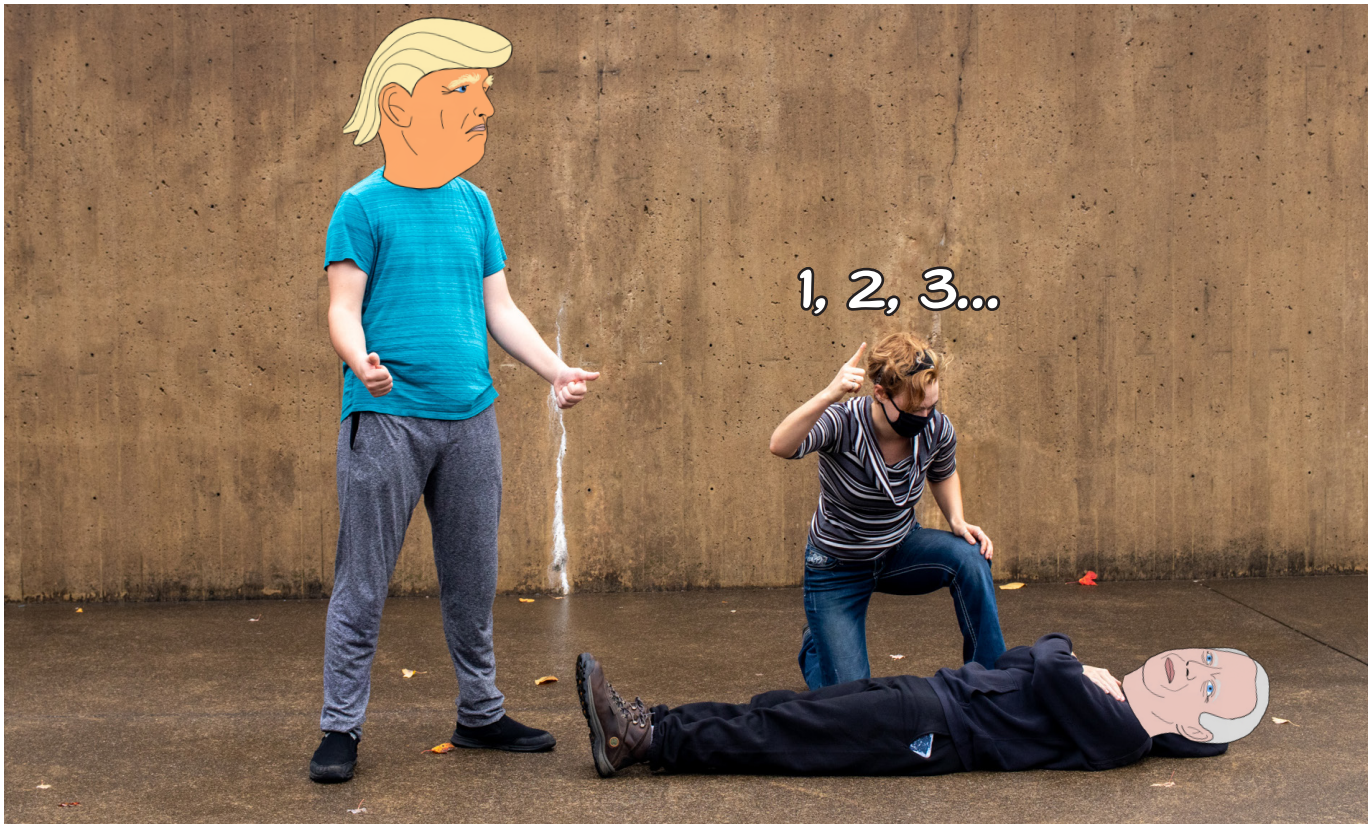


TENSION DEVELOPS BETWEEN TRUMP AND BIDEN.

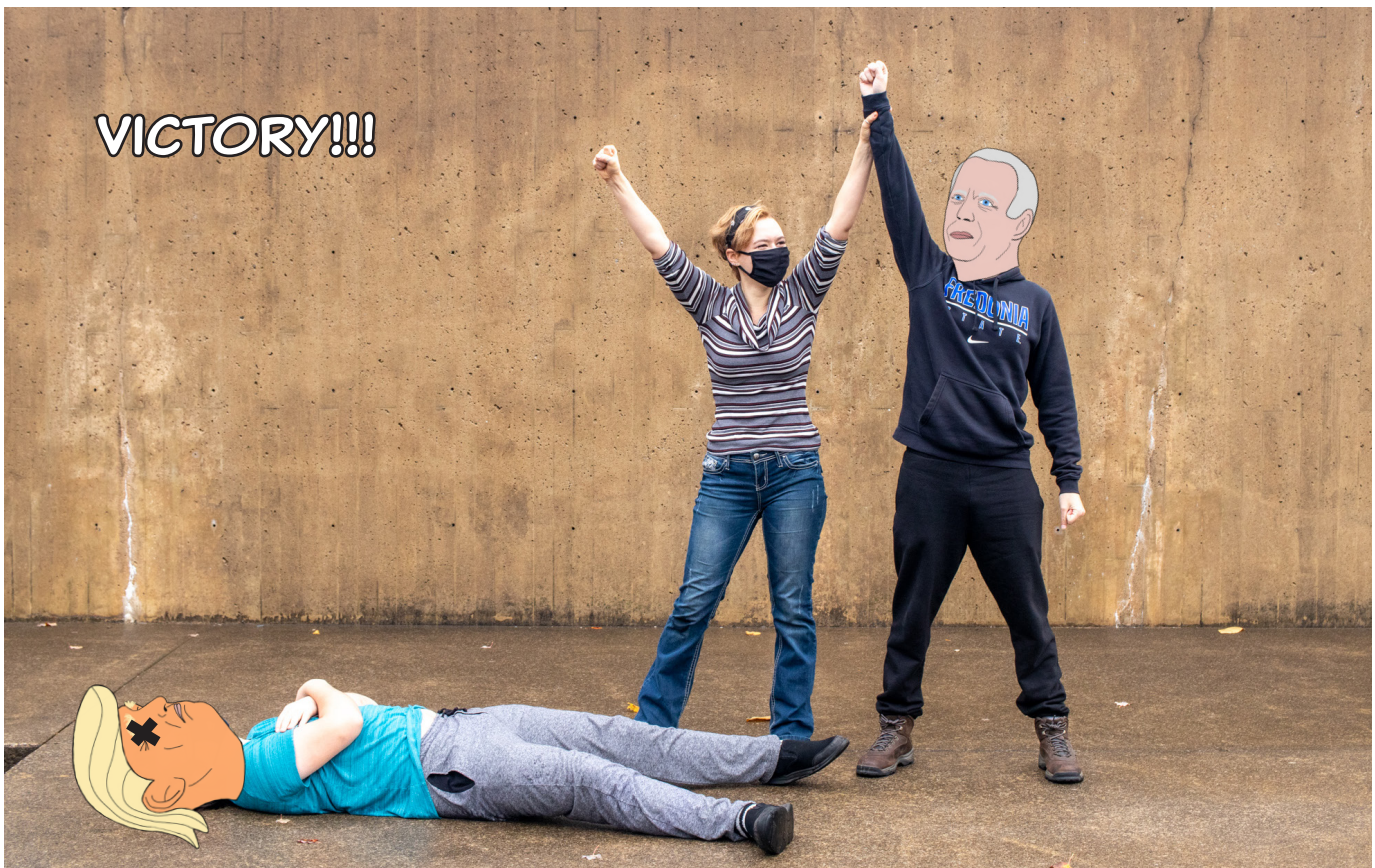




# IF TRUMP TRUMPS BIDEN..



# IF BIDEN TRUMPS TRUMP..



# THE SCALLION



## Hey guys, it's me, token MAGA hat guy

**BRIAN CECALA**  
Guest Scallywag

It's me, the token MAGA hat guy on campus, coming at you this election year to remind you of the various values we, as smart conservatives, have.

Far-left communist sleepy Joe Biden and open Antifa card-carrying member Kamala Harris are trying to make all citizens of the U.S. subservient to their big government ideals. That is why I support God Emperor Trump who stands for LAW AND ORDER, so if you step out of line by illegally protesting, then the brave and smart cops will send you to jail (After a good beating. Don't like it, don't ever commit a crime).

Second off, Trump has been the most supportive of the LGBT out of any president ever. Like how he is rolling back trans healthcare protections and passing laws that make it possible for adoption agencies to decline adoptions for openly gay couples. It is the privilege of every LGBT citizen to be EQUAL to their straight counterparts.

Third, Joe Biden has a dead son. I don't know why that's bad, but Trump made a big deal about it in the debates so it's probably important.

Fourth, Trump IS NOT RACIST. When asked if he would denounce white supremacy, he said, "Sure." I don't know what more sheeple liberals can want. If he was racist

he would routinely dog-whistle predominantly white neighborhoods and pretend that he's protecting them by code-calling Black people something like "low income housing" as a sign to white supremacist groups that he's on their side\*.

Fifth, he survived impeachment. Thank god for our Republican boys in the Senate who refused to see any evidence and openly stated that they would back the president without hearing any facts of the case.

Sixth, Trump handled coronavirus better than any president. Look at Joe Biden's response, he didn't do anything! It was a terrible thing sent to us from China that should have never happened and one life is too many. Only 223,000 people died so far, which is 74 times more people than those who died during 9/11, but I can't blame corona on brown people, so I'm ok with it.

Seventh, Joe Biden does not have a cool hat.

Finally, some of you have been asking about my cool hat I wear everyday. No, it is not smelly. It smells like manly musk.

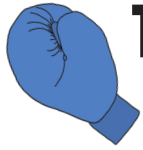
Yes, I have to openly project my political views to everyone everyday, otherwise how else can I virtue signal to everyone I'm smarter than them?

I would keep the hat on during sex, but these libs don't like strong manly men, so I am not having any.



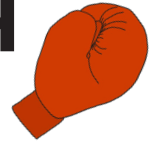
Graphic by Sarah Hughston

\*He does.



# THE SCALLION MEGA CAGE MATCH

## 3000 FOR THE WHITEHOUSE



**JOSEPH MARCINIAK**

Scallion Editor

This election has been everything BUT calm. We have seen candidates tear each other apart, both literally and figuratively. We still cannot find all the pieces of Steve Bullock, because of the BRUTAL takedown by Amy Klobuchar.

To say that this election has been confusing would be an understatement, so today, the Scallion will give you a full recap of the top most important moments in the long cage match supreme battle for the White House. Then, we will give you our top prediction for who will win this coming election.

The race kicked off at the announcement for the candidacy of God, the King of kings, in 2018 running against Donald Trump. The magnificent one was quickly down in the polls, however, when a United States Senator from Colorado, Michael Bennet, announced his candidacy. Quickly, the Ruler of all fell into obscurity.

Not long after, more candidates began announcing. Cory Booker, Andrew Yang, Pete Buttlegieg and more.

Finally, after every progressive Democrat everywhere held their breath, former Vice President Joe Biden announced his candidacy. We're good now guys, he's in this.

The first debate was a thrill ride. Kristen Gillibrand karate chopped Beto O'Rourke right in the back of the head. It rendered his Spanish speaking skills utterly useless, as he was no longer able to form coherent sentences. This was the losing moment for O'Rourke, and would prove to be his downfall.

United States Senator from Colorado, Michael Bennett, was on the attack. He quickly dismantled Jay Inslee's entire campaign. To this day, no one knows anything about Inslee except that he ran for president once.

Bernie Sanders arrived with a gun. We don't know where he got it, but it was against the rules. The guards attempted to escort him out but were unable to, until Elizabeth Warren quick-

ly put Sanders to sleep using a beautiful lullaby never heard before.

Anyways, that was just the first debate! There were like three more or something, and they were all just as intense.

Finally, about four months later, the field had been shortened down to a few top candidates.

Please read this next part in a wrestling announcers voice.

*Making his way to the ring, we've got the top dog. He's well known for his phenomenal storytelling abilities, like when he told the inspirational story of how he bested the fiend Cornpop. It's JOEEEEEEEE BIDEEEEEEN!*

*Walking in on the other side we've got the king of socialism. You know him for his impeccable hairstyle and his overwhelming hatred for the rich, its BERNARRRRRRR SAND-EEEEERS!*

*Coming in on another one of the sides, it's the queen of wishing she was Bernie. She may have been a Republican once, but you bet your bottom dollar she had a complete 180. It's the one, the only, ELIZABEEEEETH WARREEEN!*

*Dashing into the ring from the fourth side, we've got the rat man. The one known for being gay, which is cool, don't get me wrong, but we don't really know much else besides that. Anyways it's PETEYYYYY BUTTEGIEG-GGGG!*

*Crawling her way into the ring, she's known for her #epicclapbacks and her feistiness. She's got mom-power like no other candidate, it's AMYYYYY KLOBUCHARRRRRR!*

*Rolling on his side, it's a candidate none of us expected to get this far. He's got only one key thing that appeals to people and everything else he says is kinda not very smart, it's AN-DREWWWWWWW YAAAAAANG!*

*Finally, to finish off this epic rumble of the century, we've got the man who made it all happen. Even God fears this motherfucker. Known as the man behind the strings, he controls all Democrats, it's UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM COLORADO, MICHAEEEEEEELLL BENNETTT!*

*Also, we are legally obligated to state that Mike Bloomberg is here, but he was knocked out*

*just at the sight of other people, so he's already out.\**

This rumble was INTENSE. Biden jabs Klobuchar with a right hook, knocking Klobuchar clean out of the ring. DING DING DING, she's out!

Warren grabs the rat tail of Buttlegieg, swinging him above her head like he's nothing, then tossed him in the direction of Sanders, but Sanders just manages to dodge. Buttlegieg is OUT!

Sanders, in anger, does a bicycle kick, kicking Warren clean into the audience. She is OUT!

United States Senator from Colorado Michael Bennett takes a look at Yang, which turns him instantly on fire. Yang is OUT!

Sanders and Biden circle each other, fists raised. Sanders looks ready to eat his flesh, while Biden appears to be tiring. Suddenly, United States Senator from Colorado Michael Bennett began to glow, shining like the sun. He announced in a very loud voice, "I have chosen one candidate. It is not you." He pointed at Sanders, lifting him into the sky, and threw him across the stage. Sanders is OUT!

After an intense battle, United States Senator from Colorado Michael Bennett chose former Vice President Joe Biden as the candidate.

In the past month, we have seen Biden's power harnessed from United States Senator from Colorado Michael Bennett. In the two debates, Biden has knocked Trump out cold every time. Trump needs to find a backup plan.

So, with that out of the way, who do we think will win? It's complicated, but hear us out.

The winner of the 2020 election will be — ah! I've been shot! I cannot tell you who will win now because I am in immense PAIN! OW! DANG IT! I KNOW WHO WILL WIN IT'S — OOF I'VE BEEN SHOT AGAIN! DAMN YOU SNIPERS!

Graphic by Sarah Hughston

\*The writer also chose to leave out Tom Steyer. Not really for any particular reason, but he just kinda forgot about him.

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.

# Top 10 reasons why Kamala Harris is my #girlboss

JAY BYRON

Guest Scallywag

This article is for my ladies out there. Ladies? Are you listening? This is the reading material for you. Only ladies. If you are a man, stop reading! Right now!



Graphic by Sarah Hughston

Listen up, ladies. We got a woman who has power right in front of us. Are you telling me that some of you are ignoring her, even though she is the ultimate queen? The most razzle-dazzled woman? She could beat you to a pulp. Here's a list of reasons why she's my #girlboss and soon to be yours, too.

## 1. She speaks

Come on! You have to admit she does it. She talks really well. She has a good vocabulary, I think. Also her breath intake between sentences? Amazing, stunning. You're trying to tell me that other women can speak better than she can? Try her. She will speak so hard that she will blow away into smithereens.

## 2. YES CUT HIM OFF QUEEN

We all saw that vice presidential debate, right? She definitely took him down and all from saying "I'm speaking." This ties perfectly with point one! She speaks and she knows how to tell people that she is speaking! As she should! As she should.

## 3. She's a cop

Okay, so, let's break this one down. Kamala Harris is queen cop. She knows exactly how to be a cop. You're telling me other women can do that? I think not! Kamala Harris is such a cop that she's policing the police! Top cop, baby! Yeah! Yay, cops! Wait. Uhh...

## 4. Yayyy a woman VP yayyyy

She's a woman. She's running for vice president. Are there really any other women who do anything remotely close to that? Anything similar at all? That's right. No.

**5. (Wait... she had a presidential campaign... and so did other women... what)**

## 6. She's just like us

Nothing says #girlboss like being able to relate to other women. She's just a human, like us. She also has feelings. Well, I'm kind of assuming she has feelings because most humans do. Also, she grew up in a town in a house. That's really exciting. She's basically all of us. It was a small house, too. So that's even closer to what we are.

## 7. Note taking

Oh, oh! Also during the vice presidential debate she took notes really aggressively like any boss should do! She's a queen for that. She was writing at the speed of light, so fast that I thought her hand was going to shoot into outer space. I mean, look it up and watch her do it again. It was wild. She really had everything ready to go. Taking notes like that? Who does that? I bet it looks really nice. Kamala Harris, if you're reading this, please let me see your notes please, I just really want to see them (please).

## 8. THE FITS

We all know Kamala Harris is a queen in dark blue. But have you seen her in dull wine red? Beautiful. The suits? Come on. One time I saw her in plaid. A light plaid. That was striking and absolutely very incredibly different. Oh, Kamala, lend me your closet!!!

## 9. She reminds me of Miley Cyrus somehow

I don't know, but you know where I'm coming from, right? Like, I just know she will get on stage and start singing a cover of Heart of Glass in intense glittery makeup. She would do the TikTok trend really well, I just know it. Kamala Harris can totally be Miley Cyrus for Halloween and I wouldn't even bat an eye because I'd just think she's Miley Cyrus.

## 10. California woman

She's from California! That's so cool! I wish I was from California. I think only #girlbosses come from California. Man, if only I could be from California so I could feel what Kamala Harris feels all the time. I want to be Californian so bad. Please, Kamala Harris. Please love me.

That's all for why you should make Kamala Harris your new #girlboss. She's... she's just perfect. I miss her.

# Seasonal depression forces Fredonia students back to their comfort media once again

**MATTHEW BAUM**

Assistant Scallion Editor

Well, it's that time of year again.

The leaves are coming down, the temperature is dropping and the morale of students attending SUNY Fredonia is also taking a nosedive. With the change of seasons into the colder months, there is a perturbing, but not wholly surprising, dip in the feeling on campus. Long faces and unmotivated shuffling has replaced the bright smiles and enthusiastic skittering that were readily available only a few weeks ago.

Due to this seasonal dip into the well of entropy, it has been found that students are spending more and more of their time on various streaming networks, video game consoles and social media apps; however, there has been no noticeable uptick in students diving into new media.

A recent study found that students are spending their free time re-watching, re-playing and re-immersing into old media, or media they already feel comfortable with. These pieces of 'comfort media' are often well-known cultural staples, and the way they are embraced

in times like these is truly a sight to see.

Siobhan Llewynn, a junior history major with a focus in early Scottish civilization, had some very choice words to say about her return to her comfort media.

"I don't give a flyin' hoo-hah about anything new as of late! The wind's been pickin' up, and me willingness to give attention to something I might not even like is jack squat. Exploration's fer warmer weather, and the time fer cuddling up and watching John Mulaney comedy specials is nigh."

It is important to note, too, that seasonal depression is hitting students a little harder than usual these days. Who could have guessed? The increased stresses of living in a very isolated fashion has led some students to reach even further into the knapsack of nostalgia and dive head-first into childhood favorites.

Reed Library has reported that they have rented out every edition of the beloved children's books "Horton Hears a Who," "Charlotte's Web" and "Where the Wild Things Are." Along with these notable sign-outs, whenever a copy of

"The Giving Tree" is returned, there are always tear stains on the pages of the books.

It is clear that an epidemic of dour attitudes and downtrodden spirits is sweeping across campus. In order to avoid fully losing hope and making an irrational decision about dropping out of classes, here are some tips to have a mildly-ok time as winter approaches:

Log into your Netflix account and watch "Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse" six times, on repeat.

Go to YouTube.com, find a playlist of mediocre pop songs that came out from 2008-2011 and play it at full volume.

Go to Reed Library, rent a copy of "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban" and weep.

Buy a set of Lego pieces from Walmart and build the set in your car while you are still in the parking lot.

Most importantly, reach out to your friends, family and loved ones for support.

## HOROSCOPES

**THE POLITICAL EDITION** HANNAH BLIDY - Staff Scallywag

This week, we have a special edition of the horoscopes. These are the people that each of the signs would vote for.

### ARIES

You will not be voting at all because you're pissed off at the establishment.



### TAURUS

You will be writing in Elizabeth Warren, because equality. <3



### GEMINI

Jo Jorgensen, because tHeReS mOrE oPtIoNs ThAn DeMoCrAt Or RePuBlIcAn.



### CANCER

You don't know who you're voting for yet, you're waiting to see what the full moon tells you to do.



### LEO

You're writing in Harambe, just like you did in 2016.



### VIRGO

Howie Hawkins. Honestly, you have no idea who he is, but you're voting for him to be nice.



### LIBRA

You won't be voting for president, but you will be voting in local elections, because that's what matters.



### SCORPIO

Normally, you'd vote Republican. But this year, you're voting for Joe Biden.



### SAGITTARIUS

You're writing in Pete Buttigieg, because equality. <3



### CAPRICORN

Kanye. Because Kanye.



### AQUARIUS

Donald Trump, because you know more about wind than anyone.



### PISCES

You're writing in Bernie Sanders even after he told you not to do that.



