

THE LEADER

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The Leader

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Fredonia community gathers to witness solar eclipse

JACOB SANTOS

Special to The Leader

While Aug. 21 initiated the Fall 2017 semester, millions of people across the country eagerly waited to witness a solar eclipse visible throughout the contiguous United States. A band spanning between the states of Oregon and South Carolina provided the most totality. At Fredonia, the moon was expected to cover approximately 72 percent of the sun's rays.

Outside of the new Science Center, students and members of the community had the opportunity to receive a pair of eclipse glasses to safely view the sun. Telescopes and binoculars with special lenses were set up allowing attendees to get a close up view.

Much of the planning for this event was put together by Michael Dunham of the physics department. Dunham has a research background in astronomy and knew ahead of time about the "Great American Eclipse."

"The eclipse glasses and other equipment such as the tripods and binoculars were bought from a grant by the Carnahan Jackson Humanities Fund," said Dunham. "The deadline for [the grant] was last Fall, so that's when we started thinking about this."

With an expectation that prices for eclipse glasses would soar weeks before the eclipse's date, the department was encouraged to order 1,500 glasses in March when they cost

about one dollar each. Just days prior to Aug. 21, glasses were selling on Ebay for over 100 dollars.

The event beginning in the early afternoon was well attended with an estimate of more than 3,000 students and members of the Chautauqua county community. A handful of students, primarily majoring in physics, assisted by adjusting the telescopes and binoculars during the event as well as handing out the eclipse glasses.

"It was amazing that 1,500 glasses were handed out in a half an hour," said Justin Conroy, the chair for the physics department. "On one end you think that's too bad, but seeing people on campus sharing their glasses with others made it a community experience. People were interacting and generous," he added.

"The turnout was incredible," said Dunham. "I really didn't know what to expect. We hoped it would be popular."

While Fredonia was too north to experience a total eclipse, other regions in the country such as Charleston, South Carolina and Kansas City, Missouri were in the eclipse's path to experience darkness like an early evening.

In 2024 a total solar eclipse is expected to be visible from Western New York, which is something physics professors are already looking forward to.



On the Cover:

A view of campus lights at night.

Corey Maher/ Former Photo Editor

Fredonia welcomes the second largest incoming class in campus history



JAMES LILLIN
Staff Writer

For the past few years the SUNY system has been fighting plummeting enrollment numbers, and SUNY Fredonia was no different.

According to the Spring 2017 Demographics Report, a total of only 4,261 students were enrolled at Fredonia last semester, with the school's various departments scrambling to work together to reverse the decline. Fortunately, things are looking up at Fred.

"This is the second largest first-year entering class we've had in our record keeping, which goes back many, many decades," said Director of Admissions Cory Bezek.

Fredonia is currently welcoming in a class of 1,160 first-year students, compared to 934 last year.

"We're up in every area across the board, and almost every major," said Bezek. "We're up in visual arts, but we're also up in business. We're up in STEM, but also in Education. It's really great to see."

This rise isn't attributable to demographics, as New York graduating classes are not on track to grow in size for almost another decade. Rather, the increase is the result of a campus-wide effort to demonstrate what Fredonia has to offer prospective students.

"We decided to rethink all basic assumptions and just get down to the fact that we are a destination, and to focus on how we get people to recognize that," said Bezek. "This was an effort made by the entire campus to come together for the same goal, focusing on not just new student recruitment, but also on retention, all the while focusing on student success as the main goal."

Many changes were made internally, including changes to the admissions systems and an overhaul of the Open House process.

"When we sat down to look at it we made over 80 changes to processes, communications and everyday things we do in the Admissions office and across campus," said Bezek. "We've reinvented our Open Houses to give students a better idea of what it's like to actually be a student rather than just touring the campus."

These Open House changes include a new 'micro-class' system, where prospective students can take short 15-20 minute classes in different disciplines to get a better feel of what an average student can expect to find during their day-to-day lives at Fredonia. This multidisciplinary approach may have helped to attract students looking to explore a wide variety of interests.

"One of the things I was looking for when I looked up schools was having the ability to take the things I wanted to take," said freshman musical theatre major Sarah Friedman. "My interests are all over the place, and a lot of schools won't let you combine interests, but at Fredonia it's no problem."

One crucial change was expediting the admissions process, which allowed prospective students to get information on admittance and financial aid much sooner.

"We've become able to get financial aid awards out right around Thanksgiving, when that normally happens in March," said Bezek. "Students were not only able to know if they were accepted to Fredonia very quickly, but also what it was going to cost months ahead of time."

Admittance numbers started

increasing as early as January, meaning that the recently implemented Excelsior Scholarship may have had little to do with the increase in enrollment.

"Excelsior wasn't announced until early-to-mid April, at which point we were already up by double-digits," said Bezek. "Most students already know where they're going at that time, so it certainly may be helpful, but likely wasn't a deciding factor."

Bezek sees this year's enrollment spike as a sign that growth at Fredonia will continue, and is eager to see what the Class of 2021 will accomplish during their time at SUNY Fredonia.

"Every class has its own unique personality," said Bezek, "and I say it every year, but I'm most excited to see what this class is going to become."



Alissa Salem/ Staff Illustrator

Spectrum holds safari-themed block party on Tim Hortons patio



KARA CEKUTA
Staff Writer

Where can you find fellow students enjoying a sunny afternoon jamming out to indie tracks and enjoying safari-themed snacks?

Spectrum's annual Block Party was held on Friday at the end of their "Welcome Week," which lasted from Aug. 20 to the 25. The week's other events included an ice cream social, trivia night and bingo night.

Students at Fredonia gathered around to enjoy punch, pizza and non-alcoholic piña colodas. Music from the local talent acted as a soundtrack to the event. Many students sported brightly colored tattoos from the airbrush tattoo station and others took their seats on patio cushions while the caricature artist transformed them into grinning, bubble-headed characters.

Among these students were Gabby Mattel, a junior communications disorder major, and Dana Vertuccio, a junior early childhood education major. They were both regulars at Spectrum's events all week long.

"I met people from other activities," Mattel said as she recognized some familiar faces at the event.



She explained how easy it is to meet new people, "even if you come alone."

"We wanted to celebrate the first week back, welcome returning students and encourage freshman," said Katie Grabowski, a senior early childhood education major and Spectrum's vice president. Grabowski has been a part of the Spectrum team for two years.

President John Greenan, a senior marketing and music industry dual major, wanted to embrace the summer setting by creating a "social environment at the center of campus for everybody."

Spectrum will have a table at Activities Night on Aug. 30 and is looking for new members to add on to their team.

Hosted by Spectrum Entertainment, the safari-themed block party included free caricatures, airbrush tattoos, food and live musical performances by students.
Angelina Dohre/Photo Editor

Last Call kicks off the semester with a Fredonia favorite



BETHANY CLANCY
Staff Writer

With the semester in full swing, so are the shows down at Black Jack's, more popularly known as BJ's.

Every other Wednesday you can find SUNY Fredonia students downtown with a mason jar and corn dog in hand getting ready to groove.

M.A.G.S., who is getting ready to release an album on Sept. 8 and who just released a new song/video titled, "Demon," are returning to the Fredonia music scene for the third time. Deadwolf, a psychedelic rock band hailing from Buffalo along with Johnny and the Man Kids, who are a Fredonia-based garage rock band, will also take the stage.

The shows at BJ's are run by Last Call Entertainment, a local booking company started by Fredonia graduates Aidan Licker and Pat Walker, that recently branched out to Buffalo.

There is a lot that goes into putting on a show

and the Fredonia branch of Last Call currently has 11 team members to ensure the process is as successful as possible. Lexi Reingoudt and John Greenan are the two in charge of booking the shows and contacting the bands. Harper Fischer is in charge of the media team, which includes Gabe Lavine, the photographer, Morgan Henderson, their PR person, and Lily Fischer with Alex Brehrens, the videographers. Lastly on the team are Mike Tomasulo and John Vaughn, the sound engineers.

When there is a band that the Last Call team want to play at BJ's, either Greenan or Reingoudt reach out to them on Facebook or via email and explain how the Fredonia music scene is growing and how much the crowds love local music.

"We've had bands like Made Violent, Del Paxton and Head North come down because they love the vibe of the crowd in Fredonia and they always want to come back," Reingoudt explained.

Then there's always a question of, "who should open the show?"

Reingoudt went on to explain that they usually find bands that have a similar sound to the headliners or even have a good friendship with them, that way the chemistry between the bands flow together and creates a great show.

Whether it's to enjoy the local music or to relieve the stress from the first half of the week, BJ's shows are the way to go.

Maria Johnson, a senior VANM major, comments that they always put on a good show and that her and her friends are extremely excited to attend it. As always, a limited amount of students under 21 will be let in for \$5. For anyone over 21, the show is free.

A spot of magic appears in Fredonia



MOLLY VANDENBERG
Staff Writer

Sometimes all you need is a change from routine because, let's be honest, standing with 30 other grumpy half-awake students every morning in the Tim Horton's line can get old really fast. Thankfully, a new tea shop, A Spot and A Spell, recently opened on the first day of classes on East Main Street in downtown Fredonia.

Upon first stepping inside, you initially feel right at home. There are a few small tables topped with real crystal balls. There is a fireplace as well as a few other elegant tables and chairs (see if you can spot the Nimbus 2000). It's impossible to miss the wall of "Harry Potter" merchandise. With t-shirts, Bertie Botts Every Flavor Beans and a variety of books, an avid "Harry Potter" fan will not walk out of the door disappointed.

The owner, Patty Valentine, was very eager to share her story.

"I own Lady of the Lake and I've been looking for something different to do . . . One day I went for coffee and I [realized] there is only one coffee shop here in town. I wanted to do tea, as it's

becoming very popular," she said.

"I'm a huge 'Harry Potter' fan. I was watching [it] one day and I realized I could do something like Professor Trelawney's classroom. So, that's what I kind of modeled it off . . . with the mismatched chairs and the crystal balls and the teapots everywhere."

Valentine wants to create a calm atmosphere for students.

"I've talked to so many college students over at Lady of the Lake and they're like 'I need somewhere quiet to go study,' or 'my roommates are noisy,' so I'm like, 'okay, we'll have wifi in here.' This building is so old, there are actually outlets on the floors. They can actually plug their computers right into the floors," she said.

They're selling four different kinds of holistic artisan coffee. The Awakening is a cinnamon coffee brew, Witches Brew is a bold flavor, and The Whomping Willow is the regular blend. Tea will also be for sale. Flavor shots are available, as well as coffee energy drinks.

Eventually, Valentine plans on having hot and cold butterbeer, hot apple cider and even pumpkin juice. There are currently pastries for sale, but

eventually she'd like to move into soups and possibly sandwiches.

There are many magic-related events planned such as tea leaf readings, wand making classes, potion classes and an herbology class.

There is A Spot and A Spell Facebook page you can follow to make sure you're not missing out on any upcoming events.

"I want people to just come and hang out. That's what I want," she said. "I want people to come and feel like they're going to a different place that's out of their element, relax, enjoy it [and] move into a different world."

A Spot and A Spell is open Monday through Saturday 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Evening hours are not yet determined.

AUGUST

8/30

Activities Night:

From 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Come out to Dods Grove and meet all of the clubs and groups on campus, maybe get involved with something new!

8/30-12/6

Coffee Break:

Every Wednesday from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Williams Center S226B "Gather with international students for coffee, tea and extremely satisfying conversation!"

Quote courtesy of Fredonia's campus calendar

SEPTEMBER

9/5-10/8

in the Marion Art Gallery:

Andrea Dezsö: Enchanted Fictions

9/6

MAGS with Deadwolf and Johnny and The Man Kids:

From 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. at BJ's. Under 21 \$5, 21+ free.

9/21

You've Got a Friend:

The Music of Carole King and James Taylor. In King Concert Hall at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available in the Ticket Office.

9/23

Rockin' The Commons:

From 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. in Barker Commons. All day music festival to benefit Roswell Park. Admission is free.

OCTOBER

10/12

Visiting Artist Program Lecture:

Jae Won Lee, Professor of Ceramics, Michigan State University, East Lansing. 8:30 p.m. in the Marion Art Gallery. Admission is free.

10/27

The Second City's Cure for the Common Comedy:

In King Concert Hall at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available in the Ticket Office.

10/20-10/28

Peter and the Starcatcher: in Marvel Theatre. Tickets are available in the Ticket Office.

10/20

The Hillman Opera 60th Anniversary Celebration:

In King Concert Hall at 8 p.m. Tickets are available in the Ticket Office.

NOVEMBER

11/30-12/3

Much Ado About Nothing:

In the Bartlett Theatre. Tickets are available in the Ticket Office

From The Desk of Madeline Carroll, Editor in Chief



My high school's curriculum required every student to take either an arts or music course in order to graduate. This requirement meant there were some rather unwilling students in my freshman art class. I didn't realize at the time how much of an impact this had on the atmosphere of the classroom and how different it would be when I took a 'real' art course. My junior year of highschool I took my first drawing class and I can confidently say it changed my life. What was different about this drawing class was that everyone had chosen to be there. This was an elective and because of that

there was a more focused and willing environment to grow as students and artists within. Since then, the knowledge I have gained is indispensable. The art teachers and professors I've had have shaped who I've become as a person. I saw people who struggled with every other subject in school come to life inside the walls of the art department. What I found different about visual arts is it gave me the opportunity to create something that wasn't there before. I've learned technical skills, principles and theories which are all very important to my understanding of art as a whole. The most important thing I learned however, was how to see things. It doesn't matter if you have the best technical skills if you don't know how to see the world around you and create something from it with meaning. When I was deciding what I wanted my major to be I considered pursuing a BFA

degree. I chose a communication degree and a minor in Visual Arts and New Media instead, not wanting to be a cliché, struggling art student. I'm ultimately happy with the choices I made as they led me to this very newspaper but I often wonder how different my life would be had I chose the former. I always had the idea that the arts were not a wise way to make a living, and in some ways that is true. One of the most valuable things I have learned in college however, is how to take something you're passionate about and make it practical. Passion, and knowing where to put it, will take you farther than any paycheck ever will. So this is my shameless plug. Go into the arts, whether it's writing, acting, singing, painting, sculpting. Whatever it is, pursue it endlessly. As Kurt Vonnegut once said, "The arts are not a way to make a living. They are a very human way of making life more bearable."

Verbatim: What do you hope to gain from your college experience?



Kasen Jewell, freshman electrical engineering major
"Meeting new people who are pretty different than me, but we can find something that we have in common."



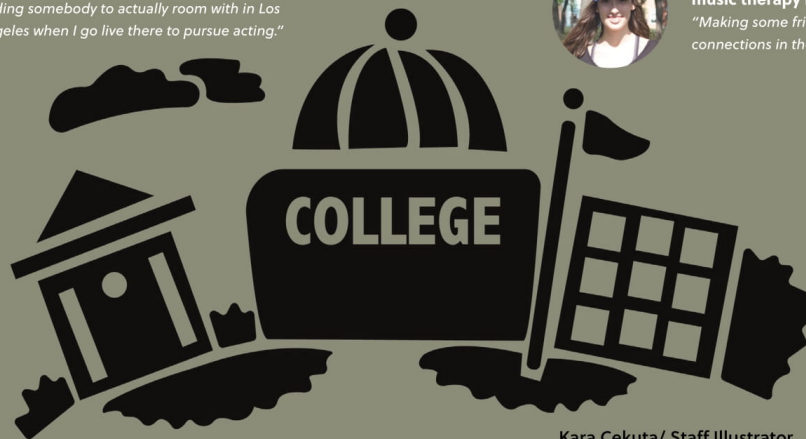
Carienne Hinkle, freshman criminal justice major
"Meet new people, discover who I really am and to better my education."



Ben Hitrick, freshman acting major
"Making a few connections and hopefully finding somebody to actually room with in Los Angeles when I go live there to pursue acting."



Brenna McKane, freshman music therapy major
"Making some friends, getting some connections in the music therapy world."



Kara Cekuta/ Staff Illustrator

Nonviolence isn't always easy, but we should practice it anyway



James Lillin
Staff Writer

The grotesque violence in Charlottesville, Virginia, has cast a shadow over the lives of many Americans.

Heather Heyer, 32, was murdered when a white supremacist protester drove his car into a crowd of anti-racist protesters; 19 others were injured.

Many argue that the heavily-armed, ultra-nationalist rally populated by Nazis and White Supremacists did not represent American values, with the racist and anti-semitic rhetoric being inherently 'Un-American'.

This argument is, unfortunately, untrue. Racism and race-based oppression are as American as apple pie.

Virginia was the birthplace of eight Presidents, more than any other state in the Union. Of these eight Presidents (George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, William Henry Harrison, John Tyler, Zachary Taylor and Woodrow Wilson), only Wilson was not a slave owner, perhaps due to the fact that his term started in 1913. Slavery is embedded in the bedrock of America, and remains a national disgrace that our nation has still not made reparations for. These anti-racist protestors recognized this and stood up bravely to fight against the rising tide of xenophobia and white resentment that seems to be set to crash across the country.

The entire tragedy has been made more horrifying by President Trump's insistence that there were "very fine people" marching alongside the Nazis, a comment which represents an unimaginably cruel twisting-of-the-knife in the bellies of the families of the murdered and injured.

Just as galling has been Trump's

insistence that there was "violence on both sides," pointing the finger at the non-existent 'alt-left' in an effort to equate anti-racist counter protesters with the white nationalists and members of the alt-right who spread terror throughout both Charlottesville and the nation as a whole.

Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe wrote that "Neo-Nazis, Klansmen and white supremacists came to Charlottesville heavily armed, spewing hatred and looking for a fight. One of them murdered a young woman in an act of domestic terrorism, and two of our finest officers were killed in a tragic accident while serving to protect this community. This was not 'both sides.'"

It seems that in today's America, there is no act so unconscionable that it will not be excused by our President if the performer of the atrocity is aligned with him politically. Whether it's his excusal of the tragedy in Charlottesville, his long-running lies about his awareness of the support of former Ku Klux Klan Grand Wizard David Duke; or his recent Presidential pardoning of the twice-convicted Sheriff Joe Arpaio, who once called the prison he ran a "concentration camp."

Trump is publicly sending the message to racists and bigots that the President of The United States has their backs if the liberal snowflakes have the gall to ask them to stop murdering them in public.

This isn't to excuse all of the rhetoric of left-leaning Americans in the days after Charlottesville. In the days after the attack my social media was flooded with images of a liberal counter-protester punching peacefully protesting members of the alt-right in the face, with bolted-on jokes about the 'proper form and technique' for "punching Nazis".

These jokes, as satisfying as they

may feel to make, are unconscionable and unhelpful, particularly because it only serves to give members of the right ammunition to claim that liberals really are the violent party when reality demonstrates the opposite. America has one of the most liberal free-speech guarantees in the world, and as long as protesters remain peaceful we need to respect it lest we allow white nationalists to develop a martyrdom and persecution complex.

Until we get the chance to vote the Hatemonger-in-Chief out of office, this is the reality that we are going to have to live with. We are going to have to remain loud, remain furious, and remain peaceful. If we narrow our focus to tearing down Trump's backwards and destructive policies rather than sharing memes about him eating hamburgers and staring into the eclipse, maybe we'll be able to build up enough furor to take the House away from his party in 2018. Then, maybe, we could get the ball rolling on impeachment.

"These jokes, as satisfying as they may feel to make, are unconscionable and unhelpful, particularly because it only serves to give members of the right ammunition to claim that liberals really are the violent party when reality demonstrates the opposite."

Women's tennis: a look at the upcoming season

Blue devils look forward to competing despite a young team



AVRIL KING
Social Media Manager

Looking back to this past year, 2016 was a historic year for Fredonia's women's tennis team. With a final record of 10-3, it was one of their most successful seasons yet. Now, the question that these women face is, "what's next?"

At the end of the 2016-2017 school year, the team lost five seniors to graduation. With six returning players and seven new additions, it might be easy to write these next few months off as a building season. This is including the fact that freshman biology major, Taylor Marelli, will be unable to play due to a recent surgery. Instead, she will be serving as the team's first student manager.

However, Olivia Miller, a junior exercise science major, is eager at the thought of having so many new people.

"I'm really excited to start seeing them excel," said Miller, who was last season's top player.

And excelling is exactly what the newest players intend to do.

"Our team definitely has potential. Coach definitely pushes us. We're a good, skilled team; I can tell that we are competitive. I'm going to make the most out of my first year of college tennis," said Taylor Rubens, a freshman who childhood inclusive education major.

Rubens herself seems to have potential. Playing tennis, beginning in the eighth grade, she has had years of experience playing both singles and doubles.

The veteran players on the team are already considering what they would like the season's end results to look like.

Chloe Karnisky, a speech pathology major and the only senior on the team this year, has stressed teamwork as a major factor for the success of the team.

"Everybody needs to work together. My main goal is to make sure that everybody is cohesive and is on the same level as each other," said Karnisky. "Our skill set is very different from last season as a team."

As for her own personal goals, Karnisky would like to do a better job of persevering against her challengers.

"I'm running a lot more consistently outside of practice. I just really want to outlast my opponents,"

she said.

Alternatively, Miller is more concerned with her positivity rather than her physical fitness, especially considering tennis is a sport that is as mentally taxing as it is physically exhausting.

"Even if I lose a match, I have to still feel good about how I played," Miller said.

In the end, the ladies on the women's tennis team would simply like to work their hardest and play their best. And, if they can rack up a few wins along the way, their goals for the season would be met.

Editor's note: Avril King is a member of Fredonia's women's tennis team

Bills turbulent off-season unlikely to translate into on-field success

Circling the wagons this season may be a fruitless endeavor, but that's okay



CURTIS HENRY
Sports Editor

"I'm not throwing in the towel. I'm going to try and win today and tomorrow."

Those were the words that flew out of the mouth of new Bills general manager Brandon Beane on Aug. 11, one day after the team shockingly dealt both Sammy Watkins and Ronald Darby. Those were just the latest in a series of drastic roster moves that occurred this offseason.

"People forget we signed Anquan [Boldin] last week," said Beane, referencing the team's Aug. 7 acquisition of Boldin. Irony died less than 10 days after Beane's statements, when Boldin abruptly retired from the NFL.

While the Bills gave up Watkins and Darby unexpectedly, the moves did set them up long-term. For the first time in the duration of the drought, the Bills may have positioned themselves to make the postseason sooner rather than later. Here's how.

Through three preseason games, it has become painfully obvious that Tyrod Taylor has

struggled with learning a new offense. Struggles at quarterback will hinder the development of Zay Jones and will stymie the abilities of veterans like Jordan Matthews and Charles Clay. Taylor probably won't survive past 2017 in Buffalo (barring a miraculous playoff berth,) and rookie Nate Peterman doesn't look like an answer in today's NFL, where patience for quarterback development is at an all-time low.

That means that the Bills find themselves once again without an answer at the quarterback position, which has been the biggest and most consistent factor in the team's lack of a playoff presence over the past two decades. That alone justifies both the Darby and Watkins trades, which gifted the Bills two more draft choices in the 2018 drafts.

Despite an obvious uncertainty regarding this season's success, the Bills have one thing to already feel great about: 2018's NFL Draft.

The Bills early picks in 2018 are as follows:

- 1st round picks: Buffalo, Kansas City
- 2nd round picks: Buffalo, Los Angeles Rams
- 3rd round picks: Buffalo, Philadelphia

The Bills and Rams could very realistically each finish in the bottom five of the 2017 NFL standings, meaning that the Bills could be sitting pretty with four of the first 37 picks in next Spring's draft.

That assures them the ammunition necessary to trade up to any spot in the draft in order to draft a potential franchise quarterback, a luxury that has been lacking in Buffalo for the better part of the past 20 years.

The immediate success of the team may be a serious question mark, but no worries. There's finally a glimmer of light at the end of that tunnel, Bills fans. Throw that jersey on and crack open a cold one, because it's time to circle the wagons for 2017.

Leslie Martinez/ Staff Illustrator

Men's soccer season preview



QUINTIN JAMES
Staff Writer

The Fredonia men's soccer team went 11-7-2 last season, and won their last game of the season to make the playoffs. Fredonia also won a home playoff game, as they beat Plattsburgh in a memorable shootout to advance to the semifinals. After losing to Oneonta in the semifinals, they look to rebound this season and get over the hump. This year will be very different, as they have six new players on the team. That includes a few new freshmen who are eager to fight for playing time on an already loaded playoff team.

The competition in the pre-season has been high, as starting spots are up for grabs with so many new faces on the team.

"Coming in I thought we needed at least one impact freshman, and we have three that I think will fight for starting roles," said head coach PJ Gondek.

When discussing the expectations this year, Gondek explained that the team is taking this year one game at a time.

"We are trying not to focus too much on what we accomplished last year. Every team is different and we have several new players. We will be taking it week to week right now. We have six non-conference games to prepare our players and get them comfortable in their roles before SUNYAC play and that is our focus."

That being said, Fredonia will have a tough schedule out the gate as they play in the Buffalo State Fred Hartrick Classic next weekend before coming home for the home opener on Sept. 8. As Gondek mentioned, they have six non-conference games before they start playing conference opponents, and this will give them time to see what works and what doesn't work.

With many of the forwards from last year gone, fifth-year senior and sport management major Parker Healy becomes the main focus on the offensive side of play. Healy is a forward who played in 19 games last year (16 starts), scored five goals and had six assists and will look to be more of a focal point in the offense this year.

Gondek does not want or expect this to be a one-man show, however; he wants everyone to contribute to the team's success this year.

"Parker Healy is definitely a difference maker in any soccer game he plays, but I think there are others that are going to take a larger role than last year and they appear to be ready. We don't have any expectations other than trying to put us in the best possible position at playoff time."

One of the many players tasked with carrying a bigger role this year is sophomore Ebenezer Johnson. Last year he only appeared in two games, but scored a goal and dished out an assist in 53 minutes of playing time. Johnson is eager to get back and continue to get better.

"For me there was a lot I needed to improve on. I worked on many different aspects of my game and thought about how I could bring that back this year to contribute to what we have planned for the season."

The Blue Devils are searching for more impact players and that starts in practice.

"One of the goals that I want to accomplish this year is to become a better soccer player. I want to be able to improve on my game every time I get the opportunity [to] touch the ball, especially when I'm at practice."

Confidence will be high at the start of the season, but the Blue Devils are focused and ready for the task at hand. Coming off a playoff trip one year ago, the Blue Devils look to advance further in the playoffs this year.

Johnson talked about the mentality of hard work instilled in them by the coaching staff. If they want to be good, they will have to work hard.

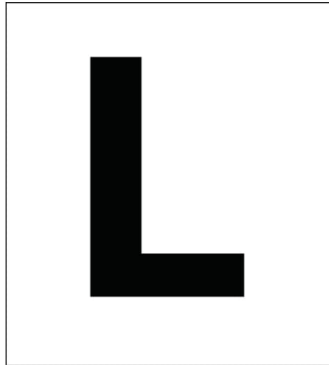
"I think we're quite confident. We want to be able to do more than what we did last season, but of course we're going to have to work hard. Coach said that it's going to be hard to be good, so in order to be good, we as a team must work hard. The overall goal is to have a successful season, and we will work hard as a team to get there."

Fredonia looks to keep up their momentum from last year, and if the new faces can mesh well with the veterans on the roster, Fredonia's men's soccer team is in for a good season.

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Tips for incoming freshmen, making the most of the semester



ALBERTO GONZALEZ
Staff Lamponist

As another semester begins and everyone is full of false confidence, now is a good time to address the freshmen on campus. Transfer students should take this advice, too.

Trust me, I wish I knew this when I transferred.

The first and foremost piece of advice that I can give to any freshmen reading this right now is to simply stop being a freshman. Lanyards are for literally anywhere except the neck. Nothing screams freshman like a newly minted lanyard adorned around the nape as if it were a fresh Little Trees "black ice" air freshener on your rear view.

Being a good conversationalist is important for finding friends. You should talk about things you did in high school ALL THE TIME, literally as much as you possibly can. Nothing says freshman more than constantly trying to live in the comfort of high school while filling the room full of your insecurities in the present.

Another good way to make friends is in your classes! Still try to remember, however, that during ice breakers on the first day of classes, claiming you are a "weird person" is not an interesting fact about yourself. Everyone will want to hang around you while you are constantly comparing them to people you know from home!

How should you spend your time? The best way to make the most of your semester is by going to class, sitting in your dorm and not doing any extra curricular activities whatsoever.

Hate to say it, but the "freshman 15" is a lie. You want to gain 15 pounds? Go to Cranston and challenge yourself to eat more and more everyday. You will gain a strong work ethic in many aspects.

Remember: the only way to find fellow freshmen is to ask every other person if they are, or not, with no other context beforehand.

In fact, complaining about the schedule the school has made you and doing nothing about it will show that you are persistent and have grit, which happen to be two highly sought-after characteristics everyone looks for in a friend!

Khris-San Dunn/ Staff Illustrator



Millions apply for disability after staring right into the solar eclipse



JACLYN SPIEZIA
Staff Lamponist

It was a bizarre day Aug. 21. Early in the morning lightning struck Old Main Drive, almost killing one student who had been stumbling back to campus drunk. One might think Ben Frenklyn was lucky to escape the lightning, but that very same day he went blind.

Now, as he applies for disability, he does not feel so lucky and neither do the other millions of Americans who are also applying. If none of these instances are related to the early morning thunderstorm, then what could have caused this strange phenomena?

Some students believe it was because some colleges started classes that day.

"Maybe the universe is trying to tell colleges not to cut into our summertime," one girl said.

While this is a solid theory, young children and adults alike fell victim, meaning that this is not punishment for getting an education.

"Maybe our phones are attacking us!" a male student said while intensely playing World of Warcraft.

Nothing seemed to make sense until one science student at Fredonia, Bill Nine, suggested this was caused by the solar eclipse. Others were skeptical though, as they were not sure how looking at a solar eclipse could make one go blind.

"Just look at our president," one older white male said, "Donald Trump didn't go blind and he was looking directly at the solar eclipse! If he was doing it, it must have been okay."

Scientists decided to look into this theory after a survey found that 98 percent of the people who took it had watched the eclipse without protective glasses. It is believed that two percent of the people were already blind before taking the survey.

The next day there was breaking news: "Scientists have discovered that the solar eclipse is dangerous to our eyesight, and may indeed cause one to go blind if stared at for a decent amount of time." People were outraged after hearing this.

"Why didn't we know this information ahead of time?" cried one woman who was extremely upset as she was needing to file disability for her 7-year-old son. She was responded to by an older gentleman.

"I knew ahead of time," said the older gentleman, Bertie Saunders. No one ever listened to him because it seemed like he was a crazy talker. "If all of you had only listened to me," he wisely said as he shook his head.

Hayley Patterson/ Staff Illustrator



"Wolfenstein" developer MachineGames apologizes for promoting violence against Nazis



TRAVIS LEFEVRE
Lampoon Editor

In our turbulent world, one message has come across loud and clear: under no circumstance is it okay to physically harm anybody. Especially if that person believes himself/herself to be part of some superior master race. Punching a Nazi is just as bad as the genocidal beliefs of the Nazi party, obviously.

This message resonated with many people, apparently, as game developer MachineGames has issued an apology for ever rebooting the "Wolfenstein" franchise. In the official apology, the developers admitted to their game being "immoral and wrong," and that the development of "Wolfenstein: The New Colossus" will cease to continue.

"At MachineGames, we strive to make fun games for people of all ages. We believed that 'Wolfenstein' would be one of those games. We now realize that the brutal killing of Nazis is just plain wrong. We don't know what we were thinking. It is 2017, after all," said Steven Summers, the lead artist designer.

Further in the press release, it is revealed that the inspiration for this retraction was from "Call of Duty: WWII's" lack of Nazi symbolism.

"We noticed that the team at Sledgehammer Games wasn't relying on

killing Nazis to make a living, and their game is based on historical accuracy. We decided that if they can take the high road while remaining historically accurate, so can we," the official release stated.

Sledgehammer responded with a press release of their own. The entire transcript of Sledgehammer's press release is available for your reading pleasure

"Dude, we just did that because we're lazy. Do you realize how much time it would have taken to make a censored version for German players?"

Further in the bowels of MachineGames' statement lies plans for the next installment of the "Wolfenstein" franchise. To aid healing the damage they've caused, their next game will focus on the life of a typical soldier of the Reich. The goal is to show that some Nazis are actually nice and genuinely good people.

"You will live the life of a very fine soldier of the Reich, living a very fine life. Our hope is that this will shed some light and humanity on a severely misunderstood people," said Summers.

Features of the game include patrolling raiding buildings for enemies of the state, playing with puppies and handing out candy to children.

"Wolfenstein: The New Perspective" is slated to release on Sept. 2, 2017.



Daniel Salazar/ Staff Illustrator

Canned Peaches by alissa salem



Police Notters



EMMA PATTERSON
Assistant Lampoon Editor

Monday, Aug. 21, 2017

Thirty-eight students were rushed to Lograsso Hall in a blind panic Sunday evening, each complaining of sore eyes and sunspots. When one student was asked why he ignored the near-constant warnings circulating the internet about the eclipse, he could only choke out, “at least my Snapchat is lit” before collapsing, most likely until 2024. On the bright side, most students were smart enough to apply sunblock where the sun don’t shine, so at least these poor souls won’t have any trouble sitting down.

Tuesday, Aug. 22, 2017

Twelve students were found passed out in front of Igoe Hall at around 7:14 a.m. Whether they were intoxicated or simply exhausted from the trek down the longest sidewalk known to man, onlookers agree that it was a “sad yet hilarious” sight to see.

Wednesday, Aug. 23, 2017

Connor McArthur, 29, was found living in an air vent (and with an abnormally-long Duck Dynasty-esque beard) in Thompson Hall. Despite his malnutrition and his assurances that he is “really, really late to Anthropology,” McArthur is expected to make a full recovery.

Police squashed a student-led uprising against the “one crappy flavor of Ben & Jerry’s” in the C-store Friday night. One officer was heard saying how she “has never seen college students so passionate about something,” while another was heard exclaiming “when the hell is this week going to end!?”

University Police discovered a student-run ring of hypnotists underneath Reed Library. The students were allegedly attempting to hypnotize professors into a semester-long syllabus week. They were given 40 hours of community service, but are being lauded as vigilantes.

Thursday, Aug. 24, 2017

University Police responded to a disturbance in the Fenton Hall parking lot early Thursday morning. Eight students were found living in makeshift tents in the parking spaces closest to the building. When the police attempted to remove the students, they hurled cans of

refried beans and suspicious-smelling canteens in protest. But hey — more spots for us!

Friday, Aug. 25, 2017

Three professors were charged with inaccurate meme-referencing. They were informed of their errors and instructed to leave the depressing, self-deprecating humor to the professionals: their students.

Campus police responded to a noise complaint in Disney Hall at 6:42 p.m. Friday evening. Fourteen students, in an apparent attempt to “protest September,” stood in a circle chanting the lyrics to “Wake Me Up When September Ends” while barbecuing and talking about how short summer felt. A second police squad was sent at 8:33 p.m. when it was discovered that the initial officers were busy “enjoying some cold ones” by the parking lot bonfire.

Saturday, Aug. 26, 2017

Megan O’Leary, 19, was issued a cease and desist in Mason Hall after claiming one too many times how “life-changing” her study abroad experience was, how she made lifelong friends in China, how the food is so much better there than in the US, yadda yadda yadda. Needless to say, her cease and desist was not met with protest.

Sunday, Aug. 27, 2017

Matthew Mooney, 20, and Sam Suns, 21, were both arrested when they broke into a fist fight Sunday afternoon. According to eyewitnesses, Mooney threw the first punch when Suns cut him in line in Cranston Marche. One could even say Mooney was...eclipsed by Suns. [NOTE: The author of this piece spontaneously combusted as soon as she finished writing. She was apparently smited by God due to the unholy amount of eclipse jokes in her article. What a shame.]



Daniel Salazar/ Staff Illustrator

Horoscopes



PATRICK BENNETT
Staff Lampoonist



You might find yourself with a primal urge to watch "Toy Story 5." Do yourself a favor and just watch "Toy Story 5." Get it over with! Plus, Andy's mom is hot!

Aries



Your earth sign huffing tendencies will begin to manifest themselves this week. Be aware that huffing that dust on your desk may lead to sweats, diarrhea and inappropriate thoughts about minions.

Taurus



Attending the first show at BJ's last week left you with tinnitus and a broken jaw. This is common. Wait until your first Sunny's experience. Can you say "full body cast?"

Gemini



Your roommate is super weird. Don't change up your dorm situation yet though. This could be the perfect opportunity to gather information for your upcoming "Harry Potter" fanfiction.

Cancer



The stars have spoken highly of you in the past, Leo. However, your casting of spells and attempts at conjuration in Cranston is deplorable! We'd rather you do carpool karaoke with James Corden.

Leo



Roses are red, violets are blue, it's time you start wearing deodorant, my dude.

Virgo



You're not an uncultured swine like the rest of those plebeians, Libra. Keep on listening to those ambient soundscapes, and sage the hell out of your dorm. No negative energy this week!

Libra



Everyone around you may develop a strong infatuation with someone in their class. You may become infatuated with chicken tenders. Lather them in sauce and go to town!

Scorpio



That makeup kit you've purchased from Kylie Jenner Cosmetics isn't going to bring back your dead cat Sprinkles. Give it up!

Sagittarius



Your obsession with Lil Pump and Soundcloud rappers is truly disgusting. Growing out dreads and popping Xanax is never ideal. Can't you just take a Benadryl?

Capricorn



That sexy selfie you'll post on Instagram will go viral for all the wrong reasons. Rule #1: Always flush what's in the toilet before you take a mirror selfie.

Aquarius



Your boyfriend actually smells like dog food. Oh wait?! He was actually turned into a dog by the shaman at the creek? Awesome . . .

Pisces