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Kershner Updates

Low Enrollment Explained

Dolls of New Albion

Black History Month

NBA All-Star Weekend

Gender-Neutral Bathrooms

THE LEADER

S206 Williams Center
Fredonia, NY 14063

www.fredonialeader.org

Email leader@fredonia.edu

Twitter @LeaderFredonia

Instagram @leaderfredonia

Editor in Chief

Alyssa Bump

Managing Editor

Jules Hoepting

News Editor

Chloe Kowalyk

Asst. News Editor

Open

Life & Arts Editor

Alyssa Bump

Asst. Life & Arts Editor

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Sports Editor

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Asst. Sports Editor

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Scallion Editor

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Front and back cover: "The Dolls of New Albion" by Nikki Indelicato.



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Great minds think alike, but so do lousy ones.

Three weeks later: The Kershnar situation

ALYSSA BUMP
Editor in Chief

It has been three weeks since the infamous tweet posted by @libsoftiktok sparked a national uproar against SUNY Fredonia distinguished teaching professor Dr. Stephen Kershnar.

Since then, the post has received over one million views, several news outlets covered the controversy and various statements have been released from SUNY Fredonia organizations. Yet, many of the conversations around the situation have fallen silent on campus.

Kendall Brooks, a junior childhood inclusive education major, had previously posted about the situation on his personal Facebook page. He urged his followers to sign a petition that calls for the removal of Kershnar created by a fellow student, Olivia Sylvester.

He explained when this information was first released in early February about Kershnar, he felt “as if there was finally going to be change happening in Fredonia.”

He continued, “Since then, this campus hasn’t updated anybody on further actions being taken on the professor... The school hasn’t really said anything, and I just find it feels like they’re just waiting for the waters to cool down before they put him back in the room.”

Brooks expressed he was “disappointed” that SUNY Fredonia hasn’t taken action against Kershnar yet, but he was not “shocked.”

“I honestly think students are kind of giving up on the situation because they haven’t seen any action being taken... they don’t feel like they’re being taken seriously,” said Brooks.

Despite these concerns, the change.org petition referenced above titled, “Fire Professor Stephen Kershnar from SUNY Fredonia,” has now reached over 50,000 signatures. Sylvester, a sophomore mathematics major who created the petition, originally stated in a previous interview with The Leader that she expected the petition to reach “500 signatures max.”



Faculty portrait of Dr. Stephen Kershnar.

However, this goal has since been met 100 times over.

Since The Leader’s last article on the matter, the SUNY Fredonia University Senate released a statement regarding the Kershnar situation. The senate agreed on a resolution during their meeting on the evening of Feb. 7. This meeting was open to all members of the SUNY Fredonia campus community.

Several faculty members spoke up about the matter — some were concerned about the protection of academic freedom while others were concerned that the university was complicit in supporting Kershnar’s viewpoints. Student Association President Ilene Thompson also spoke on behalf of the student body’s concerns. The discussion time centered around these issues was extended by 15 minutes.

Two days later, on Feb. 9, the University Senate released their statement to all students and faculty. They started the statement with,

“The Fredonia University Senate is committed to the principles of academic freedom and freedom of speech.”

As the senate committee is made up of a variety of people who have dedicated their lives to academia, it makes sense that they started this statement with the support of academic freedom. The statement continued, “Academic freedom also confers responsibilities, including fidelity to evidence, accuracy and intellectual honesty.”

In the next paragraph, the senate separated themselves from Kershnar’s statements and viewpoints. It read, “We condemn Dr. Kershnar’s statements... Dr. Kershnar’s statements do not represent the values and ideals of the Fredonia University Senate.”

Although the statement itself does not list any actions that might be taken next or new developments, it does symbolically separate the University Senate from Kershnar. The full state-

ment can be read on WGRZ.

On Feb. 12, the SUNY Fredonia Student Association also made a statement on their Instagram account, @fredonia_sa. It read, “The Fredonia Student Association would like to offer their support to the students. Professor Kershnar’s statements overlook morality and violates the ethics set in stone by this university.”

The statement continued, “The SA excels are students before anything else and we stand 100% with you.” The association offered their help to students by inviting them to their office and being open to hearing their thoughts.

The post ended with, “We know how difficult it’s been anticipating an answer/solution. We are right there with you. Let us lean on each other for support at this time.”

There is not much certainty on what will happen next, but what is certain is that everyone has their own opinion in regards to this situation.

Continued from previous page.

James Lillin, a SUNY Fredonia 2018 alum who graduated with a triple-major in acting, English, and women and gender studies, created a video essay on YouTube regarding the Kershner situation. The video titled, “Debating the Devil: Breaking the Kershner Cycle (SUNY Fredonia Controversy Response),” features information from “dozens” of anonymous sources within the SUNY Fredonia community. Lillin said he was able to “cross-verify” the information he was given through “multiple parties.”

The video analyzes the topic in great length, spanning over an hour. Lillin discusses the background of the situation and was able to take an in-depth look at the “Brain in a Vat” podcast interview, the source of Kershner’s viral controversial clips. Lillin was able to download the video before it was removed from YouTube for violating community guidelines. He also provided information about the 2006 controversy and direct ways students can file complaints to the school.

Another SUNY Fredonia alum, Aaron Stadler, who graduated in 2008, wrote a Letter to the Editor in support of Kershner. Stadler had Kershner as a professor, and he wrote, “I can attest that Dr. Kershner is one of the best professors I have ever had.” His full Letter to the Editor is featured on page 24.

As of Feb. 19, Kershner has not been allowed back on campus and appears to still be “under review.” President Stephen Kolison has not sent out any further public updates on the matter.

Kolison was contacted via email for an update by The Leader, but he did not reply. University Police Chief Brent Isaacson was also contacted via email for an update regarding the harassment on campus, but he is out of the office and did not respond.

It is expected that this situation won’t be fully resolved for much longer, and it is unknown when a public statement with more detail will be made to the campus community.

Why is SUNY Fredonia’s enrollment so low?

CHLOE KOWALYK

News Editor

Unable to sleep, SUNY Fredonia student Alex Erwin is stuck on the thought of not finishing his major on time. He had just spent the day desperately trying to register for his required classes, but received notification that some of them wouldn’t run.

Erwin is a double major in audio/radio production and video production with a minor in accounting. He spends his days helping out at Fredonia Radio Systems, SUNY Fredonia’s student-run radio station.

He’s in the Fredonia Honors Program and is a member of Lambda Pi Eta, a prestigious honor society for communication students. However, Erwin’s academic success has been put on hold.

Many of the classes he needs to complete for his video production major have been canceled due to low student enrollment in the classes. Usually, SUNY Fredonia’s classes don’t run if the number of students enrolled is in the single digits.

Erwin is particularly concerned about his COMM-401 class, titled “Studio Production II,” not running before he graduates next spring. He is required to take the class to complete his major, and if he can’t take it soon, he will have to drop the video production major as a whole.

Erwin said, “I can’t afford to stay another semester just for that class.”

Roslin Smith, the chair of the communication department and an associate professor, explained many communication classes are nearly impossible to run with a small number of students.

Because COMM-401 focuses on creating productions, students need to work in groups. Students take turns recording audio, video, editing and other related jobs.

To avoid having students feel overwhelmed and stressed, a large number of students are needed to help divvy up the work.

However, Smith has created her own strategy to keep enrollment numbers in the communication department up. Her COMM-199 class, called “Communication Orientation,” gives students the tools and skills they need to succeed at SUNY Fredonia.

Smith pairs upperclassmen with lowerclassmen to serve as mentors for the newer students. With lessons on life and academic skills, Smith hopes the class will help keep students in the program. She said, “I wanted to try and keep as many of those students as possible.”

But for Erwin, Smith said he’d just have to wait until the class runs again to take it. Erwin made note that while he doesn’t believe the communication department can do much about the enrollment situation overall, SUNY Fredonia can. He said the college “needs to improve its campus and programs to convince people to study [there].”

Currently, SUNY Fredonia’s enrollment is the lowest it has been in about 50 years. The total number of students enrolled in the college is around 3,718 students as of the beginning of the spring 2022 semester. As of Feb. 15, the enrollment is at around 3,350 students.

According to the US News, approximately 57% of classes have less than 20 students enrolled in the class.

Within the past decade, Fredonia’s enrollment numbers have decreased by approximately 2,000 students — around a 40% decline. According to SUNY Fredonia’s website, in the fall 2010 semester, the college had approximately 5,700 students enrolled.

However, this significant decrease in students enrolled does not have a singular cause. Cory Bezek, the executive director of Enrollment Services, explained the demographics of SUNY Fredonia reflects the demographics of N.Y.

Bezek said the low enrollment is “almost directly... correlated with the high school graduation boom, and then shrinking of the classes.” With smaller

high school graduating classes, less and less students are enrolling in college.

Bezek also explained that the attitudes surrounding college are changing. According to Bezek, not all kids feel inclined to go to college, especially with labor shortages and the increase in minimum wage.

He further noted several other SUNY colleges have had similar spikes and reductions in enrollment numbers, describing the shift as a “roller coaster.” Bezek further attributed COVID-19 for low enrollment.

As the United States slowly moves out of the pandemic, Bezek is hopeful enrollment numbers at SUNY Fredonia will be back on the rise.

According to Bezek, SUNY Fredonia hopes to bring in new students. For instance, a \$6,000 tuition reduction is offered to out-of-state students attending Fredonia. Students will also have the option to complete their master’s degree in just five years at SUNY Fredonia, rather than the six years it usually takes at other universities.

Other tactics such as social media marketing on multiple platforms and visiting with families at different high schools have been used to try to increase enrollment as well.

Bezek also noted the college has institutionalized marketing dollars to reach out to families and prospective students across the northeast. A new position in marketing has been created at SUNY

Fredonia as well which handles student retention at Fredonia.

The Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Dr. Andy Karafa, stated an important goal of the college is to “ensure that students can progress to their degree.” In certain disciplines, there are classes running with low enrollment for juniors and seniors. Karafa said, “our first goal is to make sure students graduate... if we don't put that in the forefront then we're really failing students.”

Overall, SUNY Fredonia is hoping for an increase in enrollment numbers soon, but for some students, soon can't come soon enough. For Erwin, it's a difference between finishing his degree or graduating without it.

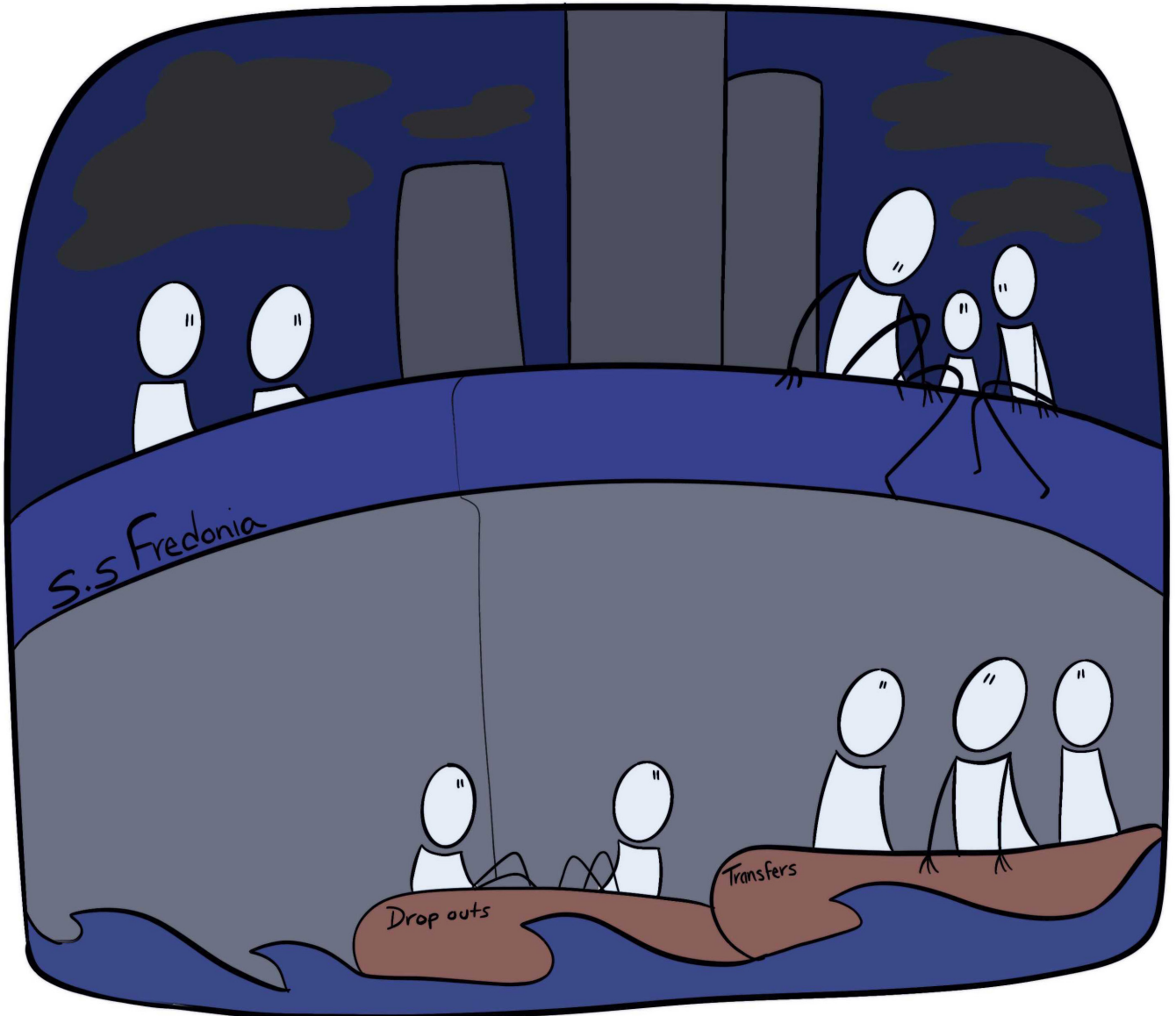


Illustration by Lydia Turcios.

Decisions at the bin: SUNY Fredonia campus efforts to recycle



Recycling bin in Science Center. Photograph by Jules Hoepfing.

JULES HOEPTING Managing Editor

Plastic soda bottle in hand, you stand in front of a waste receptacle in the Science Center. You read the departments on the receptacle from left to right. Are you holding on to mixed recycling? Onto a refundable container? Or is it just waste?

For the past three fiscal years, SUNY Fredonia has consistently recycled around 30% of its waste; the actual percentage of campus recycling has been slowly increasing, according to Sarah Laurie, the campus Director of Environmental Health & Safety & Sustainability. (See infographic on page 8 for more information.)

By placing recycling bins in every dorm and next to most public trash cans on campus, there are many opportunities for students to engage in single-stream recycling. Single stream recycling is a mix of all kinds of recyclable materials — plastics, paper, aluminum, etc. — that is separated by the recycling processor rather than disposer. The option to recycle plastic bags is also publicly available in University Commons. Other materials, such as scrap metal, batteries, lightbulbs and waste oil, are recycled by the campus on an operational basis rather than by the public, according to Laurie. (See infographic on page 8 for more information.)

Despite the school's efforts, when The Leader polled our followers on Insta-

gram (@leaderfredonia) asking if they viewed Fredonia as a recycle-friendly campus, 64% (57 people) voted “no” while 36% (32 people) voted yes. When asked if they thought the school recycled more or less than approximately 30% of waste, 58% (52 people) voted “less” while 42% (37 people) voted “more.” In an open-ended question, “What are some ways campus can improve student access to recycling?,” increasing recycling locations and improving recycling signage was suggested.

According to Laurie, a common reason for students and faculty not engaging in recycling is they believe what is put into the recycling bins doesn't actually get recycled. Some students have seen custodial staff dump recycling

same bin and concluded the staff was sending recycling materials to the landfill. This is a misconception, however, as there are custodial carts that have two different bags — one for recycling, one for landfill — within the same bin.

Another reason for people not recycling is speculation that the efforts put into recycling create more pollution than sending recyclables to landfill. For example, fossil fuels are required to transport recycling to a processing plant — which could be thousands of miles away — and more energy is required to clean and repurpose the recyclables.

"We have the infrastructure, we have the operational side pretty well figured out. Now it's trying to tackle the human behavior piece — and that's a lot more difficult."

- Sarah Laurie

In SUNY Fredonia's case, recycling is processed fairly locally. Recyclables are collected by waste management company Casella and are taken to Casella's facility in Jamestown. According to an email from Bill Devlin, a division manager of Casella in Jamestown, cardboard is bailed in Jamestown and then shipped to Cascades Containerboard Packaging near Buffalo where the materials are then repurposed. "The remainder of [non-cardboard] commodities typically are sent to a much larger Casella owned recycling plant in Ontario County, NY that has the ability to sort materials through automation," Devlin explained.

In order to increase recycling on campus, students and faculty need to know how to recycle and what resources are available to them. When recycling bins were introduced on campus over a decade ago, there was a lot of confusion about what could and could not be recycled.

Thus, the campus put ample effort into recycling education that has since dropped off, according to Laurie. She believes more effort needs to be put into recycling education again. "We have a really transient [student] population, right? So every year we get 600 or 1,000 new freshmen coming in, depending on the size of the class, and [Fredonia's recycling program] is new for them," Laurie explained.

Laurie also discussed how previous efforts to increase student excitement with recycling, such as participating in various types of recycling competitions amongst other campuses, yielded little success and have since been discontinued.

According to Fredonia's last-submitted STARS report, a self-reporting framework for colleges and universities to measure their sustainability performance, Fredonia was rated as "bronze." For comparison, 14 universities were rated as "platinum," 176 were rated as "gold," 245 were rated as "silver" and 89 were rated as "bronze." The universities rated were predominantly located in the United States with some Canadian schools as well as a few universities in other countries.

So, what is the campus doing to improve that score? A recycling graduation robe program is currently being prepared by the faculty Sustainability Committee. Starting this spring, graduating students will be given the option to donate their robe after graduation. Starting the academic year, graduates will be given the option to wear a used graduation gown instead of buying a new one.

On the theme of recycling clothing, Campus Life is currently in the works of hosting a clothing swap set to take place



Plastic bags recycling bin in University Commons. Photograph by Jules Hoepting.

early spring. Students will be able to unload unwanted clothes in exchange for new-to-them clothing.

For students who are interested in improving campus sustainability, they can join the Sustainability Committee of the Student Association (inquire via email sa.speaker@fredonia.edu) along with student clubs such as FredGrows (@fredoniagrows on Instagram). Sarah Laurie is also open to any suggestions students have, and can be emailed at sarah.laurie@fredonia.edu.

Managing Editor Jules Hoepting, the author of this article, is also Sustainability Chair for the Student Association.

Did you know the recycling containers on campus are arranged in a specific order?

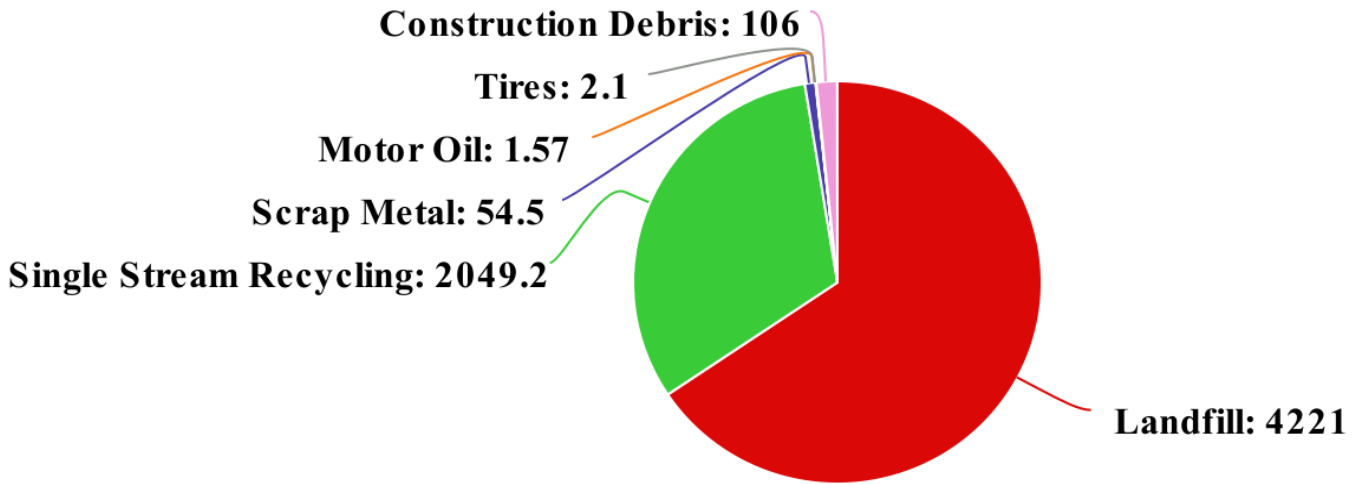
Research has indicated that because primary English speakers read from left to right, they also process information from left to right.

"When you walk up to one of those recycling containers that has four bins in it — one is for landfill and one or two is for single stream recycling — people will actually look at the category on the left first and in their mind determine if what they have in their hand fits that category. And if it does, that's where they put their

item for disposal — even if it would better fit one of the other categories," explained Sarah Laurie, the campus Director of Environmental Health & Safety & Sustainability.

Laurie used the information from this research, which she has since forgotten the name of, and applied it to campus several years ago. "We actually went through all the containers on campus. And it turns out we had landfill on the left, and we switched them all."

Campus waste in numbers (tons) for past 3 fiscal years



Fiscal Year 2020–2021

- 1210.9 tons to landfill
- 670.5 tons single stream recycling
- 12.4 tons scrap metal
- .8 tons motor oil

Fiscal Year 2019–2020

- 1374.4 tons landfill
- 664.3 tons single stream
- 19.3 tons scrap metal
- 43.22 tons clean construction debris
- 2.1 tons car/truck tires
- .77 tons motor oil

Fiscal Year 2018–2019

- 1636.2 tons landfill
- 714.4 tons single stream
- 22.8 tons scrap metal
- 62.8 tons clean construction debris

Batteries recycled on campus for past 3 calendar years

Calendar Year 2022

77 lbs of batteries so far

Calendar Year 2021

- 3921 fluorescent lamps
- 128 lbs of LED lamps
- 130 lbs of alkaline batteries
- 31 lbs of lead acid batteries

Calendar Year 2020

- 4528 fluorescent lamps
- 65 lbs of LED lamps
- 542 lbs of alkaline batteries
- 90 lbs of lead acid batteries

Microplastics: The silent killer

CASEY HUBER

Special to The Leader

Plastic pollution is in every corner of our world.

In fact, the level of global pollution is so high that trash has been found in the deepest surface of the Earth, the Marianas Trench, as well as the highest peak of our world, Mount Everest, according to National Geographic.

If you are a person who cares about the environment, you might have heard of a newly discovered form of plastic pollution called “microplastics.”

The problem has two major heads: One head is the physical presence of the microplastics, and the other is the chemicals those microplastics leech into the environment around them.

Physically, microplastics are confused with food by small ocean creatures and thus microplastics jutt their way into the food chain.

Microplastics accumulate in the stomachs of the creatures that eat them, until bigger creatures eat those creatures until eventually we see pictures like 1.a.

The increase in concentration of microplastics or any type of pollutant spreading upwards through the food chain is called bioaccumulation.

This phenomenon also applies to more well known pollutants such as mercury. Mercury is dumped from factories into the water supply and then is eaten by microbes. Small fish eat those microbes, passing along the mercury to that creature. Then, bigger fish eat the smaller fish, the mercury accumulates in larger and larger quantities, until eventually humans eat the fish. This is due to the storage of mercury in the fatty tissues, rather than the mercury being passed through the digestive tract of the fish.

The same is true for microplastics, only with the difference that microplastics are not stored in the flesh, but rather the stomach. In the case of microplastics, organisms will potentially eat more microplastics than food.

“If they are feeding on these plastics they may feel sated and not continue to eat food,” said SUNY Fredonia environmental professor Dr. Courtney Wigdahl-Perry.



1.a - A fish containing microplastics.
Credit: Dr. Marcus Eriksen, Gyres Institute.

Microplastics moving through the digestive system of the creature can cause physical laceration as well, potentially killing the creature. However, since humans do not eat the stomachs of the fish, we avoid the physical microplastics.

But, the pollutants do not stop there. Through chemical leaching, a process by which pollutants release chemicals into the surrounding environment as the physical component decays, the flesh of the fish absorbs toxic chemicals.

“They also have the potential to absorb other chemicals onto them as they are traveling through the environment and release them later. That piece is less well understood because the chemistry is so complex,” Wigdahl-Perry said.

Whether it is mercury or microplastics, chemical leaching places toxic chemicals into the food we eat.

But, again, the pollutants do not stop there. These examples have impacted the inside of creatures, but microplastics also release toxic chemicals into the water they inhabit.

Freshwater sources are a scarce and shrinking resource. According to a 2017 BBC report, “Of the world’s major aquifers (gravel and sand-filled underground reservoirs), 21 out of 37 are receding,” author Tim Smedley said.

“Already, the amount of drinkable freshwater we have is diminishing with our urban sprawl. It’s really important to preserve the sanctity of our water sources, and if that means keeping microplastics out, so be it,” SUNY Fredonia sophomore Earth studies major Justine Bloom said.

Bloom, alongside myself, has been conducting research on microplastics since the beginning of fall 2021. We have been working on papers, presentations and journalistic articles with the purpose of bringing the issue of microplastics to the attention of the public.

“The scientific field is aware of the issue, it’s really just bringing it to the public. There’s been a substantial amount of research done, but the consensus is that there is no ‘one size fits all’ Band-Aid that you can put over it,” Bloom said.

Wigdahl-Perry believes that the role of the individual is important. “Consumerism is powerful. Individuals have a lot of power in this situation,” she said.

In the next issue of The Leader: What you can do about microplastics.

Life & Arts

“The Dolls of New Albion: A Steampunk Opera” review

LYDIA TURCIOS

Art Director

Is that the call of the great beyond, or an operatic high C?

Trick question; it's both!

The SUNY Fredonia Performing Arts Company has just wrapped up their rendition of “The Dolls of New Albion: A Steampunk Opera,” an audioplay written by Paul Shapera.

This opera follows four generations of the McAlistair family in the fictional city of New Albion, where teenagers commit grand theft with a mouse named Sam, alchemists craft pearls from young girls' dreams and Annabel McAlistair is raising up the dead. Specifically, Annabel is raising up her old crush and shoving him into a hunk of metal and gears. That's sure not to have any lasting consequences.

This is a play about hope and loss and mistakes that domino across generations. PAC captured the darkly comedic and tragic tone of this piece exceedingly well; do note, this play is certainly a tragedy.

A repeated motif through the songs is the phrase, “All that comforts is not true and all you love does not love you.” A beautiful lyric, of course, that emphasizes the mishandling of love by many of the characters.

The costuming was a bright point as a viewer, with the majority of the cast decked out in dreary grays and blacks.

Junior theater arts and psychology double major, Tina Mistic, offered comment as the costume designer. “It's hard to work on a show with a large cast on a budget of a few hundred dollars.” However, she continued, “It's always fun to pick at peoples' wardrobes and see what they have to put together. It's fun to create a concept and see what we come up with.”

A clever aspect that was noticeable during the play was the color coding of the characters' clothes to their personalities. It emphasized the difference between the darker and depressed Voodoo-punk cultist Amelia (played by Taryn Feuer) who wears black lace and leather, and the kind hearted sacrificial heroine Priscilla (played by Alina Wiley) who is the only character in the cast to wear all white.

**“All that comforts
is not true
and all you love
does not love you.”**

“I'm really glad that came off well!” said Mistic about the outcome of the costuming. “Priscilla's outfit actually went through the most changes. We really wanted to emphasize her differences.”

One of the most compelling performances was by sophomore musical theater major Zach Liddick as Jasper, the unfortunate object of the McAlisters family's affections. Brought back from death to inhabit a mechanical body, the role includes a lot of standing around and distinctly not reacting. As much of the plot revolves around Jasper's lack of emotional response and engagement to those obsessed with him, most of his time on stage is spent in a total deadpan.

Liddick offered a tidbit that added new depth to the performance. “It was super hard to play a character that is motionless. However, every time I felt something, I would shake my right hand.”

He added that in the play's universe, the right hand's trembling is the curse of bringing Jasper back. “So, that's why everyone who is connected to Jasper shakes their right hand when they come near him.”

Liddick was thankful for the opportunity to tell this story, even though it was hard to stay in soft focus for the majority of the performance. “It made it that much better when I did get to move!”

The set was simple and well thought out. To emphasize the drab steampunk tone of the play, the set was composed of several painted tarps covered in names of the characters, arc words and symbols important to the plot. It served as an excellent backdrop for the colorful cast and allowed the ensemble to shine without distraction.

A group that appears throughout the play are the Voodoo-punks, mentioned here for the prop specific to their scenes — white powder that the characters repeatedly threw in the air to represent their drug binges. Besides adding dimension to the choreography, the powder when thrown up in the air caught in the spotlights and made glimmery clouds that emphasized the disjointed nature of the Voodoo-punk scenes.

The powder was only the most flashy of the props, with others including the representation of the Dolls bodies: skeletal arrangements resembling mounted skulls and several live instrumental scenes that showed off the actors musical prowess.

The production was a commendable and refreshing performance to attend. “The Dolls of New Albion: A Steampunk Opera” was very different compared to other musical productions as it is a smaller and lesser known opera. If you didn't get a chance to see it yourself, make sure to keep an eye out for future PAC productions — they're sure to impress.



Photographs by Nikki Indelicato.

Nikki Indelicato: Dolls of New Albion rehearsal





Reeling in history: Fredonia Radio Systems Archive Project

JULES HOEPTING
Managing Editor

Fredonia Radio Systems (FRS) has been reeling in history — literally. The club's Archival Project consists of taking reels of audio tape, cassette tapes, mini discs and compact discs stored in the station's archives and digitizing it. Once digitized, the files, along with any behind-the-scenes information discovered about the recordings, is made available on the station's YouTube channel, "Fredonia Radio" for public listening.

Heading the Archive Project is FRS's Staff Representative, Alex Erwin, a junior double majoring in audio/radio production and video production. Technical assistance is provided by the station's Chief Engineer, Johnny Zareski, a sophomore sound recording technology major. File organization is led by the station's Chief Archivist, Olivia Rokosz, junior music education major.

The Archive's Project was Erwin's idea, as he was always fascinated by the records in the archives and found it unfortunate he could not listen to some of the records because of the format they were recorded on. Several of the records in the archives are the only recordings of a program, or are one of a few recorded copies of a program.

Many of the records have already begun deteriorating. Zareski found and restored a reel-to-reel player, and the idea of forever preserving the records via digitalization — a means everyone could access the records — was born.

The project is no small task, however. Erwin estimates there are around 100 reels alone in the station, plus many more CD's and other forms of physical media that need to be digitized.

For a reel to be digitized, it is played through a reel-to-reel hooked up to an audio board that goes straight into Adobe Audition, an audio editing software, and then is made into a video that can be posted on YouTube. Reels need to be digitized in real time whereas other forms of media can be processed faster.

There is over 60 years worth of FRS and radio history stored in the station's archive.

**"We have a little bit of everything, from advertisements, to programs, to documentaries. Everything from out in the world to Moscow to right here in SUNY Fredonia."
- Alex Erwin**

What are the most interesting recordings discovered so far?

Jackson DiCarlo, station manager and senior video production major, was entertained by a Kermit the Frog deforestation PSA produced in the '80s.

"It's literally a Jim Henson recording of him and a few other puppeteers doing like PSAs and like five, 10 seconds, 15 seconds, 30 [seconds], a minute long interval telling you to write to your local congressman if you're interested in stopping deforestation," DiCarlo said. "It's really sweet because, you know, I'm just thinking Jim Henson took time out of his day to do this very nice thing along with some other performers," he added.

Erwin was fascinated by a small documentary episode about Woodstock 1969 from Troy, NY covering "what it was like

during the actual festival" and "all of the problems that came with a massive crowd going to such a small town."

Another one of Erwin and Rokosz's favorites were Oldsmobile headliners for radio recorded in the 1930s. Oldsmobile was a brand of automobile produced by General Motors that is now discontinued.

What makes the liners especially interesting to Erwin is that an unknown person recorded the radio spots onto old shellac records, kept the records in their basement for a long time, dubbed them onto an audio tape and sent them to a person in Las Vegas.

"I'm not quite sure how we got [the records], but eventually we got them and it [came] with a little note, kind of describing like 'Hey, I was listening to your program. You're playing old radio spots. I made this one back in the day. Here you go,'" Erwin explained.

Other interesting finds include Sears electronic logos and Chevrolet spots tapes produced in 1969. There is even a 15-minute profile on The Leader covering the history, production and the scandals of the student-run newspaper, produced sometime between 1975 and 1985.

Because of all the discoveries still to be made, the Archive Project is something that could be "a part of the station from now on. Either directly as a part of the archivist position or just something else that people volunteer for," according to DiCarlo.

If you are interested in helping out with the Archive Project, stop by Fredonia Radio Systems in McEwen Hall 115, Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., or email frs@fredonia.edu.



Reel-to-reel "The Leader" profile.



Tape from a group communication class.



Mini disc (top left), mini compact disc (top right) and compact disc (bottom).



Alex Erwin in Fredonia Radio System's archives.

All photographs by Jules Hoepfing.

Black History Month

More than just a 28-day celebration

NIKKI INDELICATO

Assistant Life & Arts Editor

It has been 46 years since Black History Month was first designated to be nationally observed in the month of February. Since then, the importance and celebration for it has continued to grow year after year.

But just like any celebration, it's important to learn about the origins and where it all started.

Black History Month began as a week-long celebration of the history of the achievements made by African Americans and others of African descent. It was originally held in 1926, during the second week of February to coincide with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Fredrick Douglass, according to History.com

Over the years, this week-long celebration eventually evolved into what it is today.

Black History Month was officially recognized by President Gerald Ford in 1976 and we look at it as a time to honor the contributions and legacies that African Americans have given to U.S. history and society.

The importance of this month is also shared within our community between the events that are held on campus sponsored by the Black Student Union and also bringing awareness to the month.

"It's important to celebrate Black History Month because it's key to remember the past, so we can

appreciate the present and position ourselves to strive for our desired future," said Markasia McCreary, president of the Black Student Union (BSU).

"I think it's an opportunity for the campus to leave an impression on not only its students, but the surrounding community given the message that Fredonia supports diversity, and in this case, Black History Month," said Derek White, Director of Multicultural Support Services.

On Feb. 6, BSU kicked off the month with their annual opening ceremony, which was then followed by Solidarity Week. Solidarity Week is a themed week held annually where everyone has the opportunity to dress to a certain theme each day.

BSU also decided to help bring some joy for Valentine's Day by creating Rose Grams that will be delivered anonymously to both students and staff around campus. All the proceeds gained from this event will be donated to the African American Cultural Center in Buffalo, N.Y.

In conjunction with the Intercultural Center (IC), there will be a Q&A session with IC alumni to give students an opportunity to ask questions about college, life after college and mental health.

On Feb. 23, BSU and the IC will be bringing in virtual keynote speaker, Dr. Nyle Fort, to talk about critical race theory, protest and democracy.

To close out the month, BSU will be holding their "Dress to Impress" closing ceremony banquet.

"[The] closing ceremony is my favorite BHM event because it is a time to acknowledge members or staff of their dedication and support to our group," said McCreary.

Even though there are many events going on throughout campus, it's important to remember the significance of the month.

"Far too often institutions and campuses only celebrate Black history during February, and African American history is American history," said White. "So like other components of history, we should be celebrated and recognized 365 days a year, not just 28."

Even past February, there are ways to keep spreading awareness and the message of Black History Month going throughout the year.

"The simplest way to continue to shed light on the contributions is on those contributors. It is important to shed a brighter light and acknowledge the significant contributions of African Americans. There are more contributors than just Dr. Martin Luther King, Malcolm X, Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks and Fredrick Douglass... What about Garrett Morgan who invented the traffic signal and gas mask, Alexander Miles, [who improved] the elevator, Dr. Charles Drew — blood plasma and Tom Marshal, the fire extinguisher... to name a few," said White.

Also, by having ongoing support from students on campus and the surrounding community, the message can be continued to spread through everyone.

"Come to our events, experience our culture, our discussions and our perspective," said McCreary.



Illustration by
Olivia Connor.

ATTENTION JUNIORS!



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APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED FROM
February 21, 2022 TO March 11, 2022
IN THE STUDENT ASSOCIATION OFFICE
(located in the Williams Center)

"Murderville": A Netflix show review

NIKKI INDELICATO

Assistant Life & Arts Editor

Contains Spoilers

On Feb. 3, Netflix added the latest addition to its ever-growing original series list: "Murderville."

"Murderville" is your not-so-typical cop show. This new "who done it" style show makes you feel like you are at murder mystery party with elements of "Saturday Night Live" all in the mix.

"Murderville" stars Will Arnett as Senior Detective Terry Seattle and every episode he is partnered with a new celebrity partner to solve their way through a scripted murder. But there's a twist! With each incoming celebrity, they aren't handed a script. With the help of Terry Seattle, they have to improvise their way through each case to figure out who was the cold, hard murderer. It is the celebrities job in the end to see if they figured out who committed the crime.

The star-studded cast that lead the first six episodes of the series included Conan O'Brien, Marshawn Lynch, Kumail Nanjiani, Annie Murphy, Sharon Stone and Ken Jeong. One of the many highlights of going through this show is seeing how the celebrities react to everything that is happening in the murder investigation. Nanjiani, Stone and Jeong both fell victim to breaking character and laughing their way through solving the case in their respective episodes. There are other cases, like in Murphy's episode where she gets right into the character of being a detective trainee.

Throughout the Nanjiani's episode, he and Seattle had to solve the murder of one of Seattle's former high school classmates at his reunion. Whenever they are identifying the body and figuring out how the victim was killed, Seattle tells Nanjiani, "If you're such a smarty pants, did you check his mouth?" This leads Nanjiani to look very confused at the question. The forensic scientist adds on "You didn't check the mouth?" Nanjiani, with a chuckle, opens the mouth of the dead body and finds a note that was written by the murderer in question. If you watch really closely, you can also see the actor who is playing the victim start to laugh as well.

A similar instance happened in Stone's episode where she was examining a body of a doctor who got murdered and Seattle started messing around with the body. Trying to hold in her laugh, Stone was able to stay in character and play

along smoothly with what shenanigans Seattle was causing. The murder victim, on the other hand, was definitely having some trouble.

Jeong was the celebrity who probably had the hardest time trying to stay in character without laughing.

His laughter and enjoyment of being there made his episode one of the most entertaining and enjoyable of the season. Jeong was assigned with multiple undercover tasks while

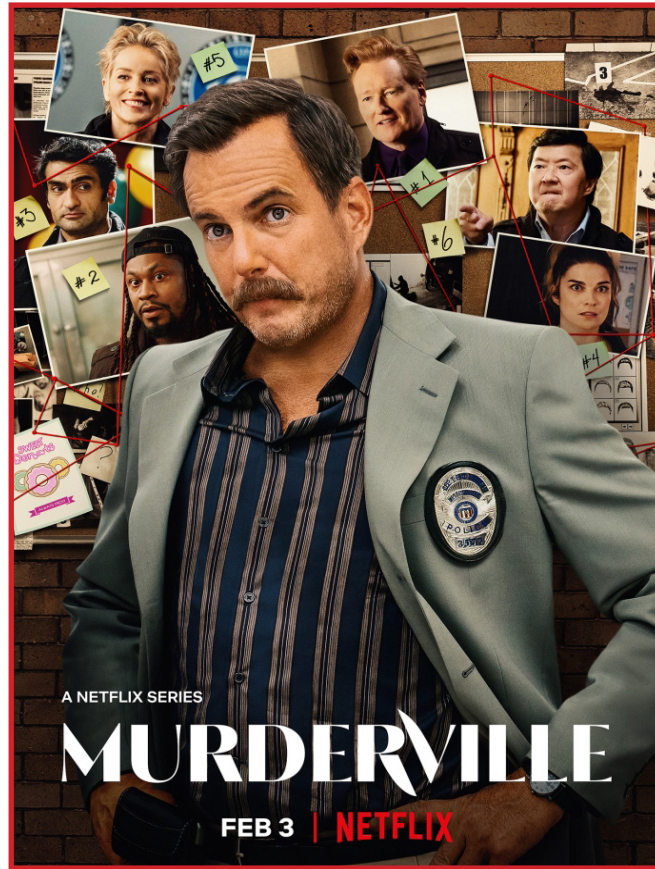
Seattle was throwing different impersonations and accents for him to do on the spot. He did accents from being Irish all the way to pretending to be the President of Finland.

The hardest episode to get through this season was Murphy's. While she had some iconic moments and fun parts during her adventure, she took things very seriously. The character of Terry Seattle is not your typical detective. He was one who always cracked jokes with a serious face that would cause his partners to start laughing. Murphy didn't take any of the jokes and really tried to focus on the task at hand. There were instances that you did see her start to break character at the outlandish things Seattle was having her do. Overall, it kind of gave the audience the sense that she either wasn't comfortable with improvising or she didn't really care to be on the show.

This is the type of show where you don't need to watch

all of the episodes in order to understand what the show is trying to accomplish. If there is a certain celebrity you like that was on an episode, you can just watch a single episode in enjoyment. However, there is a small overarching plot that follows Seattle as he is dealing with going through a divorce with a fellow cop and the murder of his former partner Lori, which is a picture of Jennifer Aniston.

"Murderville" is set up in a way that allows the audience to try and see if they can figure out who the murderer is. At the end of every episode, they ask the celebrity to guess who they think the murderer is and what clues they base them on. Believe it or not, the celebrities didn't always guess the right suspect. But that just makes the show more fun. Hopefully, there are more seasons in the future, and the audience will get to see what other celebrities will join Seattle as "they punch a one way ticket to Murderville."



"Murderville" poster.

JOB & INTERNSHIP EXPO



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SPORTS

Fredonia Sports Update

TYLER PACOS

Staff Writer

Women's basketball defeats Brockport and Oswego but falls short to Geneseo.

- The Blue Devils finish the regular season with 12 wins, 13 losses
- Lauren Mickey totals 41 points on the week, 20 against Brockport
- Katie Pitcher returns after 4 game absence, scores 16 points in return

With the Blue Devils 68-60 win on Saturday over Oswego, they secured their spot in the postseason and will advance to the SUNYAC playoff tournament which will start later next week. The opponent is to be determined at this time.

Men's basketball finish final games of the regular season this week.

- Blue Devils fall to Brockport 62-98, Geneseo 57-75 and Oswego 55-104
- The men's team finishes the 2021-2022 season with 3 wins, 22 losses

Women's and men's swimming and diving teams finish SUNYAC.

- Women's place 7th out of 9th with 244.5 points
- Men's place 9th out of 9th with 121 points
- For the women's, senior Mickayla Polowy made the medal stand twice by finishing 3rd in the 500 & 1650 meter freestyle.

Men's hockey upsets SUNYAC number one Oswego Friday, falls short to Cortland Saturday.

- Matt Letmanski (goal and assist vs. Oswego) led the Blue Devils to a nail biting 5-4 victory over the 1st place seed in SUNYAC conference
- On Saturday, Logan Dyck's .950 save percentage and Johnny Malandrucolo's lone goal were not enough to get by Cortland as they prevail 3-1

The Blue Devils sit at the 5th seed for the SUNYAC playoff tournament, and they are set to play Cortland again this week for their first match in the tournament on the road.

Women's track and field team wrap up regular season in Nazareth.

- Kristin Kelemen finished 4th in the 1000m with a time of 3:33.98
- Haley Lerner finished 4th in pole vault event with a height of 3.06m

Men's track and field see four regional qualifiers at Nazareth.

- Toby Onuoha qualified for regionals in 4x400 relay, triple jump and high jump
- Nick Abdo also qualifies in 4x400 relay and 200m dash

The men's and women's teams head to the SUNYACs this week at Brockport.



Women's and men's swimming and diving meet. Photograph by Owen McGuire.

The problem with NBA All-Star weekend

ANTHONY GETTINO

Sports Editor

This past weekend the All-Star game took place in Cleveland, Ohio. While it is true that every year there are complaints about the format of the weekend activities, this year had some particularly interesting events.

One of the main complaints has been with the Slam Dunk contest. This year had a weak group, with no headliners or big name players participating. Obi Toppin, Cole Anthony, Juan Toscano-Anderson and rookie Jalen Green.

Toppin would wind up winning the contest in unceremonious fashion.

According to senior history education major Jeremy Erman, the dunk contest needs to have some big name players in it to be better. "Having top players in the contests is how to make this better. I don't know who these people are in the dunk contest. If Anthony Edwards or another young star were in it, I would definitely have less problems."

The three-point contest was won by Karl Anthony-Towns, who is a center over Desmond Bane, CJ McCollum, Trae Young, Luke Kennard, Fred VanVleet and Patty Mills. While this contest was much harder to mess up with rules and scoring decisions, it wasn't entertaining to watch.

The worst of the night had to come from the skills challenge. In a new format, the skills challenge was a contest of three teams of three people. The winning team of Evan Mobley, Darius Garland and Jarrett Allen was able to beat out team Antetokounmpo and team Rookies.

This was very tough to watch, as the teams of big men and bench players were not very skilled for it being called the skills challenge. The Antetokounmpo team didn't do well in shooting and lost in a tiebreaker for the finals. Team Cavaliers won based off the final round of the challenge being a half-court shot contest.

Why have a half-court shot cap off a contest of skill? NBA players don't practice these shots and hone their skills in half-court shooting like they would passing, drabbling and basic shooting.

Senior sport management major Kyle Campbell thinks the All-Star weekend

needs to revert back to what made it good years ago. "The skills challenge was better before they tried to get fancy with it. If you don't want it to be a couple of people doing it solo, just make a new game in its place, because this new one is NOT it."

Whether it's burnout from seeing the same dunks years on end or the lack of improvements being made to the games, there are problems with All-Star weekend. How the NBA will attend to these remains to be seen.



NBA logo.

OPINION

A daily terror: Going to the bathroom as a transgender person

JACE JACOBS

Special to The Leader

Going to the bathroom is something so completely mundane that most people don't give it a second thought. For some of us, however, going to the bathroom is anything but mundane; it's terrifying.

In the world of transgender and gender-expansive people, using the bathroom can be the difference between a normal day and an awful day, and in extreme cases, it can be the difference between life and death. With the intense and ongoing debate about transgender people using the bathroom across the nation, it is time for us to examine the situation on our campus.

As a transgender man, using the restroom is an extremely difficult thing to do while on campus. On a typical day when I'm traveling between classes, there's only one gender-neutral bathroom available for me to use between point A and point B on my journey. If that bathroom isn't open (which is more often than not), I speed walk to the building my class is in, throw my stuff down on my desk, and head for the most terrifying place on earth for a trans person: The men's restroom in a politically red town.

On my walk to the bathroom, I have to start thinking about making a plan of action. If there are men at the urinals, don't look or make eye contact. If they look at me for more than two seconds they'll figure out what I am. If there are no stalls available, act mad and leave,

like a normal guy would, then walk down the hall to the next men's bathroom and go through the same plan.

If there's someone in the first stall, take the second stall, but keep your pants pulled up as high as you can in case you need to get out of there fast. Then wait for the person next to you to do their business and leave. If they won't leave, fake it til you make it. Wipe a few times. Make it seem like you did the same thing that they're doing. If you come out of the bathroom and someone is at the urinal and they look at you, give them the "sup" nod. Like "real" men do. Don't take too long washing your hands, men don't care about that. Then just leave as casually as you can, like nothing just happened.

That's the process for days that I choose to dress more masculinely. But on days where I wear jewelry or makeup or a light-colored sweater or patterned pants or leggings or anything else that isn't stereotypically male, the process that I go through becomes worse — if you're that worried that you won't pass as male, just hold it. Or go in the middle of class when no one else will be in there. Or, act gay even though you're not. Or just try to own it and try to recall the self-defense skills you learned in high school, or keep your keys in your hand while you walk in and out, or take off your jewelry, or keep your jacket on, or just try to walk super masculinely and talk super deep or pull your mask below your nose and mouth to show you have facial hair or...

Although my list of preventative tactics seems infinite, it's quite the opposite, and there's no proof that these tactics will work in my favor and keep me safe. This is the sad reality of being a transgender person, especially on a campus with a lack of facilities open for trans and gender-expansive students to use in academic buildings.

So many trans people end up with UTIs and other similar physical health issues because they either choose not to go to the bathroom at all or have no bathroom they feel comfortable using.

On the SUNY Fredonia campus, we have a decent amount of gender-neutral bathrooms. Decent is good, decent is better than none, but decent is the bare minimum. I was recently made aware that there are gender-neutral bathrooms "hidden" in some academic buildings. Why aren't these bathrooms public knowledge? Why are trans students being forced to risk their health and their safety to complete a basic human function?

When I sit in a classroom close to a men's restroom in a building where I am unaware of gender-neutral facilities, I have an internal debate about whether or not I can hold it for an hour, or if I feel like interacting and challenging cisgender men by just being myself.

Having this talk with myself daily has become exhausting, so much so that it begs the question trans people have been asking for years: Why are trans people, particularly trans people on this campus, scared of interacting with cis people in bathrooms?



Williams Center Bathroom. Photograph by Derek Raymond.

When it comes to transgender people using bathrooms, there's a long history of trans people getting attacked and even killed. Trans women of color are always the most targeted, and people say that trans women are men in dresses attempting to prey on children. Trans men are seen as an easy target for multiple forms of violence. They're just women dressed as boys, right? They're easy to take down. And gender-expansive people have been seen as being beyond human comprehension. All of these groups of people are prone to so much hatred that they have begun to expect it anywhere they go.

As a trans man, this is what I think people think about me. When I walk into a bathroom with a body that looks more feminine, I feel like I am clocked immediately. I've been met with stares when walking into and out of the bathroom before. I just have to pee. I don't want to be seen as a threat, and I don't want to feel threatened. Transgender people use the bathroom for the same reason as everyone else does, so why can't we be treated the same way?

Letter to the Editor

Submit Letters to the Editor via leader@fredonia.edu.

Date Feb. 07, 2022.

To: Office of the President

Attn: Stephen H. Kolison Jr., Ph.D.

280 Central Ave.

Fredonia, NY 14063

Re: Letter of support for Dr. Stephen Kershner

Dear Dr. Stephen H. Kolison,

I am a graduate of SUNY Fredonia, class of 2008. I had the privilege of having Dr. Stephen Kershner as a professor while I was a student at SUNY Fredonia. Dr. Kershner was an inspiration to me in choosing a career in law as a public defender. Following my law school education, I can attest that Dr. Kershner is one of the best professors I have ever had. Dr. Kershner performs a vital role at SUNY Fredonia of promoting diversity of thought and incentivizing students to think critically about why they hold positions on various issues our society faces, especially topics that can be controversial. Dr. Kershner's teaching allows students to develop a philosophical foundation for moral positions they hold regardless of viewpoint. That exercise is extremely beneficial to students in their careers, education and personal lives.

As an assistant public defender in Broward County, Florida, I represent many indigent persons accused of sexual crimes against children. I am passionate about defending the constitutionally protected rights of all persons regardless of what crimes they are accused of.

The common perception of those that are accused of sex crimes against children often invokes a gut emotional reaction of disgust and anger without further insight. These knee-jerk reactions lack critical analysis of the complex psychological, environmental and sociological factors at play with these situations. It is of great importance that such analysis is performed in an intellectual forum free from censorship so that as a society we can all develop a greater and sounder understanding of these issues. An academic setting is an ideal forum for these discussions.

Dr. Stephen Kershner's teaching promotes critical thinking on many issues and from many different viewpoints. Thank you for your consideration of the great value Dr. Stephen Kershner brings to SUNY Fredonia. I know Dr. Kershner's teachings have greatly helped me succeed in the current career that I have and love.

Should you desire to discuss this matter further please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.

Sincerely,
Aaron Stadler

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FEBRUARY 26, 2022 • 10AM

DODS GROVE @ SUNY FREDONIA

Proceeds from this event will be donated to The Institute for Autism Research (IAR) at Canisius College in Buffalo, NY.

SCAN TO REGISTER!



Contact August Bates with any questions
bate7836@fredonia.edu



THE SCALLION

Satire for Fredonia



Fredonia professor has hilarious bit

BRIAN CECALA

Staff Scallywag

A SUNY Fredonia professor is making news across the country for the hilarious bit he's been doing for years! I've been taking a philosophy class with this jokester, and when I heard him blurt out this cheeky joke, the entire class burst out laughing. He had been writing satirical papers and books using wack philosophical reasoning to justify "adult-child sex relationships." Ain't that just the wackiest thing? I felt like I was living in a real South Park episode. What a zany clown character he was pretending to be. He would say something like...

"It's not obvious to me that [pedophilia is] in fact wrong. I think this is a mistake. And I think exploring that why it's a mistake will tell us not only things about adult-child sex and statutory rape, but also about fundamental principles of morality."

- Currently Employed Professor Stephen Kershnar

What a satire of disgusting rhetoric that people could use if they fundamentally ignored every single study about the mental, physical and emotional abuse of having relationships with someone who can't engage in informed consent! I was laughing so hard I couldn't hear anyone else laughing. Now, this revolutionary use of comedy and education is being posted about in major news articles by the likes of The New York Post and Fox News. It's so great to see that some teachers still have a sense of humor.



Dr. Stephen Kershnar's profile picture on PhilPeople. Text added.

Note for the editors: if this article is too "edgy" for The Scallion allow me to suggest a different article...

People who could **HYPOTHETICALLY** beat Stephen Kershnar in a fight

DEFINITELY NOT BRIAN CECALA

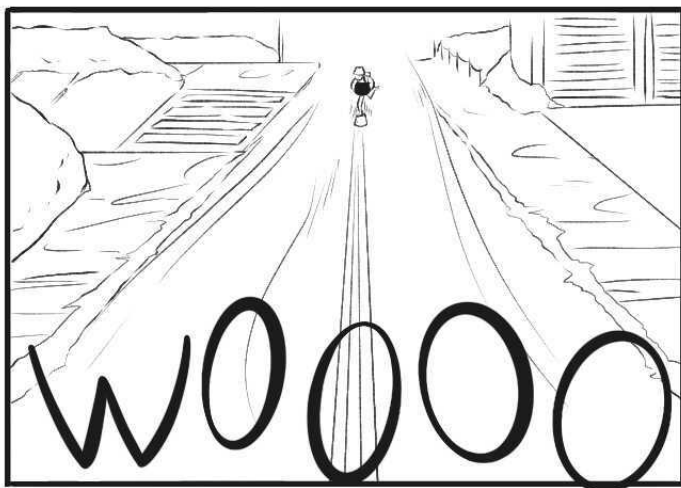
Staff Scallywag

1. Adored Scallion writer Brian Cecala
2. Refer to number one.

COMICS: NICOLE THORSON



COMICS: ANGELO PETRILLI



Students advocate for **global warming** in response to unreasonable winter weather



"Young generation of Fridays-for-Future movement demonstrates at global climate strike 'I want a hot date - no hot planet.'" By verchmarco is licensed under CC BY 2.0. "X" on sign, snow and hats added.

JAY BYRON
Staff Scallywag

Going to Fredonia, you were probably already aware that the weather was gonna be quite the treat. We all knew that snow was a big thing to prepare for, and you were very hopeful that the “tunnels” on campus were going to be a significant help. We also were hopeful that the plows and salt were going to assist us with our problems of driving on the road, opening our doors to get outside of our buildings, and with walking!

Well, the intensity of the snow this January and February has left students flabbergasted, and all of our nightmares have come true. I swear to God, my window is going to blast open and the snow spirits are going to pelt me with their metaphorical icy excrements.

Now, I’m not the only one who feels this way. I’m sure you’ve had your fair share of eating it on black ice, or eating it on regular ice, or eating it because you just can’t walk. :(

It’s not your fault, though! Other students are feeling the exact same way, and some are taking steps to make a change.

Greg, a Fredonia student who refused to give me his last name and I just sort of accepted that, claims his major is “BFA Global Warming” and just ‘BFA Global Warming.’”

“This snow, dude,” he said, mask falling down, wiping his nose quickly, then shoving it back up. “I’m just saying, if global warming came out right now, it’d hit different.”

I asked what global warming would do to hit different.

“The snow? The ice? Not a chance.” He gave me a thumbs up. “Global warming for days. Global warming for months. Years, even. That’ll help. Gotta get hot, dude. So hot that lava is falling from the sky. Now, that would solve our problem here at SUNY Fredonia.”

As we spoke, a great gaggle of students appeared with a variety of signs. They ranged from phrases like, “GLOBAL WARMING HITS DIFFERENT” to “I’LL PEE ON THE SNOW (ASK ME ABOUT IT).”

I spoke to a few to gather their thoughts.

“I don’t know why we put up with this. We never asked for this. Let’s get these greenhouse gas emissions blanket-

ing the Earth to trap the sun’s heat some more! Even faster!” one said. Another stated, “I’m gonna buy some NFTs to help our cause!”

One especially stalwart protester merely said, “Warm is just good.”

As I talked to them, it seemed like they had a plan to overthrow Fredonia, steal their funds and make a factory that burns an incredible, indescribable amount of fossil fuels. They claim that Fredonia students will be “the most environmentally humanly greenhouse-gas friendly” people on the planet. Along with this, they plan on taking out every tree on Earth, asking sororities and fraternities to join so it counts as community service.

So, what do you say? It seems like these entrepreneurs have a lot going for them. If you want to join, I’m sure you could ask your local frat bro. Good luck and godspeed.

(This article is written for comedic purposes. For factual information on global warming, visit Fredonia’s Climate Education Initiative website: fredonia.edu/about/offices/climate-education-initiative/climate-facts.)

Guys, I haven't gotten COVID yet and I feel left out >:(

Why be this guy...



Brian Cecala at Niagara Falls. Former Facebook profile picture.

When you could be this guy!



COVID illustration by Malana Chen.

BRIAN CECALA

Staff Scallywag

Hey guys, It's ya boy Brian, local popular writer for the Scallion. It's been hard these past few years with COVID-19 because everyone keeps getting it, and I haven't yet! Everyone gets to post fun little stories on their Facebook and cute quarantine photos but not me! Some people are so privileged to be able to truly experience a pandemic. Some people even got it over winter break! That's so unfair! I had to go to New York City to go see "Dear Evan Hansen." Don't even get me started on the poor writing and inconsistent use of metaphor in that show.

Another thing people keep telling me is that you lose your taste when you get COVID-19. Uhh, lucky much? I would be so jacked if I couldn't taste anything because all I would eat is veggies and raw chicken. I wouldn't even have cheat days because I can't taste it anyway. Ugh! People who have COVID-19 are probably so fit right now and they're laughing at my pudgy little boy body. Do you know how much time I have to waste working out just to look not jacked? I'm literally eating a pizza right now while typing this, so you can imagine how much my life sucks.

Ya know how much I hate going to parties? I'm awkward and stoopid (and yeah, I typed it like that on purpose, because I'm unique). When people invite

me I have to say "No, I don't wanna go to your little party, I'll be so awkward." I could be saying "Sorry I can't go, I have COVID" and no one would call me "rude" or "awkward." Sometimes I go to their parties and hope I get COVID-19, but I'm never lucky! I guess I'll dress up like an alien just to stand in a corner and look like an idiot all night. Thanks, Derrick.

I wanna miss class and have an excuse for why no one talks to me. You guys don't know how easy you have it and you spend all day rubbing in it my face with your Insta pics. I don't care if it takes 10 years. I WILL GET COVID. I don't care if I have to lick 100 walls at Walmart. I will do it. Then we will all see who's laughing at me.

The Department of Theatre and Dance presents a Walter Gloor Mainstage Series Event:

MR. BURNS

A Post-Electric Play

By Anne Washburn

Directed By Daniel Lenzian

Score by Michael Friedman

Lyrics by Anne Washburn

Feb. 25 & 26; March 3, 4 & 5 @ 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 27 @ 2:00 p.m.

Alice E. Bartlett Theatre

 **FREDONIA**
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

"Mr. Burns, a Post-Electric Play" is presented by arrangement with
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This imaginative dark comedy propels audiences forward nearly a century, following a new civilization stumbling into its future. After the collapse of civilization, a group of survivors share a campfire and begin to pieces of pop culture from memory, trying to hold onto the past while creating entertainment for an unknown future.

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