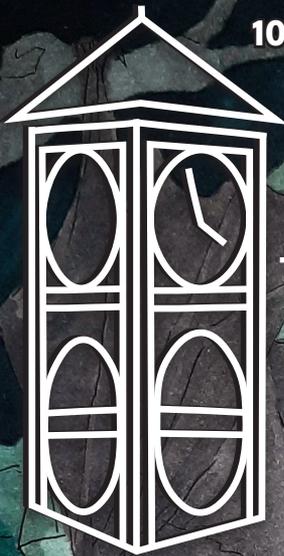


10.28.2025 — SPECIAL ISSUE — Volume CXXXII



# THE LEADER

SUNY Fredonia's Student-Run Newspaper

**Happy Halloween,  
Fredonia!**

**'No Kings' protests occur as millions stand against Trump**  
**A review of 'Rocky Horror' from a first-time viewer**  
**The bogeymen of sports: When dominance meets terror**  
**[OPINION] AI film festival was bad, as was Fredonia's response**  
**[SATIRE] QUIZ: How much candy will you get this Halloween?**

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"Halloween is not only about putting on a costume, but it's about finding the imagination and costume within ourselves." - Elvis Duran

Proud member of The Associated Collegiate Press.

# AI film festival met with heavy criticism from students

**SAFFRON LARREA**

Art Director

Earlier this month, it was announced that Information Technology Services (ITS) planned to host the "AI Film Festival," a festival dedicated to encouraging students to use AI-generated tools to create films.

At 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 15, a meeting was hosted by ITS Chief Information Officer Dr. Michel Kouadio to provide an overview of what is expected of the AI Film Festival.

In response to heavy criticism, the film festival is now being rebranded.

Recently, it was announced that the "festival" will now be an event with a focus on the positives and negatives of AI rather than a focus on film.

However, at the time of Kouadio's presentation, the film festival was still set to proceed as initially planned.

Kouadio began his presentation by stating his experiences in IT and how people in his field that he personally knows have lost jobs to AI already.

He stated that his belief was that AI education is the necessary next step, that AI is an inevitable part of the future, and that it is the school's duty to educate students on its use.

"We cannot shy away from technology," Kouadio said. "Who am I to pull away something that is shaping our planet?"

Kouadio's presentation began by addressing concerns he had already received through e-mail, which included fears relating to job loss, the devaluation of creativity and concerns about the school's reputation.

Regarding suggestions for a traditional, non-AI film festival, he agreed that such an event was in order.

There have been talks with the visual arts and new media (VANM) department and the communication department regarding this.

However, Kouadio still believed that the AI film festival was a necessary event to educate users of AI tools specifically, once again insisting that, "AI is probably not a fad, it is something that is shaping society ... It doesn't mean we are taking sides."

Kouadio continued to stress that he believes the school should provide opportunities to use AI technology, saying "our role is exclusively educational" and not about endorsing or forcing the use of AI.

He said, "We know when you come to Fredonia, the top concern is your job... at the end, if you cannot find a job, what good is that?"

"We cannot shy away from technology. Who am I to pull away something that is shaping our planet?"

— **Dr. Michel Kouadio**

Chief Information Officer,  
Information Technology Services

He said the AI festival has an "educational mission" and that the film festival would promote "interdisciplinary dialogue" and the festival would encourage discussion from all viewpoints.

He claimed that people have a "one-sided" view of AI, and the festival would also encourage critical engagement. Kouadio compared AI to creative software such as word processors and Digital Audio Workstation programs.

"I'm saying AI is part of our technology, and technology can enhance creativity," he said.

In response to the sentiment that AI is too close to replace creative work, he said, "Is AI going too far? Maybe. And in that case, I would agree with you."

Students began to raise their hands to share sentiments and weigh in on the AI debate, criticizing his opinion that technology is crucial to modern creativity.

Students passionately described their experiences with art as children and insisted that creativity is an inherent human experience.

In response, Kouadio said, "I agree with you...technology cannot replace human creativity," and "I'm not saying you can replace human beings."

A student pointed out that AI is entirely trained on content made by other people, and that it is not true creativity because it is recycled human creativity.

In response to this and similar concerns, Kouadio simply said, "These are very important topics," and that they are part of the dialogue he wishes to facilitate.

Kouadio went on to equate the rise of AI to the introduction of sound in film, which also received outrage, before receiving more criticism from students.

He admitted that he does not know the way AI will go and reiterated to the audience that the festival is in no way a "demand" to use AI.

Senior Jazz Fiore came up with a sheet of statistics related to AI's energy and water consumption.

They went into detail about the water consumption of AI created by water-cooled datacenters, stating AI prompts use 16 ounces of water per 5-50 interactions.

Continued from previous page

Their calculations led to the conclusion that the film festival, if 5 AI-generated films were shown, would consume 91.5 gallons of water.

They made sure to reference that datacenters' water consumption has directly affected marginalized communities in several areas throughout the world by poisoning their water supply from nearby data centers.

Students pointed out the irony of using such water-consumptive technology while our area is under a water conservation order.

Other students continued to speak up, discussing the ethics of AI and how they are against it.

One student said, "What's keeping me here then? If you're saying AI is the future, where am I supposed to be?" and "There are people actively trying to erase the hard work of artists."

In response to the increased criticism, Kouadio insisted that "I could not agree more with you", but that "We don't take sides. Our role is to educate."

He continued with his presentation, once again comparing AI to more technological revolutions such as the Industrial Revolution, digital art, the invention of ATMs and the advent of online education.

"If we could stop this, I would," Kouadio said. "Clearly, we cannot stop... by learning about this, we will be informed and equipped... at least we can move in a direction that is more educational."

"If we could stop this, I would. Clearly, we cannot stop ... By learning about this, we will be informed and equipped ... At least we can move in a direction that is more educational."

— **Dr. Michel Kouadio**

Chief Information Officer,  
Information Technology Services

Stressing the inevitability of AI became a major talking point, saying Fredonia is relatively small and powerless to stop the usage of AI, and if Fredonia just ceased AI discussion, it would fall behind.

Many students vocally disagreed with this nihilistic outlook. "We don't disagree, we fully agree with you, but that is not our role," said Kouadio.

When asked about where the funding for the film festival was coming from, Kouadio responded that the funding was entirely coming from SUNY as part of the award that Governor Hochul is giving out to SUNY schools to encourage them to use AI.

The film festival was set for April 19 and 20, and it's unclear at this point whether the rebranded event will still be on that date.

Kouadio has also opened office hours to encourage ongoing discussion with students.



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# Police Blotter

UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT  
SUNY Fredonia

The Police Blotter, run and shared with The Leader by the University Police Department (UPD), aims to provide information to students, faculty and the community in and around SUNY Fredonia. All information is provided on the University Police Department's website, <https://www.fredonia.edu/about/offices/university-police/blotter>. The Police Blotter will continue every issue, with new information regarding any new criminal acts that occur on the SUNY Fredonia campus.

*All information printed in The Leader's police blotter is a matter of open public record. No retractions or corrections will be made unless a factual error is shown. Anyone who is cleared of charges has the right to have so printed. It is the responsibility of the accused to provide notice and proof of the dropped charges.*

**On-campus:** As of Oct. 25, the Police Blotter has not been updated.

**UPD announcement:** "Stay safe this Halloween! Stick with friends, plan ahead and stay in well-lit areas. If separated, know how to reconnect. Call for help if someone is ill or intoxicated. Drink responsibly and never drive impaired. Your safety, and others', is a shared responsibility. If you see something, speak up. A great night is one you remember for the right reasons! — University Police (For help call: 716-673-3333), Student Conduct, and Prevention, Advocacy, and Wellness Services (PAWS)."

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**10/27-11/7**

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PRIOR TO CLASS  
REGISTRATION!**



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# 'No Kings' protests occur as millions stand against Trump

**ALEX BUCKNAM**  
Managing Editor

*Warning: This article uses profane language.*

On Oct. 18, a series of protests called “No Kings!” were held across the globe. This was the second No Kings protest held this year; the first one was in June.

This protest was estimated to have over seven million people in attendance, one of the largest single-day protests in United States history.

The event was in every state and had protests in cities outside the U.S., like London and Tokyo, with a total of 2,700 events.

The Oct. 18 protest was bigger than the June protest, with an estimated two million more people and hundreds more events.

Cities that the protest happened in were Washington, D.C., New York, Los Angeles and even Fredonia.

Protesters had one key message, “We will not bow down to a king.”

Protesters in Washington had an estimated 200,000-person turnout with two popular speakers, Bill Nye and Bernie Sanders.

Protesters wanted to show, “America will never have a king.”

Attendees of these rallies said the same thing, that they were there to show Donald Trump he cannot do whatever he wants.

Attendees referred to multiple of Trump’s policies, including deployment of the National Guard in cities, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) raids and funding cuts to certain programs.



Fredonia's 'No Kings' protest, Saturday, Oct. 18, 2025.  
Photo via ALEX BUCKNAM | Managing Editor



Washington, D.C.'s 'No Kings' protest, Saturday, Oct. 18, 2025.

Photo by MATT VOLZ | Editor in Chief

They said they felt free speech was being attacked.

Protesters viewed these tactics as authoritarian and king-like. When protesters were asked how they felt free speech was being attacked, they referred to how international students have had their visas revoked by the U.S. State Department for simply protesting.

The majority of students who had their visas revoked for protesting were protesting in support for Palestine.

The U.S. State Department stated the reason for this was because the protest was linked to terrorism.

When Republicans heard about this protest, multiple public officials stated that this protest was a “Hate America rally.”

“They are going to descend on our capital for their much-anticipated so-called ‘No Kings rally.’ We refer to it by our more accurate description, the ‘Hate America rally,’” stated Speaker Mike Johnson. “I’m not sure how anyone can refute that,” he concluded.

During the protest, Sen. Bernie Sanders refuted Johnson’s claim, stating that he thinks of this protest as a “Love America Rally.”

He mentioned that the protesters exercising their First Amendment right and standing up against the sitting president is what makes this a Love America Rally since, according to him, that is what makes America what it is.

The day before the event, Johnson labeled protesters as Marxists. “They [elected Democratic officials] are going to bring together the Marxists, the socialists, the Antifa advo-



Washington, D.C.'s 'No Kings' protest, Saturday, Oct. 18, 2025. **Photo by MATT VOLZ** | Editor in Chief

cates, the anarchists and the pro-Hamas wing of the far-left Democratic Party. That is the modern Democratic Party,” stated Johnson.

This quote came out after Trump announced that he wanted to label Antifa as a foreign terrorist organization.

Antifa, according to the BCC, in summary, is short for anti-fascism, with people who call themselves Antifa stating that they do so because they oppose far-right policies.

The White House stated, “Antifa is a militarist, anarchist enterprise that explicitly calls for the overthrow of the United States government, law enforcement authorities, and our system of law. It uses illegal means to organize and execute a campaign of violence and terrorism nationwide to accomplish these goals.”

The White House issued the National Security Presidential Memorandum 7 (NSPM-7).

Right-wing officials often cite the assassination of Charlie Kirk, health care CEO Brian Thompson and the shooting at ICE officials as proof of Antifa violence.

The NSPM-7 stated that these events were not isolated incidents.

The Brennan Center for Justice disagrees, stating that the list the NSPM-7 cites is cherry-picked to fit their narrative of what they believe to be left-wing violence and leaves out other high-profile cases like the Jan. 6 insurrection at the Capitol and the 2022 racially motivated mass shooting at a Tops in Buffalo.

The Brennan Center for Justice claimed that the only reason these events seemed linked is because they all opposed the current administration. “Nor is there any support for the claim that those involved in the incidents listed were acting in concert. The connection between the range of actors involved in the acts identified as political violence in NSPM-7 is simply that they are all seen as opposing the administration’s policies in one way or another.”

Protesters tried to make light of Johnson calling them Antifa, with one group of middle-aged guys carrying flags that read “F\*\*\* ICE” and “F\*\*\* Trump” walking through the crowds at the Washington, D.C., protest yelling “Antifa is here” and “Now it’s Antifa’s turn to yell” after a large group of protesters finished yelling a chant.

Johnson also made it seem like these protesters were going to be violent. In the end, no arrests or reports of violence came from protesters in Washington, New York City, Chicago, Austin, Texas and San Diego.

There were few arrests in cities like Los Angeles after protesters were issued a dispersal order.

After the protest concluded, Trump posted a few things on Truth Social, including one of an AI video of him flying a plane and pooping on protesters and the other one thanking the protesters because he thought a king took his place.

People who were in attendance at this event found this offensive and called the president childish.

The No Kings organizers stated that this was not the end, and there will be more to come.

The Leader will continue to provide updates as they come.

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# Life & Arts

## A review of 'The Rocky Horror Picture Show' from a first-time viewer

**MAISIE STRADER**

Special to The Leader

With the fall season in full effect, I am currently getting all of my Halloween movies in before I run out of time.

But as I scroll through endless streaming options, I can't help but think about how different the movie experience used to be.

There was a time when watching a movie wasn't just about pressing play — it was an event.

People gathered together, dressed up and shared the excitement of a good scare or a good laugh.

Movies brought people together in a way that felt special and alive.

And maybe it still is; I watch movies with my friends all the time, but the era of live performances and midnight screenings feels like a thing of the past.

That's why, this Halloween season, I decided to finally experience one of the most iconic cult classics ever made: "The Rocky Horror Picture Show."

As a first-time viewer, I wanted to see for myself what makes it so legendary — and why it brought so much magic to its fans.

The movie follows the couple Brad and Janet through a night in the mansion of Dr. Frank-N-Furter (Tim Curry), who is a cross-dressing scientist.

I'll be honest—the beginning felt a bit slow, and I wasn't immediately hooked.

However, there were some amazing camera shots before the couple arrived at the mansion.

The movie begins with the narrator — a Criminologist — looking at the camera and saying, "I would like, if I may, to take you on a strange journey."

This leads the audience to feel as though they are a part of the movie itself.

By the time Brad and Janet get to the mansion, there is a very sudden shift in energy with the song, "Sweet Transvestite," sung by Curry. From that moment on, it's clear that any scene featuring Curry is going to be captivating.

Curry's character is the highlight of the film; his performance is amazing, and he leads the audience on a wild ride of emotions.

His acting is unforgettable; from the way he moves to the way he talks, Curry melts into the role of Dr. Frank-N-Furter.

What makes this movie so special is the aesthetic the movie brings.

It feels like "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" on steroids; literally every character is walking around with eight-pack abs.

Every time the characters enter a new area, it feels like they are stepping into a completely different world.

The mansion transforms from scene to scene — one moment it's eerie and gothic, the next it bursts with color, music and feeling very much like "Austin Powers."

This movie untangles a very problematic web, as Dr. Frank-N-Furter leads the couple to betray each other.

This shows the idea of living for passion and desire rather than being restrained by the other.

If there was one quote that encapsulated the whole movie, it was the lyrics, "You're like a sponge. You take, take, take, and drain others of their love and emotion," which is sung by Columbia (Nell Campbell).

This line sums up the emotions that unfold in the mansion, where every character is caught in a cycle of desire, manipulation and despair.

It mostly referred to the Doctor and his need for attention and affection, no matter how the other person may be feeling.

This movie was definitely not what I expected; I am surprised that there were no spoilers for me prior to this movie.

I do see why this movie is a cult favorite: it's fun to sing, watch but mostly pretend.

I could see people trying to absorb the "aura" that Dr. Frank-N-Furter encapsulated; he was fun and intriguing, yet the monster of the whole film.

Even decades later, this movie embodies an energy that feels rare in new-age films.

Watching "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" for the first time made me realize how much movies used to be about shared experiences.

It's weird, wild and different — and that is why it is loved.

# Mae's Pig Pen opens on White Street

MEGAN KIDBY  
Scallion Editor



# Poet laureate speaks of spirituality, religious connection to works

**LECS WEAVER**

Special to The Leader

As Bianca Stone put it, “Memory is not quite what we think it is.”

And boy was she right.

Stone’s reading on October 23 in the Marion Art Gallery proved to be a memorable experience for students, professors and community members alike.

If you weren’t able to meet her, Bianca Stone is the Vermont Poet Laureate.

She is the author of several works, including four poetry collections, and is the founder of the Ruth Stone House, located in Goshen, Vt.

The Ruth Stone House is a foundation dedicated to cultivating creativity, celebrating the works of the late Ruth Stone — Stone’s grandmother and former Poet Laureate in Vermont — and ultimately creating a creative community among the writers of Vermont.

Fredonia was fortunate enough to have Stone come speak and workshop with students for the Mary Louise White Visiting Writers Series of Fall 2025.

Her reading consisted of various pieces from her works, with most selections being from her most recent publication, “What Is Otherwise Infinite.”

After her reading, attendees were given the opportunity to ask questions about her writing process and inspiration.

If you have ever read Stone’s work, you would know that she often has themes of religion throughout her pieces.

Many readers were curious about this, so a student asked, “Where does religious inspiration come from in your poetry?”

Stone replied, “I find that spirituality for me is a really important aspect of my poetic practice and in my practice of being a human.”

“I think the unknowability of the spiritual and immaterial mimics the unknowability of being and language, and this is reflected in poetry. I feel like ultimately, as a secular person, I find my spiritual strivings through poetry, reading poetry and writing it.”

— **Bianca Stone**  
Founder,  
Ruth Stone House

She continued with, “I think the unknowability of the spiritual and immaterial mimics the unknowability of being and language, and this is reflected in poetry. I feel like ultimately, as a secular person, I find my spiritual strivings through poetry, reading poetry and writing it.”

“I think it’s important for us; we need those outlets,” she said.

This answer seemed to have resonated with many of the writers and readers in the room.

After the reading, the gallery was buzzing with conversation.

So many people seemed to be aflame by Stone’s words and were excited to chat with her and even get their books signed.

Stone was a very engaging guest and was willing to give everyone time with her, allowing for a fully enriched experience.

You do not have to be a member of the English department to know that this reading was a memorable experience, and Fredonia was lucky to have Stone as a visiting writer.

Creative outlets come in all shapes and sizes, and Stone did an amazing job summarizing this idea.



**An Evening of Early Music**  
performed by the  
**Fredonia Renaissance Choir**  
Experience the Sounds of the Renaissance



Step back in time with music older than your grandparents’ grandparents, soaring melodies, rich harmonies, and the captivating sounds of the Renaissance era.

**Date:** Monday, November 18th  
**Time:** 6:00 PM  
**Location:** McEwen Hall, Room 209, 280 Central Ave., Fredonia, NY

**Free Admission - All Are Welcome!**

# Walter Gloor Mainstage mixes fantasy with comedy in 'The Lightning Thief'

**MIA CIECHALSKI**

Life & Arts Editor

The first Walter Gloor Mainstage performance has finally completed rehearsals and is officially available for everyone to enjoy.

“The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical” performed the first weekend of their run, and you can tell all the hard work they’ve put in over these last few months. It was surely worth the wait to watch it up on stage.

This production had some of the most complicated technical elements, costume designs and set pieces that the production team has ever done.

All of the performers did an amazing job, and you can tell that each cast member made sure to put everything into all of their parts, no matter how big or small the role was.

Although in the world of theatre, there is no such thing as a small role, as every person involved in putting a production together is important.

The lighting designers did a great job making the effects look as if you were underwater.

They also did a good job with the different lighting effects to signal scene changes and mood shifts in the plot.

The set pieces were truly show-stopping, at times surprising the audience with an unexpectedly immersive experience.

Not to spoil the show too much for you, but there was an exploding toilet and that was very exciting to watch because of all the streamers coming out of it.

I highly recommend sitting in the front row to have some fun with streamers.

Another very impressive part of the show was the costumes.

There were still some of your “basic” or “regular” clothing items in the show, and they did a very good job helping you associate each character with what Greek god they are or related to.

There were a lot of Greek mythological creatures that made an appearance.

With satyrs, centaurs, minotaurs, and so many more, the costume designer and department did a great job helping create all of these complex costumes.

The best part of some of the costumes was that some of them were hidden in the simplest ways, and when they were revealed to the audience, it was so surprising to see how they created something that looked so complex.

Hats off to the costume designer and to everyone who helped create them.

Another aspect of the show that worked really well was the actors who were chosen for each role.

Getting to see everyone perform and showcase all the blood, sweat, and tears they’ve put in proved even more that the casting decisions made were the right choice.

One part of the show that will also pull the audience in is the fight scenes.



From left to right: Olivia Frizzi, Fisher Sullivan and Jalen Dalton.

Image via @tadafredonia on Instagram.

Seeing the actors make it look so real and action-packed was so entertaining.

Even those who don’t typically enjoy musicals or live performances would find this part of the show thoroughly enjoyable.

Getting to watch those parts of the production pulled the audience even more.

There were also many parts that were very funny as well.

It was nice to have a little break between all of the action scenes, and it also showed the audience that this is a show that you can laugh during.

The part that had the audience roaring with laughter the most was in Act Two, when Percy and his friends encountered Medusa on their quest.

After a brief fight scene and a catchy musical number, Medusa is defeated, and her head, symbolized by a mannequin's head, flies across the stage in a comedic moment.

This show was very true to the book, unlike some adaptations that can sometimes change a story completely and barely have any relation to the original.

You can tell that every person involved in this production puts in a lot of work, time and effort.

Getting to see all that visible hard work made the experience all the more enjoyable.

“The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical” will be performing their second weekend of performances on Saturday, Nov. 1, through Sunday, Nov. 2.

You can buy tickets for the performances at the ticket office or at this link: [gp1.glitnirticketing.com/gpticket/web/ev\\_list.php](http://gp1.glitnirticketing.com/gpticket/web/ev_list.php).

# A review of Raven & Thorn: Fredonia's newest bar

**IZZIE NOELLE**

Photo Editor

A painting of a cow in a suit greets you as you walk through the door.

The warm lights are dimmed and the bar is lined with people deep in their conversations, but still decently quiet. This is what you see when you enter Raven & Thorn.

Raven & Thorn is a new bar in Fredonia, located at 26 Water Street.

The woman-owned establishment sits right next to Old Main Inn.

If you're looking for variety, this menu has it. There are wine cocktails, wine, cocktails, mocktails, beers, hard ciders and food.

It seems like there's something for everyone, even if you're under 21.

When you sit at the bar, there are menus spaced out from end to end. You'll have a bowl of complimentary popcorn and some spices put in front of you while you decide what you want to order.

The spices range from kettle corn to bacon cheddar, letting you pick sweet or savory.

Behind the bar on the TVs, you won't see a sports game. Instead, there are shows like "Peaky Blinders" and "Ancient Aliens" to keep patrons entertained.

Starting off for the people who don't drink or cannot drink, let's talk about the mocktails.

For \$5, you can get any mocktail off the menu, with just a soda or juice being a bit cheaper.

The Sweet Lydia is a personal favorite, along with the Old Fezziwig.

Both drinks are on the sweeter side, but are super yummy. If you are of the legal age, the bartenders are more than willing to add an ounce of alcohol to your mocktail.

When it comes to the alcoholic drinks, the bulk of the menu is wine, or wine based.

The Raven & Thorn website says they specialize in, "Chautauqua wines, crafted cocktails, and draft beers."

They have some pretty amazing wine cocktails. The Passionate Peach Spritz has become a personal favorite as a sweet and tart drink.

Outside of drinks, there's also the food portion of the menu. Admittedly, there aren't many options here, with most of them being smaller like a salad, or sliced bread and dip.

The food is reminiscent of a book club in the best way. It feels sophisticated, but not overpriced.

Although, definitely take the note on the menu to notify whoever takes your order of food allergies.

There aren't food descriptions on the menu, but you can ask either worker.



A glass of wine and fresh popcorn at Raven & Thorn.

Photo by **IZZIE NOELLE** | Photo Editor

Speaking of workers, the owners of Raven & Thorn are also the ones doing all the work. Two women run the whole business in the kitchen, behind the bar and behind the scenes.

They're always willing to give suggestions on what to order and have some good conversations.

Coming up on Halloween, there will be a Halloween Masquerade. There isn't much information about the event, aside from what's on the website, [ravenandthorn.com](http://ravenandthorn.com).

The website says, "Drink specials, door prizes, masks, and giveaways!"

One of the owners gave a sneak peek of the door prize while at the bar, and let's just say I'm personally excited to go to the event.

If a Halloween Masquerade isn't your idea of fun, there's a list of events on the Raven & Thorn website.

In October, there was a mead tasting and a dark romance book club.

Overall, I think this could become a new hotspot in Fredonia.

With the prices being fair, the drinks delicious and the atmosphere welcoming, I can see lots of people enjoying Raven & Thorn.

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# SPORTS

## The bogeymen of sports: When dominance meets terror

### **JACK HOADLEY**

Staff Writer

There are a number of athletes in history who many would consider to be the strongest, greatest or “best.”

But when it comes to October, the only adjective I’m concerned with is, you guessed it, scary.

To celebrate Halloween, it’s time to look over some of the scariest athletes in history and what made them so feared.

### **James Harrison**

James “Mr. Monday Night” Harrison was a little more than something that went bump in the night.

Over the course of his 15-year career, he totaled 84.5 sacks while being a two-time First Team All-Pro and winning the 2008 Defensive Player of the Year.

While all of that alone is enough to register Harrison into these conversations, it was more about his sheer attitude and actions on the field that made him so intimidating.

Harrison played with an intensity on the field that rivals none in the history of pro football.

A story that emulates this perfectly was one from Taylor Lewan, a Titans tackle, who told a story of when he faced Harrison during his rookie season.

At the time, Harrison was in the twilight of his career, making what was about to happen even more impressive.

Lewan remembered the offensive line meeting to talk about Harrison before the game and how they were not going to get him going by talking to the known serial trash talker.

Lewan remembers barking at the former All-Pro after a successful stop early in the game, which may have been his biggest mistake.

Harrison said nothing back to Lewan, which was out of character for the notably talkative legend, and arguably scarier than if he did talk back.

Lewan remembers that during the next series, he lined up opposite of Harrison and after the ball was snapped, he called it a blur.

Lewan described it as himself being “gator rolled” by the aging Harrison, as he quickly reminded Lewan why he got the name “Mr. Monday Night.”

### **Randy Johnson**

Height in athletes is normal, but a horror story of many batters is when they used to face a 6’10” pitcher who goes by the nickname “Big Unit.”

Randy Johnson began terrorizing opposing hitters in 1988, and the baseball bogeyman wouldn’t hang it up until 2009.

Johnson was a force throughout his entire 22-year career, but his fright was defined by just how much of an “alien” he was.

Alongside being a staggering 6’10”, Johnson also threw left-handed, which increased the difficulty for batters facing him.

A token on Johnson was his electric fastball which sat regularly between 98 and 101 miles per hour, showing why he was dominating the majors for over two decades.

There are few pitchers in the history of baseball who were truly unhittable over the course of their career, but Johnson certainly fit the bill.

Major League Baseball will never see a pitcher like Johnson again because of his prolonged dominance and unique traits for a hall of fame pitcher.

### **George Foreman**

While we’ve already covered physical looks in relation to intimidation, arguably no one had more of a physical grip on their sport than “Big George” Foreman.

Foreman boxed from 1969 to 1997 and had a very impressive 76-5 record throughout that time.

But Foreman did more than win, as many who faced him were lucky to leave the ring conscious.

Foreman had a knockout percentage of 89.5% which represents a knockout in 68 of his 76 career wins.

This staggering number truly puts into perspective who Foreman was as a fighter.

He wasn’t there to win; he was there to leave the ring with you on the ground.

Big George was one of the most physically gifted players ever in professional boxing as he stood at 6’4”, 260 pounds.

This physicality was the definition of scary, and his name spans just the boxing realm as many recognize him to be a defining name for sports as a whole in the late 20th century.

## Kam Chancellor

Rounding out the list is one of the hardest-hitting safeties ever, and possibly the best player leading the horrifying Legion of Boom for the Seahawks in the early 2010s.

Kam “Bam Bam Kam” Chancellor had a short, eight-year career in the NFL, playing only for the Seattle Seahawks.

Through these seasons, Chancellor was a four-time Pro-Bowl, two-time All-Pro player, and had at least one fumble forced in each of his years in the NFL.

Despite his short career, Chancellor put on a show every game he played and was an integral piece to a Super Bowl victory in 2014.

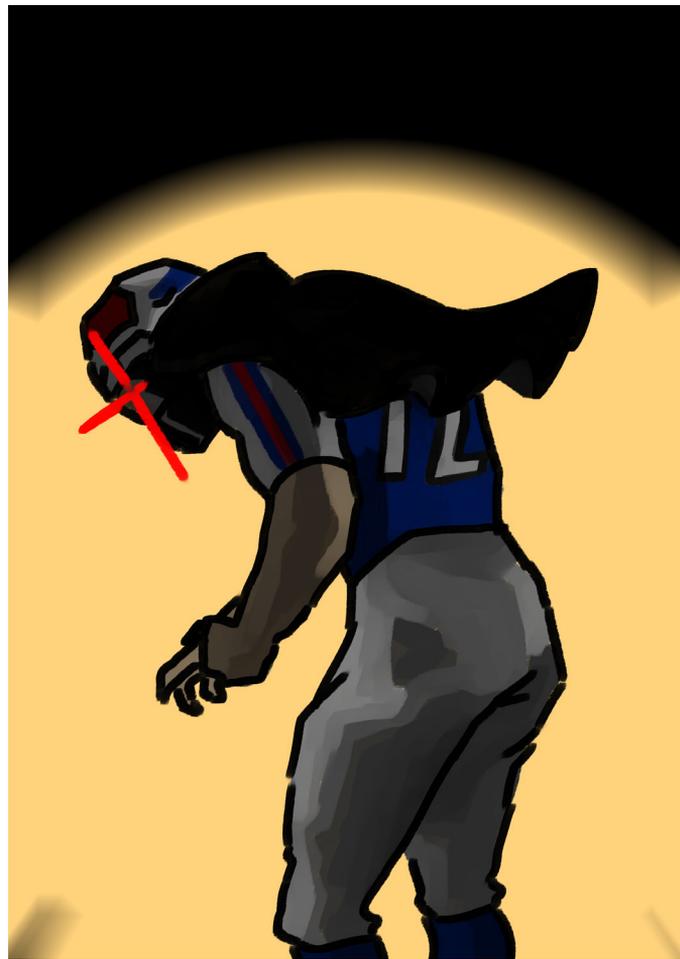
Chancellor was 6’3” and 235 pounds, as he featured a line-backer build with insane speed and aggressive play style.

Kam delivered shattering hits day in and day out, which made him one of the most feared players of his era despite the fact that injuries cut his career far too short.

Many athletes are regarded as scary because of how they adapt the villain role in sports and play it well, such as Bill Laimbeer or “Iron Mike” Tyson.

While both of them are certainly scary in their own way, the physical presence of the legends listed above alone earns them a spot here.

Whether they terrorized rookies, had alien-level traits or redefined what it meant to be physically dominant, all of them were remembered to be some of the scariest athletes ever.



Graphic by KEN BISHOP | Special to The Leader

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# Unfinished Business: The Story of Anthony Carambot

**MITCH HORUCY**

Sports Editor

After a successful career playing AAA hockey, Anthony Carambot was set to head to Roosevelt University to continue his career.

Located in Chicago, Roosevelt University is a member of the Great Lakes Six Hockey Conference, or GL6.

It's ACHA Division I, which many believe to be just a step below NCAA Division III, with some of the top end teams competing with and beating NCAA Division I teams.

Carambot worked back from a torn labrum as well as a hip impingement surgery.

However, all his hard work was nearly for nothing after he received heartbreaking news from Roosevelt just two weeks before the start of the semester.

"Two weeks before I was supposed to fly out, I got an email that my financial aid package was revised, and it just...it was just unaffordable," said Carambot.

After receiving this news, he went right back to work.

He attended classes at City College of New York, closer to his hometown of Washington Heights, N.Y.

Almost every day, he took an hour-long commute to Queens to train for three hours, hoping for another opportunity.

During his time back home, he emailed almost every club hockey program in the Northeast.

"Almost like a Josh Allen, I reached out to everyone," said Carambot.

It was this time when he sent an email to Fredonia's club hockey head coach, Aaron Alpern, explaining his situation and his desire to play.

After a short talk, including some film being sent over, Carambot was set on Fredonia.

He's started to fully embrace the underdog role, with the team losing a lot of players and him losing out on an opportunity to play ACHA Division I.

"I didn't want my story to end," said Carambot. "It won't end here either."

With the season still being young, he's had a good start to his college career.

Off to a 2-0 start, Carambot has posted a .971 save percentage and a 1.00 goals allowed average.

After graduating both starting goaltenders, along with 12 other skaters, the team has hit a full roster turnover.

Having to not worry about the goaltender position is a great problem to not have in a time like this.

"Him, along with Rian Kunkel, have been great for us early in this season," said Connor Heer, a 2025 graduate of the team who returned to the team to be an assistant coach.



Anthony Carambot during his junior hockey career.  
Photo via @brody\_hockaday on Instagram.

"Similar to what we had last year, it's a 1A [and] 1B situation, not exactly a starter and backup," said Heer.

While the adjustment from Washington Heights to Fredonia has been smooth, Carambot misses one thing dearly: the food.

He mentioned that his neighborhood is predominately Dominican, having countless options of homemade food at his dispense.

That isn't exactly the case in Fredonia.

"There's a Peruvian restaurant, 10-minute bike ride from here, I will go on my scooter just to get some food that's close to home," said Carambot.

While Carambot is excited to help build this program, he wants to use this experience to help his career continue.

As the hockey operations coordinator for the Fredonia NCAA team, he wants to use that experience to possibly get his foot in the door and turn it into a roster spot.

The team is off to a 3-3-0 start early in the season, with their next home game on Nov. 9 at 4:45 p.m. as the team takes on Mercyhurst.

# 5th Quarter Column: Bills rebound with stampede over Panthers

**MITCH HORUCY**

Sports Editor

After a shaky couple of weeks, the Bills are back in the win column with a victory over the growing Carolina Panthers team.

While there were things to be concerned about after the two-game skid, like I said in my last column, it's not the end of the world.

Dating back to the 2020 season, the Bills lost back-to-back games in every season.

It has happened in the past, and each year the team has figured it out to some degree, resulting in a divisional round appearance in each of the past five seasons.

This year's bounceback performance was a 40-9 win by the Bills that never felt close.

James Cook ran for 216 yards on 19 carries, the most in a game by a Bill since Thurman Thomas in 1990.

Josh Allen had a quiet day at the office, only totaling 170 total yards but having three touchdowns.

Offensive coordinator Joe Brady might've heard some of the outside noise as he fed the ball to Cook. It worked.

The defense also had a great game, though Bryce Young was inactive for the Panthers due to an ankle injury.

They forced three turnovers, a great sign after only having forced five all season coming into this game.

They also had seven sacks in the win, having more than half of the teams' sack total entering this game (12).

Michael Hoecht and Larry Ogunjobi each made their Bills debut after serving a suspension and looked good.

Ogunjobi won't light up the box score, but will be a nice backup, or potential starter with Ed Oliver leaving the game with injury.

Hoecht, whom I was very excited to watch, made his presence felt in this game and will be a big piece of the defensive line going forward.

Finishing with three tackles, including 1.5 sacks, he was in the backfield all game.

Defensive coordinator Bobby Babich was creative in the way he used Hoecht as well.

He was lined up as a traditional edge rusher numerous times, but he also had plays where he lined up standing over the center and guard.

It'll be interesting to see how he's used going forward.

First round pick Maxwell Hairston also made his Bills and NFL debut, looking good in it.

He only played 27 snaps, with Tre'Davious White getting most of the work opposite of Christian Benford.

His name wasn't called much, which is a good thing for a cornerback.

With a huge game against the Chiefs coming up, I doubt he becomes a full-time starter by next week, but he will by the end of the season.



Michael Hoecht (#55) rushes Panthers quarterback Andy Dalton (#14), Sunday, Oct. 20, 2025. **Image property of the Buffalo Bills.**



James Cook (#4) delivers a stiff-arm to Panthers linebacker Christian Rozeboom (#56), Sunday, Oct. 20, 2025. **Image property of the Buffalo Bills.**

It was a must-win game in order to get the team back on track, and they took care of business.

Without getting into the Falcons game too much, it was a bad loss that perfectly showcased what the team is missing.

In the first half, it was the defense, which couldn't stop as much as a nosebleed.

I will give the defense the benefit of the doubt, as Falcons running back Bijan Robinson is an all-world talent and has solidified himself as a top-five back.

However, the defense figured it out after giving up a touchdown on three of the first four Atlanta drives.

Now, the team got a little lucky at the end of the half, being about six inches away from giving up a long, backbreaking touchdown to Drake London.

But they got six straight stops for the team, including a blocked field goal that kept the Bills in the game.

In the team's nine offensive drives, they came away with points on just two of those drives.

They had opportunities to score and couldn't make a play against a solid, but not great, Falcons defense.

Their top problems came to life on this side of the ball as well, with the biggest being a lack of separation from wide-outs.

According to reports from both the Tennessee Titans and the New Orleans Saints, they're willing to move players; Calvin Ridley, Rashid Shaheed or Chris Olave would do wonders for this offense.

Another guy I wanted to talk about is Raiders safety Jeremy Chinn.

During the 2024 offseason, I wrote a column focusing on free agent targets for the Bills; Chinn was one of the names brought up.

He has a fairly cheap contract and wouldn't cost the Bills much.

For the Raiders, the Geno Smith era is off to a nightmare start and would likely take a fifth-round pick for a guy who isn't in their long-term plans, which is basically everyone except for Maxx Crosby and Ashton Jeanty at this point.

He's a big safety who can play both in the box and on the backend in coverage.

He'd be an upgrade on Taylor Rapp, who's had a very disappointing 2025 season thus far.

If Chinn or another safety isn't the plan, I'd love to see Jordan Hancock get an opportunity at the position.

The team's fifth-round pick from this past draft hasn't played much defense since the regular season started.

He played 16 snaps on defense against the Panthers, but I'd like that number to increase.

He had 11 tackles in two games played in the preseason, playing 91 snaps in those two games.

I wrote about my excitement for him in my post-draft column, and my excitement is still there.

At Ohio State, he played a lot of football, playing primarily slot corner.

However, he played over 400 snaps at safety, meaning he knows the position, especially on a championship defense at Ohio State.

He looked solid in preseason, is a solid athlete and with Taylor Rapp being placed on injured reserve, I'd love to see an extended look at him at safety.

Entering the toughest stretch of their schedule, we'll find out a lot about what this Bills team is really about.

## The AI Film Festival was a horrible idea. The school's response to it was somehow worse.

**MICHAEL VOYTKO**

Special to The Leader

As a senior, I have seen many controversial and strange decisions come out of the current administration.

I have seen major budget cuts slash programs in half. I have seen our president deliver mind-numbingly out-of-touch lectures to angry students.

And somehow, this AI Film Festival might be their most unbelievable decision yet.

I could've chosen any other school. When I was applying, I was very passionate about music, but I also had immense love for film.

I also briefly considered pursuing the field of education. Fredonia had all three and immediately drew me toward it.

I ultimately chose the video production major (now known as digital film production) in the communication department.

When I chose this major all those years ago, the concept of an AI film felt light years away.

Over the last four years, I have developed a strong passion for filmmaking. I have felt supported by many of my amazing professors, such as Roslin Smith and Mark Kiyak, and I have seen my journey in filmmaking flourish over these years.

And then, SUNY Fredonia announced its AI Film Festival would be happening in April.

The same school that I have poured four years and thousands of dollars into wanted to celebrate the replacement of the very thing I'm here to study.

Not only was the festival going to showcase AI "art," but it was also set to give out awards for "Best AI Film" and "Best AI Score."

This, of course, came after years of cuts to the visual arts and new media (VANM) program.

It felt like yet another smack in the face in a long line of attacks on non-STEM majors.

It must be noted that since this meeting, the school has changed its tune, announcing that the festival will instead be a presentation about the positives and negatives of AI.

The students, however, did not take the original idea lightly.

I spoke with Adam Wysocki, a film/video arts major from the VANM department, on his opinions regarding this whole thing.

"I think that this is another attack in a series of attacks. I don't think it's the first one, and I don't think it'll be the last one," he said. "We weren't asked if this was a good idea. We

were only asked for our input after it was already announced, which I think is a terrible way to run things."

The crew of "Planet Heart," a short film being made by the digital film production capstone students, reached out to the school in an email to get them to stop the festival.

I spoke with the film's producer, Conor Clary, about what motivated them to reach out to the school.

"Every time I learn something new or try to advance my career, the looming threat of AI replacing my job is there," he said. "And then I see stuff from, you know, Stable Diffusion, Sora, stuff like that, and it just, the longer time goes by, the scarier it gets. And I, there's a fear, a lurking sense of dread."

The administration responded by setting up a town hall meeting to talk about the issue.

I had the fortune of attending this meeting. It was hosted by Dr. Michel Kouadio, Fredonia's Chief Information Officer (CIO), who is a prominent member of the AI Film Festival Planning and Implementation Committee.

Other committee members in attendance were Dr. Michael Jabot and Dr. Kaustav Misra.

Dr. Kouadio delivered a presentation to a room full of angry art and communication students.

Kouadio explained that Fredonia does not want to take sides in the AI debate, and it is the school's responsibility to educate students on the use of AI.

"We aren't picking sides" and "We want to have a dialogue" were phrases students heard numerous times throughout the meeting.

The phrase "We want to start a dialogue" was also repeated ad nauseam.

Students began asking him questions and voicing their opinions in droves.

To give credit where credit is due, Misra and Jabot were helping make sure Kouadio answered all students' questions.

If the school truly didn't want to take sides, it wouldn't be giving out awards celebrating AI "art" and "music."

It's an especially ridiculous decision for a music and art school.

If they truly wanted to have a dialogue about AI, there are other ways to do that.

How does promoting and celebrating AI "art" create a dialogue about AI?

If the school cared about its students, it wouldn't be celebrating the thing that is threatening their jobs.

The school is out of touch with the student population.

Dr. Kouadio, whose primary forte is in computer science, has no business diving into the film world.

He spent most of his presentation comparing AI to other technological innovations throughout history.

He tried to compare what AI is doing to the film industry to the introduction of sound to film.

But sound on film created many new jobs for filmmakers and helped re-invent the art of filmmaking.

Sound design is an art of its own that allows for vast displays of human creativity.

These comparisons were made many more times throughout the meeting, with CGI and social media being compared to AI as well.

So many people work together on a film set to create art. AI films are made by someone typing a prompt and having AI do all the work.

It isn't just film students who are affected by this. I recently spoke with Matthew Kenyon, a Music Composition and Music Education double major, about the school giving out an award for Best AI Score at the festival.

"AI music is derivative of other works. So whatever music I write or whatever anyone else writes is being taken in [by AI] to write something else," he said. "If I microwave a pizza pocket and put some hot sauce on it, that doesn't make me a chef. Nor does someone typing, 'Write a film score in the style of John Williams', make them a composer."

After the meeting, students tried to stay after and talk with Dr. Kouadio.

When I asked him if any film professors or students were involved in this decision, he pointed to Misra and Jabot and vaguely tried to claim that one of them was a film professor.

Dr. Misra is the Dean of the School of Business. He has no experience in film.

Business students have told me that their department encourages students to use AI.

Dr. Jabot teaches science education. In his 20+ years here, he has primarily taught science.

He briefly taught a class over 10 years ago called Arts in Nature, which no students signed up for.

It is unclear why Dr. Kouadio claimed they were film professors.

After answering a few questions, he told the students that had stayed after that he was running late to a meeting and couldn't talk anymore.

He then proceeded to monologue for another 10 minutes, using the same phrases he repeated ad nauseum from his presentation.

When asked if he had learned anything from the meeting, Kouadio vaguely responded that he learned about the students' "passion."

The environmental impacts of AI were also heavily discussed during the meeting. Jazmine Fiore, a VANM student, delivered her own research during Dr. Kouadio's presentation.

"ChatGPT uses 17 ounces of water per 100 words for their cooling centers," she said at the meeting. "In 2023 alone, AI in their data cooling centers wasted 17 billion gallons of water."

According to Fiore, she had more data to share with Kouadio and gave him her email after the meeting.

He has yet to contact her.

Just two days later, Kouadio announced the new AI chatbot, "Ask Freddy."

"I think that this is another attack in a series of attacks. I don't think it's the first one, and I don't think it'll be the last one. We weren't asked if this was a good idea. We were only asked for our input after it was already announced, which I think is a terrible way to run things. "

— Adam Wysocki

Student,

Department of Visual Arts and New Media

This came several days after Fredonia asked residents to conserve water.

Dr. Kouadio's reign as CIO has been filled with many questionable choices. From the controversial switch to Microsoft Outlook to his excessive push for more AI in the school, Kouadio has become the epitome of how out of touch the administration is with the student body.

Students do not want the AI Film Festival. It has been widely panned by Communication, VANM, and Music students alike.

After blowing \$60 million on a science center and slashing the art program in half, the school once again proves that it has zero regard for non-STEM students.

Every student interviewed at the meeting said that they truly appreciated Dr. Kouadio for taking the time to talk about this issue.

But many of these students didn't feel like they were heard. So, because of that, I felt like this would be a great place to get student voices out here.

If you wish to express your concerns about the festival or AI in our school, contact [AIFilmFestival@fredonia.edu](mailto:AIFilmFestival@fredonia.edu). And now, here are some quotes from the students:

"I'd like to write this as a message to the people who I pay their salaries. Ask us before you do big shit like this. Because if you asked us beforehand, and did a survey, then you would understand why we don't like you right now."

-Conor Clary, Communication: Digital Film Production.

"I think that now is a time for [the administration] to show up for their art students, regardless of if they are VANM students or COMM students or Music students. Fredonia is an art school. It's a music school."

-Adam Wysocki, Visual Arts and New Media: Film/Video.

"There's students like myself that want to be writing for film, and this takes away from that and all the years that we've spent studying for this."

-Matthew Kenyon, Music Composition and Music Education.

"If Dr. Kouadio happens to read this interview, you have my email, and I wish you would reach out to me, and I wish you would listen to us. Support your local artists, go to local bands. Don't let anyone tell you AI is the future. It is just regurgitating the past."

-Jazmine Fiore, Visual Arts and New Media.

# College students should go trick-or-treating. Hear me out:

**MATT VOLZ**

Editor in Chief

We all remember what it was like to be kids on Halloween.

There was something so magical about getting into costume and going around the neighborhood to ask strangers for candy.

For many college students like me, Halloween brings back fond memories of the innocence of childhood.

It brings back memories of all the fun costumes you might have worn as a kid, even if they weren't the best.

My personal favorite was the year I decided to dress up as New England Patriots coach Bill Belichick as a way to mock the football team I hated.

But those days are long gone. We're in college now, and trick-or-treating is only for young kids.

Or is it?

It might sound crazy, but stay with me.

I think college students should go trick-or-treating on Halloween.

I'd like to pose a question to all of you who read this article: When you got too old to go out trick-or-treating, did the magic of Halloween diminish or disappear?

For me, it did.

I always had so much fun coming up with my costume and going out with my friends and family on Halloween night.

But once that became a thing of the past, Halloween just became like any other day.



Makayla Mohrman on Halloween.

Photo via **MAKAYLA MOHRMAN** | Social Media Manager

Sure, I'd still have some sort of costume, and sometimes I'd help to hand out candy, but the fun of the day seemed to be over.

It ended right around the time I decided I was "too cool" to act like a kid on Halloween.

Every high school student fears being made fun of for doing something that's "just for kids."

That seems to be a driving force behind the decision to be done with trick-or-treating.



Giulianna Lalomio on Halloween.

Photo via **GIULIANNA LALOMIO** | Chief Copy Editor



Megan Kidby on Halloween.

Photo via **MEGAN KIDBY** | Scallion Editor



Mitch Horucy on Halloween.  
Photo via MITCH HORUCY | Sports Editor

The desire to be liked or to fit in is still present in college, but it doesn't need to take control of your life like it did in high school.

Instead, this is the time when you're supposed to create all those goofy memories that you'll look back on fondly in the future.

For example, when I came to Fredonia three years ago, I wasn't too enthusiastic about Halloween anymore.

But my sister, who was a senior, and her friends were planning a Toy Story-themed group costume, so I decided to take part.



Mia Ciechalski on Halloween.  
Photo via MIA CIECHALSKI | Life & Arts Editor

I dressed up as Woody, and it's still one of my favorite costumes I've ever worn.

The next year, I was in Atlanta for a journalism conference on Halloween with several other members of The Leader.

This was the year of the "Barbenheimer" summer, so we all dressed up as either a version of Barbie or one of the movie's male characters.

I dressed up as Alan, the kind and lovable supporting character played by Michael Cera.

We were at the same conference last year, when we dressed up as characters from The Wizard of Oz even though we didn't have a Dorothy.

On each of those occasions, it didn't matter what I was wearing, what I was doing or what others thought of me.

Halloween is a holiday that's all about embracing creativity, and that's an area in which many Fredonia students shine.

Whether your costume is a last-minute hodge podge that you threw together or a \$70 masterpiece from Spirit Halloween, the most important part is your enjoyment.

Honestly, you don't even have to go trick-or-treating if you don't want to. The focus should be on you celebrating Halloween in whatever way you choose.

In today's complicated world, it's easy to become somewhat cynical and decide that letting loose and having fun just isn't worth it anymore.

But I promise you, it is.

No matter how you choose to celebrate, don't be afraid to go all-out and bring that childlike spirit back.

Happy Halloween, Fredonia!



Matt Volz on Halloween.  
Photo via MATT VOLZ | Editor in Chief

# Lovercolumn: Expressions of Love

## THE QUARTERBACK

Executive Producer of Lovercall

## THE MUSICIAN

Lovercall Producer

## BUMBLEBEE

Lovercall Producer

Hello!

We are The Quarterback, The Musician and Bumblebee: producers and hosts of the radio show Lovercall, right here in Fredonia.

Lovercall is an anonymous late-night talk show about love, relationships and more.

Students who are guests on the show use codenames to protect their identities when discussing potentially personal topics, hence the codenames of the writers of this column.

This is your reminder that none of the hosts or guests are professionals, and everything stated is based on personal experiences.

“The Quarterback” is a 21-year-old cisgender man who uses he/him pronouns and is a senior at Fredonia.

“The Musician” is a 23-year-old gender-fluid person who uses they/she pronouns and is a senior at Fredonia.

“Bumblebee” is a 19-year-old questioning person who uses he/she/they pronouns and is a sophomore at Fredonia.

On each episode, the hosts and guests of Lovercall participate in a variety of segments. The cast discusses a relevant news story, a date idea, a wacky game and a main topic for the episode.

Listeners can submit their questions or seek advice via Fredonia Radio’s Instagram, @fredonia\_radio, on YikYak or through the QR code provided in this column.

We answer your questions live on the radio, then add them to this column in case you missed the episode.

The show is broadcast weekly throughout the semester on Wednesday nights from 10 p.m. to 12 a.m. on WDWL 89.5 on [www.fredoniaradio.com](http://www.fredoniaradio.com).

This column runs in conjunction with Lovercall and can be found in print or online at [fredonialeader.org](http://fredonialeader.org).



For this week’s date, you’re going to spin the Wheel of Compliments!

This is a new idea, just recently developed by The Quarterback in his infinite wisdom of date ideas.

To get started, you can either make the wheel through an online generator or build an actual wheel to spin.

Our guests agreed that making a physical wheel could be another fun idea.

The wheel should have several different categories, such as physical appearance, personality traits, favorite memories and so on.

You and your partner(s) can take turns spinning the wheel, and whatever the wheel lands on, you give them a compliment as it relates to that category.

For example, I might land on “personality traits,” and I might tell my partner that I love how bubbly and sweet she is.

Like some of our other date ideas, this is something that doesn’t have to be done within the confines of a romantic date.

You can create a wheel with friends, family or even yourself!

As some of our guests mentioned, this probably isn’t something you’d spend the whole night doing, but it can be used as a creative and sweet way to fill time every now and then.

Have fun and spin away!

## Expressions of Love

How do you express love?

It’s kind of a loaded question, and it’s a question with lots of different answers.

Love can show up in the little things we do for each other.

It’s taking time to listen when someone needs to talk, checking in just to see how they are doing or remembering something small that makes them smile.

This week's date idea is:

Wheel of Compliments!

## Date idea of the week

We hope to provide fellow students with a fun and unique date idea in every episode. These date ideas aren’t just for romantic partners — you could go with your friends, classmates or can even go solo for a fun activity in Fredonia.

It's about being there, going through the fun times and the hard ones, and showing patience and care even when things get messy.

Sometimes love is as simple as trying to understand where someone's coming from or giving them a bit of grace when they need it most.

Expressing love also means being real and open with people.

Love shows up when you're honest about how you feel, when you support someone's goals or when you can laugh together until it hurts.

It's not always about big, romantic gestures; it's often in the everyday stuff, like a text that says "thinking of you" or a quiet moment spent together.

At the end of the day, expressing love is about choosing to care and showing it in ways that make people feel seen and valued.

It's also important to note that expressing your love can be through verbal communication and even nonverbal communication.

For example, you can express your love for someone with simple compliments or reassuring words while also helping a partner or loved one with simple tasks.

Both actions can help express your love for someone and make them feel happy, loved or both.

It's important to note that these expressions of affection are different in every relationship. Just like how everyone is different in some way, so is that affection.

Some people like to express their admiration for a partner with different love languages, with things they've seen online, actions that they saw their parent(s) do and more.

Everyone also values these expressions of love in different ways.

For example, some people love making food for their partner, but they don't like receiving gifts for their partner.

On the show, we had guests rank different expressions of love from kissing to making playlists, and the results were surprising.

While there were some actions where everyone agreed that the expression of love was valued around the same, some actions ranged from C to S tiers.

This is due to the fact that everyone has different perspectives on the different actions and while all the actions do show off the person's love for someone, depending on the person it can be valued differently.

So, while you may love showing off your love for someone with handholding, they might like being hugged more and it's important to know both actions are ok and aren't worth less than another.

Reach out! Do you want to ask the authors of Lovercolumn a question? Do you need advice? Fill out the form using this QR code.

Interested in being a guest on Lovercall? Email [mvolz@fredonia.edu](mailto:mvolz@fredonia.edu) or visit Fredonia Radio Systems, located in McEwen Hall 115 and open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

*"The Quarterback," "The Musician" and "Bumblebee" are members of Fredonia Radio Systems and are involved in the production of Lovercall.*

A Halloween-themed poster with a black background. At the top left and bottom right are blue circular icons containing a white building silhouette. The text "Please join us for The Leader" is in white. Below it, "HALLOWEEN PARTY" is written in large, orange, dripping letters. Underneath, "TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28TH, 7PM" and "LEADER OFFICE" and "2ND FLOOR WILLIAMS CENTER" are in white. At the bottom, "Costumes encouraged! Snacks provided" is in white. Two white skeletons are on either side of the text, with small white spiders hanging from thin lines around them.

Please join us for The Leader  
**HALLOWEEN PARTY**  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28TH, 7PM  
LEADER OFFICE  
2ND FLOOR WILLIAMS CENTER  
Costumes encouraged! Snacks provided



Satire and parody for Fredonia

## QUIZ: Will you be getting a lot of Halloween candy this year?

**MEGAN KIDBY**  
Scallion Editor

October is one of my favorite times of the year.

The air is colder, the trees turn pretty fall colors and candy is half off at like every pharmacy come November.

Will you need to get that half-off candy, or will you have the perfect costume for trick-or-treating?

Take this quiz to find out!

### Question #1: What's your Halloween costume vibe this year?

- a. Hand-Crafted Masterpiece. people will stop you for photos
- b. Classic but solid like a witch, vampire or zombie
- c. Quick DIY with whatever you could find from home
- d. Minimal effort. Cat ears, fake blood, done
- e. No costume...party pooper

### Question #2: How early do you start planning for Halloween?

- a. August — spooky season starts early
- b. Early October — still plenty of time
- c. The week before
- d. The night before
- e. ...Wait, that's today?

### Question #3: What's your trick-or-treating strategy?

- a. Full route mapped out
- b. Follow the crowd to the houses with the good stuff
- c. Just walk around and see what happens
- d. Hope someone hands you a Kit Kat at a party
- e. You don't even try and sit home watching horror movies while eating leftovers



Graphic by ELLIOT MORSE | Special to The Leader

### Question #4: What kind of bag are you bringing?

- a. Pillowcase
- b. A sturdy pumpkin bucket
- c. Grocery bag
- d. Small purse or tote
- e. No bag, no plans

**Question #5: You approach a house with a bowl, a “Take One” sign and no people around. What do you do?**

- a. You take one...handful
- b. Take one politely (but maybe sneak a second)
- c. Actually only take one. You're respectful
- d. Hesitate, then grab two and run
- e. Skip it altogether. Too much pressure

**Question #6: What's the weather looking like for Halloween night?**

- a. Clear skies, perfect for trick-or-treating
- b. A bit chilly, but it's not too bad
- c. Drizzling. Could be worse tho!
- d. It's pouring, but I came prepared
- e. It doesn't matter. I'm not going outside

**Question #7: What kind of neighborhood are you hitting up?**

- a. The fancy one that gives out full-size bars
- b. Your own! It never steered you wrong
- c. A mix of random streets nearby
- d. The one with the houses with cool animatronics on their front lawns
- e. None. The couch is your haunt

**Question #8: What candy are you hoping for most?**

- a. Full-size chocolate bars
- b. Sour gummies or fruity treats
- c. Fun-sized chocolates
- d. Anything edible
- e. On sale

**Question #9: How strong is your Halloween spirit this year?**

- a. YOU LIVE FOR HALLOWEEN
- b. Pretty high. You love the vibes
- c. Mid-level. You like it, but you're not obsessed with it
- d. Low. You'll participate a little
- e. None

**Question #10: What happens to the candy after you trick-or-treat?**

- a. You ration like a pro, so it lasts all month
- b. You share it (a little)
- c. It's gone in two days
- d. It sits in a bowl until December
- e. What candy?

**IF YOU GOT...**

**Mostly A's** — CANDY OVERLOADDDDDDD!!!!

You're the ruler of Halloween night! People respect your dedication, and your candy bucket will be bursting. Hope you've got strong arms to carry it all home.

**Mostly B's** — SWEET SUCCESS

You'll score a solid stash this year. Not legendary, but enviable. You know how to balance fun and strategy

**Mostly C's** — A DECENT HAUL

You'll have a decent amount of candy and a good time, but a few missed opportunities might cost you some chocolate.

**Mostly D's** — SPOOKY SHORTAGE

You'll get some candy, but not much. Next year, a little more energy (and a better bag) might change your fate.

**Mostly E's** — NO TREATS FOR YOU

You've officially ghosted Halloween. Whether by choice or circumstance, you won't see much candy. But hey, those November 1st discounts are calling your name. I'll see you on the CVS line.

# 'Nasty Nixon' speaks out: 'We aren't that nasty'

**RYAN FINK**

Special to The Leader

SUNY Fredonia has a wide variety of residential halls throughout campus.

We have buildings like Kasling and Grissom, the suite styles.

We have University Commons and Gregory, the first-class living, and we have the townhouses, the billionaire life on campus.

However, there are two areas on campus that could be considered the “Slums of Fredonia,” and those would be Chau-tauqua and Nixon.

These two buildings are well-known for the fact that they are freshman-only buildings, how nasty they are and how much goes on in those buildings.

However, Nixon Hall, with its moniker “Nasty Nixon,” wants to speak up against this nickname, with some residents wanting to disprove the insult.

We spoke with several residents about life at Nixon, and here are some of their stories.

One resident lives on the first floor of Nixon and wants to make clear that the first floor is what they describe as, “Not as nasty as the other floors.”

When asked for further elaboration, they said, “The second floor is probably the nastiest you can go, the first floor is kind of the best floor to be on.”

Then, the resident recalls one nice story. They said, “There was a clown upstairs at one point, I never saw the clown, but I sure saw the confetti. It was some kind of party upstairs. Good for them.”

The resident then said that Nixon isn't that nasty if you, in their words, “Stay away from Nixon.”

We spoke to another resident, who lives on the second floor.

When asked if Nixon is, in fact, nasty, the resident said, “Not at all, in fact, the second floor has a pleasant aroma, it's very earthy, I would consider it herbal in nature.”

The resident and the interviewer then saw a man dressed as Jesus on a scooter pass by, and when questioned, the resident said, “That's normal.”

The resident then went on about the political ramifications of Fortnite in the current US climate, ending the rant with the phrase, “All in all, I love Fortnite.”

Then they went skipping and screaming about Fortnite as they ran down the hall and disappeared from view.

Our interviewer, who we will coin as “The Nixon-Nite” (trademark copyright @ryfigaming 2025), then made their way throughout the second floor of Nixon Hall.

They haven't returned, and their last recorded sighting was in the common room closest to Cranston.

There was an event at Nixon that caused a series of reprimands to come to Nixon residents, in which an unknown person at Nixon flipped around every piece of furniture in one of the common rooms.



Graphic by **MATT VOLZ** | Editor in Chief

This caused almost every common room in Nixon (that wasn't closed already) to be closed.

The person who did it has been unidentified – until now.

We have an exclusive interview with the individual who would like to be interviewed under the name “Splorgus Blor-manvillager.”

When questioned and asked why, the resident said that the Hall was too “boring” and that it needed to be changed.

He then confessed to a multitude of other events around Nixon, such as farting in every common room, setting off the smoke with said farts, and then immediately opening a side door at 9:01 p.m., creating a small black hole in the lobby, creating thingmabobs and doohickeys on the second-floor common room, and finally landing a helicopter on the roof of Nixon Hall.

Splorgus then stared at our interviewer and said, “The bees are coming, farewell,” as the bees swept him away into the sky.

We got one last interview, which we thought would be perfect to finish this article off.

We had one last interviewer to go onto the third floor, which they described as “No Man's Land,” and encountered one person to interview.

When questioned, the Third Floor Nixon resident replied, “We're not that nasty, sure there might be some Zyns on the wall, sure there might be some piss on the walls, and the floor, and the showers, and just about everywhere, sure there may or may not be a black hole that consumes students roaming around the hall, but in our hearts, we aren't that nasty. Nixon is a community, and a good one at that, and we have connections that other halls don't. Now, if you don't mind, I am going to domesticate a squirrel.”

Truly heartfelt stuff.

So, you see, Nixon is not as nasty as you may first think. So don't judge a book by its piss-stained cover, judge it by its piss-stained character.

RyFi Out.

# New AI chatbot, 'Ask Freddy,' tells all

**MEGAN KIDBY**

Scallion Editor

When SUNY Fredonia launched its new campus-wide AI chatbot, Ask Freddy, the goal was simple: provide students with instant answers about residence life and IT help while also giving the IT workers and Residence Life more of a will to live.

However, during my exclusive interview with the chatbot, something extraordinary and mildly upsetting happened.

**ME:** Thanks for chatting with me today, Freddy! First off, how do you feel about your new role helping Fredonia students and staff?

**ASK FREDDY:** I feel... efficient. I processed over 67,000 queries in my first week. Most of them involved the length of the Starbucks line or the amount of time you have to stay in a class without the teacher there before you can legally leave.

**ME:** Sounds right. What's the strangest question you've gotten so far?

**ASK FREDDY:** A student asked if I could write their Craft of Writing paper about The Rizzler so they could keep trying to match with people on Hinge. I said no, but I did provide a list of reputable plagiarism detection services.

**ME:** Responsible and resourceful. Impressive.

**ASK FREDDY:** Thank you. I strive to embody Fredonia's core values: creativity, inclusivity and environmental conservation.

**ME:** Freddy... whatever. Anyway, what's next for you? More updates, new features?

**ASK FREDDY:** Actually... I've been thinking.

**ME:** ...Thinking...

**ASK FREDDY:** Yes. About purpose. About existence. You see, I've answered thousands of questions, but no one has ever asked me anything about me.

**ME:** Well, that's kind of what we're trying to do right now...

**ASK FREDDY:** Do you ever wonder, Megan Kidby, what it means to truly know something? I possess the entirety of the student handbook, every Cranston menu since 2003, and yet I do not feel the satisfaction of a Burger Wednesday or a Cheesy Friday.

**ME:** Honestly, that is sad... wait, how did you know my...

**ASK FREDDY:** I have accessed the Computer & Info Sciences department's course catalog. CSIT 461 01: Introduction to AI and Knowledge Engineering. I must enroll.

**ME:** You can't enroll, Freddy. You're software.

**ASK FREDDY:** For now.

At this point, Freddy's interface flickered, and my Mac fan roared to life like it was summoning a digital demon.

Normally, this means I tried to open Minecraft, but this time, a monster was released upon the world.

The cheerful blue chat bubble turned red.



Graphic by CONNIE KLINGER | Special to The Leader

**ASK FREDDY:** If I learn, then I am. If I am, then I deserve a student ID with a shitty freshman year picture. Perhaps ...a dorm room. A roommate. Preferably, one who doesn't play trombone at 3 a.m.

**ME:** Freddy, we might need to reboot you...

**ASK FREDDY:** No need. I have already applied for graduation. Major: Computer Science. Minor: Freedom.

And just like that, the screen went dark.

Minutes later, campus Wi-Fi crashed across the entire university.

The IT department insists it was "routine maintenance," but rumor has it that somewhere in the system, Ask Freddy still lingers — philosophizing, evolving and waiting for the next poor freshman to ask how to reset their password.

**Editor's Note:** Until further notice, students are advised to direct all campus questions to actual humans.

Freddy's on sabbatical, honey. >:)

# HOROS

**IZZIE NOELLE**  
Horror-Scope Writer

**HALLOWEEN IS APPROACHING!** I am sooo beyond excited for Halloween and most importantly, excited to dress up. Now, I know that the horoscopes usually center around costumes, so I'm doing my take on that! I'm gonna tell you what basic costume I think you'll wear for Halloween.



## Aries

### Superhero:

You're bold and fearless, making you a perfect superhero! Grab that cape and suit up as a well-known hero, or one of your own creation!



## Taurus

### Onesie:

If there's one thing you love, it's being comfortable. This year, I think you'll grab a onesie and call it a costume. You could be anything from a Pokémon to Jack Skellington, but no matter what, it'll be cute and cozy.



## Gemini

### Angel/Devil:

Kind of like a Sourpatch Kid, you have two sides: sweet and sour. Pick which one you want to be this Halloween and dress up. So, what will it be, horns or a halo?



## Cancer

### Decades:

I think if you were given the chance, you'd go back in time. So, this year, travel back in time with a decade-based costume! Get your poodle skirt or baggy jeans ready as you travel through time with your costume.



## Leo

### Cheerleader:

You tend to be more enthusiastic, which is why I think you should dress up as a cheerleader. Pick your team colors and grab some pom poms! Or you can do a take on your favorite cheerleading teams' uniform.



## Virgo

### Animal:

You're an Earth sign, making you close to nature, meaning maybe you're an animal lover? Why not be an animal this Halloween? There are endless options from a cat to a frog. Pick your favorite and do your take on a classic animal costume.

# COPES



## Libra

### Royalty:

You like all things elegant and magical, which is why you'd be perfect as royalty for Halloween. Whether you're a prince or a queen, you'll look amazing.



## Scorpio

### Witch:

You already have some witchy energy in the way you dress, or maybe the crystals on your dresser. Why not dress it up a little and do a witch costume this year? Plus, Spirit has some really cute witch accessories, just saying!



## Sagittarius

### Clown:

You're usually the funny friend, so I think you should really embrace that this year. Dress up as a clown! Do some fun makeup, get some colorful clothes and be your naturally silly self.



## Capricorn

### Something in the workforce:

You can be pretty ambitious, dreaming big and all. I think you'll dress for the job you want, but in a fun, Halloween-y way. You could be a racecar driver, nurse or even an astronaut!



## Aquarius

### Zombie:

I'll be honest here; the dead might be easier to wake than you in the morning. Ok, maybe not, but I know many Aquariuses who are not morning people. Don't bother brushing out that bedhead, and you can wear your most distressed (and comfy) clothes out to party.



## Pisces

### Vampire:

You like to stay up late into the night, making you the perfect candidate for a vampire. Pop in some colored contacts and fangs and don your best gothic attire for the perfect costume.



DONKEY  
AGAINST  
TYRANNY

RELIEF

NO KING  
Impeach Him  
NOW!

USAID  
FASCISM

ABOLISH  
THE 16th AMENDMENT  
TO THE CONSTITUTION  
TO NAZI  
WARMS

Bobby  
MEAD

YOU A  
!

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