THE LEADER
SUNY FREDONIA'S STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER
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Front cover: Danny Gazzilli and Jillian Lawson (left) listen to Brian Rivera and Sydney Smith (right) during the presidential debate. **Photo by Logan Searfoss |** Special to The Leader. **Back cover:** Walkway by Steel Hall stays empty. **Photo by SAM HEBERT** | Photo Editor

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The Leader would like to wish all students and faculty a happy fall break!

Proud member of The Associated Collegiate Press.

SGA hosts first debate in over seven years, winner elected

PAIGE TAYLOR
Staff Writer

The Student Government Association (SGA) held its presidential and vice presidential debate Friday, Nov. 6. In addition to the debate, both slates sat down with The Leader to discuss why they were running, their priorities, the campus issues they wanted to address and what they hoped to accomplish if elected.

In the end, Danny Gazzilli won the presidency, and Jillian Lawson won the vice presidential election.

This is the first contested election in more than seven years, according to Election Committee Chair Zachary Dean.

The candidates included current SGA Vice President Gazzilli and his running mate, Lawson, the current chief justice.

Senior class representative Brian Rivera ran with Sydney Smith, the current assistant speaker of the Assembly and sophomore class president.

When asked what inspired him to get involved with SGA, Gazzilli said, "Seeing how many people were struggling to get issues solved. It should almost be muscle memory to know the places to go, [and] the people to see, and I really want to educate people on that."

Lawson highlighted her experience as chief justice.

"I want to be a voice for the students. I want to be someone they can come to with issues. I want to advocate for them," Lawson said.

During the debate, candidates addressed issues including accessibility, program cuts and the teaching of artificial intelligence in the classroom.

Rivera highlighted his involvement in updating Freddie's Locker, a campus resource for students experiencing food insecurity.

"I was a part of the Food Insecurity Committee because I had experienced a lot of food insecurity [during] my first year on campus. If you see now outside, they have Freddie's Locker. [It] didn't used to look like that at all. So, we went and we lobbied and now it's the best it's ever been," Rivera said.

Students also had the opportunity to ask the candidates questions during the debate. Several raised concerns about campus transportation and ongoing construction around Jewett Hall.

When asked what actions they would take to address students' concerns about the construction, Rivera said he would work with the SGA's Sustainability and Accessibility committees to bring students' concerns to the administration.

"My first action is [working alongside] our Sustainability Committee and our Accessibility Committee. Going through our own committees to actually talk to the administration, [and] bringing them concerns on a plate."



From left to right: Jillian Lawson, Danny Gazzilli.
Photo by Logan Searfoss | Special to The Leader

Rivera continued, "not just a single complaint, but a bigger class of you. Because I know this is not just a singular person coming out and feeling like this."

Gazzilli also emphasized the importance of working with campus administration and facilities to address students' concerns. "Facilities will be our best friend for this. We need to talk to them in terms of finding ways, especially with the mitigation of the airborne asbestos or whatever is in [Jewett Hall]."

Gazzilli continued, "It could be a whole multitude of things. However, like they had said, it's administration, it's Facilities; it's not just gathering a group of people, because we all have pretty much the same ideas on this. It's giving the people a plan and something to work on and something that they can look forward to, especially with something like this,"

When asked why students should vote for him, Gazzilli pointed to his visibility and relationships across campus.

"My visibility on campus is huge. If I walk into a room with roughly 50 people, I probably know about 10 or 15. That is important to me because that is 15 people I have made a measurable impact on. I think that speaks a lot about somebody as a leader. I am not just managing people, I am here for the people. [The president is] the bridge between everything; I should know a lot of people because that's how you get things done," Gazzilli said.

Rivera emphasized that his campaign was focused on improving the campus community rather than personal advancement.

"We're not doing this for ourselves. We're not here because we want to make change that is going to make our lives better. We're doing this because we care about the campus. We care about people being safe, happy and wanting to be here. That's a really big goal for us running," Rivera said.

Dunkirk to be considered for a nuclear power plant

ALEX BUCKNAM
Editor in Chief

In June 2025, New York Gov. Kathy Hochul announced plans to develop nuclear power facilities in upstate New York.

Hochul initially proposed generating 1 gigawatt of zero-emission electricity in upstate New York, but after more than 30 entities expressed interest, the proposal expanded to 5 gigawatts. The expansion would allow multiple sites to be selected for development.

The New York Power Authority requested additional information from interested communities, including Dunkirk.

Chautauqua County Executive Mark Geise said Dunkirk is in a strong position to become one of the selected sites.

During a Chautauqua County Industrial Development Agency meeting, Geise said the state is considering building five nuclear facilities.

"I think if we play our cards right and keep this [application] moving forward, there's a good chance that it could happen," Geise said. "I truly believe this would be in the best interest of everyone."

Geise also noted that Jamestown Community College recently received a $1.29 million nuclear workforce grant. The funding could help prepare local students for careers in the nuclear energy industry.

If selected, the proposed facility would be built at the former NRG power plant site near Point Gratiot Beach.

State Sen. George Borrello also expressed support for Dunkirk as a potential location.

"The NRG plant is already there, and already has access to Lake Erie," Borrello said.

Both Borrello and Geise have cited the potential economic benefits of bringing a nuclear facility to Dunkirk.

Borrello said the facilities could create jobs and ease the tax burden on local residents.

However, students and other community members have raised concerns about nuclear waste disposal and the potential effects of the facility on Lake Erie.

"I think there is a lot of misinformation on the waste disposal," Borrello said. "Nuclear energy is one of the cleanest options."

The International Atomic Energy Agency explains that nuclear power plants use separate cooling systems to remove excess heat from reactors. According to the agency, cooling water does not come into contact with radioactive material inside the reactor.

"The cooling water never comes into contact with the radioactive material in the reactor: it is part of a separate system dedicated solely to removing excess heat," the agency states.

If the project moves forward, questions will remain about how the facility could affect the surrounding community and nearby recreational areas, including Point Gratiot Beach.

The next steps include additional research and a decision by the governor's office on which locations will be selected.

More than a year has passed since the initial application process involving Dunkirk began.

Borrello said the selection of locations could happen soon. He suggested Hochul waited until after the election to move the project forward.

If Dunkirk is selected, the county would research the best ways to use the former NRG power plant site and determine how to advance the project.

The governor's office has not announced when it plans to select the locations for the proposed nuclear facilities. The office could not be reached for comment by press time.

This is a developing story. The Leader will provide updates.



The pier sits in the foreground with the former NRG power plant visible in the background. **Graphic by Charlotte Mahaffy** | Staff Artisit

Letter to the editor

To the editor:

Gracelyn Beachner's Oct. 23 article, "Naloxone becomes available in Gregory Hall," describes a smart piece of public health design: naloxone and drug-testing strips that students can pick up anonymously, with an inventory form that asks for no name. As a licensed clinical social worker, I want to thank the campus for it and suggest one more step.

Naloxone is built for the worst night. The nights before it rarely look like an emergency. In my clinical work, substance use often starts as a solution before it becomes a problem: something to fall asleep after a week of deadlines, to quiet anxiety before a performance, to keep going when exhaustion says stop. From the outside, that student looks busy and fine. Inside, the stress is doing the steering.

Waiting has a cost even for people who never come close to an overdose. A 2026 CEREVITY report, "Why Executives Wait 21 Months for Therapy," found that 41 percent of the 307 executives who sought therapy through the CEREVITY network said the waiting itself made their symptoms worse. Students are not executives, but the habit of postponing help is learned long before anyone has a title.

So, I hope the anonymity that makes the Gregory Hall supplies work can travel upstream. If a friend's sleep, mood or weekend habits have shifted, ask how they are actually doing, and mean it. And know that the Fredonia Counseling Center offers free, confidential counseling to all registered students. A conversation there in November is far easier than a crisis in May.

Martha Fernandez, LCSW
Licensed clinical social worker and co-founder of CEREVITY
Lakewood, California

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 at and around SUNY Fredonia. All information is provided on the University Police Department's website, 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:

Oct. 15, 2026: A vehicle was damaged in Lot 11, and the incident is listed as leaving the scene. The incident was closed by an investigation.

Oct. 17, 2026: There was a reported sex offense; prosecution was declined.

Oct. 17, 2026: A door was damaged in Fenton Hall. This incident was closed by an investigation.

Oct. 21, 2026: Property was damaged in the Williams Center; prosecution was declined.

Oct. 27, 2026: There was an unauthorized person using a dumpster at the Incubator. This was closed by an investigation.

Nov. 3, 2026: A vehicle was damaged on Varsity Drive, and the incident is listed as leaving the scene. The incident was closed by an investigation.

Nov. 5, 2026: A vehicle was damaged on Ring Road, and the incident is listed as leaving the scene. The incident was closed by an investigation.

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Life & Arts

Fredonia's Opera House: Fredonia's history

GRACE ZIMMERMAN
Special to The Leader

Located in the heart of the village of Fredonia, the Fredonia Opera House has been an important part of the community for more than 130 years, providing entertainment and bringing people together.

The building was constructed on the original site of the Fredonia Academy, established in 1826. The village purchased the property in 1867, after the One Temple Square Normal School building opened.

For a time, the former academy building housed village offices and the fire department. Its large upstairs rooms also were used for meetings and assemblies.

In 1889, village officials decided a new building was necessary and voted on an architectural proposal by Enoch A. Curtis. Curtis' plan included a post office, village offices, a newsstand, public meeting rooms, a fire hall, a lockup, club rooms, private offices and an opera house.

The Opera House officially opened in April 1891 with a performance of "Josephine, the Empress of the French" by a company of 22 people.

In the years that followed, the venue hosted a variety of events, including political rallies, tragedies, the Fruit Growers Institute, Gilbert and Sullivan operettas and a horse show featuring 30 horses, ponies and mules.

Elaborate special effects were also part of the entertainment, with revolving belts, sinking-ship mechanisms and movable platforms used in performances.

In 1900, following a fire at the Normal School, classes were temporarily held at the village hall. Commencement ceremonies also were held there in 1901 and 1902.

By 1917, movies had become a staple at the Opera House. Although occasional patriotic shows and meetings were held during World War I, silent films accounted for most of the venue's programming.

Eventually, the Opera House came under new management and reopened as the Winter Garden Theater, with upgrades to some of its equipment.

The Winter Garden remained successful through the silent-film era and the transition to sound films. However, with the introduction of radio and television, the theater was forced to close in 1981.

In 1983, the village hall faced the threat of demolition. Recognizing the building's historical and cultural importance, community members formed the Fredonia Preservation Society.

After successfully stopping the demolition, the society's first campaign focused on restoring the Opera House.

The restoration project took nine years. In 1994, the Opera House was fully rehabilitated and turned over to a nonprofit organization.

Since reopening, the 1891 Fredonia Opera House has continued to manage its own affairs. The curtain has not fallen on the historic venue, which continues to offer a variety of entertainment, including live music, dance, films, lectures and student performances.

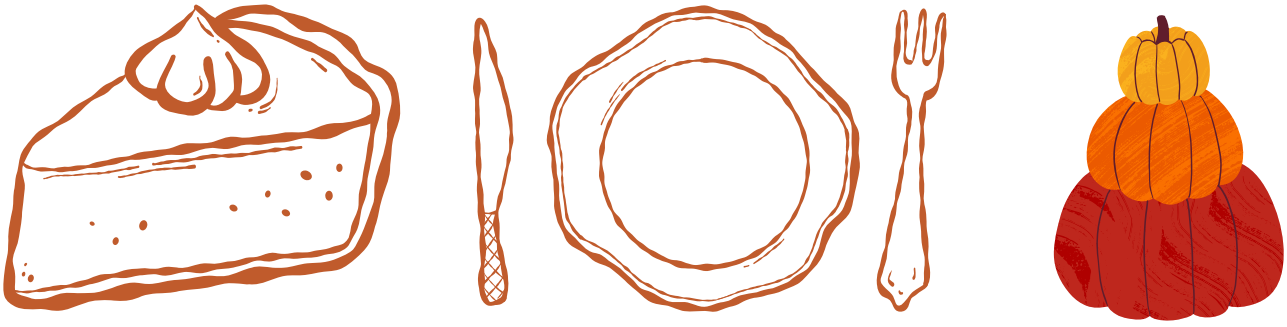
The Opera House also broadcasts performances from the Metropolitan Opera in New York City and the National Theater in London.

Today, the venue continues to fulfill its original vision of bringing Fredonia and the surrounding region together through the arts.



The 1981 Fredonia Opera House. **Photo by SAM HEBERT** | Photo Editor

Thanksgiving break away from home: How some students spend the break



ANNIE GONDEK
Special to The Leader

Most of campus is getting ready to pack up for family reunions and comfort food, but a small group will stay behind this Thanksgiving break.

The reasons for students to stay on campus vary. Regardless of the reason, departments plan ahead for these students every year. Residence Life coordinates with those who will remain on campus for Thanksgiving break.

In 2025, there were 102 students who were staying for at least part of the break. "The count fluctuates, but it seems to be steadily rising as both travel costs and the number of students who are housing insecure increases," said Kevin Hahn of Residence Life.

These students will still have access to their residence halls, but dining options are limited.

Starbucks is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. The C-store is open from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday, while Cranston Marche and Willy C's are closed for the entire week.

However, there are alternate opportunities for students to eat that are not from the dining hall.

"Freddy's Locker, the campus food pantry, will be stocked the week before Thanksgiving, so students who are planning to stay for November break can place orders in advance," Hahn said.

Residence Life and the Faculty Student Association are also planning a "Friendsgiving" event at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 23, in the Williams Center Blue Lounge.

"The menu features turkey and gravy, stuffing, macaroni and cheese, mashed potatoes, a mixed green salad, rolls and butter and beverages. Faculty and staff members also provide desserts. Nobody will leave hungry, and students will be encouraged to bring food home to sustain them throughout the week."

This would mean that there are no dining options for Thanksgiving Day. However, according to Hahn, Residence Life plans to inform students of "any churches or organizations at a walking distance who offer Thanksgiving meals."

This leaves students with different but attainable options for dining throughout the week.

The students who will actually be here for break have many different reasons for staying.

This group includes out-of-state students, athletes, international students, students who want to work on campus and also students who are housing insecure.

"Residence Life will authorize stays for all of these reasons, at no charge." The athletic department attempts to make the schedule so that athletes have the opportunity to go see their families. However, this can be difficult for teams in season because they need to practice.

Specifically, Fredonia's hockey team has players from Fredonia, New York, to Cologne, Germany, to Edmonton, Alberta — basically everywhere on the map.

Fredonia hockey player James Williams is a junior from Crofton, Maryland. He has stayed on campus his freshman year and in town his sophomore year.



Campus staying empty during breaks. **Photo by SAM HEBERT |** Photo Editor

"Freshman year, we had a team Thanksgiving because we had a tournament that weekend. Sophomore year we had practice throughout the week, so my roommates and I had dinner together," Stated Williams.

Hockey season starts in October, and SUNYAC play starts Nov. 13, so Thanksgiving falls at an important time in the season.

Willams continued, "most of my teammates aren't able to go home for the week, so it is nice to celebrate together… I am not the farthest person from home on our team; I am about a seven-hour drive back to my house. I would love to see my family; however, it's more convenient for me to just stay here. I can have fun with the guys, but also work at my job off campus."

However, for the international students on campus, a seven-hour drive would be ideal.

"Going home for a week isn't really realistic when home is on the other side of the world," said Krish Chawla, a senior international student.

Chawla is from Delhi, India, "I'm about 7,000 miles from home." He stayed on campus for his sophomore and junior years but plans to stay again for his senior year.

During this break, Chawla can hang out with friends by "going to Applebee's and playing pool."

He can also take time for himself and catch up on hobbies — things that would be hard to fit in if he'd flown 24 hours to India and back. "I've used the time to catch up on projects and research and to rest up. I also cook my own meals, since meal plans and dining points can't be used over the break. Other than that, I work out and catch up on soccer, F1 and whatever else is on."

Even though he isn't able to see family, he still has some things to look forward to. "The semester is busy, and break is one of the few times I can slow down," Chawla stated.

"The semester is busy, and break is one of the few times I can slow down." — **Krish Chawla, international student**

The White Inn: Where Fredonia's story comes back to life



The restored White Inn stands along East Main Street in Fredonia.
Photo by JOSEPHAT IYAMUREMYE RUBERWA | Special to The Leader

JOSEPHAT IYAMUREMYE RUBERWA
Special to The Leader

If the walls of The White Inn could talk, they would have more than a century of stories to tell: weddings, family reunions, famous visitors and, according to local legend, a few ghosts that never checked out.

Along East Main Street, the historic white-brick building stands behind a black iron fence, its towering columns welcoming visitors into another era. Inside, the warm glow of chandeliers falls across polished floors, antique mirrors and framed photographs. The aroma of food drifts from the kitchen as conversations fill the restored dining rooms.

But a few years ago, this Fredonia landmark faced an uncertain future.

The roof leaked, water damaged the floors and rooms sat untouched. Today, The White Inn has returned to life, preserving the memories of generations while creating new ones.

During an interview and guided tour, General Manager Brittany Ludemann, Hotel Manager Stephanie Coccarelli and Restaurant Manager Maia Amatuzzo shared how the building became much more than a hotel.

The story begins with Dr. Squire White, an early physician in Chautauqua County who built his residence on the property. His family later transformed the home into an inn, which management said opened as a hotel in 1920.

For decades, the building welcomed travelers, hosted celebrations and became part of Fredonia's identity. But after years of closure and neglect, its future was uncertain.

Local owners Steve St. George and Devin Jones purchased the property and began an extensive renovation in 2022.

Ludemann remembered the damage.

"There were some rooms that I would walk into on the first day, and, like, the floor was just gone," she said.

The restoration involved more than 200 local contractors, according to management. Workers repaired historic plaster, restored woodwork, replaced electrical and plumbing systems and installed a new roof.

"We didn't want to fully gut the whole place and not be able to have that history," Ludemann said.

That commitment is visible throughout the building. Original tin ceilings remain above modern dining spaces, while antique fireplaces and mirrors share rooms with new furnishings. A tulip-shaped chandelier with pink glass shades hangs above the staircase, preserved as a reminder of the inn's past.

The hotel now has 25 guest rooms, each decorated differently.

"These rooms can't be the same," Ludemann recalled telling herself during the renovation. "They need to be unique."

Some rooms feature clawfoot bathtubs, heated floors and antique mirrors. Others preserve small closets and unusual layouts that reflect the building's age.

For Coccarelli, the inn's appeal extends beyond its architecture.

She described how guests can celebrate anniversaries, enjoy dinner, spend the night and create memories without leaving the property.

"We kind of see everybody from, you know, the start of exciting times in their lives to maybe on the worst day of their lives," Coccarelli said.

One of the most touching examples of those memories is the Fred and Shirley Suite.

The couple became engaged at The White Inn decades ago. During the renovation, their children traveled several hours to donate family keepsakes, including photographs, menus, matchbooks and handwritten letters.

Among the keepsakes is a framed love letter dated April 27, 1945, written by Fred to his future wife, Shirley. The letter carries the heading, "The night you promised to belong to me." The couple's wedding photograph hangs nearby.

"I have many thoughts of you," Fred wrote.

The faded handwriting and aging paper offer a glimpse into a relationship that remains part of the building's history.

Throughout the hallways, photographs of former employees, newspaper clippings and historic postcards preserve other memories. Management said visitors sometimes recognize relatives in the old photographs.

Amatuzzo emphasized how the building continues to bring people together, including the employees who work there.

The managers described a close-knit staff whose relationships extend beyond their jobs. For them, restoring the building has also meant creating a community inside it.

That connection existed even when the inn was closed.

According to management, neighbors occasionally mowed the overgrown lawn and shoveled snow because they did not want the landmark to become an eyesore.

But not every White Inn story is about restoration or romance.

The building also has a reputation for being haunted.

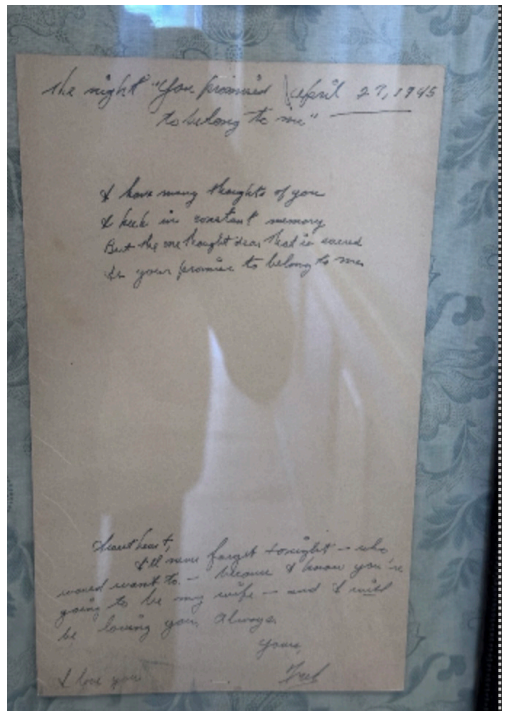
According to local legend, Isabella, a member of the White family, disliked seeing her family's home converted into a hotel. Stories describe her sitting near windows or watching the building from a rocking chair.

Today, a guest room bears her name, and its original antique mirror remains inside.

Management also described reports of dogs refusing to enter certain rooms, including Isabella's room and the Presidential Suite. The managers said they had not personally experienced anything proving the inn was haunted.

The building has welcomed famous visitors, too. Management mentioned Charles Barkley and Buffalo Bills legends Thurman Thomas and Andre Reed.

Upstairs, drawings by Brad Anderson, creator of the Marmaduke comic strip, preserve another connection. One illustration shows the famous dog sleeping beside a sign reading "White Inn," accompanied by the words "Marmaduke slept here."



A love letter Fred wrote to his wife, Shirley, in 1945.
Photo by JOSEPHAT IYAMUREMYE RUBERWA | Special to The Leader

The restoration has earned recognition. In November 2024, the Village of Fredonia and Town of Pomfret honored St. George and Jones with a Key to the Village. The CHQ Chamber later named The White Inn its 2025 Hospitality Business of the Year.

Today, the inn offers dining, lodging, weddings and community events. Its managers hope visitors will explore surrounding businesses as well.

"We want it to be a destination," Ludemann said. "We want you to explore."

Asked what the building would say if it could speak, Coccarelli imagined a landmark grateful that its story continues.

"This place really tells a story," she said.

Ludemann offered a simpler message, one that captures the building's survival after years of neglect.

"I think the White Inn would be like, 'I'm still here.'"

And in downtown Fredonia, it is.

"We didn't want to fully gut the whole place and not be able to have that history." — **Brittany Ludemann, General Manager**

How do I write an article for The Leader?

From content doc to printing, writing articles can be a confusing at first. Here is a full list of steps and even what happens after you send it in!



Claim an Article

Whether its from the content doc, or pitched to your Section Editor and/or Editor-In-Chief, its time to write! This may include research, interviewing, or attending a show. Have fun with it!



Submit Graphic/Photo Request

Ideally, this takes place shortly after claiming your article. EVERYONE must fill one of these out before the articles due-date. They simply let us know what is happening with each image.



Submit Your Article

Once you've finished your article, you submit it directly to the email of the Section Editor you're writing under, or, Leader@fredonia.edu If you're unsure, simply ask!



Editing Stage

Each article gets 3 stages of edits: Copy-editors, Section Editors and finally the Editor-In-Chief. Don't get discouraged when you see edits! Most are simply fitting the articles into AP guidelines.



Final Edits and Printing

Each member of the E-Board then reviews the final copy, and it gets sent off for printing. In the next few days, you should find the new issue throughout campus and receive the next content doc!

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‘Clayface’ brings Gotham City to life

NICHOLAS DALLO
Special to The Leader

A much-welcomed addition to the infant DCU chock-full of beautiful practical and visual effects, finally introducing us to Gotham City, and not shying away from its fantastical nature.

Tom Rhys Harries stars as Matt Hagen and shines in the role - especially with that movie-star face.

While not original to this film, the choice to make Clayface an actor and rising star not only helps sell the tragedy of his attack, but his excellence at copying those he is disguised as, although this origin story originally belonged to the first Clayface in the comics, Basil Karlo and not Matt Hagen, who was a treasure hunter.

It’s not easy to act like you’ve truly lost your mind, but Harries brings it and molds himself like the lump of clay he is.

I could’ve used a bit more out of Naomi Ackies’ performance as Dr. Caitlin Bates, although I’m not sure if that’s her issue or a writing issue, I wasn’t terribly attached to the character in any way.

However, her fiancé, Officer John Borrelli played by Max Minghella was great in every scene and I found him the much more compelling character of the two.

The standout scene in the movie was the club scene in the third act, in which Matt fully realizes his shapeshifting abilities and using them to evade, exact revenge and psychologically torment the mob that cut up his face.

The movie maintains its pace through the ending: Caitlin confronts Matt about his behavior and electrocutes him, causing his body to have a freak reaction beginning his transformation into the large hulk of flesh typically associated with Clayface. It ends with Caitlin activating a kill switch embedded in the nanocells that gave him his powers, melting him and flushing him down a storm drain.

In the final scene we see Matt fully insane, fully clayed-out. I loved this.

I am so glad the DCU is not shying away from actually giving us what these characters are supposed to be, not “grounding” or hyper-militarizing them. This guy is a chunk of flesh! Done deal! If anything I would’ve preferred more claytime.

While not a perfect movie, there were no glaring issues. Before viewing I heard tell that the pacing was slightly off in the first two acts, but I didn’t feel anything like that.

My one gripe is that with this being our first view of Gotham CIty in the DCU, I wish it was more, well, gothic. Maybe Matt Reeves “The Batman” (2022) spoiled me, but while we did see the nightclubs and dingy alleyways, the rest of Gotham City kind of just felt like Chicago.

While not better than last summer’s inaugural DCU film “Superman”, or the most recent addition to the universe “Lanterns”, it was still an enjoyable experience front to back.

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SUNY FREDONIA’S STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER

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Journalists push for accountability amid campus concerns

JOSEPHAT IYAMUREMYE
Special to The Leader

Student journalists at SUNY Fredonia pledged to continue scrutinizing campus safety and university decisions despite criticism from officials.

Three members of The Leader defended independent reporting during a recent Let's Talk Higher Ed discussion at SUNY Fredonia.

Editor-in-Chief Alex Bucknam joined Social Media Manager Gracelyn Beachner and News Editor Ryfi Fink to discuss accountability and press freedom.

The discussion addressed academic program cuts, Jewett Hall construction, village water alerts and student participation in campus decisions.

Bucknam described three rounds of academic program cuts since arriving at Fredonia in Fall 2023. Coverage of the cuts sometimes created tension with administrators, Bucknam said, but also helped students better understand university decisions.

Bucknam recalled an uncomfortable elevator encounter with an administrator after publishing a story questioning the timeline for university decisions.

Bucknam said the reporting helped students better understand changes affecting academic programs.

"Here's what's actually happening," Bucknam recalled saying while showing students published articles.

The panel began with a case involving Stanford University student journalist Dilan Gohill, who was arrested after covering a June 2024 protest.

According to the panel, Gohill continued documenting events after entering the university president's office during the protest.

Beachner contrasted universities' promotion of positive achievements with independent student newspapers' ability to offer a broader perspective.

"A real, a real view," Beachner said, describing the newspaper's approach.

Beachner described coverage of sports, arts, campus achievements and controversies as essential parts of student journalism.

Bucknam also discussed criticism from village officials over coverage of recurring boil-water alerts.

Bucknam said a village trustee challenged the accuracy of an opinion article about the recurring alerts.

Audience members then raised concerns about ongoing construction at Jewett Hall and disruptions near McEwen Hall.

Fink described a reported incident involving a possible gas hazard and concerns about asbestos-related construction materials.

Fink said a university employee expressed concern about opening office windows near the construction area.

Panelists discussed the safety concerns, but the conversation provided no independent confirmation of hazardous exposure.

Bucknam also questioned the effects of construction-related parking changes on accessible spaces and wheelchair users.

Another audience member urged journalists to recognize the project's intended benefits, including a planned student success center.

Bucknam acknowledged the importance of positive coverage and described an upcoming newspaper issue featuring university profiles.

The conversation also addressed Fall Sweep, a student-led community cleanup event.

Audience member Zachariah questioned the environmental effects of removing fallen leaves and requested investigative coverage.

Fink welcomed the suggestion and proposed interviews with event organizers and environmental sources.

Panelists encouraged students to contact student government and village officials directly about community concerns.

The discussion also addressed story selection at The Leader.

Editors described prioritizing local issues and evaluating their potential effects on the campus community.

According to the editors, articles undergo multiple rounds of editing to improve accuracy and clarity.

Bucknam discussed teaching writers to develop strong ledes and nut graphs before completing articles.

The event concluded with questions about the newspaper's future and the resources needed for stronger reporting.

Bucknam identified three priorities: recruiting more writers, improving printing quality and securing additional funding.

Beachner discussed plans for a new website that would give students easier access to published articles.

Fink emphasized the importance of stronger communication among journalists, campus organizations, university administrators and the surrounding community.

The journalists encouraged questions, public discussion and student participation in campus decisions.

Independent reporting, according to the panel, can inform students, examine institutional decisions and encourage campus change.

SPORTS



Photo by **TRAVIS BERNHARD** | Sports Photographer

Winter sports preview: What's to come?

AARON HILL
Special to The Leader

As temperatures drop and the seasons change, the Fredonia campus looks forward to the winter sports season. Several teams are preparing for invitationals and SUNYAC competition.

The Leader takes a look at the winter sports teams and highlights key athletes as they begin their conference seasons.

Men's Ice Hockey

The men's ice hockey team is looking to qualify for the SUNYAC tournament as it continues its season with upcoming games against Morrisville, Cortland and Buffalo State.

The team held its home opener Oct. 31. Although the Blue Devils fell 2-0, goaltender Matthew Ofukany (No. 1) recorded 32 saves.

The home opener also included a ceremony honoring the team's seniors: Dillon Schmidt (No. 15), Peter Bürfent (No. 16), Xavier Fortin (No. 8) and Antoine St. Onge (No. 18).

Over the weekend of Nov. 6-7, Fredonia faced Chatham University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in a two-game series. The Blue Devils fell to 0-4-0 after dropping both contests. The games were closely contested, with Fredonia losing 3-2 on the road and 4-3 at home.

The Chatham Cougars won both games, but Fredonia remained competitive throughout the series. In the road game, the Blue Devils held a 2-0 lead at the end of the first period after goals from Keenan McNeill (No. 21) and Cameron Przewoźny (No. 32).

During the game at Steele Hall, Nicolas Morvan (No. 31) recorded 23 saves for Fredonia. With strong defensive performances from the team's goaltenders, the Blue Devils will look to build momentum in their upcoming games as they pursue a SUNYAC tournament berth.

Women's Basketball

Spectators at Dods Hall for the women's basketball home opener witnessed a 66-46 victory over William Smith College. The Blue Devils opened their regular season with a 1-0 record. Before the home opener, the team also had the opportunity to compete against Cornell University.

Cornell competes at the NCAA Division I level in the Ivy League. Although the exhibition matchup did not count toward Fredonia's conference record, it provided an opportunity to face a Division I opponent. Cornell won 106-37.

The home opener against William Smith was a strong start for the Blue Devils. Three Fredonia players scored in double figures, helping the team secure the victory.

Grace Alexander (No. 23) scored Fredonia's first points with a 3-pointer, followed by two consecutive layups. She finished

the game with 15 points, six assists and eight rebounds. The Blue Devils held a 45-29 lead at halftime.

The team will look to carry that momentum into its upcoming schedule. In November, Fredonia faces road games against Hilbert and Utica, along with home matchups against Houghton and Carlow.

Men's Basketball

The men's basketball team opened its season at Dods Hall on Nov. 7 against Penn State Behrend, falling 66-46.

The Blue Devils remained competitive during their home opener, holding the lead through much of the first half. Ryan Hough (No. 14) contributed six points and five rebounds, while Jason Douglass (No. 20) and Stevie Williams (No. 35) scored 14 and 11 points, respectively.

Fredonia made a push in the second half but was unable to overcome the deficit. A notable 3-pointer from Nate Mashaw (No. 5) with 3:32 remaining helped the Blue Devils make up ground late in the game.

The team will face several opponents throughout November, including Hilbert, Hiram, Villa Maria and Houghton.

Men's Swimming and Diving

The men's swimming and diving team dominated its tri-meet at the Steele Hall Natatorium, defeating Genesee Community College and Monroe Community College with 87 points and earning 18 first-place finishes.

Keaton Lemieux led the Blue Devils, completing the 500-yard freestyle in 5:14.08 and the 200-yard freestyle in 1:56.84 to earn 18 points for Fredonia.

Diver Zach St. Juste also earned 18 points. He took top honors in the 1-meter diving event with a score of 124.65 and followed that performance with a score of 100.05 in the 3-meter event.

On Nov. 7, the Blue Devils competed in another tri-meet against the University of Rochester and Alfred State. Lemieux again led the team with a strong performance in the distance events.

Fredonia will continue its season with an upcoming road meet at SUNY Oswego on Nov. 14.

Women's Swimming and Diving

The women's swimming and diving team also earned a victory in its tri-meet against Genesee Community College and Monroe Community College. Fredonia scored 101 points, compared with 39 for Genesee and 24 for Monroe.

During the meet, Kaitlyn Burns won the 500-yard freestyle in 6:47.80, improving her previous best time by 19.38 seconds.

Lily Phillips also delivered a strong performance, earning first place in the 50-yard individual medley and the 3-meter diving event.

In the Nov. 7 tri-meet, Lily Urquiaga highlighted the team's performance with a fourth-place finish in the 1,000-yard freestyle.

The Blue Devils will look to build on these performances as the winter season continues.



Alex Wright swim fly stroke. **Photo by TRAVIS BERNHARD** | Sports Photographer

Bills deadline acquisition makes debut in routing of Jets

JACK HOADLEY
Sports Editor

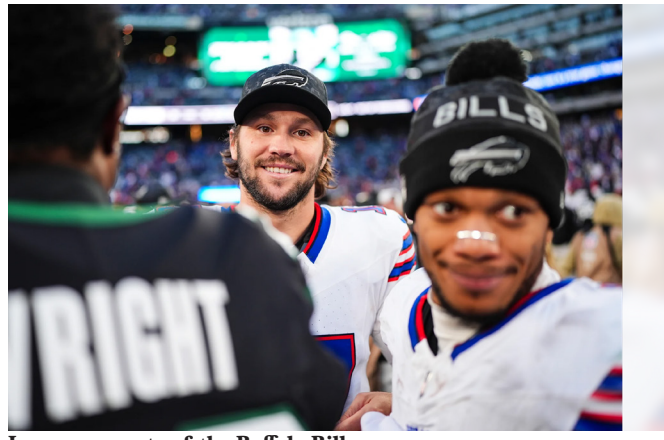


Image property of the Buffalo Bills.

One question the Bills continue to face from their fans at this point in the season is: Just how far can they go?

As someone who more than understands Buffalo's woes and consistent disappointment, I truly think this team may have its best chance to go the distance in the Josh Allen era.

Every win adds confidence to my prediction, but last Monday's showdown in Minnesota showed exactly why and how Buffalo is different.

An elite defense gives any team problems, but especially a team like Buffalo, which has had shaky defensive play at best.

However, contrary to my own prediction, Buffalo handled business convincingly against the Vikings, beating them by a final score of 23-6.

The Bills beat Minnesota so badly that the Vikings traded for a new quarterback the day after the NFL trade deadline.

Brandon Beane and company must have been inspired by the win, as they made a major trade, acquiring star safety Amani Hooker from the Tennessee Titans.

The veteran wasn't cheap, as Buffalo surrendered a second-round pick for the impact player, who made his debut Sunday afternoon in East Rutherford, New Jersey.

Despite their 7-1 record and recent dismantling of Minnesota, many Bills fans feel uneasy about a stretch of games against the Jets and Dolphins.

Most Bills fans are accustomed to a surprise loss against a lesser division rival, especially after Buffalo has managed to avoid losses in games it normally might blow.

But from my outside perspective, I see a different team in Buffalo than in past years. This team continues to find ways to win and has been undeterred by various forms of adversity.

That is why I am higher on the Bills than I normally would be, especially given their easier matchups before a date with the Chiefs on Thanksgiving.

We won't worry about that test on a national stage just yet. Instead, let's focus on the Bills' latest action.

Amani Hooker's Bills debut went exceptionally well for the visiting team, as Buffalo cruised to a 31-12 road victory.

I was very impressed by the Bills' offense during this game. The defense was solid, but as in past weeks, I have a hard time evaluating a defense that faces three straight backup quarterbacks.

Jets quarterback Geno Smith exited the game early, bringing in rookie quarterback Cade Klubnik, who looked unprepared for the moment.

Josh Allen continued to perform, adding three more touchdowns — two rushing and one passing — to his season total of 24.

While it was just the Jets, wins like this are important for the Bills, as many feel they often drop games against lesser competition.

Maybe that trait was left behind in the Sean McDermott era, because Joe Brady and Buffalo left no doubt against the Jets.

Looking back at last offseason, I think DJ Moore may be one of the best additions for any team, as he continues to look sensational as Josh Allen's top target.

Allen connected with Moore on a 45-yard touchdown pass that served as a dagger to the Jets.

As mentioned, the Bills have a home game against Miami before the Chiefs come to town for a matchup that could be the biggest of the season for both teams.

The Dolphins really should be a win for Buffalo, meaning it's a real possibility the Bills and Chiefs could clash with only three losses between the two teams.

My score prediction for the Bills-Dolphins game is a lot to a little. I honestly feel like this is a different team from previous years.

Right now, the Bills are treating every game like a must-win. In years past, it often felt like the week before a major game was always a letdown.

I still have the Bills in the Super Bowl this season. I don't say all of this to overhype the team; this just feels like a Bills team finally playing the way it should week in and week out.

When it comes to the big Thanksgiving matchup, give me the Bills by a final score of 37-34 in a major thriller.

Both defenses on Thanksgiving are less than stellar, which should set up plenty of fireworks.

Patrick Mahomes looked the best he has all season Sunday afternoon, meaning a hot streak on a collision course with Buffalo is more than likely.

As an objective football fan, I hope the Bills continue to roll on their quest to finally deliver some hardware to Western New York.

The opinions voiced by writers and artists in the Opinion section of The Leader reflect those individuals' opinions, not those of The Leader as a whole.

OPINION

Only stories clearly marked as Editorials reflect the opinion of The Leader's executive staff.

Gratitude should be a year-round thing

CHRISTOPHER PUGLISI
Special to The Leader

The fall season brings about several changes on a college campus.

Classes welcome students during the summer in August, and all are rewarded with a much-needed break in October when fall shows its beauty.

The campus then clears for winter break in December, and all are able to exhale a sigh of relief after a few demanding months of extensive work.

Three seasons of change over a short period of time makes me reflect on all that has changed in my life and if I am present for all of them — it makes me think of the different seasons of my life.

Anyone who knows me knows that I enjoy the holiday season and that starts with Halloween, and travels through Thanksgiving and into the New Year.

Growing up, I continually heard the phrase, "'Tis the Season" during this time of year, and it was until recently that I took the time to reflect on what that means.

"Tis the Season."

Three words that are expressed, but often not reflected upon.

After careful thought, I believe I now have an answer to its meaning.

Growing up and residing in Western New York my entire life would allow one to think that I am comfortable here.

I am, but that comes with stipulations.

The winter and I do not get along very well.

In fact, I had a difficult time adjusting to daylight saving time this year and knowing that the inevitable cold was about to show itself.

However, I want to change that perspective.

I want to find the beauty in all that the seasons offer, and to do so means to begin practicing gratitude.

Gratitude is a sense of deep appreciation, thoughtfulness, and recognition for the goodness, help, or benefit one receives from something external.

During the holiday season, notably Thanksgiving, we reflect upon all that we are grateful for.

This may occur as a family around the dinner table, or while playing a board game in the living room.

However, my question is why is this the only season that we consciously choose to reflect upon all that we are grateful for?

Focusing daily on the good in our life can be a breakthrough for our health and I believe we need to start doing so now.

We see the biggest benefits of practicing gratitude when it becomes second nature and we take the time each day to appreciate the positives in our lives.

Practicing gratitude has shown to combat depression and anxiety by allowing us to be more mindful and focus on the present.

Regularly practicing gratitude also helps enhance our self-esteem, build stronger social connections and helps with overall greater life satisfaction.

It also helps with our sleep as it provides a positive outlook right before bedtime, enhances our patience, and self-control.

The secret to building a grateful mindset is by finding small moments of time in our daily routine to reflect upon what you are grateful for.

Ways in which we can do this is by keeping a journal to record our daily highs and pausing to mean what we say when we reflexively utter a "thanks."

We can actively practice reframing frustrating moments to find a silver lining, and sharing our appreciation through notes to loved ones.

Finally, we can recognize our gratitude during family gratitude check-ins at dinner (as we do during the holiday season — it is Tis the Season after all).

Gratitude has many benefits, but it shouldn't be practiced solely during the holiday season.

It should be a part of our daily lives, and we should start reflecting today on all that we are grateful for.

In doing so, we will build our mental, emotional and physical health and lead a life that is more present, rewarding and fulfilling.



The Leader's Office Hours!

Alex Bucknam *Editor-In-Chief*	**M/W 12-1:30pm, F 9-11am**
Giulianna Lalomio *Chief Copy-Editor*	**M/W/F 2-3pm**
Morgan Brown *Business Manager*	**T/TR 3:30-5**
Gracelyn Beachner *Social Media Manager*	**M/W 12:15-1:45pm, F 9:30-10:30am**
Jack Hoadley *Sports Editor*	**M 5:45-6:45pm, T/TH 12:30-1:30pm, W 2:30-3:30pm**
Gwenyth Kirkwood *Life & Arts Editor*	**T/TH 1-3pm**
Ava-Claire Boring *Scallion Editor*	**M 12-2pm, T 11am-2pm, W 12-1pm**
Travis Bernhard *Sports Photographer*	**M/W/F 10-11:30am**
Saffron Larrea *Art Director*	**M/W 12-1pm, T 4:30-6pm**
Sam Hebert *Photo Editor*	**W 3:30-5:30pm, F 2-4pm**
RyFi Fink *Opinion Editor*	**M/W/F 6-7pm, T/TH 4-5pm**
Mars Juno Smothergill *DEI Chair*	**M/W 2-4pm**

@FredoniaLeader

Lovercolumn: Handling heartbreak

HIFIDELITY
Lovercall Producer

HOUSE HUSBAND
Lovercall Producer

BUMBLEBEE
Lovercall Producer

Hello!

We are HiFidelity, The House Husband, and Bumblebee: producers and hosts of the radio show Lovercall, right here at 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.

"HiFidelity" is a 19-year-old genderfluid who uses they/them pronouns and is a sophomore at Fredonia.

"The House Husband" is a 20-year-old cisgender man who uses he/him pronouns and is a junior at Fredonia.

"Bumblebee" is a 20-year-old questioning person who uses he/she/they pronouns and is a junior 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 either via Fredonia Radio's Instagram, @fredonia_radio, on Yik-Yak, 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 will broadcast weekly throughout the semester on Wednesday nights from 10 p.m. to 12 a.m. on WDVL 89.5 on www.fredoniaradio.com.

This column runs in conjunction with Lovercall and can be found in print and online at fredonialeader.org.

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 just to have some fun.

For this week's date idea, we're going to go volunteering with our partner!

Being charitable is a good feeling to embrace, and why not share that charitability with someone you love!

Whether it be at a soup kitchen, or a food pantry, there are plenty of ways to help out your community and the people around you!

You could volunteer at your local animal shelter, and make the date even better by bringing a new pet home!

HANDLING HEARTBREAK

Handling heartbreak is one of the worst things a person can struggle with. There are so many facets and parts to heartbreak that go into growing, moving on and becoming healthier without them in your life. Nobody is perfect, and the process can have a lot of struggles within it.

Being in love is one of the most beautiful things that humans have achieved. Looking at another person and feeling the care and compassion that comes with loving another is a feeling that can be unmatched by anything else we feel. Love and every other positive feeling are connected. Love and Hope, Love and Joy, Love and Happiness.

When love is taken away from you, no matter how, it breaks you. It makes you go through the same motions of emotions that you would for grief, or loss of a person by death.

Obviously, it depends on the situation, but if you have ever been truly in love, you can experience the loss of a lover.

Music is one of the things that people gravitate towards after heartbreak. Whether it be Radiohead, Jeff Buckley, or another artist that can give you the experience you crave after a heartbreak, people will gravitate towards that.

It's a very mixed bag, these songs can give you the clearing you need to let out your emotions, but abusing the music, like anything else with heartbreak and feeling that pain, will leave you in anguish for sometimes longer than you had the partner.

Handling the breaking of your heart is not something you have to go through alone either. One thing that you can learn through heartbreak is how much your friends will give you the same amount of love.

And yes, if needed, you should seek help through therapy, counseling, or otherwise if you are more affected than others. It is not a bad thing to get help with something of that nature.

Interested in being a guest on Lovercall? Email Codd2738@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.

"HiFidelity" "The House Husband" and "Bumblebee" are members of Fredonia Radio Systems and are involved in the production of Lovercall.

Friendsgiving hot takes



Graphic by TAYLOR HURLEY | Special to The Leader

GWENYTH KIRKWOOD
Life & Arts Section Editor

Friendsgiving is supposed to be the fun, stress-free, drunk aunt of Thanksgiving.

What makes it so special? There is no baggage. One thing is for sure: Friendsgiving is not awkward. There is no small talk with relatives that you haven't seen in a year, no pressure to talk about what your plans are after graduation and especially no judgment when you take a smoke break before dinner. You don't have to stress about eating at a certain time.

You could arrive late with a bottle of wine, and no one cares — we are just glad to all be in the same room together, catching up, playing games and making memories with the family we actually chose.

While Friendsgiving has no official rules, I am certainly judging what you bring to pass.

I will eat almost anything being served, except canned cranberry sauce. Sue me.

If you show up with that solid cylinder of jellied cranberry that still has the ridges of the can it's molded into, expect a side-eye from me.

Having to watch someone plop jellied fruit out of a can onto a plate as it jiggles, is honestly just disturbing.

When it comes to the real stars of the feast, ham reigns supreme for me.

Traditional turkey is always a fine staple, but a perfectly glazed ham brings actual tears of joy to my eyes. My friends and I count down the months until my best friend makes her signature ham every year, and we talk about how good it was right up until the following November.

Furthermore, if you show up with a hot pan of cheesy potatoes, I will practically bow down to you.

Standard mashed potatoes are great, but a side of gravy is strictly mandatory — especially for the turkey.

Honestly, I am pouring gravy over almost everything on my plate.

Balance doesn't exist in the same sentence as Friendsgiving. Give me all the carbs and all the wine!

The only green item I want to see on my plate is green bean casserole.

It might be a controversial choice, but you need at least one vegetable on the table.

No one comes to Friendsgiving for a basic house salad. We are not here to count calories; we are here to eat! Give me a hefty scoop of baked mac and cheese, a pile of corn, and as many buttery rolls fresh out of the oven, and I am in heaven.

Please leave the raw veggie tray at home.

And don't even get me started on the desserts.

Most times I am way too full to really enjoy a sweet treat but then I see the options and I'm sold.

Just know I'm eating every dessert on that table at midnight.

What makes Friendsgiving so special is it works as a massive party or a small intimate dinner.

My three closest friends and I have hosted our own small get-together for the past five years.

I typically know what to expect when it comes to the food, and as long as no one brings canned cranberry sauce, I always leave happy.

At the end of the day, the best part of Friendsgiving isn't all the food — it's getting to share a table with people who make life feel brighter.

Fredonia's LEADER

Open Positions

Fall 2026

- Web Editor
- Design Editor
- News Editor
- Asst. Sports Editor
- Asst. Opinion Editor
- Asst. L&A Editor
- Asst. Scallion Editor
- Asst. Business Manager
- Asst. Social Media

@FredoniaLeader

A playlist for every mood: Sunny



Graphic by John Leahy, 2024 | Staff artist

GRACELYN BEACHNER
Asst. Copy Editor & Social Media Manager

To be honest — and I'm sure many will agree — it's hard to feel any sort of positive emotion this time of year. Between the dreary weather and courses ramping up toward finals after break, I wanted to take a moment to manifest good vibes for everyone! Here are some songs that always seem to cheer me up. Fair warning: These selections are not limited to any particular genre. They are simply upbeat and truly wonderful songs!

"Summer Soft" by Stevie Wonder

I've always known and enjoyed this entire album, but a good friend recently helped me rediscover this song. It combines great lyrics, impressive vocals, incredible instrumentation and genuine emotion. Even though only this song made today's playlist, I recommend giving the entire album a listen.

"Oh! Darling" by The Beatles

This song has been on my "happy" playlist since my sophomore year of high school. It's just a great song. I wish I could say I was gatekeeping it, but I don't really think you can gatekeep The Beatles.

"You Make Loving Fun" by Fleetwood Mac

The lyric "I never did believe in miracles, but I've a feeling it's time to try" is just so good. Fleetwood Mac does a wonderful job capturing both that classic yearning and the feeling of genuine love. I don't know if there is anyone left in the world who hasn't listened to their music, but if you haven't, do it!

"Don't Dream It's Over" by Crowded House

If I could have a top four on Spotify like I do on Letterboxd, this song would be on it, uncontested.

"Don't Speak" by No Doubt

My friends say the "Glee" version is better, and I completely disagree. The original is peak, and I say that knowing I usually think the "Glee" version is better.

"Nine in the Afternoon" by Panic! At the Disco

For me, this song walks a fine line between happy and depressing. It depends on which version I listen to or, really, what mood I'm in. Regardless, try listening to it on a long drive by the water after work. It feels like "#hopecore."

"It's hard to feel any sort of positive emotion this time of year… I wanted to take a moment to manifest good vibes for everyone!"- **Gracelyn Beachner, Social Media Manager**

Transgender awareness month, Native American heritage month

November is both Native American Heritage Month and Transgender awareness month.

These causes are given national months to gain recognition for notable historical events or raise awareness about an underrepresented community.

Firstly, what does transgender mean?

Transgender is an umbrella term for any person who does not fully or completely identify with the gender they were assigned at birth.

This includes not only people who fit into the gender binary, but also those who do not, such as nonbinary people.

Transgender awareness month is a time used to educate and inform people of the struggles the transgender community undergoes every day.

This month also includes transgender day of remembrance on November 20, to mourn those whose lives have been lost to anti-transgender violence and hate.

So, what can you do this month to support your transgender friends?

Listen and be a part of their story, support them unconditionally as best as you can and speak up when they face discrimination, no matter how covert or under the radar it is.

November is also Native American Heritage month.

This is a time in which we acknowledge the importance of Native American Heritage and culture; this month is also used to emphasize support on Native American owned businesses and causes.

It is important to acknowledge that we, as students of SUNY Fredonia, use and inhabit the traditional territories of the Erie and Haudenosaunee people.

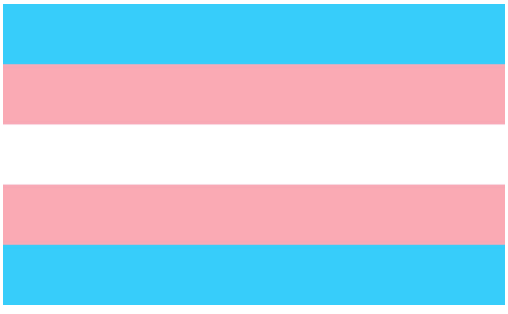
This month, it is imperative to research the traditions and cultures of these local communities and the history of Native American culture.

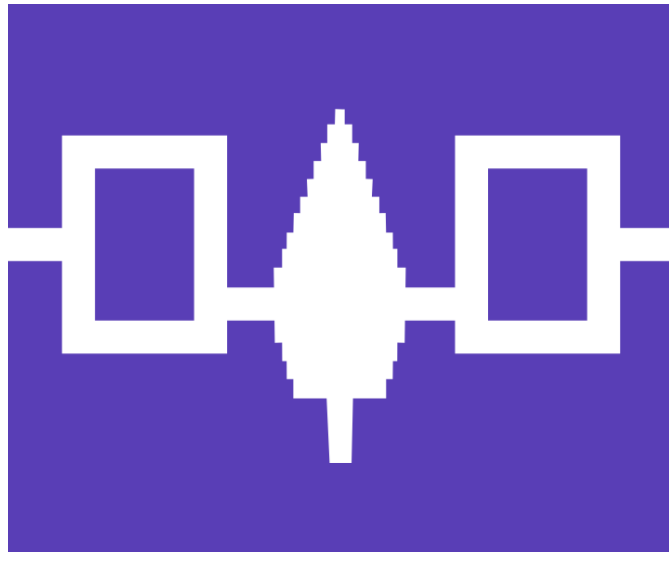
It is essential to acknowledge that we are not the only people to have ever tended to this land or used its resources.

What can you do to help during Native American heritage month?

Well, you can start by researching and learning about Native American history, supporting Native American businesses and donating to Native American causes.

"This month, it is imperative to research the traditions and cultures of these local communities and the history of Native American culture. "- **Mars Juno DEI Chair**





The student activity fee makes our campus

MORGAN BROWN
Business Manager

The second week of November brought Fredonia a slew of activity, notably concerning the Student Government Executive Election.

Presidential race aside, the SUNY-mandated referendum vote was also a topic of conversation.

Every two years, SUNY requires that students vote on whether the student activity fee should be mandatory or voluntary.

The current fee, $125 added to your tuition bill, is considered revenue for the Student Association (SGA), and funds are allocated to recognized student clubs that represent our campus community.

Executives of the Association reached out to students prior to the voting period, urging voters to select 'mandatory' on the referendum vote.

Now for students who aren't too active in our plethora of joinable organizations, this fee being mandatory can be startling.

Our tuition bills already list fee after fee, and it can be hard for students to understand where each allotment of funding is going.

To note, student fee revenue is a key portion of funding for SGA recognized clubs, meaning that a chosen 'voluntary' fee could significantly reduce the amount of funding available.

Recognized clubs often rely on their allotment from SGA to host semesterly events and continue growing their outreach to students.

A reduction in funding could be detrimental to the future of our campus atmosphere, having cascading effects into future years as funding continues to be voluntary.

Be grateful for your opportunity to choose.

In addition to the Executive Election, in which a new president and vice president were elected, the referendum was also on the ballot.

Club officers and advisors were tasked with making their members aware of this vital vote.

Students in a position of power began spreading news of the upcoming decision, making students aware of the impending election.

Flyers were created, statements were written.

Club social media accounts were filled with such graphics, encouraging students to keep Student Association stable.

It is honestly so refreshing each time Fredonia students are able to come together on an important topic and make genuine change.

While our topics of debate aren't always the easiest, especially concerning program cuts, our ability as a community to stand strong is a very powerful sight.

As ballots rolled in via the online survey forum, it was clear that students were effectively skewed towards keeping the student activity fee mandatory.

Even at the cost of a slightly increased tuition bill, students are continuously aware of the consequences of reducing a major funding outlet.

Two years from now we will be tasked with the same choice, whether it remains mandatory is up to YOU.

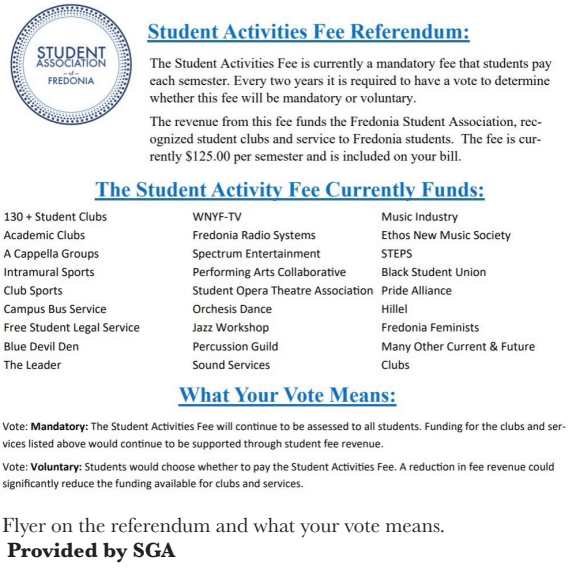
I encourage you to continue raising your voice, and your vote within our campus community.

An online vote that took roughly fifteen seconds to complete will henceforth affect our campus, Executive-wise. Not to mention the countless other opportunities for change that arise.

You, as a student, are one of the most powerful voices.

Don't let anyone silence that.

"I encourage you to continue raising your voice, and your vote within our campus community." - **Morgan Brown, Business Manager**



Flyer on the referendum and what your vote means.
Provided by SGA

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THE SCALLION

Intergalactic news: gortugal updates and more

EJRAA-JEPUN
Special Universarian Specialist

GLINKY JO FLINKY
Solarian Journalist from the Plexnar System

Hello and welcome back to your bisolarlic intergalactic news!

Hello, and welcome back to your bisolarlic intergalactic news!

TO BEGIN OUR NEWS CYCLE: GLORTUGAL HALTS RESUSCITATION DOMES AND PORTALS TO THE ORANGE

The president of Glortugal has ceased providing resuscitation domes and portals to the Orange.

For those who don't know, the Orange is the capital of the Janix District of Galaxy Arm 12, located on Zeeplegar. The headquarters of the political body wields immeasurable legislative influence in the upcoming elections of the Zeeplegar circuit.

Many aliens are calling the influence unconstitutional under Section 113 of the Intergalactic Soloplanetary Constitution, established in 22917 BVE.

Every alienitarian knows that resuscitation domes are a universal alien right, as guaranteed by the Solaxus Galactic Commission. These actions mark a public violation of one of the foundational intergalactic documents that all interplanetary governments must follow.

What the president of Glortugal does next will certainly become a new page in the astropolitical playbook.

We obtained an interview with a sovereign citizen of Glortugal, Jinky Bim Bim Winklegar, who had this to say:

"ZEEPLE LOPPLE LOPPLE LOBBLE DOME ZOME CHROME Kathy Hochul WOBBLRDOME LOBBLE LOBBLE FLEEK LOBBLE DDEEK ZEPLAMARAMADOS Corey Booker YEAH THAT CHUD IS A MUD FUD GLUB GLUB LOBBLE FLEEK.. I don't even know my dad's home planet anymore..."

Their Highness has refused to express their views on the situation.

More news to be reported soon. Hail Raxis!

IN OTHER NEWS: GLEEPCORE INVESTORS GET BIG!

Have you ever wanted a gleepcore you couldn't have? Well, now Solar Klepp-B is making everyone aware of its reduced galactic standing!

The government of Zandglar has reduced its tariffs on Solar Klepp-B for the first time in eons. This follows governmental changes in Zandglar over the past five solar cycles. The changes have resulted in a reduction in gleepcore prices from 2,500 universal galactic credits to a whopping 32 credits.

This is a tremendous win for the Glaxmax Party in Zandglar, as its push to end the tariffs led to an almost unanimous vote last glastdar.

The agreement and subsequent lifting of tariffs have already caused tensions in Zandglar's relations with Glortugal. The president has banned Zandglarian diplomats from the Orange.

Aulan Ji Raen Quanxo Lan of The Leader reports that investors in Solar Klepp-B were found throughout Little Orange engaging in risky universal galactic credit gambling.

CONTINUING WITH THE NEWS: MIND-CLEANSING PLAGUE TO BEGIN

Have you noticed brain fog after using the Mind Cleanser? This may be the result of the president of Glortugal's overuse, as Mind Cleanser facilities increasingly require additional storage for the president's so-called "Enlightenment."

0.233 Oort cycles ago, the president of Glortugal issued a statement through the Mind Cleanser's personal communications sector. The message was intended for the ambassador to Zandglar's Terranian moon, Slomber.

The president of Glortugal said:

"Betelguese has awakened my nodules. I will awaken soon, and every living creature in the speciment will be mine."

The Slomber ambassador immediately relayed the message to every speciment using the Mind Cleanser, as well as to every major news outlet.

The president of Glortugal also alleged that he had communicated with the God who encompasses all religions, here and elsewhere, across worlds and universes. He is the God who embraces the multiverse.

In a statement issued yestercycle, the president alleged that he had journeyed to Betelguese through the Mind Cleanser.

Continues on next page

This claim has yet to be confirmed.

When we asked the ambassador to Slomber for their thoughts on the incident, they said:

"The president, and my friend, has lost their mind. Please stop this madness."

As this story continues, speculation is growing throughout Slomber about the ambassador's true standing with the president of Glortugal. Some have alleged a romantic intermingling between the two speciment.

The ambassador's confidant, who wishes to remain anonymous, has confirmed that the ambassador and the president have engaged in prolonged Mind Cleanses together.

Returning to the president's use of the Mind Cleanser, the president left the facility no less than five Zeeplegar hours ago, as of this writing. They departed only to enact one decree, which has since been called "The Mind-Cleansing Enlightenment."

Construction has begun in every star system to connect mind-cleansing facilities equipped with high solar and nuclear radial functions. These facilities are intended to feed directly into the president's personal Mind Cleanser. The president seeks to commune with the God who encompasses all for a prolonged period in an attempt to achieve a merging.

Although construction has begun, riots have erupted.

The outlaw, known only as "He Mea Pepehi no ka Hoʻoikaika ʻAna," fired their Ray of Commandment at the first Mind-Cleansing Facility, eradicating it entirely.

Further protests have erupted throughout the system, with more updates expected as this story develops.

We can only hope that the president knows what they're getting into.



Graphic by Andy Muldoon

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SUNY FREDONIA'S STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER

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The secret 51st state is long forgotten

AVA-CLAIRE BORING
Scallion Editor

534 years ago, during Christopher Columbus' expedition to find India, where he soon ended up colonizing what would later be the United States, Columbus found another island.

Located directly on top of Point Nemo — the farthest point from all land on Earth — he encountered something never documented before.

A civilization run solely by a non-human species.

In Columbus' journals, he identified the species as being "from underwater depths which seem to have developed lungs, thus being able to live on land," (Columbus et al., 1492).

After discovering a territory already inhabited, he realized he had only one option: settle down and take complete control.

Columbus deemed the island, which he named "Point Nemo," after his pet goldfish back in Italy, to be the very first colony of what would later be called "The United States."

After discovering the incredibly small size of the island, and stranger, the unwelcomeness Columbus felt, Columbus decided to continue his expedition to find India.

Before Columbus, the land-dwelling sea creatures lived in harmony.

No currency, no crime and certainly no government. The only law that was set in place at Point Nemo was to establish a functioning government.

The first-ever female octopus named Anoxia McBubbles was elected to office as governor on May 3, 1492.

The state of Point Nemo has been long forgotten by society, as Columbus did not share his findings with anyone after he was forced to sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement after impregnating a starfish.

The current shark governor of Point Nemo, Chomp Gills, claims he has sent a multitude of letters as well as numerous social media posts begging for a call to action to recognize Point Nemo as an actual state.

The residents of Point Nemo, specifically, ask for Point Nemo to be the 51st star on the United States flag.

"It truly is disappointing," says Gills in an exclusive press interview.

"As Americans celebrated 250 years of independence this past July, they continue to be blissfully unaware of a crucial part of history as well as the future."

After years of begging, Gills finally received a response from the President of the United States, Donald J. Trump.

"O.M.G. shut up, like actually." Trump wrote in his response.

In outrage at President Trump's dismissive comment, the residents of Point Nemo have been protesting day and night for weeks to gather the attention of the American people.

After hosting TikTok lives and religiously posting Instagram reels, the media finally gained traction on Point Nemo's existence.

Millions of Americans gathered to form the Foundation of Affected Kreatures Effort (FAKE).

Their efforts have been a success, and Canadian director and comedian Nathan Fielder has agreed to do a three-hour documentary on this forgotten American state.

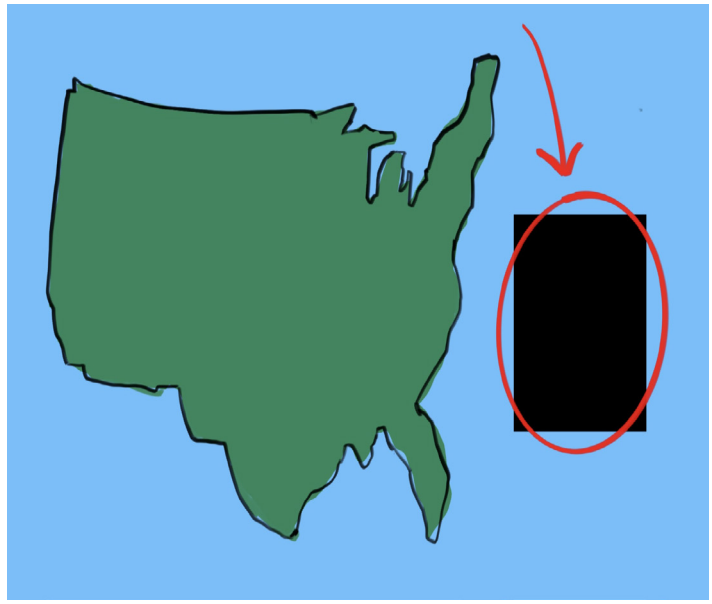
We gathered a comment from a resident of Vermont, a 32-year-old social media dweller and single father of 12 named Gabe Itches. Itches stated, "I honestly just felt bad. If they knew what was going on over here, I don't really think they'd want to be part of the United States.

Trump's response could've been a lot worse. He declined any questions about his involvement in any of his 12 children's lives, simply saying, "No comment."

After all of the media attention eventually faded away, and Point Nemo's request to become a recognized star on the American flag, Governor Gillis has decided to make a radical decision for what he claims is for the good of his country and its citizens:

"We're going back underwater."

The Scallion will provide updates whenever they become available



Graphic by SAFFRON LARREA| Art Director

HoROS

AVA-CLAIRE BORING
Scallion Editor

Thanksgiving is just around the corner. With Thanksgiving comes a lot of responsibility, especially if you're hosting. If you're not hosting, you should still bring something. It's just polite! Here's what your zodiac sign should bring to your Thanksgiving celebration.

Did you like what you read? Do you know the signs better than me? Would you like to write the horoscopes? Reach out to Aboring@fredonia.edu with ideas of what the next horoscope should be about or if you want to write!

Aries

Sweet potato casserole

The dessert before the dessert. The preamble, if you will. This should be no biggie for you—just a couple of sweet potatoes, some brown sugar and melt some marshmallows on top in the oven. Not only is it the best Thanksgiving side (if you disagree with me, argue with the wall), but your friends and family will think so too!

Taurus

Green bean casserole

Proceed with caution when bringing the green bean casserole. You'll either come home with an empty Pyrex dish, or a LOT of leftovers. A lot is riding on this.

Gemini

Cranberry sauce

You can't go wrong with some cranberry sauce; it's everyone's favorite can-shaped, gelatinous, sugary Thanksgiving treat. You could always go above and beyond to make it from scratch, but you run the risk of nobody eating your sour, gooey crap.

Cancer

Charcuterie board

It's always best to have a snack before the meal. Bring a beautiful array of salted meats, cheese, nuts and those tiny pickles that fit on a toothpick to put on the table, and you're everyone's favorite. Just don't fill up!

Leo

Rolls and butter

I know it's not too difficult to get some rolls and butter, but it is a very crucial part of every Thanksgiving spread! If you forgot about your past obligation to bring the rolls, just swing by Texas Roadhouse on your way over.

Virgo

Apple pie

I want you to make this fresh. Go through the effort of peeling the apples, buying the ingredients, making the crust, and baking it in the oven. If they find out you bought some canned apple pie filling or, God forbid, a store-bought pie, you're dead to the family you brought your sad display of a pie to. I don't make the rules.

COPES



Libra

Side veggies

Roasted, steamed or microwaved, some side veggies really make a Thanksgiving meal. They add some color to the sea of brown, white, and beige foods. Toss some olive oil, salt and pepper on those bad boys, and you've got yourself a Thanksgiving side!



Scorpio

Garden salad

"Oh, someone already brought vegetables?"



Sagittarius

Pumpkin pie

The best Thanksgiving dessert of all time! You will become the backbone of all Thanksgiving dinners for years to come; just make sure to remember the Cool Whip! And don't you dare walk in with some sweet potato pie… trust me, they will taste the difference.



Capricorn

Stuffing

What kind of pervert thought of stuffing? "Let's just shove a bunch of stuff inside this bird and see what it tastes like." And they were onto something—don't tell anyone I said that. Maybe you should buy some Stovetop.

Aquarius

Turkey

I hope you're not squeamish when it comes to getting elbow-deep in some turkey butthole. It makes me feel grateful that I've never had to do it myself, but now you have to! It's a lot of responsibility. There's not a single doubt in my mind that you can't do it, but Thanksgiving WILL be ruined if you mess this up. No pressure.



Pisces

Mashed potatoes

You can't have a Thanksgiving meal without some mashed potatoes. It's safe to say your contribution will not go unnoticed.


STOP