

MONICA WHITE: Our next speaker is the President of the SUNY Fredonia Alumni Association, Dr. Greg Gibbs. Another Hamburg native, Dr. Gibbs is a 1971 Elementary Education graduate and presently serves as Chair of the Educational Leadership program at St. Bonaventure University. As a member of both the Alumni Board of Directors and the Fredonia College Foundation, he served as the Alumni Representative on the Presidential Search Committee that selected President Horvath. Dr. Gibbs.

GREG GIBBS: Dr. Horvath, as we mark the beginning of your service as the President of the State University of New York at Fredonia, it is my great pleasure to bring you greetings and best wishes from more than 45,000 accomplished alumni, connected to each other through this outstanding university.

On behalf of the Fredonia Alumni Association, I would like to offer congratulations to you, President Virginia Schaefer Horvath, on the occasion of your inauguration as our thirteenth president. During your short tenure thus far as President, and during your previous tenure as Vice President of Academic Affairs, you have been very supportive of the Alumni Association and the programs and events with which we are involved.

All Fredonia alumni take enormous pride in the university's recent accomplishments and the momentum and energy that abounds everywhere on campus. And with great expectations we join you today, President Horvath to begin a new chapter in our history.

We appreciate your recognition of the strategic role our loyal alumni may play in the task of bringing Fredonia to the next levels of achievement. We are looking forward to the prospect of working together with you to enhance the sense of alumni community, and to increase the breadth of involvement and support. We

appreciate your commitment to foster mutual respect and civility and to celebrate diversity in every domain of the university.

And although we don't want to count on luck for our success, we will take it when it comes our way. We are fortunate – and yes, even lucky – in our 13th president. And we know it.

Thank you.