

Volume 93 Issue 6

A & E 6, 7, 8, 9
 Editorial 2, 3
 Features 7
 News 3, 4, 5, 7
 Sports 10

Fiat Lux

The Student Newspaper of Alfred University

LaBruce presents film p.6
 Lyrical Unity p.8
 Scapin p.9

Power failure, explosions interrupt campus life

BY KELLY KNEE
 NEWS EDITOR

A broken water main caused flooding and power failures, which resulted in four buildings being closed last Tuesday afternoon.

According to a University press release, Harder Hall, Scholes Library, Binns-Merrill Hall and the McMahon Building were evacuated just after 4 p.m. Tuesday. The buildings remained closed until Thursday afternoon or Friday morning.

The release stated that classes were canceled, and all personnel were told not to report to work. Classes were canceled Wednesday and Thursday.

Problems on the AU campus were compounded on Wednesday when a fiber optic line was accidentally cut in another part of the county.

This cut some telephone service, including Allegany County's 911 service.

At AU, students, already without e-mail due to the power loss, had no access to the internet and had difficulties with long-distance telephone service.

Associate Dean of the New York State College of Ceramics Carol Wood said a water main break occurred at the corner of Pine and State Streets on the University campus. The break was detected at approximately

noon on Tuesday.

Wood said that the line was not immediately shut off because it would have left several buildings that students were having classes in without water.

According to Wood, water leaked into manholes that contained high voltage electrical lines and damaged the splices in the lines.

At approximately 4:05 p.m., one of the flooded manholes exploded, shutting off power to both the New York State College of Ceramics and Alfred State College. According to the press release, power was restored to Alfred State College by Tuesday evening.

Alfred Fire Chief Nancy Furlong said the fire department was called to the ASC campus first, because there was a report of smoke in the lounge of the Pioneer Lounge.

Furlong said the fire department was unable to locate an active fire and determined the smoke was the result of an electrical problem.

It was later discovered that the smoke in the lounge was the result of a ventilation fan, which had enough power to heat up but not enough to turn the fan, causing it to overheat, Furlong said.

Furlong said the fire department then received a report of an explosion in a manhole on

Pine Street, near Harder Hall.

Furlong said the buildings were closed because a transformer that provides power to the College of Ceramics started to short circuit, and the buildings lost most of their power. Furlong said the lines providing power to the buildings that were closed were shut off completely at about 7:30 that evening.

Jeff Johnson, director of the Physical Plant for the College of Ceramics, arranged for crews to come in from Buffalo and Rochester to begin repairs Tuesday night, according to the press release.

Furlong said that the buildings were closed and remained closed until it was determined that there was no danger in turning the power back on.

Wood said that damage assessments indicated that several high voltage line splices have to be replaced, along with a compressor, which will have to be repaired or replaced.

In addition, all of the buildings' alarm systems will have to be recalibrated, and an Alfred University water main will have to be replaced or repaired, Wood said.

Wood also said that the extent of water damage to Harder Hall is yet to be determined, as well as the amount of damage suffered by equipment in the various buildings. □

A sign of things to come?



PHOTO BY JAY WEISBERGER

Snow streaks past a light on Academic Alley Nov. 3. Alfred has seen several mid winters over the past few years. Soon, we'll see if the trend continues.

Survey finds most students did not vote in last election

However, many claim they would have had they been at home instead of college



BY JAY WEISBERGER
 MANAGING EDITOR

Only a small percentage of AU students voted in the general election on Nov. 2, but many said they would have had they not been at school.

A survey of students at Powell Dining Hall during lunch last Wednesday, conducted by

the *Fiat Lux*, showed that only 10 percent of students surveyed voted.

"That's a classic example of people not seeing the importance of voting," said Derrick Taveras, president of Poder Latino.

Poder has been active in encouraging students to vote.

Of the 50 people surveyed, however, 75 percent said they would have voted if they had been home.

Many students seemed to be unaware there had even been an election.

Some students asked, "Vote

for what?" after being asked if they voted the previous week.

Freshman Michael Topp, however, was in the minority that cast its votes.

"I got my absentee ballot," Topp said. Topp is a resident of Allegheny County, Pa., specifically Pittsburgh.

"It was fair. It was easy to follow," he reported.

Some of the others surveyed were unaware of even how to go about getting an absentee ballot.

"It's our right," said Brian Tibbens, another freshman who voted. "It's one of the few

chances we get to choose [who is put in office]."

Many students said they would vote in next year's presidential election — 86 percent, in fact.

"Maybe people weren't enthusiastic about this election," said Taveras. "Maybe it was because it wasn't a presidential election."

"There are always important issues at home, though," Taveras added.

Taveras and Poder Latino had set up a table in the campus center earlier in the semester to allow people to register to vote.

"We felt a lack of motivation," Taveras said about America's attitude towards voting.

"What's a better way to start people voting than in college?"

"AU needed a push," he concluded.

Many students expressed some cynicism about voting in general.

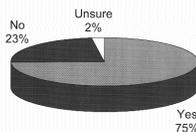
"I don't think it makes a difference [who gets elected]," said one student.

Another student, who had voted, said it was mainly to "determine which idiot" gets

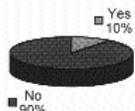
SEE VOTING, PAGE 4

What the students said:

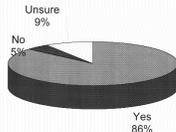
Would you have voted if you had been home?



Did you vote in the November 2 general election?



Do you think you will vote in next year's presidential election?



AIDS Quilt visits Alfred

BY JASON PILARZ
 BILLING MANAGER

The Knight Club, known for its concerts and comedians, hosted a very different type of event on Nov. 6, as numerous student organizations co-sponsored the display of the AIDS Memorial Quilt.

"Powerful is an understatement" were the words of one visitor written on the Quilt's signature square.

The Quilt display began with a somber, reflective opening ceremony that featured eight volunteers unfolding and displaying

each of the Quilt sections as well as remarks by Christa Nyman, chair of the Quilt committee at Alfred, and Garry Upton, a member of the NAMES Project in Syracuse.

Nyman opened the ceremony by explaining both the purpose of and the historical background surrounding the Quilt. She noted that it is the largest continuous community arts program worldwide, and explained how seeing the Quilt has brought her closer to the tragedy of AIDS.

Before she viewed the Quilt,

SEE QUILT, PAGE 4



Fiat Lux

AU responds well

There probably was very little Alfred University could have done to prevent the explosions and power outages that occurred last week.

Unfortunately, bad things happen. However, the University, as well as Village offices such as the fire department, did a good job making sure that no further damage was done.

An explosion that leaves several campus buildings without power is a contingency that probably doesn't come up a lot during administration meetings.

In a moment that could have resulted in a whole lot of chaos, the University managed to keep everything fairly calm.

We are also fortunate that no one was hurt by the incident. Flying manhole covers can be quite a hazard.

All in all, the University did well. However, the University fell short in one area.

At one point on Wednesday there was almost no way for students to communicate with the rest of the world. Not only was AU's e-mail down, but telephone service was interrupted.

Again, AU cannot help that someone in Avoca managed to cut a fiber-optic line, mixing long-distance telephone service.

However, the incident does show that AU needs to come up with some sort of back-up system for its server.

Not only was it nearly impossible for professors to communicate with their classes as a whole, but students couldn't reach others outside.

Today, e-mail has become a staple, especially to most of the nation's college students.

Obviously, in an emergency, students are going to need to contact parents, friends — somebody.

For a little while, that wasn't possible. AU was totally isolated.

The University should take steps to make sure this sort of thing doesn't occur again. □

Students should vote

We have known for years that college students vote in abysmally low numbers. As the student newspaper of Alfred University, we have taken it upon ourselves on numerous occasions to reprimand students for their apparent apathy.

We are going to do it again. Why? Because the incredibly ignorant attitude of some students is an important issue!

The fact that students believe it doesn't matter who they vote for should chill all our blood.

We may seem to live in a country immune to dictatorship and civil strife.

We do not.

There are politicians out there who think the country would be better off if those of us with certain race characteristics "disappeared," and those of us with more desirable characteristics changed from our blue jeans to white robes and hoods.

These people certainly have a right to their opinions. But we do not believe that the majority of Americans agree with them.

One thing is certain: Fanatics will always vote. They believe in expressing their opinions and standing up for them in the voting booths.

If we do not vote to express our opinions, then it is very easy for fanatics to gain power.

If you feel fine about a government by and for the Ku Klux Klan or dictatorial communists, then by all means, don't vote. Continue to think that elections are merely contests between idiots.

But if the thought of the ultra-right or left wing taking control of this country gives you nightmares, then vote.

Better yet, if you don't like the choices you have to vote among, do something about it. Write letters. Start campaigns. Encourage the causes you believe in.

If you don't, then you risk having to accept others' decisions. □

COLUMN

Punk stereotype unfair, incorrect

BY EMILIE HARDMAN
STAFF WRITER

I was reading the SENSATION exhibit story in the Nov. 3 issue of the *Fiat Lux*, when I came across Kate Braverman's statement, "These artists are to the art world as punk bands are to the music world. They can barely play their music." She went on to imply that the SENSATION artists, and thus punk rockers, lack intelligence and passion.

I read that, leapt forward in my seat, then sat back, blinked the utter confusion and blinding anger out of my eyes and asked, "Whoa, where did that come from?"

The answer to my question didn't take much thought. Unfortunately, I know very well where sentiments of that nature come from. They come from stereotypes and misconception, misunderstanding, dismissal and academic elitism.

My problem, specifically, is that the rather prevalent idea of punk music, and punks in general, as incompetent and unimportant comes from a place of ignorance.

Punk music, while perhaps not everyone's cup of tea, has an important history in the music world, and elsewhere.

In the late 1960s and early 1970s in New York and the late 1970s in London, punk bands and musicians included the undeniably influential Patty Smith, Debby Harry, The Ramones, Joan Jett, The Clash and The Sex Pistols, to name the most well-known.

The past 30 years of rock music have roots that twist back to many of these people who were involved early in the punk scene. Certainly, their work has not simply been locked away for punk listeners only.

Implying that punk lacks passion, intellect and talent is truly offensive because punk music is indeed grounded in intensity, politics and dedication. Perhaps though, the insulting of punk music is particularly troubling to me because punk music is and has always been the fuel of punk subculture.

Punk music is produced and consumed by punks so much so that it is a part of them. It is the means of communication for their political ideas and emotional positioning. To dismiss punk music is to deny the competency and value of every individual punk rocker.

Several weeks ago at the New York State Sociological Association Conference, I present-

ed some of my work on females in punk. After the presentation I was asked how I "ever thought to study these fascinating people" (punks).

The question hit me hard because the underlying principle was that as an articulate academic I certainly could not be one of those punks.

I'll admit that I left most of my chains, patches and vegetarian Dr. Martens at home the day I presented. I didn't look punk, but even though in academia we generally study subjects we are invested in, the idea that I could be involved in punk culture didn't arise.

In response to the question I said, "I am 'those people' and I am an academic. The two can go together." I find it quite upsetting that academia won't look any deeper than the shallow images they have been given of punks and punk music as unimportant, juvenile, incompetent and easily dismissed.

I defend punk because it is personal for me, but also because accepting and respecting people with different cultural positions — and I am certainly not just talking about punk rockers — has often been slow in academia and society in general.

That needs to change. □

COLUMN

Quarterbacks determine teams' fate

BY ANDY BERMAN
SPORTS EDITOR



Two weekends ago, while I was watching the Buffalo Bills beat up on the Washington Redskins, I had an epiphany.

In my opinion, because of the way that the game of football is being played right now, the quarterback will make or break your team.

Let's look at the best division in the NFL, the AFC East, to prove my point.

In the East, as of press time, Miami is leading the way at 7-1, Indianapolis and New England are both at 6-2, Buffalo is at 6-3, and the New York Jets are posting a 2-6 record.

Miami is riding on the shoulders of Dan Marino. Marino is one of the top quarterbacks in the league. He has been playing for quite some time, and though he needs a wheelchair to get out of the pocket, he is playing with more heart than any other player in the NFL so he can try to retire with a Super Bowl ring.

Indianapolis has Peyton Manning calling the shots as quarterback. Though he is too young to

be called an NFL great, he is proving week in and week out that he can play. It also doesn't hurt to have fellow young guns Marvin Harrison and Edgerrin James in the same huddle.

The Pats have been surviving on Drew Bledsoe since his first game, and have created a pure pass offense around his arm.

Anytime a QB can look around and see the receivers that the Patriots have, and can get the ball to them, you are going to win games. Plus, with Bledsoe's ability to come from behind in the fourth quarter if needed, anything can happen.

In Buffalo, Doug Flutie is making everything happen. Flutie is exactly what the NFL needs. He will do to football what Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa did to baseball.

With Flutie's scrambling ability, any play can be busted open into a 30-yard run. Not to mention that Eric Moulds, Flutie's number one target, is healthy again and will be getting the ball a lot more.

Now, let's look at the Jets. Last season, everyone was all worked up about Vinny Testaverde taking the Jets through the playoffs into the Super Bowl. But, in their first game of the year Testaverde went

down with a season-ending injury. The Jets are now posting a 2-6 record.

If that isn't enough evidence, let's look around the rest of the league.

Jacksonville, the NFL's second and only other team with seven wins, is winning because of good play by Mark Brunell. Tennessee is 6-2 behind Neil O'Donnell and Seattle is 6-2 with John Kitna calling the snaps.

The perennial best teams in the NFC all have injured quarterbacks. Dallas is 4-4 while Troy Aikman is out with head injuries, San Francisco is 3-5 with Steve Young also having complications from concussions and Green Bay is 4-4 with a seriously hurt but still playing Brett Favre.

Washington and St. Louis are the only real contenders to go to the Super Bowl. That's because Brad Johnson and Kurt Warner are playing so much better than anyone could have imagined.

In the NFL, the quarterback has to be your team's inspiration. Without a QB who can handle the pressure of driving your team 80 yards with less than a minute left in the game, you cannot win in the NFL. □

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NEXT ISSUE & DEADLINES

Next Issue	Dec. 8
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Don't miss an issue!
 Don't worry about finding it in the dining hall!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

Thank you for publicly and personally re-affirming what many of my students (in classes such as Psychology of Adjustment, Close Relationships and Psychology of the Self) have shared with me about their concerns about "cyber non-intimacy" and its often sad and sometimes tragic "default."

We substitute the words and mouse clicks of others for actual personal connections too often these days, I think. We do it in isolation and in silence.

My students confide that they miss the "real" and feel "missed" by the electronically superficial.

Along with our keyboards and monitors, we deprive ourselves of the opportunity to develop and practice meaningful and effective interpersonal communication skills.

Of course, it is often difficult to be honest and self-disclosing in the presence of another.

But, what is it worth to risk true intimacy with each other?

Sincerely,
David Meissner
Psychology Division

Dear Editor:

Regarding the column "Student Activities gets it done" in your last issue, I must express my concern that credit is not being given where it is deserved.

Although the Office of Student Activities does a great deal for the students by setting up trips and events on campus, the column has led me to believe that there is an organization on our campus being ignored.

Student Activities Board is a student-run organization, not related to the Office of Student Activities, that often goes unnoticed. SAB provides weekly entertainment to our campus. Its hard-working members volunteer their time so that everyone on campus can enjoy safe and fun events that provide an alternative to drinking.

SAB is also responsible for bringing large acts to Alfred. Concerts like Third Eye Blind and Smash Mouth, the Barenaked Ladies and Alanis Morissette, to name a few, were produced by our very own Alfred University students — not the Office of Student Activities and its professional staff.

As president of SAB, I felt that it was necessary to make clear the difference between the Office of Student Activities and SAB. The members of SAB try very hard to bring activities to AU and would appreciate being given credit when it is truly deserved.

Sincerely,
David Silbergleit
President, SAB

Dear Editor:

Professors do a wonderful job of preparing us for the workplace and always seem willing to help in any way. Unfortunately, I have not felt this same sort of commitment from the Career Development Center.

The CDC does many great things, such as workshops on resumes and interviewing. However, it would be nice if they would provide more assistance to

those of us looking at companies they do not bring to campus.

Many of the recruiters the CDC brings to campus are from New York State. Personally, I am looking for a job out of state, and I know that many of my classmates are, too.

Many of us have tried to work through the CDC, but have found them not helpful, leaving us on our own. Trying to deal with classes while conducting all my own job searching has been overwhelming.

Though finding students out-of-state jobs may not be their responsibility, the CDC could certainly be more supportive of us. The last time I was in the CDC they told me to go to the library and get on their web-site for information.

This does not mesh with the rest of Alfred's goals for individual attention.

I cannot speak for other majors, but in accounting, the CDC brings in only one out of the five big firms. I know that the goal of a majority of this year's accounting majors is to get a "big five" job. This again makes our job search more difficult.

I would like to see the CDC offer more to those of us who are searching on our own. If nothing else, being sure to keep up-to-date contact information and offering a simple lecture on how to handle phone calls, phone interviews, scheduling and travel while taking a full load of classes will be helpful.

Sincerely,
Heidi Ackerman
Class of 2000

Dear Editor:

I am writing in response to the article "Players at SLU suspended for hazing," in the Nov. 3 issue of the *Fiat Lux*.

St. Lawrence University suspended members of their men's lacrosse team after 10 first-year students were forced to drink at a party on Oct. 9.

I believe that teams need to find other ways of encouraging unity besides hazing. This country has seen too many people who were injured or killed because of hazing incidents.

The article stated that the team had been through two anti-hazing seminars before the incident. However, it seems to me that something isn't working.

After the attention the media gave the incident at Alfred last year, the University developed anti-hazing programs for athletes and more strict alcohol policies.

While it is commendable that St. Lawrence and Alfred took such swift action against their players, there is no reason to wait until after an accident to develop policies that are more strict.

Students need to see that incidents involving alcohol and hazing will not be tolerated any day of the week, not just when something gets national attention.

Finally, as for the players on the St. Lawrence team, I think their actions were stupid. If I understand this right, most people play a sport because they at least like, if not love, it.

Why risk the chance of being suspended for a party that lasts a couple of hours? Is it really worth it? I think that players need to rethink why they are playing their sport. Maybe if they remember that, and then build unity from

there, we would not be faced with yet another case of athletes' talents going to waste.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Kahn
Class of 2000

Dear Editor:

I found the remarks made about the SENSATION art show were uninformed, and that those discussing it unfairly dismissed the work.

Not only are the comments made about art and the artists themselves disappointing, but so is equating "bad art" with the punk movement. Most offensive was the ignorant association of these artists and punks as "talentless, passionless, and thoughtless."

Works like those shown in the SENSATION show are important to remind people that not everyone fits within this social bracket.

There have been plenty of unpalatable examples of "art movements," including punk, where the aesthetic was considered by the general public as degenerate. Often, this aesthetic is there to reinforce the idea. The "talentless musicians" called punks have purpose in their playing.

First, the punk movement is based off of the idea of "Doing it Yourself." Self-discovery and learning outside the institution are inherent values within the movement. It's about seeing ourselves inhibiting our potential because we don't feel as though it would be acceptable within society.

Although the work was dismissed, it did have the impact of making a few people look at the way they saw the world, art, politics, modernism, etc.

Thanks to the avant-garde and a few unpalatable people, we have feminism, civil rights movements, new technology, environmental conservation, recycling, child labor laws, unions, you name it.

In SENSATION, what some of the artists have done is taken the everyday, exaggerated it, and taken it out of its daily consumable context. In its displacement, we are forced to think about it more. Picasso once said that if you paint a face and put the eyes where they anatomically belong, no one would notice them. Put them on top of each other on one side of the face and distort them, and people will not only notice it, but wonder why.

Before making value judgments about intentions, you better know what the intentions were. I encourage you to read some of these artists' statements. I encourage you to really listen to some punk music.

Ask questions, but even more importantly — and I know this might sound odd — but don't be afraid to say you hate it. I encourage artists to stop making art like religion, implying we're not supposed to question it. Don't assume your audience will be able to extract your ideas from the work, because, again, we all see the world differently. Please, artists, start writing artists' statements, and be honest about what your concepts are, otherwise, no one will take you seriously, including myself.

Sincerely,
Abbi Allen
Class of 2000



WORLDNOTES

LOCAL

Thanksgiving recess begins after classes Tuesday.

Residence halls close at 10 a.m. on Wednesday morning, meaning all on-campus students must leave.

Classes resume on Monday, Nov. 29.

• RHC and Poder Latino are sponsoring a charity dinner and auction tonight. Proceeds will benefit the Make a Wish Foundation.

The two campus groups hope to raise enough money to sponsor one child's wish.

The Make a Wish Foundation gives terminally ill children a chance to live out one of their wishes.

NATIONAL

Mark Manes, the man who sold Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris the TEC-9 they used to shoot classmates and teachers at Columbine High School, has been sentenced to six years in prison for his role in the school shooting.

Manes is the first person to be jailed as a result of the events in Littleton, Colo. last April.

Manes sold the gun to Harris and Klebold for \$500.

• In an announcement that probably has Pfizer, the maker of the impotence drug Viagra, worried, the Impotence World Association said last week that within 25 years, it may be possible to grow fully-functional — yes, fully functional — artificial sex organs.

Reportedly, the genetic technology already exists in the laboratory.

More than 80 million men and women in the United States suffer from some form of impotence.

• A special U.S. Senate committee overseeing the preparation for the Y2K bug has requested better information from nuclear regulators about reactor safety and contingency plans.

While the committee said they believe that the electrical grid will be fine, there are still some answers the committee wants, if for no other reason than to shore up the public's confidence.

INTERNATIONAL

Turkey was hit with another major earthquake last week. This tremor was measured at a magnitude of 7.2, centered near the city of Duzce. Over 300 people had died because of the quake as of press time. The Mediterranean has been repeatedly rocked since August when a strong earthquake hit another part of Turkey. Greece also saw a major earthquake.

• The official height of Mt. Everest has been changed, but have no fear, the Himalayan mountain remains the highest point on Earth. A new survey of the mountain measures the height at 29,035 feet, a change from the measurement of 29,028 feet that has been recognized for 45 years.

Climbers have been climbing the mountain since 1995 as part of the project. The results have been given to the National Geographic Society, which will update its records to reflect the new height. All new maps and globes should have the new measurement.

The calculation was derived with the help of sensors on specific points on the mountain, as well as satellite global positioning systems.

Also, it was discovered that the mountain is moving 2.4 inches to the northeast every year.

Nothing is better
than curling up
with a nice warm
Fiat on a cold
winter's evening.

Senate UPDATE

BY JAY WEISBERGER
MANAGING EDITOR

Lately, Student Senate meetings have had more of a party atmosphere than anything else. Indeed, in each of the last meetings, Senate has broken into a song to celebrate someone's birthday.

Last week, they even gave out door prizes.

Despite all this, the Senate was given a reminder that each meeting is not necessarily a fiesta.

Last week, Vice President Steve Tedone presented a request for a special allocation that would allow President Carlos Pearce, Publicity Chair Bethany Carpenter and himself to attend a conference in Chicago Dec. 3.

The request totaled \$819.95, which covered accommodations for all three and transportation among other items. The conference is meant to teach student organizations how to combat campus apathy.

As it tends to be the case with Senate when money gets involved, questions abounded. Some suggested amending the request.

However, no motion to that effect was made and the request passed the Senate, despite many "nay" votes.

Another request for a special allocation was presented to purchase four tickets to tomorrow's Residence Hall Council/Poder Latino charity auction.

Whereas many had problems with allocating money for the

Chicago trip, the Senate voted to purchase six tickets — two more than originally planned — for six senators, who had their names picked out of a basket.

Also on the docket was a quick singing of "Happy Birthday" to Pearce. The week before, it had been Senate Finance Chair Craig Calvert's birthday.

During that Nov. 3 meeting, committee reports took center stage.

One major bit of news came from the renovations committee. This committee is taking suggestions as to what students feel needs to be fixed up around campus and in the halls.

The deadline for such a suggestion is Dec. 1.

The food committee announced that, contrary to an earlier report, the Lil Alf Cafe is not losing money.

Rachael Downey of the spirit committee mentioned that a surprise would be coming, but she did not elaborate on what sort of surprise this would be.

The academic affairs committee said they were looking into the possibility of creating an all-night study room.

Also of note, the safety committee is looking into improving lighting on Fraternity Row and building stairs from Norwood to Fraternity Row.

Even with all the reports and requests, both meetings were completed in less than 45 minutes apiece — the Nov. 3 meeting did not even crack 30-minutes.

Tonight, Alfred Police Department Chief John Simons is scheduled to be at Senate to answer questions.



Shoppers browse at the AU Chamber Singers' fundraiser "Rhythm and Rummage" Saturday.
PHOTO BY JAY WEISBERGER

Fishing and art connected

BY BEN GOLDBERG
CONTRIBUTOR

Did you ever question how somebody could love to stand in a river all day long with a stick in his hand hoping to catch a fish, only to throw it back?

Richard Thompson gave a new understanding about the art of fishing in his lecture at last Thursday's Bergen Forum, titled "Standing in a River Twice: on Fishing and on Making Art."

"Fly-fishing is no longer just bamboo and wicker," he said. "It's about passion."

Thompson, the dean of the School of Art and Design, expressed the relationship of two themes in his life — art and fly-fishing — to paint a picture of the beauty and intricacy of fly-fishing to an audience of 30 in Nevins Theater.

Being able to paint the emotion

of fishing has "connected the circle of my two lives," he said.

Before coming to Alfred two years ago, Thompson became a respected painter in the art community. He began his artistic expression fishing in his childhood backyard streams in New Mexico before he developed his painting skills.

Thompson said that he is a "fisherman before an artist."

However, his art is far from second-rate. He showed the audience slides of his emotional, bright and descriptive paintings of fishing scenarios. His paintings appeared to be an extension of the impressionable streams and the fancy fish he loved being with.

Traveling around the world from Australia to Oregon on the quest to fulfill his passion of finding 10 pound "jewel-colored" underwater beasts, has given

Thompson a canvas for uncovering some of his unconscious thoughts.

"Underneath the water structure," he said, "lies the unconsciousness."

There is more to fly-fishing than just passion and art.

"I have formed great friendships within the circle of great artists and anglers," he stated. The friendships were bridged while fishing in over 30 of the top 100 trout fishing waterways.

He praised great fly-fishermen as a child would describe sport stars.

He has been able to capture his true spirit and expression through articulating his love of fishing in his paintings.

Fly-fishing has been around for hundreds of years and is as important to American culture as telling stories by a campfire. □

...Voting

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

elected.

A few had not even registered to vote, despite having turned 18.

"It's our right," said senior Heidi Ackerman. "We fought hard for suffrage."

"We're so secluded from the rest of the world," Taveras said. "We need to be aware that things are going on outside of here."

He said the best way to do so would be for students to become more politically aware and see that they really are affected by elected officials.

"I just don't see why a person shouldn't be voting," Taveras said. □

...Quilt

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Nyman stated, she knew of no one who had died of AIDS, but added that "today, I know hundreds."

Following the unfolding of the Quilt sections, Upton, a 1973 graduate of Alfred, spoke of the Quilt as being a "lasting memorial" as well as a "cry to humanity" to stop the heartbreak that AIDS causes.

Upton is currently treasurer for the Syracuse chapter of NAMES, the national AIDS awareness organization that sponsors the AIDS Quilt. He has also gained much one-on-one experience with AIDS by serving as a mentor and friend to those stricken with the HIV

virus or AIDS and who have no one else to turn to for support.

He told of the "sorrow, anger, love, and hope" that the Quilt embodies, but noted that the 42,960 panels that make up the entire AIDS Quilt (eighty panels were on display here at Alfred) represent "only 20 percent of U.S. AIDS deaths," underscoring the wide reach of AIDS.

Upton kept his talk brief, giving some general background information on the Quilt as well as providing an intensely personal and emotional story of an AIDS patient he knew. He befriended and took care of the patient until his death and later created a Quilt panel in his mem-

ory.

The joys and sorrows recounted by Upton reminded the listener that, regardless of circumstances, there is a story of personal suffering behind each AIDS death.

Following the opening ceremony, visitors were able to view each of the panels on the various quilt sections. Each panel has been created by friends or family of the deceased and represents one person who has died from AIDS. The measurements of the panels are three feet by six feet, the size of a human grave.

As visitors perused the Quilt sections, volunteers read, in alphabetical order, the names of

those who have died of AIDS.

After viewing the Quilt, visitors were able to share their own thoughts and impressions of the Quilt on a signature square, which will now become a part of the overall AIDS Quilt.

One visitor summed up the mood of the day quite well by writing, "the feelings are beyond words."

The Quilt display at Alfred was co-sponsored by the Women's Issues Coalition, Spectrum and Alfredians Working Actively for a Responsible Environment, with help from Sexual Assault Victims' Advocacy Program, the Crandall Health Center, and the Student Health Advisory Committee.

Viewing the Quilt is an extremely thought-provoking and somewhat depressing experience, but walking through the various sections of the Quilt reminded the visitor of the necessity of the Quilt as a tool for remembrance; as stated on one of the Quilt panels, "the light is gone, but the memory remains." □

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Lichtman speaks of hiking through Himalayas

BY BENJAMIN LEE
CONTRIBUTOR

Hiking in the Anna Purma region of Nepal is a great physical, mental and social challenge according to the experiences Professor of Psychology Lou Lichtman had during a trek this past year.

"I like to hike alone. After eating 100 consecutive meals with the same people you need to get away," he said.

Lichtman has done high altitude hiking in the Andes and Himalayas before this most recent trip.

He said he enjoys the mountain scenery, and the cultural experience involved with traveling through these other countries.

The trip crossing Nepal started in Mustang and ended in

Dopo.

The slides contained photos of menacing rock mountains, and he began by discussing the altitudes at which they were hiking.

The entire trek was 9,000 feet above sea level.

This particular trek covered the highest elevation at which he has ever hiked. The high point of the 30-day mountain trek was 18,000 feet.

He said he was concerned early in the trip when several members of the 40-person party experienced difficulty walking up steps in Katmandu, the capital of Nepal.

According to Lichtman, every breath above 13,000 feet has half the oxygen concentration of a breath at sea level. He was concerned about people experiencing altitude sickness, which

causes headaches, nausea and even death.

"The only way to relieve altitude sickness is to descend," he said.

During the first week, two of the members paid \$4,000 to be air-lifted back to Katmandu when they decided that they were not capable of continuing on through the more remote regions of the trip.

He also discussed the interesting facts about the Tibetan culture.

Lichtman showed slides of houses with flat roofs. These roofs are used to store firewood and other possessions.

An increased amount of wood is a sign of wealth, Lichtman said.

Merchants in the villages and towns would set up blankets right outside the door of the

voyager's tents, and the people of the region were very curious about the hikers.

Lichtman said that he had to be careful because they would go through the hiker's bags. Simple items such as cameras captivated the locals, but they were very shy when the trekkers tried to take pictures.

The people were very friendly and interesting, according to Lichtman.

"The trip was great cultural exposure," he said.

The culture differed from ours in ways that also irritated Lichtman.

The slides were filled with pictures of faces of Tibetan children.

They were dirty, and often taking care of babies and younger children.

Lichtman said that the par-

ents are so busy that they do not have time to look after the children.

The children are ultimately left alone and in charge of the younger members of the family.

In America, Lichtman explained, this treatment would be seen as neglect, but in Nepal there are no other choices.

The children, for the most part, have poor hygiene, and do a great deal of work.

This cultural difference disturbed Lichtman, and he referred to it every time a child appeared in a picture.

Lichtman's 400-slide presentation adequately depicted a land foreign to everyone in the audience.

The reaction was awe and interest for Lichtman's high altitude adventure. □

Ceramic museum gets funding

BY JULIE WOHLBERG
STAFF WRITER

In an effort to increase tourism to the Southern Tier of New York, a combination of public and private funding has come together for the purpose of constructing a new building for the ceramics museum at Alfred University.

A total of \$11.6 million will go into the construction of the new building for the International Museum of Ceramic Art, which will be located on the current site of South Hall. The existing museum is on Route 244, just a short way from the AU campus.

"The International Museum of Ceramic Art, founded in 1991, has established itself as a destination attraction in Western New York in the past few years, gaining regional, national and international acclaim through its exhibits, catalogues, web site, and special

education programs," said Margaret Carney, director of the museum.

The museum will not only undergo a change in location, but a change in name as well.

The AU Board of Trustees at the museum voted to change the name of the museum to The Schein-Joseph International Museum of Ceramic Art, after the project's highest private donor, Pamela Joseph and her late husband, Jay Schein.

"We recognize the importance of Ms. Joseph's gift and the faith behind it," said Gene Bernstein, chairman of the Board of Trustees. "She made her gift before the new building was a certainty, clearly demonstrating her commitment and support for the museum, which in turn spurred other private and state supporters."

Joseph's donation, although the largest, was not the only private donation. Other private

donors to the fund included Marlin Miller, Otto Heino, Robert and Sue Turner and Joel Moskowitz.

"These private gifts, totaling \$3,650,000, really persuaded the State Legislature that we were serious about building a world-class facility here in Alfred for the economic benefit of the entire Southern Tier," said AU President Edward G. Coll Jr.

The State University of New York Construction Fund is in the process of hiring an architectural firm to design the museum, and thus the timing of the project has not been set.

Regardless, museum officials are optimistic as to the attraction of the new building.

"We look forward to more real visitors in the near future, and are grateful to the state for its recognition of Alfred as one of the ceramic education centers of the world," she said. □

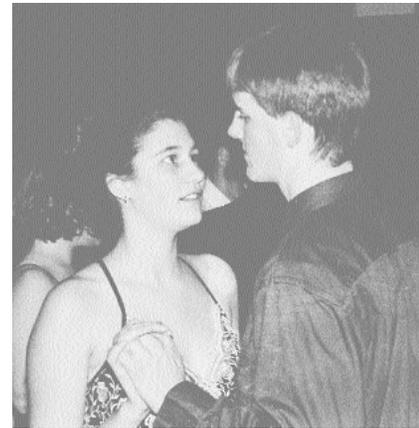


PHOTO BY JAY WEISBERGER

Two freshmen enjoy a dance at the annual Residence Hall Council Freshman Semi-formal. The event was attended by many freshmen, as well as several upperclassmen who helped arrange the dance. Dinner was served beforehand.

New money for study abroad students

BY RICHARD SEO
STAFF WRITER

If you are considering studying abroad next year, try the International Internship Award Alfred University is offering for the first time.

A University trustee contributed to the fund anonymously with the willingness to offer great opportunities for students to broaden their education.

The search for international internships is up to the students. However, the Career Development Center is there to give help if needed.

Both the Career Development Center and the Study Abroad Program are supporting this award. As many students as possible are asked to participate in this program.

There are certain qualifications to be eligible for the award, including:

- A GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. Applicants with less than a GPA of 3.0 can still apply and will be considered on an individual basis by the scholarship committee.
- Students must be at least second semester sophomores at the time of their internship.

University graduate students and recent graduate within 6 months are also eligible for this opportunity.

- Students must have parental consent or acknowledgement of intent to travel abroad. Special circumstances will be considered case by case.

Other requirements for a trip abroad with this program are:

- A report/portfolio to the Scholarship committee upon returning to University

- Two workshops prior to departing the United States (dates and times to be announced)

- Submission of the Declaration of Intent form and all materials required for application by April 15 for 2000 - 2001 school year

- Once the internship is secured, the Internship Proposal must be submitted to the Coordinator of Experiential Education. □

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LaBruce screens controversial *Skin Flick*

BY EMILIE HARDMAN
STAFF WRITER

Still wearing his sunglasses at midnight, Bruce LaBruce is a telltale rebel even if you don't happen to know he is the writer and director of one of the most talked about underground films of the year.

The controversial queer punk Canadian filmmaker consistently perplexed audiences as his newest film, *Skin Flick*, moved across Europe, where it was filmed this summer.

Recently appearing in North American art theatres and lesbian/gay film festivals, American audiences are getting a peek at just what all the fuss has been about.

Despite all warnings of sexual content, racist violence, disturbing and dark edges, the University of Rochester's Hoyt Auditorium was packed when LaBruce brought his show to our neck of the woods, just in time for gay/lesbian history month.

Viewers were shoulder to tense shoulder waiting to watch the film with a mix of excitement and fear as LaBruce prefaced it with a "Well, I'll just let you see it and you can all crucify me later."

The grainy black and white opening of the film feature Cameltoe, a skinhead with a scowl etched as if in stone across her face. A tourist snaps

pictures of the lean woman and she obliges by striking sexual poses, but when he is done she sweetly asks for the camera.

Unassuming, he hands it over. She rips out the film. Swearing and throwing vicious punches, Cameltoe assaults the tourist.

"Don't steal my soul," she screams as he scrambles away from her. And thus, the pornographic *Skin Flick* begins.

If that strikes you as an unconventional way to open a pornography film, you'd get an "A" in Porn 101.

Skin Flick is not at all conventional.

The film's intent is to deconstruct the conventions of what LaBruce calls the reliance of pornography, particularly gay pornography, on "fascist images and mentality."

Switching into color, *Skin Flick* introduces us to Dirk and Dieter, members of a London skinhead gang. The skins follow a quiet gay gentleman, played by LaBruce himself, along a secluded path.

They then force him off the path into a cemetery where they brutally beat him.

Motivation for the violence comes from the gang's stance that gays "should be exterminated," but wait, what happens next? Aroused by the violence, Dirk and Dieter lock into a deep kiss, which leads to sex against the tombstone and all the while, Dirk's boot rests heavily on the

battered and bleeding gay man.

LaBruce says that this image of two skinheads, who are not gay identified — who are in fact homo-negative — kissing with a boot on his face was a summary of the film's thesis.

He does have a sense of humor about all of this, and indeed, the ideas represented in this powerful image are played on throughout the film.

In the next scene, Cameltoe, appearing for us in color this time, is fed up with the sexist expectations of her skinhead boyfriend, Reinhold. He wants her to make dinner; it's her "job," and in response she assails him and the gang with homophobic jeers.

For daring to link the gang's behavior with gay behavior she is violently dragged out of the apartment. From the street she yells up to Reinhold, "you always were more homo than erectus," prompting him to throw all of her possessions out the window.

As soon as Cameltoe is out of sight, however, the gangmembers turn to each other and we move into another steamy sex scene.

In this way, LaBruce examines themes of gay denial and violence.

Additionally, he addresses, with the use of racist scenery and imagery in the apartment, his premise of pornography's fascist context.

The connection between pornography and fascism is explored along with the tie of sexual identity to national identity during the scenes that bracket all sexual acts in the film. Again in grainy black and white, the male skinheads are shown reciting poetry, singing Nazi songs and spouting homophobic diatribe.

The singing of "Deutschland Uber Alles" brackets the most intense scene of the film where the skinheads break into the apartment of an interracial couple, Karl and Leroy. The skinheads destroy the apartment and then humiliate the couple sexually through a drawn-out rape scene.

Here LaBruce points the finger at the pornography industry's attempts to use rape in erotic contexts while also claiming pornography is literally fascist.

Skin Flick's rape scene is enough to bring a viewer to tears, and in fact, Leroy, the black character and his partner, Karl, are actually shown with tears streaming down their faces.

Contrast that with the typical depictions of rape in pornography as enjoyably erotic experiences and we begin to see how powerfully *Skin Flick* tears into the staples of pornography. LaBruce explained that because American pornography is generally created in an

exploitative vein, he felt that he could not make the film in North America. He traveled instead to London where the film was made with actors from around the world.

The European attitude toward pornography, which allows for more narrative and art, was much more conducive to creating the film, said LaBruce.

Certainly, it would not at all be the same film without the narrative.

There would be none of the intellect or wit that make *Skin Flick* an engaging, if disturbing, film.

"My films," said LaBruce in closing, "are against the notion of gay assimilation because to be co-opted strips the history and wonder of a gay culture or a black culture or any other culture."

That is why *Skin Flick* works to deconstruct the nature of gay pornography that has become swept up in the exploits and emptiness of traditional pornography.

Next on LaBruce's agenda is a larger budget film that is not pornography but is set in the pornography industry.

Until then though, *Skin Flick* is still showing at art theatres and film festivals in North America and will soon be out in a softcore version on video in the States. □

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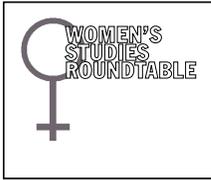
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Lyrics examined Allen's influence discussed

Strong speaks of the woman who helped advance women's rights



BY EMILIE HARDMAN
STAFF WRITER

There was less talk and more rock at the Women's Studies Roundtable last Friday afternoon when members of the Women's Issues Coalition gave their presentation, "Lyrical Feminism."

"This music is a source of inspiration for me and the lyrics help give me ideas," said presenter Carolyn Corrado, a new WIC member.

Four WIC members brought in song lyrics and slam poetry that they felt addressed feminist concerns. These pieces were either played or read for the 26 attendees.

Corrado, a Track II women's studies student, examined songs from Ani DiFranco and Tracy Chapman. Corrado selected DiFranco's "Face Up and Sing" and "Little Plastic Castle" and Chapman's "Behind the Wall."

Corrado said that the DiFranco songs express that women all need to take part in activism because they are so often stereotyped.

"Chapman's song deals with the issue of domestic violence that many people in our society would like to ignore," said Corrado.

First-year comparative cultures major Madeline Baker read "Skeletons," a poem by slam poet Kristin Knowles.

"I think this poem is about a

woman getting over being forced into situations that make her feel shameful," said Baker.

Amey Garbark, a junior fine arts major and co-coordinator of WIC, also presented slam poetry. Garbark's selection was "Your Revolution," which was written by Sarah Jones, who has visited Alfred to present her work.

"Your Revolution," weaves popular rap and hip-hop lyrics into a feminist critique. Illustrating the ways in which women are portrayed in these lyrics is an important accomplishment of this piece, said Garbark, especially because, "even hip-hop women play into these roles, like Foxy Brown."

The final presenter was first-year ceramic engineering student, Jake Amoroso. Amoroso selected "Precious Things," a song written by Tori Amos.

Though the genre of women's music is generally hailed as one that brings women together, not all participants felt included in the "Lyrical Feminism."

"I say this not just as an English professor, but as a woman," said Carol Burtlick, prefacing her remarks. "These lyrics are examples of sloppy language, inaccurate language... I need to be included in these adventures, but am not."

Also, Professor of History Vicki Eaklor said that the lyrics did not speak to the tradition of women's music.

Sarah Karger, a sophomore, felt that it was the range of ages and WIC's lack of a topic definition that led to these final comments by professors.

"Lyrical Feminism" was the last Women's Studies Roundtable of this semester but will return to its monthly schedule next semester starting on Jan. 28. □

BY LAURA ESPINOZA
CONTRIBUTOR

Abigail Allen played an important role in developing women's rights at Alfred University, said Associate Provost Susan Strong at the Bergren Forum two weeks ago in Nevins Theater.

Allen saw in front of her "summits still not climbed," Strong said. Allen was one of six people who created what became Alfred University, Strong said. She was a teacher and an early suffragist.

Strong noted to her audience of 40 community members and students Allen's importance in shaping the school by "making the connection between educational ideas and social reform."

Strong said Allen spent her life pushing for women's rights to education, employment and the vote. She helped move women forward by assisting in the founding of Alfred University, the second coeducational college in the United States.

Allen was a teacher and the dean of women at the early Alfred Academy, Strong said. She added

that during this period Allen started one of the first literary societies in the country. Alfred Academy's literary society was especially progressive because it was supported by faculty and encouraged women to speak.

Strong said the literary forum "was a crucial form for debate and development of self-confidence."

She pointed out that in the 19th century, women were typically not allowed to speak in public, especially if they gave orations that spoke their minds.

Strong spoke of the many speeches and conventions that Allen attended in her attempts to improve women's rights. She told of a convention that Allen attended where Susan B. Anthony shocked the audience by speaking out.

Strong said Anthony asked why teachers weren't as respected as doctors and lawyers, and why men would lower themselves to the level of women by being teachers.

Strong also spoke of speeches that Allen herself gave in which she noted that women had to work hard to go to school because their parents only spent money on their

sons' education.

Strong said that Allen and her husband, the second president of Alfred University, were both extremely active in the fight for women's suffrage. They believed that women needed to develop their own powers. Women at Alfred University publicly endorsed suffrage.

In 1887, Strong said, Allen and 10 other women voted. They were arrested, and were only let go when someone noted that in order to charge them someone would have to prove that they were women.

Even just before her death in 1903, Allen continued to push for women's suffrage by driving around Allegany County encouraging women to attend school board meetings.

Strong spoke of Abigail Allen as an ambitious, confident and generous woman. She helped move women's rights forward not only for Alfred University, but for the entire nation as well.

Strong concluded that throughout her life Allen never complained, and she never gave up. □

Interest in McLane Late Night rises

BY JUDY TSANG
COPY MANAGER

Late Night at the McLane Center drew in about 35 students its first weekend. Now, two months after its debut, attendance has more than quadrupled.

The McLane Center now hosts about 50 students on a Friday night and between 80 and 90 on a Saturday night, Ken Hassler, director of intramural sports and men's soccer coach, said.

Even more attractive was the number of attendees last weekend brought in. Over 250 students showed up at McLane's gymnasium to play laser tag.

Both the Student Activities Board and AU Sci-Fi worked to bring Neon Entertainment's laser tag. Scott Talarico, an AU alumnus and Kappa Psi Upsilon brother, owns Neon Entertainment. The equipment used for laser tag was brought in from Toronto.

The laser tag war took place inside an enclosed blow up float. Aside from a couple of windows, there was no light entering the float. Inside, there were columns and doorways, allowing for players to utilize them to hide and escape through.

The weapons allocated were vests with target sensors over the chest and laser guns to attack with. Because it was in an air float, it was easy to flip and dive, SAB president David Silbergleit said.

Laser tag began at 10 p.m. and continued until about 1:45 a.m., Silbergleit recalled.

"It was nonstop action the entire time," he said.

Aside from laser tag, students also saw what else Late Night had to offer.

Students filled one end of the lobby to watch a film while some sat down to board games and others to a game of ping-pong.

The popularity of the board games was a surprise to the staff working at McLane. Some of the favorites included Battleship and Trouble.

The school has purchased the two new ping-pong tables recently and it is being put to continuous use by the students.

"We're hoping to continue to grow and let people realize it's a fun option for a Friday or Saturday night," Hassler said.

Special events will continue to be brought onto campus.

"We want to keep the excitement level high," Hassler said.

Being consistent is a key to keeping the excitement level high, Athletic Director Jim Moretti said.

"We're going to try and have one big program per month, like laser tag," Moretti said.

Moretti is "very pleased with what Ken [Hassler] and his assistant, Matt [Reitnour] has done with the program."

"We're offering a viable alternate physical fitness," Moretti said. "Not everybody wants to party all the time." □



Students line up at the McLane Center to take aim at their peers in a round of laser tag.

PHOTO BY JUDY TSANG

REVIEW

Chamber Singers, Jazz Ensemble get together for fantastic Festifall performance

BY JASMINE LELLOCK
A & E EDITOR

Festifall 1999, performed Friday, Nov. 5, in a packed Holmes Auditorium, was a celebration of community through music.

The AU Chamber Singers were led by Professor of Voice Luanne Clarke and accompanied by Laurel Buckwalter.

Festifall was a rich and varied concert; the direction of the concert and its order was very tight and well planned.

Beginning with three selec-

tions from *Candide*, several soloists took the spotlight, each performing well.

Next, the singers performed Irish selections that they had used in *Translations*, performed earlier this year. The pieces ranged from ethereal and haunting to lively and warm.

The ensemble had fun with "The Battle of Jericho," a Moses Hogan piece. An African-American spiritual, the energy of the piece filled the room.

A modern touch to the concert was "Seasons of Love," a piece

from the musical *Rent*.

Finally, "One Day More," a selection from *Les Miserables* featured the group's dramatic talents, as the singers dealt with some of the character connections.

Overall, the AU Jazz Ensemble offered a good performance. The show featured many familiar pieces, including "Take Five," "In the Mood," and "Sweet Georgia Brown."

Pianists Daniel Thayer and Emily Tucker gave notable performances. Drummers Kevin

Rowland and Mike Saccoccia had some really fun solos as well.

Soloists throughout the show added a touch of personality to the performance. Although there were a few shaky notes, it was really fun watching the performers move into their solos and take the stage.

The ensemble had more energy and gave better performances of the upbeat pieces, especially "In the Mood." Their firm, dancing rhythms energized the audience.

However, "Sophisticated Lady," a slower, more seductive

piece, really stole the show. In fact, several audience members in the back danced throughout the piece. Baritone saxophone soloist Mike Creter carried the piece.

The encores were a bit misleading and unsettling, as there were several pieces included. The audience seemed unsure how to react to their timing, and it broke up the fluidity of the concert.

However, the pieces included in the encores were incredible, and they offered a lively ending to an enjoyable night of music. □

REVIEW

Despite audience, Lyrical Unity good overall

BY JUDY TSANG
COPY MANAGER

Coffee, tea, poetry and music are trademarks of Lyrical Unity, but last Saturday's event was not like previous ones.

Student Activity Board's Coffeehouse presented Lyrical Unity last weekend, as sponsored by *Alfred Review-Poeisis*, Poder Latino, Shades of Ebony, Spectrum, Umoja and the Women's Issues Coalition. Lyrical Unity was a means of bringing the Multi-Cultural Suite together, Amy Garbark,

SAB's Coffeehouse chair said.

As expected, Lyrical Unity presented about 20 entertaining and inspiring acts to an audience of over 120 attendants. Entertaining if you could have heard and focused on them.

Throughout the night, a constant buzz sounded from the crowd.

When the audience walked into the Knight Club, they forgot an important aspect of spectator etiquette: respect.

A good portion of the audience could not seem to show their respect to the performers

and remain quiet. They entered as a mass and talked straight through most of the evening.

"I'm just appalled by the lack of respect at this show," Katie Bailey, a junior, said.

"[People have to realize] the amount of guts [it takes] to get up there," she said.

With guts and nerves of steel, the show began on a shaky start with four members of Rhapsody. It took the quartet a while to "find our note." The giggles got the best of them, which cut their delicate song short.

What would Lyrical Unity be without poetry? Literature ranged from the work of famous poets to original student poetry. "Women Work" and "No Loser, No Weeper" by Maya Angelou were presented.

Clinton Powell attempted to pass off "The Road Not Taken" by Robert Frost as his own work.

He was greeted with chuckles.

The contents of original poetry covered a wide spectrum. Topics and focal points of some of these poems included the steam of a shower, the actions of a washing machine, racism, sexism, fear and pain.

Shuffling between acts occurred, as viewers became performers.

At the keyboard was Maggie Fairman, playing and singing two songs she composed. "Lullaby" was a dedication to a friend lost to a drive-by shooting and another friend lost to suicide. Fairman's second song, "Find My Rainbow," "is about coming out."

During Liz Ainslie's rendition of the Indigo Girls' "Bonfire" on the guitar, a few of the atten-

dants grew restless and mumbles emitted from the crowd.

Performers were not limited to just AU students. Bonafied, cousin of AU student Jason Hendricks, presented two pieces he penned. "Epic Eye" was more than just a recital; Bonafied embellished "Epic Eye" with hand gestures, echo simulation and pacing into the crowd.

His second piece, "Graffiti Artist," compared a "graffiti guru" to a "modern day Matisse." The audience responded with cheers and applause. It was evident that Bonafied was the highlight of the show.

Lyrical Unity, as a show itself, proved to be entertaining.

However, the overall effect of the show was diminished due to a couple of bad seeds in the crowd. After the show, many claimed to have enjoyed last semester's Lyrical Unity much more.

Maybe some of us will have grown up by the time the next Lyrical Unity comes to Coffeehouse. □



PHOTO BY JUDY TSANG

Four members of Rhapsody open the show at Lyrical Unity, held Nov. 6 in the Knight Club. Performers were actually competing for some bragging rights as the night's best performer. Maggie Fairman won the competition.

REVIEW

Rage blends music and politics

BY JAY WEISBERGER
MANAGING EDITOR

Rage Against the Machine does not put out an album that often.

They made the world wait four years after their debut to release *Evil Empire*. It has been almost four more between that release and the release of the band's newest effort, *The Battle of Los Angeles*.

In that time, Rage has found itself no longer the only major player in the rap-rock game. How many albums has Limp Bizkit managed to churn out since Zack De La Rocha called "People come up!" to open *Empire*?

It was that line that got *Empire* off to a rousing start — a start that's missing on *Los Angeles*.

Perhaps the band realizes that they do not need to hit us over the head, at least not quite as hard, to get their message across.

Many tracks start with a basic guitar line that follows throughout the song. Building off these themes, we have the traditional power-guitars from Tom Morello and cannon-shot drums from Brad Wilk.

One such song, "Born of a Broken Man" fits this bill perfectly. De La Rocha is at his best, going from loud to soft at the perfect moment. He lets Morello propel the song forward however.

An odd note about this song,

though: people familiar with Stone Temple Pilots' "Army Ants" may think they've heard this guitar line before.

No need to get up in arms. The two songs have very little else in common.

Where other albums have been purposely jarring, this album has a more continuous feel to it. One song segues into another very smoothly. Not what we've grown to expect from Rage.

The album opens strongly with "Testify," the first-single-out "Guerrilla Radio" and the raucous "Calm Like a Bomb."

One of the album's strongest tracks is "Voice of the Voiceless."

The song looks at the situation of Mumia Abu-Jamal, who was convicted of killing a Philadelphia police officer. Many have called for Jamal to receive a new trial, citing that the original one was not fair.

It's a hot-button issue in Philadelphia. However, regardless of whether or not you feel this is a worthy cause to rally behind, the song is musically one of Rage's best ever.

The anthem-like guitar that opens the song sticks with you and it just builds from there.

Of course, it wouldn't be a Rage Against the Machine album unless there was some sort of political message dealing with oppression.

"There's a widow pig parrot/ A rebel to tame/ A whitehooded

judge/ And a syringe and a vein/ And the riot be the rhyme of the unheard," De La Rocha tells on "Calm Like a Bomb."

Later we get "So long as the rope/ Is tight around Mumia's neck/ Let there be no rich white life," on "Voice of the Voiceless."

Whether or not people are going to rally around any of these cries remains to be seen.

At the very least, whether or not you like what Rage says, we will never hear the band degrade women. Also, the band has always been outspoken about equality. For such things, they are to be commended.

Some will take issue with the causes the band supports. However, the music is worth a listen.

The album closes with the powerful ending each Rage album has had so far. This time it's "War Within a Breath."

The song grabs you immediately. It's one of the few that De La Rocha jumps right in on vocals with.

It is quintessential Rage. The song explodes right when you expect it to — the perfect moment.

Regardless of your political views, there is something on this album for you.

Even if the message isn't your style, it's hard to not get into the music. □

REVIEW

Ani chews away at society, critics on *Teeth*

BY SARAH GUARIGLIA
STAFF WRITER

Ani DiFranco's latest album, *To the Teeth*, bites back at fans and critics who try to box the singer/songwriter into a specific image or genre.

The 13-track album, which is DiFranco's third release in 1999 alone, pushes at the boundaries of folk, punk, jazz and funk to create a sound different from any of her previous recordings. The record was released on her independent label, Righteous Babe Records, which has become a thorn in the side of several major record companies simply because of its refusal to be bought out or to play the pop music game.

The title track starts the album off on a decidedly political foot, criticizing media and violence in America. DiFranco ironically suggests we "open fire on Hollywood, open fire on MTV," with a deceptively calm musical arrangement surrounding the bitter lyrics.

Another song that combines political and personal aspects is "Hello Birmingham," which portrays the inability of the average person to act against violence surrounding issues of abortion.

DiFranco displays her musical prowess in a few multi-layered solo tracks such as the frenetic "Freakshow," "Carry You Around" and "I Know this Bar," playing not only her usual assortment of guitars but also steel drums, basses, organs and pianos.

An eclectic set of guest artists appear on *To the Teeth*, such as jazz and soul artist Maceo Parker (whose own band toured with DiFranco's this past summer) and

his son Corey, who offers a rap section to "Swing."

Singing with DiFranco on "Providence" is the Artist, and despite the obvious difference in musical styles, the two collaborate surprisingly well. Also adding their talents to the album are Toronto guitarist Kurt Swinghammer, brass players Brian Wolf, Mark Mullins, Irvin Mayfield, the Kingsway Clap and Stomp Corps.

The lyrics of the songs fit the ever-changing sounds of the music, ranging from the emotional reflections of "Wish I May," "Soft Shoulder," "Going Once," "Carry You Around" and "Cloud Blood" to the upbeat and funky "Swing" and "Back Back Back."

DiFranco even lightly extols the virtues of watching public affection at the airport in "The Arrivals Gate," complete with jumpy banjo in the background.

Despite criticism of her last few albums, *To the Teeth* confirms DiFranco's sound experimentation as her style rather than her transition between phases.

"To me it all feels very connected. I always hate when people refer to the last record as 'transitional' because it didn't sound like they expected it to sound, or because they can't get their head around what to them is a new combination of sensibilities," said DiFranco.

While DiFranco's "sensibilities" do catch most people off-guard, *To the Teeth* coheres after a few times through. No matter what genre of music DiFranco and her band venture into, the result is sure to be original, if nothing else. □

Fi-at! Fi-at! Fi-at! Fi-at! Fi-at! Fi-at!



PHOTO PROVIDED

Glenn Zwegardt poses with some of the pieces he will be taking with him on his trip to China.

China next stop for artist

BY JASMINE LELLOCK
A & E EDITOR

Glenn Zwegardt, AU professor of sculpture, has made his mark in the international community. Having shown sculptures in China, Germany and Sweden, Zwegardt is now travelling to China.

"This is my first permanent international piece," Zwegardt said. "It's a big deal for me."

Zwegardt was invited to install a sculpture in Guilin Yuzi Paradise, an international sculpture park located in Guangxi Province, China.

Designed to be an international tourist spot, Guilin Yuzi Paradise is part of a project to attract Western visitors. According to Zwegardt, the sculpture park "is all part of a plan for tourism development."

The park organizers are planning to have 100 pieces of international sculpture installed by the year 2000, according to Zwegardt. Zwegardt was invited to contribute a sculpture after organizers saw one of his pieces in *International Sculpture*.

He will create a piece similar to the "Paradise Council." It will consist of three Chinese granite slabs standing upright and connected to a circular piece of self-weathering steel.

Returning in early December, Zwegardt hopes to bring back some stones from China, which he will use in a sculpture for Kanakadea Park. He and his students created the park three decades ago.

On the way home from China, he will visit Milan, Italy to spend some time at Carrara

quarry. It was here that Michaelangelo got much of the stone he used in his sculptures.

Also, Zwegardt plans to bring back some Italian marble for the College of Ceramics Friendship Park. Scheduled to open next spring, the park will be adjacent to Scholes Library.

Zwegardt attributes the success of his journey to the Far East in part to glass professor Stephen Edwards and some of Edwards' students.

They collaborated with him to make cast bronze rings that will encompass pieces of cast glass. These rings will be inlaid into the three granite slabs and are significant, Zwegardt said.

"There is very little contemporary bronze art, and almost no contemporary glass art in China," he said. □

Prophet tells of next production

BY JASON PILARZ
BILLINGS MANAGER

Following the success of *Translations* last month, the performing arts division of AU is now gearing up for a different kind of play, *Scapin*.

The play is a farce and thus was made to be fun. Yet it will also provide an opportunity to "delve into the 1950s as a social and cultural" movement, noted Professor of Theater Becky Prophet, director of the play.

Scapin was adapted by Prophet from *Les Fourberies de Scapin*, a play by Moliere, into a diner setting in 1950s Poughkeepsie, N.Y. The play revolves around Scapin, a trickster who uses his deceit to unite two young lovers against their parents' wishes. Ultimately, however, Scapin's deception catches up with him.

Prophet sees her adaptation as an opportunity for "exploring society and myth of the 1950s" as she has added a great deal of social commentary, which she explains, is "quite effective in farce."

In her adaptation, Prophet has remained true to many aspects of the original playwright, most

notably the festive and carnival-like atmosphere that surrounds the play.

As a farce, the play is designed to keep the audience entertained, but also to make them think about underlying issues. Prophet feels that the new version keeps with these characteristics of the original play.

As far as character and setting go, however, Prophet has taken great license in shaping the play in such a way that it will fit modern assumptions of theater as well provide a new backdrop for a long-standing story.

Most significantly, Prophet has added two new characters, the mothers of the young lovers. She noted that the original had few female roles and thus created two characters that easily fit into the story.

Prophet noted that the students playing the two new roles, Courtney Fleming, a senior, and Laura Randall, a sophomore, have a unique opportunity. By playing "roles that have never existed before" the actresses are able to interpret their character in any way they wish.

Additionally, Prophet has added

two short scenes as well as a great deal of music from the 1950s, due to the importance of music in the culture of that period.

Also, with the exception of Scapin, all character names have been changed and updated.

One interesting aspect that Prophet pointed out is that the roles in *Scapin* are "very, very physical." There is a great deal of tumbling involved, and she believes that the actors and actresses will be challenged in that respect.

Joe Miller, a junior theater major, will play the lead role of Scapin. Jack McDowell, a transfer student in his first year at Alfred, is the stage manager.

The play runs from Dec. 1-4 at 8:00 p.m. in the C.D. Smith Theatre. Prophet advised that those interested in attending should obtain reservations by calling 871-2825.

Adapting and directing the play has been an exciting and fun experience for Prophet. The play "moved to the 1950s with an ease that surprised me" she explained, which allowed her to concentrate on adding new scenes and bringing in new ideas. □

REVIEW

Guest Recital impresses Eastman group hits the big names, Nintendo

BY JODI PARKER
STAFF WRITER

On Sunday, Nov. 7 at 3 p.m., beautiful music could be heard drifting out of Susan Howell Hall.

As part of the Guest Artist Recital Series, the group Cerulean, a woodwind quintet from the Eastman School of Music, visited Alfred to perform a few selections.

The quintet consisted of an oboe, a clarinet, a bassoon, a French horn and a flute played by Elizabeth Priestly, Brian Hermanson, Rebecca Levy, Mark Houghton and Justin Berne, respectively. The small concert started off with an audience of about 25.

The quintet began with "Three Pieces," by Jacques Ibert, a short lighthearted piece consisting of three movements. The piece created a free and easy air reminiscent of a Parisian cafe scene. It was beautifully articulated and each of the members was able to compliment one another with his or her

own respective style.

In the second selection, "Le Tombeau de Couperin," by Maurice Ravel, the quintet used all of its resources with the flute and oboe creating a light overtone of soft sweet melody and the bassoon providing the foundation for the low, lamenting piece.

Another piece that the quintet executed perfectly was their fourth selection, "Summer Music," by Samuel Barber. The piece began by giving an image of peaceful slumber and progressed into a methodical climax of carefree summer days. The piece then fell slowly back into slumber for the final movement.

Each piece was played with feeling and precision. The quintet had a beautiful performance and hopefully will be visiting our campus again next year.

Their encore appealed to the student contingent of the audience with the theme from the Nintendo video game *Super Mario Brothers*. The selection ended the afternoon on a friendly and fun note. □

REVIEW

Rubber Soul brings '60s sound to Knight Club

BY SARAH GUARIGLIA
STAFF WRITER

Rubber Soul filled the Knight Club with the spirit of blues and rock — not to mention a few random swing dancers — on Friday, Nov. 5.

Circle K sponsored the young group, which consists of Eric Carlin and Kurt Johnson on guitar, Ethan Raimond on bass, and Tony Gallicchio on drums.

Despite their age (all are still in high school), Rubber Soul's talent was evident in their two sets of songs. The band performed tight covers of classic rock and blues from the past few decades. In the second set, a series of fast paced numbers including "Johnny B. Goode" and "One After 909" inspired some impromptu swing dancing in front of the Knight Club's

fireplace.

Not only are the songs strongly embedded in rock traditions but so are the sound and style of the musicians. According to drummer Gallicchio, Rubber Soul's members were influenced by "the Beatles, Led Zeppelin, almost anything blues — B.B. King, Stevie Ray Vaughan."

One student in attendance commented that "they had a smooth sound, like something out of the '60s — they made me want to run home and listen to some Jimi Hendrix."

Rubber Soul ended their performance with a few self-composed jams that highlighted an energetic drum solo and animated guitar riffs. The band hopes to record sometime in the near future. □

Artists search for "what makes a drawing"

BY APRIL S. ACKER
STAFF WRITER

Drawing, a required class for all art students, seems quite straightforward: observational drawing based on the figure and still life. However, one drawing class has begun to investigate what the definition of drawing actually is.

Adjunct Associate Professor of Art and Design George Hrycun's sophomore drawing class is in the early stages of an "unconventional drawing" project.

The question was posed to students: what makes a drawing? With this in mind, students set out to explore the boundaries of

what drawing is.

"My piece is both aesthetic and conceptual. It's an exploration of what a drawing can say," Carolyn Burgess, a sophomore, said.

In some cases, students opted for three-dimensional work instead of two-dimensional work. Two-dimensional work is the form that drawing usually takes.

For some people, exploring three-dimensional work was the first step in pushing the limitations of what we assume drawing really is.

"I like color," said Addie Moymihan, a sophomore. "For me, drawing involves play, and exploring what color and line can do to enhance the viewer's visual experience. I tried to incorporate

these themes into my drawing in a three-dimensional way."

How has this experience helped students build their drawing skills? Drawing has taken on a whole new meaning for Tom Moore, a sophomore.

For many students, it is the beginning of an exploration of the paths drawing can take, and the many statements and effects drawings can have. Several students have begun to see that a medium as simple as drawing can take on a wide variety of forms.

The efforts of Hrycun's sophomore drawing students will be displayed in a show opening on Dec. 3. The opening will take place in the Davie Building in Wellsville. □

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