Edmondson: ‘We don’t have a campus in Istanbul’

BY SILAS ALBRECHT

Charles Edmondson, Alfred University’s president, told faculty at a meeting Friday night that the reported controversy until campus in Istanbul is not yet considered a part of the school.

“I don’t own a building in Istanbul,” he told The Fiat Lux during a telephone interview Saturday. “We aren’t operating in Istanbul.”

While a recently-opened Istanbul school run by Universal Education, Inc., a Turkish agency, has made agreements with AU to offer programs in the future, there are still conditions that must be met before it becomes a part of AU, according to Edmondson. The agreement between Universal Education, Inc., and AU still needs approval from the Turkish government and AU’s accrediting agency, the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

In recent weeks, the potential AU campus abroad has been the center of controversy and confusion when blogs, including a Chronicle of Higher Education news blog, reported an AU-affiliated school in Istanbul was teaching English classes and was possibly breaking Turkish law by allowing women to wear headscarves.

Edmondson said the administration was partly to blame for the misconception that led many to believe AU was already running the program.

“When a controversy broke out about the headscarves, we failed to communicate accurately about the fundamental fact that we were not operating or sponsoring any programs there,” Edmondson said.

“Alfred had agreed that no earlier than October 2008 that it would offer four programs in Istanbul if they were approved by Turkish authorities and our accrediting agency.”

The misconception began when an AU press release issued in September announced that an AU Istanbul campus would open in October 2007.

“Within the next month, Alfred University will expand its campus facilities and enrollment when a new branch headquarters, attracting more than 400 students, opens in Istanbul, Turkey,” the press release stated.

“That’s a flat-out mistake,” Edmondson said, referring to the above quote.

A Web site for the program also added to the perception that AU was already overseeing the program. It was separate from AU’s Web site and was linked to by AU. The Turkish Web site is no longer operating and AU’s link was removed.

While faculty members are reluctant to comment on the faculty meeting, Edmondson said he felt they were “not anything but eager to find out about what had happened.”

German professor Sandra Singer talked freely with The Fiat Lux off the record but was only comfortable with making a few statements on the record.

“There seems to be some discrepancy between the press release from September and what was said at the faculty meeting,” Edmondson said.

The planning process to open a campus in Istanbul started more than a year ago when Universal Education, Inc., approached Alfred University with the idea, according to the AU press release.

William Hall, AU’s associate provost and interim dean of the College of Business, and Suzanne Buckley, AU’s provost and vice president of Academic Affairs, first visited Istanbul in November 2006.

They presented the concept of a campus abroad to AU’s Board of Trustees and it was approved in February 2007.

Representatives from the program in Turkey visited AU in September and met with faculty and administration. In October, Hall and Robyn Goodman, AU’s director of communication studies, visited Turkey to inspect the project.

At the time of the visit, the nascent school was teaching English as a second language and displaying Alfred University’s name.

“Goodman, who is The Fiat Lux’s faculty adviser, gave The Fiat Lux pictures from the trip that showed students in classrooms, including women wearing headscarves, as well as pictures of Alfred University’s name shown prominently on a building. After the headscarf controversy erupted, Goodman requested that the pictures not be printed and that the compact disc containing them be returned to her.”

Now AU is working with lawyers to understand what happened and why people in Turkey believe that AU was operating the program in Istanbul, Edmondson told The Fiat Lux. AU and its lawyers also have discussed rumors that the degrees of AU graduates may no longer be recognized in Turkey because some people there believe AU is breaking the law.

“Right now my main concern is the standing of the degrees of Turkish alumni, and our legal council has assured us that their degrees are not in any jeopardy,” Edmondson said.

Students will get their chance to voice their concerns when Hall visits the Student Senate to discuss the Turkish endeavor in January. The date for the visit has not been set.

Continued on page 5...
Editorial

Ask not what Davis Gym can do for you, but what you can do for Davis Gym

Davis Gym will be demolished in the near future, which is surely a problem for the students of Alfred University.

After all, where else will all the athletes, staff and classes go when the McLane Center is in use?

The ideal would be if we could provide some sort of alternate practice site to Davis Gym, and the administration and staff are actively working on this challenge. Athletics Director Jim Moretti said:

Davis Gym has been in existence for more than half a century, and it definitely brings with it a lot of memories. With this storied existence, there is a nostalgic element for many who have used it in the past. However, now there are so many different teams, clubs and classes who use Davis Gym, its function is changing. For example, where will martial arts classes, golf classes and the track and field teams call home?

We would agree that Davis Gym is not in the greatest condition. However, it does have an adequate track (which is the only one on campus), a basketball court and can act as an alternate space for physical education classes. With this brings opportunity for students that the McLane Center does not effectively provide.

Since there has been a second gym for so many years it seems like there should continue to be one in existence. It would be beneficial to tear Davis Gym down, if only if it would be a field house of some sort in its place. As of now, the administration plans for a ceramics museum, which would be leaving the people who currently use Davis Gym out to dry.

The new ceramics museum is to replace Davis Gym, according to Michael Neiderbach, AU’s director of capital projects and legal affairs. According to Neiderbach the construction documents for building the ceramics museum are scheduled to begin in the summer of 2008. An official announcement, according to Neiderbach, construction of the ceramics museum is being designed specifically with the Davis Gym site in mind.

These plans will affect so many people, and when Moretti was questioned on the reasons why they are replacing Davis Gym with a ceramics museum there was no definitive answer. However, he did say, “they deem it is the best possible location. Those type of decisions are made at the presidential or provost levels.”

Although there are no promises, it seems like a field house could come to fruition. There are benefits for a field house to be built as an alternate site from the McLane Center, but that doesn’t mean it will happen. Neiderbach says he is working on possible field house spaces and ideas. However, it has been emphasized that the field house location will not be found at the current site of Davis Gym. Although there has not been an official announcement, according to Neiderbach, construction of the ceramics museum is scheduled to begin in the summer of 2008. Although it looks like a done deal we would like the administration to reconsider if the ceramics museum must go in the spot of Davis Gym. When Davis Gym is demolished there should be some kind of a plaque commemorating its existence.

THE FIAT LUX

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The Fiat welcomes your opinion. Anyone may write to the editor. Submissions must include name, address, phone number and class year (for students). Letters to the editor should be limited to 250 words; guest columns should be limited to 700 words. The Fiat Lux reserves the right to edit all letters for space, clarity, brevity and fair play. E-mail your thoughts to fiatlux@alfred.edu. Submissions should follow the rules of fair play (i.e. get the facts straight).

Roving Reporter:

“What do you think of when you think of Student Senate?”

BY ZACK BLOCK COPY EDITOR

“Boring times and really sketchy people.”

Claire Pitts
Freshman, BFA

December 3, 2007

Editorial Policy: The Fiat Lux welcomes feedback from its readers. Letters to the editor will be subject to editing and content purges. The Fiat Lux reserves the right not to print any letter. Letters must be accompanied by name, address and telephone number. E-mail: fiatLux@aol.com or mail letters to: Fiat Lux, attn: Editor, Pavilion Campus Center, Alfred, N.Y. 14802.

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Letter to the editor

In Response to Gary Ostrower’s “Letter to the Editor”

The last issue of the Fiat featured a letter written by history professor Gary Ostrower concerning the lecture given by Dr. Dahlia Wasfi on Oct. 29. Ostrower belittled Dr. Wasfi as a mere propagandist who brought nothing constructive to the table, and even went so far as to say that it is people like her who cause college students to become “increasingly cynical.”

First of all, as a college student, I am extremely insulted by this comment, and all of you college students should be insulted as well. It is likely that those who actually attended the lecture would agree with me.

It is quite ironic that Ostrower wrote, “like most propagandists, [Dr. Wasfi’s] talk was most notable for what she ignored….” when his own letter is quite notable for what he omitted about what Dr. Wasfi had talked about. The letter makes it sound like the lecture was all about scapegoating the United States.

In reality, Dr. Wasfi provided an exhaustive analysis of why Iraq is the way it is today, why it’s health care practically non-existent, and how U.S. foreign policy coupled with corrupt leadership in the Middle East and America has had grave effects on the people living in places like Iraq. Her central thesis was that it is families who are suffering. Whether it is the families of soldiers in the Iraqi population, a tremendous amount of (unnecessary) suffering has been inflicted, and Dr. Wasfi gave voice to those who are suffering.

In the closing paragraph of Ostrower’s letter, Dr. Wasfi is described as being just as dishonest as “the folks who brought us Iraq.” I find this comparison shocking and disgusting, even shameful. Shameful because of the fact that Dr. Wasfi’s extended family is suffering in Iraq and she shared some of their stories with the Alfred campus (she visited Iraq twice in the last four years), and she has been traveling across the country for the last two years fighting for their voice to be heard.

One last issue that I had with the letter (I could write pages more, believe me) stems from the following statement by Ostrower: “And, yes, although her topic was Iraq, she managed to toss in the obligatory denunciations of Israel.” I am not sure what he is implying by this, but if I trust my intuition, he is playing off the perennial writing-off by right-wing Zionists of all those critical of the Israeli government (not Israeli people) as being anti-Semitic. This very dangerous, but very real, tactic employed by extremists is something many people are unaware of and it is likely that I may spark some controversy with this comment, but it needs to be said.

If you had attended the lecture, you indeed would have heard Dr. Wasfi criticize the actions of the Israeli government (how much more initalizing until you get the point?) in reference to the disproportionate use of force and cluster bombing (For your information, during last summer’s war between Hizbullah and Israel, the Israeli military dropped over one million cluster bombs, the majority being dropped on the outskirts of south Beirut during the ceasefire when ceasefire was inevitable, most were from the Vietnam era and hundreds of thousands remain unexploded throughout southern Lebanon hindering and killing civilians, especially all of the farmers. Schools, factories, power plants, and basically the entire road infrastructure were targeted by the Israeli air force. Don’t believe me? Go there and see for yourself, and I highly doubt that the entire Lebanese population (including my family) are part of some conspiracy. A bomb is a bomb and you can’t hide the results.)

Okay, I sidetracked, but my point is this is not “obligatory” criticism, but necessary criticism. Just how it is necessary for Americans to be critical of failed policies of their government. It is not just Iraq, Iraqis should be critical of American and Israeli government policies as well. Within Israel, as with any country with a free press, you will find scathing articles on the government, sometimes even more critical than the Arab counterparts (the newspaper Ha’aretz is a great example).

I know that this conversation can get really bogged down sometimes, but I hope at least to have gotten you to think about things a little differently.

If you would like to decide for yourself whether Dr. Dahlia Wasfi is a propagandist or not, see or read her lecture for yourself… by the time that this letter is printed, a Google search on “Wasfi is a propagandist or not, see or read her lecture for yourself” will return millions of results, but I hope at least to have gotten you to think about things a little differently.

All Abdallah
Senior at AU and proud to be Lebanese and ARAB!

“Rules.”

Kathy Costello
Junior, Education and Psychology

“Actually I enjoy going to Senate. I like Senate because it makes me feel better about myself. Senate gets even less done than I do.”

Mike Shaw
Junior, Accounting

“December 3, 2007”

Viola Bash
Senior, Education and Psychology

“I actually enjoy going to Senate. I like Senate because it makes me feel better about myself. Senate gets even less done than I do.”

Mike Shaw
Junior, Accounting
Have you ever imagined why you have two eyes, two ears and one mouth? The reason is for you to speak less, read more and listen more.

That is why information is powerful. Power is the ability to excel with knowledge. To be successful requires a lot of time and effort reading good books. Successful people are addicted to a life of learning. Ignorance is very expensive. You can’t afford to lose by not reading. If you have not been reading outside your major, you need to start now.

In the 21st century, what you don’t know will kill you. In fact, if we are what we eat, then we are what we read. Consider the computer principle GIGO: Garbage In, Garbage Out. Think about VIVO: Value In, Value Out. What about WIWO: Wisdom In, Wisdom Out. This is all to say that our input determines our output.

Great leaders are readers. No one has ever risen to the top without having adequate knowledge. You are where you are as a result of your knowledge and applied efforts. Our place in life depends on the kind of information we have. This means that our thoughts, words, actions and character are just the result of the information we have read and listening to good music while we are at the computer workstation can help us to a high level of excellence.

Information breeds confidence and confidence is an attractive gift people can have. Without confidence, we are bound to falter in achieving our dreams. Life is made of principles and secrets. Some of these principles are courage, faith, persistence and hard work. It is in reading that we get to know these principles for facing life’s battles. Behind every success is a secret. These secrets have been put in biographies and autobiographies. For instance, I discovered the “never give up” attitude from the biography of Thomas Edison, confidence from Henry Ford, curiosity from Isaac Newton and hard work from John D. Gates. Get to know some of these principles and secrets, apply them and you are also bound to rise.

Information has the power to determine what we think and what we think has the power to transform our life. This is to say that most of our accomplishment is found in the mind and not in your body. Your wealth should be in your thoughts and not in things. Determine to think through things after reading and research. Who knows, from your reading, you might also come out with gold!

Finally, build a library in your home by having a collection of good books. Read, read and read, for information and motivation enables you to arrive at your destination. Put in mind that power is useless until it is utilized, so it is with information. Information plus action equals success.

Freak-outs are normal

Finals are approaching … quickly. Classes are ending, professors are trying to fit as much information in as possible before the end. And, in true Alfred fashion, the snow is piling up. Unfortunately, we can’t run off in a whim because some of us are where, so we might as well embrace these last weeks.

After completing six full semesters, I probably should be used to the routine of finals. I know what to expect, I know the set-up of most of the tests I will have to take and I know my studying abilities. I should be a master of preparing for and taking finals. However, I absolutely am not.

Every time finals roll around I freak out. And these aren’t just normal freak-outs; these are very large, intense freak-outs. And these aren’t just normal freak-outs. Stress completely takes over, and these are very large, intense freak-outs. I have many moments of feeling out of sorts. Stress completely takes over, and I can’t remember my own name. I’ll have brief memories involving my book on the ground or crawling up in a corner of Herrick, but nothing too substantial.

The one thing I can tell you, though, is that this is normal. It took me a while to figure this out, but I’ve been much better off since I did. In fact, I think it’s an essential experience in the life of a college student. Or maybe I’m just trying to make myself feel better by believing the library all night together, and I can’t remember my own name. I’ll have brief memories involving my book on the ground or crawling up in a corner of Herrick, but nothing too substantial.

The one thing I can tell you, though, is that this is normal. It took me a while to figure this out, but I’ve been much better off since I did. In fact, I think it’s an essential experience in the life of a college student. Or maybe I’m just trying to make myself feel better by believing the library all night together, and I can’t remember my own name. I’ll have brief memories involving my book on the ground or crawling up in a corner of Herrick, but nothing too substantial.

This being my senior year, I’ve reached a new level in my finals freak-outs. This is an important year. I have to face my future head-on and stop avoiding the fact that I am a grown-up (at least in biological terms). So, these finals seem more loaded to me, and, therefore, my freak-outs are definitely at an all time high.

I have spent more consecutive time in Herrick these past few weeks than in my entire Alfred career so far. The papers are non-stop (I’m an English major), and the reading never ends. I’ve adapted to the library as a second home. I’m not saying I’m happy about this, but it’s a reality. So clearly I can’t give you any ways to avoid the library, but I can tell you how to be prepared for those long hours.

Wear comfortable clothes. I’m not ashamed to wear my pajamas in public, and I’m much happier that I did once the eighth hour or so approaches. Plus, it helps when you have to take those short naps under the table to re-fuel.

Bring snacks. It’s impossible to get anything done when you are hungry. Once I realize I’m hungry, that’s all I can think about. I stop focusing on Shake Speare and start imagining all the things I want to be eating. This is anti-productive and easily avoided with a few snacks.

Herrick even has a café now that you can take advantage of. If you will need some food to hold you over when the café is closed.

Coffee is your best enemy. I avoided coffee for the first 20 years of my life. I never liked the taste, and I never really had a need for it. I have finally given in. I have to admit that it does work. It has helped me chug through the final three hours of writing a paper in the middle of the night. I even have to admit that I like the taste … a little bit at least. I’ve entered the world of caffeine addiction, and I don’t think there’s any turning back.

Take some breaks. Go stand outside, even if it’s snowing and cold. Fresh air is one of the best remedies for cabin fever. Simply walking outside for a few minutes has definitely reduced my number of freak-outs.

Recruit visitors. Or bring a friend. If studying alone works best for you, make sure people come and visit you every few hours. Otherwise, you will start driving yourself crazy. I tend to go to the library with some friends. We each do what we need to, but the occasional conversation breaks help us survive.

Basically, just prepare yourself to spend countless hours in Herrick or Scholes any way you need to. And don’t worry if the stress of finals gets the best of you every now and then. It happens to the best of us, and it’s completely normal. I’m actually well known for my freak-outs, and I’ve accepted this title. So, embrace the craziness of finals. You can’t make them disappear. Plus, nothing beats the feeling of relief when you have completely done … for that semester at least.
Alfred University Women’s Leadership Center releases 2006-07 activity report

In its 2006-07 report to the campus community, the Alfred University Women’s Leadership Center (WLC) notes it made a “huge impact” on the campus in 2006-07, its second year, by establishing many new programs and events that helped to spread its message across campus and the community.

One event that always draws attention to the WLC is the long list of speakers who have visited. During the past year, several influential women came to Alfred University to share their success stories and to inspire and guide other young women to follow their dreams. Jessica Goggieb, a ‘98 Alfred University graduate, shared her experience of finding a challenging and rewarding profession, connecting with a network of supportive women professionals, and choosing a work environment that suits her personality and lifestyle. She is an attorney at Hoffman-La Roche, Inc. in New Jersey.

N.Y. Sen. Catharine M. Young, R-Olean, also visited to share the story of her path of public service and the mentors who inspired her. She urged students to pursue leadership through service to others.

The WLC also held eight skill-building workshops that provided effective training while encouraging personal and professional growth. One workshop focused on minimizing debt, maximizing savings and investing money wisely, while another workshop concentrated on self-defense. Sensie Elise Flynn and a team of instructors presented the basic elements of self-defense for women. Students then practiced their techniques on a padded “Red Man.”

The Woman’s Leadership Center also provided many opportunities for women outside of workshops and speakers. Last year Jessica Webster, a senior in the College of Business, was selected as the winner of the second annual Women’s Excellence in Leadership Award.

Also last year, the WLC conducted a survey project on campus sexual harassment, which was funded by the American Association of University Women (AAUW). Members went on tour with the results and participated in ongoing campus efforts aimed at preventing and redressing incidents of sexual harassment.

After the academic year, the WLC continued to spread knowledge to young women through a Women Leaders of Tomorrow Summer Institute for high school students. Fourteen young women participated in a five-day program that focused on building skills and boosting self-esteem.

AU AMA Scores With Sabres Owner Tom Golisano

On Nov. 27 the American Marketing Association (AMA) chapter in Alfred University’s College of Business traveled to Rochester to score a hat trick.

The AU AMA heard from Tom Golisano, the Buffalo Sabres’ legendary owner and founder of Paychex, Inc., at the Riverside Convention Center for the Rochester American Marketing Association as part of their “Super Hero Marketing” series. Golisano spoke on how he turned the Sabres around in the last few years.

In addition to hearing from a business legend, the students had the opportunity to network with Rochester’s best and brightest marketing minds while supporting Camp Onswyawa, a summer camp for children with disabilities, by attending this event (a portion of each ticket was donated).

Golisano shared the strategies and tactics he used to turn around his NHL team and create a profitable business. He claimed that these strategies are no secret and are applied to his billion-dollar payroll processing business, Paychex, Inc. He stated, “You must have a quality product and offer it at a fair price.”

Sophomore Business Major and Vice President of Communications for the AU AMA Alexandra Zupp noted, “It was important to be reminded that the basic fundamentals still work.”

Golisano also noted that the team (or any business) couldn’t lose money. He added, “Many other NHL owners are willing to take any measure that would ensure a winning season, even if it includes losing money.”

AU MBA student Jason Reyes added, “I am very impressed with how closely management watches the expenses. It is clear that the management will cut payroll and lose key players if necessary to prevent the Sabres from losing money.”

After purchasing the team in 2003, every detail from improving parking, traffic flow, food services, and game presentation were revised to improve the experience for the fan.

Golisano also talked about the ticket pricing strategy that he implemented. It was the first time in NHL history that a team adopted a variable pricing strategy based on ticket demand. Tickets are priced higher for the more popular games, and priced lower for the one that do not fill the arena.

Alfred State
The advantages of waitressing

BY MALLORY WELCH CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Being a waitress is a job that requires many skills and will not only help you in the classroom, but will also help prepare for a future career.

Most college students don’t realize that part-time jobs demand certain abilities, which can help them succeed in classes too.

A waitress, bartender, and second-year college student, Tabitha Fairbrother said, “The skills you need in order to be a good waitress or bartender have really helped me out in classes. It’s helped when giving a presentation, approaching the professor in a professional manner and managing time.”

Fairbrother has been working at Jack’s Place Gaslight Grill in Danville, N.Y. for the past six years. She was trained first, and then learned how to be a successful waitress. She manages to juggle not only work five days a week, but college classes and homework too.

Juggling a job like waitressing and school full-time isn’t an easy act, Fairbrother said. It takes a lot of time and practice to get everything done to a certain routine.

“It’s not as easy as it looks,” said she. “There have been plenty of times where I just wanted to pull my hair out because it’s stressful. But I remember that it’s going to help me in the long-run and the money isn’t bad either.”

It is also difficult to learn the “ropes” of the restaurant. She said there are rules that need to be followed, and they are often different in other restaurants. For example, Fairbrother is required to wear a specific uniform such as black pants, a white dress shirt and hair pulled back. There also are rules for ways of writing down someone’s order and the order in which you take food out to the customer.

“Knowing the way around the kitchen and dining room is also important. When there are other waitresses and bus-boys walking around, it’s important to know where things go,” Heather Kuzminski, an AU psychology major, gerontology and biology minor said. “It’s also important to know how to do your job, as well as be familiar with other jobs in the restaurant just in case something needs to be done.”

“This type of job isn’t as easy as it looks, but learning and knowing how the job works can be very helpful,” Stephie Herrick, an AU alumni communication studies major said. “Not only is the money good, you also learn how to be social with different types of people and that will help when going after a career when you graduate. If a college student can juggle their schoolwork and a job, waitressing is the perfect one.

“Moreover, the ability to multi-task is a valuable lesson. According to many, waitressing is the perfect part-time job for a college student wanting to juggle not only work five days a week, but college classes and homework too.”

Communications … continued from front page

years old and on its last legs. McMahon’s second floor renovation is another reason for the data center’s relocation. The renovation is going to add more classrooms. McMahon, leaving less room for the data center. Roberts said that the current location in McMahon was intended to be a temporary facility for the data center, which was built about 20 years ago. Roberts said that ITS wouldn’t be able to replicate the data systems in order for data centers to continue operations. AU’s Web site will also be affected, as a stripped down version of the Web site will appear during the move. Roberts assured students that grades would be posted well in advance of the re-location. He also said that on-campus Internet access to Web sites other than those related to Alfred University will work despite all data services being temporarily shut down. Student reactions to the temporary network service shutdown varied.

“I don’t like it, but the system is going to have to be fixed some time,” senior electrical engineering major Jennifer Winikus said.

Other students were less happy about the move.

“I have to check [my e-mail] daily. I made that my main e-mail account,” sophomore Michelle Courter said.

Roberts said he understands that the data center’s move will be an inconvenience for students, faculty, staff and even the University president. He said, however, “It’s not as bad as it looks. It takes a lot of time and practice to get everything done to a certain routine.”

“Be patient,” he said. "It’s going to help me in the long-run and the money isn’t bad either."
Powell dining hall experiment shows no trays leads to less waste

BY APRIL JEWETT GREENALFRED CORRESPONDENT

Where were the dining halls’ trays on Nov. 8? John Dietrich, director of dining halls at Alfred University, and the Student Dining Advisory Board made the decision to go “trayless,” at least for a night.

The board is a group of students who help make decisions about nutrition and environmental issues on campus. During the trayless dinner, members helped count the amount of food and beverages wasted. The idea of going trayless comes from colleges like Skidmore and San Francisco State University, whose transition to trayless in their dining halls has reduced their food and water waste significantly.

All across the nation, schools have taken the trays away to reduce food and water waste. At San Diego State University, waste was reduced by 50 percent and maintained at 50 percent or lower for following years. Skidmore College has gone trayless and has seen reduction of waste. There are more schools that have done this, and they all know that reducing food waste is an important step towards a healthier environment.

During the Powell dining hall experiment shows no trays leads to less waste by 1.554 by not using the trays. That is equivalent to saving 977.3 pounds of food and 133.6 gallons of liquid per week. This is a huge step in greening our community and reducing our impact on the environment.

Food waste has negative environmental impacts that many people are unaware of. The waste ends up in landfills where it decays and releases methane, which is a potent greenhouse gas. Twenty-seven percent of food is thrown out each day. More and more people are not only concerned about the environment but food waste as well. Each person contributes to the waste because on average, one person wastes 304 pounds of food per year. This adds up to $10-16 wasted per week and $515-825 per year. The highest food wasters are younger people, ages 16-34. The benefit of reducing food waste is not only environmentally friendly, it is also practical because it reduces how much we spend.

The student body should see it as a positive way the university is trying to control their impact on the environment and a way they are saving their planet. Thirty years ago, college students had more food choices. Now we have a buffet, yet we are still not satisfied. A way to get more satisfaction is by getting more quality food into the dining halls by cutting down our waste. More importantly, making changes to our attitudes about consuming is needed to move in the right direction.

Americans are the biggest consumers in the world, and American attitudes about consumerism have taken a toll on the environment. Each year the U.S. generates enough food waste to reach halfway to the moon. We turn a blind eye to the amount of waste we produce, which is a horrible habit.

Another way to look at going trayless is more opportunities to get up more often, as a way to burn extra calories. You will definitely lose the freshmen 15.

Future plans for the dining halls include a gradual decline of tray appearances. It should not be looked upon with annoyance or discontent. Next semester, there will be a mug program started so that students can reuse mugs at places like Cyberfresh for their coffee or tea. The mugs can be reused by Berfresh, and used in the dining halls so students can take out beverages. All these plans are a great start to moving Alfred University in the right direction to becoming more environmentally conscious.

If you’re interested in helping or just want to learn more, contact John Dietrich about the Student Dining Advisory Board and come to the GreenAlfred meetings on Sundays at 7:30 p.m. in the Student Organization Area in the tower of Powell. It is important that the student body knows why these changes are being made and what the benefits are. We are all affected and we all need to do our part, even if it means taking it one plate and one glass at a time.

All about Nathaniel Clark

BY JOHNNY BENJAMIN CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Nathaniel Clark is a go-to guy. He’s a leader and an idea man. But there’s far more to him. He’s not a genius, nor is he preparing himself to be the next president. He’s not even overly friendly. His drive comes from an understanding and an attitude that has come from spending so many years in the college system.

If all you’re after is a piece of paper, don’t go to college, just take online courses.

Nate’s college career began more than six years ago at Landmark College in Vermont. It was here, while pursuing a two-year associates degree, that Nate learned what a college should not be.

Nate recounted his time there angrily, noting “when you have a president with a hundred thousand dollar sports car, and he comes to the parents for more money, it’s corrupt.”

Landmark College is, according to Nate, a financial nightmare and student life is very threatening, thanks to what Nate referred to as “no credit classes,” a sort of academic punishment designed to keep students paying for

Feature Story

Diversity class promises fun

BY ZACH BIDELL CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Tired of the same old classroom experience? Then here is your chance to have something both different and fun.

When asked what is Diversity to Dan Napolitano, “It is diversity education through fun reliable means such as cartoons, comics, and advertising.”

This spring Dan Napolitano, director of student activities, will be teaching a Diversity class. Many people are unaware of Diversity. The Diversity to Diversity class is going to take students from all the colleges at Alfred University. This class will allow students to learn from one another.

Many people say school isn’t fun. This class might change that idea. Why should students take the Diversity class? Jessica Cabrera said, “It’s one of the most fun, innovative classes being offered at Alfred University.”

The Diversity to Diversity class will explore the history of advertising. It will be done through specific company representation. Students will choose a company and create a poster using the company’s various advertising characters. These characters will allow students to explore the history of advertising through character representation. The posters that will be created will be designed to depict an honest exploration of a specific advertising campaign. Students will be responsible for obtaining permission from companies to use specific imagery. For example, students may choose to pick Uncle Ben’s Rice, Land o’ Lakes Butter, Chiquita Banana and more.

Students will get the opportunity to work with others students from all four schools here at Alfred University. Upon completion of the poster, the Diversity to Diversity class will be working with Wegmans to have their posters on display above each checkout lane. This class and the student poster is going to be highly profiled and will gain media attention. Between the project posters and the attention this class will receive, Dan Napolitano wants a dream team of passionate students from a collection of different majors.

There will be many benefits to taking the Diversity to Diversity class. Because of the opportunity to work with students from different majors, students in the class will have the benefit of learning from one another. Art and design students will be able to help guide business students with their poster layout and business students will be able to help liberal arts students with strategies for obtaining permission to use trademarks and logos.

Another benefit is that students will each create a solid portfolio piece and a great resume builder.

Robyn Goodman, the director of the communication department, said that any communication student taking the Diversity to Diversity class would receive credit towards their communication degree.

The class will be held in the spring of 2008. It will meet on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6 p.m. It will be a fun and exciting experience and some students can’t wait to start the class.

“I think that the professor is going to make the class all that it’s hyped up to be and I can’t wait for next semester just for that mere fact,” said Zachary Smith.
Timeline: History of Davis Gym

Gymnasiums before Davis

1874—students raised money to build gymna- sium, a 50-by-24-foot wooden structure used for two or three years; gym abandoned within four years of being built.

1898—Babcock Hall of Physics completed, south basement room used as gym; basketball began at Alfred here; games played with 100 or more people standing around the little court, making it very hot; the building was destroyed by fire in February 1899.

1910—Directors of AU Athletic Association authorized funds known as Gymnasium Fund of Alfred University to campaign for funds to secure a new gymnasium.

1915—Alfred Academy (in Alumni Hall) discontinued; assembly room became the basketball hall for 11 years until 1926.

1925—Indoor track and new basketball court suggested by Dr. Russell S. Ferguson.

Track House Built

1925—Indoor cinder track with basketball court in center was erected by Ford Whitford.

1926—First public event held in gym Jan. 23; 1926, when Alfred U. defeated Rochester Mechanics 44-31, followed by a wrestling match between a couple of young men, and relay races on the cinder track. The name “Davis Gym” was given to carry out a suggestion made by Senator Leonard W. Gibbs in 1915 when a fund was started by alumni to build a gym as a memorial to President Bootho C. Davis.

1927—Debate ensues regarding construction of a new gym/pool in front of the track house; architects suggest completing existing facility with locker rooms, offices.

1928—Two-story front installed, designed by William J. Smith, architect for Chilts and Smith of Chicago, and built by L.C. Whitford; tan track installed, expanding initial cinder track to accommodate the two-story structure; new basketball court installed, moving the floor to the south end; pole vault/long jump is installed in north end; original basketball floor after six years of use, had “begun to decay.”

1928—Fiat Lux reports on President Davis’ address: In discussing the proposed new gymnasium... he asked that the name of the present so-called Davis Gymnasium be changed so as not to mislead the public and alumni of the college into believing that Alfred already has a new building.

1929—“Track and Field House” dedicated Feb. 8, 1929. President Davis, in outlining the history of Alfred’s athletic equipment during the dedication exercises, said, “... the Trustees decided to finish up the Track House as a separate unit of our athletic equipment, and to build on a site just east of the Track House, and as soon as the funds can be provided for the purpose, a Gymnasium building, with swimming pool and modern equipment for girls as well as for boys.” Davis continued, “The Trustees have not sanctioned the use of the name ‘Davis Track House’ for this building; I personally have no objection to this building carrying my name. Indeed I would feel it a compliment to have it so named by the students and the Trustees. But there are mem-

Davis Gym Renovated

1978—Davis Gym renovated with new lighting, insulation in ceiling, windows removed, new exterior insulated wall added, four emergency exits installed on east and west sides of gym.

1998—Stories and memories of Davis Gym are being collected for the Alfred University archives. Please pass them along to Laurie Mcfadden, University Archivist at mcfadden@alfred.edu.

Davis ... continued from front page

Gym was much more than a gym for Alfred students; it was the center of campus life, setting the scene for Saxony sporting events, formal balls, concerts and other special events.

In the 1950s there were few schools with a sports facility as large as Davis Gym. Early on, Davis Gym helped Alfred University to recruit students. “Davis allowed AU to compete with the likes of Syracuse University, the University of Rochester, Colgate and Cornell University,” retired AU track and field coach Cliff Dubreill said.

The Saxons were competing with schools its own size, as well as schools much larger. According to AU’s Sports Information Director Mark Whitehouse, AU basketball played against what are now division one programs, including Colgate, Buffalo, Niagara, Penn State and St. Bonaventure.

While AU was not considered a basketball powerhouse, the basketball team did have a few memorable victories.

“At AU beat St. Bonaventure at home in 1945,” Whitehouse said. Folding bleachers, which extended from the sidewalks over the wooden track, brought fans within one foot from the court.

“Alfred had a home court advantage because of the proximity of fans to the floor,” Dubreill said.

“About 1,000 screaming fans... would fill Davis Gym to root on the Saxons and all the fraternities sat in groups,” Outowser said. This massive turn-out created a sixth man advantage for AU.”

Davis Gym was the center for athletics until 1971 when the James A. McLane Physical Education Center was erected. Most students recognize Davis Gym for the wooden track that has been in place since 1948.

According to history provided by Alfred University Archivist Laurie Mcfadden, before 1948 the track was first cinder and later tanbark. The tanbark track was cutting-edge for its time but not practical. It was later turned into a wooden track.

“The cinder track created too much dust and the tanbark was high-maintenance, so the wooden track was the solution,” Dubreill said.

Alfred’s wooden track is undeniably unique. “The trumping of the track as you run along, combined with coach’s whistle blowing is an experience I will always remember,” current Saxon runner Matt Karczewski said.

Combined with the familiarity of Saxon competitions with ROTC shows, formal balls, commencement ceremonies and concerts, Davis Gym was a central part of what is known as the “Alfred Experience.”

Davis Gym hosted Duke Ellington’s band in 1957 for the Inter-Fraternity Ball, which may seem tame by today’s standards, but was scandalous for the time. The sensational young folk singers The Journeymen played to a large crowd in Davis Gym for the 1963 St. Patrick’s Day Formal.

From its humble beginnings in 1925 as a basketball court with a track, Davis Gym quickly became the center of campus life. Alfred students felt most welcomed and excited when they walked through the tall double doors and down the staircase because they were going to compete, cheer or dance in the longtime home of the Saxons.

While the building is slated for demolition at the end of the spring 2008, the memories will remain.

AU students gathered in Davis Gym for a Reserve Officers’ Training Corps formal ball in 1955. ROTC—often used for social events, including commencements—was mandatory for all male students until the mid-1970s.

1970s.

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Superbad was super badass

BY KURT PITTER
CHIEF COPY EDITOR

This movie can be boiled down to one word: “McLovin.”

From the minds of Seth Rogen and Evan Goldberg comes Superbad, a story of three friends trying to subvert the legal drinking age while dealing with the anxiety of meeting the girl of their dreams. The story follows friends Seth (Jonah Hill) and Evan (Michael Cera), and their awkward mutual acquaintance Fogell (Christopher Mintz-Plasse) as they spend their last days in high school attempting to “be that one mistake” that most girls talk about, or in some cases, regret.

Seth and Evan find themselves invited to a party and ultimately are put in charge of refreshment acquisition. In order to get said refreshments, Seth and Evan enlist the help of their friend Fogell. Fogell has managed to set himself up with the reappearing “McLovin” and his police conscious gang of partygoers and the sudden out-of-control hormones, social anxieties, and the terror of heading off to college.

Despite their newfound popularity, Seth, Evan and McLovin find that all is not as it seems, and that perhaps the underlying cause of their adventures is due to the issues of separation they face with the onset of college.

The cast brings together a powerhouse of comedic talent. Jonah Hill lays down a heavy coating of sarcasm in his all-star depiction of the standard high school wisecracker. Michael Cera brings off a stellar performance as the shy, nervous, slightly awkward nice guy. Newcomer Christopher Mintz-Plasse masters the character of “McLovin,” über-nerd extraordinary.

This deadly trio blends their talent with that of Bill Hader and Seth Rogen, two off kilter officers who are determined to show off the lighter side of the law.

The writing follows the standard plot of a boy-meets-girl romance coupled with out-of-control hormones, social anxieties, and the terror of heading off to college.

AU’s Winter Dance Show: ‘Riveting!’

BY ERIN PARADIS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The winter dance show, held in Miller Performing Arts Center on Nov. 29, Nov. 30 and Dec. 1, was once again a great success. Performances ranged widely from class groups to students dancing for their own pleasure, taking advantage of the opportunity to perform. Students were given the chance to show what they’ve been working on this semester to a sizeable audience, but in a relaxed, informal atmosphere. Even pieces still in progress were given the chance to show, so keep the show in mind next semester for your own chance to shake your moneymaker and express yourself through dance!

Despite their aching ribs.

Perhaps the only downside to the movie was a fairly common plot idea made new only by more radical situations. However, this film does feature quite possibly the best combination of Eddie Van Halen’s “Panama” and high-speed automobile maneuvers in cinematic history. Overall, Superbad is a solid find for those seeking a film about growing up, finding the true meaning of friendship and the judicious application of intoxicating beverages.
December senior shows displayed in Harder Hall

Graduating senior Nikki Giraffo with a painting from her BFA thesis exhibition.

Graduating senior Megan K. Walsh with her ceramic work displayed in a budget truck parked outside of Harder Hall.

Graduating senior Sara Jayne Pruiksma with her four-by-five-foot oil paintings.

BY QUINN WONDERLING
A&E EDITOR

Doing justice to The Simpsons television show, an icon of American culture since its debut in 1989, is nearly an impossible task.

The Simpsons Movie contains everything we’ve come to expect from Matt Groening’s adult cartoon: irony, positive family values, cultural parody and, of course, celebrity cameos – in this case, Tom Hanks. Yet, this “extended episode” loses some of its classic shine in light of today’s Simpsons-inspired programming such as Family Guy and American Dad.

After 408 excellent episodes, the film simply couldn’t live up to its expectations. The plot went a little something like this: when Homer adopts a pig, he disregards Lisa’s pleas to take better care of the environment and dumps a huge container of the pig’s (and some of his own) excrement into the already disgusting Lake Springfield.

Because this takes Springfield’s pollution level to a new high, the town becomes a target of the “evil” E.P.A. (Environmental Protection Agency), who cover the entire town in a giant dome. An enraged mob of townspeople storm the Simpsons’ home in an attempt to kill Homer, but Maggie saves the family by finding a sinkhole in the yard that transports them outside the dome.

Homeless and on the run, Homer decides they should head for the Promised Land – in his case, Alaska. This is where the numerous subplots kick in. Homer’s recklessness bumbling pushes Marge to her limit, Bart, angry that the pet pig received more fatherly attention than himself, looks to Flanders as a father figure and Lisa romances an environmentally-conscious Irish boy.

Discovering the E.P.A.’s plan to destroy Springfield, Marge and the kids leave Homer in Alaska and go home to try to save their friends and town. Predictably, Homer comes to his senses and saves the day, apologizing to Marge and Bart. He and Bart rescue the town by throwing the bomb the E.P.A. had planted out a small hole in the top of the dome while riding a motorcycle together in a beautiful moment of father-son togetherness.

The film’s best moment comes when the town realizes the apocalypse is coming - the people in Moe’s tavern run to the church while the people in church run to Moe’s tavern. The message about environmentalism is appropriate, as The Simpsons has always commented on American societal and cultural issues, either by exposing them or showing the irony within them.

So, while it doesn’t quite do the show justice, true fans will definitely appreciate this film for its consistent humor, familiar characters and sound message.
Ten Awesome Holiday Movies

BY JILL BALZANO
MANAGING EDITOR

1. **Bad Santa**- Billy Bob Thornton as Santa? Yes, please.
2. **Edward Scissorhands**- There’s a Christmas scene, I promise.
3. **National Lampoons Christmas Vacation**- We’ve all had to deal with annoying holiday guests.
4. **Elf**- Even if you don’t like Will Ferrell, you have to like the yellow tights.
5. **A Christmas Story**- It’s a classic for a reason.
7. **Muppet Christmas Carol**- The perfect twist on a favorite.
8. **Eight Crazy Nights**- I had to throw in a Hanukkah movie.
9. **Miracle on 34th Street**- I just have a deep childhood attachment to this movie. It’s awesome.
10. **How the Grinch Stole Christmas**- the cartoon version, of course. If only Whoville was real.
Alfred students wanting break- fast can find a woman franti- cally throwing together tasty egg concoctions, while, at the same time, keeping a calm and polite demeanor. “I’ve got an omlet with American and ham coming out!” Then, in the blink of an eye, she says, “There you go sweetie.” These blissful words can be heard every weekday morning in the Powell Campus Center dining hall. Of course, these words mean it’s time to eat! But, in fact, it also means that your eggs may be the best part of your day. And who whips those up for you and I? She’s Yvonne Squadrilli, also known as “The Egg Lady.”

“She has a strong work ethic,” said Sylvia Whitesell, an em- ployee of AVI Food Systems. “She’s always giving pointers and helping her co-workers.”

Beyond her outstanding reputa- tion for perfecting student’s breakfasts and assisting her col- leagues in the kitchen, who can say they really know Yvonne? Squadrilli said she has been associated with AU for approxi- mately 5 years. Most of her time is consumed by her work, but in her home nearby Alfred Station, her hobbies include vegetable gardening, knitting and cats. Squadrilli’s cheerful sense of humor pops up her workplace, as Whitesell jokingly stated, “Yvonne and I call each other the old bags, since we are the oldest working here.”

In addition, Whitesell made it clear that (and many students will attest to) Yvonne is well loved on campus and that her enthusi-asm for the school community is widespread. For example, Yvonne attends athletic contests, or other school related functions volun- tarily on a regular basis. Squadrilli may carry herself as a shy and humble person, but she intends to send a clear, positive message of individualism.

“If I had one message, I’d like to tell the students that everyone will be their own individual and we are all unique,” Squadrilli said.

To represent her own unique- ness, Squadrilli hosts her own ra- dio show on Alfred’s WALF 89.7 FM. Her multifaceted personality reflects in her show, titled “Music Without Borders.” Her music selection stems from the interna- tional music arena, and within the show’s timeframe, Squadrilli adds commentary and occasionally hosts a guest. WALF’s general manager and finance director, Ben Duffy, admires Squadrilli’s participation.

“She’s so light-hearted and is a huge optimist about everything,” Duffy said. “She’s always smiling and always non-judgmental.”

Such high praise is well deserved, and, in fact, last year Squadrilli earned two Alfi e Awards, one recognizing the best radio show. Her wardrobe to and from the radio station remains the same throughout her day. The chef’s hat, the striped pants, and the chef’s coat stick to her like it’s her own skin. Duffy identifies Squadrilli as a person committed to staying true to herself day-to- day.

Clearly, AU is lucky to have “The Egg Lady.” What’s maybe the most striking characteristic about Squadrilli could be her memory, in regards to students’ breakfast orders. It’s remarkable, because she remembers almost everyone’s order. Squadrilli attributes her gift to her unique insight into every student’s soul.

“There’s something in the soul, I think, that reminds me,” she said.

**Beat the blues with new AU club**

BY CHARLOTTE JUDD

**CONTRIBUTING WRITER**

What was your biggest fear before going to college? Was it the new people you would meet? Maybe it was the amount of homework that would be given? Or perhaps it was the fear of doing your own laundry for the first time and turning all of your white clothes pink?

Whatever those fears might have been, one student took control by creat- ing a club that helps students cope with those fears and the many others.

Pet Pals, Alfred’s newest campus organization, began September 2007 by first-year biology major Aleida Boomhower. Boomhower came into the Center for Student Involvement one morning to lounge with other students. She talked to Nancy Banker, CSI Office Manager, and said she missed her pets at home. Banker told Boomhower that she could start a club, and the rest is history.

“Now that I am at college it feels like a part of me is missing,” said Boomhower. She left at home a one-pound mutt, two cats and two horses – a Morgan and a Holsteiner/thoroughbred. In the past, Boomhower and her family owned goats, chickens and fish.

Because of her love of animals, Banker decided to serve as the advisor for Pet Pals. “I’ve loved animals all of my life. . . I relate easily to animals,” Banker said. Owning several pets herself, she can relate to Boomhower and others.

Pet Pals is a way for students to connect with animals, even when they are away from home. Pet Pals has helped Boomhow- er to adapt to college life by making friends with similar interests. It was also a way for her to get involved on campus.

At their meetings, Pet Pals discuss ways to be with animals by observing area wild- life and making visits to Alfred Universi- ty’s equestrian farm. Members also have the opportunity to volunteer at the SPCA in Wellsville.

Pet Pal’s biggest project has been “Cash for Critters,” in which the campus community was asked to donate “gently loved” stuffed animals to be sold for $1 each in Powell Campus Center. Students and staff were able to purchase these critters and put them in someone’s Powell Box.

Many faculty and staff purchased these critters in support of Pet Pals. Director of New Student Programs, Patricia Debertolis, bought several for her staff members as gifts of appreciation.

This project made $285 and proceeds went to the SPCA in Wellsille. Pet Pals is taking donations to have “Cash for Cri- tters” again in February.

Future projects for this pet-friendly club are to get a pet house, increase member- ship and bring more exotic animals to their weekly meetings. Pet Pals meets every Friday at 3 p.m. in the Knight Club. Boomhower looks forward to Pet Pals’ future. She is confident in this organiza- tion’s success and continues to be happy as long as members are enjoying themselves.

“The feeling that you get when you hold a cat or walk a dog,” compares to no other Boomhower said. “Even if you have been having a bad day everything just seems better.”
Zombies vs. Humans: Not just afad

By Zack Block

Many students here at AU have recently been sporting red headbands and armbands and NERF guns. No, Alfred hasn’t been taken over by ganks; it’s part of a game called Zombies vs. Humans. “[Zombies vs. Humans is] a good place to meet attractive men and women who are interested in you for your brains,” said K.C. Flynn, president of AU’s SciFi club, and enthusiastic zombie. Zombies vs. Humans is a game sponsored by Alfred’s SciFi club that pits the zombies against the humans. A zombie has a red band on its head or neck, while a human has it on their arm. The object of the game is for the zombies to “turn” all of the humans by stealing their armbands. Humans aren’t defenseless, though: a well placed NERF dart, rolled-up sock, or marshmallow barrage will stun a zombie, giving humans time to escape. So why is this game so popular, with over 40 players in the latest game? Flynn shed some light on the subject, “It’s fun, the kind of stuff [people] have wanted to do since they were kids, but there’s always been too much parental supervision.”

Zombies vs. Humans is a great way to socialize, according to Flynn. Many games and social opportunities are now online; so, many college students don’t actively spend time out with others. But with Zombies vs. Humans, one can get out and enjoy talking with fellow zombies while waiting for a target. Other games, such as Assassin, haven’t been as popular here at AU. One reason is that Assassin doesn’t emphasize teamwork the way Zombies vs. Humans does. While it is more complex, you need to stay paranoid, because you don’t know who’s coming after you.

However, this game isn’t completely without flaws. Dan Napolitano, the director of student activities at the center for student involvement, said that the University doesn’t officially recognize the game. “While we encourage an environment where students can have fun and create traditions on their own, we do caution every student to use their best judgment when engaging in activities that include physical risk,” he said. “It is also important to be aware of the student code of conduct and whether similar non-official activities violate any policy. I am unaware at this time of any policies that specifically outline zombie annihilation.”

The winners of the latest game were the zombies. Does this say anything about mankind’s chances during the apocalypse? Who knows? Since many AU students are gaining valuable anti-zombie experience, the village of Alfred may be better prepared than most.

Alfred University graduate student wins international award for research

Michele E. Miller, who is working on her Ph.D. degree from the Inamori School of Engineering at Alfred University, is this year’s recipient of the 2007 Excellence in X-ray Diffraction (XRD) Scholarship awarded by Bruker AXS. The $6,000 scholarship award was announced Tuesday during the fall meeting of the Materials Research Society now underway in Boston. Bruker AXS, a leading global provider of advanced X-ray equipment for life and advanced materials sciences, presents the scholarship annually to graduate students who are doing the most unique research in the field of materials research.

Miller, who is advised by Dr. Scott T. Mixture, professor of Materials Science, submitted a paper entitled, “Novel Processing of Microporous Glass-Ceramics for Gas Separation.”

“Using high-temperature X-ray diffraction, we determined that nickel-doped cordierite glass-ceramics are candidates for application as permeability-controlled microporous membranes to separate out carbon dioxide and hydrogen gases in fossil fuel power plants, both reducing greenhouse gas emissions and generating hydrogen,” explained Miller.

Mixture’s group studies the dynamic behavior of oxide ceramics and glasses related to energy conversion devices. Projects generally rely on detailed structural characterization using X-rays and neutrons to understand the relationships between structure and properties. Their recent work has focused on the effects of atmosphere and humidity on structure, phase stability, and conductivity at high temperature.

Their current research focuses on materials for solid oxide fuel cells and hydrogen production. Funded by the National Science Foundation, the federal Department of Energy, the federal Environmental Protection Agency and other agencies, their work centers on solid oxide fuel cells and photocatalysts.

Originally from Honeoye Falls, N.Y., Miller received her B.S. degree in glass science engineering from the Inamori School of Engineering in 2004.

New York State funds ceramic engineering, biomedical materials science engineering, glass science engineering and materials science engineering, in part, under a contract with Alfred University. The scholarship winner and runner-up were selected by an independent panel of judges: Dr. Tom Blanton from Eastman Kodak; Dr. Jim Kaduk from Innovene and current board chairman of the International Centre for Diffraction Data; Dr. Pam Whitfield from National Research Council Canada; Dr. Jim Britten from McMaster University; and Dr. Nattamai Bhuvanesh, Department of Chemistry at Texas A&M University.

“Both Bruker AXS and the judges are most pleased again this year to provide a Bruker XRD scholarship to another extraordinary student,” says Uwe Preckwinkel, Bruker AXS XRD Sales and Marketing Manager.

“With great fares and schedules – heading home for the holiday has never been easier!”

With the latest game, the winners were the zombies. Does this say anything about mankind’s chances during the apocalypse? Who knows? Since many AU students are gaining valuable anti-zombie experience, the village of Alfred may be better prepared than most.

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Dave Snyder: Darn good man

BY ANH TUAN HUYNH
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Another Saturday, another late night in McLane Center gymnasium, and the basketball court is packed as usual. While half of the court is filled with various sport games, like badminton and soccer, the other half is the playing field of an intense basketball match that has lasted hours.

Somewhere along the sideline, a few spectators stand, watching the game, but their visions do not freeze on the muscular players with substantial height. They are observing Dave Snyder, who skillfully dribbles the ball, passing one defender and scoring against a blocking attempt from another player whose size is almost twice as his. Yet, Snyder is no professional basketball player nor he is a member of the AU team. In fact, he is not even a student. More than 50 years old, Dave Snyder still carries with him an energetic look and a humorous manner of a college student. He often appears with a Polo T-shirt and jeans, looking as if it was just yesterday that he celebrated his 20th birthday.

“He is a lot of fun to be around with,” says junior psychology major Cori Pignatelli, working part-time as a library assistant. “I feel great working with him in the library.”

Snyder’s life is attached with the Alfred community. He grew up on a farm in Alfred. He was senior in high school when Alfred installed its first and only traffic light in 1974. He was around when the first edition of Alfred Sun was published.

“I am a native Alfredian,” Snyder says proudly. Regarding his experience and attachment to the Alfred community, Snyder reflects: “It’s like living in a small New York City with great diversity and different backgrounds. And yet, it is out of the way. It doesn’t have McDonald’s or Burger King.

Yet, while he is an older member of the Alfred University community, this fact doesn’t lessen his enthusiasm. In fact, Snyder is among the most active fans of the AU football team. Besides attending almost every single home game, Snyder also helped to establish the AU pep-band, whose mission is to create liveliness and optimism for our school’s football team.

Another major contribution from Snyder to the Alfred community is the Alfred Sun—the official newspaper of the Village of Alfred. He is both the editor and the publisher of the paper. According to Snyder, the quality that makes the Alfred Sun almost unique in the journalism world is that it has no formal group of staff writers. Most of the articles published in the newspaper are the works of the Alfred citizens. Snyder thinks newspapers should be a product of the community rather than of a private organization, at least in Alfred.

“I think a community paper should be a place where the community can contribute to it rather than simply constitute of a handful of staff writers,” Snyder says.

The newspaper has once won the Amy Award, one of the most honorable titles in journalism. The winning issue features a lead article written by Snyder and his friend as a review of the movie Saving Private Ryan. It beat out several major newspapers, such as the Washington Post, and brought back home the valuable award.

Despite all these doings, Snyder is an enthusiastic Alfred activist, carrying with him an energetic fire as much as any student around.

Snyder also is a library assistant in Herrick Library. He has worked seven years in the library, and he still feels the same enthusiasm in helping students like in the first day he started his job.

“Sometimes students come in and want to find something but don’t know what it is,” Snyder recounts. “I would go through different books with them until we find the right information.”

Not an academic researcher and not a bookworm either, it is amusing to find Snyder rooting through different stacks of books, looking for information like a college student.

“Hey, I feel young doing this. It’s like I’m in college all over again,” Snyder says, laughing.

Asking what his favorite quote is, Snyder amusingly replies, “I love Alfred New York, where the sun comes out once a week.”

Alfred University carillonneur to play concert of seasonal songs

Alfred University’s Carillonneur Laurel Buckwalter will host “Carolling at the Carillon,” on Sunday, Dec. 9, at 7 p.m., at the Davis Memorial Carillon on campus.

Buckwalter will play songs of the season, both sacred and secular. She invites all to come and show support by singing carols or listening, either from inside or outside the playing cabin, or from the ground level. Song sheets along with cookies and cocoa will be provided. This event is open and free to the public.

Buckwalter is a member of the Guild of Carillonneurs in North America. She is Alfred University’s third carillonneur.

Buckwalter is a graduate of Houghton College with a major in music. She also earned a Master of Science degree in education from AU.

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Food for thought: The Herrick café

BY ANH TUAN HUYNHI CONTRIBUTING WRITER

University libraries bring to mind students sitting with their noses buried in books and academic papers. But as students turn more to the Internet, college libraries have become almost too quiet. This fall semester, Herrick Library is trying to break that traditional college library image.

The Herrick Café is Alfred University’s attempt to encourage students’ educational efforts. Many students say they enjoy the library café because they can gather to talk without worrying about keeping their voices down. “Although it is noisier over here in the café, I still like it better than sitting with serious silence around me,” says Nick Angeline, a sophomore accounting major. Plus, the café offers not only coffee and tea, but also a variety of snacks, including muffins, Rice Crispies, yogurt, salad and hamburgers. In the past, students usually checked books out and took them back to their rooms to read them while eating. Now, however, they can have their own space to do both.

But what about when salad becomes a bookmark? No need to worry, says Dave Snyder, a Herrick library assistant. “We believe AU students are mature enough to respect the materials over here,” he says.

Indeed, food and books can co-exist, says Laurie McFadden, a Herrick librarian. “We dropped the prohibition of bringing food into the library 10 years ago, and we have not yet found a broken computer with soda on it.”

McFadden added that since the café is open only a few hours in the morning and at night, food spills are not a big concern. “(Actually) the idea of having food within library is not new,” says McFadden. “Vending machines have always been around.” But the Herrick Café is more than just a place to get food. The café makes it possible for students to study in a less serious environment. It gives students a cozy place with sofas, TVs, newspapers and magazines to escape from the temporary from the academic environment.

“We try to create a comfortable environment with many options for students and professors to feel welcome and at home when they are in the library,” said McFadden.

The Herrick Café has been open since the middle of September. Its hours are 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., Mondays to Fridays. Why so few hours? According to Camryn Kraus, a cafe employee, the café is student-run, and most students do not have free time to work in the afternoon. And the idea of a café in Herrick Library is still new to many people; so, right now it is only open during the most popular hours. Still, some faculty and students say they are frustrated with the café’s opening hours. “I like this place a lot—the windows and the setting,” said material science engineering assistant professor Alan Meier. “It is better than working in my office. But my timing is very bad. I have to buy coffee from Little Alf since the café never seems to be open while I’m here.”

And Meier is not the only one who goes to Little Alf for coffee. Many students also buy coffee there because Herrick Café does not offer the meal-plan policy. The irony here is that while Herrick Café appears to be drawing more students to the library, the coffee sales are down for this very reason. Many students say they prefer to use dining dollars instead of paying from their own pockets for coffee and snacks.

“I buy coffee from Little Alf because I don’t want to pay any real money,” says Angeline. Despite the coffee dilemma, many students say the Herrick Café could still become a popular place to study and hang out. “I really like the fact that the café gives me options of either studying ‘seriously’ in the corner of the library or going through my notes on the sofa with a cup of coffee and a muffin,” says senior sociology major Shannon Richmond. “And the view from the windows is great.”

AU attempts to spread importance of blood donation

BY KALI LITTLEFIELD CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Alfred University’s biology department and the Office of Residence Life hosted a blood drive on Nov. 13. The Red Cross set up shop in the Knight Library from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Students who wished to donate could sign-up either in advance or at the door.

At one time Alfred University used to be the largest donation site in Allegheny County. But in the last year, the numbers of donors have been going down.

Brenda Porter, the director of AU’s Residence Life, helped organize the drive with Kathryn Link of AU’s biology department. It marked the first time Residence Life had collaborated with the biology department.

The idea is to encourage the campus to come out and help in whatever way they can, from running the sign-in to donating blood.

Volunteers are what the Red Cross is looking for. “Everyone who wants to [donate] should, if for nothing else then to help,” Porter said.

Any blood donated at AU will be processed in Henrietta, N.Y., and then distributed to local hospitals in New York and Pennsylvania. However, there is a blood shortage in local counties, and any release of blood has to be approved by the Red Cross.

Bob Fredricks, the Red Cross account representative of donor services, encourages different clubs on college campuses to host as many as four drives a year. That is the best way to spread the word. Spreading the need and responsibility of donating blood will make more people aware of the shortage and willing to help out.

Most communities host blood drives in honor of some local tragedy. The problem is that these bloods are needed before the tragedy. A car accident death might have been prevented if someone had donated.

“Blood is used for saving lives; it’s used in surgeries, disasters, car accidents, but if you can’t donate, volunteering is another way to make a difference,” Gaby said.

At the end of the drive, 76 units of blood were donated. The goal for the day was 103 units. After looking at the numbers Gaby said, “Alfred State is giving AU a run for its money.”

If you’d like to help out with a blood drive, contact Bob Fredricks at REFNY@Freerpoint.net. Find out how to donate at www.DonateBloodNow.org.

Be prepared for holiday travel

BY HOLLY WHITE CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Travel tips could prove useful this holiday season, as possible delays in air travel could affect students flying home after finals.

“We are able to help you if you experience delays or cancelations during your trip because that is our job,” said Nancy Jackson, a travel agent at Alfred Travel Center Incorporated, located at 11 West University Street.

Flying during the holiday season can be very stressful. The December air travel season is already one of the roughest in memory. Full-capacity flights, stifled security rules, additional checked luggage, poor weather and rising flight delays are all expected problems that may arise.

Travel experts have many recommendations and tips for passengers flying this season.

According to a Delta Representative at the Buffalo Niagara International Airport, you should “call your airline reservation number for flight updates.” If you call ahead you will be informed of the status of your flight and be able to make changes to your trip if necessary.

The AARP website has many good travel tips available, such as, “Don’t be on time, be early! As much as three hours is being recommended by the travel industry.” The saying ‘the early bird gets the worm’ stands true even in airport terminals. The earlier you arrive, the better you will be able to beat the long lines at check-in and security. This will give you time to relax and enjoy your travel experience.

Transportation Security Administration experts suggest using the “3-1-1” guideline to make security clearance easier. According to the TSA’s website, “Only 3-ounce or smaller containers of liquids and gels are allowed. Place containers in a one-quart, clear, plastic, zip top bag. One bag per passenger, placed in a bin.” If you are informed of security rules ahead of time, you will be able to pass through security checks more quickly.

AU students also offered some helpful advice for traveling through the holiday season. Senior Communications Studies Major Charlotte Judd suggests, “Pack as light as possible – necessitites! Judd plans on arriving early and “clearing the day” for her flight home at Christmas. Sophomore Nathan Wieser said, “check for delays, as airline carriers can sometimes be uninformative.”

Pack lighting, allow yourself the whole day to travel, and be attentive while traveling so you can stress while flying, seasoned AU travelers concur.

Nancy Jackson is available to offer free services at the Alfred Travel Center to students booking holiday flights home. Generally, Jackson can have an itinerary and flight options available on the same day you request them. As for my advice for flying this holiday season, just remember it is the holidays. Be thankful and merry throughout your travels!
BY JON WORDDINGHAM  
SPORTS EDITOR

There is something special going on with this year’s AU men’s basketball team, and it has everything to do with the Saxons youth movement.

“This team has a ton of talent. The men probably have the most potential of any team we have had here in my six years here,” Assistant Coach Scott Cooper said. “But it’s like my dad used to say though: ‘potential is just a fancy word meaning you haven’t done anything yet!’”

In order for this talented young team to perform to expectations, they will have to learn their own style of play and deal with the mental stress that the longer, tougher college game commands.

“They have come a long way since we started practicing a month ago, and have started to show flashes of how good they can be this season. It’s going to take some time though,” Cooper explained. “There are a lot of freshmen who are physically and athletically gifted to compete at this level right away, but the mental part of the game is what all of them need to struggle with.”

Bringing these players along is the key role for not only the coach, but also the upperclassmen leaders on the floor. Seniors Garren Patt and Carl Embury, the two captains of the team, have the most experience to share with the new starters. Patt says that he realizes that it is his task to keep his team focused and relaxed during the course of each game.

“One of the major problems with so many young players is their lack of experience,” he said. “Freshman especially can be great one night, and struggle the next. So we’re going to have to work through it.”

The team already took a tragic hit this fall when sophomore starting center Pat Smithgall went down for the season with a torn ACL, during a pickup game. This will require an even quicker assimilation into the college game from two freshmen, 6’6” Elio Walsh and 6’8” Sean D’Auria, as well as a large mark-up in minutes from sophomore power forward James Simmerneyer.

“Losing Pat is definitely not a good thing,” said Patt. “There’s no doubt we will miss him but we have two freshmen Ellis and Sean that are going to take his place and do a fine job. Also expect Simmerneyer to give us solid minutes to relieve those guys.”

Another new face in the starting lineup is sophomore Jon Maroney, the new floor general for Head Coach Jay Murray. Point guard is especially tedious for the Saxons, but Maroney says that he is up to the task.

“I feel like I can step it up and be a leader on this team, despite my inexperience,” he said. “I’m willing to try and make this team successful and I’ll do anything that it takes.”

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Westfield State, a perennially strong club with a lot of veterans. Although they lost, there were some positive signs for the young Saxons.

“We got up by double digits and blew the lead in the second half,” said Patt. “And then we lost to one of the tougher teams in our region (Mt. St. Vincent) in overtime. We played well but we just need to learn how to finish games.”

Only time will tell if this year’s Alfred Saxons can be competitive within a very tough E8 conference, but if their untapped potential begins to have more influence than their inexperience the sky is the limit.

AU men’s basketball shoots for Empire 8

Close-knit AU women’s swim team looks long term

BY JEREMY JUHASZ
STAFF WRITER

Occupying the pool inside McLane Center are AU’s swim teams with both seasons well underway. The AU women look to improve off of a losing mark last year. While their record half-way through may suggest otherwise.

“We are rebuilding,” Striker said. “But, individually we possess a lot of talent and are improving every week.”

Striker emphasized that New York intercollegiate swimming has grown. In fact, the Empire 8 conference has emerged as a premier hotbed for swimming and diving. The growth can be recognized through sheer numbers of competitors, but also at the level of competition being at. In the Empire 8 conference.

Striker admits that their season’s record (1-4, 0-2 Empire 8) can be misleading considering the vast improvement made over a one-year span. Astounding.

Senior captain, and current school record holder for the 500 yard freestyle, Lindsay Scypta reiterated that the team is very important.

“We take each contest as preparation for nationals,” Seagren said. “We want to improve as a team, but to do that everyone has to focus on themselves first.”

Although under the radar, and perhaps in the shadows from an unbeaten men’s squad, the AU girl’s swimming and diving team have a future headed quickly down the right lane.

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The tragedy of being a pro

By Nathan Weiser

The Alfred University women’s basketball team has started their season with a 1-5 overall record, and a 0-1 record in the Empire 8, but more experience should pave the way to a better record than last year.

The squad’s first victory was against Hilbert College, with a convincing 77-56 win. Victory in this game, and in most for that matter, can be attributed to team play and playing well defensively. Head Coach Heidi Metzger added that, “I think it was a team win, we played team defense, and we actually scored. We shot 40 percent plus and our defense only allowed 30 percent from the field.” The team’s defense as a unit in this game really led to their high offensive numbers.

The fact that the team as a whole is more tenured is surely key to this team’s overall success, and has been a highlight so far. The teams 12 freshmen from last season have matured into 12 sophomores this year. In addition, this team is a more teamwork-oriented one, which can only help. Free throw shooting is a crucial aspect of basketball, and the team has shot about 10 times better than last year.

There have been some positive aspects from a heart and soul perspective. “I think the best aspect of our team’s play is our willingness never to give up. If we get behind we don’t hang our heads and we pick up our defense and get ourselves back into the game”, senior Catherine Hoffman added.

There are some short-term and long-term goals that Metzger added. One short-term goal is to have the team ready to play for 40 minutes, which can be a long-term goal as well. A season-long goal is to get the team to qualify for the four-team conference playoffs. “Another long-term goal is to make this team believe in themselves that they can win”, Metzger added.

There are a few weaknesses that the team has had so far that can be improved upon. A good goal would be to play the whole game instead of 30 minutes of consistent basketball and 10 minutes that can be improved. Turnovers are also a key aspect for the team to decrease. “The one that’s killing us right now is turnovers. Right now we are averaging 22 turnovers which is costing us 22 shots”, Metzger said.

Coach Metzger truly thinks that the team will be able to compete for the conference playoffs this year.

AU women’s basketball regroups with playoffs in mind

BY STAFF WRITER

Alfred Hockey would not lose a non-league game against Hilbert College (10-6), in Buffalo. Alfred’s losing streak continued on Nov. 17, when they lost a non-league game against Hilbert College again (8-3) in Olean. On Nov. 19, Alfred hockey won a non-league game against Keuka College (13-6), in Olean. Alfred’s losing streak has officially ended.

Alfred Hockey would like to thank Keuka’s coach, Robert Cornwell for coming out and playing us on a Monday night, and Alfred Hockey hopes we will soon be on the ice again against each other. Our last home game was a non-league game against SUNY Fredonia on Dec. 1 at Olean Ice rink, at 5:00 p.m. All support is welcomed and greatly appreciated. Please come out and enjoy our games.

Alfred Hockey on the up and up

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Alfred Hockey would like to personally hand it to Keuka for a good game till the end. Greg Holbig (9) was our big scorer of the night, getting four goals throughout the game. They also have to say the natural hat trick of Cheyne Hoag’s (11) was a great addition to the game in the second period. Bill Ulrich (18), Andy Gales (21), Andy Wierdarmann (13), Al Garr (2) and Tim Boerschlein (27) scored additional goals. Nick Salemi (9) on Keuka’s team scored a hat trick.

Alfred Hockey would not let down throughout the game and held the lead and came out victorious. Cheyne Hoag for Alfred and Jaime Conway (21) for Keuka spent equal time in the penalty box for numerous infractions.

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I understand that Rolle probably isn’t the best source, he’s upset and angry about the situation, but couldn’t there be something to that story? The man was threatened a mere eight days beforehand and it is well documented that Taylor was maturing after a string of incidents his first couple of years in the league.

The incidents range from driving under the influence to minor weapons charges, but his teammates and coaches were beginning to see a more mature Taylor with the birth of his first child.

That being said, couldn’t it be assumed that Taylor may have ticked off some of the people he used to associate with when he wasn’t trying to be a responsible family man. Some jealous childhood friends who thought they deserved a piece of the pie.

I’m no police investigator, but saying that it was a routine burglary is absolute garbage. Taylor was a tragic victim of circumstance and ignorance at the hands of those less fortunate and less talented than him. R.I.P Sean Taylor, we will always remember the promise you showed and the future of which you were robbed.

The sports world was hit with yet another tragic story early last week with the murder of Washington Redskins safety Sean Taylor. In a year in which one superstar athlete after another was caught up in a tragic chain of events and stupid decisions, this may be the most tragic of them all.

Taylor, 24 years of age, was at home asleep when an intruder broke into his home around 2 a.m. in an apparent burglary attempt. Taking the role of protector for his longtime girlfriend and 18-month-old daughter, Taylor grabbed the machete that he kept beside his bed and moved into the kitchen.

There he met the armed intruder, who rushed to the hospital where he remained in critical condition until the hour of his death on Tuesday.

Although the events of that day will be commemorated on the helmets of all 32 teams on Sundays for the rest of the season, one can’t help but ask is that all the NFL could have done.

Eight days prior to the shooting some one broke into that same house and left a knife on Taylor’s bed. It seems to me that they are suggesting that the knife would have been protected a little better by whoever did the breaking.

Knife on Taylor’s bed. It seems to me that, believe that the incident was a burglary gone wrong, others suspect foul play. I understand that Rolle probably isn’t the best source, he’s upset and angry about the situation, but couldn’t there be something to that story? The man was threatened a mere eight days beforehand and it is well documented that Taylor was maturing after a string of incidents his first couple of years in the league.

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