



WALF Schedule!  
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# FIAT LUX



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THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF ALFRED UNIVERSITY



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February 23, 2009



Do you Belize it?! A class's adventure.

Features on page 5



Miss "An Evening of Dance" Feb. 19-21? Check out our overview on page 8.

A&E on page 8



The men's swimming team is preparing for states. Check out the preview from Kate Cohen in Sports.

Sports on page 11

## Hasta la vista, Sonora's?

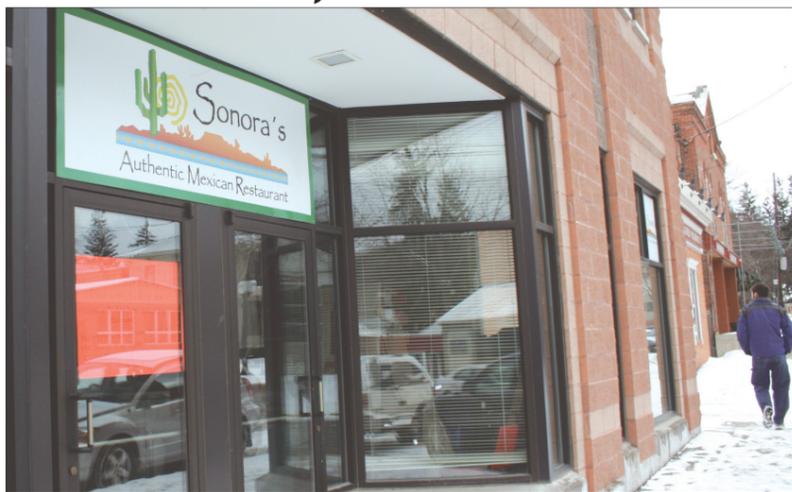


PHOTO BY LEAH HOUK

Sonora's Mexican Restaurant is closed for now due to flooding.

By Chris Field  
Features and Opinions Editor

Sonora's Mexican Restaurant could be the next business casualty on Main Street in Alfred after a Jan. 31 flood destroyed much of the ceiling and walls inside the restaurant.

The flood started on the third floor of the Village center apartment complex above Sonora's around 3 a.m. and trickled down into the establishment, causing well over \$20,000 in water damage, according to building owner Gary Brown.

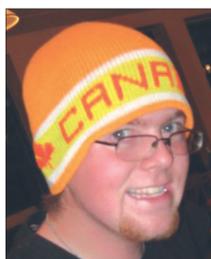
The removal process for this damage began immediately, and yet it still does not look promising for the company's return to Alfred. The restoration process has taken well over three weeks to finish, and it looks to even be longer before the establish-

ment is ready to start reconstructing.

Once the water damage is completely removed, the time-line for Sonora's return would be roughly 30 days; this is of course if the restaurant chooses to come back to Alfred. From the business perspective of Alfred, Sonora's would be just one more business on the long list of establishments that have had to close in the past couple years in Alfred, such as D.P. Dough, Old West and the Alfred Sub and Pizza Shop. As Village Center Landlord Gary Brown put it, "It would be sad to see another yellow (For Rent) sign on Main Street of Alfred."

Sonora's may have closed their doors for the last time Jan. 30.

## One nominee apiece for Student Senate Presidential and Vice Presidential elections



Mainville

By Sam Urann  
News Editor

The Student Senate Presidential elections are here again, and Amos Mainville has made his bid for President, while Kevin Kostyk made his for Vice President.

The two students are the only nominees running although both positions will have a spot for a write in online.

Mainville is a sophomore Mechanical Engineering major and remains active in student organizations: being the President of Robot Club, Student Representative and active member of AU Rescue Squad as well as the Outdoor Club. Mainville had no comment about the upcoming election.

Kostyk is a sophomore Political Science & English major who also involves himself in a variety of extracurricular activities: Alfred Mens Lacrosse Team, President of Alfred Snowboarding, Treasurer and Senate representative for Political Science Club, Peer Review Board Member, Co-Chair of this years Breast Cancer Awareness Day, and Fencing Team Coach.

In order to qualify as a candidate each student must acquire 150 signatures by petitioning other AU students.

President Nate Kisselburgh was elected in September 2007 due to an amendment allowing a special election for an interim president since President Jameson Pownall did not return to AU due to suspension.

"I would like to see the new administration continue to bring student issues and concerns to the proper administrator and continue to fight for student rights," Kisselburgh said.

The voting will take place on the Blackboard website under "Student Vote 2009" Monday February 23rd and Tuesday February 24th. The ballot will appear as a test. Remember to login to Blackboard and vote for these candidates or write in who you wish.



Kostyk

# Jackson joins 1,000 point and 500 rebound club

## Senior captain caps off solid career

By Jeremy Juhasz  
Sports Editor

She will be quick to tell you that eclipsing 1,000 points, grabbing more than 500 rebounds and leading the Lady Saxons all-time in steals isn't worth noting.

"I don't think it's that big of a deal," senior forward/guard Melanie Jackson said. But the lone senior captain of the AU women's basketball team acknowledged that "it (basketball) defines who I am."

Regardless of Jackson's personal sentiments towards statistics, she's inked her name into the record books, joining the elite 1,000-point, 500-rebound club after scoring 18 points in a win over Nazareth on Feb. 10. Jackson throws her name in the company of Lisa Valitutto (1998-2002), Beth Mott (1986-1990) and Heide Aldous (1983-1987) as the only players on that elite list. This season Jackson also passed Valitutto in career steals



Senior Melanie Jackson (13) recently eclipsed 1,000 points Feb. 10 after scoring 18 points to help Alfred defeat Nazareth. Above, Jackson and sophomore Lyndsay Murphy (3) play against Hartwick College in the Feb. 20 home game.

with over 180.

Jackson remembers first picking up a basketball at around the age of six. She credits her father for encouraging her interest in the game.

"He taught me how to play," she said.

Michael Jackson, Melanie's father, who coached junior high in Andover, brought young Melanie to the gym when her siblings

would play.

"She had an older brother and an older sister, and she was always there with me dribbling left handed, right handed, left handed, right handed," Mr. Jack-

son said. "She was just always in the gym wanting to play."

From there, Jackson developed the natural skill set to develop into an outstanding high school player. She moved to the varsity as a seventh grader. She played in Andover for two seasons, leading the Lady Panthers to a Section V Class D championship in 1999. She transferred to Wellsville to play under head coach Tom Delahunt.

As a high school player, Delahunt says she was a good asset to an already potent team.

"For Melanie, she made everything look easy; a smooth player," said Delahunt. "She read the floor very well. She fit right in with our team."

Jackson helped the Lady Lions to Section V titles in 2002 and 2003, while collecting Section V all-star accolades in 1999, 2002 and 2003.

"Quietly, she had a great career for us," said Delahunt. "To know that she is continuing to be successful in basketball isn't a surprise."

As a first-year college student,

Continued on back page...

## EDITORIAL

Editorial:

# Fighting the sickness

These last few weeks at AU seems reminiscent of the 1300s in Europe with colleagues and friends dropping left and right from our very own plague.

The cold and flu season is once again upon us, and this time it has struck with a vengeance. Some bug has afflicted nearly everyone we know over the past few weeks, and the evidence is indisputable.

The Fiat has taken a blow with our Editor in Chief, Production Manager, Office Manager, News Editor, Features & Opinions Editor, A & E Editor and a even few staffers falling victim to the epidemic.

This production weekend has been particularly arduous due to sickness with some articles being halted until next issue, and the staff just being shorthanded in general.

This is one of those rare times that remind us why those kindly professors supply us with three or so excused absences. We don't mean when you have hatred for sunlight and an unquenchable thirst for the universal solvent, or are simply too apathetic to climb out from under your covers.

No, these are the necessary times when fear of regurgitation and uncontrollable sneezing can be grounds for an "excused absence." There can be an admirable quality about not wishing to spread germs to classmates, but recognize when your "benevolent goals" are only a scapegoat for missing work.

On a small campus like AU, disease, as well as attitude, can travel quickly. The Crandall Health Center does the best it can, but they aren't the only line of defense.

For those who have recently been sick or are attempting to remain healthy, there are tips that can aid you in this fight. Remember to wash your hands thoroughly and frequently, cough into your sleeve and not into your hand, employ the hand sanitizer that is located campus wide, and remember Vicks NyQuil Cold Medicine is a cure-all.

Therefore, good luck and use those skips sparingly, because sooner or later the bug catches us all.

## FIAT LUX

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The *Fiat* welcomes your opinion. Anyone may write a letter 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).

*Editorial Policy:* The *Fiat Lux* welcomes feedback from its readers. Letters to the editor will be subject to editing for space and content purposes. The *Fiat Lux* reserves the right not to print any letter. Letters must be accompanied by name, address and telephone number. E-mail: fiatlux@alfred.edu or mail letters to: *Fiat Lux*, attn: Editor, Powell Campus Center, Alfred, N.Y. 14802.

The *Fiat Lux* supports the perpetuation of a broad and liberal education conducive to free speech. Only unsigned editorials reflect the opinions of this newspaper. All other editorials reflect the author's opinion.

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## OPINION

## MC Grammar:

### Questions and Answers from the Writing Center

Arianna Carini

Contributing Writer



In my last paper; my professor took off; for my semi-colon use; How do you use them?; -- Confu;sed i;n ;;N;orwoo;d

Dear Confu;sed,

A semi-colon is one of the weirdest punctuation marks in the English language. As the strange lovechild between a comma and a colon, it has different rules than either of those marks. But the steps to using a semi-colon are pretty simple. The main thing to remember is that a semi-colon is placed between two complete sentences that relate to one another.

Here is an example:

This is a complete sentence; it has a noun and verb.

Both statements are complete sentences and are related to one another.

Another example:

I love M.C. Hammer; his music inspires me to dance.

Complete sentences? Check. Relate to one another? Double check.

This is a BAD example:

Daniel went to the store; Your turtle died.

These sentences have nothing to do with one another, unless Daniel went to the store to buy you another turtle (in which case you might want to mention that). Also, be sure to not capitalize the first word of the second sentence, unless it's a name, of course.

Here is another BAD example:

I saw that movie; and loved it.

While these statements do have a common idea, the second is not a complete sentence.

There is also a way to use semicolons with lists. If your listed items contain punctuation (like numbers in the thousands), you will need to use semicolons to let your reader know which items are your list items.

Here is an example of a list:

The road trip itinerary will take us to Cincinnati, Ohio; Louisville, Kentucky; Bloomington, Indiana; and Peoria, Illinois.

So, Confu;sed, I hope this helps with your dilemma. Also remember that a whole paper shouldn't be made up of only semi-colons. If you have any other questions, stop by the Writing Center, and any of us can help.



# Buffalo plane tragedy hits home

**Jeremy Juhasz**

*Sports Editor*



Beth Kushner, a former resident of Eden N.Y., died when Continental Connection Flight 3407 crashed into a Clarence Center home on Feb. 12, approximately five miles from its intended landing strip at Buffalo Niagara International Airport. She was 19. Like Beth, I too hail from Eden N.Y. Beth's brother, Joe, was my teammate on the high school basketball team. It's in this way that I am connected to the tragedy that's been

dubbed "The Buffalo Crash."

I first learned of the incident after finding the story reported on [buffalonews.com](http://buffalonews.com) that Thursday evening. There weren't many details revealed when the story broke and, while I was concerned, decided to tune back in the following day. It wasn't until 24 hours after the incident when I found out Beth was a victim.

I didn't know how to react, but I immediately thought of Joe and his family. I think tragedies generally follow a pattern of emotion. There are usually stages of anger, depression, sadness and a feeling of "how could this happen." But this was different. For me, these feelings were wrapped in one tight knot at the pit of my stomach, and I couldn't decipher which feeling I wanted to express. At the same time, I didn't even know if I needed to express anything. I was crushed and confused.

One second I wanted to cry,

the next I wanted to punch a wall and the next I just stared at the photos of the victims' families in disbelief. But regardless of whether I wanted to act out or not, it bothered me a great deal to know that a family in my community suffered such a tremendous loss in the most unexpected circumstances.

No single phrase or word could wrap this piece poetically nor was it my intention. I just think it's pertinent to point out the larger story from instances such as flight 3407. We often believe we're invisible--we are unaware of our own mortality. I don't like to necessarily ponder mine, but awful events that strike the same zip code, even if it's indirect, leave a profound impact. It at least reminds us of that proverbial truth, "just how valuable life is."

Of course, we don't go through our robust, daily lives wondering if this is the last apple I'm going to bite into, or

the last soccer game I'm going to play. And I don't think we should. But I want to look at the positives in this a dreadful situation. If anyone finds this story so compelling that they're inspired to live a better life or, at the very least, a life they want, then those people on the plane including Beth, didn't perish for nothing. Since I've followed this story, it's changed me. Feb. 12, 2009 will be in my mind, and it's already altered my approach towards living.

Flight 3407 opened my eyes. It's readily apparent that tragedy can strike anywhere, at any time.

Unfortunately, sometimes reminders are the toughest to swallow.

My sympathies go to those families affected. May the Kushners find comfort in the company of their friends and family. I know Eden would say the same.

## AU Health and Fitness: Feeling unhappy, depressed, or suicidal?

**Matt Cohn**

*Staff Writer*



Nothing seems fun anymore. You find yourself avoiding people. It is next to impossible to keep focused in class or when studying. You feel like you can't do anything right. As you lie in bed, a spiral of negative thoughts snowballs into an accumulation of reflections on the worthlessness of your existence. "What is the point of life?" you ask. Your feelings of suffering seem to be too great; you think about ending it all. "Yes," you think, "ending it all

would relieve me of this pain." But wait--suffering and happiness are emotions, and to feel emotions, to attain the feeling of relief from your pain, you must be alive.

You come to realize that no one passes through the journey of life without a struggle. Imagine a life where everything goes your way, and you get everything you want instantly--no challenge at all. Such a utopian life would get boring real quick. So now you ask yourself, "Why am I feeling unhappy?" You come to realize that you are dwelling on your past mistakes and how things never go your way. Then you comprehend that this madness must stop--there must be a way to live a fulfilling, happy life.

To get out of this unhealthy cycle of thoughts, you must focus most of your attention not on the past, not the future, but on the present moment. Feelings of pain, both physical and mental, are something to be expected in life. When a painful thought arises, you should not

try to suppress it; you should nurture it with care. You should think of this negative thought not as "my pain," but "a pain." With this switch in mentality, you can learn to let go of these painful feelings as they arise. It is important to smile into your problems, and realize that you can learn from your past mistakes, and take action in the present moment to achieve your goals. Try not to dwell on your negative thoughts; instead, mindfully acknowledge them as they arise, and realize that you have the power to shape your future.

If you are feeling depressed, I encourage you to make an appointment with the Counseling and Wellness Center at the Crandall Health Center. Talking about your feelings can be a big help. I also encourage you to exercise--studies have shown that something as simple as 30 minutes of vigorous exercise can be even more potent than an antidepressant. Instead of focusing on what you don't have, focus on what you do have. If

you are feeling depressed, sit down and write a list of things that you are grateful for--you will realize that there is much to live for.

If you are interested in helping out people who are feeling depressed, suicidal or have other mental disorders, please consider joining the Active Minds Club. For more information, contact Chantell Teed at [cmt@alfred.edu](mailto:cmt@alfred.edu).

Matthew Cohn is majoring in biology with a minor in exercise science. He has been certified as an emergency medical technician--basic (EMT-B), certified nursing aide (CNA) and personal trainer (NCSF).

This article is for entertainment purposes only.

Questions? Comments? Contact Matthew at [mac8@alfred.edu](mailto:mac8@alfred.edu).

## Roving Reporter

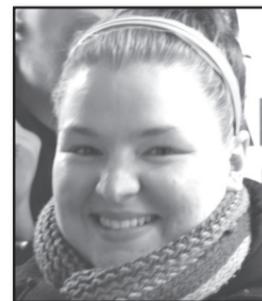
**"What do you think about Student Senate?"**

By **Thomas Fleming and Leah Houk**  
Editor in Chief and A&E Editor



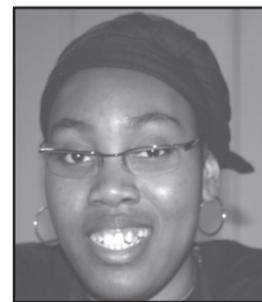
"You might be a redneck if you go to Student Senate next semester."

Amos Mainville  
Mechanical Engineering  
Junior



"Can I just say I'm neutral?"

Charity Chaffee  
Biology  
Senior



"You pay the tuition. A lot more people need to know what Student Senate is—it seems insufficient for what its title is."

Sondra Perry  
BFA  
Junior

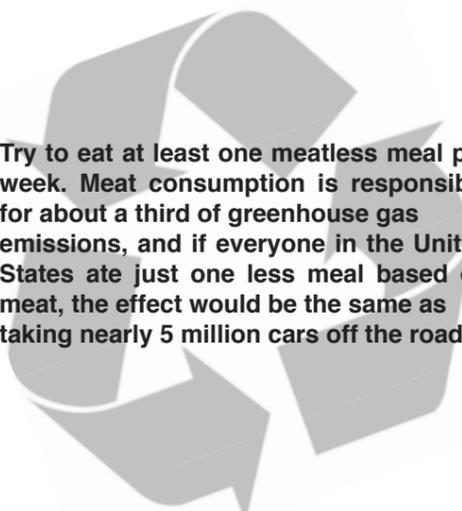


"It's boring, but necessary."

Ed Thigpen  
Ceramic Engineering  
Junior



Try to eat at least one meatless meal per week. Meat consumption is responsible for about a third of greenhouse gas emissions, and if everyone in the United States ate just one less meal based on meat, the effect would be the same as taking nearly 5 million cars off the road.



# What the Mugabe is going on in Zimbabwe?

**Kristin Rubisch**

*Contributing Writer*



The purpose of this column is to inform people about global events. While one article is not enough to fully explain a conflict, it is enough to provide the reader with the basics. It is my hope that when you are finished reading, you can readily answer the question, "What the (blank) is going on in (blank?)"

Like many African conflicts, Zimbabwe's can trace its origins back to decolonization. From the

late 1880's until 1965, Zimbabwe was a colony of Great Britain and was often combined with neighboring colonies. In 1965, the white minority-led government (headed by Ian Smith) made a Unilateral Declaration of Independence, which was not recognized by the United Kingdom. With help from Zambia and Mozambique, a civil war began, pitting Robert Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) and Joshua Nkomo's Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU) against Smith's government. Fighting intensified until, in 1978, Smith sensed his power waning and signed an agreement with Nkomo and Mugabe. Elections were held in 1979, and the United African National Council party took a majority of parliamentary seats. However, Smith's minority party retained control of the police and security forces and the civil service sector. Later that year, the British govern-

ment met with prominent leaders, agreeing to officially grant independence, recognize Zimbabwe as an independent state, and oversee its first legitimate election in 1980.

These elections placed Mugabe and his ZANU party in control. Protests to the results and civilian uprisings in the Matabeleland provinces were crushed by Mugabe's forces (known as the Matabeleland Massacres, 1982-1985), giving him a negative reputation with human rights activists. The violence officially ended in 1988 and Mugabe won another election in 1990. Yet another round of protests ensued, this time primarily from students and trade unionists. This resulted in industrial unrest, the primary manifestation being the collapse of the civil service (education, health, etc) sector. In 2000, Mugabe began redistributing land that was in white minority control, forcing

a sharp decline in their agricultural production and exports. All of these economic troubles were then worsened as the government spent millions of dollars to fund the war in the Democratic Republic of Congo, resulting in hyperinflation (estimated to be roughly 11.2 million percent in 2008 by the Central Intelligence Agency) and shortages of consumer goods. The collapse of the education and health system has caused a massive unemployment and illiteracy rate, while conditions such as cholera and HIV/AIDS run rampant.

In early 2008, another election was held and the results were heavily contested. The key contenders, Mugabe and Morgan Tsvangirai of the Opposition Movement for Democratic Change, made arrangements for a runoff. Several weeks of violence ensued, eventually leading to Tsvangirai's withdraw, primarily a result of his supporters being

harassed and killed, in addition to the several assassination and detainment attempts against him. Mugabe claimed victory, but was under intense international scrutiny for his illegal and unethical practices. For several months, the global community, led by South Africa, pushed for a power sharing agreement between the two contestants. In September, Mugabe signed the agreement and Tsvangirai showed his support for it, but both of their parties were reluctant to accept it. Tsvangirai was sworn in as Prime Minister on February 11, 2009 after intense negotiations finally resulted in agreements between the parties. The future of Zimbabwe is unstable and uncertain, and depends heavily on Mugabe's willingness to commit to and support the new unity government.

## Outstanding Senior award nominations due March 6

Nominations for the Marlin Miller Outstanding Senior man and woman are available now and due March 6 by 4:30 p.m.

The award, which bears the name of '54 AU alumnus Marlin Miller, is given every year to one senior man and one senior woman who has "contributed most to the life of the University overall and have built uncompromised

reputations" in scholarship, extra-curricular activities and personal character, according to the nomination forms.

After the March 6 deadline, a committee of nine faculty and staff members will narrow the list of nominees down. The nominees chosen by the committee will then be interviewed when the final selection will then be

made.

According to Alfred Today, winning students "receive a cash award and will address their classmates at graduation."

Vice President of Student Affairs Kathy Woughter coordinates the nomination process and she says that working with the outstanding seniors is one of her favorite tasks as the Vice

President of Student Affairs.

"I like to get to know them better in order to prepare a great introduction for them during commencement, and I try to do more than just give a laundry list of awards," Woughter said. "It's a huge honor for me, and for the students selected."

Last year, alumnus Conrado Bowen and alumna Grace Stew-

art were the winners, receiving a cash prize of \$5,000, as reported in the March 31 2008 issue of the Fiat Lux.

Nominations can be found on Alfred Today.

## Alfred University's Stull Observatory listed on 'Amazing' Web site for 'Space Geeks'

Alfred University's Stull Observatory has been named #86 on the "100 Amazing Video and Image Collections for Space Geeks."

The article can be found online at [www.onlinebestcolleges.com/blog/2009/100-amazing-video-and-image-collections-for-space-geeks/](http://www.onlinebestcolleges.com/blog/2009/100-amazing-video-and-image-collections-for-space-geeks/). The Website is dedicated to the videos, photos, and other multimedia collections of space.

The list is broken down into six sections. Stull Observatory is listed under the "Academics & Observatories" section. The Stull Observatory is located on the campus of Alfred University in Alfred, NY, about two hours south of Rochester. The Observatory contains a unique combination of instruments, all of which are used for the education of undergraduate students. Students with backgrounds ranging from non-science students fulfilling a science

requirement to students bound for astronomy graduate school are offered extensive, hands-on experience with telescopes having apertures ranging from 8 inches to 32 inches.

The Observatory serves as the cornerstone for the astronomy minor program, as well as the astrophysics concentration in the physics major.

There are five faculty members associated with the observatory (four full-time and one emeritus). Research interests of the faculty include minor planets and meteors, solar flares, CCD photometry of variable stars, and extragalactic astronomy. Students are often involved with faculty in ongoing research projects.



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# You better Belize it

By Mike Emmons  
Contributing Writer

When I heard that Dr. Myers and Dr. Emmons were offering the course ANTH 305/BIOL 305, Belize and the Caribbean, again, I knew that I had to take it. It was my last semester at Alfred University, and I figured what better way to celebrate my graduation from college? There were a total of twelve students, two professors, and one great tour guide on the trip. I knew that there were adventures to be had on the trip, but I guess I didn't fully understand what that meant, because now that I'm back in the States, I'm still trying to figure out all that I did in those seven days from Jan 10 to 17.

When we left Rochester at 6:45 in the morning, it was ten degrees and snowing. When we stepped off the plane in Belize City at approximately 2:00 in the afternoon, it was about 75-80 degrees, humid, and sunny. What better place to be in January? We were greeted at the airport by our tour guide, Kelly, another tour guide named Jamaal, and our bus driver, Spartacus, who brought a cooler full of bottled water and fresh bananas. Once we were all on the bus, we made our way to our new home for the next four nights, Banana Bank Lodge, with a quick pit stop at



PHOTO PROVIDED BY BOB MYERS

in what looked like shacks on stilts. Occasionally we saw what would be considered a "proper" house by American standards, but for the most part it was what an American would have considered "extreme poverty." What made it such an eye-opener was that the entire country was like this, not just certain parts. Many people in the country owned a

Tika, two spider monkeys, a white tailed deer, and a giant cage full of birds, including peacocks, blue and gold macaws, and cockatoos who would say "hello" to anyone who would listen. The lodge fed us breakfast and dinner every day, and I never appreciated how well hot sauce, which was at every table, goes with everything until I went

it. Quite the adventure for one day. The next day was equally eventful.

Early in the morning we boarded the bus for a day trip to Guatemala to visit the Mayan city of Tikal. These are those really tall pyramids and temples that you see on T.V. (and in one episode of Star Wars). We had the opportunity to climb up many of

I have been to, in the sense that it was so outdoors. People hung outside much more, there were open air shops and many more restaurants had open air parts, whereas many American cities are very closed and indoors.

We spent day four in the bus on the way to Wee Wee Caye, a marine research station twelve miles off the coast of Belize. We did make a stop at the United States Embassy, the third largest building in Belize, to have some very uninformative answers given to us by the U.S. Consulate. The perfect diplomat, he spoke a lot but never actually said anything.

The best way to describe Wee Wee Caye is that it looks like something out of Gilligan's Island. The island is 23.5 acres made up mostly of mangroves, 200 boa constrictors, and what seemed like 5,000 land crabs. There were boardwalks going to many parts of the island, and no electricity or running water, but it seemed like paradise, with hammocks on almost every porch. We spent our last few days snorkeling around the islands with the hopes of going to the barrier reef, but unfortunately the weather did not cooperate. We did, however, get plenty of snorkeling time in and saw tons of fish including a barracuda, sea stars and sea urchins.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY BOB MYERS



PHOTO PROVIDED BY BOB MYERS

the Belize Zoo.

The zoo was a rehabilitation zoo for animals that could not survive on their own in the wild. The zoo tried to replicate the natural jungles in Belize while still maintaining a degree of safety for visitors. Because of this, it was common to see wild animals in the trees above you as well as in the cages in front of you. The zoo was the only opportunity that I have ever had to pet a tapir and to see a live jaguar.

From there we made our way to Banana Bank. On the ride to our lodging we got a chance to see the houses and landscapes of the Belizean people. At that point in my life I had never experienced that level of poverty face to face. Most of the people lived

horse--which they kept tied to a tree or a post in their yards--as opposed to a car for transportation, because of the cost. Dogs were allowed to run free. Almost all of the schools in the country were run by a church of some sort. Most of the roads that we drove on were either dirt roads or only partially paved. Currently much of the Belizean economy is supported by tourism. The rest is supported by various exports, such as oranges, papayas and shrimp (which you can find at Wegmans).

Banana Bank was basically a resort in the middle of nowhere which could have doubled for a zoo. The owner, an old cowboy from Montana, owned a fourteen-month-old jaguar named

to Belize. Only Marie Sharp, the national hot sauce of Belize, was served.

We spent the next three days exploring old Mayan sites. One day we were hiking through the jungle so that we could swim and hike about an hour or so through a cave known as ATM, climb up some seemingly very dangerous rocks, and see the remains of Mayan sacrifices, human and otherwise, which were a little over a thousand years old. The only lights that we had were the lights coming from our headlamps. On the hike there, to help Dr. Myers fulfill his wish of seeing some local fauna, one of the tour guides caught a three-foot-long boa constrictor and allowed anyone who cared to hold

the temples, and the view was literally breathtaking, especially if you are as afraid of heights as I am. This was truly a once in a lifetime opportunity. It was also the only time that I have ever had a fourteen year old boy try to sell me a switchblade for "five bucks American."

The itinerary for day three was changed some due to the amount of rain that fell. We explored some excellent Mayan sites, including Xunantunich, as well as others. We also had the chance to go tubing down a river in the middle of a rain shower. Some of us, including me, spent the rest of the day exploring the city of San Ignacio. San Ignacio was different from any American or European city that

The trip to Belize was a once in a lifetime opportunity, and there was no better way to go than with this class. Everyone on the trip got to experience so much in such a short period of time. While I was there I got to eat termites, eat a gibbon (jungle guinea pig), sleep in a hammock through a rainstorm, and climb up pyramids that were over one thousand years old. I would recommend this class to anyone even remotely interested in going. My sunburn is peeling and fading now (finally), but the memories will last longer than the smell of the smoke that my smuggled Cuban cigar left on my jacket. And I do have to say that's a very long time.

## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

## Spring 2009 WALF Schedule

Tue		Wed		Thur	
12 am :30		Ana Cretekos Ana Cretekos	12 am :30		
1 am :30		Ana Cretekos Ana Cretekos	1 am :30		
2 am			2 am		
7 am :30	NPR: Car Talk	NPR: Car Talk	7 am :30	NPR: Car Talk	
8 am :30	NPR: The American Life	NPR: The American Life	8 am :30	NPR The American Life	
9 am :30	NPR: Wait, Wait Don't Tell Me	NPR: Wait, Wait Don't Tell Me	9 am :30	NPR: Wait, Wait Don't Tell Me	
10 am :30		Kelly Snyder.	10 am :30		
11 am :30		Kelly Snyder.	11 am :30		
12 PM :30		Kelly Snyder.	12 PM :30		
1 PM :30			1 PM :30		
2 PM :30			2 PM :30		
3 PM :30		Supreme Flesh hosted by SandagiQ. 2/22/20092/22/2009	3 PM :30		
4 PM :30			4 PM :30		
5 PM :30	NPR: BBC News NPR: BBC News	NPR: BBC News NPR: BBC News	5 PM :30	NPR: BBC News NPR: BBC News	
6 PM :30	Jorg Pomplun German Culture	Attacks on Bears by Salmon Rhiannon Ketchem, Jessica Maffey,	6 PM :30	Lieutenant Zebulon's Power Hour Helen Mills, Amy Stallard	
7 PM :30	Eddie Money Hour Patrick Kreski, Chris Reynolds, Adam Willsey	Cody, Maher Attacks on Bears by Salmon	7 PM :30	Lieutenant Zebulon's Power Hour Helen Mills, Amy Stallard	Us
8 PM :30	Rockets, Guns and Galileo Eric Hudack	Luke Murphy/Tiffany Joy Luke Murphy/Tiffany Joy	8 PM :30	Margaret Storms Margaret Storms	
9 PM :30	Rockets, Guns and Galileo Eric Hudack	Luke Murphy/Tiffany Joy Luke Murphy/Tiffany Joy	9 PM :30	Margaret Storms Margaret storms	
10 PM :30		Steve B's Spastic, Fantastic, Slightly Tragic Musical Adventure	10 PM :30	HEATHEN GODS OF YORE Dan Bourlotos, Connor Houghton	
11 PM :30		Steve Boniello Steve Boniello	11 PM :30	HEATHEN GODS OF YORE Dan Bourlotos, Connor Houghton	



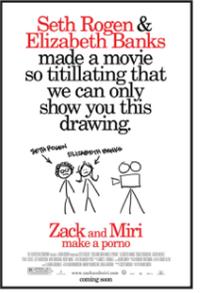
**DOUBLETUNNEL = DOUBLEHAPPINESS**  
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ART UNION  
ART UNION

"Where is the intersection of the public persona and the individual's sense of self? What does it mean to construct one's identity? Are we defined by our choices or by how we are perceived? When does the individual lose a sense of self within the context of the rest of humanity? These are all questions which I have been exploring within my recent work. More particularly I am interested in the construction and deconstruction of the public figure and the cult of personality in political, religious and popular culture."

Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
		12 am :30	
		1 am :30	
NPR: Car Talk	NPR: A Prairie Home Companion NPR: A Prairie Home Companion	2 am :30	NPR: Car Talk
NPR: The American Life		8 am :30	NPR: The American Life
NPR: Wait, Wait Don't Tell Me		9 am :30	NPR: Wait, Wait Don't Tell Me
		10 am :30	
		11 am :30	
		12 PM :30	Can we say this on the radio? Melanie Baker, Anna Kowalczyk, Emily Dowd
		1 PM :30	Can we say this on the radio? Melanie Baker, Anna Kowalczyk, Emily Dowd
		2 PM :30	Tough Times in Suburbia Kimi Cook, Alanna Polamalu, Clairika Pitts
		3 PM :30	Tough Times in Suburbia Kimi Cook, Alanna Polamalu, Clairika Pitts
CSA=Caribbean Student Association Abigail Pompey, Javied Townsend, Tishauna Maxwell		4 PM :30	
NPR: BBC News NPR: BBC News		5 PM :30	NPR: BBC News
		6 PM :30	
ed Fruit and Other Hot Commodities Emily Verstrate	Sushi Guild Tory Keith, Michael Chernoff, Josh Forester	7 PM :30	Stockholm Syndrome Marisa Survoy, Lindsay Warner
	Sushi Guild Tory Keith, Michael Chernoff, Josh Forester	8 PM :30	Stockholm Syndrome Marisa Survoy, Lindsay Warner
Completely Paralyzed: THE MOVIE Steve Kurzdorfer, Kendall Westbrook		9 PM :30	Front Porch Lounging Betsy Lord
	Thanks but no Thanks Nature Dave Douglas, (Eggy Ding)	10 PM :30	Shasta Ian Schu, Pat Labene
		11 PM :30	The Mothership Connection Ean Mittchel, Sandy Low, R. T.
			No show Name given Geoff Nassimos, Jurden Alexander
			No show Name given Geoff Nassimos, Jurden Alexander

# AUTV MOVIE SCHEDULE

							
<b>STUDENT CHOICES</b>			<b>STUDENT SENATE</b>	<b>STUDENT ACTIVITIES BOARD</b>	<b>Baseball Club</b>	<b>AUTV</b>	<b>FIAT LUX</b>
Beerfest Casino Royale Eurotrip			Body of Lies	Accepted	The Express	Wanted	Zack and Miri Make a Porno

The schedule for the AUTV/Student Senate Movie Channel can be found at [people.alfred.edu/~autv](http://people.alfred.edu/~autv). Movie choices are subject to change. The survey for each month's student-chosen movies will be available at [my.alfred.edu](http://my.alfred.edu). AUTV is on channel 3 on campus only. Questions and comments can be sent to [autv@alfred.edu](mailto:autv@alfred.edu).

# 'An Evening of Dance' offers a weekend of entertainment

By Leah Houk  
A&E Editor

"An Evening of Dance," featuring choreography by students, faculty and guest artist Ursula Payne, was performed each night in the C.D. Smith Theatre in the Miller Performing Arts Center at 8 p.m. Feb. 19-21, with a matinee on Saturday.

Senior dance minors Saki Kitahara, Jess Davies, Mellie Mae Lonnemann and Caylin Janet each choreographed and performed a piece as their capstone dance performance.

Janet's piece, "Breath," featured eight performers rising and falling in undulating waves on the floor of the stage, and when the dancers sighed, I found myself breathing with them. The unabashed, full-body contact between the dancers felt intimate and natural as they swung their weight against each other.

Saki Kitahara's "Colorless Water" was more of a performance art piece, with Kitahara in a delicate white gown moving around a chair, which was the only prop used in any of the pieces. Kitahara's precise, utter consciousness of her body lent even her smallest gestures emotion and powerful, slightly eerie grace.

Jess Davies' "Explicit Covert" was a lively, colorful performance, and Mellie Mae Lonnemann's "Changing Hemispheres" swept her around the stage in a flurry of movement.



PHOTO BY ROB FOUNTAIN

## Dancers in Caylin Janet's "Breath."

Some of the pieces, like Kitahara's, kept the audience's eyes fixed on the center of the stage, while others, especially Visiting Professor of Dance Robert Bingham's "Feeding the Ghosts," used the entirety of the stage, even in front of the curtains, to expand the parameters of the performance space.

Jörg Pomplun's "Mankind's

History of Condeviance" featured Pomplun and four other dancers stalking about the stage in ostentatious costumes. Their over-the-top facial expressions and goofy, unexpected movements elicited squawks of laughter from the audience.

The final piece of the show, featuring most of the dancers, was guest artist Ursula Payne's

"These Days."

Payne is the artistic director of Soul Deep Creations and has received two choreographic fellowships from the Pennsylvania Council of the Arts. She was the co-artistic director of Mills and Payne Dance, based in New York, from 1995-2000, and she is on faculty for the American Dance Festival in North Carolina. This

guest residency was Payne's second at Alfred University.

The concert featured a nice range of pieces, from the playful sexiness of Assistant Professor of Dance Chase Angier's "Con Queso" to the oddity of Pomplun's piece, to the bright, taut energy of Payne's choreography. What a good, satisfying evening.



An ecstatic moment in Jörg Pomplun's (center) "Mankind's History of Condeviance."

PHOTO BY ROB FOUNTAIN

## Jacobson joins Alfred University's fund-raising efforts as gift planning director



PHOTO PROVIDED

Amy Jacobson of Alfred, most recently director of the Women's Leadership Center (WLC) at Alfred University, has become director of gift planning in the University Relations Division.

Stan Colla, vice president for University Relations, said, "Amy is a strong addition to the team of professionals we are building in University Relations, just as she has been for the Division of Student Affairs."

In her new position, Jacobson will manage a portfolio of

planned giving and major gifts prospects and donors, creating cultivation, solicitation, and stewardship strategies for each.

Jacobson received a bachelor of arts degree in political science, cum laude, from Wellesley College, Wellesley, MA. She subsequently earned a juris doctorate from the New York University School of Law and is a member of the New York, Pennsylvania and federal bars.

Prior to her appointment as director of the WLC in 2005, Jacobson was a practicing

lawyer for 10 years, most recently as a supervising attorney for Southern Tier Legal Services, where she assisted low-income clients with civil legal problems.

Jacobson, her husband Dr. Allen Grove, professor of English at AU, and their children Nathan and Abigail, reside in Alfred, where she has been active on the Board of Directors of the Alfred Montessori School and the Village of Alfred Housing Task Force. She also sits on the Village of Alfred Zoning Board

of Appeals and is a member of the Board of Directors for Legal Assistance of Western New York.

She has taught courses in various fields at the University, as well as within the Women's Leadership Academy, and has participated in the Careers in the Common Good Program offered by the Alfred University Career Development Center.

## JAM with Just Alfred Musicians

By Lee Consolo  
Staff Writer

There's no doubt that there is musical talent within the Alfred community, and a new program, Just Alfred Musicians, or J.A.M., has been created to bring these folks together to make music.

J.A.M.'s goal, according to president Trevor Larcheveque, is to "unify everyone and everything musical under one roof."

The group first came together when many musicians agreed

that there was a lack of a musical community in the Alfred area.

In the fall of 2007, Nate Clark, Eric Howard, Trevor Larcheveque and Elliot Danby came together on the issue and formed J.A.M. J.A.M. has acquired "The Annex," an area right behind Susan Howell Hall, where band members can practice and hold meetings without worrying about sound constraints or space.

Vice President Elliot Danby noted that J.A.M. isn't just for

AU students, but for Alfred State and Alfred Almond High School students as well. Anyone from the town of Alfred is eligible to join.

"Even if you can't play an instrument or work with sound engineering... J.A.M. is here for you," Larcheveque said. "We need people that want to help market, set up equipment, design band logos, etc. We want you," Larcheveque says.

"With J.A.M. growing with more members every day, it's

only a matter of time before the music scene explodes and contracts are made," Danby said.

For more information, check out the latest updates of J.A.M. at <http://people.alfred.edu/~jam/>. On the website students can check out annex hours to see practice sessions, meetings, check out the various band members, see when artists are performing and register to join.

## Nationally recognized TV auto expert to teach 'basics' in AU workshop

Lauren Fix, a nationally recognized television automotive expert and professional race car driver, will be teaching the basics of car maintenance at Alfred University on Monday, Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. in Holmes Auditorium, Harder Hall. The

event is open to the public free of charge.

Fix has a long list of credentials, including automotive editor for YourLifeMagazine.com and contributing writer for USA Today, Motor Trend magazine, and Good Housekeeping

magazine. She has also authored two books titled "Driving Ambitions: A Complete Guide to Amateur Auto Racing," and "The Performance Tire and Wheel Handbook."

Fix is currently the host of a TV show on the Do-It-Yourself

Network which provides viewers with in-depth demonstrations and tips for auto repair. She has won numerous awards, including a 2000 Car Care Council Communications award and in 2003 an International Automotive Media Award.

## Four projects given Honorable Mention recognition for the Bergren Student Innovation Awards

The Richard V. Bergren Jr. Student Innovation Awards are presented annually in recognition of a student or group of students who identify a need within the Alfred community and develop ways to address that need in a lasting way. Eligible projects may improve the quality of life for any Alfred constituency, including students, faculty and staff, or Alfred community members.

No single project was presented with the Innovation Award this year; instead, a draw between the following four students or groups honored each of their efforts equally.

Student athlete and junior psychology and sociology major Emily Tobin felt that AU's marketing of the sports teams fell far behind that of the competition, so in 2008 she pushed for a new logo and website that would better reflect the quality of the sports teams. "Athletics are important for the retention of students," Tobin said. "If students know that we are trying to meeting their needs, they will be more likely to stay."

Tobin served on a committee with AU staff members and coaches and was instrumental in bringing about the recent changes. Many students sport the new logo on sweatshirts and hats, and the website is now colorful and updated with recent scores.

Sophomore marketing major Jessica Marble and sophomore English and political science major Kevin Kostyk coordinated a week-long program that raised awareness about breast cancer. The program included sales of pink shirts, a rally in which students shaped themselves into the letters "AU", a reception hosted by President Edmondson and an open-mic event for people to share their stories of survival and loved ones lost. All the proceeds from the event went to benefit the Susan G. Komen Passionately Pink for the Cure Fund.

"The fact that one small idea turned into a movement that touched so many people in just one day proves that breast cancer is something that can unite such a diverse campus and community," Marble said.

Silas Albrecht, who graduated from AU in 2008 with a degree in communications studies, set his sights on improved distribution of the Fiat Lux. He acquired city-style news distribution boxes and coordinated a student contest to paint them in attractive and hip ways.

Albrecht also created a user-friendly and frequently updated website for the student newspaper, which allows access to recorded interviews and videos in addition to the current articles. Current editor-in-chief, junior communication studies major Tom Fleming, followed Albrecht's lead by improving the site and keeping it current.

Alumni have commented on their pleasure in keeping up with Alfred news from a student point of view.

Senior fine art major and president of the Art Union Gianna Michael spent a portion of her 2008 summer volunteering at a small school that rescued children from the misery of Calcutta city life. Upon returning to Alfred, she was determined to

continue helping those less fortunate than herself.

Michael coordinated two extremely successful art auctions, raising almost \$9,000 for the Calcutta school.

Michael wrote, "I hope that once I leave, there will have been a tradition started to manifest aid through art, because I think that it can really happen, and I think we've proven that."

The other 2008 nominees included:

- \* Nate Kisselbugh and Tom Fleming's efforts to broadcast films on AUTV

- \* Kacie Dean with her composting efforts on campus, along with waste audits

- \* Callie Rimmel's development of an art co-op program

- \* Senior Pride Committee's (Nate, Andrew, Eric, Julie) efforts to strengthen senior connections to AU.

AU Pride will be hosting a bowling night in Hornell on Feb. 27. Tickets are \$10 for three games of bowling and shoe rental and can be purchased throughout the week in Powell.

## Wellman joins Alfred University fund-raising division as gift officer



PHOTO PROVIDED

Lori Wellman has been added to the University Relations Division staff at Alfred University as director of major gifts. She will be identifying, cultivating, and soliciting a significant portfolio of major gifts prospects in support of annual and capital priorities.

Wellman was a regional director in the Office of Major Gifts and Regional Programs at the University of Rochester. Prior to employment in Rochester, she was the associate director of regional advancement at Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, KY, where she also managed regional assignments for Eastern Kentucky's capital campaign.

Wellman is a graduate of Union College, Schenectady, NY, where she earned a bachelor of science degree in psychology with a minor in Japanese, as well as a master's degree in business administration. She has studied at Kansai Gaidai University in Osaka, Japan, and is fluent in Japanese.

## Alfred University hires director for Women's Leadership Center



Alfred University has hired Julia A. Overton-Healy of Coudersport, PA, as its new director of the Women's Leadership Center (WLC).

With more than 20 years of experience in public higher education, Overton-Healy has served in positions in faculty, staff, and administration across academic and student affairs. She becomes the second director of the WLC at Alfred University replacing Amy Jacobson, who

has moved to the Division of University Relations as director of gift planning.

Kathy Woughter, vice president of Student Affairs, commented, "I am pleased to welcome Julia to the Student Affairs Division. I am confident that with her great skills and previous management of Mansfield (PA) University's leadership program, Julia will continue the traditions of excellence and innovation that have been established by our previous director ... I look forward to the next phase of our Women's Leadership Center with Julia at the helm."

"I am honored to join Alfred University and the team of the Student Affairs Division," said Overton-Healy. "The opportunity — academically, personally, and professionally — that AU

offers to students can be life-transforming. The work of the Women's Leadership Center is exciting, and I will very much enjoy honoring the legacy of Alfred, and of my predecessor Amy, while we move the WLC to a new level of excellence and distinction. I believe we have the capacity to achieve national recognition for the study and development of leadership and that's my intention."

Overton-Healy is currently a doctor of education candidate in administration and leadership studies, higher education administration track, at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP). She earned a certificate in the Art and Practice of Leadership from the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. She also

earned a master of arts degree in speech communication with concentrations in organizational communication and interpersonal communication from Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL, as well as a bachelor of arts degree with a double major of speech communication and education K-12, also from Eastern Illinois.

Prior to her new position at AU, Overton-Healy was Career Development Center director at Mansfield University. She was on the Student Affairs Management Team until 2006, at which point she joined the Academic Affairs Division and served on the Provost Council, the President's Leadership Task Force, and the University Strategic Planning Team.

In addition, she has been

an assistant professor of communications at the University of Pittsburgh-Bradford, and has served as a corporate recruiter, giving her firsthand experience with leadership issues for college graduates in the work force.

Overton-Healy holds membership in a variety of professional organizations including the National Association for Student Personnel Administration, the National Clearinghouse for Leadership Programs, the American Association for University Women, and the Order of Omega, an organization of men and women who have attained a high standard of leadership in inter-fraternity activities.

## Alfred University Performing Arts to present 'Five Women Wearing the Same Dress'

The Division of Performing Arts at Alfred University will open the Theater Department's spring season with a student-run production, "Five Women Wearing the Same Dress." Performances are at 8 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 27 and Saturday, Feb. 28 in Holmes Auditorium, Harder Hall. The performances are open to the public free of charge.

The play tells the story of five women brought together as bridesmaids at the wedding of a woman whom they aren't particularly fond of. While they don't know each other very well at the opening of the play, they find plenty to bond over by the time the curtain closes.

The show is the senior project and Honors Program thesis for Caitlin Gallagher, a senior

theater and English major from Carlisle, PA. It is also the senior capstone project for Jamie Walsh (costume design), a theater major from Cape Elizabeth, ME; Reesa Martin (set design), a theater and political science major from Cazenovia, NY; and Amanda Holland (props, poster design, and acting), a theater major from Ohio.

The production team also

includes April Nell (lights), a senior French major from Box Elder, SD; Tyler Mackenzie Cummins (sound), a sophomore English and theater major; and Justin Pietropaolo (stage management), a sophomore English major from Goshen, NY.

The cast will feature Kate Naron, a senior English and Spanish major from Oswego; Holland; Caitlin Casey, a senior

English and comparative cultures major from Edina, MN; Kari Aldrich, a senior undeclared major from Franklin, MA; Luci Cohen, a junior psychology major from Baltimore, MD; and Spencer Hughes, a senior psychology major from Pittsford.

## Alfred University creates Confucius Institute to serve residents of New York State

Alfred University creates Confucius Institute to serve residents of New York State

Alfred University's College of Business joins a select group of colleges and universities internationally as host to a Confucius Institute, devoted to promoting Chinese language and culture through education.

Dr. Wilfred V Huang, professor of management in the College of Business, will serve as director of the Alfred University Confucius Institute, one of just over 200 worldwide and one of only 47 in the United States. The Institute at Alfred University is one of three in New York State.

"It is a significant honor for Alfred University to be chosen to host a Confucius Institute," said President Charles M. Edmondson, who traveled to Beijing, the People's Republic of China, with Huang to sign the formal agreement between AU and the Office of Chinese Language Council International (Hanban) to create the Institute.

"As China emerges as an economic and political power in today's world, it is important for us to better understand its culture and language," said Edmondson. "Through the Confucius Institute, Alfred University will be able to provide education and training to those on several different levels, from teaching the language in elementary and secondary schools, to conducting business with companies in China."

Edmondson gave the credit to Huang for securing the Institute, calling it "an honor for any institution, and a remarkable recognition for Alfred University that would not have been possible without Dr. Huang's leadership."

"This is a milestone for Alfred University in our development of international programs," said Dr. William Hall, associate

provost and acting dean of the College of Business. "Through Dr. Huang's excellent work, we were able to secure the Confucius Institute for Alfred University against some very formidable competition not just in New York State, but nationally."

Huang said plans for the Alfred University include an array of programs, including a lecture series, open to the public, that will focus on some aspect of Chinese culture; non-credit courses in Mandarin, open to AU students, faculty, staff and community members; an outreach program for students and industrial and business people, that would offer instruction in Chinese culture and languages, both on campus and at other locations around the state; and training, leading to certification to teach Mandarin, for teachers in kindergarten through 12th grade.

Among the most exciting possibilities, said Huang, are trips to China conducted through the Confucius Institute at Alfred University. He will be working with the International Programs office at Alfred University to develop additional semester- or year-long study abroad opportunities for AU students at Chinese institutions, including the China University of Geosciences. Shorter trips — 10 days or two weeks — might be developed in conjunction with AU courses that focus on a particular aspect of Chinese culture.

Through the Confucius Institute, Huang will also be able to take business and industrial leaders, including representatives of economic development agencies or Chambers of Commerce that want to establish partnerships with their Chinese counterparts, on "trade missions" to China.

Alfred University will also develop resources, including a library, to promote research both on the AU campus and at other institutions across the state through a Center for Research on Chinese Language and Culture.

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# States on the mind

Men's swim team focused on state meet

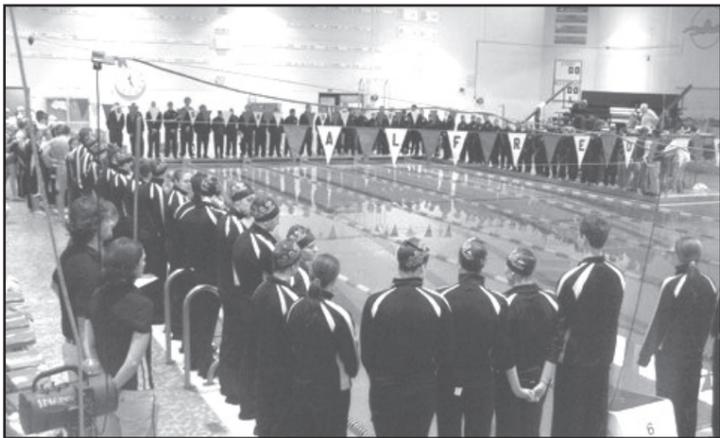


PHOTO BY NADINE TITUS

The Alfred swim teams competed in a dual meet on Saturday Jan. 31. The men won, 130-98 and will now look to post fast times at the state meet on Feb. 25 in Syracuse.

By Kate Cohen  
Billing and Ads Manager

The men's swim team will look to reclaim another state title and ensure national spots for several swimmers at the State Championship meet in Syracuse on Feb 25.

At the RIT Don Richards Invitational in December, Matt Baker has already guaranteed a spot in nationals for the 100-yard backstroke. He has also qualified for nationals at the 'B'-Cut level (needs to improve time at states in order to guarantee spot) in the 400-yard and 200-yard medley relay along with his teammates Brian Agro, Zach Mix and Mark Baker. Agro additionally has qualified for the 'B'-Cut national time in the 100-yard breaststroke.

"We have one of the best teams Alfred has ever had to qualify for the national meet," AU head swim coach Brian Striker said, "I am looking forward to seeing what they do."

Striker said that the team had an outstanding dual meet season, swimming faster than ever evident after breaking eight team records. He says that with the team's depth, hard work, and collective senior leadership, he's confident heading into states but understands his role as coach now takes a back seat.

"It is in the swimmers' hands

now," Striker said.

And the swimmers know it.

According to senior swim captain Owen Linders, the state championship is where training and practice pay dividends.

"Every regular practice, every early practice, every distance double, every single dry land workout, and every weight we lift come together to make this the best swim of the year," Linders said.

The state meet produces some of the fastest times of the year and every team amps up its performance, added Brian Agro, another one of AU's senior leaders.

"It is going to be the fastest states this team has ever seen," said Agro.

Striker says each athlete must focus on what they can control to help the team overall. The AU Men's swim team has performed at a high level the entire year regardless of the competition. Striker wasn't afraid to anoint this group as one of Alfred's most dominant teams ever.

"This is one of Alfred's strongest teams in history," Striker said.

With that said, this year's team is sure to up the ante up state competition.

# Saxons turn over new leaf

B-ball team shows strides in first season under new coach, new system

By Nathan Weiser  
Copy Editor

The Alfred University men's basketball team has suffered many losses this season, but according to first year head coach, Dale Wellman, the win-loss record wasn't the main goal.

This first year, Wellman is centered on team growth and the team learning new terminology. As of Feb. 20 the team's record is 8-15 and 3-11 in the Empire 8 conference but there were many close contests that the team could have won. But the Saxons have posted a winning record in non conference play at 6-5, while only having two upperclassmen players in the lineup. The Saxons lost three conference games by five points or less. The team was undersized and undermanned because of injuries and off the court issues, but continued to build camaraderie.

Coach Wellman wanted the team to grow everyday and he thinks that was achieved.

"With a new coach, a new complex offensive system, and

the loss of three of the top four scorers from last year's team, we needed to compete everyday in games and practice, learn new terminology, and lay a great foundation for the future, Wellman said."

He also praised the team for battling throughout the season in spite of the adversity, and handling themselves with class. There is also a foundation for next year because 80 percent of the offense returns. The lone senior on the team is Carl Embury, who contributed all four years. Many of the players logged so many minutes this season partly because of the lack of depth. This was mainly a perimeter oriented team, because of the lack of size, but they tried to use it to their advantage with the ability they had to space the floor.

"I sometimes forget that our starting back court are both only sophomores and even though they played a lot of minutes, we are in the top twenty in the country in least amount of turnovers per game and three point baskets per game," said Wellman.

The team battled admirably, worked together as a unit, and bought into a new complex system. Wellman also reiterated that players' personalities meshed, which showed on the court, playing unselfishly and willing to pass the ball. It ultimately led to a balanced offense. since everyone was willing to pass the ball, which led to an evenly balanced offense.

The Saxons defeated St. John Fisher on Feb. 17, a team Alfred has struggled to defeat. Perhaps that is a sign of just how much the Saxons have grown under the tutelage of Wellman.

Next season, the team will look to win the close games where they fell short this season. AU plans to add more size next year in order to develop an inside presence, while maintaining a perimeter oriented structure.

With incoming recruits, as well as the return of injured players, Wellman says Saxon basketball is heading in the right direction.



PHOTO BY KODI TIDD

Alfred's Jared Patt jacks up a three-pointer as the Saxons played host to Hartwick on Friday Feb. 20. The Saxons lost, 57-42, and finished its regular season schedule on a down note, falling to Utica College a day later on Saturday Feb. 21, 70-62. AU finished with an overall mark of 8-17 in 2008-2009 under first-year head coach Dale Wellman.

## Alfred Saxon Scoreboard

Team	Opponent	Result	Record	Next Opponent
Alpine Skiing	USCSA Mideast Regionals	M 5th/W 5th	N/A	National Championships
Eq. (Eng/Wst)	Caz (IHSA)/Oswego Invit.	Won Title/2nd	N/A	Cazenovia
Track and Field	Denault Invitational	None Provided	N/A	State Championships
M Swimming	St. Lawrence	W, 140-103	9-1, (5-0, E8)	Empire 8/NYSWCAA
W Swimming	Empire8/NYSWCAA	None Provided	3-8, (1-4, E8)	Season Finished
M Basketball	Utica	L, 70-62	8-17, (3-13, E8)	E8 Tournament
W Basketball	Utica	L, 77-70	12-13, (6-10, E8)	E8 Tournament



## SPORTS

## Gearing up for states at RIT

Track and Field perseveres in trying season



PHOTO BY LEE CONSOLO

From Left: Elisabeth Phillips Jones and Kate Lepore support the AU track and field teams with dazzling posters.



PHOTO PROVIDED

## Jackson from front...

Jackson attended St. John Fisher, but realized quickly she didn't belong.

After her transfer, Jackson's first season at Alfred began in 2005-2006. She tallied 69 dimes and had a team-high 71 steals, which tied a single season record. In what may have been her best season statistically, Jackson, during her sophomore campaign, increased her points per game total to 14.2 and snatched 149 rebounds to earn Empire eight honorable mention. She would repeat as an Empire eight honorable mention her junior season, scoring a team-high 11.8 points per game.

At the beginning of this season, Jackson needed 262 points to reach the hallowed 1000-point mark and 69 rebounds to capture 500. It was certainly attainable, considering Jackson had averaged 246 points and 143 rebounds her first three seasons.

On the court, Jackson doesn't overwhelm, but rather, in a nonchalant, carefree style, packs her lunchbox every time she steps onto the court. Jackson has played, what seems like to her, an infinite number of games, between high school, AAU summer

ball and college--not to mention practices and pick-up games. That repetition has worn on her, but her teammates appreciate how she approaches the game.

"Smooth is her middle name," said junior guard Abbey Schaffnit. "She composes herself so well. If I could be a player, I'd choose her."

"The way she plays ... is passive, but in a good way," said junior guard Emily Steen. Steen added that Jackson will attempt passes no other player will dare, but, because it's her, that pass will find its intended target. Steen also said that as a defender, Jackson does a good job avoiding screens and anticipating passes, translating into her record number of steals.

But her teammates also recognize her as an individual off the hardwood. They've participated in a shared experience as members of a team, and it's made for a healthy locker room.

"She's such a great team player," added Schaffnit. "We've all just grown on each other. Mel just grows on you."

But, there's more than meets the eye with Jackson. There's more to her than just basket-

By Lee Consolo  
Staff Writer

Alfred University's track and field team has worked harder than ever to prepare for the state meet at RIT on Feb. 27th. The team has had a long season and endured a strenuous road dating back to December 5th. The runners and throwers have improved dramatically, which will hopefully translate into the outdoor season.

Junior Megan Crimmins and Sophomore Shawn Ross have both received athlete of the week and have consistently performed at a high level. On Jan. 26, Crimmins showed she can perform in multiple events, placing second in the 1000 meter run (3:15.55) and sixth in the mile (5:33.45). At the Kane Invitational at Cornell University, Crimmins took 9th place in the mile run, shaving her time (5:29.56).

In the throwing pit, Ross earned First Team conference all-star in the shot-put during the Empire 8 Championships held at RIT. Ross managed to hurl a new Empire 8 Championship record distance of 14.95 meters. With the toss, Ross qualified for the ECAC Championships, which will take place in Boston March 6th-7th at Tufts University.

This season, Alfred's runners

**Left: Shawn Ross extends to throw the shot-put at RIT. With an E8 record 14.95 meter toss, Ross qualified for the ECAC championships.**

and throwers have struggled to find consistency. With the absence of Coach Sortore for most of the indoor season due to prior commitments coaching wrestling at Wellsville High School, the athletes went a month before a new coach could fill the position.

Despite the lack of leadership, the team continued to meet during practice time and continued to train.

"I was impressed with the how dedicated everyone was to still be working hard and training for themselves and our team even though we didn't have a coach there most of the time," said Sophomore Melissa Haahr. "People on the team took on a lot of responsibility to keep everyone up to date on what was going on and how the season was going to play out with the coaching (situation)."

Last December when the time came for Alfred to compete at the RIT Black and Orange invitational, Alfred was still absent of a coach. Instead of throwing in the towel, assistant coach and former head coach Andrew Crawford stepped in for a day and brought the team to compete. It wouldn't be until Jan. 15 before Sortore's replacement, Shane Grandusky, would fill in the head coaching vacancy until Sortore's return in February.

Grandusky had coached Alfred University before and had to adjust being at the helm again. Grandusky reviewed his talent, analyzed all the data he inherited and consequently brought a sense of organization back to the program. While

Sortore had more of a rigorous training program, Grandusky's was not nearly as intense, but not without reason.

"His training methods were a bit more laid back, but justified. The workouts were designed to help in the long run," says Junior Kirk Peskor.

Alfred's track team had to deal with more than finding an interim head coach. As winter cemented itself in Alfred, the ground became a frozen tundra, a concerning hazard for runners. Sidewalks were frozen and runners were at risk of falling, slipping and spraining ankles. Case in point was freshman Elisabeth Phillips Jones. She fell victim to the elements after spraining her ankle while on a run, eliminating her participation for the rest of the indoor season.

With Alfred State's track covered, the team often relied on Davis Gym for interval workouts. The Gym's track is nearly as hazardous as the outdoors. It's more suitable for throwers, but the runners are at a clear disadvantage.

Despite all the odds, the team has come together as one, forming a special bond. The bunch is not just another team composed of individuals, but they're family. When Alfred competes at States, they will show other teams that not only are they talented, but that they have one beating heart.

*Editors Note: Consolo is a current member of the track program.*



PHOTO BY JEREMY JUHASZ

Melanie Jackson boxes out a Hartwick player on Feb. 20.