



'An Evening of Dance'
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March 1, 2010

NO MORE DELAY, VOTE TODAY

By Eric Hudack
Staff Writer

Elections began yesterday after failed communication between the Student Senate Executive Board and the Student Senate Elections Committee resulted in a one-week delay for Student Senate president and vice president elections.

According to Kevin Carr, chair of the Elections Committee, the problem was the result of a "miscommunication" between Elections Committee members.

Prior to the missed presidential and vice presidential election, two elections had to be held for new Elections Committee members, since two members decided to run for president and vice president.

Student Senate Treasurer Nate Martell announced his run for Student Senate president at the Feb. 3 Student Senate meeting, and was replaced by Diversity Director Matt Brown, who announced his candidacy for vice president at the Feb. 10 meeting. Carr then took over for Brown.

For reasons unknown to any

involved, communication and the responsibility of oversight were not established between Carr and the other Elections Committee members.

According to the AU Student Senate Constitution, the vice president oversees ad-hoc committees, but the Elections Committee is considered to be one of two standing committees. The other standing committee is the Finance Committee, overseen by the Finance Chair.

Kevin Kostyk, the current Student Senate vice president, says that the Elections Committee is not officially overseen by any Student Senate Executive Board members.

"That committee is called together by the president at Senate," Kostyk said. "It has to be neutral."

Election results will now be announced March 3, a week later than the specified date set by the constitution, giving presidential candidates Peter Nyitrai, Ana Devlin-Gauthier and Nathan Martell, as well as unopposed vice presidential candidate Matt

Continued on page 7...

Snowmageddon: Alfred



PHOTO BY DAVID LEMMO

The AU and ASC campuses were closed Feb. 26 after a snow storm hit Alfred Thursday and Friday. Accumulation totaled about 6 to 12 inches. Find more photos at thefiatlux.com.



PHOTO BY DAVID LEMMO

An example of a transgender friendly shower stall in Bartlett Hall.

Group proposes changes to make AU more gender neutral

By Sharifa Barrow
News Editor

With help from the Division of Student Affairs and the Workgroup on Transgender issues, AU residence halls are in for a co-ed change, with special attention to the bathroom facilities.

According to a press release from The Department of Student Affairs, "It has been the charge of the Workgroup on Transgender issues to thoroughly review the needs of transgender students as they relate to a variety of areas within Alfred University."

The article goes on to explain that in the Oct. 16, 2009 issue of Diversity in Academe from the Chronicle of Higher Education, there was an article entitled, "Changing Genders, Changing Policies," which outlines "how a campus can move toward being more inclusive of the transgen-

der population."

According to the website Out Now, the word "transgender" refers to "those whose gender expression or identity transgresses socially assigned gender roles or expectation, or who do not identify as either of the two sexes as currently defined."

Discussion of changes at AU came about after a transgender student brought it the attention of Director of Resident Life Brenda Porter that most of the residence hall bathrooms are sex-biased as either male or female. With the bathrooms the way they are, it's somewhat difficult and even uncomfortable at times for the transgendered population at AU.

Though not all AU residence hall bathrooms are gender-neutral, the ones that are include: the Ford St. Apartments, Pine Hill suites, Special Interest Houses,

Bartlett Hall and Ann's House, which are all co-ed by door. Not many changes will be needed for any of them.

The Brick and Joel's House are also co-ed by door, but the suggested changes are floor-to-ceiling lockable partitions for the showers, to make the bathrooms co-ed.

For the remaining residence halls, including Kruson Hall and all of the first year halls, more significant changes will have to be made. Some of the changes being discussed include changing the floors to co-ed by door, reconstructing the bathrooms to be more like the ones in Ann's House or reconstructing the bathrooms to look like the ones in Kruson Hall.

Along with modifications to the residence halls, there are other adjustments in the works to help transgender students

feel more comfortable. The BANNER feature known as "preferred name and pronoun," created by The University of Vermont, allows students to change their preferred name and pronoun in the online BANNER system, and AU is looking to adopt the program.

According to the press release from The Department of Student Affairs, "[The University of Vermont] has agreed to share that software with AU and it is suggested that Student Affairs works with the Student Service Center to make this a reality."

Student opinions are welcomed and wanted. Please e-mail The Division of Student Affairs at studentaffairs@alfred.edu.

"Some feedback would be greatly appreciated," Porter said.

Also inside...



\$250 raised at date auction
Pages 4-5.



Season ends for equestrian team.
Back page.



Keep up with Student Senate on
thefiatlux.com liveblog.

EDITORIAL

The constitution strikes back

If there has been one recurring theme to the last few years of recurring problems for Student Senate, it's been the AU Student Senate Constitution.

No document has aroused more passions, delayed more events and hindered the general happiness of the student population more than this document. Consider that while you're just trying to find the Constitution on the Alfred website (and also when you've found that its out of date).

Isn't this document supposed to make everyone's life easier by acting as a governing document for how meetings are run, how changes are made and how money should be distributed?

Instead, many anecdotes can be found in the pages of Student Senate history about constitutional issues within Student Senate.

For example, students who have been involved in clubs long enough will remember the delay in fund distribution in 2007 because the constitution didn't allow the vice president to remain in her position after the president was suspended due to petit larceny charges. She would have to resign if she didn't ascend to the presidency.

A constitutional amendment had to be written to accommodate the vice president's desire to remain in her position. The discussion preceding the amendment's passage delayed an election for a new president, and therefore the distribution of funds into club accounts.

In the most recent case, the constitution failed to tell us constitutionally devoted students who should oversee campus elections. There was some vague language possibly tying the secretary, publicity chair or vice president to such responsibility, but this was not explicitly stated.

Of course, our first suggestion, in accordance with the constitution, is to propose that "an ad-hoc committee entitled the Constitution Rules Committee" be formed to review this issue for one week so that the findings can be presented to the Student Senate Executive Board for one-third approval and then ratified by the majority of the Student Senate body (hint).

The constitution, after all, is a living document, and like the American constitution, it needs an amendment or two every once in awhile to keep it relevant.

Our second suggestion: If something's not explicitly stated, and you are in a position of power, take the initiative anyway and fix the bureaucratic problems later. It will make everyone's lives just a little bit easier.

OPINION

He said what?

Ian Cramer

Opinions Editor

My inspiration for this piece stemmed entirely from the reactions of my peers to my last article printed in the Fiat Lux. It was entitled "Small world, even smaller school" and to summarize, it was about immature students who don't seem to understand that attending college should go hand in hand with maturation. It tackled the question: Is the amount of education one receives inversely proportional to one's maturity level?

Yes, it was a rather 'harsh' opinions piece and yes, I did have a glaring spelling error toward the middle. I apologize for misspelling Mobile, the cell phone company, as Mobil, the gas station. Despite being just one letter off, I couldn't escape the ruthless denigration from my peers.

Of the dozens of articles I have written for the paper, this one got the most negative attention. This makes me happy. The whole concept behind opinions pieces is to incite reactions in the readers, good or bad. Good articles are supposed to make people think twice about their own beliefs and open up their minds

to what other people believe and why they believe it. Readers don't have to like the piece; they can hate it. But in the process, they are forced to rethink why they themselves believe in the things they do and reevaluate their attitudes. This process is healthy and, believe it or not, makes people stronger.

Over the years, I have noticed that some people don't care if you do something good, but when you do something that upsets them, they jump down your throat. Case in point, my last article. It happens in politics as well as at Alfred University with our budget cuts. As soon as the budget cuts came to the attention of the students, everyone wanted to have a say. This is not necessarily a bad thing, but sing praises for those 'good' things as much as you put down the things that upset you. If you have the ying, keep in mind the yang.

If you have something to say, say it. This seems like the time when most people say, "To all of you haters out there..." but I'm not going to say that. You may have hated my article, but your opinions and comments (even if negative) are nothing to hate. They're things to be thankful for. I'm not afraid of writing contro-

versial pieces because I believe in what I write. I meant what I said, and said what I meant. I don't regret writing it and I do not take back anything I wrote.

Let me also add that this piece, like every other, was thoughtfully written. Contrary to popular belief, you can have a thoughtful action that is harsh or perceived as negative by some. If you received flowers for Valentine's Day, this is perceived as a thoughtful action because someone had to take time and think about getting the flowers, as well as take time out of their day to buy them and deliver them. In the same way, my piece took time to think about, time to write and time to edit, but was perceived by some as trash. Like the feelings for a significant other, I wrote my article with passion and appreciation for what I believe in.

I thank you all for your comments and input. This is what we need more of. Articles need to make people start thinking more about their own standpoints on various topics. Everybody's a critic and everybody has an opinion, so keep your comments and thoughts coming!

As always, you are welcome to write your own opinions piece for the Fiat Lux at any time.

FIAT LUX

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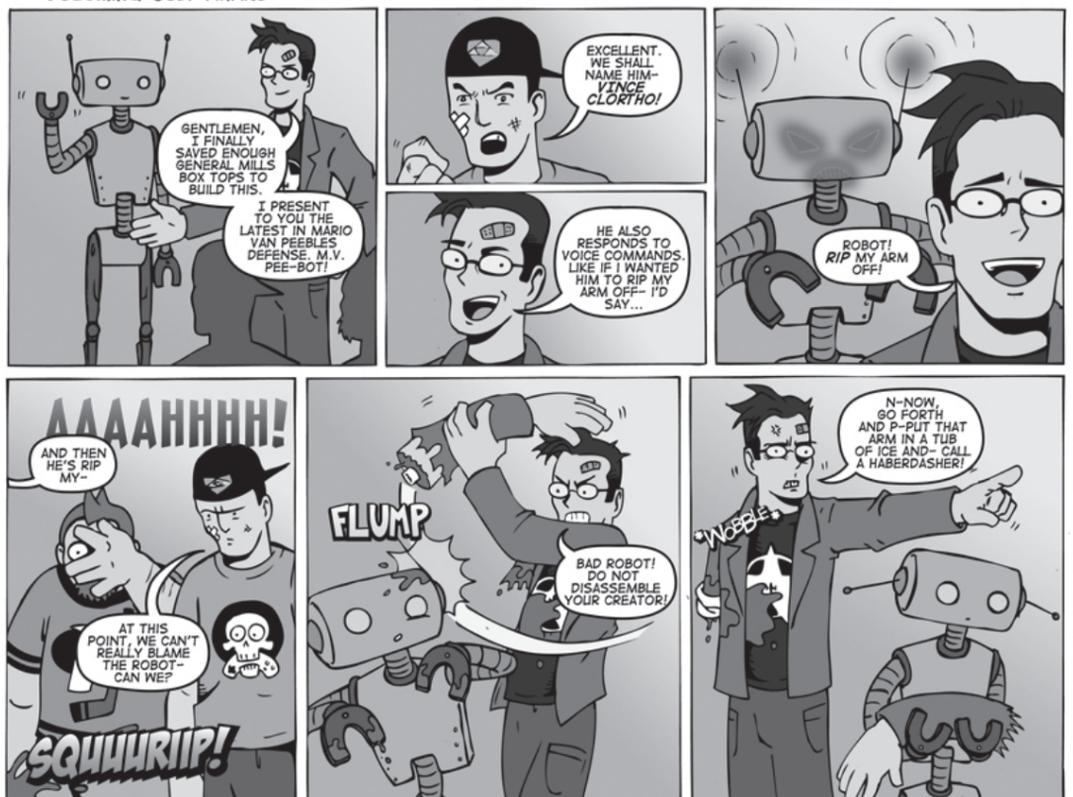
Have far too many Wegmans plastic bags lying around your room? Try using reusable shopping bags instead! They're washable, have a stable bottom, strong handles, and are larger than plastic bags. Many places also accept tote bags from that don't have their logo on it, so hit Salvation Army or the Op Shop for that 80's-chic kitten puffy paint tote.



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Faculty Soapbox: A perfect storm



By Robert Heineman
Professor of Political Science

In this column, I want to talk a bit about American politics, the banking industry and proposals to regulate this industry, because I believe that Americans are about to be the victims of a perfect storm in this area of the economy. As has often been the case, this storm will hit without much warning—other than that provided herein. To really perceptive students of American politics, it is increasingly clear that a number of forces are mov-

ing American taxpayers, voters and investors toward a free-for-all without parallel in American history. Willie Sutton, a criminal of some notoriety during the mid-twentieth century, was once asked, "Why do you rob banks?" His answer was, "Because that's where the money is." This tale may be apocryphal, but what is without doubt is that the banks still have a lot of money and that the greedy expropriation of these funds will make Willie's take look puny indeed.

At first glance, much the opposite appears to be the case. Currently, President Obama, apparently tiring of his health care effort, has turned to proposing more stringent regulations on American banks. The concern is that they were part of the cause of the recent economic troubles and are in need of greater government control and a new agency to prevent their further deleterious impact on the economy. As is often the case among the naïve and simple-minded,

government regulation is the easy answer. The problem is that agencies in American government, especially those regulating powerful sectors of the economy, must have a political base to be effective. There is no such thing as impartial, non-political regulation in the American policy process. Agencies are funded and directed by Congress, and over time those regulated are often in a position to have tremendous influence over both the agency and those congressmen who direct it. As students of the policy process would have it, agencies are "captured" by those whom they were established to regulate. The reason for this is that those they are intended to regulate remain in existence long after the erstwhile reformers have moved on to other worthy causes. Moreover, those being regulated have a serious vested interest in how the regulation is done. "Capture," then, is a fairly common phenomenon at both the national and state lev-

els. In fact some industries welcome regulatory efforts because over time they expect to control the regulators and yet, to the public at large, can appear to be under government direction.

What makes the current situation markedly different from the past is the recent Supreme Court decision in *Citizens United v. FEC* (2010). In this decision, the Court greatly expanded its position in *Buckley v. Valeo* (1976), in which it held that the First Amendment allows individual candidates to spend as much of their own money as they wish in their election campaigns. Thus, in his recent re-election campaign for a third term as mayor of New York City, Michael Bloomberg is reported to have spent \$102 million of his own money. Now, in the *Citizens United* decision the Supreme Court has also freed corporations and unions to spend as much as they wish in campaigns. Consequently, banks are positioned to spend millions, perhaps billions, to elect the

members of Congress who will be controlling the agencies established to regulate them. Basically the combination of constitutional law and congressional attempts at oversight will free banks under the façade of regulatory control to do pretty much as they wish. They will be able to pour huge amounts of money into politics and will expect substantial rewards. In the words of Ronald Dworkin, Professor of Law and Philosophy at New York University, in a recent *New York Review of Books* article (Feb. 25, 2010): "The Court has given lobbyists, already much too powerful, a nuclear weapon." It will soon become exceedingly difficult to tell the bad guys from the good guys. In this situation, those still concerned about clear moral distinctions might well be tempted to ask, "Where's Willie Sutton when we need him?"

The Alfred Computer Guy: Keeping your data safe

Mike Stone

Contributing Writer



Anybody who has experienced a hard drive crash or some catastrophic system failure knows about the importance of backing up their data, but how often do you think about the safety of your files in terms of "winding up in the wrong hands?"

The threat of data theft and the escalating consequences of losing client information are increasingly frightening prospects in the business world today. Hardly a month goes by without some incident report involving a stolen laptop that contained the personal records of customers, clients, patients or colleagues.

In April of 2008, 1,200 participants in a National Institutes of Health study had their medical records swiped when a laptop was stolen. According to the *Washington Post*, this data was unencrypted, which is a violation of federal policy.

The United Food and Commercial Workers Union 555 had a laptop stolen in May 2009 that may have contained the personal information (including birth dates and Social Security numbers) of its 19,000 members, according to a letter sent out by the UFCW.

One of the more shocking incidents I found involved the Oklahoma Department of Human Services. In April of 2009, they had to notify more than one million state residents that their personal data was stolen along with an unencrypted laptop. This data included names, SSNs, birth dates

and home addresses from clients receiving Medicaid, child care assistance and disability benefits.

Not only is such an event serious enough to warrant termination of employment on the spot, but many states are now enacting legislation that holds companies and the offending persons legally liable. It's easy to point fingers and say "Well, you shouldn't have all that data on one system anyway," or "You should be more careful," but the fact of the matter is that for traveling representatives of companies and institutions, yes – they often do need access to that much user data at any given time. Equally futile is the attitude of "be more careful" – you can't stop theft entirely nor can you completely prevent the all-too-common human "whoops" factor that allows people to leave a computer in an airplane or taxi cab.

The pity is that the whole situation is so easily avoidable. How, you might ask? Well, there are a few ways, but it basically comes down to encryption.

The goal should not be the prevention of system loss, but to make the act of system loss a minor event. Sure, you or your company may feel the sting of losing a \$2,000 computer and you may get your hand slapped, but there's no reason to have a public relations nightmare, an administrative staff scramble to play damage control, and your company's name in the newspaper.

By encrypting your data, you keep your sensitive files in a "container" under lock-and-key by your PIN or password. Think of it as the difference between a file cabinet and a safe. A file cabinet is easily accessed – even a locking file cabinet is easy to get into (which is parallel to believing your files are safe simply because you need to use your password to log into the computer).

Hardware (and to an extent, software) encryption would be more like keeping your files in

a big bank vault. Even if anyone wanted to get at the files, they wouldn't be able to and they would most likely destroy the data in the process of trying. Either way, prying eyes would never get access.

There are plenty of external hard drives and USB pendrives that are protected by hardware encryption. Apricorn makes portable USB hard drives (ranging from 250GB to 500GB) that feature a physical numeric keypad on the drive itself. Their recommendation if you forget your PIN? Perform a factory reset (which wipes the data) or throw the thing away – there's simply no getting in.

Software encryption also works well, but can be difficult to use and administer. A good free program called TrueCrypt is somewhat intuitive and is available for Mac and PC.

There are also encrypted drives with fingerprint scanners or other biometric security measures – I personally avoid them, as they are easily bypassed (as any *Mythbusters* fan might know). Stick with passwords or PINs.

The main point is that mistakes, theft, and overall data loss happen. It's part of life in our digital age. The goal of a company and your goal as a responsible employee, student, or vendor is to make sure that the loss of a computer does not result in the loss of public trust.

Do you have any questions you would like to ask? Send me an e-mail at: stone@alfred.edu with the subject "Alfred Computer Guy." Mac, PC, Linux, OS/2 Warp, NeXT... hit me with your best shot!



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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Going Gaga for Glam Slam

By Melanie Baker
Contributing Writer

Spectrum, AU's Gay-Straight Alliance organization, will be hosting its annual Spring Glam Slam event on March 19 in the Knight Club.

The festivities will include dancing, music, student performances and a professional drag show. The drag performers, including five queens and one king, all come from Tilt Night Club in Rochester, NY.

The theme of the event is Lady Gaga in Candy Wonderland, an all-encompassing title prom-

ising flashy décor, outrageous performances and a wide array of music, including the popular, dance-worthy tracks of Lady Gaga.

Of course, you can dress in true "come as you are" style. However, students can have fun dressing up for the theme. Whether you choose Lady Gaga, Candyland or Alice in Wonderland is entirely up to you.

This is sure to be one of the spring semester's great events so check it out. Water and sodas will be available. The event will take place from 9 p.m. – 2 a.m. Admission is \$3.



LADY GAGA OFFICIAL PRESS PHOTO



'An Evening of Dance' reverberates with audience

By Nickelina Noel
Contributing Writer

The Division of Performing Arts held its annual Evening of Dance with the assistance of the Marlin Miller Guest Artist, Ishmael Houston-Jones. Houston-Jones, a dancer-choreographer based in New York City, created an original work entitled "(un) Cover(s)" with a few AU dance students. The event also included pieces by Robert Bingham, Acting Director of the Dance Program, as well as student choreographers.

'An Evening of Dance' featured artistic lighting provided by Fereshteh Rostampour and modern techno or electronic rhythms for most of the pieces.

"I thought it was totally delightful; the points of view of all the choreographers were all very distinct and the performing was very strong," said Bingham.

Whether it involved rolling in neon "clouds," uttering random French chatter or wearing conjoined red unitards, each performer embodied his or her character with an ease of familiarity.

"I thought a lot of the students brought something new to the table," said senior T.J. Samuels. "There was a lot of vocalization in the works. It pushed theatre to be less dramatized and more

emotional."

Samuels choreographed a piece entitled "re-ver-ber-ate," which was the opening performance. "I was inspired by the Weed Whacker line. Many times in society we miss the beauty around us. There are still beautiful things that surround us."

With the help of senior Sondra Perry, Samuels presented his work with a "glitchy sound quality [which] seemed to lack a steady rhythm." This heightened Samuels' desire to fabricate an industrialized era and show its impact on society in his dance.

Samuels sought out ideas from his dancers.

"I gave them the opportunity to give me feedback," He said. "We really became a team. I really can't call it my piece; it became our piece collectively."

Bingham also emphasized the significance of teamwork.

"The ensemble was important," he said; "they were seen as individuals but are connected together as an ensemble."

This led to an exquisitely memorable performance.

If you missed this event, be sure to check out performers such as Mexico-based Diego Piñon and Jody Oberfelder and Company this April.



PHOTO BY MIKE FLEMING



PHOTO BY MIKE FLEMING

(Right) "The Good Life is Out There Somewhere," choreographed by Robert Bingham with the help of his Fall 2009 New and Existing Repertory class.

D. Chase Angier opening 'Waiting' in Random Room Gallery

By Leah Houk
A&E Editor

Senior Claire Bresette and her housemates opened the Random Room Gallery in their apartment at 26 South Main in September, and since then, Bresette said, the openings have been "getting busier and busier."

Bresette, who curates and manages all the shows, had been interested in opening her own gallery for a long time, and when

her apartment had extra space, she decided to go for it.

"I really wanted to create an opportunity for artists in the community to show their work and to create an artistic situation outside of Harder Hall," she said. "So far it has been a wonderful learning experience for all of us."

The gallery has included exhibits and performances by undergraduates, graduate students, faculty and community

members on the first and third Fridays of each month.

"We have had a wonderful mixture," Bresette said. "We are currently working on involving more of the community outside the art school."

The next exhibit at the Random Room will be Professor of Dance D. Chase Angier's one-hour performance March 5 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. entitled "Waiting." The performance, choreographed by Angier, will feature a

performance by Jamie Troy and dress design by Marketa Fantova. The piece is fifth in a series by Angier, which was first performed by Chase Dance Theater at the Joyce SoHo in New York City in 2001.

Bresette's roommate, junior Alexis Steitler, will continue to run the little gallery after Bresette graduates in May.

Additionally, there is a Hot Dog Day show in the works for the Random Room.

"We are also planning on doing special events this summer," Bresette said, "which I am very excited about."

For the spring schedule of Random Room events, please see the previous issue of the Fiat Lux online at thefiatlux.com and the Random Room Facebook page, where you can see the schedule of events and view photos from past shows.

Eligible Alfredians auctioned for a good cause



PHOTO BY DAVID LEMMO

(Above) ASC student Zela Vidal and AU student Veronica Vancleave-Seeley at Date Auction on Feb. 14.



PHOTO BY DAVID LEMMO

(Above) Senior Carly Cook stands by to be auctioned as host Nicole Magath presents.

By Sonya Ellison
Staff Writer

The Valentine's Day Date Auction held on Feb. 13 in Nevins Theatre seemed to be quite a success, though it did begin a little later than scheduled.

"We really didn't know what we were expecting," said Emily Dowd of the auction. "It just happened and fell into place at the right time."

The auction is not a yearly event here at AU, but it has occurred before. Dowd says that the date auction was inspired by a scene from the musical Oklahoma and it was her idea to put it together.

"I wanted to become leader-like, guess," she smiles. "But it didn't really come together and happen until this semester."

The auction consisted of 24 single people. The eligible singles came complete with goodie bags full of cookies and other fun items for their dates, like bubbles, waterguns and heart-shaped sunglasses.

No one sold for under \$5 and the highest bid sold for \$30. Overall, the event raised around \$250. The money will go towards the Iranian Railroad for Queer Refugees (IRQR), an organization that helps homosexual people in Iran, where it is a crime to be homosexual. IRQR fights

against discrimination and helps those who are on the run escape to other countries, usually Canada. Dowd decided to raise the money for this cause after seeing the organization mentioned in the film "Out in Iran."

Dowd is happy about its turnout and hopes to keep annually holding the event here at Alfred. "I didn't know what to expect, but it did come out better than I expected."

You can find out more about the Iranian Railroad for Queer Refugees at <http://www.irqr.net/>.

Chamber Singers going 'Off Broadway'



PHOTO PROVIDED BY DENNIS BILLINGS

The AU Chamber Singers will be presenting "Off Broadway with Chamber Singers" on March 26.

The group, under the direction of Laurel Buckwalter, will be singing a series of show tunes from Broadway musicals including "Chicago," "The Fantasticks," "Guys and Dolls" and "Les Miserables." The event will begin with a cash bar at 7 p.m. with the

performance set to begin at 7:30 p.m. Desserts will also be served.

Reservations are required and can be made by e-mailing fbuckwal@alfred.edu. Tickets cost \$10 and payment is expected at the time of reservation. There are a limited number of seats available, so later reservations may not be accepted.

The Hoang and Perry Show (something to do with pancakes)



PHOTO BY ANA DEVLIN-GAUTHIER



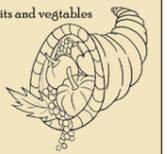
PHOTO BY ANA DEVLIN-GAUTHIER

BFA seniors Alex Hoang and Sondra Perry held an art show Feb. 20-23 in Turner Gallery involving pancake mix and self-basting. (Above) Sondra Perry on the left and Alex Hoang on the right.

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FEATURES

What the PIRA is going on in Northern Ireland?

Kristin Rubisch

Managing Editor, Features



The conflict in Northern Ireland, long portrayed as one of the most violent religious conflicts in modern times, has been brewing since the 16th and 17th centuries.

Following the English Reformation, the English government launched several military campaigns and initiated its policy of plantation, under which thousands of English and Scottish Protestant settlers moved into Irish territory. By 1613, the Catholic majority (which comprised 85% of the population) was banned from serving in the Irish parliament and suffered significant deprivation of rights

at the hands of the Protestant settlers.

In 1801, the Act of Union made Ireland officially part of the United Kingdom. A new parliament in Ireland was created as part of this, under which Catholics were still forbidden to serve until 1829.

The Home Rule Act of 1914 allowed Ireland to maintain some level of autonomy and self-government while still existing as part of the larger U.K. It was several years after this that any opposition to English rule was truly effective.

The Irish War of Independence (1919-1921) showed the power of a prominent oppositional force, known as the Irish Republican Army (or Old IRA). Using guerrilla tactics against British forces in Ireland, the IRA was able to lay the foundation for the Anglo-Irish Treaty of 1921. This treaty ended British rule in roughly five-sixths of the Irish continent, creating the Irish Free State (now known as the Republic of Ireland). It also gave the Parliament of Northern Ireland (ruling over 6 counties) the chance to join the Irish Free

State, but, seeing as it was predominantly Protestant English-descendants, they opted out of this to remain part of the U.K.

The Ireland Act of 1949 asserted that these 6 counties of Northern Ireland, also known as Ulster, would remain part of the U.K. until a majority of the population decided otherwise. For some residing in Ulster, this majority vote was an issue; a significant population of Irish Catholics still remained in the region and lacked the necessary numbers to join the Republic of Ireland. This tenuous situation came to head beginning in the 1960's in a period known as The Troubles.

The Troubles marked a time in which the Nationalists (predominantly Catholic residents desiring freedom from Great Britain) and the Unionists (predominantly Protestant residents who wanted to remain part of the U.K.) launching paramilitary attacks against one another. The Provisional Irish Republican Army (PIRA or New IRA) sought expulsion of British rule; the Ulster Volunteer Force, working in conjunction with the British

army and police, fought on behalf of the Unionists. Intense levels of violence carried on for roughly 30 years, claiming more than 3,000 lives in the process. Major political parties, including the PIRA's political wing (the Sinn Féin), were in a deadlock over the future of Northern Ireland.

The Troubles were tentatively brought to an end in 1998 with the signing of the Belfast Agreement (or Good Friday Agreement), which decommissioned the PIRA's weaponry, called for ceasefires from most paramilitary groups, again called for a majority of the population to vote for secession from the U.K. and called for Great Britain to remove itself from involvement in such a decision. This forced the people in Northern Ireland to cooperate, albeit on a minimalist level, to maintain functional infrastructure. As it stands now, the government of Northern Ireland is comprised of both Unionists and Nationalists, often headed by the First Minister and Deputy First Minister of opposing parties.

Despite the Belfast Agreement,

there are still small outbreaks of violence between paramilitaries in the region. The conflict itself has evolved from one along religious affiliation to one of political viewpoints and self-determination; it is important to note that currently, prominent members of the Sinn Féin are Protestant, as prominent members of the Democratic Unionist Party are Catholic, despite both groups originating as Catholic and Protestant respectively. The current political system, while considered functional, is ineffective at providing for the desires of at least some part of the population. Without better cooperation between both sides, no satisfaction for either can be obtained.

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?)"

Alfred to Haiti: An interview with Walner Edmond

By Nickelina Noel
Contributing Writer

Walner Edmond, a junior Bachelor of Fine Arts major in the School of Art & Design, has been supporting his father Thermoline Edmond and other relatives in Haiti since he received information regarding

the earthquake. "I was helping a sixth grade basketball team when I got the call," said Walner.

Although the United States and several other nations have provided aid for Haiti, the survivors are still in desperate need of help. "My dad told me he didn't have a home, because the building he was living in col-

lapsed," said Walner.

The incident left Thermoline Edmond and many others in tents on the streets of Haiti. "I could believe it but it didn't really sink in. I accepted it but the pain was different. It happened to them, not me."

It was reported that the donations from the "Pour for Haiti"

fundraiser were sent two weeks ago to Thermoline, via Western Union. Walner also intends to travel to Haiti with the Lighthouse Christian Fellowship Haiti Support group on July 3. The group includes members of the Alfred community, Alfred University and Alfred State.

According to Walner, the

group plans to help the survivors rebuild and provide spiritual support as well.

If you would like to help offer relief to Haiti, donate at the Red-cross.org.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY THE FOUNDRY GUILD

(Right) Junior Fine Arts major Walner Edmond and Foundry Guild President, Sharie Willey, next to the furnace that would be fired up for the Pour for Haiti on Feb. 6.

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NEWS

Phi Beta Kappa Wit and Wisdom wins an audience on March 4

By Jessica Marella
Staff Writer

On March 4, junior English major Elizabeth Wager will present a Bergren Forum on her entry for the first annual Phi Beta Kappa Wit and Wisdom competition. Phi Beta Kappa first hosted the competition last fall in lieu of the annual spring guest speaker. Out of three finalists, Wager was named winner by a judging committee. She was awarded the forum, as well as 250 dollars and a dinner in her honor.

"We considered the quality of writing, the academic excellence, originality of the work, and other factors," said Assistant Professor of English Juliana Gray.

Finalists gave an eight to ten minute sample of an oral presentation on their pieces. The winner was then chosen based on public speaking skills, poise and accessibility of the audience.

"It's basically a collection of nine poems that I've written over the past year and a half," said Wager. "I've added brief introductions to each one, explaining what the assignment was, and the importance and creation of the 'voice.'"

The poems are all written from the points of view of different speakers, including a doctor, a sailor and a coal

miner.

"Each poem is a look into that persona, and expresses how that character sees and interprets their world," Wager said.

When asked about how she felt about presenting in front of an audience, Wager stated she was nervous but excited. Winning the competition was worth the nerves, though.

"I'm not going to lie, it felt pretty good. I think about it occasionally, and I'm still surprised," she said.

Both creative and analytical work was accepted for the competition but Wager sees perks in poetry over prose.

"Poetry condenses ideas in such a way that language and word choice are crucial," Wager explained. "Each line, each phrase is so meticulously planned out, it forces the writer or poet to really consider what they are writing about."

The forum will take place Thursday, March 4 from 12:10-1:00 PM in Nevins Theater. It is sure to be an entertaining and interesting Bergren Forum.

"I think people will really be impressed by her writing and depth of insight," Gray said. "I've admired the poems that she's written in workshops, and I'm glad she has this opportunity to share them with an audience."

Outstanding Senior nominations due today at 4:30 p.m.

By Stephanie Hiu Yan Choi
Business Manager

Around this time every year, the Marlin Miller Outstanding Senior Award is sought after by the graduating class, for it is a glorious ornament that would give their college life a perfect end.

The Marlin Miller Outstanding Senior Awards, as the name suggests, honor the highest all-around accomplishment of the recipients. The awards are given to one man and one woman from the graduating class who have contributed most to the life of the University overall. Each year, the recipients of the award address their classmates at Commencement in May, and are recognized at the Honors Convocation.

Besides a large cash award, the awardees would each receive a terra cotta tile. The tiles are given in honor of Mr. Marlin Miller, an Alfred University graduate of 1954, who has been one of Alfred University's most generous supporters. Miller has also been on Alfred University's Board of Trustees since 1972. The terra cotta tile portrays Alfred in its surrounding landscape, with words from Alfred University's alma

mater in the foreground.

To be an eligible nominee, one has to be a graduating senior with a minimum GPA of 3.2 and have attended Alfred University for a minimum of four semesters. In addition, one has to demonstrate enthusiasm for and dedication to improving the quality of life for the campus community. As soon as the students are nominated, they are invited to apply for the award. The selection committee will review the nominations in mid March. Finalists will be interviewed at the end of March.

The selection committee consists of five faculty members, representing each college and the libraries; four staff members and one non-voting chair from University Relations. Kathy Woughter, Vice President of Student Affairs, will communicate with the student nominees and provide information to the committee but not take part in the selection.

The nomination form can be found at <http://our.alfred.edu/eforms>. Only nominations received before Monday, March 1 at 4:30 p.m. will be considered.

\$20.10 Senior Initiative for gift, T-shirts



PHOTO PROVIDED BY AU PRIDE

They were here. Where were you? The Feb. 12 senior class kick-off toga party may have been a shut out, but the Senior Initiative Senior Gift fundraising efforts will continue through May 14.

As the graduation of this year's senior class is only 11 weeks away, the proverbial ball is rolling to raise funds for the senior gift.

Results from a February survey of seniors determined that the senior gift will be replacing the brown welcoming sign on Main Street.

The \$20.10 Senior Initiative is the method by which AU Pride will raise this money. When seniors donate \$20.10, \$10.10 goes towards the senior gift and the remaining \$10 goes towards purchasing your own senior t-shirt. Designs for t-shirts will be unveiled in the bookstore before spring break.

For students who wish to purchase just a senior T-shirt, the cost will be \$15. The initiative is looking to raise \$10,000, so AU Pride requests that seniors participate and spread the word to their classmates.

The committee has already started collecting money and will continue until May 14.

The bookstore is the easiest place to make a \$20.10 contribution. They accept cash, check, credit card or student account charges. Student Services in Seidlin also accepts charges to student accounts, or students can contribute by making personal checks out to Alfred University (in memo line specify: \$20.10 Senior Gift).

Mail to:
AU University Relations Dept.
C/O \$20.10 Senior Class Gift
Welcome Center
Alfred, NY 14802

The more participation, the better this project will turn out. This is a realistic goal. The senior class can come together and make this a senior gift to be remembered.

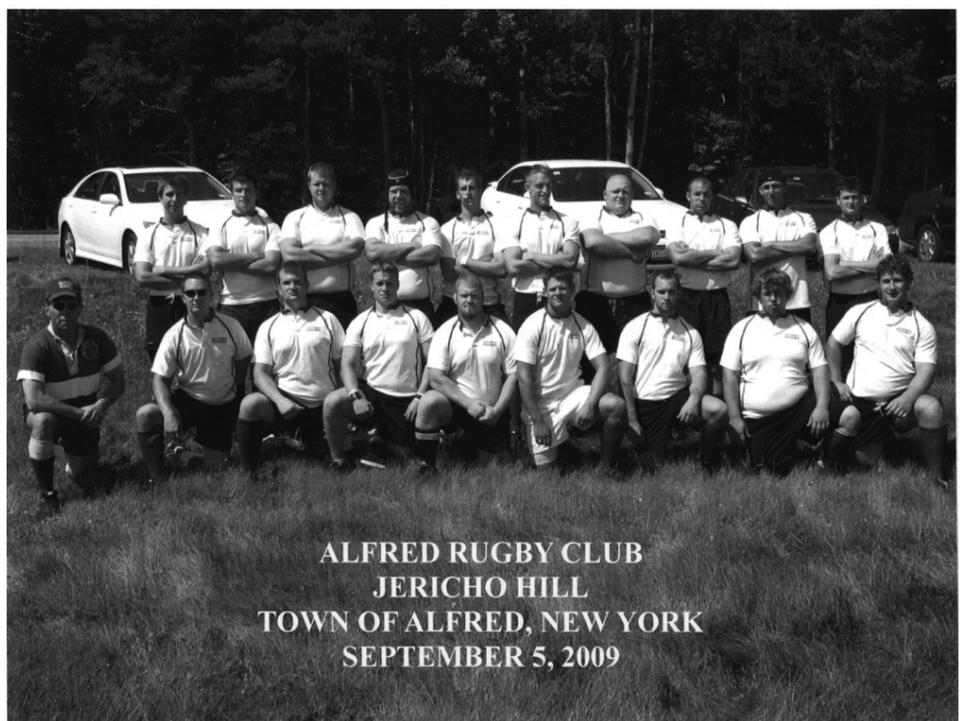
Students who have any questions can e-mail aupride@alfred.edu.

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JUMPS

Vote...
continued from front page

Brown, an extra week to campaign. For the candidates, this also means seven more days of anxiety.

"Between midterms and elections, yeah, the stress levels are really high," Nyitrai commented.

The polls opened on Feb. 28 and will remain open until March 2. Voting takes place on Blackboard, and the Elections Committee assures students that there will not be any kinks this time.

"It will be as easy as finding a test for a class," Carr said when asked about the accessibility of the ballot. All voters need to do is log into their Blackboard account and locate the "Student Senate Voting" link.

Results will be announced at the March 3 Student Senate meeting in Nevins Theater. Student Senate meets at 8 p.m. every Wednesday in Nevins Theater in Powell Campus Center.

Thomas Fleming contributed to this article.

SPORTS

Alfred Equestrian team: Champion high point team at their last regular-season double-header

By Justin McCombs
Sports Editor

The Alfred University Equestrian Team was at Lehman Farms in Pittsford, NY for their last regular season double-header. The team was very successful, with many riders placing in first and second place.

For the first show, Kristen Kovatch and Lauren Pfeifer finished first and second respectively in the Reining category. Kovatch also placed first in the Open category and was the champion high point rider. Kristen Eklin finished first in the Novice category, followed by Kaitlyn Bentley who placed

second in the Intermediate category and Peter Metz, second in the Beginner category. Alfred finished as the champion high point team.

Alfred also met with success in the second show. Kristen Kovatch finished second in the Reining category, Kristen Eklin second in the Novice category, Nick Munch first in the Intermediate category and last but not least, Peter Metz finished second in the Beginner category.

Alfred finished the season in third, with Kristen Kovatch finishing as the reserve champion high point rider for the season. The following list of riders will



PHOTO PROVIDED BY THE AU EQUESTRIAN TEAM

be competing at the Regional Championships at Cazenovia College on March 17. The first and second place finishers will qualify for the Semi-finals:

Reining: Kristen Kovatch,

Lauren Pfeifer

Open: Kristen Kovatch

Advanced: Alicia Pickett-Hale

Novice: Hannah Certis, Michelle Applebaum, Kristen

Eklin

Intermediate: Brittney Biegel, Katie LeSuer, Charity Chaffee

Beginner: Nick Munch

AU women's and men's basketball teams drop season finale to Nazareth



AU lost to Nazareth 64-51 Feb. 21

PHOTO BY DAVID LEMMO

The Alfred University men's basketball team was defeated by visiting Nazareth, 64-51, in their season finale Sunday afternoon.

The Saxons trailed Nazareth, 38-27, at intermission. Alfred shot 38 percent for the first half, while Nazareth shot 50 percent.

AU (11-14, 4-12 Empire 8) was able to close the gap to six points (49-43) with 11:38 remaining, but was unable to take the lead. For the game, Alfred shot 34 percent and Nazareth (16-9, 11-5 Empire 8) shot 48 percent.

Junior guard Mike Stopera (Scotia, NY/Scotia-Glenville) scored a team-high 11 points with four rebounds and junior guard Gary Kwiecien (Perry, NY/Perry) netted 10 points to lead the Saxons. Freshman guard Matt Johnson (Winchester, VA/James Wood) added seven points and freshman center Phil Mormon (Fairport, NY/Fairport) added six points and brought down a game high 12 rebounds.

Corey McAdam scored a

game-high 16 points and had seven boards to pace the Golden Flyers. Dan Waldbillig netted 14 points, Phil Scaffidi (nine rebounds) added 12 points and Jason Corletta (nine rebounds) scored 11 points.

The Alfred University women's basketball team lost its season finale, falling 56-48 to visiting Nazareth Sunday afternoon at the McLane Center.

Nazareth (13-12, 7-9 Empire 8) scored the game's first six points and led 18-4 with 9:20 left in the opening half before AU (10-15, 4-12) went on a 16-7 run to close the half and trail 27-20 at intermission. AU shot 22 percent in the first half, but made seven of eight free throws and forced eight Nazareth turnovers to stay close. Nazareth shot 36 percent in the opening 20 minutes and made four of 11 three-point shots.

Nazareth led by nine early in the second but AU pulled to

within a bucket (42-40) with 6:15 remaining. Nazareth then went on a 9-1 run over 2:25 to take a 51-42 lead with 3:50 left and Alfred wasn't able to get closer than seven.

Senior forward Hannah Meier (Rochester, NY/Greece Odyssey) led Alfred with 11 points and six rebounds and senior forward Danielle Cooper (Reading, PA/Reading) added nine points and five boards. Junior guard Courtney Lincoln (Waterloo, NY/Waterloo) (four rebounds, two steals) and sophomore guard Christina Jordan (Cornwall-on-the-Hudson, NY/Cornwall) each netted nine points for the Saxons.

Kelly Dunne and Kylie Bartlett scored 14 and 11 points, respectively, to pace Nazareth. Brittany Tallchief and Brittany Wilson each pulled down a game-high seven rebounds.

for re-election at the 2010 AGM. The Executive Committee will officially vote on the measure at its March 5 meeting in Syracuse.

Bill Pulos Named NYS Rugby Secretary

NYS Rugby's Executive Board has named Bill Pulos (Alfred, NY) to fill its open seat of Secretary. The seat went unfilled following the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in November

2009. "We welcome Bill Pulos to our Executive Board," said Mike Hodgins, NYS Rugby President. "He has a long association with NYS Rugby and will undoubtedly provide expertise in sev-

eral different areas." Pulos, a long-time coach and practicing attorney, recently accepted the Head Coaching position with the Alfred University Men's Rugby Club. Pulos was the founding

coach of the club in 1985, leading the club until 1990. He was also NYS Rugby's Collegiate Director from 1990-91. Pulos will finish the remainder of the 2010 term and will be eligible to run

AU women's swimming and diving concludes in 'Cuse

By Justin McCombs
Sports Editor

The AU women's swimming and diving team placed 13th with a score of 195 points at the New York State championship meet that ended last Saturday in Syracuse. Alfred was in the meet

with 17 other teams for the three day event, which took place at Nottingham High School. Ithaca won the championship with a score of 1,403 points followed by Stevens in a close second place with 1,228 points.

On the last day of competition, freshman Kylie Smith (Abington,

PA/Abington) took 14th place in three-meter diving with 317.7 points. Sarah Blair (Auburn, NY/Auburn) placed 15th in the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 55.4 seconds and freshman Eryn Matich (Johnson City, NY/Johnson City) came in 19th after a time of 2:23.01 in the 200-yard but-

terfly.

Earlier in the competition on Friday, Sophomore Donna Hoops (Geneseo, NY/Geneseo), Katie Ganley (Syracuse, NY/Westhill), Matich and Blair finished in the 13th spot after a time of 1:59.45 in the 200-yard medley relay. Junior Calista Mer-

ritt (Conesus, NY/Livonia) along with Matich, Blair and freshman Shelby Remington (Gainesville, NY/Letchworth) came in 12th in the 800-yard freestyle relay with a time of 8:28.72.

ALFRED SAXON SCOREBOARD

Team	Last Opponent	Result	Record	Next Opponent
Men's Swimming and Diving	UNYSCSA Championships	—	—	UNYSCSA Championships
Women's Swimming and Diving	UNYSCSA Championships	—	—	UNYSCSA Championships
Men's Basketball	Nazareth	L, 64-51	11 - 14 - 0	—
Women's Basketball	Utica	L, 48-56	10 - 15 - 0	—
Men's Alpine Skiing	USCSA Mideast Regionals	—	—	USCSA National Championships
Women's Alpine Skiing	USCSA Mideast Regionals	—	—	USCSA National Championships
Men's Indoor Track and Field	New York State Championships	7th	—	ECAC Championships
Women's Indoor Track and Field	New York State Championships	6th	—	ECAC Championships

