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FIAT LUX



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THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF ALFRED UNIVERSITY



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May 3, 2010

Two students break into West Side Wine and Spirits

By Kristin Rubisch
Staff Writer

Two Alfred University students broke into West Side Wine and Spirits at 2:30 a.m. on April 29.

Surveillance videos from the liquor store show two males breaking in through the back door of the store, using their cell phones as flashlights. One of the students was seen on the tapes taking several bottles from the shelves and placing them in a bag he carried. An officer later confirmed that these were bottles of rum. The other man approached the counter and stole a folder containing confiscated ID's before they vacated the store.

Residence directors and assistants were asked to view the footage with police officers Thursday afternoon to assist with identifying suspects. After doing so, footage of the one culprit who approached the counter (taken from behind the counter) assisted the staff in identifying him as a first-year student from Cannon residence hall.

Police officers confirmed the identification by using the suspects' profile photographs on Facebook. After interviewing several students in Cannon, the second culprit was identified. According to unofficial reports, both students have been removed from campus.

Alumnus Doug Kass to speak at commencement

By Kristin Rubisch
Staff Writer



PHOTO PROVIDED

(Above) Alumnus Doug Kass will deliver a speech at the ceremony.

Alumnus Doug Kass will speak at this year's commencement ceremony on May 15 at 10 a.m. in McLane Center.

Kass, who graduated from Alfred University in 1971 with majors in philosophy and religion, is an economic columnist and commentator of considerable renown. He has appeared on "Mad Money," "Good Morning America," "The Today Show," "FastMoney," "The Kudlow Report" and "Street Signs." He has also worked at several Wall Street firms in the past. He is a principal writer for TheStreet.com's Real Money blog and has been cited in several notable newspapers, including the Wall Street Journal, New York Times and Washington Post. He is the founder and current president of Seabreeze Partners Management, Inc.

In an email interview with the Fiat Lux, Kass explained that he received a phone call from President Edmondson requesting a meeting. In this meeting, which took place a month and a half ago at Kass' home in Florida, Edmondson asked Kass to be the commencement speaker. In a university press release, Edmondson said, "With the uncertainty about the future that our graduates will face in today's economy, we thought Doug Kass would make an ideal speaker."

Kass confirmed that his major points for his speech are as follows: "to touch on my journey and then make some observations about something I know a little about - what went wrong in our financial system and where we might be going economically in the years ahead."

When asked about returning to his alma mater, Kass admitted that he's looking forward to it as he has not visited since his graduation in 1971. Particularly, he is looking forward to interacting with students and seeing how the university has changed since his departure.

Kass' speech will be part of the overall commencement ceremony, which will also include speeches by the Marlin Miller Outstanding Senior winners Emily Tobin and Thomas Fleming. According to the official press release, the university will be granting five doctoral degrees, 160 master's degrees and 315 baccalaureate degrees on May 15.

Keeping the Red Scare alive: The Alfies 2010

By Vreni Gust
Opinions Editor
Ana Devlin Gauthier
Contributing Writer

Holmes auditorium was transformed into a roaring sock hop as the 2010 Alfies kicked off on May 1.

Students and faculty donned their best high waters and poodle skirts to attend the show. As they entered the decked out venue they were greeted by Kristie Valentino and her vintage candy shop (sponsored by the Center for Student Involvement).

Student entertainers of the year Steam Whistle Cartel kicked off the night with a lively performance.

Continued on page 5...



PHOTO BY JASON WUN

(Above) Joey Turro receives Outstanding Campus Spirit by an Individual award from Dan Napolitano, Trish Debertolis, Craig Arno and Nancy Banker.

Student Senate budgets announced

By Eric Hudack
News Editor

Although many clubs received budgets significantly under the amount requested, most club leaders are satisfied with their budgets for the upcoming 2010-2011 academic year.

"It wasn't ideal," Kanakadea Yearbook editor Zach Grosser said, "but with a little bit of roll-over [from last year's budget], [adviser] Dan Napolitano's guidance and the yearbook company's support, we'll make it happen regardless."

The funding requested was nearly \$190,000, almost double that of last year, although Student Senate finance chair Ann Halbert-Brooks did admit that last year was a low request year.

Another reason for less overall funding is the increase in returning clubs on campus. According to Halbert-Brooks, there are usually five or six new clubs approved for a Student Senate budget and several older clubs drop out. This year, participation increased from 40 clubs to 50 clubs which makes financing all those clubs difficult.

The Alpine Ski team, a previously university-funded ath-

letic team, lost all funding from the athletic department due to budget constraints, and was saved by Student Senate, which transformed the team into a Senate-funded club in order to allow the ski team members to still compete. Student Senate's funding of the ski team essentially takes up the 3 percent increase in the budget Student Senate was in-line to receive.

"It is unfortunate that the ski team had to come to Senate for funding," Halbert-Brooks said, "but they definitely should have funding."

Halbert-Brooks says she looks at the situation as if they never had the 3 percent increase to begin with, as if allocations remained the same from last year. Unfortunately, as more clubs are requesting budgets, more money is needed, and it all comes down to who is asking for how much, and what kind of needs take precedence.

This year, there were two clubs that formally appealed their budget results - REPO, also known as Reusable Materials Depot, and MIA, also known as Millitant Illustrator's Association. REPO, which was denied funding by Student Senate, was looking for funding despite refusing to participate in Hot Dog Day volunteering. Ac-

cording to the Budget Committee's results, REPO requested funding for work study money and reimbursement penalties, which are features Senate cannot finance. MIA was hoping to receive additional funding for the NY Comic Conference. Neither group passed the Appeals Committee.

Other club leaders expressed satisfaction with the way their clubs were treated fairly at the budget hearings.

Rob Koch, president of Alternative Cinema said he initially budgeted to put on nine movies throughout the year but was only approved for seven.

"It's a lot of work putting on movies, so I'm happy with only putting on seven," Koch said.

Other clubs like Friday Night Live and Middle Eastern Dance Organization have been very happy with their budgets, according to their representatives and leaders.

Although people may be upset initially that their financing goals were not met, Halbert-Brooks says most of the grumbling will fade away.

"Mostly people have been supportive," Halbert-Brooks said. "Within the constraints we had, people are very forgiving of us."

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EDITORIAL

Goodbye yellow brick road, for now

Approximately this time every year hallways begin to simmer with thoughtful reverence, and the regular visitors of Herrick Memorial Library begin to find new competition for their coveted window seats.

Professors may find that their time is faithfully winding down to those more lackadaisical of days. A welcome respite between the present and another prosperous future. One final push – then we are there.

Students brace themselves against restless pillows and cold chairs anxiously awaiting their final trials. Classes fill slower and empty faster as students exodus into the final days before their conclusive – hopefully not cumulative – tribulation. In this time of pension the Fiat Lux would like to take this moment in AU history to think retrospectively.

The Fiat Lux staff has covered everything from snow forts to fires, budget cuts to rebuilding, and even more within the last two years. Through it all Thomas Fleming, also known affectionately as Pappy Fleming, led his staff to news worthiness no less than biweekly.

Having found her way home from American University last year, Kristin “Fiat Mom” Rubisch, has had a profound impact on the turnout of this twice monthly publication. Playing the bad cop to Tom’s joviality, the Fiat Lux of this year is more correctly phrased as theirs than his.

Ultimately, the Fiat Lux owes its most grateful thanks to its adviser of 15 years, Robyn Goodman, who will not be able to continue on with her position at the Fiat Lux starting from the coming fall due to the restructure within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Under her guidance, the Fiat Lux has earned 30 regional and national awards, with an average turnout of two awards per year – her presence will be greatly missed.

Not only is Robyn Goodman an expert in journalism, but she is also an emphatic communicator. While a price has been put on the skill set she offers, the enthusiasm and dedication she possesses find no monetary match.

While Professor Goodman’s success may be quantifiable by the number of plaques now hanging above our cabinets in the Fiat Lux office, her efforts should not be tallied without the recognition of her most integral focus. Education is constantly at the forefront in the most infectious ways. Sometimes it seems as though she breathes for the word and has similarly bred it into each issue of the Fiat Lux.

The Fiat Lux staff asks our audience to wholeheartedly thank these members of the Alfred community for their tremendous efforts on this most genuine venture.

Editor’s note: The editor would like to correct a misprint in Issue 12. The photos of Alfred to Asia were provided by Diana Zucker.

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

Giving credit where credit is due

Vreni Gust

Opinions Editor

I’m going to be totally honest with you here: I love rap music. That being said, I am very cognizant of the negative messages often present in lyrics of the rap genre. I realize that violence, sex, misogyny, substance abuse, and many other negative subjects are often glorified by the genre. One study done by the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine found that 80 percent of rap songs in the top 279 songs on the 2005 Billboard charts mentioned substance use. That’s more than twice the amount of any other genre. Even rap legend Jay-Z has stated rap lyrics often perpetuate violence in today’s society.

Regardless of all of this negativity, I still thoroughly enjoy rap music and feel that it definitely deserves some credit. Thus, I

would like to take a moment to commend rappers for their brilliant use of literary devices. Today’s rappers are masters of many literary devices: simile, metaphor, allusion, hyperbole, pun, etc. Regardless of the often offensive or disgusting content of the lyrics, some of the puns and metaphors rappers come up with are pretty incredible.

Granted he is comparing a woman to a kitchen appliance but when Flo Rida proclaims “shawty was hot like a toaster” in his hit “Low” I find his creative use of simile pretty impressive. And when Timbaland and Justin Timberlake describe how they “got you open all night like an I-Hop” in their song “Carry Out” they use allusion and simile in the same sentence: that takes skills.

Drake uses hyperbole masterfully in his song “Best I Ever Had” when he claims he has a “buzz so big [he] could prob-

ably sell a blank disc.” Obviously, no one (especially not him) is famous enough to be able to sell a blank disc, but it sounds so good doesn’t it?

I like to think of Lil Wayne as the master of puns in the rap industry. His song “Lollipop” contains pun after pun comparing himself to a lollipop, example “he’s so sweet, think I want to lick the rapper [wrapper].” I can really appreciate how creative rappers are with their use of literary technique.

Now on a more serious note, I will leave you with my favorite line from a rap song ever. This line is from Kid Cudi’s song “Soundtrack 2 My Life” off of the album “Man On The Moon: The End Of Day:” “Ignorance is coke man, ignorance is bliss. Ignorance is love and I need that s**t.” I realize that’s a lot of metaphors for one lyric, but think about it.

Letter to the editor: Thank you

To the AU student body,

On Saturday at the Alfie Awards, the Saxon Bike Hub received an Alfie for the Best New Organization on campus. I gratefully accepted this award and would like to thank the students who voted and those of you who have used the Bike Hub. But, in my haste to accept the award and exit the stage, I failed to mention and thank key players having to do with the success of the Saxon Bike Hub.

I would like to start off by thanking Kathy Woughter, vice president of Student Affairs. Without her, the program would not have happened. She was a tremendous help with every aspect especially at an admin-

istrative level. Thank you to Dr. Garrett McGowan, professor of Chemistry. Garrett was always there for support and always had time to listen and offer advice on how the program could be most successful. The student workers who staffed the bike room also played a huge role in the program’s success. A big thank you should be sent out to Student Senate which provided \$10,000 in funding and got the program on its feet. Peter Stull and Keith Gregory of The Bicycle Man provided the Bike Hub with a tremendous deal on the bicycles that were purchased. Thank you to you both.

Lastly, and most importantly, I would like to thank Alex Chetcuti, who will be a sophomore this

coming fall. The program would not have been as successful nor would the first full year of its inception been as smooth without his help. Alex volunteered countless hours in the bike room asking for nothing in return. He was my right hand man whenever I needed him. This fall, he will be taking over the program and I am confident that he will do a tremendous job. The Alfie that I accepted on Saturday night was undeserved and should have been given to Alex for his hard work, selflessness, dedication to the program and passion for cycling. Thank you Alex! Good luck with the Bike Hub!

Ian Cramer

Backspace

a comic by Alfred alumni



WWW.BACKSPACECOMIC.COM

Let's not forget the little guy

Eric Hudack

News Editor

Perhaps it is because I am sick of losing. Or perhaps I just wanted the tangible proof of what I have already known for years (that I am the best). But after three consecutive failures to capture that elusive Alfie award, I have come to a decision: may be it is not me that needs to change, but the voting process for the award.

Not to discredit the "Eddie Money Hour" or this year's winner "Pirate Radio", but should I be deprived of campus wide rec-

ognition just because I lack the popularity or a friend base that consistently forgets to vote?

Now, I am not trying to pretend the theme of this article is not extremely pretentious. My arrogance demands me to think I have the best radio show in Alfred, so understandably I am disappointed when I discover not everyone agrees with me.

And Jim Morretti, I hate to call you out on this one, but two nominations for Male Athlete of the Year? You wouldn't want to take the opportunity to shine a tiny light on some of the other, often overlooked athletes we have at AU? A chance to show

the public we have a soccer team and a track team too. Or perhaps you have overlooked them too.

I take pride in being nominated for an Alfie. It means someone has acknowledged our abilities as a performer, athlete, or student leader. If we are all satisfied with this being a popularity contest, why not change the categories to "Most Popular Fiat Lux Staff Member" or "The Dancer with the Most Friends Award"?

Can the award really hold that much prestige if it is little more than a glorified symbol of how many people an individual knows on campus?

I mean, how does one measure "achievement"? Certainly a familiarity with what you are voting for would help, but why leave the decision of what is "the best" in the hands of a student body that is less likely to attend the Alfies than the parties that proceed and follow the event?

I'm not suggesting we remove the student component of the vote. But when 325 students, or roughly 10 percent of the community, are determining the outcome, would it not help the merit and value of the awards if a knowledgeable and competent committee helped to determine who most deserves the recogni-

tion?

Are education and validity not the reason that Homecoming kings and queens are designated through process and approval of a committee? Perhaps it is time to rethink the levels of education motivating the Alfies constituents.

Who is going to stand up and fight for the little guy if not enough people know who the little guy is? Furthermore should a nominee not having the most friends limit his or her accomplishments?

Ninety six degrees in the shade

Nickelina Noel

Features Editor

A chain of alluring, unique and wondrous islands all located in the Caribbean where you wake to the loud sweet song of a yellow-breasted Chat perched on a branch near your window.

The sun's rays fall upon the open curtains and it feels nothing like the New York City sun. The wind is fresh and with it comes the smell of the ocean.

The clear, vast and relaxing

waters of the Atlantic Ocean crashing against the white sandy shores call to all passers-by, tanners and idlers. The only way to satisfy the call is to dive into it and accept the glory of the cool inviting waters.

Slip on some sturdy walking shoes and hike through the stunning scenery. The world's only drive-in volcano is located in St. Lucia, where you can rejuvenate for as long as you like in the hot sulphur springs of an extinct volcano.

If you can't stand the heat,

let the flow of Jamaica's Dunns River Falls lead the way. Ease your body and allow yourself to let go against the rapid cascades and waterfalls which pour into the Caribbean Sea. It is then you will appreciate Jamaica's catchy phrase "once you go you know."

Yet the Caribbean waters mean nothing if you don't explore Tobago's diverse and abundant marine life. The nutrient-rich waters surrounding Tobago attract a variety of coral and fish life. Scuba diving also offers a unique opportunity to enjoy this

tremendous species diversity.

"Forget not that the earth delights to feel your bare feet and the winds long to play with your hair," accompanied by the scents of the Balata Botanical Gardens of Martinique, a beautifully composed garden featuring a variety of plants, including ponds with water lilies and lotus blossoms.

Allow the multiple and splendid scents to drift your weary minds into complete relaxation mode to the point where any recollection of the semester disappears through the experience.

The Caribbean is unlike any other worldly destination. The most successful way to experience its immaculate and astoundingly beautiful landscapes is to live in it. But since we are not all that lucky, a cruise to these islands will leave an imprint of the experience with you throughout your life.

Satisfy your desire to travel, experience new cultures and enjoy the deliciously cool waters of the Caribbean.

Letter to the editor: In response to "CSA fashion show coverage"

The following letter is submitted in response to Miss Joy Frye's letter to the editor concerning the CSA fashion show coverage published in the issue dated April 19.

Miss Frye,

I am impressed with your letter to the editor. I thought that only the National Enquirer could cram that many errors into such a small space. Who checked your facts? Was it Al Sharpton's guy - because I can see where you went wrong. Let's correct your errors. We will cover first the ambulance calls, and lastly those policemen you so subtly accused of racism.

Yes you are right, there were two ambulance calls. There was one before the incident with the mace. It was for a patient who was intoxicated. That patient was transported to the hospital. The second call was for the patient who had an asthma attack as a result of the mace. That particular patient did not go to the hospital. Instead, [he or she] chose to wait and catch [his or her] breath. Consequently, the patient did not go the hospital. But you are right - there were two ambulance calls. Excellent investigative reporting sport, right on.

So now that we set you straight on the ambulance calls, let's get to the police.

Guess what sparky? The police didn't pop the mace. It was a young black woman who was being fought over by, I guess, some rather enthusiastic suitors. Now I realize it is hard to control yourself around a pretty girl, but please grow up. That is no reason for jumping up and down, and running around screeching like toddlers at snack time. Anyway, once the mace was sprayed, the police, who were outside because of the first ambulance call, bravely entered the writhing mass inside the Knight Club. They moved in, extricated her - the girl who was fought over by - and her friend, broke up the fight, and called for the second ambulance. When the ambulance arrived, the technicians treated the second patient, who again opted to go back to [his or her] dormitory as opposed to the hospital. By the way, the only doors locked were the ones that were supposed to be locked at that hour.

To sum up, no one went to the hospital because of the mace the young woman sprayed. Next time when you write a letter to the editor that accuses the people who protect us of poorly handling a riot caused by drunken fools, perhaps you should talk to someone who was there sober.

Kenneth Bellows

Consider going meatless for one day a week (or even one meal per day). Not only will you have a healthy, well-rounded diet, but you'll also be reducing your impact on the environment. Also, both dining halls have excellent choices for both vegetarian and vegan diets. Still a carnivore? Buy local! It's fresh, delicious, and you'll reduce the need of trucking frozen meat hundreds of miles.



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Faculty Soapbox: Beauty and the music of the trees



By Laurie McFadden
University Archivist

The old adage “beauty is in the eye of the beholder” is one I believe in. But I also think that sometimes we need to stop and intentionally soak in the sights around us in order to really see that beauty and appreciate it.

Springtime on our campus is always beautiful as color begins to creep across the landscape: the green tree buds and the growing grass, the yellow forsythia bushes by Alumni Hall and the Brick, the purple violets around the carillon, the flowering crab trees and the red breasts of robins as they hop around in search of that early worm. We see the dedicated physical plant crew steadily cleans the detritus of winter and prepares the flower beds to soon hold a variety of colorful blooms.

Too often we apologize for our rural location instead of extolling its beauty and the outdoor opportunities it can offer all of us. Having just celebrated Earth Day and soon Arbor Day, I would encourage everyone to slow down during this hectic closure to the academic year and notice just how much beauty we have surround-

ing us each day. Have pride in it, help maintain it and most certainly enjoy it.

Much of what we see on the site of the original campus (the area taken in by Kanakadea, Powell, Steinheim, Alumni Hall, Herrick Library and the Brick) was planned and cared for by our second president, Jonathan Allen. We often tout his work as an egalitarian who stood up with his wife Abigail for women’s rights and equality as well as leading our institution in its early years. But we don’t recognize his hand in beautifying our campus and how it tied in with his philosophy of teaching students to be well-rounded and strong citizens.

Not only did he manage the administration of the University and teach a variety of classes, but he also spent a considerable amount of time working on the grounds and encouraged students to do the same.

In her memoir of him, Abigail said he “felt that beautiful grounds and buildings were among the best of educators... As soon as the grounds came under his immediate care, books were bought on landscape gardening, and a systematic work of beautifying was begun.”

It was not unusual for Allen to lecture on the topic of beauty and its importance in life.

Allen felt that too often students were forced to learn lessons in “little, low, half-made, rickety old buildings...with backless benches...within such places many a dull, tedious school day, with its long, juiceless, nerveless, mummyized lessons, is whiled away, wherein the hungry soul of childhood is far away, listening in fancy to the merry chatter of the brook” or hoping to smell the “odorous south wind, laden with the bloom of the field and wood.”

Allen saw the ideal school as a place

where “hungering and thirsting souls are satisfied, where dormant energies are aroused, stimulated, inspired to noble life and action, where spiritual growth, strength, harmony, and beauty are the results; in short, develop all that is desirable to appear in the future.”

He viewed nature as a “constant, faithful teacher, instructing in truth, beauty, law, and goodness.”

Allen literally practiced what he preached. “One spring he made it a daily task to go into the woods, uproot a young pine, bring it down on his shoulders, and plant it at the noon recess. During that summer some fifty-two trees were planted in this manner...”

Many students were also engaged in planting trees and caring for flower beds. In the 1930s, students were instrumental in planting thousands of trees on Pine Hill which had only been open pasture land for a few years.

For many years, it has been a tradition for the graduating seniors to plant a tree

during their Class Day celebration. One alumnus recounted a story of walking the campus in the summer of 1893 listening to the “music of the trees” as Allen had said he would after helping plant them many years ago. A lecture titled “The Mission of Beauty” had been eloquently delivered that long ago Arbor Day by Allen who had already prepared the ground and purchased trees for students to plant.

Afterward he told them, “You are planting for the future, and when in after years you return, these trees will sing to you, and the music of your own will be sweeter than any other.”

They were encouraged to return to campus from time to time to enjoy the beauty they had helped create. A beauty that we continue to see today around us. Stop some time and listen to that music of the trees, whether the stately pines or the majestic oak and maples, and remember Jonathan Allen and the myriad of students who helped create it so many years ago.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY LAURIE MCFADDEN

(Above) Second president of AU Jonathan Allen plant trees on AU campus.

FEATURES

What the (blank) is going on in the world – lessons in peace

Kristin Rubisch

Staff Writer



Over one year ago, I wrote my first “What the (blank) is going on in (Blank)?” article.

That first article, published on Feb. 9, 2009, touched on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Since then, I have covered current conflicts from Algeria to Zimbabwe (and everything in between) for a total of 16 articles within this column.

In my final piece for this column, I want to touch upon a few important things to remember when studying active conflicts.

Conflicts are relevant. It is all too easy for most people to sit

back and tune out what is going on elsewhere in the world because it “doesn’t affect you.” If you are a citizen (or a resident) of the United States, it affects you more than you will ever know. The conflict in Israel drains your tax dollars; the conflict in Northern Ireland will determine the future of one of our greatest allies (the United Kingdom); the conflict in Somalia influences our reluctance to enter the conflict in Sudan; the conflict in Kashmir will dictate the nuclear balance between Pakistan, India and the world. Do not doubt how important the events in these countries are just because you cannot point them out on a map.

They are never simple. Though I write about these conflicts in a half a page or less, there is far more information about them than I can ever write or know about. My point is that conflicts are infinitely more complicated than the polarized view we are given in modern media coverage. Bad guys may not be as bad as they are portrayed, the good

guys may be doing something we would never condone and information is never as free-flowing as we would like.

Media literacy is critical. As I mentioned above, media coverage often presents a simplistic, polarized viewpoint. Though I did have to simplify my own stories, I tried to present as balanced a view as possible. I may not have been successful all the time, but it is the responsibility of readers (and television viewers, internet surfers, etc) to receive this information with a grain of salt. Be aware that every writer, professor, anchor person and so on has their own bias that affects their coverage. Try to study information from both sides, because no solution will ever come forward to any conflict if you know only one side of the story.

Never stop learning. Again, it is easy to think these issues do not matter. Actively learn about what is going on in your world, because the United States is heavily involved in a large por-

tion of it. Pursue information and knowledge because as technology improves, it becomes ever easier to connect to people on the other side of this planet.

Practice cultural understanding. Contrary to American exceptionalist ideals, we may not be the best country by everyone’s standards. Realize that your culture and heritage is different from others, be respectful of their culture as you wish them to be respectful of yours and be open to them. You never know what benefits can come from another culture until you open the door.

Lastly, realize that peace is possible. All media coverage, my own included, can present a very grim outlook on the future. But if we pursue knowledge while maintaining open cultural communication and understanding, become media literate and observe the lessons of the past and present, the future may not be as terrifying as it seems. Conflict can be healthy and can lead to growth, but it is too often carried

too far. We must learn to make concessions, to take responsibility for our actions and to act in good faith. The road to peace is fraught with difficulty, but some of the most wonderful things in life are those we have worked hardest to get.

I appreciate the opportunity to share what I have learned about the world with those who are willing to read about it, and I am pleased to say that the “What the (blank) is going on in (Blank)?” series will continue next year, written by the Fiat Lux’s Sports Editor, J.P. McCombs.

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Two with AU connections receive Guggenheim Fellowships

Two artists with connections to Alfred University are among the 180 recipients of Guggenheim Fellowship Awards for 2010.

Mary Lum, a former professor of painting in the School of Art & Design, and Michael Jones McKean, a 2002 graduate of the School of Art & Design with a

Master of Fine Arts degree in ceramic art, were among those selected from more than 3,000 applicants for the prestigious awards, which average more

than \$40,000 per recipient.

Lum was a member of the faculty at Alfred University for more than 20 years before joining the faculty at Bennington

College in Vermont.

McKean is a member of the faculty of Virginia Commonwealth University.

Bette Blank: Icons, Idols and True Confessions

Date: Through May 16, 2010

Venue: The Hunterdon Art Museum, Clinton, NJ

Bette Blank's website: www.betteblank.com

Bette Blank received a BS and MS in Ceramic Engineering from NYS College of Ceramics at Alfred in 1961 and 1962. She received a PhD in Materials Engineering from U.C. Berkeley in 1965. She gave up her work in science to paint full time in 2000.

Bette's work is in the permanent collection of the Jewish Museum in NY and the Hunterdon Museum in Clinton, NJ.

Following was written by the curator of the Hunterdon Art Museum for the Exhibit listed below.

Bette Blank's lively and often

humorous work reflects her unique vision. Drawing images and inspiration from popular culture and everyday life, the artist invites viewers to see the world through her eyes. She melds iconic figures and objects with the people, places and things she observes in her own life, integrating the famous with the familiar.

In Marilyn Refrigerator the movie star's photograph is stuck to the door of the artist's refrigerator, which is filled to the brim with popular brands of food; this painting exemplifies her uncanny ability to personalize popular culture.

Blank has a limitless imagination. She makes it seem completely plausible that Queen Elizabeth and Condoleezza Rice

would shop for the perfect shoe in a suburban Neiman Marcus or that Frida Kahlo would eat at Blank's favorite sushi restaurant. In the world that her paintings depict, established icons and idols all seem friendlier, even vulnerable, and so much more approachable. We can imagine ourselves having a conversation with Blank's Marilyn Monroe, Sigmund Freud or Prince Charles because she makes them convincingly human—one of "us" instead of "them."

Consumer products like automobiles, kitchen appliances, clothing, shoes, drugs and cosmetics provide equally worthy subjects for Bette Blank. She enshrines a vintage radio by painting its portrait in Radio

(Frequency Modulation). Blank has recently been fabricating three-dimensional versions of these objects, such as the contents of her medicine chest. (Look closely and you may find Freud's Prozac hidden among Blank's own prescriptions and cosmetics.) A rhinestone-encrusted skull pays a tongue-in-cheek homage to the artist, Damien Hirst.

A pink Cadillac is both a well-known symbol of luxury and the ultimate "girl" car, while a Harley-Davidson motorcycle embodies speed, risk, and the open road and is the definitive macho machine.

Blank associates both icons with popular songs, incorporating the lyrics of "Pink Cadillac" and "Born To Be Wild" into the

backgrounds of the respective paintings. This inventive use of words lends a fresh perspective to her recognizable subject matter. Sigmund Freud is surrounded by his theories, Marilyn Monroe sings "Happy Birthday, Mr. President," and Rocket Man includes facts about the moon, as well as lines from popular songs and nursery rhymes.

As a visual artist Bette Blank is consistently attracted by color and repetition, and she uses these qualities to animate her paintings. Additionally, she seeks emotional resonance with her subjects, forging personal connections with them. This emotional connectivity further enlivens her work and creates powerful new connections with her viewers.

Master of Fine Arts program again tops in the nation

As it has every year since US News and World Report began ranking Master of Fine Arts programs, the ceramic art program in the School of Art & Design, New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University, is

tops in the nation.

This year, for the third year, Alfred's MFA in glass art ranked second in the nation, tied with the program at Rochester Institute of Technology.

Overall, Alfred's MFA program

is 10th in the nation, which is also the same as last year's ranking.

"The strength and consistency of our Master of Fine Arts program ratings by US News and World Report is a credit to

our faculty and students in the School of Art & Design," said Dr. William Hall, provost of Alfred University.

The School of Art & Design is part of the New York State College of Ceramics, a statutory unit

of the State University of New York (SUNY) system that Alfred University administers.

Alumna's bequest to help Women's Leadership Center

A leader among women in the military wants to make sure women at Alfred University (AU) are prepared to take on leadership roles in their futures by making Alfred University a beneficiary of her estate.

In 2005 Col. Sara J. Pritchett USMC (ret), the highest-ranking woman in the armed services among all AU alumnae, created an endowment to benefit the Women's Leadership Center at Alfred University. Proceeds from the endowment are used to "to support and encourage the work of the Women's Leadership Center at Alfred University."

Col. Pritchett has now decided to further fund that endowment with a bequest.

A member of the Class of 1962, Pritchett attended Alfred University for two years before transferring to the University of Maryland where she earned a degree in broadcast journalism, something Alfred did not offer at the time.

"Even though I only attended Alfred for two years, I just loved it (I had to transfer because there was nothing for my major)," Pritchett said. "There was no Women's Leadership program then. Perhaps if there had

been, I might have stayed. But any program that helps women get to where they rightfully belong is one worthy of my support. I was happy to be able to do it."

After graduation, Pritchett was unsure what she wanted to do; her parents suggested she consider careers in the military. Reviewing her options, Pritchett settled on the Marine Corps and enlisted in December 1964 as an officer candidate.

During the 22 years she spent in the Marine Corps, prior to her retirement in 1987, Pritchett was stationed in Quantico, VA;

Indianapolis; California; Louisiana and Washington, DC., where she worked in the Pentagon as a Navy information officer.

After retirement, Pritchett remained committed in causes dear to her – advancing leadership opportunities for women and the military. She worked at the International Women's Forum and as an assistant to the founder of the Women in Military Service for America memorial at Arlington (VA) National Cemetery, which successfully obtained the resources needed to build the memorial to women veterans.

Pritchett is also committed to the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation, which seeks to preserve the history of the Marine Corps and to make people aware of it through the National Museum of the Marine Corps.

She is also involved with So-roptimist, an international volunteer organization for business and professional women who work to improve the lives of women and girls.

AU business students awarded several honors in New Orleans

Jessica Marble, an Alfred University junior marketing major from Wellsville, was one of six students from across the United States honored with the American Marketing Association (AMA) Student Marketer of the Year award during the association's 32nd International Collegiate Conference in New Orleans earlier this month.

Marble, president of the Students of Marketing (SOMA) at Alfred University, is a 2007 graduate of Wellsville High School. She was nominated for the award based on her academic achievement, leadership accomplishments, and service to the AMA through her community, the collegiate division, and at Al-

fred University.

Marble is co-chairman of the annual Passionately Pink for the Cure event at AU, which earned her a Student Innovation award in 2009. She is also a member of the AU Women's Leadership Academy.

In summer 2009, Marble extended her marketing studies internationally by attending Bond University, a private institution located in Robina, Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia.

Edward VanStine, AU SOMA member and junior business administration major from Canisteo, placed sixth out of 50 contestants in the Northwestern Mutual Sales Competition.

Sixteen students and SOMA

Chapter Adviser Dr. Amy Rummel, professor of marketing at AU, traveled to New Orleans for the AMA conference, "Tapping into the New Norm of Marketing." The AU chapter is professionally affiliated with the AMA and has competed at the conference in recent years.

More than 1,500 marketing students, faculty, and professionals gathered to network, learn about the industry in speaker sessions, and participate in chapter competitions. AU SOMA competed with over 150 collegiate chapters in 16 competitions.

Alfred University's chapter was recognized for "Outstanding Membership" and "Outstand-

ing Community Service." These awards are given to chapters who perform exceptionally well in these areas based on information submitted in an annual report to the AMA Collegiate Division.

In the SABRE Business Simulation competition, the six-student team from Alfred University placed in the top 10 out of 25 collegiate teams.

AU SOMA was also recognized for its work in the AMA-SavesLives national campaign designed to raise awareness about organ donation.

"SOMA did amazingly well this year and our brand is finally being recognized on a national level," said Marble. "Other chap-

ters are recognizing who we are, and the talent that comes from Alfred University. We are all so proud of our chapter, and want to thank everyone for the support they gave us."

The SOMA at Alfred University is open to all AU students who are looking for opportunities to build their professional or design portfolios outside of the classroom. Using their marketing skills and talents, SOMA students concentrate on providing opportunities on campus and in the community to students, families, and small businesses. For more information about AU SOMA, e-mail soma@alfred.edu.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Celebrations for AU's class of 2010

By Kristin Rubisch
Staff Writer

Several events have been scheduled for the days between the last day of examinations and commencement for seniors and graduate students.

Comedian Rob Paravonian will be performing on May 10 at 10 p.m. in the Knight Club. Para-

vonian, who has performed in Alfred before, combines stand-up comedy and musical performance. His best-known skit is Pachelbel's Rant, a commentary on the overuse of one specific chord progression. He has also appeared on Comedy Central and written several songs for cartoon shows. This will be a free event.

The senior and graduate class trip to Three Brothers Wineries and Estates and Seneca Lake will take place on May 12. The cost of the trip is \$25, which includes lunch, complimentary wine and beer tasting, and a boat tour of the lake. The Three Brothers is a microbrewery combined with 3 different wineries, each offering different types of beverages.

Information on each winery and the brewery can be found at their main website, 3brotherswinery.com/.

Tickets can be purchased in advance in the bookstore or on Fridays at the ticket booth on the first floor of Powell Campus Center until they are all sold out. Those attending will be leaving the McLane Center parking lot at

11:30 a.m.

A barbecue and pot luck dinner will be held at 6 p.m. on May 13 in front of the Brick. Seniors are encouraged to bring extra food in addition to what will be available. Seniors will receive their complimentary Kanakadea yearbooks at this event.

Annual opening reception to showcase senior artwork

By Melanie Baker
A&E Editor

The 2010 BFA senior art shows will have their opening reception this Saturday from 4-7 p.m. in various campus venues as well as community spaces.

Senior shows, which have become a monumental event at Alfred University, are the cul-

mination of the work students have completed in their time here. The shows also mark the completion of students achieving their Bachelor of Fine Arts from Alfred University.

This year, 115 students from the School of Art and Design will present shows featuring ceramics, glasswork, painting, sculpture, drawing, photography,

video, mixed media and other creative forms.

The shows will be displayed in Harder Hall, Binns Merrill Hall, Davis Gym, Cohen Center for the Arts as well as a few shows in Hornell, NY. Maps of the venues and show locations will be readily available during and after the opening reception.

Controversially, the construc-

tion of the McGee Pavilion has displaced show spaces, like the Turner Gallery and the courtyard, which were promised to students when they signed up for their locations. Accommodations have been made for these shows to be mounted elsewhere.

In addition to the BFA senior shows, seniors from the Interdisciplinary Art program in the

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will display shows in the Brick studio. The opening reception for Interdisciplinary Art shows is also 4-7 p.m. on May 8.

All of the shows are open to the public and will remain up through graduation.

Hot Dog Day



PHOTO BY JASON WUN

(Above) Student clubs set up game booths on Main Street.



PHOTO BY JASON WUN

(Above) Crowds gather on Main Street on April 24.



PHOTO BY JASON WUN

(Above) Students play mud volleyball, tug-a-war and wheel barrel racing in Tucker Field Saturday at 2 p.m.



PHOTO BY DIANA ZUCKER

(Above) A student competes at Pine Hill Derby Friday at 5:30 p.m. by the Pine Hill Suites.



PHOTO BY JASON WUN

(Above) Wade Live performs in Harder Hall Saturday at 9 p.m.

Keeping... continued from front page

The Alfred Swing Society followed with their quick stepping, old school moves.

The first Alfie of the night, for best radio show was awarded to Ash and Moss (with Kari Aldrich) of "Pirate Radio", much to the dismay of Eric Hudack host of "Rockets, Guns, and Galileo", a three-time nominee, but a no-time winner. Hudack was equally disappointed when he lost his second chance of the night for an Alfie to J.P. McCombs for achievement by a Fiat Lux staff member.

"I just really wanted to win," a disgruntled Hudack said through choked back tears.

The Sexy Pitches opened the arts and entertainment segment with their retro rendition of "Lollipop." Both Alfies for outstanding actress and actor in a comedy series went to members of Pirate Theater: Kari Aldrich and Stephen Burger.

Before things got too funny, the winners of the Alfie for best student directed production, Alfred to Asia, took the stage for a dance performance that made everyone in the audience want to twist and shout.

Green Alfred took home the Alfie for outstanding educational program for the Earth Day celebration, thanking the many clubs without whom the celebration would not have succeeded. The Foundry Guild poured into the hearts of voters causing a win with the Alfie for outstanding service program for the Pour for Haiti.

Lauren Pfeifer fell off the proverbial horse (or maybe she was out skiing) when she was not present to accept her Alfie for outstanding female athlete and Jared Manzer missed the most important catch of his AU football career when he too failed to show up to receive his award for outstanding male athlete. However, when the football team won the Alfie for outstanding

athletic team, Jeff Vanderwalker modestly accepted the award. His acceptance speech moved the audience when he graciously acknowledged the AU pep band (winners of the Alfie for outstanding campus spirit by an organization) for their hard work and dedicated support at every football game.

Middle Eastern Dance Organization kicked off the performing arts section with an endearing and jingly performance. The Alfie for best performance in a performing arts theatre production was awarded to Justin Pietropalo for his role in The Importance of Being Earnest. Katie Barlow (who later performed with the AU dance team) took home the award for best performance in a performing arts dance production. Adam Fiegl hit a high note in his musical career at Alfred when he won the Alfie for best performer in a performing arts music production.

Zach Grosser was awarded the Alfie for best student design or

management of a performing arts production.

Next, the Acafellas took the stage and kept the red scare alive with two Cold War-themed songs. Mookie Smith and Ron Scheibel then tied for the Alfie for outstanding campus spirit by an individual.

After the show Scheibel joked that he could have had the coveted award all to himself. "If only I remembered to vote."

Comedian Bo Burnham, nominated for outstanding visiting entertainer of the year, will receive his Alfie by mail as he unfortunately could not attend the awards.

Otto Mueller and Sandra Singer folk danced off with the Alfie for outstanding contribution by a university professional, which they shared with David Chamberlin and Alex Wake for their work with Green Alfred. Pine Hill Derby rolled out with the Alfie for outstanding returning program, while Equest-fest roped the Alfie for best new

campus-wide program as if it were a prize steer.

The Saxon Bike Hub had their tires inflated when they were awarded the Alfie for best new organization. And finally, Carly Cook and Joey Turro tearfully and sentimentally accepted the award for outstanding senior contribution.

Dispersed between awards and performances were scenes from a skit written by comedic mastermind Dan Napolitano, starring thespians Chris Wszalek and Andrea Castro. The skit depicted the birth of the legendary Black Knight statue which was then awarded to Baressi Hall for their victory of the First Year Hall Cup.

All in all the Alfies ceremony was an excellent opportunity to see students and faculty get recognized for the contributions they make on campus. It was a rocking night for all ages.

Eric Hudack contributed to this article.



PHOTO BY JASON WUN



PHOTO BY JASON WUN

(Above) Alfred Swing Society's performance marks the start of the show.



PHOTO BY JASON WUN

(Above) Alfred Dance Team performs in the second half of the show.



PHOTO BY JASON WUN

(Above) The Acafellas takes the stage during the awards presentation.

"Alfies After Shock" fashion show



PHOTO PROVIDED

(Above) Models Radu Rotaru, Bonny Tai, Nickelina Noel, Mary Lam, Akeem Caballero, Correy Loftin, Hector Colon, Una Neal and Catherine Sahi present clothes made of recycled materials.



PHOTO PROVIDED

ADDITIONAL NEWS

The Umbrella Dialogue crosses bridges

By Ana Devlin Gauthier
Contributing Writer

On April 29, students from Spectrum and InterVarsity Christian Fellowship broke down walls between their respective groups with The Umbrella Dialogue. The event addressed issues that have stigmatized gays and Christian lifestyles throughout the years.

Umbrellas are often thought of as unifying shelters under inclement times. The idea that it is possible to know, get along, and even, as the Bible says "love thy neighbor" regardless of who that neighbor may be, sparked the unity between groups and jump-started the project.

The performance consisted of monologues submitted by student and community members from the two groups showing that everyone is the same beneath culturally branded labels. As Kevin Carr put it, "[it's] skin n' bones kind of stuff."

The dialogue illustrated differ-

ences and roadblocks in cross-over and interaction between the two groups. This included stories of Christian faith RA's, who felt conflicted when asked to wear "gay? fine by me" t-shirts and GLBT youth who were also members of the Christian faith and could not find anyone within their faith to turn to.

Kevin Carr and TJ Samuels were the sole performers. The two stood on opposite sides of the stage facing each other as they read the monologues. After each set of monologues, both Carr and Samuels took a step forward. This was significant to the goal of the performance, to bring together the two groups under one umbrella. The performance strove to "promote equality and encourage the Alfred community to commit to stopping victimization between the GLBT and Christian faith communities," said Ashley Fantigrossi.

The brains behind the whole operation were outgoing president of InterVarsity, Ashley Fan-

tigrossi, and Kevin Carr, president of Spectrum. The two had felt a pull for a project similar to this one for years, and the dialogues provided the opportunity for these two clubs, that are normally considered so different to come together. Fantigrossi recently took a missions trip to New York City where she realized the importance of integrating the two groups. Carr was also in agreement that the time had come for the clubs to work together, thus the project came to fruition. "You shouldn't let stereotypes make you be afraid of other people that could possibly be your best friend in the long run," said Carr, addressing his reasons behind the project.

Fantigrossi said that some members of InterVarsity thought the dialogues would be inappropriate; they did not see how the two groups could pull it off. It was, according to Fantigrossi, "definitely a test, but it was worth it for the audience to take something from it."



PHOTO PROVIDED BY DAN NAPOLITANO

(Above) Kevin Carr and TJ Samuels read the dialogue.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY DAN NAPOLITANO

(Above) Kevin Carr and Ashley Fantigrossi pose with umbrellas.

AU inducts new members into Phi Beta Kappa chapter

By Eric Hudack
News Editor

The Phi Beta Kappa Society, one of the oldest and most prestigious honor societies in the United States, inducted 24 new members into the Alfred University chapter April 16 in Susan Howell Hall.

Founded in 1776 by five students at the College of William and Mary, Phi Beta Kappa cel-

brates excellence in liberal arts and sciences. Only about 10 percent of the nation's colleges and universities are selected for Phi Beta Kappa membership and of these institutions, only about 10 percent of arts and science graduates are selected for membership. Membership into the Phi Beta Kappa Society is for life.

According to professor Melissa Ryan, new members are selected by a committee of Al-

fred University's Phi Beta Kappa chapter members, who solicit nominations from the whole faculty and scrutinize the transcripts of all eligible students. To be inducted, students need a GPA of at least 3.5 (for seniors) or 3.75 (for juniors). Students need to show breadth in their academic program; the kind of wide-ranging intellectual interests that a liberal arts education promotes. They must have

at least an intermediate level of proficiency in a foreign language, as well as a competency in mathematics

"We prefer students who've had advanced math," Ryan added.

The inductees of the 2010 Phi Beta Kappa Society are: Stephen Burger, Luci Cohen, Michelle Damcott, Amy DeNisco, Kristine Diesslin, Thomas Fleming, Rachel Gaylord, Logan Goulett,

Abigail Griffith, Ann Halbert-Brooks, Meghann Hudson, Matt Johnson, Tory Keith, Joseph Martin, Sofie Miller, Lyndsey Morris, Ben Placek, Samantha Pribish, Laura Reyome, Amanda Sullivan, Jessica Lynn Taylor, and Laura Vaughn.

The induction ceremony was well attended. The new student inductees were supported by friends, faculty and family.

Herrick Library: The Book End

By Kendall Westbrook
Contributing Writer

The empty husk of a service counter and a glowing neon sign are almost all that remains of the now defunct Book End Café in Herrick Library.

The Book End, which opened as "The Herrick Café" at the end of the 2007 fall semester, was "Alfred University's attempt to encourage students' educational efforts," according to an article published in Dec. 2007.

The purpose of the café was to give students a less formal, serious environment to study in.

Students could enjoy coffee, tea, muffins and even salads while watching television in the corner near the front desk.

In a Fiat Lux issue published in Feb. 2008, an article was published about a contest which encouraged students to personalize the café by way of a naming contest. The contest, judged by Herrick Library staff, ran until early March and winners were announced on the 21st of the month. However, there was no article in later papers on the contest winner, so the student who came up with "The Book End" will be lost in the annals of

Alfred's history.

The contest failed to garner the hype that library staff hoped for, but that wasn't the only problem with The Book End.

The Book End's hours, though consistent, were inconvenient for a lot of students, professors and town residents. The café was open from 8-11 a.m. and then from 8-11 p.m.

The café also never accepted dining dollars offered on the AU meal plans. Students did not want to pay "real money" when they could just go to the Li'l Alf Café in Powell Campus Center, a short walk away from the library

itself.

Future plans for The Book End space are unknown at this time. Currently, the space is host to Team Trivia night at AU. The Writing Center takes over the tables during their Sunday time slot and town residents have made the abandoned service counter the perfect spot to finish 1000-piece jigsaw puzzles.

Brittany Gardner, a student worker at Herrick Library, stated that she was not disappointed when the Book End closed down.

"I didn't use it much, so I wouldn't be disappointed," she

said. "I would rather not spend money there... Stuff was pricey."

Another anonymous student said that she did purchase from The Book End once and that she was mildly disappointed when the café ended its rather short run. She said that if the café were to ever re-open, the things it sells would have to be cheaper and more welcoming.

However, the chances of The Book End opening again are slim at best.

While the space is still there, it is simply a shell of its former self.

Communications student wins top honor at RIT research conference

Kristin Van Ormer of Corning, a junior communication studies major at Alfred University, received top honors at the recent Conference for Undergraduate Research in Communication at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) for her advertising-related communication studies paper.

Van Ormer's paper deals with how corporate sponsorships and advertising in the classroom often create conflicts of interest and the promotion of unhealthy lifestyle choices.

Alfred University communica-

tions professor Robyn Goodman, professor of communication studies at Alfred University, said Van Ormer's accomplishment tells her that "despite the small size of AU's communication program, students still have the opportunity to excel in academics."

"For me it reconfirms the fact that AU's communication studies program is the little engine that could — although our faculty are small in number, we are able to provide our students with the education they need to make their academic dreams come true."

Using the Potter Box model as an ethical framework, Van Ormer's paper examines the moral pros and cons of advertising in public schools. The criteria of the Potter Box are applied to the situation in order to analyze the ethical implications of this practice, and ultimately to draw a conclusion using the guiding principles of social ethicists Immanuel Kant and John Stuart Mill.

The RIT competition asked researchers to turn in theoretical, critical and/or empirical papers on a broad range of communica-

tion topics for presentation in traditional panel format.

Undergraduate research projects suitable for poster session presentation in an interesting, engaging visual format were also encouraged.

The Conference for Undergraduate Research in Communication, which began in 2004 as a small gathering of communication students from Western New York, has grown into a vibrant regional conference. Sponsored by the Department of Communication at RIT and held annually on its campus, the conference

draws nearly 200 undergraduate scholars from colleges and universities in New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and Virginia.

All accepted papers are published in a paperback, which is available for purchase online.

Van Ormer resides in Corning with her husband, Ron, a gift officer in the University Relations Division at AU, along with their two children, Giselle, 10, and Nolan, 5. She is the daughter of Tim and Linda Shaddock of Corning.

Benefits of the HEOP

By **Brittany Gardner**
Contributing Writer

College students have more support than they realize, according to Michele Doorley, a counselor for the the Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP) on April 21 in Myers Hall.

"The HEOP office is a place for students to go when they don't know where to go," said Doorley.

The HEOP is funded by New York State and is designed to help students that are in good academic standing but do not have the financial resources. This program enrolls about 25 to 30 students a year and there

are generally a few transfer students during the year.

The office is open on weekdays for students to come in, socialize and do their homework in the lab. When students are unsure where to go for help or support, they can turn to the counselor in the HEOP office. If the support they need is not offered by the three available counselors, students are recommended to someone who can assist them.

The HEOP has requirements and standards they expect the students to meet. When students are accepted into the program they are expected to do five weeks of training where they take basic mathematics and

English classes to get them prepared for the semester ahead.

The students must have above a 1.70 grade point average for their freshman year. If a student fails to meet these standards, they will be placed on academic probation and meet with the director of the program, Nadine Shardlow, to create a plan on how to improve their grades.

The HEOP offers academic help as well as help with personal needs. The counselors are willing to provide tutors for the students and ensure they have everything they need to be successful.

This program has a great impact on student's lives and their

success. Zachary Smith, a senior business administration student, talked about his four years in the program as fun-filled and successful. The program offered a lot of support both academically and emotionally. "There were times when I was not sure what I wanted to do or I was really stressed and just needed to talk," said Smith.

"If I didn't have the support from the HEOP staff my outcome would not have been as successful as it is now," said Smith.

The HEOP program tries to provide the students with support and guidance through their college years in order to ensure their success. Sarah Adegbile, a

sophomore in the program, also expressed her time as fun-filled, although she was annoyed with the five week program.

"The five week program paid off in the end because I had an example of what to expect when the semester started and I knew the campus and resources that were available to me," said Adegbile.

"The counselors in the office are excellent with helping to make sure you are choosing the right career path," said Adegbile.

"We try to make sure all the students needs are met and that they graduate successfully," said Doorley.

AU to restructure general education requirements

By **Jericho Shackelford**
Managing Editor

Alfred University is undergoing the prudent process of restructuring the general education curriculum for its College of Liberal arts and Sciences.

The initiative to review the general education requirements within Alfred University's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences began shortly after Dean Mary McGee took her position as Dean of CLAS in 2008.

Possible restructuring of general education requirements has been an issue since the college was last inspected by the Middle States Accrediting agency

in 2004. While there were not threats to the University's accreditations, eyes were opened.

The current general education requirements were created 35 years ago by faculty and staff of CLAS, many of who have since moved out of the Alfred University community. The requirements are based on a Distribution Requirement Model. This application is more rigid than alternatives in that it supplies students with a list of requirements from which students then choose from. Hence the laundry list feeling many get from their "gen eds."

As Dean McGee stated "[CLAS] 'Gen eds' haven't changed in 35

years and there is a lot that has changed."

Not only would a restructuring of the "gen ed" requirements be welcomed by the students, but many liberal arts professors are pushing for action as well.

McGee explained that as the current curriculum was instituted well before many of the current Alfred faculty have been teaching here, there is an understandable distance between themselves and the requirements they are obliged to teach.

"We need to be not afraid to do this," McGee stated, "Change can be scary, but we ask students every day to learn critiques, [to] evaluate your selves and we

need to do the same."

The self-evaluation of CLAS may lead to more freedom for students as well as faculty. Restructuring the general education curriculum may yield more, less-conventional, connected courses, or courses meant to be paired with each other.

Also being considered are the ways other colleges and universities have structured their "gen eds", from which consideration the idea of developing a theme for the requirements fashioned after AU's mission arose.

All this equates to greater ownership of the requirements by faculty and more interesting options for students.

Though the project is very much in the developmental stage McGee is willing to prove her ability to think outside the box. Open-mindedness within the initiative has led to further student involvement as the campus has been covered with flyers and emails inviting students to discussions on gen eds.

While the ideas are flourishing and many faculty are advocating change, the general sentiment on the situation is prudent. Dean McGee is looking into creating a steering committee dedicated to the restructuring of general education requirements that can begin working in the fall semester.

Student-created community gardens to grow at AU this summer

Students at Alfred University have created an official garden club — the Alfred Society of Horticulture (ASH) — to develop and maintain community gardens for students and faculty.

The Society plans to plant the gardens this spring, using a raised-bed system. The gardens will be located just off the south end of campus, between the Environmental House and the Language House, at 16 and 12 Park Street, respectively, and will accommodate approximately 14, 4-foot x 8-foot garden beds. Each bed will be rented to interested students and faculty for \$20.

Those who wish to rent a garden space can plant whatever crop they would like but be-

cause the club wants to keep the garden organic, they will have to contact members in charge for permission to use any fertilizer. The club will supply members with tools.

There will also be a garden on the left side of the environmental house that will be a shared garden. The club plans to grow tomatoes, broccoli, beans, squash, etc. and hopes to have an herb garden as well. It is anticipated that the vegetables in this garden will be sold to AVI Fresh, AU's dining services vendor, to supply local food for students.

"AVI Fresh has offered to front cash, up to \$500, for items needed for the garden to help get

the project started," said John J. Dietrich Jr., director of dining services. That \$500 would then be used as credit by AVI. "In the summer and fall, we would be able to use food from the garden totaling up to the \$500, based on market price at the time. Once the credit runs out, we would be able to purchase items from the garden at market value," he explained.

The green house currently located on the left of the environmental house will be used as a classroom for professors who wish to teach students about gardening as well as a nursery.

"A community garden is a perfect initiative for Alfred University, and I am so excited to see it

all coming together," said Kathy Woughter, vice president for Student Affairs.

"For several years, I've had conversations with people about a community garden, but nothing was possible without student interest. Thanks to the hard work of Hannah (Scout) Dunbar and Kacie Dean, and the partnership of AVI Fresh, our Physical Plant, and everyone involved with our Environmental House, our students are soon going to enjoy the educational, nutritional, and environmental benefits of a community garden," said Woughter. "Though it will start small, I hope the garden will grow into something that all our students and the Alfred commu-

nity can be proud of."

The students currently involved in the group are Dunbar, a junior art & design major from Ithaca; Amos Mainville, a junior mechanical engineering major from Fort Covington; Kara Kuntz, a junior environmental studies major from Bardonia; George Lowden, a sophomore are & design major from Marblehead, MA; Ean Rice-Mitchell, a sophomore environmental studies major from Otego; and Eggy Ding, a sophomore art & design major from Cincinnati, Ohio.

Each member will donate a few hours each week to garden maintenance; Mainville will be in charge of maintenance and planting over the summer.

National council awards certification to AU teacher education program

The Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC) has awarded national accreditation to the teacher education program at Alfred University.

TEAC is recognized as a national accreditor by the U.S. Department of Education and by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.

AU's teacher education program joins more than 100 accredited programs in 21 states with TEAC-accredited educator preparation programs.

Dr. Frank B. Murray, president of TEAC commented, "Only a bare majority of the nation's college and university teacher edu-

cation programs and programs for professional educators in the United States are nationally accredited. We welcome Alfred University to this select group."

Dr. Ann Monroe-Baillargeon, chairman of the Education Division and associate professor of education at Alfred University noted, "The Alfred University Division of Education participated in a two-year process of self study resulting in an inquiry brief, then was reviewed through an accreditation team audit resulting in the award of a five-year accreditation ... This was accomplished through the commitment of the outstanding

faculty who willingly contributed to a study of themselves, their work, and our collective work as a division. With this accreditation as our foundation we look to expanding our current teacher certification program offerings."

Founded in 1997, TEAC is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving academic degree programs for professional educators, those who will teach and lead in school pre-kindergarten through grade 12. Accreditation by TEAC is a voluntary system of quality review for educator preparation programs. It is designed to assure both education

professionals and the public of the institution's commitment to academic quality and fiscal integrity as well as stimulate ongoing improvement in its educator preparation program. Graduates of accredited programs can be confident that they are well prepared as competent, caring, and qualified educators.

To be accredited by TEAC, a teacher education program must have solid, independently verifiable evidence of its graduates' competence. The program must show that its graduates understand the subject matter they are certified to teach, understand the process of learning

and teaching, and possess teaching skills that lead students to appropriate levels of achievement. The program must also have an ongoing process for reviewing and improving itself, and must demonstrate that it has the capacity to offer quality education.

The TEAC accreditation process includes two levels of decision-making, culminating in a decision by TEAC's Accreditation Committee, which includes representatives of both the public and the education profession.

THE ALFRED BEAT

AU highlights Jeff Sluyter-Beltrao

By Jericho Shackelford
Managing Editor



Recently I had the pleasure of interviewing political science professor Jeff Sluyter-Beltrao.

Titles of books entwined his office space. Ideas columned and rowed collectively stuffed into wall height bookshelves insulated his room, save for those places designated for work; two paper laden desks, a couple of chairs and mess.

We sandwiched our conversation between the entropy and he began to articulate bits of his history.

He earned his undergraduate degree at The College of William and Mary, and over a number of years, dedicated to learning both on and beyond college campuses Jeff attained his masters from Columbia University and a Ph.D. from UC Berkley.

The turning point in his life,

Jeff said, was when he capitalized on the opportunity to study abroad in England during his undergrad at William and Mary.

"I know you didn't come here to study English literature, I know you came here to experience life in a different culture. Consider English literature your second occupation! It was something like that," Jeff explained with a smile, "and so I did."

Since then, professor Sluyter-Beltrao has dedicated his vocation and much of the life outside it to the further understanding of international cultures. While studying at the Goethe Institut, in Germany, Jeff traveled across Western Europe, ending up in the Bavarian region of Germany,

working as a dairy farmer and interpreting dialects between locals and Berliners that came for holiday.

Since Germany Jeff has lived in countries all over the western hemisphere from Switzerland to Brazil. While living in Geneva, Switzerland his passion for Latin America was realized as he learned about the United States and its policies throughout South and Central America.

While living in Nicaragua Jeff found himself in the middle of conflict stemming from American suppression of the leftist Sandista government, which was pushing for sociopolitical reform.

"People that I was inspired by

were being attacked by an army created by my government, that was a radicalizing experience."

At this point Jeff emphasized that he is no militant rebel, just a concerned world citizen looking for educated solutions to global problems.

Professor Sluyter-Beltrao recently finished writing his first book, an expansion of his dissertation on the Brazilian labor movement and the scales of democracy within it.

Happy with his place in Alfred Jeff looks forward to his sixth year teaching the students of Alfred University in the upcoming fall semester.

Green Alfred strives gold

By Jericho Shackelford
Managing Editor

In the past week, student-run organization Green Alfred has received two of Alfred Universities most highly coveted awards: an Alfie, for outstanding educational program, and the award given by student senate for Club of the Year.

The club kicked off fall semester 2009 with a concert and "go green" rally featuring earth-friendly band Revision and their vegetable oil powered tour van. Since the inaugural event the club has been dedicated to spreading awareness and action across campus.

Later in the semester, the club posted flyers in study cen-

ters, residence halls and anywhere else with spare space on the wall in preparation for 350. The international event marked the day the world realized what must be done to save its ecosystems.

Throughout the fall, Jenny Urfer, with the assistance of Leah Houk, headed a campaign to educate students on recycling in residence halls. Finally, the semester ended with Alternative Cinema and Green Alfred presenting an open screening of "Food Inc." at town hall.

"Most of the groups and organizations operate independently from both the institution and each other," AU President Charley Edmondson explained in an email addressed to the campus

preceding his speech at a Green Alfred rally; "The result is that our efforts to improve the energy efficiency of the institution and educate the community about the need for environmental consciousness in everyday life have often resulted in duplicated efforts, a lack of institution-wide cooperation, and a failure to achieve results commensurate with our good intentions."

Green Alfred has addressed this problem by inviting physical plant workers to Green Alfred meetings and now those workers are playing key roles in conversation and green action across campus. The club's president Kacie Dean is a member of the Universities Council on Green Efforts and each week

members of Green Alfred attend the university's recycling committee meetings.

Green Alfred began spring semester with innovative collaboration in mind, looked to join otherwise separate clubs with campus-wide green efforts and created an initiative.

The movement resulted in an academic environmental fair, where students learned about green classes being offered next semester. Also the Herrick Library printing initiative was carried over from previous efforts while art and design student Mike Stevenson paired with the club to print Green Alfred t-shirts.

Earth Week, the club's final four day event brought educa-

tion and collaboration to the forefront. With the help of AU PRIDE, Ana Devlin Gauthier, AU Activate, Spectrum, Student Senate, Creative Arts therapy, MEDO, Natural Wood, Bike Club, Alternative Cinema and AU President Edmondson as well as philosophy professor Emrys Westcott, Green Alfred earned the 2010 Alfie for best educational program.

As the year draws to a close it seems late-night studying in Powell Campus Center and mid-day catnaps in Herrick Library have paid off for Green Alfred's enthusiastically diligent president, Kacie Dean, as she looks forward to the possibilities of Green Alfred's next semester.

Bergaoui ventures into AU

By Kristin Van Ormer
Contributing Writer



PHOTO PROVIDED

When Donia Bergaoui applied to spend a year teaching in the United States she didn't know where she would end up.

"I didn't choose. They chose me," Bergaoui says of the lottery that would determine where she spent her first year in America, the country that had entranced

her since childhood.

A master's degree candidate in her native France, Bergaoui is specializing in American literature, particularly depictions of violence in African-American writing. She came to the United States as a teacher's assistant in the Modern Languages department last August, and will return to France later this month.

Fortunately, Professor Beach briefed Bergaoui on Alfred's rural charm so that she was not expecting a cosmopolitan setting when she arrived. Despite the warning, Bergaoui still faced several challenges in adapting to American life.

"The biggest challenge to me in this experience was to find such a wide culture gap," Bergaoui says.

Through her experience in the United States she has grown a deeper appreciation for France.

She misses the intense bonds she has with friends and the more relaxed attitudes of Europeans.

"Students here are always rushing to the next thing," she says. Bergaoui says that in France people are much more likely to while away the afternoon with friends at a café.

Despite missing France, Bergaoui has made the most of her time in Alfred. She taught classes about French youth and culture that she hopes broke down stereotypes and gave students a different perception of France. She's also frank about her experiences growing up as a minority in France.

The daughter of a Tunisian father and Algerian mother, Bergaoui says that immigrants have a difficult time being accepted into French society. She grew up in the suburbs, which

have a different significance in France. Many of them were built to house immigrants and have housing projects similar to what Americans see in inner-city urban areas.

"She managed to hold her head up and get to the university," says Zakia Robana, assistant professor of French, "There were so many times when it would have been easier for her to not accomplish her goals, but she did it."

Bergaoui acknowledges there are lowered expectations for what immigrant and first generation French citizens can accomplish, but that motivated her to adapt and she realized that education would be her ticket out of the suburbs.

"I learned how to pick the best of both cultures," she said.

Bergaoui enjoys the feeling of equality that she experienced

in the United States. She has a love for American language and culture, especially the writing of Toni Morrison and Sapphire, and the music of Kanye West and Li'l Wayne.

She says that the best thing about her time in the United States is that it's challenged her and helped her grow.

"I've become more open-minded, less judgmental," Bergaoui says.

Even though she's been in Alfred less than a year, Bergaoui has also affected AU for the better. Speaking of her contributions to the AU community, Robana said she most admired Bergaoui's "connectedness with the students and ability to change some people for the better."

"I'll miss her presence the most," Robana says. "Donia has a heart of gold."

SPORTS

Moore to compete at the IHSA national championship

By J.P. McCombs
Sports Editor

Alfred University junior Johanna Moore isn't your average horseback rider. The communications major from Summit, NJ will be competing at the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association's national champion-

ship. The event will take place on May 6 and 7 at the Kentucky Horsepark in Lexington, Kentucky.

Moore, who has been riding for 18 years, will be competing in Novice Flat. Novice Flat is judged on the prettiness of the rider and horse as they proceed through a walk, trot and canter

sequence, back and forth in two directions. Horsemanship (the skill of riding horses) is also a big factor of the judging.

At the competition, Moore hopes to make it past the first round and place in the top 16. Regardless of getting placed or not, being at national championship alone is a huge feat as the

top riders in the country will be competing.

In the future, Moore will continue with horseback riding as a hobby. Here at Alfred, she takes riding seriously with two coached practices per week and solo rides every day. Moore's horse, Polo, is a male Gelding. Hopefully the practice commit-

ment by Moore and Polo will pay off as this is the highest she has ever reached in an equestrian competition. "I'm nervous," said Moore, "but being nervous is good because it means I'm more focused." The results of the competition will be posted on the Fiat Lux website next week.

AU runners take over Penn

By Lee Consolo
Staff Writer

Alfred University track and field athletes competed on April 22 at the Penn Relays Carnival, the oldest and largest track and field meet in the United States.

Started in 1895 by the University of Pennsylvania, the Penn Relays is an annual event that brings 15,000 participants from high schools, colleges and track clubs from all across the country to Philadelphia to compete in front of a crowd of 39,000 at Franklin Field.

AU men's and women's 4x400 relay teams along with the men's

4x100 relay team competed at this year's competition.

Seniors Lee Consolo, Matt Phillips and sophomore Richard Scott teamed up once again for the event along with freshman Jeremy Weaver for the 4x400 meters relay.

"This is my third year going to the competition, and I just get more excited every time," said Weaver. "There are so many amazing athletes who come from all over the world to run there."

AU men's 4x400 team placed third at this year's indoor NYSCTC Championships with a school record time of 3:25.22.

The team also placed 11th at the indoor ECAC Championships. The relay team alongside graduate student Erik Jezek qualified AU to compete at last year's competition.

"Penn is extremely intimidating," said Scott who ran at the Penn Relays last year.

"Warming up next to teams like LSU and Auburn doesn't get any more surreal."

The team managed a time of 3:25.2 at the Relays this year.

The women's 4x400 team consisted of freshmen Amy Morrissey, junior Melissa Haahr, seniors Rachel Gaylord and Megan Crimmins.

Gaylord explained her excitement for participating in the Penn Relays. "I knew there was going to be some tough competition, but I think it just helped us to run faster."

"As a distance runner turned sprinter, the idea of such a prestigious meet is quite intimidating, but I was certainly up for the challenge," Crimmins added.

The women's 4x400 team posted a time of 4:22 at the Penn Relays.

Also competing at the Penn Relays this year was three-time Olympics champion and current record holder of the 100m, 200m, and 4x100 relay Usain

Bolt. Bolt competed last Saturday during the USA vs. The World event. Having dominated the Olympics in 2008 in Beijing and the World Championships in Berlin last year, Bolt was planning on dominating the competition at Penn.

Although the AU athletes were only competing on April 22 and 23, they were able to catch a glimpse of the track super star. The AU athletes were back in action with the rest of the team competing at the Cornell Big Red Invitational on April 25 in Ithaca.

Around NHL: playoff edition

By Eric Hudack
News Editor

The Eastern Conference was full of upsets as Montreal (8) and Philadelphia (7), who just managed to sneak into the playoffs, knocked off regular season power houses Washington (1) and New Jersey (2), respectively.

Philly, who developed a stranglehold against their division rivals in the regular season, disproved doubts that third-string goalie Brian Boucher could hold his own in a playoff series by beating the Devils in five games. Carried by some clutch scoring and smart defense, the Flyers go into the Boston series with a little bit of deserved confidence, considering their treatment of Devils legendary goaltender

Martin Brodeur, who at times during the series looked like it was about time to consider hanging up the hockey skates for good.

Boston (6) surprised many, not with their disposal of Buffalo (3), but in the resilient style they were able to do it. The Bruins scored more than three goals twice in the series on the league's best goalie in Sabres Ryan Miller. Twice the Bruins were able to erase two-goal deficits and came from behind often to knock out an over-achieving Sabres club.

Look for the scoring to continue as both power plays have been hot for Flyers and Bruins. This series is going to come down to toughness, and I think Boston possess the edge. It's also

hard to count out the experience factor. Boston takes it in seven.

On the other side, the Montreal Canadiens, who looked all but dead after surrendering 17 goals in Games 2-4, miraculously overcame a 3-1 deficit to send the much-favored Washington Capitals to the golf course early for the summer. Led by FW Michael Cammalleri and G Jaroslav Halak, the Canadians were able to turn things around and drop the jaw of the collective hockey community with a 2-1 victory over the stunned Capitals in Game 7. But David never had to slay two Goliaths before, so in no way can anyone think that this Montreal club has what it takes to knock out 2009 Stanley Cup champions Pittsburgh Penguins.

The Pens take it in 5.

The Western Conference played out a lot more like everyone believed it would, though surprising performances by some young clubs like Phoenix (4) and Colorado (8) made it interesting.

Vancouver (3), led by the top scorer in the league (Henrik Sedin), his twin brother and Team Canada's savior in their 2010 gold medal run (Roberto Luongo), got off to a slow start against the Los Angeles Kings (6). But a 7-2 walloping in a crucial Game 5 restored the faith of many. Chicago is going to have a tough time dealing with the Wonder Twins and finding a way get pucks passed a focused Luongo. Chicago's blue-liners need to chip in big on the power play as well as being called upon to shut

down the Canucks big scoring threats.

In the end, Vancouver's still got Luongo. Canucks in 6.

San Jose (1) looks to shed its playoff reputation as the biggest choke artists in the NHL as defenseman Dan Boyle and forward Joe Pavelski pick up where Joe Thornton, Patrick Marleau, and Dany Heatley have left off. If goalie Evgeni Nabokov keeps up his .920 save percentage, the Sharks might not need any scoring in order to put away the Detroit Red Wings (5) hope of a rematch of the last two Stanley Cup finals.

If Thornton and Marleau continue to struggle, look for this to be a long series. Sharks prove they are a contender, win it in seven.

Women's softball sweeps Fisher to earn share of Empire 8 Conference crown

The Alfred University softball team swept visiting St. John Fisher Sunday afternoon at Hornell High School, giving the Saxons a share of the Empire 8 Conference title.

With the 1-0 and 2-1 victories, AU (32-4, 13-1 Empire 8) is named Empire 8 co-champion with Ithaca College. Ithaca, which finished 13-1 in conference play as well, split two games with Alfred on April 10. The Empire 8 title is the first ever in AU team history.

A coin flip will be held at 8 p.m. this evening to determine which team will host the Empire 8 championship tournament, Friday and Saturday, May 7 and 8. The loser of the coin toss will be seeded second in the four-team double-elimination tournament, the winner of which earns the conference's automatic bid to the NCAA Division III championship tournament.

AU junior pitcher Chelsey Cary (Corfu, NY/Pembroke) earned the win in Sunday's second game to improve to 16-1 on the season. She had four strikeouts, including one to end the game, giving her 123 for the year, a new AU single-season record.

Alfred took a 1-0 lead in the top of the second when senior shortstop Jesika LeBarron (Campbell, NY/Corning West) singled, advanced to second on an error and scored on a one-out single by sophomore leftfielder Angela Netta (Rahway, NJ/Mother Seton Regional). The Saxons added an insurance run in the sixth when sophomore Nicole Hedrick (Albany, NY/Catholic Central) led off with a double, advanced to third on a single by senior second baseman Karen Folts (Penn Yan, NY/Penn Yan) and scored on a fielder's choice off the bat of junior first baseman Ashley Passaro (Long Beach, NY/Long

Beach).

Fisher (24-16, 8-6 Empire 8) closed to within a run in the bottom of the seventh. Emily Britzalaro singled and advanced to second on a groundout, then took third on an error. After a strikeout, Kayla Goodberlet singled Britzalaro home and put runners at first and second with two outs. Cary then fanned Fisher cleanup hitter Carissa Carlson to end the game. Cary allowed one unearned run on seven hits; Fisher starter Sarah Stefanon took the loss, allowing two runs (one earned) on six hits and striking out five.

Hedrick went 2-for-3 with a double and a run scored for Alfred. Britzalaro and Jenn Vanek each had two hits for Fisher.

In the opener, Hedrick outduelled Fisher starter Danielle Leone, shutting out the Cardinals on two hits, striking out eight and walking one. After a one-

out error in the top of the seventh, Fisher had the tying run on third, but Hedrick struck the next batter out, then induced a game-ending groundout.

AU scored what proved to be the winning in the bottom of the fourth. Freshman third baseman Molly Shepherd (Camillus, NY/West Genesee) led off with a triple and, after a walk, scored on Passaro's sacrifice fly to center.

Freshman catcher Emily Fenton (Thorofare, NJ/West Deptford) had two hits and Netta had one. Hedrick improved to 16-3 on the season with her fifth shutout.

Megan Zoerb and Leanne Merchant each had base hits for Fisher. Leone took the loss, allowing four hits while striking out five and walking two.

Fisher will be seeded third and RIT fourth in the conference tournament. If AU wins the

top seed, the Saxons would host the tournament at Alfred State College and play RIT in Friday's first-round game, while Ithaca would play Fisher. If Ithaca is named top seed, the Bombers would host the championships and take on RIT in the first round, while AU would earn play a rematch with Fisher.

The losers of the two first-round games play an elimination game (Game Three) Friday. The winners of the first-round games would play Saturday morning in Game 4, with the loser of that game taking on the Game 3 winner in another elimination game (Game 5) Saturday. The Game 5 winner would play the Game 4 winner Saturday in Game 6, with a Game 7 played that day if necessary.

AU competes at NY State outdoor track and field championships

By Eric Hudack
News Editor

The Alfred University men's and women's track and field teams finished sixth and ninth, respectively, at the New York State outdoor championship at RPI April 30-May 1.

"It was close for a bit there," junior Melissa Haahr (Oswego, NY/ Tioga) said about the women's ninth place finish. "We were tied with Naz for eighth place, duking it out, but they beat us in the end."

The men's team was lead by junior Shawn Ross (Ticonderoga, NY/Ticonderoga) who won the state title in shot put (14.13 meters) and was runner-up in the discus (40.49).

The men also saw top performances from senior Lee Consolo (Pleasantville, NY/Pleasantville), who placed second in the 800-meter run (1:56.21 seconds); sophomore Rich Scott (Eden, NY/Eden), fourth in the 400 (49.64) and fifth in the 200 (22.16); and senior Matt Phillips (Kinderhook, NY/Ichabod Crane), seventh in the 800 (1:58.86).

Consolo said he was surprised

at how well he performed in the 800. "For the past three years I have been training as a 400/200 meter runner so to try something new and take on the 800 at states was exciting and a little intimidating."

He said he knew there would be some fast competitors in his heat but stayed relaxed and ran a smart race.

"I was really happy with my time and how everything turned out," Consolo added.

The 4x100 and 4x400-meter relays also came up big for the men with fourth place finishes. The 4x100 (43.95) consisted of first-year student Jeremy Weaver (Lancaster, PA/Lancaster Catholic), sophomore Randy Brito (New York, NY/Cardinal Hayes), Cody Gleason and Scott. Weaver, Scott, Consolo and Phillips made up the 4X400 (3:23.30).

The women's relays lead their team this time, taking fifth in the 4x100 with a time of 52.28 seconds. The team consisted of seniors Jen Chan (Angelica, NY/Genesee Valley) and Rachel Gaylord (Elmira, NY/Horseheads), and first-year students Emily Moorehead (Waverly, NY/

Waverly) and Jordyn Larkins (Rochester, NY/Harley-Allendale-Columbia).

The 4x400 relay also picked up points for the women with an eighth-place finish (4:19.00). The team was lead by first-year student Amy Morrissey (Hornell, NY/ Hornell), Haahr, Gaylord, and senior Megan Crimmins (Big Flats, NY/Horseheads).

The women's team also had some quality performances from individuals including Morrissey, 10th in the 400 (1:03.07); Moorehead, 11th in the javelin (27.45 meters) and shot put (9.82); freshman Kirstin Cook (Tonawanda, NY/Kenmore East), 13th in the discus (25.35 meters); Larkins and Morrissey, ninth (13.47 seconds) and 11th (13.62), respectively, in the 100; Crimmins, 13th in the 1,500 (4:59.47); Haahr, 14th in the 3,000-meter steeplechase (12:54.65); and Gaylord, 14th in the 400-meter hurdles (1:12.18).

Morrissey said she was proud of how her teammates performed at the meet. "There were a lot of personal bests from everyone and I think we did a great job," she added.



PHOTO BY MELISSA HAAHR

(Left) Sophomore Elisabeth Phillips-Jones runs the 5,000-meters.



PHOTO BY ELISABETH PHILLIPS-JONES

(Below) Seniors Matt Phillips and Lee Consolo receive awards for eighth and second place finishes in the open 800-meters.

NBA playoffs

Griffin Taylor

Staff Writer

As we wrap up the first round of the NBA Playoffs, those who consider themselves true championship contenders survived preliminary tests, while a couple of pretenders, the Dallas Mavericks and the Denver Nuggets, are once again headed to the golf course a month or so early. One thing is certain, the second round should prove to be interesting.

EAST

1. Cleveland Cavaliers (61-21) vs. 4. Boston Celtics (50-32)

Anything short of a title would be a disappointment for recently crowned MVP LeBron James, and I shudder to think about the mental state the city of Cleveland would be in if the Cavs lost in Round 2. Experts believe that in order to keep "the King" from relocating his throne to the bright lights of Broadway and the New York Knicks this summer, an NBA championship is an absolute necessity. Management has done all that it could, providing LeBron with a supporting cast far superior to the one he had two years ago when they fell short to the Celtics in game 7 of the Eastern Conference semis.

As for Boston, the Celtics

temporarily silenced the growing concerns about old age and tired legs with a resounding first round victory over Dwayne Wade and the Miami Heat in five games. The Celtics would have swept the series if Dwayne Wade did not catch fire in Game 4, netting five three-pointers in the fourth quarter en route to a 46 point outburst that appeared to be a farewell performance to the fans in Miami (Wade, a free agent this summer, will be actively pursued by Chicago and New York).

Expect the Celtics to make the series more competitive than most people think, but at the end of the day, Cleveland has LeBron, while Boston has three aging superstars that have seen their better days.

PREDICTION: CAVS IN 7

2. Orlando Magic (59-23) vs. 3. Atlanta Hawks (53-29)

The Magic faced little resistance from the Charlotte Bobcats in Round 1, leading to a sweep of the series, and have been resting while the Hawks struggled in their series against a Milwaukee Bucks team composed of promising rookie point guard Brandon Jennings and a band of cast-aways whom many felt would be jobless at this time a year ago.

The Hawks jumped to a 2-0 lead in the series with a couple

of resounding home victories, then seemed to simply lose interest, hitting a lowpoint when they squandered a 12 point 4th quarter lead at home in game 5, allowing the Bucks to take a 3-2 series lead before Atlanta appeared to realize that round 1 of the playoffs is not simply a fire drill, and going through the motions will soon land you on the living room couch.

The Hawks cannot afford to lose focus against the Magic, or else this will be a quick series, as they are facing an Orlando team that considers itself a true contender, having reached the Finals a year ago and adding perennial All Star Vince Carter this past summer. One thing to watch will be the play of Magic center Dwight Howard. In the first round, the Bobcats took Howard out of the series by rotating big bodies into the game and playing Howard physically, frustrating the big man to an extent as he spent much of the series in foul trouble. If Howard can stay on the floor against the Hawks, expect Orlando to advance.

PREDICTION: ORLANDO IN 6

WEST

1. Los Angeles Lakers (57-25) vs. 5. Utah Jazz (53-29)

Many expected to see a rematch of last year's conference finals in this series, but the Jazz

proved just how important team basketball is in the NBA Playoffs, dismantling a more talented Denver Nuggets team that seemed to miss Head Coach George Karl more than ever, as star reserve J.R. Smith accused his teammates of playing "selfish" after the Nuggets' Game 4 loss in Utah.

The Lakers survived a tough series with the upstart Oklahoma City Thunder in six games. As long as Kobe's body holds up and the Lakers' front line can stay out of foul trouble, LA should be able to advance without much resistance, as they simply have too much size for the banged up Jazz to contend with. One thing to watch, however, will be how the Lakers attempt to contain Jazz star point guard Deron Williams, as the aging Derek Fisher was in no way a match for young Thunder sensation Russell Westbrook in Round 1, and should have even more problems with the All Star Williams in this round.

PREDICTION: LAKERS IN 5

3. Phoenix Suns (54-28) vs. 7. San Antonio Spurs (50-32)

Many expected to see the Mavericks in this series, however San Antonio once again figured out a way to advance, receiving a star performance from reserve

George Hill in Games 4 and 5, leaving Dallas with more questions than ever about its mental toughness, as star Dirk Nowitzki has now led his team to 11 straight 50 win seasons, but seems destined to be remembered more by his futility in the NBA playoffs than the accolades he annually collects during the regular season. San Antonio defeated the Mavs by playing them extremely physical, and even downright dirty on a couple of occasions.

Over the past few years, the knock on Phoenix has been that its style of play is not built for playoff basketball, as the Suns look to push the ball and prevent a dogfight, while the Spurs welcome such battles. In its defense, Phoenix has shown more of an interest on the defensive side this season, and star forward Amare Stoudamire has been playing with a renewed zeal, as he seemed to have figured out that the more 30+ point performances he turns in at this time of the year, the more expensive he will be once free agency comes around.

At the end of the day, however, the Spurs have already proven themselves at this time of year, while it remains to be seen if the Suns can take the next step towards a title.

PREDICTION: SPURS IN 6

ALFRED SAXON SCOREBOARD				
Team	Last Opponent	Result	Record	Next Opponent
Men's Lacrosse	Hartwick	L, 8 - 10	3-11-0	Empire 8 Champ.
Men's Tennis	Utica	W, 8 - 1	6-8-0	Empire 8 Champ.
Men's Outdoors	NY State Champ.	6th	0-0-0	Roberts Wesleyan
Women's Lacrosse	Empire 8 Champ.	-	7-8-0	-
Women's Softball	St. John Fisher	-	30-4-0	Empire 8 Champ.
Women's Outdoors	NY State Champ.	9th	0-0-0	Roberts Wesleyan

