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Art school's wood shop controversy escalates

Vreni Gust
Opinions Editor

Senior art and design students George Vidas and Stephen Denman created their own wood shop in the hallway of Binns-Merrill Hall in protest of its temporary closing, at noon Nov. 11.

Art students from all divisions use the wood shop for various purposes. From painters making frames and stretcher bars, to ceramicists making brackets to hang their tiles, to students making pedestals for their senior shows, the wood shop is an extremely important facility for art majors.

In previous years, administration allowed undergraduate work-study students who worked with the wood shop technician Eric Ewald to monitor the



George Vidas stands outside the Dean's office with his tools. Photo Provided by Vreni Gust

wood shop. This provided flexible hours including hours in the evening and weekends.

However, with the arrival of the new dean of the School of Art and Design, Leslie Bellavance, came the arrival of a much more strict set of safety

rules. These rules included the decree that the wood shop could only be open when Ewald was present, which, according to Dean Bellavance, was based on liability issues. Because the weight of monitoring

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George Vidas prepares for a canvas pulling demonstration behind caution tape outside School of Art and Design Dean Leslie Bellavance's office. Photo Provided by Vreni Gust

Violent crimes rise substantially in Alfred village

Eric Hudack
Managing Editor

Alleged incidents in the Village of Alfred, most recently the assault and robbery of an AU first year student on Nov. 7, sparked growing concern amongst faculty, staff and students.

"There has been a series of disturbing incidents over the past couple years and we have had students victimized, which is very troubling," Alfred University Dean of Students Norm Pollard stated.

Pollard hopes that recent events will create raised awareness in students

while downtown. The office of student affairs held a focus group on the issue of "feeling safe on campus," demonstrating the administration's commitment to security on campus. University officials are taking the occurrence of recent events happening off-campus and using it as an opportunity to examine security measures on-campus.

One solution to crime, or a hopeful deterrent, would be additional cameras and security on and off campus. Unfortunately, cost becomes an issue.

"Security isn't convenient and it is not inexpensive," Pollard said. However, at what point does security become an issue worth the cost?

According to Pollard, cost for cameras is going down and proposals are in the works. At the focus group, Pollard asked students for their reaction to a possible "security fee" added to their student accounts, much like how airline tickets added an additional security fee to ticket prices in a post-9-11 world in order to provide the necessary service for

maximum safety. Students at the meeting agreed that a "security fee" could be useful in adding a feeling of safety on campus.

Over the last three weeks, Public Safety officers responded to four domestic disturbances or alleged assaults involving AU students. With the trend of violence in the Alfred community, the issue of theft on campus has also been in the conversation.

According to John Dougherty, Chief of Public Safety on the AU campus, theft on campus is "not an epidemic." Dougherty went

on to explain how theft goes through "peaks and valleys" where there will be waves of reported theft for a period of time, then no theft at all. Unfortunately, we are currently in a peak, Dougherty added. Yet, officers see trends and are able to make arrests.

When it comes to theft, Dougherty maintained that there is "no trend, but this is the time crime of opportunity does go up." Before holiday breaks, crime on campus has a tendency to rise.

"People need Christmas money, money to go home,

or people who just need money find themselves stealing at this time," Dougherty said.

While the AU campus has not been immune to the assault epidemic that is seemingly running through the community, Pollard and Dougherty believe it is not a problem plaguing AU, but more of a threat to the Village, considering the majority of the incidents have been occurring downtown.

Alfred StUn slam dunks their way to success

Gillian Lichter
Copy Editor

Alfred University and Alfred State College students joined forces this year for the AIDS Charity basketball game, hosted by Alfred University's UMOJA and Alfred State's Black Student Union.

The Alfred StUn took on the Harlem Wizards on Nov. 6 at McLane Center. The Harlem Wizards are a less-renowned version of the Harlem Globetrotters, their shows being spectator-interactive, part comedy and part basketball stunts — impressive to say the least.

For the past 14 years, AU and ASC have participated in friendly competition to raise money for AIDS research. This year, however, the tradition was broken in an attempt to bring students closer, so the schools united as one team. Their efforts were successful, not only bringing students together for a good cause, but the community as a whole. They played a strong game against the Wizards, throwing in a few tricks of



Harlem Wizards

Photo Provided

their own. Everyone in attendance, players included, seemed to be enjoying themselves.

"Our mission this year was all about change and unity. I think this year for the 15th annual AIDS Charity event, we showed how much A-State and AU have changed from our past, from competitiveness to unity," stated BSU President, Julian Fox.

Audience member and RD of Openhym, Carla Pennello, thought it was great that all students

had the opportunity to participate on the team. She also mentioned that "seeing four or five of my residents out there was really cool."

The final score was 110 StUn to 118 Wizards. Not bad, although the Wizards were kind enough to throw us an extra 40 points at the start of the second half. Before the game started, as well as during the half time show, the crowd was entertained by dance teams including the Alfred Step Team, the African Dance

Troop, Left Lane and the Alfred Dance Team.

BSU and UMOJA were proud of their event's success, and everything went according to plan -- minus the fire alarm that went off just as the game was getting started due to some burnt concessions being sold upstairs.

"It was almost just the way I expected it. It was fun, a lot of families came out to see the show, and they got involved. As for

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Proposed dining changes spark debate

Adtian To
Advertisement Manager

Stephine Hunt, sophomore English and history major and head of student representatives of the AU Food Committee, presented updates from the committee to the Senate Floor during the late October Student Senate meeting, stirring a heated debate.

The Food Committee meets with John Dietrich, Director of the Dining Hall Services, every other Monday. Recently, Dietrich proposed two development projects to the committee, including the enhancement of Ade Dining Hall and changing Powell Dining Hall into a retail operation, described as a larger version of Li'l Alf.

Enhancing Ade Dining Hall will be phase one of the proposed development, and is scheduled to happen during the summer of 2011. Half of the money invested in Ade would go into facility-type issues, including electrical issues,

a new hood system and drainage systems. The rest of the money would be upgrades to equipment, for instance, a brick oven for the pizza station.

Hunt added, "Equipment changes in Ade are critical, especially a new hood system, for better food quality." She also mentioned there will be changes in the salad bar for Ade Dining Hall, which might turn into an "order-salad bar," like the sandwich station.

The possible brick oven for pizza will be placed near the large windows facing Miller; a new oven would allow the pizza to be less greasy. The current pizza station in Ade would turn into a vegetarian section, allowing more choices for vegetarians on campus.

The second phase of the project will be converting Powell to a retail operation, scheduled to happen during the summer of 2013.

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Dr. Gary Ostrower
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AU Graduate
Student Senate to
fund Mover
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EDITORIAL Editorial prerogative

Much has grown over the course of today's preceding eight weeks. Subsequently leaves have fallen, perhaps grades have risen, memories lost, friends gained and maybe first years have matured ever so slightly - more likely they remain unchanged.

Nonetheless, most papers have been submitted grades most likely still delayed and teachers' retinas still glossing over ∞ fluff.

Football team took thirty years worth of time to achieve two years of the nearly sublime. Staff, faculty and departments are continually restructured while grand buildings are erected and translucent facades donned by a hand more refined.

Up and past the cemented hollows cranes stretched down into hardwood taut bowels, once more past construction and a few steps toward realization of another nearly final test.

Testing for aptitude more individualistically than the standard and hopefully more inspired than the last time this test was taken by a too familiar hand.

Thanksgiving sandwiched between tests, studying for finals that turned up too fast over days rendered too long. Minds strained through nights and made news for an extra 22 percent of our days.

Exasperated the downtrodden masses of returning students may mope about down, trodden feet fumbling, through AU's academic's alley for a few more final weeks of stumbling: plus one finals week.

Papers for us to again realize it's all just, or at least mostly, fluff.

The truth is this fall has been newsworthy and so our ideas have been inflated by a sum of five inches more equaling a page size change from 17 to 22 inches.

Yes, the fiat has grown up by 22 percent and hopes its more spritely readers have matured to match; at

least just enough so as to understand the following as words (perhaps jumbled) of wisdom.

Growth isn't always measured in size, but no one in the history of this fine nation has had problems with a pleasant surprise.

No, growth isn't always measured in size but it sure is a fine way to represent change.

When the United States made the Louisiana Purchase, the country more than doubled in size, allowing Americans to expand and fill up the new open pockets of land.

Westward expansions, these the manifest destinies, we as a people all believe and hope to achieve, for bigger is better - until it is obese, smells, dies and is boxed away dyed and packaged with formaldehyde (but enough of the spoils of gluttony, we here have serendipity).

The Americans' acquisitioned dream flooding the earth with its fleeting fiat of 1, a single dollar standard so threatened, teetering, tottered and propped. So buy for the holidays a new this that and all of those

Before the box slams shut and nails banged in because they stopped putting bells in those things. No signal's clang to sound through soils

With the expansion of mind there is no displacement of peoples was begot or trials between the haves and the have-nots. As nails are tapped down and epitaphs chiseled in what survives mortality are the minds the deceased planted ideas within.

Having produced news for some time now, it may best be described by these typist's hands as the accomplishment forced through adversity.

With that, through all quizzes, exams, papers and unexpected pleasures the Fiat wishes all well through their following adventures

Letter to the Editor: Who's "Right" and who's wrong?

I was raised in a rather conservative family my entire life, and when I got to Alfred it didn't occur to me that there was any way that my upbringing would affect my college experience or my education.

Needless to say, I was very wrong.

It quickly became very apparent that college life was chock-full of people with different opinions and from different cultures. I loved it: I thought it gave me a much better view of society than the rinky-dink little town I grew up in. The only issue that came about was the fact that it really wasn't that diverse... it was just opposite of me. If I was a quiet, timid person that wouldn't have been a problem, but anyone who knows me knows that is far from the truth.

I remember my high school experience pretty well. In a public school, political bias was "frowned upon". School was supposed

to be a place of education, not brainwashing, and I recall a specific incident where my Spanish teacher (who, I was convinced, was a socialist hell-bent on destroying capitalism) began "educating us" about how horrible this country was, and how President Bush was to blame for everything horrible in not just the USA, but the world. I also recall asking her if this had anything to do with Spanish, and then promptly ripped her a new one when she said no. I didn't rip her a new one because I was a right-winger, but because I didn't need to hear her political beliefs in my Spanish class. The incident concluded with me, in a rather immature fashion, telling my teacher that I didn't have to listen to her "defecation" and I promptly left the class room to discuss my issues with the principal.

In a private university, I didn't really have this defense. After all,

It is what it is

Griffin Taylor
Staff Writer

This past week, the San Francisco Giants declined a 2011 \$9.5 million option for the services of its 2010 World Series MVP, Edgar Renteria.

From an apathetic, profit driven standpoint taken by most GM's still employed, they were wise to do so.

The aging, oft-injured shortstop would almost certainly not produce at a level to justify that salary, and ownership had already reaped the benefits from Renteria's pair of game-winning home runs that brought San Francisco its first title in 54 years. Why return the favor?

The news that the Giants declined Renteria's option broke on ESPN as a single caption at the bottom of the screen. No cover story,

no mention of it by either anchor on SportsCenter that evening.

Then again, why would the media bring to light such an anti-climactic end to the fairy tale that was the 2010 San Francisco Giants? It would contradict every facet of the agenda mainstream media instill upon us fans; players represent more than just a dollar sign to the organization which employs them (and visa versa), and Hollywood and the world of professional sports are not indeed a single entity.

As fans, we are all too eager to immerse ourselves in the media frenzy. Sports are our escape from reality. We place "our" players on a pedestal and demonize the opponent, forgetting that both are employees of the same business and thus one in the same. It is necessary for us to do so, of course; our hometown heroes cannot exist without a villain to fight.

But who is really fighting whom?

In 2004, Johnny Damon was Yankee fan enemy number one. His Jesus of Nazareth fashion statement was an easy target for drunken bleacher creatures unwilling to dig too deep for material. His home run off Yankee pitcher Javier Vazquez in game 7 of the ALCS capped the most improbable comeback in sports history, and almost certainly earned Damon a beefed up security detail in the Bronx that night. Damon represented everything Yankee fans hated about the city emblazoned across his grass-stained chest. He played for more than just a contract.

I stand corrected. In December of 2005, Damon signed a free agent contract with the New York Yankees. He cut the mane, corporatized his game and became another hitter in Goliath's lineup with numbers far better than his spot in the order would indicate. The fans who had only two years ago called for Damon's head? They welcomed him as one of their own.

The New York media referred to him no longer as an idiot but rather an honorable New Yorker for escaping Boston, and the Boston media? Perhaps a sign that circulated amongst Red Sox faithful says it best:

JOHNNY DAMON:
LOOKS LIKE JESUS
ACTS LIKE JUDAS
THROWS LIKE MARY
In baseball today, an

it's everyone's right to choose what they believe in. Freedom of speech is an amazing thing... if you're a liberal. I remember the 2008 election. Obama Nation was plastered all across the campus along with signs telling you to vote. Interesting, that you should go out and vote, while the other political parties that make this country a democracy were suspiciously absent in most aspects. If I had stood outside of Powell with a McCain sign campaigning for who I was going to vote for, well I have a pretty good feeling that every self-righteous left winger on campus would have tried to stone me to death.

There is only really one area on campus where republicans aren't socially isolated... and that's the business school and Olin, where they are physically quarantined. You have every other academic building in a tight little

group on academic ally and then Olin way off in the boonies. Seems like "rabies" and "republican" have far more in common than their first letter. The entire campus seems to be part of the mentality that if you isolate us long enough we will just shrivel up and fade away.

Now I am technically not even a republican, I'm a libertarian. That's the best part. I am just far more conservative than the majority of people on campus, and because of this I must be a gay-hating bible junky fascist that needs to continue my war mongering for nothing but my own selfish desire for destruction. On a far more personal level, I cannot bring up my point of view in any class discussion without being assaulted by at least four others in class that are determined to eradicate the right wing menace, while speaking of civil liberties and the freedom of speech.

It's the hypocrisy of the situation that drives me up a wall.

Dan Barlotous
B.S. Student

increasing number of teens are plucked from the dirt fields in Latin America and shipped to cities with which they have no familiarity or affiliation, except that it is where the paychecks reside. In 1996, eighteen year old Vladimir Guerrero was plucked by the Expos from the warm confines of his native Dominican Republic and cast as the chilly city of Montreal's last great hope. Fourteen years and over 400 home runs later, Guerrero speaks little to no English, and has been rumored to often be unaware of the city in which his team is playing that night. But he is good, so like his fellow all-stars, advertisers mold his identity to be one with the city he plays for and the media follows suit. The image is meant for some to love, and some to loathe. Both will watch.

There is no greater evidence of the fact that professional sports is simply a cost-driven business and we are all along for the ride, than the effect contracts have on the game. Free agent 3B Adrian Beltre is walking proof that players' allegiances are to the dollar and not the fan.

From 1998-2003, Beltre never hit more than 25 homers, drove in more than 85 runs, and batted greater than .290. In 2004, his contract year (the last year of his current deal at the time), Beltre batted .334, hit 48 homers, and drove in 121 runs. We live in a "what have you done for me lately society," and for his '04 efforts Beltre was awarded a lucrative contract by the Seattle Mariners, during which he never again reached .300, 30, or 100. That is until this past season, which was

(go figure) another contract year, in which Beltre batted .321 and drove in 102 runs for the Red Sox. A free agent this offseason, the second team who will be lured into the trap that is Adrian Beltre remains to be seen.

From an ownership standpoint, bad contracts are awarded to players on a frequent basis. More times than not, these "busts" will continue to play on a consistent basis no matter how much of a detriment they are to the team, because ownership must attempt to justify the bad investment.

Mets fans have now been subjected to three consecutive seasons in which pitcher Oliver Perez has been unable to find the strike zone with a hundred foot pole, but he is owed \$12 million in 2011, so odds are he will once again find his way onto the CitiField mound.

Whether it is the player or the owner or the general manager, the fans' best interests are seldom in mind.

The media encourages fans to hold double standards towards players. Some are everything that's wrong with sports, and some can do no wrong.

We must remember that professional athletes compete for a living, and not our pleasure.

As Johnny Damon demonstrated, rivalries such as the Yankees and Red Sox are really between the fans, not the players. As far as they are concerned, it's strictly business and nothing personal.

No matter how the media tries to convince us otherwise.

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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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Did you know that November 15 is America Recycles Day? Green Alfred and other members of the community will be celebrating by assisting Kacie Dean in a waste audit of the Alfred University campus. This will include collecting bags of trash from various dumpsters across campus and taking an inventory of how well the recycling and composting programs are working. Interested in helping, or want to add your name to Green Alfred's recycling petition? Email greenalfred@alfred.edu.

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Hit the ground *running*... *Alfred State*

FEATURES

Hurricane Tomas leaves Caribbean Islands devastated

Nickelina Noel
Features Editor

Hurricane Tomas developed and quickly intensified with winds of 100 mph on Oct. 29, causing turmoil well into November.

Throughout Tomas' path, at least 41 people are known to have been killed, 14 of which were in St. Lucia. Damages are estimated at over \$572 million USD.

Numerous property and agricultural damages throughout the islands resulted in large monetary losses.

Countries affected by Tomas include the Windward Islands, ABC Islands, Costa Rica, Jamaica, Haiti, Dominican Republic, Cuba and Bahamas.

On Oct. 25, a tropical wave excited the western coast of Africa and soon moved within the Intertropical Convergence Zone.

The National Hurricane Center (NHC) acknowledged the wave on October 27 when it was located about

1,200 miles east-southeast of the Lesser Antilles.

By Oct. 28, the system became more stabilized with a large area of convection. The next day, it was noted that the system came with tropical storm force winds. The NHC initiated advisories on Tropical Storm Tomas late on Oct. 29 when the system was about 290 miles east-southeast of St. Vincent. Three hours after it was classified that Tomas was expected to attain hurricane status within 36 to 48 hours, the winds had already increased to 60 mph.

The tropical storm warning was set for Dominica and was replaced by a hurricane warning in Barbados, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, St. Lucia, and Martinique.

On Oct. 31, Hurricane Tomas hit Saint Lucia, as a cyclone with winds of 92 mph which later increased to 100 mph. Tomas was forecast to strengthen into a major hurricane, but weakened due to the dry air. By Nov. 1, Tomas

subsided to tropical storm status, and weakened to tropical depression status after passing north of the ABC Islands and southeast of Kingston, Jamaica on Nov. 3.

The NHC described the weakening pattern as being "difficult to explain."

On Nov. 5, Tomas regained hurricane status between Cuba and the western tip of Haiti, wreaking more havoc on the recovering nation. Health workers feared that Tomas' damage could intensify the cholera outbreak in Haiti.

The devastation occurring in the Caribbean islands has also affected students on campus, since AU has a significant Caribbean population.

"I'm still not sure what happened in Jamaica, but I'm aware of the tragedy and all the damages Tomas caused throughout the islands," said Brittany Gardner, a junior from the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

"The islands affected by it are all suffering from

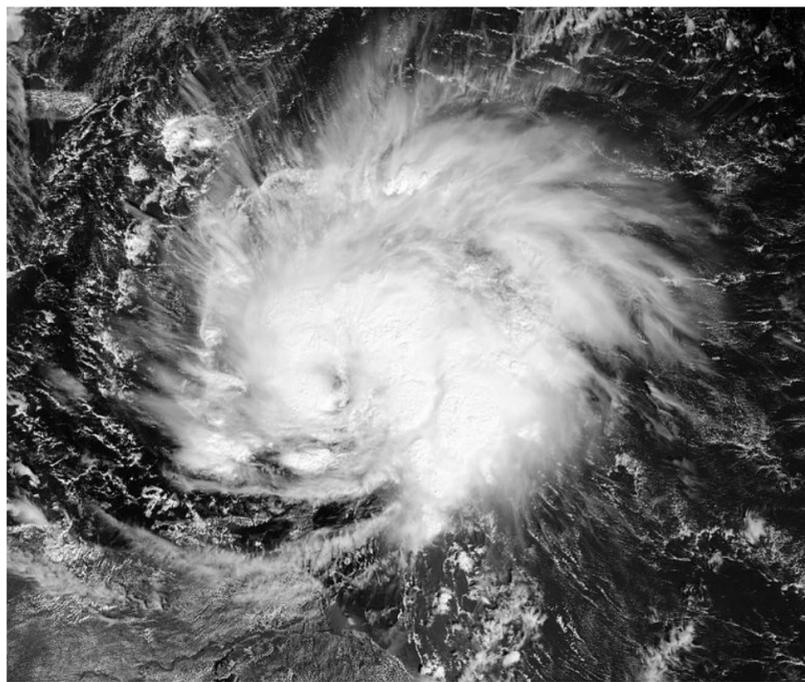


Photo provided

these damages, especially weakened economies which depended on agriculture as their main industry in the Caribbean," she continued.

"I was unaware of the damage that was done

and I hope that the U.S. will be able to help with the rebuilding, especially seeing that the damages are worth over 500 million USD," stated Akeem Caballero, senior Marketing

major.

If you would like to help the countries affected, donate at www.redcross.org

SVU preview

Akeem Caballero

Contributing Writer

In light of the tradition of rallying for awareness on behalf of victims of rape and sexual abuse, the producers of "Law and Order: Special Victims Unit," will air an episode this Wednesday, Nov. 17 at 9 p.m. on NBC.

The episode focuses on serious issues on college campuses around the country -- alcohol and sexual abuse. A copy of the episode, titled "Gray," in reference to gray rape, was sent to the Fiat Lux for a special screening.

The episode concerns the accusations a female

student made about a male partner who wound up impregnating the female student after an incidence of gray rape. The suspect was responsible for the abortion of the fetus, and just when everything seemed like things were falling into place, the plot thickened. For a prime time

show, the plot was a little too dramatic, but the point was made clear: be safe in social settings, get consent and use protection.

According to statistics sent out by NBC, by the time a young woman graduates from college, one out of every four female students will have been raped

or sexually assaulted. Additionally, most of these events will occur under the influence of alcohol.

If you or anyone you know have been a victim of rape or sexual abuse, please contact the Alfred University Counseling and Wellness Center at 607-871-2400. Although walk-ins

are accepted, appointments are highly recommended and may be made by calling 607-871-2400. The Wellness Center is open Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

What I Know Wednesday: Choosing a great wine

Victoria Flood
Staff Writer

The art of wine tasting and selection is an important part of social etiquette. However, according to Dawn Grosso, there is no such thing as the wrong wine for an occasion, which she discussed during her "What I Know Wednesday: Choosing a Great Wine" presentation on Nov. 10.

"There are no rules, it's only about what kind of taste you like," said Grosso, debunking the notion that red wine must be served with meat and white with fish or chicken.

What I Know Wednesday

is a presentation held regularly at the Women's Leadership Center designed not only to entertain, but to inform. Last week's meeting provided invaluable information on selecting and serving wine. While there was no actual wine during the wine presentation (surely, that would have been distracting), it was very educational.

This is the perfect time of year for a holiday tutorial on how to choose wine for an occasion. It is also a useful opportunity for aspiring professionals to make a good impression in social situations.

Whether it is in a

professional atmosphere or at a family dinner, knowing the "do's and don'ts" of the wine world can make or break you. Well, perhaps it is not quite that dramatic, but some people pride themselves on wine connoisseurship, and might hold a simple mistake against the unwitting offender.

Learning to understand and appreciate wine - in moderation of course - does not merely allow you to enjoy the beverage more, but it can demonstrate manners. During a business lunch for example, it is good to know that the proper way to hold a

wine glass is by the stem. Gripping the bowl of the glass not only warms the wine, but gives the impression that you know nothing about it.

Another easily avoidable wine blunder is serving it at the wrong temperature. Serving white wine before it is cold enough seems like the obvious issue, but red wine can be just as easily spoiled. Many people assume red wine should be served at room temperature. This holds true if the room is about 65 degrees Fahrenheit, but many rooms are not quite that cold. Serving either white or red above

temperature leaves a bad impression of both the wine and the host, no matter the quality of the wine.

Grosso also mentioned that there was a time when people drank wine for the mere fact that it was safer than drinking water, but the concept of wine tasting and pairing food with wine became more popular in the 1980s.

Generally speaking, lighter wines are better for less experienced tasters, but it is important to consider what food is being served. For example, a heavier dish with more fat pairs better with a more full bodied wine like a

chardonnay or a cabernet sauvignon. This is because the tannins in the wine cut the fat and compliment the flavor. For a lighter dish, pair it with a lighter wine like a pinot grigio or a syrah. As a precaution, no matter what is on the menu, provide alternatives for guests that have a strong preference for either white or red.

There are too many great wines out there to list them all, but as long as you are responsible and use caution when drinking, learning about them is a fun and worthwhile journey.

Mexico: Drugs and Violence

J.P. McCombs
Sports Editor

Drug trafficking in Mexico has become a huge problem and the over pour of violence threatens to spill into America. An August report released by Mexico's National Intelligence Chief, Guillermo Valdes, said that more than 28,000 people have died from drug-related crime since 2006. The estimated 28,000 is 3,000 more than the estimate released in a report that came out earlier in the summer.

Mexican officials claim most of the killings involve people who are active in the trading of drugs or people who were killed by police officers. Regardless, these figures are enormous and demonstrate firsthand how big this problem really is. The areas experiencing the most issues with violence are right on the northern border of Mexico and southern border of Texas. Ciudad Juarez, just south of El Paso, seems to be the area that is being targeted most. Other places experiencing large amounts of violence are Michoacan and Guerrero. However, Mexico is very large and there are probably more areas experiencing violence that have yet to be exposed. Another alarming fact is that mass

graves have begun to show up; the bodies found would add even more figures into the Mexican murder rate.

Mexican President, Felipe Calderon, has deployed more than 50,000 troops along with federal law enforcement agents. Since the deployment, huge amounts of drugs have been seized and many trafficking leaders have been put in prison, or killed during raids. The numbers seem like the deployment has been working, but the consequence is that the cartels have started to fight back, adding even more violence to the mix.

Corruption among the police is another issue being raised. Distrust in the local law enforcement is one of the main reasons why Calderon has sent troops. With the cartels large amounts of money, they are able to pay police even more than what they already receive from the government. This is going on at all levels of law enforcement. To combat this, the government has begun to rebuild the Mexican law enforcement structure, although it will take years.

The Mexican cartels have control of drug trade that extends from South America all the way up to the U.S. On a whole, the process is worth roughly

\$13 billion a year. U.S. reports have shown that 90 percent of consumed cocaine inside of our country comes straight from Mexico over the southern border. There is a possibility that violence could cross the border as well.

Although drug-related violence has mainly stayed inside of Mexico, there have been attacks on American border patrol agents by traffickers. There has also been an increase in drug-related shootings and kidnappings in south-western American cities. This violence comes from tighter relationships between Mexican and American gangs.

The U.S. has begun to increase the prevention of the flow of illegal weapons and drug profits between the two countries. This was announced in March of 2009, followed by the Merida Initiative, an agreement between the U.S., Mexico, Central American nations, Haiti and the Dominican Republic to assist Mexico on fighting drug trafficking. Overall, \$400 million has been given collectively. Hopefully the plan will work, decreasing violence in Mexico and preventing violence from entering the U.S.

Blundell speaks on Thatcher biography



Photo provided

Sonya Ellison
Staff Writer

Author John Blundell spoke at Susan Howell Hall on Nov. 11 about his recent book, "Margaret Thatcher: A Portrait of the Iron Lady." The biography takes a very intimate look at England's most important prime ministers.

Thatcher's life began in England right after World War II in the small town of Grantham in Lincolnshire. She came from a working class family, of which her father owned a village grocery shop and was involved in local politics.

At seventeen, Thatcher began her education at Oxford to study Chemistry. At this time, few women made it into the prestigious school. It was after college that

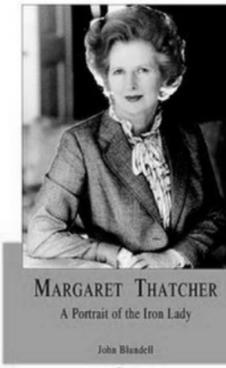


Photo provided

she began her career in politics. She started out as a tax attorney and then ran as a Conservative for a seat in Dartford in 1951, before she eventually worked her way up through parliament and then cabinet positions. In 1979, she was elected to the high profile office of British Prime Minister and would hold the office for a whole decade.

The book takes a look at the politics in Thatcher's career, as well as the personal stories of a British citizen who rose from a provincial life to one of the most powerful positions in the world. There are moments of humor that Blundell brings to the story. He mentioned that

"Some of the handbags Thatcher happened to use to hit anyone have sold at auctions for thousands."

Blundell is the former Director General of the Institute of Economic Affairs in the U.K. and well-known British economist. He answered questions after his presentation and offered to sign copies of the book.

During his stay in Alfred, he visited several political science classes and talked about the British political and economic system, and took any questions students had.

Blundell's book, "Margaret Thatcher: A Portrait of the Iron Lady," is available for purchase at the Alfred University bookstore

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FACULTY SOAPBOX

Politically-Correct Religion



Gary Ostrower
Professor of History

A few days ago, I asked a philosophy prof and a Baptist minister to debate the question of God's existence in my FYE class. The prof, an atheist, based much of his case on scientific evidence, rejecting as myth things like the miracle stories. Such stories may make us feel good, he allowed, but let's not confuse feeling good with reality. The minister, on the other hand, argued that the

Bible offers us the Truth. The universe, he said, is about 6000 years old, and we need to put our faith not in science but in, well, faith. It was a good debate.

The outcome? Of the 16 students in the class, eight initially more or less professed to believe in the existence of God while seven doubted the existence of God. One student abstained. At the end of the hour, not one student had changed his or her mind.

I was reminded of the power of fixed belief when I thought about another recent campus event. About three weeks ago, forty of us attended a panel discussion about the subject of 9/11 and memory. Perhaps inevitably, the subject of religion came up, with the panel majority taking pains to emphasize that we must not blame all

Muslims for the actions of just nineteen Muslim radicals who steered those planes into the towers and the Pentagon. The panelists damned what they saw as growing Islamophobia in this country, a tendency to blame Islam as the sole root of terror and, by extension, to blame all Muslims for terror.

I agree wholeheartedly, and if the panelists had stopped there, I'd not be writing this column. By the end of the discussion, however, two things happened: some panelists had—implicitly if not explicitly—minimized the Islamic roots of terror, while some audience members defined all religious extremism as equally violent.

Yes, it was only a tiny minority of Muslims who flew those planes on 9/11, but the connection of Islam to terror over the last forty

years can't be dismissed so quickly. Just as the New Testament was used to provide a justification for the Crusades centuries ago, the Koran today is used in much the same way to justify terror as a legitimate method of warfare. In fact, we often fail to understand that most Islamic terror is not even aimed at non-Muslim "infidels." There's a civil war going on in corners of Islam today, and the recent history of Iraq and Pakistan where radical Islamic Sunnis have been slaughtering Islamic Shi'ites (and Sufis), and where Shi'ites have been killing Sunnis, reminds me of the wars between Catholics and Protestants back in the 16th century.

Unfortunately, too many American academics want to ignore the religious roots of terror—or at least the Islamic roots of

contemporary terrorism. One colleague even argued that America is the main problem, highlighting the role of U.S. Air Force drones firing missiles that kill Yemeni or Pakistani civilians, leading to retaliatory terrorism. The problem is that those drones hardly explain the frequency with which Shi'ite mosques have been blown up by Sunni militants and vice versa.

Nor, contrary to suggestions offered during the panel discussion, are Jewish or Christian fundamentalists remotely as violence-prone as their Muslim counterparts. However twisted the mind of that Florida pastor who urged us to burn Korans, few evangelicals have actually tried to blow up mosques or synagogues or strapped on suicide bomb belts. Are there exceptions to this statement? Sure: see

Murfreesboro, Tennessee, or—to use a non-American example—an incident twenty-five years ago when an Israeli settler in the West Bank gunned down nearly thirty Muslim civilians. I repeat: exceptions.

Which is why we really need a serious conversation about religion around here. Maybe we'll change no more minds than were changed in my classroom. I hope, however, that we'll not minimize the role of religion as a root of terror when it suits us politically, whether that religion is based on the Koran or the Bible or any other text. Mark Juergensmeier wrote an unsettling book a few years ago called *Terror in the Mind of God*. Read it. Then let's reconvene that panel.

ADDITIONAL NEWS

Four Loko: Topsy, drunk, wasted, knocked out

Akeem Caballero & Vreni Gust

Staff Writer, Opinions Editor

Controversy surrounding the health risks of caffeinated alcoholic beverages has been on the rise, with one particular drink, Four Loko, bearing the brunt of the blame.

While Four Loko may be viewed by many college students as a win-win -- it is both a cheap way to get buzzed and stay awake -- its inherent health risks make it a lose-lose.

Studies have shown that drinking caffeinated alcoholic beverages make drinkers less aware of how drunk they are actually getting. According to Harris Stratyner, an addiction specialist on Good Morning America. This is because the caffeine may make drinkers feel like they aren't getting drunk as quickly so they may drink more alcohol to compensate. This leads to drinkers reaching the black out stage faster,

which is something Four Loko has come to be known for. Based on this information, it is easy to see how studies have found that people who drink caffeinated alcoholic beverages are twice as likely as other drinkers to binge drink.

A study done by the Loma Linda University Medical Center which surveyed 1.4 million Californians, showed that 25 percent of men and 10 percent of women admitted to binge drinking. However, when

caffeine is added to alcoholic drinks users are twice as likely to drive drunk, be injured, or be sexually taken advantage of. Another study done by Wake Forest University showed that students who combined alcohol and caffeine were more likely to suffer alcohol-related injuries than those drinking alcohol without caffeine.

Recently, nine Central Washington University students were hospitalized after drinking Four

Loko along with other alcoholic beverages; this led to the ban of Four Loko in Washington. Many other states and college campuses are following suit. New Jersey's Ramapo College has already banned the drink, as well as the state of Michigan. New York state officially banned Four Loko on November 14, and stores will be required to stop shelving the beverage by December 10. If you are a responsible drinker, you may want to stock up

while you can before the buying rush hits like it did in Spokane, Washington, where within only a few hours of the announcement of the ban, Hamilton Market near Gonzaga University sold 30 cases of Four Loko.

Each can of Four Loko is equal to two cups of coffee with the buzz of four beers, which is more than one mug of beer at Alex's.

Here at the Fiat Lux, we only condone drinking of responsible and legal nature.

Students tour local farms

Elizabeth Wager
Contributing Writer

Green Alfred sponsored two field trips for students to tour local organic farms in order to learn about sustainable and organic farm practices on Oct. 21 gaining a chance to meet local farmers and learn more about their community.

Vans took a group of interested students to Sunny Cove farm and then took a tour of Windy Ridge Farm. These local farms implement organic, sustainable methods of producing meat, produce, eggs and other natural products.

Sunny Cove, run by the ubiquitous Snyder family, produces milk, beef, apple, and maple products—all organically. The cows are free to roam and graze in large pastures, not only producing happy cows, but also healthier milk and beef. When the milk comes out of the cows, it is at a very high temperature—it then pours into a Freon tank, which provides enough heat to heat the water and the rooms of the farm house, providing a sustainable and eco-friendly source of energy. Their store -- located at 1444 Randolph Rd. -- is open on Tuesdays and Fridays from 2 p.m. to 5p.m. Apples, beef, non-pasteurized and

hormone-free milk, organic beef and maple syrup are all sold there.

Windy Ridge Farm specializes in free-range chickens and organic eggs. The chickens are fed organic grain and are allowed to roam and eat around the large pastures. Tim Kogel, owner of Windy Ridge, demonstrated how the eggs from his chickens compared with those of an industrial farm. Tour attendee, Kara Kuntz, was shocked by the difference. The "eggs were much thicker, opaque and orange colored. This is apparently due to the amount of grazing that the chickens are allowed." Kogel's eggs are available at Kinfolk, Quest and the Wellsville Giant Food Mart.

Both farm tours provided valuable information about organic farming and gave students a chance to interact with their community. Green Alfred would like to thank all those who participated, especially the Snyder family and Tim Kogel.

If you want to learn more about Green Alfred's upcoming events, or if you want to become a member, e-mail greenalfred@alfred.edu, or attend a Thursday meeting at 7:15 p.m. in the Student Organization Suite in Powell.

Jericho Shackelford
Editor in Chief

In a grassroots movement to promote "green" awareness at the Women's Leadership Center, Saxon chefs and participants met at the Knight Club on Nov. 2 for a live fund-raising auction.

The gala featured a cooking competition with four categories, and a final overall prize going to the Saxon Chef, followed by the auction led by Sherry Walton as auctioneer.

Director of the WLC, Julia Overton-Healy, hosted the benefit in hopes of gaining enough money to fund improvements for the now energy inept WLC dwelling. The gumption for green benefit grossed a total of \$1700. While the event was not free to the WLC, it stands to gain approximately \$1,300 in net donations.

Built in 1974, the building currently housing the WLC suffers from the same plight that many older buildings do: energy inefficiency due to poor insulation and imprudent architectural decisions. Green Alfred President Kacie Dean explained the situation as structurally redundant due to the

simple problem of single pane windows, making the building uncomfortably hot during the summer.

The Saxon Chef competition turned out thirteen dishes, twelve competitors in four categories, as well as an overall winner deemed the Saxon Chef. Saxon chef category winners included: for soups and stews, Dean of Students Dr. Norm Pollard, Assistant Professor of Political Science Bob Stein for his entree, Bachelors of Fine Arts student Michael Stevenson for his vegan dish, and Director of the Career Development Center Mark McFadden for his dessert. The Saxon Chef overall winner was Professor of Philosophy Emrys Westacott for his beet loaf.

Overton-Healy conceived the event in an entrepreneurial effort to make the Women's Leadership Center more energy efficient.

"Rather than dig into the general budget, I decided to show some entrepreneurial spirit and try to raise money with the benefit," said Overton-Healy, recalling her initiation of the project.

The money raised through the event will be put towards supplying the

building first with thermal film for all the large western exposure windows, replacement of all the light bulbs. Overton-Healy's plan is to exhaust these funds first and hopefully earn more to install ceiling fans and a roof vent.

Green Alfred co-sponsored the event after being one of the many contacts Overton-Healy enlisted for help. Green Alfred contributors were president Kacie Dean, Kara Kuntz, Sandy Lowden, Ean Rice-Mitchell, Ryan Kellas, Kimi Cook, Martin Wong, Cassie Klipera, Arianna Carrini and Elizabeth Wager.

As the idea met groundswell, the initiative to get green in the WLC is branching out from its grassroots support. Students from all schools supplied items for auction to match the generosity of Area merchants who also donated products, baskets and gift-cards.

"The benefit piece was important, but it was also a nice kind of event to raise community," said Overton-Healy on the event's outcome as she offered a final thanks to everyone involved.

take a long time."

When Denman questioned her about the possibility of graduate students being monitors Bellavance suggested "If you're in the position that you have a graduate student as a teacher's assistant, ask your faculty about it and I think that would make a huge difference."

Bellavance also stated that she had just learned of Ewald's long-term absence that day, and that she had previously planned on waiting for him to return before she looked into replacements.

When Dean Bellavance asked Vidas and Denman what they would suggest as an immediate solution, Denman replied "having it fixed before it started." Vidas and Denman explored her to communicate

StUn continued

the Wizards, they did just what we expected. It wasn't just to play basketball, but to perform and have fun. They made the crowd laugh until some cried. They did great tricks and explosive alley-oops and dunks," Fox said.

A commendable \$2,040 was raised for research and support, according to Director of Student Activities, Dan Napolitano. Vice President of UMOJA, Candace Turner, felt "the event turned out very well because a lot of families and students came to support UMOJA's and BSU's cause. Overall, having the event was a success!"

Wood shop controversy continued

the woodshop now falls solely on one man's shoulders, the hours of access to the woodshop have been severely decreased. All evening hours have been cut and it is only open four days a week.

Frustrated by lack of communication and action, Vidas and Denman set up a work table, a chop saw, and all of the necessary safety equipment in the hallway outside of the dean's office, where they intended to assemble stretcher bars for some of the junior painting students. This performance came as a complete surprise to the dean's office, and Dean Bellavance quickly came into the hallway to address the situation.

This was not the first instance students expressed concern with the growing issue of limited access

in the School of Art and Design. On Sept. 10, students delivered copies of a petition (signed by 116 graduate and undergraduate students from the art school) to the dean's office, provost's office, the university president's office, the chair of the three dimensional studies division, and Ewald. Among many other points, the petition stated that limiting hours decreased safety by forcing more students to use the woodshop at the same time. The petition asked for a return to a system of student technicians/studio monitors.

"Trusting students with part of the responsibility for keeping studios safe and open helps everybody: it lowers the burden on staff, gives great work experience to the student

monitors, and gives the rest of the student body more freedom to complete their work."

Dean Bellavance responded on Sept. 15 with an email to the student body. In the email, she responded to each point from the petition individually, and also stated that she agreed that more hours of access were necessary and that she was working on solutions to the problem. She also reiterated her emphasis on safety. She closed the email by promising further communication and updates about the status of the woodshop.

However, two months later, the hospitalization of Ewald and inability of administration to find any additional support staff, forced the students to take action in form of the

protest in front of Dean Bellavance's office.

Students gathered to watch and listen, as a conversation between Denman, Vidas and Dean Bellavance on the issues of surrounding the woodshop followed the demonstration.

Denman and Vidas argued the recent closure of the wood shop due to Ewald's absence was forcing students to take desperate measures in order to get their work done, including using Sawzalls in the hallways.

Dean Bellavance agreed that the situation was dangerous, and once again stated that she was searching for part-time employees to monitor the woodshop. Bellavance added she was "aware that there are not enough hours... [but that]... administratively things

ADDITIONAL NEWS

Dining debate continued

Lil' Alf will close and Ade will become the only "all-you-care-to-eat" facility. AVI Fresh is considering five or six concepts that would be set up in a marketplace style: a sub shop, a coffee bar with a bakery case, a bistro, an international section, a local/organic section and a fresh grab-and-go section.

According to Dietrich, "The Student Dining Advisory Board did some research a few years ago and found that many schools with more dining plan members than AU operated only one "all-you-care-to-eat" dining facility. After some brainstorming, the idea of changing Powell into a larger retail restaurant was a popular idea."

Adding new computer stations for ordering are also being considered in the development of the second phase. The current meal plans and dining dollars will also be reworked; there will be a marketing class next semester regarding the changing of meal plans and dining dollars.

On the proposed development and changing of Powell, Hunt said "the Food Committee is interested in it, and it might be really popular among the student body."

In the discussion on the senate floor, the topic on

AVI's contract with AU was brought up as this academic year is the last year of AVI's contract with the school.

Some students would like to see changes and possibly a new supplier for the dining services. "As far as I know, the school is not looking into anyone else. It is not a direct student choice; it's a business choice for the university," Hunt added.

Tom Delmonte, sophomore psychology major, another student representative, added that whether or not the university is seeking a new supplier will depend on the survey that comes out in a few weeks time.

"Students are a big part of the decision, but not the sole decision," Delmonte added. "If the survey showed that the students do not like the current services, for sure, there will be changes."

Whether AVI Fresh will renew its contract or not will be decided by the president of the school, in consultation with the vice president, according to Kathy Woughter, Vice President of Student Affairs. "If we made the decision to go out to bid, we would assemble a committee of about 10 people including students to develop

the request for proposals, review the proposals and make a recommendation to the president," she added.

Woughter also mentioned that although the decision is fully a business decision, student opinions have been gathered through different means during every year of the contract, and student feedback does factor into this decision.

When asked if all of the proposed changes are going to happen in a few years' time, Stephine Hunt said it is a "definite possibility, but I cannot guarantee all the changes are going to happen." Dietrich replied that this is the decision of the university.

Many people are also concerned about how the proposed changes will affect the decision of whether or not to keep AVI. "The decision about whether to renew or extend the contract is really separate from the decision about whether to move forward with these specific proposed changes. The changes would be looked upon favorably if they are in the best interest of AU, and if they seem to meet student, faculty, staff and other constituent needs as expressed through the years of data collection and feedback since we began our contract," Woughter

explained.

For the likelihood of renewing the contract, Hunt replied, "I feel like it will renew, because it's easier for the school and to set the prices. Changing the whole supplier might even cost more than staying with AVI." But Woughter stated that it is too premature to answer this question now, because the school has not yet received the proposal from AVI.

Dietrich stated that "the relationship between AVI Fresh and Alfred University is a strong one and I believe that the relationship will last for many years," regarding the likelihood of contract renewal.

Though the food committee is "interested" in the new proposal, not every student is on board. Some students from the senate floor wanted to see changes, but some did not like the changes and thought it would be inconvenient for people to walk across campus just for another dining experience. Bethany Dickerson, freshman art and design major, said she liked the idea, but agreed that it may be very inconvenient.

Some brought up the issue that Ade may not have the ability to be the only dining hall to handle a large amount of "mealplanners

on campus," worrying about over-packed situations in Ade.

Hunt believes that Ade could still handle the people regardless of being the only dining hall on campus. "Only if there is a random event, or people aren't really packed together, especially after the proposed change of dining plans."

AVI Fresh also proposed changing and creating new meal plans, including "special plans" for first year students. Keeping both Powell and Ade open during weekends is also included in the proposal.

Other students were concerned about whether AVI is trying to make money by changing and if the prices will go up, as Lil'Alf is already expensive. Woughter replied that the goal of the changes is to reduce meal plan costs and save everyone's money. Hunt also added that the price would not go up and might even be cheaper.

The cabinet, consisting of the president and vice presidents, will recommend a meal plan structure to the Board of Trustees, who are responsible for approving that structure. "There would definitely be some changes to meal plan structures if we were to move forward

in exploring changes to Powell." Woughter added. She is currently working with AVI to see how the dining plan structure is at a few dozen similar campuses.

Not many students are aware of the existence of the Food Committee. Hunt said the committee currently consists of three student representatives and Mr. Dietrich, "The committee wants more student voice in order to improve the performance of dining hall service."

"There are improvements made by the committee. For instance, when student representatives suggested the pizza was too greasy, AVI then changed the pepperoni on the pizza to make them less greasy" Hunt stated. Woughter would also like students to attend the focus groups, respond to questionnaires and attend the Food Committee meetings to get more feedback.

The Food Committee will next meet on Nov. 15, 6 p.m. in Lil' Alf. Everyone is encouraged to join and share opinions directly to Mr. Dietrich and with the rest of the committee.

SPORTS

AU to host NCAA playoff game

Eric Hudack

Managing Editor

The Alfred University football team improves to 8-2 on season with a perfect Empire 8 Conference record of 5-0 after a 37-20 at Utica College Nov. 13 in the Saxons' regular-season finale.

After earning a bid to the NCAA Division III football championship tournament last week against Ithaca, the Alfred University Saxons maintained momentum and staved off the Utica attack with a dominant offensive output.

Junior quarterback Tom Secky completed 12 of 24 passes for 189 yards, putting up three touchdowns along the way. Chris Lopez, sophomore tailback, earned a fair share of the workload carrying the ball 19 times for 140 yards, with one touchdown, and freshman tailback Austin Dwyer rushed 20 times for 86 yards. Senior wide receiver Ryan Thon caught six passes for 93 yards and two touchdowns.

Junior linebacker Nick Clark (forced fumble) and sophomore cornerback Reggie Pressley (one

interception) each had eight tackles to lead the defense. Junior linebacker Wes Smith had seven tackles and an interception, and senior linebacker Chad Pieri had six tackles.

With the regular season now complete, Alfred turns its focus to playoff football as AU will host Maritime College in a first-round NCAA Division III football championship game Nov. 20.

The NCAA announced seedings and bracket pairings for the championships and Alfred picked up the sixth seed in the East Region and will take on third-seeded Maritime College. Despite being the higher seed, Maritime is unable to host, so the game will be played at Alfred.

Alfred was seeded third in the East last season and lost at home to Albright in a first-round game. If Alfred defeats Maritime, the Saxons would play the winner of the Cortland-Endicott game on Nov. 27. If Alfred and Endicott each win, Alfred would host the second-round matchup.

Phillips-Jones and Noll lead Saxon cross-country in Saratoga

J.P. McCombs

Sports Editor

The AU men's and women's cross country teams competed at the Empire 8 Conference championships in Saratoga Springs, NY on Nov. 7. The women came in sixth on the five-kilometer course, while the men finished seventh in the eight-kilometer course.

The Saxon women were led by junior Elisabeth Phillips-Jones (Watertown, MA/Watertown) with a time of 18:56.00 and an 11th place finish. The time broke her personal goal of the 19 minute mark and she claimed that the Saratoga Springs course is "the most beautiful course we see during the season." Senior Melissa Haahr (Owego, NY/Tioga) came in 31st (20:06.00), followed by senior Kate Lepore (Port Jefferson Station, NY/Comsewogue) who finished 51st (21:48.00). Sophomore Amy Morrissey (Hornell,

NY/Hornell) finished with a time of 22:14, followed by junior Tiffany Buck (Freeport, ME/Freeport) who completed the course with a time of 24:06.

Junior Ken Noll (Valatie, NY/Ichabod Crane) led the Saxon men with a 27th place finish and a time of 27:45.00. Senior David Cogswell (Afton, NY/Afton) finished 61st (31:09.00), followed by sophomore Eric Shormann (Batavia, NY/Notre Dame) who came in 65th (31:35.00). Senior Eric Hudack (West Seneca, NY/St. Francis) finished with a time of 33:00.00 and a 68th place finish, followed by sophomore Eric Selzo (Shoken, NY/Oneonta) who came in 73rd (38:09.00).

Results from the men's and women's NCAA Atlantic Region championship meet, held in Oneonta, will be posted in the next issue.

New York State of Mind



Griffin Taylor

Sports Writer

KANSAS CITY 13, BUFFALO 10: Alas, it was heartbreak city once again in Buffalo. One week after the Bills were a decent officiating crew away from a victory in Baltimore that would have caused a few jaws to drop around the league, the Bills fell to Kansas City, 13-10, on a 35 yard Ryan Succop field goal with one second left in overtime. The gods appear to shine upon whomever the Bills' opponent is each week. Before disheartened Buffalo fans take a plunge into the depths of Niagara Falls, let's analyze what positives would have arisen from a victory Sunday.

Sure, it would have

eliminated the prospect of a winless season, but with the Lions' 37-25 victory over Washington, Buffalo now has some breathing room in its quest for the first overall pick in the 2011 NFL Draft. Buffalo controls its own destiny; keep playing to its full capabilities every week, and the top pick will no doubt belong to the Bills. Beyond the realm of playoff contention since, well, 2000, a pair of victories the past two weeks would have done little but hurt Buffalo's draft position.

Bills fans should begin sending Stanford QB Andrew Luck postcards highlighting the amenities that Buffalo has to offer (lie if you must). Luck, the top prospect in the nation, would no doubt change the luck of the franchise, no pun intended. The problem is, the junior appears as though he may be leaning towards a return for his senior campaign. A Bills fan assured me this past week that after Ryan Fitzpatrick's monster performance at Baltimore (fluke?), Buffalo had no doubt found its franchise

quarterback. Hopefully, management will not be as disillusioned as its fan base next April.

If Luck is not available, Buffalo could opt to shore up the defensive line with its first pick. The Bills run defense was once again non-existent Sunday, allowing Kansas City's two-headed backfield monster of Jamaal Charles and Thomas Jones to combine for 254 yards on the ground. Which makes the slim margin of defeat all the more admirable.

GREEN BAY 9, NY JETS 0: The Packers exposed the Jets glaring weakness on Sunday. Sure, it has been a promising sophomore campaign for Mark Sanchez, and sure, Jets fans no longer worry that Sanchez will lose the game for New York. But look ahead to January for a moment. This Jets team is built for a Super Bowl, as head coach Rex Ryan so eloquently reminds us every week. No matter how dominant Gang Green's D may be, and no matter how powerful the rushing attack is, at the end of the

day, the game is still won or lost by the man under center.

If this team is to do more than reach its lofty goal, Sanchez must do more than not lose the game. He must win the game. Against a playoff caliber team and a potential Super Bowl opponent, Sanchez got a taste of what January will look like. He had two chances to engineer the offense to a game winning drive in the fourth quarter, but could not get the job done.

Yes, his receivers certainly did not help him out, dropping at least five catchable balls, but offensive coordinator Brian Schottenheimer must take the training wheels off the playbook, and allow his franchise quarterback to take some shots downfield. If growing pains are to result, so be it; better now than in January at Pittsburgh or New England.

NY GIANTS: Bye Week

AU Swimming and Diving off to a good start

J.P. McCombs

Sports Editor

The AU men's and women's swimming and diving teams hosted Fredonia on Nov. 12. The men came out on top 123-113 while the women fell 137-78.

Leading the Saxon men were seniors Tyler Olsen (Saratoga Springs, NY/Saratoga), Zach Mix (Mt. Morris, NY/Mt. Morris) and Matt Lobban (Pittsford, NY/Pittsford Mendon) who each won two events a piece. Olson won the 200-yard freestyle (1:48.02) and the 100-yard free (49.18 seconds). Mix came out on top in both the 200-yard individual medley (2:04.77) and 200-yard butterfly (2:03.58). Lobban was also victorious in the 1,000-yard free (10:15.25) and 200-yard backstroke (2:02.86).

More wins for the Saxon men came from sophomore Nate Chapman (Hornell, NY/Hornell) in the 500-yard free (4:58.57) and freshman Peter Sowinski (Akron, NY/Akron) in the 50-yard free (22.43 seconds). The men also came away with relay wins from the team of Richard Guarniero (New York Mills, NY/Thomas R. Proctor) and Warren Dolben (Rye, NH/Berwick Academy), sophomore Brett Irwin (Springwater, NY/Wayland-Cohocton) and senior Dan Steere (Hornell, NY/Alfred-Almond) winning the 400-yard medley relay (3:42.70) along with Sowinski, Chapman, Mix and Olsen who won the 200-yard free relay (1:30.74).

Senior Sarah Blair (Auburn, NY/Auburn) led the Saxon women finishing

second in the 100-yard free (56.88) and third in the 200-yard free (2:08.54). Sophomore Katie Ganley (Syracuse, NY/Westhill) came in second in the 200-yard breaststroke (2:48.29) to help the AU women (0-3, 0-2 Empire 8).

Freshman Paige Citarella (West Islip, NY/West Islip) came in second in the 200-yard backstroke (2:25.52) followed by freshman Heather Remchuk (Hornell, NY/Hornell) who finished second in the 50-yard free (26.90). Junior Donna Hoops (Geneseo, NY/Geneseo) finished third in the 200-yard back (2:25.53) along with senior Calista Merritt (Conesus, NY/Livonia), third in the 1,000-yard free (11:55.79) and senior Cailin Asmo (Johnson City, NY/Johnson

City) also finishing in third in the 200-yard butterfly (2:36.43). Sophomore Shelby Remington (Pike, NY/Letchworth) finished third in the 500-yard free (5:53.66). Sophomore Kylie Smith (Abington, PA/Abington) was third in one-meter diving (2:07.30).

A team consisting of Hoops, Blair, sophomore Eryn Matich (Johnson City, NY/Johnson City) and Remchuk finished second in the 400-yard medley relay (4:27.59), along with the team of Citarella, Remchuk, Remington and Asmo who finished second in the 200-yard free relay (1:50.78).

Both teams will be at home against William Smith on Nov. 19 at 1 p.m.

ALFRED SAXON SCOREBOARD

Team	Last Opponent	Result	Record	Next Opponent
Swimming/Diving	Fredonia	W, 123-113	2--1--0	RIT Invitational
Football	Utica	W, 37-20	8--2--0	Maritime College

THE ALFRED BEAT

AU Star: Patrick Baynes



Photo provided by Patrick Baynes

Jericho Shackelford
Editor in Chief

Having graduated from Alfred University a semester early, in December 2006,

the most important thing Baynes says he gained was confidence.

"I knew Alfred was the right choice for me all along and I've never questioned my choice to go there. The confidence I have in my education has given me the courage to take chances in my career," said Baynes.

The Alfred University alumni is cofounder of the consulting agency, Freesource, and currently works out of and resides in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The confidence Baynes learned while attending AU was very much the same stuff that has given him professional success.

"Your skills and education become an embodiment. I learned that formally during an acting class and realized it carried over into my business education," said Baynes, who reemphasized a point he presented at information sessions on the importance of branding and name recognition given at AU for the communications department and Women's Leadership Center.

The most significant alterations to his life plan occurred following a study abroad trip.

"When I came back to the US, I was more self and globally aware than most

of my peers — I felt like I had found out 'who I was' in a way, and it was very empowering," Baynes said about his experience.

Baynes' is Lead Social Media Strategist and Customer Experience Manager at Freesource. The business side of Freesource deals in custom scope with consulting projects like corporate strategy development on everything from processes to communications; the ultimate goal being to drive up revenue for clientele. Freesource has also begun a sales training program that has been gaining a lot of traction in the market place.

"To be honest, this job kind of fell into my lap... one of my coworkers from LinkedIn — who I didn't directly know at the time — left just before me to start the company, someone made the introduction and almost two years later here we are," recalled Baynes on the circumstances that led to his latest career path.

Though relatively new to the Philadelphia, PA area, Baynes is involved in his community and is an avid runner. Before the move to Philadelphia, he volunteered as a cross country coach as well as a big brother with the Big Brothers Big Sisters Foundation.

"Always work hard, take chances and always follow your gut. Regardless of what field you're going after. Your instincts are usually right, and the more you listen to them, the better they get," Baynes stated in recounting his success. "I'm a big believer in going with instincts. But with that, if you're trying to get into social media or digital consulting, get good at personal branding, because that's the first thing we look at."

Movember to take over Café Za

Jericho Shackelford
Editor in Chief

Community members are planning to take this Thursday, Nov. 18 in the name of the international men's health movement, Movember.

Alfred University Graduate Student Senate is bringing the dynamic duo of mustache and November together, along with help from the Alfred community to raise money for two good causes: the Prostate Cancer Foundation and LIVESTRONG.

The Mo Bros and Mo Sistas of Alfred will be assembling from nine until close for the twenty-one and over fundraising event of the season.

"There will be mustache drink specials all night long. \$3 donation at door, all of which will go



photo provided

to cancer research," said Alfred University Mo representative, Mateo Muñoz.

For those that would like to go, but may be

biologically indisposed, mustaches will be available.

"If you don't have a mustache or don't want to make your own or paint one on,

you can buy one for \$1 at the door," said Muñoz.

Movember was conceived from Australian inspiration augmented by a number

of pints and some sincere ponderings.

The idea aimed to find a tangible representative for a good cause. As the mission solidified, the founding movement decided to emphasize cancers that predominately affect men, which resulted in the Mo Bros growing for the sake of prostate cancer research.

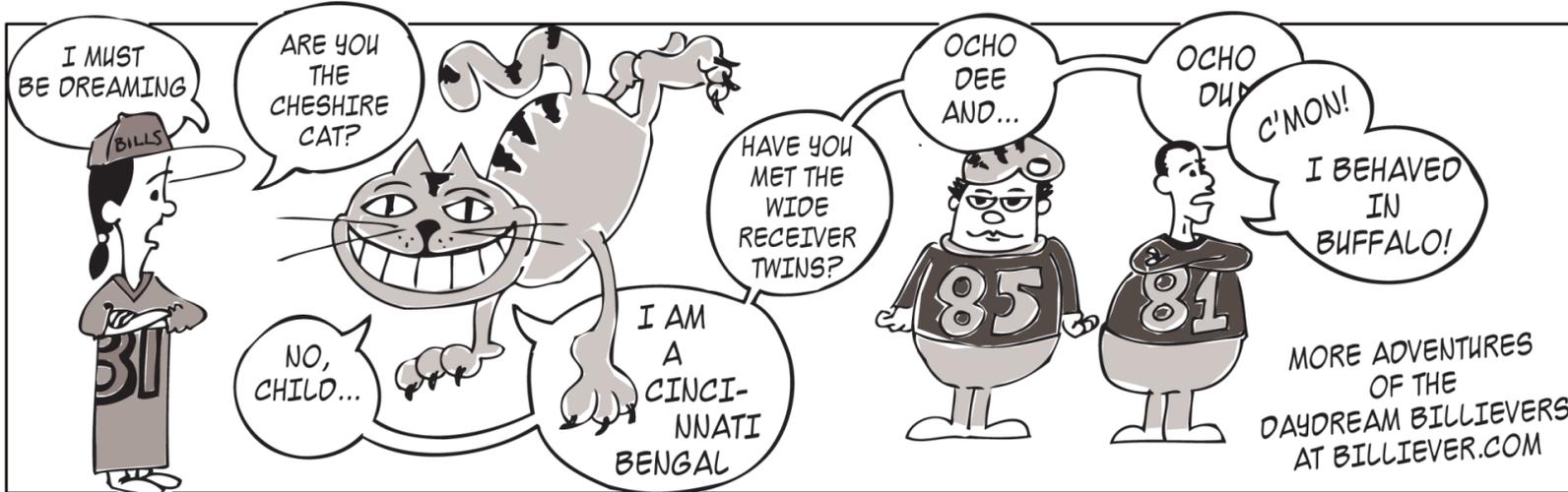
"Inspired by the women around them and all they had done for breast cancer, the Mo Bros set themselves on a course to create a global men's health movement" - movember.com

Even though the original 2003 Mo Bros earned no donations, the next year Mo Bros and Mo Sistas donated \$55,000 to the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia. From auspicious beginnings the Mo movement has grown to

inspire grass roots mustache growing movements in the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, New Zealand, Ireland, Spain, South Africa, the Netherlands and Finland, and to date, has donated \$42 million to various organizations.

Save lives the Mo way with a mustache and beer to brighten your night and fund cures for another day.

For more information email augss@alfred.edu or see the official Movember website at movember.com



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Via Audio gives resonating performance



Photo provided by Rebecca Spitz



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Photo provided by Rebecca Spitz

Via Audio finds a new fan base in Alfred

Melanie Baker &
Eric Hudack

*A&E Editor & Managing
Editor*

It's 11 p.m. on Saturday night in Alfred, New York. Do you know where your hipster is? Oh, at Via Audio, of course.

As soon as electrifying lead singer of Via Audio, Jessica Martins, beckoned audience members with her microphone, students emerged from the shadows to create a comfortable sized crowd in the Knight Club, once again proving the old adage "they only come out at night" as a gospel truth at Alfred University.

The up-and-coming

foursome from Brooklyn started their set with a slow, soulful and danceable track that warmed up both the band and the Alfred audience. In no time, of course, Via Audio tapped into Alfred's energy quickly, getting the hipster population pumped, "We came all the way from New York to hang out with you, so let's have some fun!" Martins insisted.

Guitarist (and three-piece suit wearing extraordinaire) Tom Deis wittfully added, "We'll musically interpret your dancing."

Within the first five minutes of their interactive set, it was evident that Via

Audio was born to play at AU - in fact, they look like this could even be their Alma Mater.

Via Audio often transcended genres through out the show, sometimes altering their sound mid-song, playfully fusing jazz and a Tom Petty "Mojo"-like rock in one instance, then experimenting in the 70's wah-guitar factory of classic-disco-era Rod Stewart or ELO that could be best described by this writer as "baby-making music."

Still other times, the band sounded like a futuristic Fleetwood Mac on their more soulful songs, or, when the band chose to

take an edgier, more punk-pop approach, what "No Doubt" would sound like if they possessed the capability to write better melodies and produce more complex, smarter arrangements.

As entertaining as the musicians of Via Audio are, the band's unique sound and refreshing arrangements are the direct result of the immense talents of the drummer. Like Wilco's Glen Kotche, Adam Sturtevant does not just provide the songs with a simple beat, but adds a level of percussion to the song that allows for the dynamic changes to occur.

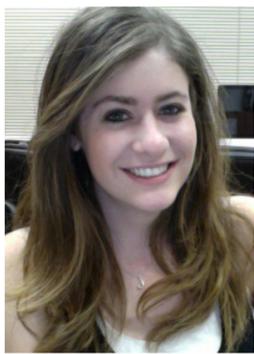
Throughout the brief

and pulse quickening set, Via Audio blazed through tracks from their first big-label album, *Say Something* released in 2007 and their most current release, *Animalore*, which hit the scene this year. The crowd fell instantly enamored with tracks like, "Babies," and "Lizard Song," a cheeky synth-fest ode to Godzilla. On these tracks, the Demetri Martin look-alike bass player ditched his prime instrument (which had a raccoon tail attached to it!) to essentially make love to his Korg synthesizer, putting his face against all the keys to produce a robotic, melodious sound.

After playing their last song, students demanded an encore from the foursome, who made it worthwhile, jamming out for a spot-on, extended version of the 80s cult hit, "Don't You Forget About Me," made famous by Simple Minds and featured in the movie, *The Breakfast Club*. It was the perfect ending to a practically perfect set. Via Audio impressed the lively crowd with their array of musical talents and ambition with genres, styles and willingness to amp up every single member of the crowd.



Matt & Kim: Brooklyn's finest are heating up



Melanie Baker

Arts & Entertainment Editor

Before 2006, Matt & Kim were just two hipster Brooklynites, making it big playing shows in their friends' basements and garages. No one was prepared for their launch to fame, which is now so massive, even MTV is a fan. The musical duo could not be more charming, or the music more catchy. Yet, with each album Matt & Kim release, their sound becomes more addictive. Their newest release and third full-length album, "Sidewalks," is everything fans have come to expect from the twosome, but with an extra helping of new sounds.

Their first album release in 2006 shook up the indie scene with the feel-good single, "Yea Yeah." With that same album, listeners were introduced to Matt &

Kim's unique sound and dynamic. Part of what makes the two so captivating is how they play their respective instruments. Self-admitted not great singer, Matt Johnson wails on clever scenester vocals and plays every function of his keyboard until he is blue in the face, his counterpart, Kim Schifino, is the queen of the drum kit, tapping out fast-paced, impressive percussive lines to every song.

Three years later, Matt & Kim exploded onto the mainstream circuit with their highly acclaimed record, "Grand," featuring cult hits like "Daylight," "Good Ol' Fashion Nightmare," "Don't Slow Down," and the now infamous "Lessons Learned" (the two stripped down in the middle of Times Square for the music video, causing quite a stir.) The album's "no excuse but to dance" vibe further catapulted Matt & Kim onto seemingly endless tour dates.

In the midst of a packed live show schedule, the drum kit and keyboard are back and better than ever with "Sidewalks." Matt & Kim have taken their signature sound of innovative drum beats and electronic keyboard magic and elevated it into a grander sphere. Despite

writing "Sidewalks" while constantly on the road, the album feels fuller and more rounded out than their past two records. Matt still milks his keyboard for all it's worth, but has layered his sound with a more orchestral base to the tracks. Kim continues to reign on the drums, making listeners' ears spin with rapid and complicated beats.

The premier single, "Cameras," plays into a slower, more campy side of Matt & Kim with an abundance of horns mixed with bells against Schifino's steady drum beats. Johnson gets sweet and deep with the lines, "I see that we're made of more than blood and bones, see that we're made of sticks and stones." Lyrically, Matt & Kim are entertaining, but it is the instrumental quality of this track and the album as a whole that radiates and make the group so successful.

Upbeat tracks include "Block by Block" and "AM/FM Sound," two standard Matt & Kim songs that will certainly satisfy previous listeners and create a new fan base. Personal favorite "Good For Great" has a rich chord background and Johnson chants all the right lyrics, "So many books I didn't read, but there's so much air I chose



Photo provided

to breathe."

Later, Schifino, who rarely chimes in vocally, joins Matt for an epic round of heart-filled and freeing lyric repetition, shouting, "We sing along, but the notes are wrong."

Matt & Kim capture every aspect of young adult life through their songs: the

fun, the angst, the desire for finding the perfect words and simply living. Living with an awesome soundtrack behind you all the time, of course.

I highly recommend the entire Matt & Kim discography. "Sidewalks" is a great addition to their growing repertoire with it's

consistent, fun-loving style. The charming drum queen and synth keys master keep delivering the goods and listeners keep eating it up like hipster crack pie. This Brooklyn duo is becoming explosive and they are making every minute count.

AU to stage Six Characters in Search of an Author

Melanie Baker

Arts & Entertainment Editor

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Division of Performing Arts will present the dark satire, "Six Characters In Search of an Author", by Luigi Pirandello, Nov. 17-20 at 8 p.m.

Italian playwright Pirandello presents the scope of "a play within a play" as "characters," abandoned by their theatre company, dramatic storyline in tow, waiting

to perform and taken in by an author. Despite immediate rejection of the far-fetched idea, the head director is intrigued by the arrival of the "characters." After much coaxing, the director agrees to put on their play using her own company's actors. As the characters, director and acting company work towards uncovering the conclusion to the play, both parties engage in thought-provoking discourse regarding reality, truth and

conflict in everyday life.

Professor of Theatre Dr. Becky Prophet directs the production. Although the play was written in 1921, the Alfred production will include a modernized element to tie together both the primary text and current societal familiarities.

The large and talented cast of "Six Characters" includes Jessica Antrobus, Keriann Bellamy, Tyler Mackenzie Cummins, Kate Dermody, Jessy Dosch-Evangelista, Emily

Dowd, Holly Durand, Joe Edizel, Nate Gibson, Jackie Goertz, John Hamolsky, Kaysey Hinkle, Ramona Kingsley, Anna Kowalczyk, Justin Pietropaolo, Javier Pritchard, Kate Truini, Rachel Rutledge, Sanders Sikorsi-Schneider, Sharnea Spencer and Martin Wong. The stage management team consists of Amanda Lynch, Nathan Abel and Chelsea Channandais. Professor Marketa Fantova designed the scenery and lighting, while Professor

Zach Hamm provided technical direction for the production.

General admission is \$5, student admission is \$3, and AU student admission with ID is \$1. For tickets and reservations, please contact the Performing Arts Box Office by e-mail at performs@alfred.edu or call (607) 871-2828.

Alfred Alum Ade Adu performs

Sonya Ellison

Contributing Writer

Singer/songwriter and Alfred University graduate, Ade Adu, performed acoustic songs for his audience at the Knight Club on Nov. 6.

With no backing band, he got the crowd to clap and sing along with just his rhythm, powerful voice, and guitar.

He shared some original material from his newly-released album, as well as a few popular favorites. Among those, he covered the Jackson Five's "I Want You Back," R. Kelly's "Ignition," "I'm Yours" by Jason Mraz, and "Somewhere Over The Rainbow," by Israel Kamakawiwo'ole.

Adu currently lives in Wellsville and will be doing a few upcoming shows in the area.

Adu described how 10 years prior, he had put together a show for Terra Cotta's Open Mic Night on the very same stage. In that performance, which he worked hard for, he came in third place. "It's funny how I can come here on this stage tonight and know that even if you don't come in first place one time, nobody is really a loser. We're all winners when we do what we love." His new album, "Winner," can be purchased online at www.adeadu.com.

He also encouraged everyone to friend him on Facebook and to tell all of their friends about his music.

Inception!

Victoria Flood

Staff Writer



Photo provided

"Inception," last summer's psychological thriller, plays at Alfred University on Nov. 19 and Nov. 21 in Nevins Theater.

Writer and director, Christopher Nolan,

combines action and brilliant cinematography with a brain twisting concept that viewers never could have dreamt.

The film's impressive cast includes Leonardo

DiCaprio, Ellen Page and Joseph Gordon-Levitt, to name a few. Dominic Cobb (DiCaprio) and his partner Arthur (Gordon-Levitt) run a freelance espionage business, which runs smoothly until Saito (Ken Watanabe), a powerful Japanese business tycoon makes an offer that Cobb can't pass up.

The cast of dreamy mercenaries delves into the subconscious of Robert Fischer (Cillian Murphy), the son of Saito's dying business rival, within whom Cobb is hired to plant the idea of breaking up the Fischer company. Cobb must navigate his team through the various levels of Fischer's dream and accomplish the mission, all the while avoiding the psychological firewall and the late Mrs. Cobb's hostile antics.

The plot is surprisingly easy to follow considering that much of it takes place in an imaginary "fun-house." It is easier to watch than describe, but the trick is to keep track of whose dream the characters are in and why they are there.

Bear in mind this is not Freddy Kruger's dream world in which death brings eternal torment within Kruger's ribcage. Instead, the disturbed sleepers will be either kicked out of the dream into the safety of a chair (in some cases, flopping around the inside of a falling van), or plunged into limbo, where they are unaware they are still sleeping.

While it is difficult to believe, "Inception" is rumored to have much less computer-generated effects than your average

multimillion dollar science fiction film. With that said, the hotel corridor fight scene was pretty amazing and if that can be done sans the CGI, bravo director Nolan.

The only issue I had with the film was that some of the characters were somewhat transparent. For example, it would have been nice to have gotten a little more background on Ariadne (Page) before she starts telling the more experienced "dream weavers" what for. Of course, there is nothing wrong with the DiCaprio show, but the movie has other great actors, too.

"Inception" keeps you guessing throughout the film, but is entertaining no matter how many times you have to watch it. I give it two thumbs up.

"Crime Scene at Cardwell Ranch": An Entertaining Read

Jonathan W. Zora

Contributing Writer

While walking through Powell last Thursday, I noticed a stack of books on a table next to the lounge, marked "TAKE ONE". I glanced down to see the cover, picturing a rugged cowboy manfully contemplating something that I myself did not know. It was then that I decided to read the passionate harlequin romance novel, "Crime Scene at Cardwell Ranch".

The book begins with Ginger Adams being thrown down a well,

shot and then left to die. Seventeen years later, Dana Cardwell discovers her bones. It is up to Dana, the heroine of this story, and her former fiancé, the seductive cowboy Hud Savage, to find out who was the culprit of this decades-old crime.

After reading the novel, I felt that while the book had a good mystery plot, the overall story fell flat. None of the characters in the story change, except for the dynamics of Dana's relationships. Much of the book focuses on the

thoughts of Dana and Hud, which are either about themselves or about who the killer possibly could be. For example, after Hud and Dana discuss her engagement, Dana kicks him out of the house only to cry about their lost love and bemoan about her birthday, "she felt hot tears course down her cheeks. She wiped at the sudden wetness, biting her lip to keep from breaking down and bawling [...] this birthday was destined to go down as the worst." Exchanges like this portray Dana as a laughably

pathetic character, since she still gets upset about Hud five years after they've broken up.

By far the biggest crux in the book is the comically bad metaphors and similes that are used to describe Dana's relationship with Hud. When Dana arrives home and finds a box of chocolates, presumably from Hud, she compares the chocolate to love-making with Hud by saying that, "These chocolates made you close your eyes and moan and were right up there with sex. Well, not sex

with Hud. Nothing could beat that." This passage alone does more justice toward the book's inane comparisons than I could possibly hope to explain in this article.

Despite having laughable characters and unrealistic relationships, the book actually does set itself up as a decent mystery. The book gradually reveals more and more clues, until Dana is face-to-face with the murderer! The killer wasn't completely obvious, and the action scenes, although brief, were an entertaining

read.

Although romance novels are not my cup of tea, I really did enjoy this novel. Even though it had its fair share of weak plot devices and horribly awful metaphors, it was a fun, slightly engrossing read. If you can find this book for free like I did, I somewhat recommend that you read "Crime Scene at Cardwell Ranch". You might not regret it.