

Fiat Lux



The Student Newspaper of Alfred University

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Volume 89

Issue 10

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Alfred, New York



World Notes

•local:

Eco-Naturals, the environmentally friendly store on W. University St., is going out of business. • The University's Commission of Planning recommended establishing a health services fee to partially cover the cost of the contract with Collegiate Health Services, the firm that operates the Health Center.

•national:

The latest polls show multi-millionaire Steve Forbes gaining on Sen. Bob Dole in the New Hampshire primary. Dole still leads, 33 percent to 20 percent. • A third federal government shutdown was averted last Friday night when President Clinton signed a temporary spending bill. • On Friday, First Lady Hillary Clinton testified before the federal grand jury investigating the Whitewater affair. • The Food and Drug Administration approved olestra, Proctor and Gamble's fat-free fat substitute for use in snack foods. Scientists said it can cause problems including flatulence, diarrhea and "anal leakage."

•international:

An American soldier in the NATO peacekeeping force in Bosnia was wounded on Sunday in Sarajevo. • Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi plans to spend \$1 billion to influence the American elections. A White House spokesman said Gaddafi is trying to "worm his way" onto the world stage. • Club Med signed an agreement with the Cuban government to establish a resort on the island. U.S. citizens are prohibited from traveling to Cuba because of a 35-year-old trade embargo.

PERSONALITIES

Bill Dibrell's first impression of Alfred was that it looked very small but he liked it.

Dibrell arrived in February, so Alfred was in the midst of winter, yet the town somehow seemed warm to the professor. He found it to have an open atmosphere. "It didn't appear that people worried about useless rules."

Bill Dibrell has been a professor of philosophy at the University for 13 years and is an active participant in several community service organizations.

He said volunteering for the Alfred Fire Department and Ambulance Company is a source of enjoyment, noting that it is good for teachers to do something different. He said he finds the work challenging yet fulfilling, and a definite change of pace from the classroom.

"Dibrell is a very interesting professor. He frequently relates outside experience to the classroom material," said one of his students.



Bill Dibrell

Miller opening pushed back again

Code violations, contractor blamed in delay of performing arts building

BY STEVE WAGNER AND JON BAUM

Safety codes and the construction company were blamed for postponing the opening of the Miller Performing Arts Center.

In April 1995, the Miller building was scheduled to be completed by Sept. 30 of the same year, and the dedication was scheduled for Oct. 9. Classes were not to be held in the building until the start of the current semester.

The building was to be given a trial run during the fall semester.

Christine Grontkowski, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, stated at that time, "We have to make sure that everything is working the way it should."

The dedication was held, and the expectation was that the building would be finished shortly—just beyond the deadline.

The schedule now looks much different. Although the dedication occurred on the scheduled date, nothing else is happening as planned. The building is not open and it has yet to be given a "trial run."

New York State building codes contributed to the problem. After early delays caused by caisson problems, more modifications were necessary to comply with fire safety codes.

"It hardly ever works out the way it's planned," said Dick Smith, site coordinator for Christa Construction, describing the process of building the Miller Building. "Every time we think we are going to get something done, we hit a snag—something goes wrong."

In this case, there are two snags. Gary Ostrower, Village of Alfred trustee, said the building must remedy two violations.

See related story on page 3: Delay of opening affects arts.



The new Miller building's opening is being delayed by problems in bringing it up to code specifications.

Ostrower said the violations include a fire exit which leads outside to a hill with an unacceptable grade and large windows in a stairwell area lacking protective shutters. The exit, on the south side of the building, leads to a small terrace by the green monster staircase. Ostrower says the hill is too steep to allow for safe exit from the building.

Joseph Bob, Alfred village interim code enforcement officer, said the architect plans to smooth out the terrace to make the hill grade more subtle in order to adhere to the safety standards.

The other violation concerns large windows

on the south side stairwell. Ostrower said the safety codes require a shield to be placed over those windows to prevent injury to people in the area if the glass shatters during a fire.

Bob said those two problems are the only roadblocks preventing the building from receiving a certificate of occupancy, thus allowing the building to open.

"Other than [the windows and fire exit], the building is pretty much all set to go," said Bob, adding that the construction company still does have some minor problems to remedy in the building.

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Student reports attempted assault on campus

Brody memo: students must exercise greater caution

BY MICHAEL S. ZARKIN

Two weeks after the start of classes, AU students received an e-mail notification of another student's being assaulted in a possibly sexual manner.

This incident comes nearly three months after an alleged gang rape took place on Oct. 28.

The incident took place on

Thursday, Jan. 25, at approximately 10:30 p.m. The incident happened between Seidlin Hall and the Heating Plant.

In the incident, a female student walking alone was grabbed from behind by an unidentified man, and then brought or knocked to the ground.

The man then tried to touch the woman sexually. No attempts to

disrobe the woman were reported, making it unlikely that the incident meets the legal standard of an attempted rape.

The woman then broke free and notified AU Security and the Alfred Police Department.

The police are investigating the incident, and the University is providing any leads it uncovers to the police.

Dean of Students Gerald Brody said, "One [incident] is one too many," and re-stated his suggestion that students either walk together or use the escort service.

AU Security will be increasing the number of aides on patrol at night and will also be increasing the number of patrols on campus at night. Security Co-Chief Rob Urtz declined to comment. □

Freshmen land in academic trouble

BY MICHELLE PANCOE

Nineteen percent of AU's freshman class is on academic probation. These students have not yet been dismissed, but are in danger of being dismissed at the end of this semester if their grades do not improve.

After completing the appeals process, 57 students were dismissed from the University this fall, including 23 freshmen. Students with a semester index below 1.0 are dismissed from the University. Cut-offs for academic probation vary by college and semester.

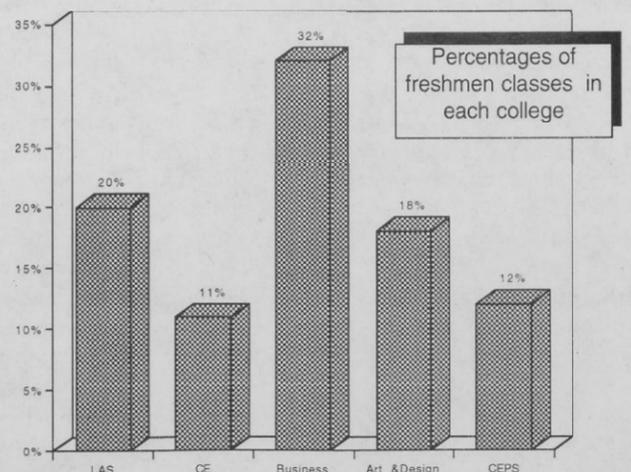
Christine Grontkowski, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, said that she and the LAS Scholastic Standards Committee had no idea what to attribute these numbers to. "We're totally puzzled," she said.

No one was able to pinpoint a definite reason for the academic difficulty of the freshman class, but many professors had some suggestions.

One suggestion that didn't seem to prove true was that many of the freshman lack the ability to succeed in college. While Paul Strong, associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts, reported a 75 point drop in the average SAT score of students in the Honors program, Director of Admissions Laurie Richer said that SAT scores for the freshman class are consistent with past years.

Richer also said that admission standards were not significantly lowered last year. She said the University "accepted the same percentage of applicants," that it had in the past.

This problem may not be confined to Alfred. According to the results of a UCLA study printed in the Jan. 12 *Chronicle of Higher Education*, 64.9 percent of current freshmen nationwide reported spending less than six hours a week studying or doing homework. According to the same study, only 1.2 percent of freshmen expected to fail a class while in college.



Overall, however, professors don't feel that intelligence is the issue. Carol Burdick, assistant professor of English, said, "I don't think that academic probation has anything to do with intelligence."

Grontkowski said that "There were some students with board scores high enough to apply for Honors that were dismissed."

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Students must invest in education

Alfred experienced its largest recent failure last semester. Nineteen percent of AU Freshmen are now on academic probation and 57 students are no longer enrolled for classes.

The University did not earn its F; the grade was forced upon it by students who simply did not do their job.

AU has nothing to gain by failing students. Each person sitting in a classroom is another \$20,000 in AU's coffers. Gratuitously flunking students does not make sound economic sense.

So AU does everything it can to help students succeed, from supporting accessible professors to providing a comprehensive array of tutoring and support services.

But, like any credible institute of higher education, the University must maintain its standards. If economics ruled grading, a degree would become only a piece of paper indicating how much its holder could afford to pay for college.

The problem modern professors see is that students no longer come to college prepared to work.

Is the bachelor's degree at risk of becoming the birthright the high school diploma became?

If we think society owes us a BA, BS or BFA simply because we took our lumps and paid off a college, it's no wonder students have difficulty finding jobs when they graduate.

LAS Dean Christine Grontkowski defined the dilemma when she said students should be working 40 hours a week on schoolwork, because if they weren't at college they'd certainly be working that much at a job.

Approach college as your job. You have to measure up to your employer's expectations, but you also have to measure up to your own expectations.

Your degree is like interest on a savings account: you have to deposit some studying before you can earn anything. Attend your classes. Put your full ability into your homework.

Don't mortgage your future. Put effort into your classes this spring. Don't fail Alfred—or yourself. □

“Your degree is like interest on a savings account: you have to deposit some studying before you can earn anything.”



We should do more for M.L.K. Jr. day

BY EDDIE NAJEEULLAH

In studying history, we learn things that help give us a better understanding of the world today. It has been noted that only once people pass on do we begin to then realize the impact of the invention, painting, writing or whatever it was they brought to our society. Only then do we appreciate what these people lived life for. Is this the case in every scenario?

Martin Luther King Jr. was not only a Southern Baptist minister but he was also one of the most important figures in the civil rights movement. As far back as we can remember, racial problems have plagued our society. The civil rights movement was one of the forces that tried to put an end to all of that. King spent countless years speaking out against racial hatred and unnecessary violence.

King led various marches and vigils to emphasize that racial tension must cease. We remember him and his “I Have a Dream” speech. The dream is the future. The future is now. He knew that it would be

a long time before the problems he faced would be gone, so he directed his actions toward generations that will come after him.

King was assassinated in April 1968 and only then did the world begin to see what he lived for. Have we forgotten the struggle of one of our nation's heroes? We take time off for Good Friday, the Fourth of July, Labor Day and other holidays. Public schools close, as well as banks and post offices around the country.

There should be more than just a calendar recognition in our school's agenda. UMOJA organizes a march around campus, with singing and hand-holding, culminated by a speech about King.

Ask anyone to tell you something about King and they'll tell you that he's the guy who wrote the “I Have a Dream” speech. But that surely is not all.

Whether it be lectures, a study session, movies or any type of forum, our school should organize more activities designed to educate those who need to understand King and his struggle. We only have one day out of 365 to commemorate an African-American leader, and that is what we should do.

Campaign '96 avoids the real issues again

BY MICHAEL S. ZARKIN

President Bill Clinton gave his State of the Union Address last Tuesday.

As usual, Clinton gave a good speech. It doesn't matter how you saw it—live on TV, printed in Wednesday's *New York Times*, or over the 'Net—it was a good speech.

The Republican response, given by current front-runner (and Senate majority leader) Bob Dole just wasn't a good speech. Dole's delivery was weak, devoid of any emotion save anger and lacking in drama. But what do you expect from a man whose campaign theme is, “I'm old and it's my turn”?

The President's speech could well have been given by any of a number of Republican moderates. It spoke of a need to reform a bloated federal bureaucracy and to restore

personal responsibility to this country's political life.

But none of this really has any implications—either for Campaign '96 or for our country's future.

We can all see what has happened to the Republican Party. It's a safe bet that any Republican seriously considering the nomination will need to zig to the right before the convention and then zag to the center for the general election.

While that may be a sad commentary on the state of my party, it, too, doesn't matter in a long-range view.

Clinton will run as a centrist. The Comeback Kid will do it again.

The Republican nomination is open. Dole, Gramm and Buchanan are all beholden to the radical right. Forbes could well be as loony as Perot turned out to be.

But all—Republicans and Democrats alike—will run on the chimerical notion of balancing the budget in seven years.

And that just doesn't matter. You see, balancing the budget in seven years will be child's play compared to the real problems facing the country.

I'm not talking about moral rot, crime, drugs, the U.N. or anything that simple.

I'm talking about future bankruptcy.

I'm talking about Social Security and the problems we're facing in 20 years.

When Social Security was established in 1933, the average life expectancy was about 62. The retirement age was 65.

Today, the average life expectancy is in the high 70s. The retirement age is 67-and-a-half.

The basic problem is that many people are living long enough to col-

lect their retirement benefits. And we are fast approaching the point at which we can't afford it anymore.

We will be paying for our parents' retirements when we are nearing middle age. It is impossible to guess who will pay for our retirement benefits.

Social Security has been a scam since Day One. There is no account with your name on it that you pay money into to fund your retirement. Today's workers pay for today's retirees. No one pays for, or even thinks about, tomorrow.

This is a real problem. None of the people currently running for President are really willing to deal with this problem.

Sadly, if they don't, we may either go bankrupt or revolt.

But this time, it won't be a Boston Tea Party. It'll be the old people going into Boston Harbor.

“This time, it won't be a Boston Tea Party. It'll be the old people going into Boston Harbor.”

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SAB launches "Two-Buck" band series

BY CARA STEIN

Deep Blue Something will be playing in the Knight Club Feb. 16. Admission will be \$2, but to get in, you have to win the lottery.

The band, best known for its top-40 single "Breakfast at Tiffany's," is playing as part of SAB's new program of \$2 band performances.

SAB decided that a lottery system would be the fairest way to decide who gets to go, said Carianne Mack, SAB small-acts chair.

The number of people has to be limited because the contract is for a small show, Mack said. Steve Harpst, director of student activities, predicted that about 250 students will be allowed to go.

Students who want tickets will go to the SAB office between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on Feb. 5 and fill out a form with their name, address and

phone number, said Mack. There will be a limit of one entry per student. A drawing will be held and each winner will be allowed to buy two tickets. Winners' names will be posted and if tickets are not purchased within 48 hours, more names will be drawn for the unsold tickets.

Only AU students will be allowed into the concert; audience members will be asked to present their ID cards along with their tickets, Mack said.

Students' reactions to the lottery idea vary. "That's really, really stupid," Rachel Danforth, a sophomore comparative cultures major said, preferring the idea of offering the tickets on a first-come, first-served basis.

Cecily Rogers, a sophomore undeclared liberal arts major, said, "The lottery seems like the best thing at this moment." Many students expressed regret that the concert could not be

moved to a larger place so that more people could attend.

Moxy Fruvous, a band that is somewhat known here and more well-known in Canada, will have ticket sales by the same lottery system, said Mack.

Also performing in the \$2 band night series are Strange Arrangement and Cuban Music Crisis. Strange Arrangement, popular in Syracuse, played at Woodstock 1995 and opened for Rusted Root. Cuban Music Crisis is a local band. Tickets for these shows will go on sale at the door a half-hour before the show starts.

SAB decided to charge \$2 admission for these concerts to raise money for better-known bands. The bands will be paid from the newly-raised money, SAB's budget for the semester and profits from last semester's Alanis Morissette concert, Mack said. □

&More...

BY MEGAN ALLEN

She had been stuck eating a lot of soup when her tongue had swelled for a few days. But the clamp they used to hold her tongue in place hadn't intimidated her. And amazingly enough, when they inserted the long needle into the spot where they had previously made an ink dot, it didn't even hurt.

Yes, for \$50, she now had a pierced tongue.

I remember being amazed at how many students had unusual piercings. (By unusual I mean anywhere other than the ears.) My friends from other colleges who have visited often remark on the large number of people who have facial piercings. Who knows how many holes there are that we can't see.

I think it is great people feel they can pierce at will—it certainly is not a novel idea to say that we should all be allowed to look, and do things to our bodies as we please. But I think it is safe to say that I am not alone in asking why.

The student I talked to who had pierced her tongue said she had it pierced because "I was bored, and I thought it would be interesting."

I also talked to another student who at the moment has 14 holes, including two piercings in his tongue, a pierced septum, two stretched earlobes and a Prince Albert. (For those of you who, like myself, had no clue—that is a piercing of the penis, inside the urethra.) He said that he pierces his body because it is "extreme altering of the body" and allows him to "take flesh and mold it." Hmm. Okay.

Which piercing was the most painful? Surprisingly enough, his tongue, because like the other student I talked to, it swelled for a couple of days, making eating difficult. You may be wondering, but what about the Prince Albert? He said actually it didn't hurt; it seemed like it should, but it really didn't. He also had a very specific reason for getting the Prince Albert: it is supposed to make the male orgasm more intense. Uh huh. Well then.

Even after talking to these students, I'm not exactly ready to go out and get these unusual piercings myself. Yes, five holes, all in my ears, are quite enough excitement for me. I never liked soup much anyway.

Miller Building delay affects performing arts

BY MEGAN ALLEN

They are not sure when the play will be. They are not sure where dances are going to be rehearsed. They are not sure when they will finally be able to move all their packed up books.

"Hang in there—it will be more than worth the wait," said Becky Prophet, chair of the division of performing arts, to students who are being affected by the still-unfinished Miller building. The professors of the performing arts division are counting on her being correct.

The Miller Performing Arts Center, proposed to be open this semester, is still not completed and the completion date is unknown. Consequently, the performing arts classes have remained in their old spaces and performances have been postponed.

Susan Caligaris, assistant professor of dance, is the "hardest hit, without a space to call her own," said Prophet. South Hall, which formerly housed the dance program, was rendered unusable two weeks before the end of last semester when the boiler broke.

Currently the dance classes are being held in Howell Hall with some dance rehearsals in Davis Gym, the Knight Club and the upstairs hallway in the McLane Center.

Although it is a beautiful room, Howell Hall is just too small, said Caligaris. There is also a concern with moving around too much, since "with 25 people using even only a little energy" the room gets warm and there are no fans or win-

dows to open, said Caligaris.

There are also psychological disadvantages, since "I feel like I can't settle in. This is not my space," said Caligaris. She said that this is mainly just an inconvenience which she can get used to, "but I don't want to, knowing what is in the new space."

One positive effect for Caligaris is being close to the music faculty. It was "so lonely" in South Hall that seeing faculty and hearing music "is fabulous," she said.

Luanne Clarke, assistant professor of voice and chorus, said the Miller Building's being unfinished is just "an inconvenience" for the music classes. Howell Hall was never big enough for chorus and half of her books are packed, so she is working out of boxes. It is not "as bad as it is for Susan," said Clarke.

In the theater department, performance schedules are "a mess," said Prophet. The student-directed plays and the spring play have been postponed. Rehearsals are being held in the hope that in the next couple of weeks they will know more and be able to plan on dates, said Prophet.

There has been a positive effect, since the division has "realized the capacity we have for working with each other through these problems, to still offer students a good performing arts experience," said Prophet.

Caligaris echoed her thought. "We have to be patient. South Hall was undesirable yet we made great work. We can continue to make great work as long as we have some space." □

BAFA moves to Brick

BY CARA STEIN

The Bachelor of Arts in Fine Arts program, which allows students in the College of Liberal Arts to major in fine arts, moved to the Brick basement at the beginning of this semester.

"It's a beautiful, workable space right now," said Petra Soesemann, one of the program's faculty. A surface that allows artwork to be tacked to it has been added to the walls and painted white, along with the columns and the ceiling. An office has been created from existing space. The area looks spacious.

The program was supposed to move into the Music Annex at the

beginning of fall semester, said Soesemann. The problem is that the Miller Performing Arts Center was not finished on time, so the music program is still in the Music Annex.

The BAFA program was located in South Hall last semester, but the roof leaked and the boiler broke toward the end of last semester, leaving the building without heat or water. Temporary heaters were used, but conditions were still rugged, Soesemann said.

She said the new location in the Brick is a terrific space except for the columns and the low ceiling.

Soesemann said she still hopes to move to the Music Annex when the Miller Building is finished. □

LAS Dean reads poetry

BY MICHELLE PANCOE

Dean Christine Grontkowski presented "Intimations of Mortality" for the Women's Studies Roundtable on Jan. 26. Grontkowski read nine poems, seven of which she had written herself.

Grontkowski began with a poem by Sharon Olds called "January Daughter," which had originally appeared in the *New Yorker*. Grontkowski said she chose the poem because her own daughter was born in January.

Grontkowski went on to read some of her own poetry she had chosen. The poems were eloquent and full of imagery. They were all well written and very well presented. Grontkowski thanked both Susan Morehouse and Sandra Singer for their help.

There was great variety in the group of poems Grontkowski chose. It included a poem of consolation to a friend in a bad marriage and a poem written as a gift to her daughter on her wedding day.

Grontkowski's poems gave the audience a glimpse into her life. They revealed a deep love for her family, especially her daughter, Laura.

The poems also revealed her ability to translate emotions into words. This accomplishment was evidenced by the tears in the room after a couple of her poems.

Grontkowski concluded the reading with a poem her daughter had written. This was the most emotional of the poems and served well as a thought-provoking ending to the reading. □

Review

Students handle art at Fosdick-Nelson exhibition

BY REBECCA ROBERTS

Students sitting at tables reading books seems a sight more likely in Herrick Library than Fosdick Nelson Gallery. "Transformation of the Work in Art: An Exhibition of Offset Artists' Books and Prints," however, has encouraged just that. The show's curator is AU alumnus Chad Latz, now the assistant director of Nexus Press in Atlanta, Ga.

The design of the exhibition adds to its unique quality. Tables and chairs are scattered about the gallery, each accompanied by a low hanging lamp inviting the viewer to spend time examining each piece of artwork.

Handling artwork in a gallery setting is a new concept for the art world. It makes the medium attractive. The books in this exhibition were all printed on offset presses, a modern form of printing. Latz

mentioned in his gallery talk the ability of offset books to reach many people for relatively small amounts of money.

The books range from Bill Burke's *I Want To Take Pictures*, a collection of images and writings from his travels in southeast Asia, to Caryl Burtner's *Exorcism of Page 13* which features grids of the page number thirteen cut from her own library. A few of the books in the show are being formally shown here in Alfred for the first time in the United States.

Artists' books are made by many Alfred University artists. It is important for students to be able to see exhibitions that are relevant to the work going on here. It is also exciting because the show is produced by an Alfred alumnus. The show will be in the Fosdick Nelson Gallery until Feb. 4. Plan to spend some time reading. □



This book by Bonnie O'Connell, printed by Nexus Press, is one of many works on display at the exhibit. It is entitled *The Anti-Warhol Museum-Proposals for the Socially Responsible Disposal of Warholia*.

PHOTO BY JASON GRAY

Freshmen in academic trouble

continued from page 1...

Professors seem to agree that motivation is a big factor in determining whether a student will succeed or fail in college. Grontkowski said that the students who were dismissed reported spending typically three to four hours a week studying. She repeated this to Freshman Forum and said, "If you were not privileged enough to be in college, you would be in the work force, working 40 hours a week." She said that if students put in even half that much time studying, they would succeed.

Assistant professor of history Linda Mitchell said that "many [students] seemed uninterested in improving their grades." She also said she felt students "were not attending classes as consistently as they should have."

Burdick said that failures in her classes were because of lack of attendance and students not doing their work.

Strong said, "If [students] are not going to class, they shouldn't be in college." Some professors felt that students were under-prepared for college this year, in terms of reading and study skills. Kathleen Collins, dean of the School of Art and Design, said many students have the ability but not the study skills

required in college. She also said that many students "don't understand the discipline that's necessary for college work."

Professor of English Susan Mayberry said, "Some [students] are quite serious about their work, and others simply don't understand the concept of work."

Burdick said, "reading and writing are not as important to many young people," and "a larger percentage isn't excited about learning."

Grontkowski said the three biggest weed-out classes for freshmen were western civilization, American history and general chemistry, noting that, "The sad part is that these students are sabotaging themselves."

She added that the LAS faculty will discuss programs to remedy the problems freshmen are having, but that many support systems are in place.

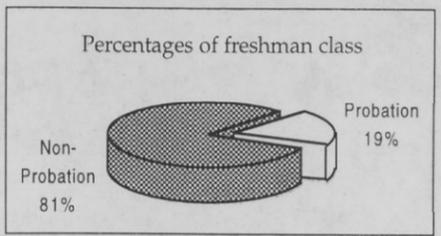
The fall 1995 semester was the first in a couple of years without CLASS. CLASS was a program of tutoring and teaching study skills. Judy Hartling, former director of CLASS, said that after the program's funding ran out, the responsibility for tutoring reverted to each college. When CLASS was in existence, approxi-

mately 350 students used it on a regular basis each semester, said Hartling.

The liberal arts college instituted a new tutoring program this year under the direction of graduate student Chad DeFina. DeFina has a pool of tutors that he draws from when a student calls looking for help. He serves as a liaison between the student needing help and the tutor. The tutoring program is free to students, but the tutors are paid by the college.

In addition to the new tutoring program, the Writing Center is available for student use. Mitchell said that students are simply "not utilizing all of the resources at their disposal."

History professor Stuart Campbell said he didn't understand why students were not attending classes and doing the work. He said, "There are cheaper places to drink beer." □



Students enrolled in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the School of Ceramic Engineering must earn a 1.7 their first semester, a 1.85 their second semester and a 2.0 every semester after that to avoid academic probation.

Students in the College of Business and Administration must earn a 2.0 each semester, and students in the College of Engineering and Professional Studies and the School of Art and Design must earn a 1.7 for each of their first two semesters and a 2.0 each semester after that.

Students who fall below their college's standards are placed on academic probation. If they fail to achieve the minimum requirement for a second consecutive semester, they are dismissed.

All students who are dismissed from the University are given the opportunity to appeal their dismissal. Those choosing to appeal speak to the Scholastic Standards Committee for the college they are enrolled in. The Committee evaluates possible extenuating circumstances. Re-admitted students are placed on academic probation.

Alfred aids students left homeless after 44 W. University blaze



PHOTO BY RACHEL DANFORTH

The building at 44 W. University was totally destroyed on Jan. 8. Damage was so extensive that the house must be razed.

BY TERESA G. VINCENT

In the early morning hours of Jan. 8, Alfred's volunteer firefighters were called upon to put out a fire at 44 W. University St.

Firefighters fought the blaze in extremely cold weather for over an hour. Fire Chief Nancy Furlong feared that one of the nine students living in the house was still inside. The missing student was located, unharmed, but the house was destroyed.

"In the aftermath, the town did come together," Furlong said. The nine students left homeless by the fire have received aid from the

Alfred community, Alfred University and the American Red Cross in Wellsville.

The University is offering housing to the nine students. Although the exact numbers are confidential, several are looking for off-campus housing.

The University has also established a fund to aid the victims. Susan Smith, associate dean of students, said "We have done just about everything."

Smith also said the University has provided the students with special loan opportunities, donations and transportation to the American Red Cross in Wellsville.

Although declining to offer specifics, a spokesman said the Red Cross was offering all possible services for disaster victims.

Furlong said the fire has been deemed accidental, probably caused by an electrical problem. The site at 44 W. University St. is condemned and is set to be razed.

Student Senate voted unanimously to donate \$200 to the victims, with \$175 coming from the special allocations fund and \$25 coming from Senate work at the recent Telethon. Aside from Senate's donation, Pan Hellenic Council will hold a fund-raiser on Jan. 31 and Feb. 1. □

Main Street restaurant changes owners

BY JENNIFER J. REISINGER

The former Classic Espresso Restaurant on Main St. is now Balti Towers. The restaurant has been taken over by Cindy Tishue and Steve Parrot and "The food and management have improved drastically," said employee Joy Patterson. "You no longer have to

wait 40 minutes for your order," she added.

Balti Towers gets its name from the Balti style of cooking which originated in India. Balti cooking has increased drastically in popularity. The restaurant's owners said over 30 percent of meals served are Balti.

In addition to Balti meals, Balti

Towers also offers Tex Mex and vegetarian menus. It still offers latte, espresso and cappuccino. "It is nice to see that their menu has increased. When it was Classic Espresso, the menu was limited. I am interested in trying Balti," said AU student Beth Larrabee.

Patterson said the restaurant has a steady clientele. "When it was Classic Espresso the customers were primarily from the art school. We now have a diverse group of people," she said.

Another feature the new restaurant owners have added is a weekly coffeehouse series on Fridays. AU student Tom Worth performed on Jan. 19.

Another weekly special will be confessional night on Sundays. The best ten-minute confession will win a free Balti dinner. □

Alfred rides out flood

BY JASON CHILSON-CLINE

Alfred University was able to keep damage at a minimum during the floods two weeks ago.

"The damage was minimal and the response was excellent," said Bill Dillon, director of Physical Plant.

With high waters already encroaching buildings, crews were dispatched at 6 a.m. on Jan. 19 to begin defending the campus from any possible flood damage. Larger than normal crews began to squeegee water away from buildings.

Sandbagging began at about 7 a.m. around Howell Hall. "Everyone jumped in to lend a hand...even I got all wet," said Dillon.

With over 50 buildings, two and

half miles of roads, 10 acres of parking lot, 153 square feet of sidewalk and 790 stairs to protect, Physical Plant was able to minimize the damage.

The Hillel House and Ade Hall received minor damage when their basements flooded. Sidewalks were also damaged when sand was washed out by swiftly moving run-off waters.

Residence Life was also only mildly affected. "We [Residence Life] really lucked out," said Tomas Gonzalez, Residence Life area coordinator.

There was some leaking in Cannon Hall and Upper Pine Hill, Gonzalez said. "Crews from Physical Plant responded immediately and were able to keep the leakage from causing any damage." □

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Art Dean resigns to head KC school

BY JONATHAN BAUM

A search committee is being formed to find a replacement for Kathleen Collins, resigning dean of the School of Art and Design.

Associate Provost Susan Strong sent a memo Jan. 25 requesting nominations from each division to comprise a pool from which the search committee will be selected.

"I hope the committee will begin meeting the first week of February," said Strong, adding that the committee should have a job description ready by the middle of next month.

Strong said that Collins, who will be leaving AU at the end of the semester to assume the position of President of the Kansas City Art Institute,

gave the administration plenty of notice by informing the University of her decision in January.

"She's worked very hard on behalf of the art school faculty and students," said Strong of Collins. "We hope we'll develop a good pool of interested persons" to replace her.

"It has truly been an honor to be the dean of such an outstanding school of art and design, and a privilege to work with such a fine faculty and staff," said Collins in a memo sent to AU faculty, students and staff.

"I also feel honored to have this great opportunity at the Kansas City Art Institute, and consider it a reflection of the excellent experience I've had at Alfred." □

Health Center makes the Pill more affordable

BY LAURA FOSTER

Crandall Health Center has made birth control more affordable. The health center recently signed a contract with Desogen, a birth control pill manufacturer, to sell the Pill to students at less than half the pharmacy price.

Nancy Brinkwart, Alfred University health service director said the contract was made because "I was annoying!"

In the past, the health center did not sell birth control pills. Women could go to the health center for gynecological exams and get prescriptions for the Pill, but they had to have the prescription filled elsewhere.

The Pill can be bought from the Alfred Pharmacy, where the cost is between \$18 and \$20. It can also be bought from the Allegany County Women's Clinic for only \$3, but the clinic is much less accessible to students.

Students are now able to buy Desogen pills for \$5 a month from the health center.

The attempt to create a new contract started in August. Before the contract, a Desogen representative came to Alfred periodically to

deliver free samples of the Pill. Brinkwart said it would be a good idea to be able to sell the pills instead of just supplying free samples.

Brinkwart suggested this to the representative. The drug company was willing to lower the price since it is only being sold to students, whom they consider a needy population. The contract is an investment for Desogen, because students will be likely to stay with the company after they graduate, at which point they will pay full price for the pills.

Brinkwart said this contract will benefit the University community because it is likely to increase student satisfaction with services on campus.

Junior Jami Smith said, "I think a lot of people don't go on the Pill since it's so expensive."

The Pill's lowered price may persuade more women to use it.

Since this contract has been well-received, Brinkwart contacted Wyeth, the company that makes Triphasil and Lo-ovral, to see about similar contracts with them. She said she would like to accommodate more students by offering more than one brand of the Pill. □

Student activities wins national awards

BY MICHAEL K. WINTER

Alfred's student activities earned the University two awards at the recent National Association for Campus Activities conference. The NACA conference included more than 200 colleges from New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

One of student activities' most successful events, the Alfies, was deemed the best event that cost less than \$1000. The Alfies are Alfred's version of the Academy

Awards with top honors going out in categories including to exceptional actors and outstanding events.

AU also won first place in the field of graphic art and design for the Fall 1995 Activities Calendar.

Student activities is an advising council to the Student Activities Board and is directed by Steve Harpst. Student activities also plays a role in helping AU's various clubs put together events like the Winterfest,

Homecoming and Hot Dog Day. SAB, headed by Barrett DiSanto, is the student-run portion of Student Activities that is mainly devoted to comic and musical shows.

Every weekend, Nevins Theater showcases recent box office hits, and all types of comedians perform at Snickers Comedy Hour. Student activities is continuing SAB Coffeehouse and has booked established bands for \$2 Band Night throughout the next four months. □

SENATE UPDATE

BY MICHELLE PANCOE

Student Senate Vice President Joe DiCarlo called the Senate's attention to the AU Rescue Squad, which is in need of money.

At Senate's Jan. 24 meeting, DiCarlo said the AU Rescue Squad is in trouble because Section 800 of the New York State Code went into effect this year. This law raised the standards for emergency medical service providers.

The Rescue Squad needs \$1500 to meet the new standards. The group needs to pro-

vide Hepatitis B vaccinations for all members and to buy supplies such as splints, spinal immobilization equipment and oxygen. The oxygen is especially important because of the 40 calls the Rescue Squad responded to last semester, 25 required oxygen under state code. The Rescue Squad can be held liable if something happens and they lack the supplies required, DiCarlo said.

Arrangements are being made to provide the \$1500 needed. Student Affairs, Senate and Alfred Ambulance Service are all possible sources of funding. Senate will discuss its contribution next week.

The University administration is considering the installation of stairs beside the Olin Building leading down from State

Street, said President Jake Cooper.

Senate voted unanimously to donate \$200 to the students left homeless by the fire at 44 W. University St. The \$25 raised during the telethon will be combined with \$175 from the special allocations fund.

James Fudge, chair of the Elections Committee, announced that he was looking for a few more people to serve on the committee. Campus-wide elections will be held late in February for the positions of president and vice president. Senate members will vote on the positions of secretary, treasurer and publicity.

Amy Gallagher suggested the bookstore post a list of out of stock books in the window. This would save time for students waiting for their books to come in. Cooper

said he would speak to the bookstore manager.

Steve Harpst, director of student activities, announced the Student Innovation Award. This award will be given by the AU Trustees to a student or group of students who see a problem and take action to make things better. Nomination forms for this honor are available at the information desk in the Campus Center.

Dan Napolitano spoke about SAB's Deep Blue Something concert in the Knight Club on Feb. 16. Because of the amount of interest in the concert and the limited space available in the Knight Club, tickets will be sold using a lottery system. Only AU students will be admitted to the concert.

Miller building not ready

Supervisor Weeks did not place a time estimate on the fire exit correction, saying he had not gotten the new plans from the architect. Weeks did say he expects the shutters to be complete within two weeks, assuming no new problems arise.

However, according to Trustee Marlin Miller, for whom the building is named, the construction company has been dragging its heels since the dedication.

Miller said the construction company holds sole responsibility for the delay. He said Christa Construction "dropped the ball... They were asked repeatedly to add more people on the job and they just didn't."

He said the contractor should

have increased the number of workers over the summer in order to avoid this delay that other AU Trustees saw coming.

From Oct. 9 to Dec. 11, "only minor amounts of work were accomplished," said Becky Prophet, chair of the Division of Performing Arts.

During the week following Dec. 15, Prophet said the construction company had four times as many people working, and the work progressed at a faster rate.

The holiday season was much slower, and the current pace was described as "better" by Prophet at the Performing Arts Open House on Jan. 15.

The delay caused classes across campus to relocate. Classes that

were supposed to move in to the new building couldn't, thereby occupying space into which other classes were scheduled to move.

"We're very lucky to be getting this building," said junior fine arts major Jennifer DeCicco, "but I'm very disappointed that it's not finished yet. I want to be able to use it before I graduate."

Prophet said the building will be completed well before then. Prophet named the second week in February as an optimistic target date for completion, with spring break as the latest she expects the building to be finished.

Prophet said she originally did not want to move into the building in the middle of the semester, but now she will do, so seniors

will have some time in the new building.

While Miller is upset over the missed deadline, he is still positive about the project itself. "You just have to wait a little longer for something that is going to be beneficial."

But the delays have caused problems both financially and academically. Dean Grontkowski said the original estimate for the cost of the building was \$4.5 million in the planning stages. After necessary design changes and the

deletion of an additional theater which has now been tagged as "phase two" of the project, the cost has risen to about \$9.9 million.

"The budget has been a funny thing in the construction of this building," said Grontkowski, adding that Miller assumed all the additional costs added since the planning began five years ago.

At the Open House, Prophet said to the audience, "If you know Buddha, say a prayer...we would like to be in the building soon." □

continued from page 1...

Five alleged rapists to face village judge

BY MICHELLE PANCOE

The five men charged with participating in a gang rape last semester are no longer students at Alfred University. They pled not guilty to charges stemming from an accusation by an Alfred student.

The defendants have a date in Village Court on Feb. 7 before Village Justice William MacCrea. Assistant District

Attorney Kathleen McDonald, who is prosecuting the case, could not comment except to say that the date was for an appearance before the judge.

Judge MacCrea pointed out that the case is not being "swept under the carpet." He said that in cases such as this, "We have to be very, very careful." He also said he was reluctant to turn this case "into a three-ring circus." □

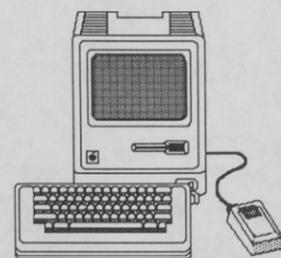
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...[illegible]... fatal ...[illegible]...
2436792hax5: 5A *
2395 [illegible] 34955
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[illegible]

Date: Tues. 28 Jan 2136 00:41:36 -0500
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Subject: ...

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...sigh...

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by Dan Fischer
Layouts and shading by Byron Scalzi



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A Δ Ω

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The Bicycle Man

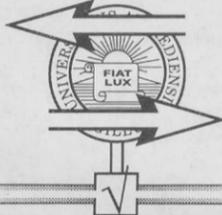
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AU's women opened the second half against Utica with an 18-1 win lifting the basketball team to a win Saturday.



Fiat Sports

Super Bowl:

The NFC continued its Super Bowl winning streak as Dallas beat Pittsburgh, 27-17.

Men's basketball upsets Utica, 80-75 Amore shoots 1000th point in surprise victory

BY DAVID FITZGERALD

Jason Amore's thirty point effort against Utica College put the junior over the thousand point mark and gave the Saxons a shocking victory over the conference leaders.

Amore's 1000th point fell through the west rim while shooting the front end of a technical foul.

He is only the thirteenth Alfredian to reach the milestone. "I wanted to do it for my parents," Amore said.

The co-captain from Friendship, N.Y. is ranked second in the conference in scoring, sinking over twenty points per game.

"I'm glad he got it at home and on a night we won," said head coach Jay Murphy.

The AU men's basketball team wasn't supposed to win. If there were odds on D-III basketball, the spread would have been wider than the Super Bowl's blowout prediction.

The truckload of turnovers in the first minute confirmed the fears of informed fans; Utica had come to play. Entering McLane gym with just one loss, to Cortland State coached by former AU head coach Tom Spanbauer, the Utica Pioneers opened up a 16-9 lead.

By eight minutes in AU had closed the gap and the rest of the half remained close. Amore was the only gold shirt to reach double figures in the first half, dropping in eleven.

Halfway through the second half Alfred led by five, and big man Dan Yeager, who finished with 12 points stepped in to preserve the victory. With a minute left, six points separated the Saxons and Pioneers.

With both teams at ten team fouls and each foul drawing a pair of chances at the line, Yeager lowered the ceiling on Utica's Dudridge Bourne and Jay Snow with blocked shots including a key block over Snow with 55 seconds remaining. Yeager was then fouled at the other end and hit the front end of his award to bring the score to 80-75.

Every man on the court contributed to the victory. Eleven minutes into the first half, Chris Johnson was the only starter left in the game, as Greg Hepler, Vinnie Morris, Jason Dobrinick, Jason Sealy and Paul Valentine had all checked into the game at some point.

"Vinnie stepped up and sparked us like he should," Murphy said of the point guard who had started the game on the bench behind freshman Mike Spacciapoli. "The younger guys, Spacc and Hep, came in and did a great job... It was a great win, no doubt about it."

The win changes the team's perspective on the rest of the season. "We were down after Ithaca. I told the guys, 'don't look back, look ahead to an eleven game schedule.' Now we're down to a ten game schedule." □

Flood waters rise at Stables

BY JONATHAN SPRINGER

The AU Equestrian Team was hit hard by Jan. 19's flooding.

Four feet of flowing water covered Brentwood Stables during the flooding that Friday, said team captain Jennifer Coniglio.

The team put in a Herculean effort over the next week to clean up the stables, said Becky Backer, their coach.

"Without their help, we would not have been back in work until mid-February," Backer said.

Even so, the team was unable to

practice again until last Thursday. "Everyone pulled together and we got back in there," Coniglio said.

AU does not own Brentwood Stables, but contracts their services, Backer said.

Backer estimated the eventual cost of repairing damage at \$10,000 to \$15,000.

"We chipped away at 6 to 12 inches of ice," Coniglio said. "We tried to dry and revive the tack."

In addition to repairs that have been completed, all Brentwood's fencing must be replaced when the ground thaws this spring. □



Equestrian team co-captain Erika Stapleton shows the damage to Brentwood Stables caused by the Jan. 19 flooding.

PHOTO BY JENNIFER CONIGLIO

WALF weekend hours	W	Th	Pie Day	Saturday	Sunday	weekend times	Monday	T	
7:00-9:15am	Rachel L. & Angel C. (npr)	NPR (ryan s. & tad m.)	FUAD K. William M. & Patrick S. (npr)	CHRIS W. & BRIAN A. (CLASSIC ROCK) "GOULASH"	MOJDA NAJAFI (CLASSICAL & jazz)	7-9am	Daniel Bellina (npr)	Sarah & jenny m. (npr)	
11:15am - 5:15pm	Forrest lesch-middleton "wake up with the blues."	Roxanne L. & Christine Y. & Beth H. Christy D. "Lullabies & Chainsaws."	J. D. DEVINE (folk, ethnic)	Melissa E. & Rachel Red Lobsters (CLASSIC ROCK)	Derek S. & PAUL MITCHELL (blues & classic rock)	9:00-10:30am	Dave Holmes	robb. & mark L. (classic rock, REAL alternative)	
11:15-1:15pm	Deanne S. & Amy C. (folk, blues)	BARRETT DISANTO (new music, real alternative)	JENN (folksy)	sabrina #^\$&^ tim H. (Metal HipHop)	byron G. & Joe R. (classic rock and jazz) "mercurial boyz"	10:30-noon	dylan buffum (classic rock, real alternative)	Amy Gallagher "mostly the classics"	
1:15-3:15pm	meghan M. & Nicole W. (Variety o' stuff)	jon h. & aaron y. & dan n. (classic rock, metal) "the brick wall"	jen didcoo (folk blues) "igneous rocks"	mike scott & doug NEW MUSIC and Classic Rock	josh LEVIN-LEVIN ("real" alternative Classic Coke)	12-2pm	brian ROCK (live rock & roll)	teresa vincent (classic rock, alternative)	
3:15-6:00	justin o. & stephen r. & alex c. & npr	brenda o. & jodie p.	RORY SZWED (NRP)	Improvisational Theatre Co.	sarah M & stacey (classic rock and real alt.)	2-4pm	イカエウハ ウカソウタ (ハトエ) Warren's show	alexis castro (npr)	
6:00-8:00	JOSH H. ANDY G.	heidi d. & andrew fisk TALK	leslie a & julie c. (ska and 80's) what's Ska?	lynn ansaldo (to be announced with a weird ad on the bulletin board)	B a o b (real alt)	6-8pm	Devin C. & Craig S. (folk, new music)	B. H. (classic rock, progressive rock)	
8-10	cristina p & christina s. "RUDE GRRLZ" (punk, ska)	joanna chang & co. (readings) "S.R.P."	HEATHER ROWE (blues, funky soul)	Andrew G and Todd M (variety o' stuff)	briarwhite * willjenkino (r&b&hip&hop)	8-10	Captain Dan Glanowski (80's, classic rock) "Cpt. dan's pirate radio"	rick m. & dave g. (classic rock & new music) "Jimbo's high flying kite"	
Ten o'clock to midnight	CLAUDE M. AND JEN B. classic rock, real alt)	steve p. (audio collage) *NU* Kombined effekt	heavy dj rotation	esca & amy (real alt)	chypo.f & eddie.n "where hiphop and reggae live"	8-10	Kevin hurysz (punk, hard rock)	Marylou Wells (blues)	
12-2:00am	philip stewart (industrial, punk)	travis a. & dennis h. (ska, lowfi garage) "Where is Bill?"	ben rosen (rap, hip hop) "reiner-leift safety patrol"	jon b ^ chris m Metal metal metal	laura kaplan	10-12pm	Kurt * Treeby* (new music)	joey boyle (jazz, classic rock) "mutations of soul"	
2-4am	melanie a & dave b. (metal, punk)	stephen s. ned v. marcus s. (industrial ambient)	edith h. & rachel d. (new music, classic rock) "WHATEVER!"	mik jerem & be THE V.C. FUNTIME FACTORY	andrea gioia "THE PENDULUM" (industrial techno)	12-2:00am	Mark T. & Chris P. (techno, gothic) "Blood Lust"	chris e. & lindsay e. (dance, alt)	
4-7	Xander s. & Emily w. (blues, classic rock)	MYKE S. & CHRISTY N. (AMBIENT, REAL ALT)	meg h., scott m. and lauren m. classic rock, real alt	doug E. d. & mike E. m. (punk & reggae)	JIMS & PAULK (CLASSIC ROCK, METAL)	2-4am	Enrique r. & Kate K. "K & K" (classic rock, alt)	danielle o. & doirdro-p (real alternative) Jacob V. & Rob S. (Noise)	
RADIO'S ALL YOU NEED... TYPOGRAPHY'S WHAT YOU WANT				megan a & jeneen l. & megan p. (classic rock & 80's)		brian p. & brad b. (metal "real" alt)		* Pending Piercing	