



AU Rallies for Solidarity

Students Gather on Allen Walk in Support of Student Activism Across the Nation

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Photo Credit: Noah Mitchell

Let's Talk About Race

ICU Hosts Race Panel to Address Growing Concerns on Campus

Cheyenne Rainford
Managing Editor

By 12:15 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 17, Nevins Theater was filled to capacity for the Race Panel, hosted by AU's Institute for Cultural Unity (ICU), where students of color shared their personal experiences with racism in Alfred.

On Monday, Nov. 16, a large poster board appeared on the first floor of Powell Campus Center. The board featured printed screenshots of Yik Yak posts from the Alfred area which proclaimed horribly racist ideologies. One Yik Yaker even shared an image of a white person's hand intertwined with a monkey's hand captioned "Stop Racism" followed by the hashtag #monkeylivesmatter. Across the top of the board were the questions "Is this what Alfred really thinks?" and "do you agree?"

The board was intended to facilitate thought surrounding these horribly racist sentiments and it succeeded. With the provided marker, viewers scrawled responses in every available space. Some were as simple as "Just sad..." while others expressed a sense of astonishment that prejudice of such magnitude could still exist in the twenty-first century.

As people filed into the theater, Craig Arno, coordinator of diversity programming, met them

with a half-sheet of paper providing a number to which questions could be texted in case anyone was uncomfortable asking a question in front of the audience.

Jasmine Ramón, student senate diversity director, prefaced the panel by saying she aimed to ask the panelists three big questions, and then open the floor for audience questions.

"Have you had any experience on or off campus where your race played a role in how the situation played out?" she began.

Navia Galvamore, who identifies as African American, Caribbean and Jamaican described the dichotomy of the Alfred environment.

"Part of me wants to tell people to come to Alfred ... Alfred is a good community ... but in reality I'm one of three black students in my classes," she said.

Another panelist, Shania Headley, who identifies as black and Caribbean, described how students of color tend to group together in the classroom.

"We usually just have our own group where it's just like, 'the black of us,'" she explained.

Cherisse Heirs, who identifies as Jamaican American, noted that while she hasn't had negative experiences on campus, off campus is another story.

"The faculty here, and staff, have made me feel really comfortable," she said. "I have experienced a lot of things outside of AU ... that made me feel really excluded." Heirs went on to discuss an internship she completed at Iowa State University where, she said, there seemed to be a "disconnect between the students when I [Heirs] would talk to them [professors] versus an Asian student or a white student." Ramón's second big question was about the panelists' reactions to and opinions on recent events at other college campuses regarding race. Perhaps Headley summed it up best. She explained that she supports the student activism on, as Ramón put it, "the Ithacas, the Mizzous, the Yales." "I just wish we had that same kind of passion," said Headley. Galvamore agreed saying, "I just wish that Alfred would play a more serious role."

Ramón's final question was about the #BlackLivesMatter movement and how the panelists felt about it. "Black Lives Matter forces everyone to recognize who we're speaking about," said Daniel Carter, who is a transfer student from Barbados and identifies as Caribbean.

"If all lives mattered, black lives would be able to get more justice ... why is one life valued more over the

other?" Galvamore added.

The most passionate response came from Valerie Bynaar, who identifies as Caribbean, African and black. She insisted that, while there are some who utilize it to "be a jerk," the hashtag #AllLivesMatter has merit to it.

"If we're trying to get to the heart of the issue, we need to come up with a statement that includes everyone," she said. "We can educate people so much, but it's not going to change anything until we change people's hearts ... racism is a system and it's internal and now it's way deeper."

After a brief series of audience questions, one thing became quite clear. While some say, to quote Bynaar, "we're [AU] not that bad," progress still needs to be made. "I'm tired of saying racism is real," said one audience member. "I want some change ... I want it now. I don't want it soon. I don't want it after a few more panels."

FIATLUX

Franchesca Feliz
Cheyenne Rainford
Courtney Ferrara
Logan Gee
Hannah Sweet
Danielle Hickin
Patrick Camilien
Noah Mitchell
Ian Cramer
Lauren Schram
Callie Baker

Editor-in-Chief
Managing Editor
Layout Editor
Staff Writer
Staff Writer
Staff Writer
Guest Writer
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Guest Writer
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Midnight Breakfast in Ade

Hosted by Franchesca Feliz and Patrick Camilien

Attendees Can Learn to Dance the "Wobble," "Soulja Boy" and more



1. Cross your hands.

2. Lean to the RIGHT and snap.

3. Lean to the LEFT and snap.

4. Crank that Soulja Boy

How-To: Soulja Boy



1. Jump back and forth, and groove.

2. Step out with your RIGHT FOOT.
3. Lean with it, rock with it.

4. Step out with your LEFT FOOT.
5. Lean with it, rock with it.

6. Step into your groove and get saucy.

How-To: Wobble

Stand-up Comedy: Neko White and Brian Doug

Noah Mitchell
Guest Writer

Many stand-up comics are hesitant to perform at college campuses, with fear that their acts will be ostracized by politically correct students; a fear which became a reality when Alfred University recently hosted comedians Neko White and Doug Brian.

Within the last year, conversations have developed regarding comedians and college crowds. Celebrities like Chris Rock and Jerry Seinfeld now shy away from college shows because they feel students are too sensitive. Chris Rock was quoted saying, "I stopped playing colleges [it's] their willingness not to offend anybody." If high-profile comedians like Rock and Seinfeld are having difficulty, the issue may extend itself to other comics, similar to the event on campus earlier this month.

Neko White headlined a comedy event at the Knight Club in Powell Campus Center on Nov. 7. Despite appearing by himself on promotional posters around the university, he was also accompanied by his opening act, Doug Brian. While many students praised White, saying he was one of the best comedians Alfred has hosted, other students were less than pleased with



Photo Credit: twitter.com

Brian's performance, claiming his act was rude and over the line. "I saw people wincing at the jokes," said Brian after the show, "I'm up here trying to be funny, not to hurt feelings."

While many students were initially excited when Brian took the stage, the crowd's energy soon died down. His jokes included a story about a sexually aggressive girlfriend who used derogatory terms in bed, and about how the gang of villains in "The Dark Knight Rises" was not realistic because it was ethnically diverse. In one of his other bits, Brian began by saying

how happy he was that everyone in the Audience was American. According to him, foreigners think Americans are ignorant for not speaking multiple languages, but the only reason we don't is because we were never conquered by other countries and forced to speak like them. These jokes don't translate well when summarized on paper, but understand that during the live performance, they were delivered differently and included various vulgarities. The jokes were upsetting enough that, at one point during the show, several students stood up to leave. White acknowl-

edged them as they departed and when interviewed about it later, he said that the students told him Doug Brian was "all kinds of offensive." He was able to convince them to come back, and quickly ushered Brian off stage. Unfortunately, these students could not be reached for a comment.

"Stand up is suggestive," said White when interviewed after the event. "If there's a part that isn't for you, then wait until there is a part for you. If someone cooks you a meal, but you don't like the appetizer, don't leave before the full meal." White said he found it odd that people wanted to leave. Brian was the opening comic, and he did his job like he was supposed to, he said. But there was still a whole other show afterward. If people walk out, they deprive themselves of a good time, he added. Those who stayed and the students who came back had a terrific time, White said. No one should get so offended that he or she stops listening, a problem Brian also noted. Brian said that today, many people preach open mindedness, but if they hear some-

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Need a ride?

Pay with your student account!

Hours: 7 a.m.-12 a.m.,
Sun.-Thurs. & 7 a.m.-2 a.m.,
Fri.-Sat.

No shows will still be charged, airport runs require advance notice, students must meet cabs at preset location



Hospital and airport runs!



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By: L. A. Bonté



For more comics and animations visit FilbertCartoons.com

Comic by Anthony Labonte

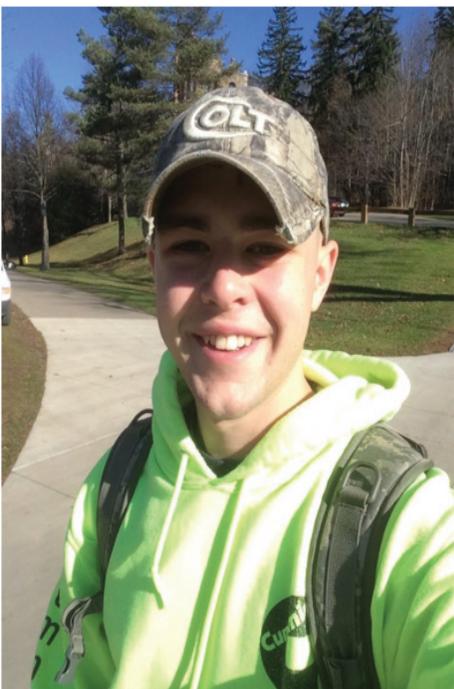


Comic by Scott Fitzpatrick

How Do You Manage Stress?

AU Students Share How They Deal with Finals

Danielle Hickin and Hannah Sweet
Staff Writers



Casey Kelly
Junior
Mechanical Engineering
“I plan on starting to study a week or so in advance and trying to get as much sleep as I can.”



Jake Whitney
Junior
Mechanical Engineering
“I plan on managing my finals stress by going home and hunting.”



Deanna Mountain
Junior
Early Childhood Education
“I don't really get stressed about finals.”



Emma Jackson
Senior
Athletic Training
“Manage my time, exercise, and that's just about it.”

Letter to the Editor



Photo Credit: instagram.com

Patrick Camilien
Guest Writer

Dear Editor-in-Chief,
I am writing in response to your Sept. 28 editorial “Is Liberal Arts Education Valuable?”
I enjoyed reading the article written by Logan Gee. It provided me with great insight on how my peers feel about education they are paying for. I agree with students who don't believe they have a choice in choosing the courses they want to take. In my opinion, the pursuit of knowledge should not be controlled by bureaucratic regulations. The institution should become more liberal and allow students to forge their own path with some guidance.
A liberal arts education is essential nowadays because we are living in a conceptual age where new ideas and creative thinking are encouraged. As a student in the Col-

lege of Liberal Arts and Science, I enjoy diversity in my courses. However, I wish there weren't courses I was required to take. It is terrible to be in a class and not feel engaged in the subject. It's a waste of time and money. I hope when or if the institution is ready for reconstruction it will incorporate students' views and ideas to its new design.

Thank you,
Patrick Camilien

Announcements

New Radio Show Encourages Debate, Provocative Topics
By Ian Cramer

In the Spring semester, the WALF radio station will debut a debate-style radio show entitled “No Offense Taken.” On Mondays at 12:00 P.M., host Ian Cramer will bring Alfred University academics, professors, instructors and experts together to debate and discuss provocative topics of today including gun rights, LGBT issues, politics, religion, sports and many more. Join us for a new topic every week by listening live via 89.7FM, via Live Stream at walf.fm or “like” the “No Offense Taken” Facebook page to listen to recorded podcasts of the show.

Alfred University Alum, Class of 2010
Former Fiat Lux Opinions Editor

My name is Lauren Schramm and I am the village coordinator for the trap-neuter-return program. Like many others in the village, I have had trouble with the cat problem in Alfred. I sympathize with the cats and therefore wanted a solution to the problem. After reading what other locations have done, I came to the conclusion that the most effect method to solve the problem was TNR or trap neuter and release. This has worked well for many other towns, cities, and universities.

A group called Ally Cat Allies specializes in helping towns with the process. Since the village has publicly endorsed TNR as a solution to the Alfred cat problem the group has promised financial assistance.

In order for TNR to be effective the pubic needs to be involved in 2 ways 1. caretakers of cats need to stop feeding cats during the trapping process 2. a list of locations and abundance of cats needs to be created. Lastly, I plan to trap in the spring and help doing so would be greatly appreciated. If you or anyone you know is interested in helping Alfred's cats please let me know.

Rave Guardian: Yay or Nay?

Logan Gee
Staff Writer

An AU app that promises safety to students on campus may have competition, according to Alfred University students.

Although the Rave Guardian app sounds like a good idea, there are other ways of feeling safe on campus, according to AU students.

The Rave Guardian app was first introduced to AU students in August 2015. Chief of Public Safety John Dougherty said he believed students would download the app to feel more secure on campus. But when Dougherty and other public safety members checked on how the app was doing, they found that few students had actually downloaded it.

Dougherty and other campus officials, such as Dean of Students Norm Pollard, wonder why students haven't downloaded the app and want students to know its benefits. But students want officials to know that they have their own methods of safety, including other apps.

While safety on AU campus is always a concern, students take their own measures to protect themselves, they say.

Calling someone on the phone or walking with groups of friends later at night is more preferable to students.



Photo Credit: google.com

With Rave Guardian features like a panic button and safety timer on The Rave Guardian app, Dougherty wonders why few students downloaded it. Although several students have said they knew about the app, they said they didn't download it because it was not needed.

One such student, Rebecca Esham, said, "I don't think I would use it."

Another, Lydia Galarneau, agreed with Esham. Galarneau said if she were out late and felt uncomfortable, she would just call her mom or someone instead of using an app.

But Dougherty says safety timers and panic buttons will do more for students than a phone call.

After setting up a profile, students are able to make a list of people they want as their "guardians." These are people that can be

signaled when the panic button is hit in an unsafe situation. "Guardians" can also "walk" with students to their destination by using the safety timer, which notifies a guardian when the person they are "walking" with reaches their destination safely.

The other not-so-known feature of the app is the anonymous "tip reporter". If students sees something they don't feel is right, such as vandalism or a crime, the student can take a picture or send a text to public safety — all anonymously.

Not only with this app make campus safer, but it will make campus a better place, according to Chief Dougherty.

But there is another app that may be fueling some competition.

The Companion app is similar to the Rave Guardian App,

but it's better, according to senior communications major Sydney Walter.

Both the Rave Guardian app and Companion app allow students to "walk" with someone when feeling unsafe, but the Companion app allows users to send a walking request to anyone in their contact list, including those who do not have the app.

This differs from the Rave Guardian app in that both users and their "guardians" have the app.

The Companion app also detects unusual movements, such as falling, running or being pushed because of a motion detector built into the phone. If unusual movement is detected, the app asks users if they are OK and if there is no reply within 15 seconds, the phone starts making a loud noise, and the user is given the option of instantly calling the police.

Even with the competition of other safety methods, AU Public Safety still plans to relaunch The Rave Guardian before the end of the semester. AU officials hope students will consider what this app has to offer.

"We try to create community where everyone feels like they belong and feel safe," Pollard concluded.

CONTINUED FROM PG. 2

thing they don't like or they find offensive, they just stop listening. "We have to get to a point where we listen to each other before getting offended," said White, "Everybody wants to educate, but nobody wants to discuss. We are civil servants. We are there to serve and protect your sense of humor, that's our job. Let us do our job."

Standup comedy relies on a healthy relationship between the audience and the comedian, and therefore, White says, it is never a comic's intention to attack members of the crowd. Their job is to make people laugh, not to offend. Nevertheless, people can get offended, but covering one's ears and walking away should never be a student's solution, said White. White encourages students to talk to comedians after their shows, as they are very approachable people. Getting real feedback can actually serve to help comedians in their future, he added "We're not supposed to be politically correct, were supposed to challenge things and start conversations," said White, "We need to

be open to conversations." White wanted to make clear that on the car ride home he playfully "gave Doug hell" for what happened. Regardless, both comedians concluded they had a fantastic time in Alfred, and they would love to come back. They enjoyed AU's hospitality, and they were honored that so many people came out to support them, they said.

At the end of the day, comedians like people, they added. To those that left, White says, "Hey, if you were offended, I appreciate your honesty [and] I'm glad you were able to come back."



Photo Credit: alfred.edu

Alfred University Appoints New Softball Coach



Photo Credit: gosaxons.com

ALFRED, NY – Alfred University Director of Athletics Paul Vecchio announces the appointment of Luke Wesneski as the Saxons' new women's softball coach.

Wesneski, whose appointment is effective Dec. 2, comes to AU from Division I Bucknell University in Lewisburg, PA, where he has served as a volunteer assistant since September. He replaces former head coach Gino Olivieri, who resigned his position at AU in September to take over head coaching duties at Coppin State (MD) University.

Prior to taking an assistant's position at Bucknell, Wesneski served as assistant softball coach at Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove, PA. During Wesneski's tenure at Susquehanna, the Crusaders went 40-9 and won a Landmark Conference championship in 2013, qualifying for the NCAA tournament and placing third in regional play. Susquehanna hosted the Landmark Conference championship tournament four straight years (2012-15) while Wesneski served as an assistant under former head coach Kathy Kroupa. Twice (2012 and 2014), the Crusaders were awarded Coaching Staff of the Year honors by the Landmark Conference.

"I am very excited to have Luke take the reins of our very successful Saxon softball program," Vecchio said. "Like our program here at AU, during his time at Susquehanna he was part of a championship culture where competing for conference championships and NCAA appear-

ances was a yearly expectation and occurrence."

"I would like to thank Paul Vecchio, the search committee and Alfred University for the opportunity to become part of a wonderful program," Wesneski added. "This Saxon team has been playing and competing at a high level for years, in and out of the classroom, and my goal is not to disrupt that, but to build upon it and continue it. Coach Olivieri was a very well respected coach and campus community member and I truly respect what he was able to do with this program during his tenure."

Prior to his time at Susquehanna, Wesneski was a successful high school coach in Central Pennsylvania, leading the Canton High School team from 2003-07 and Williamsport High School team from 2008-10. He also organized the Fall College Classic, a round-robin fall tournament for college teams held in Sunbury, PA, (in conjunction with the Pennsylvania ASA Hall of Fame) from 2011-14. He has worked at camps at Bucknell and Susquehanna and also in New Jersey and Maryland.

Wesneski has spent the last seven years as academic specialist in Susquehanna University's Center for Academic Achievement, serving as a study skills specialist and academic mentor as well as an athletics department liaison.

Vecchio said that that under Wesneski's leadership, the AU softball team is poised to build on

its accomplishments of recent years and its players will continue to succeed as student-athletes.

"Luke has tremendous passion for softball, for the recruitment and development of quality student-athletes, understands the importance of academics through his work as an academic counselor at Susquehanna, and is tremendously respected by those who he has worked with," Vecchio said. "I am confident that AU softball will continue to flourish under his leadership."

Wesneski cited his "passion for the sport, attention to detail and willingness to go the extra mile for my players" as being among his strengths as a coach.

"The goals and expectations for this team are high and I am excited to get started and help them realize those goals," he said. "I am looking forward to working with a great group of student athletes, as well as a very supportive athletics department that has a clear vision."

Alfred is coming off the best season in program history, winning a school-record 40 games (40-7 overall record) and winning its first-ever outright Empire 8 Conference title (13-1 E8 record) and Empire 8 Championship tournament. The Saxons hosted and won an NCAA regional tournament, then advanced from Super Regional play to the NCAA Division III championship tournament in Salem, VA. AU would finish ninth in the final NFCA Division III na-

tional rankings. Eight of 10 starters return from the 2015 squad, and are joined by a recruiting class of eight freshmen and one junior college transfer.

Wesneski has bachelor's degrees in criminal justice from Lycoming College (1997) and education from Lock Haven University (2001) and a master's degree in education from Wilkes University (2006). A native of Canton, PA, he and his wife, Kelly, have two daughters, Chloe and Tatum.



Photo Credit: google.com

Op-Ed: Race Panel

Franchesca Feliz Shares her Thoughts on Last Week's Race Panel

Franchesca Feliz
Editor-in-Chief

Almost all seats were taken to attend last Wednesday's Race panel in Nevins theater.

I did not expect such a big turnout for this race panel, but I'm glad so many people showed interest in the discussion and that it even happened in the first place.

Still, as a Hispanic-American student who is friends with many people of color, I hear and experience first-hand the prejudice against them, and because of this, I don't believe the panelists said enough about their experiences. Things have happened to me solely because I am Hispanic, so it isn't as if the people I know are paranoid or pulling the race card. I'm a minority as well, but I don't think it's about me.

The discussion should not be #AllLivesMatter. All lives do matter, indeed. But the topic of discussion at hand is #BlackLivesMatter. People need to realize this. Coming from New York City, where I have personally witnessed prejudice against individuals solely because of the color of their skin,



Photo Credit: facebook.com

it hurts to know that people try to change the trending topic. As Valerie said in the panel, there are facts: black drivers are three times more likely to get pulled over and get searched than a white driver. According to a Washington post article I read after hearing Valerie at the panel, titled "Police are searching black drivers more often, but finding more illegal stuff with white drivers," white drivers who get searched end up having more things in their car they shouldn't have than black. Yet, black people are pulled over and searched more often. The reason why is clear.

It hurts to live in a world

full of ignorance and a nation that claims it is all about progress, freedom and equality. Racism is clearly still a huge issue, but as the panelists said, it's the little things. Some people seem to think that racism is always obvious, but it's not. Racism is being in my friends house with a white roommate who is telling her that she needs to watch her friends so things don't go missing. Racism is walking into Walmart in Hornell and getting dirty looks.

Outside of Alfred, racism is cases like Eric Garner in NYC, Michael Brown in Ferguson and Sandra Bland in Texas, it's the amount of Black people dying at

the hands of these police officers that isn't even being reported by the media. According to a BBC article titled "Why do US police keep killing unarmed black men?" researcher Sam Sinyangwe discovered that "Ferguson is everywhere" and "more unarmed black people were killed by police than unarmed white people last year."

Someone in the audience said she was tired of having to educate people about her culture.

"I'm tired of saying racism is real," she said. "I want some change ... I want it now. I don't want it soon. I don't want it after a few more panels."

This discussion needs to continue on our campus and people need to start opening their minds and their hearts. Like it or not, we live in a diverse world with many cultures, languages and different types of people. The color of a person's skin should not determine another person's attitude toward them. We are all humans here, but it's starting to feel like survival of the fittest.

Callie Baker
Guest Writer

This semester's "drawn to diversity" class honored our country's veterans in a touching ceremony held by the flagpole outside of Scholes library this past Veterans Day.

"It was a very nice way to honor our veterans," drawn to diversity student Lindsey Thireos said.

Drawn to diversity is an AU program that was created to promote equality, reduce violence and strengthen communities. To achieve these goals it combines creativity and social justice. Students who take this class do projects throughout the semester to help accomplish the program's goals.

The Veterans Day ceremony seemed to impress everyone in attendance.

Maiyah Rushing, a drawn to diversity student who hosted the ceremony, was especially touched.

"The ceremony is important to me because we have to honor our veterans," Rushing said. "Some of my family members are veterans also, so it's important to me personally as well."

Many people in our country and the Alfred community can relate to Rushing. Rushing led the ceremony well, honoring our veterans in a respectful way. She asked any military members in attendance to step forward and say how long they have been in the military and their branch. One army veteran stepped

forward and said that he had been in the military for two years and had a great time serving his country. Dylan Smith also stepped forward to say that he is currently serving his fourth year in the army and that he's also a full-time student at Alfred University.

"I really appreciated the ceremony," Smith said. "It was nice to see Alfred do something to honor veterans."

Boy Scout Troop 19 was also in attendance to play their part in the ceremony. Dan Napolitano, the director of drawn to diversity, is the

boy scout troop's den leader. His scouts read poems about soldiers. One of the poems, titled It Is The Soldier, by Charles M. Province, really touched Napolitano.

"The line 'it is the soldier, not the campus organizer, who has given us freedom to protest,' is the line that really sticks with me," Napolitano said. "Without our military, we wouldn't be able to be at this college doing what we're doing."

The boy scout's poems were especially respectful. One member of the troop, Garret Pain, even walked right up to Smith, shook his

hand and said "thank you for your service."

The drawn to diversity message is strong, powerful, positive and effective.

"Drawn to diversity is about recognizing all members of the community," Napolitano said.

Honoring Veterans Day

Drawn to Diversity Class Hosts a Ceremony for Veterans



Photo Credit: deviantart.net



Photo Credit: Noah Mitchell