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Fiat Lux

The Student Newspaper of Alfred University



Many students waiting for housing assignment

BY KELLY KNEE
NEWS EDITOR

As the semester draws to a close, a popular question among students is "Where are you living next year?"

Some students, however, don't have an answer to the question, because they have no idea where they are living next year.

Ninety-four students are currently on waiting lists for on-campus housing, with hopes that there will be a place for them to live.

Tomas Gonzalez, director of Residence Life, said the number of students on waiting lists is only slightly higher than in previous years.

"Typically, between 60 and 70 people end up on the waiting list" Gonzalez said. The number is larger this year due to the increased size of the Class of '02.

The office of Residence Life is currently working to place all the students on waiting lists into rooms.

Gonzalez said this involves looking to see where there are empty rooms in the suites and in other buildings, and then matching students on the waiting list with those rooms.

Gonzalez said there are still

"plenty of spaces" in Kruson Hall and in the Pine Hill Suites.

Sue Strong, vice president for Enrollment Management, said that typically, many students change their minds about where they want to live, so there is always room for everyone.

"We know from history that everyone will get a place," Strong said.

The University has also decided not to continue to house students in Robinson/Champlin Hall, the Alfred State College residence hall that AU leased for this year.

President Edward G. Coll Jr. said that housing was not going to be a problem in the next year.

Coll said the University did not feel a need to continue to lease RC, and that the University can accommodate all of its students without problems.

Students waiting to find out about their housing, however, were very concerned about the number of people on the waiting lists.

Sarah Goldstein, a freshman psychology major, is currently waiting for a housing assignment.

Goldstein said she and four others were trying to get into a

suite, but lacked a sixth person.

Goldstein said their group was told to come back to housing signups the next day but still didn't get housing.

"We were running around like chickens with our heads cut off trying to get housing," Goldstein said.

As of the week of housing sign-ups, Goldstein and her group have no idea where they will be living next year.

Strong said that the University would have enough space for the Class of '03.

The new freshman class is anticipated to be as large as the

Class of '02.

However, there will be enough space to accommodate all the new students, Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez said that the Office of Residence Life bases its

SEE HOUSING, PAGE 3

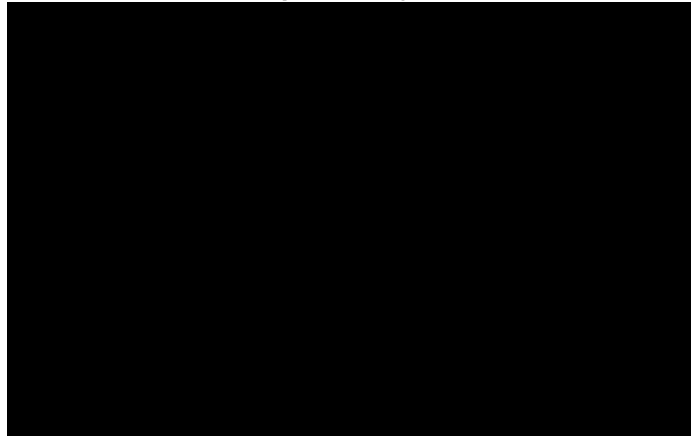


PHOTO BY JAY WEISBERGER

Kruson Hall, which became a freshman hall before the fall '98 semester, will now most likely be a combined freshman/upperclass residence hall. Kruson was always an upperclass hall until this year. The freshmen will be combined with upperclassmen in the hall because the University no longer holds the lease to Robinson/Champlin at Alfred State.

Main Street fight leads to damage, arrests

BY KELLY KNEE
NEWS EDITOR

The postcard calm of the Village of Alfred was broken last week when, after a night out, two people got into a fight. When the incident was over, there were arrests, injuries and damage.

The fight on Main Street the

night of April 12 was big news on campus the next day, but it seemed very few had a clear conception of what actually occurred.

Alfred Police Chief John Simons said that a fight started outside of Alex's College Spot, a local bar.

Two people were wrestling on

the street and knocked a pedestrian into a window.

The pedestrian, a female whose name was not available, was injured in the scuffle. She suffered cuts.

The plate-glass window, which belonged to Alfred Hair and Tanning, was badly damaged and required replacement.

However, the damaged window did not dampen business in any way, said Len Curran, the owner of Alfred Hair and Tanning.

Curran said the broken window made quite a mess, but it was replaced right away.

She added the whole incident caused very little inconvenience to the customers.

APD officer Rounds said the two men arrested were talking inside the bar and then the subjects moved to the street.

Two students were arrested as a result of the altercation.

Christopher Kindron, an Alfred State College student, was arrested and charged with criminal mischief, assault and resisting arrest.

The other perpetrator, Fuad Khan, an AU student, was arrested and charged with criminal mischief and disorderly conduct.

The cause of the altercation was unknown at the time, despite much speculation.

It was the second time in a year that a major fight broke out outside a bar in the Village of Alfred.

Last spring there was a major altercation outside of Gentleman Jim's, which led to allegations of discrimination. APD went through diversity training as a result.

Last week's incident, however, did not appear to have any racial motivations. □

Stevens to appear at graduation

FROM AU NEWS RELEASES

Eileen Stevens will receive an honorary degree from AU at next month's commencement ceremonies.

Stevens is the mother of Chuck Stenzel, who died in a hazing incident at Klan Alpine 21 years ago.

The degree of Doctor of Law will be presented to Stevens, who has worked at preventing hazing deaths.

She is credited with helping to pass anti-hazing laws in 39 states.

"I am so honored that Alfred University has chosen to recognize my work in this way," Stevens said.

AU President Edward G. Coll Jr. said, "Awarding an honorary degree to Eileen Stevens will be a bittersweet occasion for both Mrs. Stevens and the University."

"As colleges and universities, as well as the public, began to understand the magnitude of the problem, Eileen Stevens' efforts have certainly meant that other young peoples' lives have been saved," he added.

Commencement is scheduled to be May 15 in the McLane Center.

Stevens has lectured at more than 600 campuses nationwide and has testified in front of legislators to push for anti-hazing laws. □

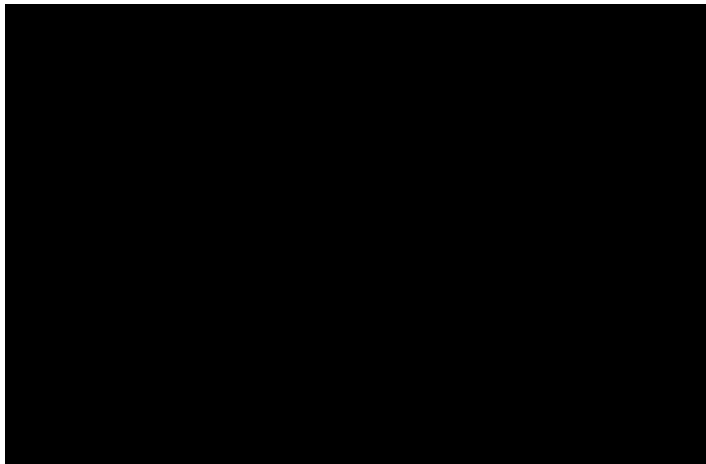


PHOTO BY KELLY KNEE

Workers repair damage done to Alfred Hair and Tanning in wake of a fight the night before, during which a person was knocked into the window. Two people were arrested as a result of the fight, one of them an AU student. The fight apparently started with words inside Alex's bar, and then erupted into more outside the bar. One person, a woman, was taken to the hospital for injuries stemming from broken glass. The window replacement did not force Alfred Hair and Tanning to close.



Fiat Lux

University should listen to students

At the beginning of this year, when some freshmen were living in lounges of residence halls, many upperclassmen were wondering, "Where are we going to put all these people?"

The students knew this campus wasn't designed for classes as big as the new freshman class.

We were comforted by the fact that the administration took the initiative to get a lease on Robinson/Champlin across the street at Alfred State College.

It might not have been the first choice for students, but it did ensure that no one was going to have to tent out someplace.

The students knew that another large class could be accommodated by using RC.

Then the University broke the lease with Alfred State and we lost RC.

Why would the administration choose to do this?

The Office of Residence Life said that there would be housing for all. This is based on the number of openings and the amount of shuffling that normally goes on when students change their minds.

This involves several assumptions, which, when you hear them, make the whole situation sound more like gambling than housing strategy.

A sort of "Casino Residence Hall."

If you wanted to know how scarce housing was going to be, all you had to do was ask someone who had dealt with housing sign-ups before. They would tell you it was hard enough getting housing previous years. The students anticipated this problem. Why did the administration miss it?

There needs to be better communication between the students and the University. The administrators seem to be in the dark about this campus buzz.

Sure, the administration knows more about many logistical issues on campus. But the students who live here know some things too.

The University seems to want to bring in larger classes every year. Good for them. More students should bring in more ideas and help cultivate a better learning environment.

But this is a campus built for fewer students than we've been bringing in.

Maybe we need a new residence hall. There's space around to build one.

The University needs to plan for the future. We can't pack more people into less space.

At the very least, the University needs to communicate better internally and with the students.

There must be some breakdown in the loop. It seems doubtful that Res. Life would have wanted to give up RC before housing signups.

Does admissions consult with Res. Life? It would make sense for them to. Does the University really want incoming freshmen possibly living in lounges again?

That certainly doesn't make sense.

Students were wary of the housing situation. Why didn't anybody pick up on that?

Students and administrators need to get together every now and then when there's a concern on someone's part.

The students trust the University to make decisions that are good for all. Our current lack of housing is definitely leaving some students hanging.

Part of getting excited to come back to school in the fall is the prospect of having a fun place to live, a good roommate or a great group of people.

How excited can students be squeezed in by? How much do you want to bet they wish the summer never ends this year? □

COLUMN

Drinking age should be lowered

BY JAY WEISBERGER
MANAGING EDITOR



OK, let's be honest. Of the people on campus under 21, most have enjoyed a beer on occasion.

The United States government will tell you that all of these people are being irresponsible.

Are they? Is there some secret ceremony I'll go through later this year when I turn 21 that will make me a responsible drinker?

I look around, and I see people who are under 21 and are ridiculously drunk. However, I see an equal number of underage people who are very responsible about their drinking.

I also see people who are of age ridiculously drunk among the crowd.

Face it: age does not determine whether or not you drink responsibly. It never has.

So why wait until age 21? I can vote. I can go out on the battlefield, if I wish to, and

fight. Yet I can't have a brew with my buddies?

Seriously, the government would rather have me dead on a battlefield than let me have a drink. Something's wrong here.

I remember growing up and being around people who drank responsibly. It was never a big deal to me. I figured alcohol was to be enjoyed, not shunned.

That's the kind of situation that makes a responsible drinker. Age has nothing to do with it.

I know people who drink like it's going out of style. These are people who don't remember last weekend. These people aren't necessarily under 21, either.

Why are we trying to fool ourselves? There will be responsible and irresponsible drinkers, no matter what age they are.

When I go to Canada, I suppose I'm suddenly much more responsible than I am here. I can drink whatever I want there. I cross the bridge and I'm Mr. Maturity, apparently.

America doesn't believe I am, and, frankly, I think it's stupid.

Are they worried about drinking and driving? That's a cause I will fight for, but that still does not demand a drinking age of 21.

America is insulting the intelligence of hundreds of thousands of 18-20-year-olds.

Liquor is even taxed! With the amount of money the state and federal government could make on liquor taxes if they also sold to people 18-20 (College students will buy alcohol. Tell me I'm wrong), they could probably fund more college loans for needy students.

OK, that might be radical, but lowering the drinking age to 18 is not.

Eighteen-year-olds already drink. Why not let them?

I have had administrators and public officials tell me that when New York still had a drinking age of 18, not that long ago, there was less of a problem with drinking on campus.

Let's be reasonable. Let's at least treat all voting adults as adults.

Lower the drinking age to 18. Age is not the problem. □

COLUMN

Students urged to live for the present

BY CARMEN ANDREWS
PRODUCTION MANAGER



In every history class I have taken, the teacher has opened my eyes to the Latin phrase *Carpe Diem*, meaning, "seize the day."

If I absorbed this concept then other people have been exposed to the philosophy as well.

However, I see more people grasping onto the past and reaching into the future than living in the present.

On St. Patrick's Day, I was in New York City celebrating in a crowded Irish Pub. After leaving the bar, I hailed a cab to get safely to my hotel.

During the ride, the driver made a statement that struck

me. He said, "I want this city to be the way it used to be."

He proceeded in a firm but kind way to say that 20 years ago the city used to be a cleaner place.

He added people wanted to be in NYC because they loved it, not because they wanted to climb a ladder.

His comments remained in my brain because he, like many other people I have spoken to, wants to recapture the past.

I can't recall how many times I have heard my parents say how great it was to live in the 1950's, or another baby boomer say "things aren't like they used to be" in a tone which says to me that life used to be better.

Not only are people relishing the past, but people are anticipating the future so much that I

feel the dawning of 1999 is nothing more than a waiting room for the year 2000.

It appears to me, though, life can not improve unless we "seize the day"—*Carpe Diem*. How can our way of life improve if we don't focus on the present?

Things are different than they were 20 years ago, and until we accept this notion we can not move on and be happy with society and the world we live in.

I suggest we should get comfortable with the present. It's where we are.

Our culture can not go backwards; and, seriously, do we want it to?

Also, how can we anticipate a better tomorrow without being content with today? □

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Student athletes thanked for their time and work

DEAR EDITOR:

Alfred University athletes are #1! Maybe not always on the scoreboard, but definitely in the hearts and minds of 100 young girls.

On March 27th, members of Junior Girl Scout Troop #641 of Alfred attended the Sports Sampler Day held at Alfred University.

This wonderful event was sponsored by the Seven Lakes Girl Scout Council and the Alfred University Student

Athletic Advisory Board.

Student athletes from Alfred University donated their Saturday to work with over 100 area girls. The girls participated in four workshops including soccer, volleyball, basketball and swimming.

More importantly, the girls spent the day interacting with members of the AU sports teams.

Troop #641 would like to thank all the athletes for their excellent instructions, never-ending praise and the tireless

spirit they showed throughout the day.

A special thank you to Sha-Nekwa DeRoche, president of the Student Athletic Advisory Board and the coordinators of the various events: Phil Bailey (swimming), Margaux Benoit (basketball), Kelly Johnston (volleyball) and Dawn Ayling (soccer).

Sincerely,
Junior Girl Scout Troop #641-
Alfred



Fiat Lux

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NEXT ISSUE & DEADLINES

Next Issue	May 5
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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Resolution was the right idea

DEAR EDITOR:

Last week in Student Senate, a resolution was brought to the floor addressing a policy in which Senate would promote an environment to guarantee that school programs would encourage ethnic diversity.

Senate did not approve the resolution. But a discussion about race relations at Alfred did occur, though it was limited in its scope.

A higher level of consciousness must be raised to correctly deal with the issue of diversity on campus.

It is hard to distinguish reality from what should be, and even harder to get from reality to what should be.

This is where the heart of the debate lies. Race and ethnicity should not matter in society; people should be treated equally and be judged solely by their characters.

The reality is we are not liv-

ing in a just and equal society. Race and ethnicity are very significant to American culture and life at Alfred.

At the national level the reality is that there are more ethnic minority males between 18-24 in prison than in college.

Life expectancy for ethnic minorities is lower than retirement age.

Forty-five percent of ethnic minority children are born at or below the poverty line.

Forty-five unarmed ethnic minorities were shot and killed by police in the past two years.

At Alfred the reality is that there are too few minority professors and not one black or Latino professors.

Too few multicultural classes are offered; minority students are often treated in a demeaning way by their peers.

Teachers, social life and school activities are almost entirely segregated.

Students are not treated as

equals and are less able to reap the benefits of a privileged college education in order to reach their full potential. This is the reality; it should not be this way.

There is a problem on campus that needs to be dealt with in a productive and comprehensive manner.

The resolution challenged the acceptance of racial and ethnic discrimination, the core of many of America's social ills. There needs to be the realization that race is a significant problem that can not be ignored.

We can either come to terms with race and ethnicity and stand together, or ignore it and hang separately.

Only together can we educate each other and help bring unity to Alfred's community.

Sincerely,
Ben Goldberg
Class of 2000

...Housing

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

number of expected new students on how many housing deposits are received by the University.

The final deadline for deposits is May 1.

Gonzalez said the Class of '03 is not as strong a class housing-wise.

The new class does not appear to be of a size that cannot be accommodated.

One way the University will deal with the overflow of students is by making Kruson Hall both a freshman and upper-classman residence hall.

Gonzalez said Residence Life does not anticipate a problem having a mix of students living together.

Gonzalez said the two groups

of students will be somewhat separated.

The freshman in Kruson will still get all the freshman year experiences that those in other halls, like Openhym, which will remain entirely freshmen, get.

In addition to the freshman year experiences, the underclassman residents of Kruson will also have the benefit of upperclassmen influences, Gonzalez said.

"Mixed halls tend to have less damage," Gonzalez added. Freshmen halls tend to take more wear and tear than the upperclass halls.

All the costs to repair the damage are assessed to the students.

Kruson will be the only hall that will accommodate both freshmen and upperclassmen. All other current freshman halls will stay as they are.

Coll said that other options

include granting more Greek and general releases, if the need arises.

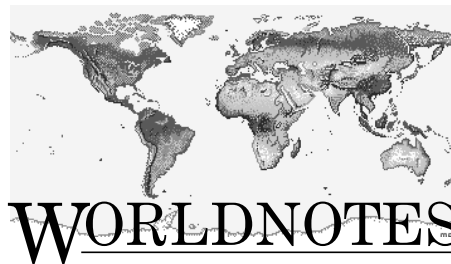
However, for the upcoming year, no more general and Greek releases were granted than in previous years, said Gonzalez.

About 20-30 general releases were granted for various reasons, most often health related, Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez said the students still waiting for housing would be notified both in writing and personally by Residence Life of their room assignment.

Most students should know where they are being housed next year by the end of the semester, Gonzalez said.

Some may find out where they have been assigned to live over the summer, depending on how quickly things fall together for Res. Life. □



LOCAL

Classes end May 3. Finals begin on May 5. Except for graduating seniors, all students are required to be out of their residence halls 24 hours after their last final.

• AU's second semester rounds out with several campus-wide events.

Hot Dog Day Festivities get under way this week. Friday brings the annual Pine Hill Derby, where students race self-designed soap-box cars from the hairpin curve down to Ade Hall.

Saturday is the Hot Dog Day carnival. The annual event is one of the largest events in Allegany County all year. The carnival begins after a parade down Main St.

The 5th annual Alfie Awards will be Saturday, May 1. The formal-dress event awards AU organizations and students for their achievements. Students can vote for who wins the Alfies in the campus center.

Finally, the Goo Goo Dolls and Fastball play the McLane Center on May 3. Tickets are now available to the general public.

NATIONAL

Last week was Holocaust Remembrance Week. Holocaust survivor and Alfred resident Hedy Berliner spoke about her experience as Alfred remembered the horrors of the holocaust.

• The University of Nevada-Las Vegas reports that pregnancy and sexually transmitted disease testing increases in the weeks following spring break, according to *The Rebel Yell*, the UNLV student newspaper.

The number of people going in for HIV tests at UNLV after spring break usually doubles over the rate for the rest of the year.

Health professionals and students agree this increase is due to an increase in promiscuity over spring break.

UNLV has reason to be concerned. Students tested after spring break in 1997 showed 43% of those tested to be pregnant and 7% to have the STD chlamydia.

• Texas is cracking down on the use of fake forms of identification, said the *Daily Texan* at U. Texas-Austin.

"Operation Fakeout," started in February, is showing results. Police have been double-checking questionable ID's at bars and have been arresting those with counterfeit ID's.

• About 192,000 ready-to-drink cans of Ultra Slim Fast have been recalled.

The recall of the milk chocolate flavored drinks is the result of a complaint in Utah.

Apparently, some of the cans may contain a diluted cleaning solution. The FDA says there is no major health risk.

The bad cans were shipped to nine states, including New York. The batch number of the recalled cans is ETMC9053B02.

• After dominating the ice for 20 seasons, 38-year-old Wayne Gretzky is retiring. The New York Rangers star, who won several Stanley Cups with Edmonton in the 1980s is considered to be one of the best to ever play the game.

Most expect the Hockey Hall of Fame to make an exception for Gretzky, and allow him into the Hall immediately.

• A Duke University study indicates that those who are more religiously observant have a lower chance of heart attacks.

The *Vanguard*, student newspaper of University of South Alabama, reported the study reflected that people who worship once a week were less likely to suffer from diastolic hypertension, which is related to heart attacks and strokes. Some say being more observant leads to less stress.

INTERNATIONAL

A plan for peace in Kosovo presented by the United Nations has been rejected.

Yugoslavia nixed the U.N. plan which called for an international military force to keep the peace in Kosovo and then a halting of NATO airstrikes.

Yugoslavia said they will accept no plan until the strikes stop. They also stated they do not want any foreign military presence in Kosovo.

The rejected plan also called for Yugoslavia to allow refugees back into Kosovo.

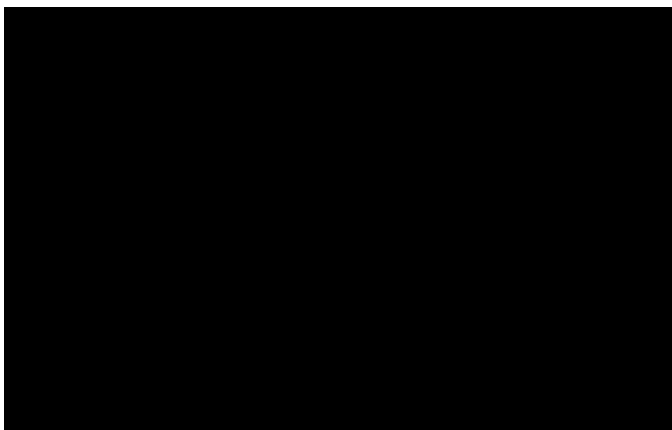


PHOTO BY JAY WEISBERGER

April Clifford, a sophomore art major, and Ian Fink, a sophomore environmental science major, enjoy a meal on the Allen Hall lawn. They were taking part in the Union's Veg-Out last week, which took over the plaza in front of Harder Hall and the Allen Hall lawn. Many students turned out for this event, which offered an alternative to what was being served in Powell and Ade. Many students attended the event on the warm, sunny day. Students paid five dollars for the vegetarian cuisine that included a ceramic bowl. The bowls were made specifically for the event and those who paid got to keep them. The money raised from the event was split between the Union and a local charity.

Don't miss the *Fiat Lux* online!

<http://fiatlux.alfred.edu>

Senate UPDATE

BY JAY WEISBERGER
MANAGING EDITOR

Student Senate cruised through business on April 14.

The session was shorter, mainly because Senate committees did not report as the Senator Recognition Reception was held before the meeting. Many Senate committees normally meet during that time.

The topic that was covered for the longest period of time was the apparent housing shortage AU has developed.

Jim Kosti, former Senate finance chair and a member of Residence Hall Council, addressed the floor.

Kosti announced he had just spoken with Director of Residence Life, Tomas Gonzalez, about the problem.

Kosti said that he had been told about 90 students were without housing but it appeared as though spots would be opened up for them.

Kosti answered all the questions he could, saying he did not want to speak for Res. Life.

Seth Mulligan, Senate treasurer, requested that Kosti ask Gonzalez about the policy for common interest housing.

Mulligan said he felt the policy was too lenient.

Another student asked about the possibility of having co-ed housing.

Kosti noted that a plan could

be presented for such, but it would have to be approved by the University trustees.

The only other topic to receive major discussion at the short meeting was the policy for posting advertisements.

A student suggested that some organizations were posting too many signs on campus bulletin boards.

The student suggested that these organizations not receive as much funding for advertisements to force the groups to conserve paper.

Senate Publicity Chair Bethany Carpenter noted that PolyPro limits the number of signs it posts on bulletin boards. She added that Senate has little control over the posting practices of other groups.

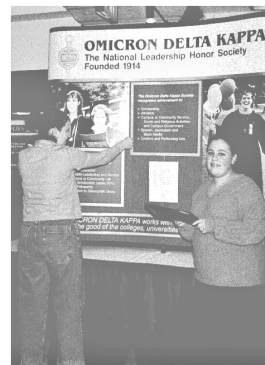
Finance Chair Craig Calvert reminded senators to hand in their budgets, which were due April 16.

Secretary Mitchell Chavez announced that many groups were losing their voting rights because of poor attendance.

Carlos Pearce, Senate president, announced he was still working on the problems of campus parking and a new student escort service.

Vice President Steve Tedone got everyone in attendance looking towards next fall by announcing that planning for the orientation block party was starting.

Senate will have more to do soon, however, as the committee formed to create a Senate mission statement, including a stance on equality, will be reporting soon.



TOP PHOTO BY JAY WEISBERGER. LEFT PHOTO BY JASMINE LELLOCK
Alfred University's chapter of Omicron Delta Kappa, the national leadership honor society, hosted the the ODK Provincial Convention on campus last weekend, April 16-18.

Students from Alfred, and other schools in the region, attended the conference which featured guest speakers and a chance to network with other student leaders.

The event, which included a catered meal on Saturday, was free for AU members of ODK.

Top: Kathy Woughter (right), director of the career development center, hosts a session on "Marketing Yourself: How to Sell Your Best Product."

The session examined putting together a good resume and interview skills. An emphasis was placed on selling yourself to a prospective employer.

Left: Rachel Kulp (left) and Katie Isaac, both members of ODK at AU, ready themselves at the conference registration table.

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Book plan shelved

Clubs look for a place for their literature

BY JUDY TSANG
FEATURES EDITOR

Can't find what you're looking for at the Herrick Memorial Library?

That's the problem David Seymour, president of the AUSciFi Club, faced when he was in search of the books AUSciFi donated to the library.

And so, the first year graduate student developed an idea to have an area in the library where each club stores books and movies relating to its interest.

The journals and publications produced by some organizations could be placed here as well. This would provide easier access for club members and any other interested students.

Seymour chose to take the matter up with Stephen Crandall, associate librarian and acting director of Herrick Memorial Library.

However, when Seymour approached Crandall with his idea, he discovered a separate room for books of interest was not a necessarily the best one.

The goal of the library has been to combine all the books to prevent confusion. Also, separating books would require more room.

"We've been working hard to reduce separation," Crandall said.

There is a lack of space in

which to put hard-copy publications in the library now, he added.

This tight pinch on spacing is due to additions made by Information Technology Services.

ITS helped put in the Herrick Computer Lab and the Cyber Café in the campus center, as well as other computers in the library.

Nancy Freelove, secretary for ITS, said these new computers were installed last August, before students returned to school.

The scarcity of space was not too discouraging.

In fact, Crandall offered several solutions for club members looking for or wishing to display certain books.

Herrick Library has a system of reserving books for faculty. Many professors will put several titles on reserve for their classes.

Crandall extended this method for clubs and organizations.

The lists of books to be reserved would be submitted at the beginning of every semester and would be updated then.

Another suggestion was to have organizations produce brochure-like pamphlets that gave information on where certain books could be found in the library.

Seymour had a back-up plan of

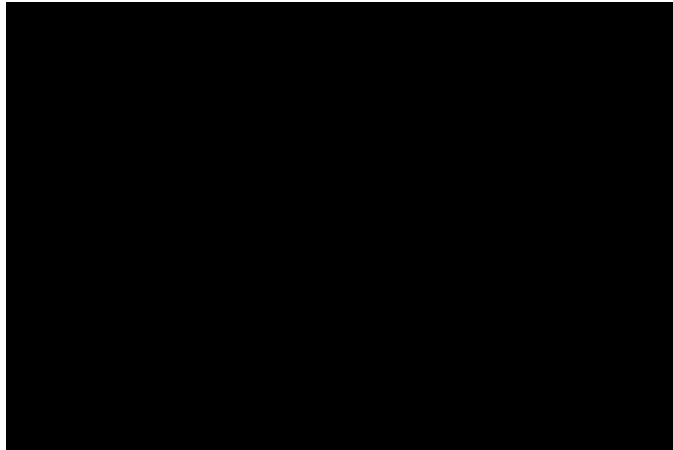


PHOTO BY JAY WEISBERGER

Taking advantage of the warm weather while they could, four students play some bocce ball on the Allen Hall lawn last week during the Veg-out. Of course, just as students were heralding the arrival of spring, it got chilly again. The weather for Hot Dog Day looks as though it will be in the 50s. It was unclear who won the bocce ball contest.

his own. A binder could be put together to help find certain books.

Each student organization would compose a list of books donated by their club.

This list would inform readers of the title of the book, the author, the call number and perhaps even a short description of the book, he said.

This binder would be available to all students to browse through and see what each club has to offer.

"It will be at a central location and books would remain on the shelves," Seymour explained.

Although Seymour said he is "willing to try it out," the binder still has some glitches.

This method needs maintenance.

A person is needed to update the binder periodically and Herrick cannot provide such labor.

Meanwhile, to indicate a book of AUSciFi interest and affiliation, members of the club have

put little stickers on the side of books.

These stickers are little planets with a ring around them, like Saturn. They say "AUSciFi" on them.

"They do stand out more," Seymour said.

"I'm going to put this idea on the side burner for now and wait until next semester," Seymour said.

He said he hopes to set up a system for someone to maintain in the fall. □

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REVIEW

AU comes together for Jazz Poets Society gig

BY JAY WEISBERGER
MANAGING EDITOR

If diversity is a problem on the AU campus, it didn't show last Friday night.

A multi-cultural crowd of close to 100 headed into the Knight Club to experience the jazz-rap mix of the Jazz Poets Society.

As usual, the AU crowd took its time warming up.

It was a shame, because, getting moving with songs like "Aboriginals," the JPS was rolling early.

Maybe it was the incense the band burned on stage that calmed the crowd.

A smooth blend of rapped vocals by Mamou and Martin Reamy mixed with the trumpet of Scott Frock and saxophone of

Gordon Jones hit the audience who were slowly taken into the sounds.

For the first 15 minutes of the show, it felt like an old MTV "Unplugged" session.

The self-described "laid back jazz" of the Poets, would soon turn up the energy notch and the crowd responded.

The audience woke up for good during "Brothers Ain't Ready," which featured a sweet beat change by drummer Brent Jones just as Reamy started in on his vocal line.

Seeing the energetic response, Mamou announced, "Welcome to the show." It was a signal that now, with the audience clicking with the band, things would really take off.

They did.
Victor Lee, on guitar, and Joel

Bennett, on bass, provided consistently good sounds for the rapped lines to flow over.

One couldn't help but to think of the Roots and Spearhead while listening to JPS. Reamy, who was being compared to Eminem upon arrival to the stage, showed he has the ability of Busta Rhymes.

The band rolled with the crowd's new energy. Then the crowd would get more into it.

Early in the show, one person got up to dance, but by the end of the show, many were out of their seats, moving their bodies.

Especially notable in the hour-plus set was a "sound check" where the band took four topics provided by the crowd—sex, diversity, stereotypes and police brutality—and did a fantastic job creating an impromptu song.

The "sound check" followed on the heels of what seemed to be a completely improvised number about going out after the show.

The show did not exclude, either. Unity, something missing from many commercial rap acts, was a theme that kept popping up during the set. The crowd, one of the most racially mixed in recent AU entertainment history, seemed to love the idea.

Indeed, the JPS seemed to shy away from the commercial in order to showcase their own unique sound.

"No samples, no Benjamins," announced Mamou.

They didn't need them, either. The band's groove could have carried a whole other band.

The Poets got political for "What If," but managed to keep the mood tongue-in-cheek at the

same time. The song, which made you think, also made you laugh.

The show was full of references to others, with the horns playing War's "Low Rider" at one point and a whole set of quasi-covers of Onyx and Dr. Dre.

Lenny Kravitz's "Fly Away" also made it into a song as a chorus.

This is the sort of show that SAB can't go wrong with. Yet, despite this, someone in the audience announced to the band that AU's social life stinks.

It's amazing that someone at this show could say that. They should have listened to Mamou's opening comment: "You all have one phat-ass school!"

The show was really good as well. □



PHOTO BY JAY WEISBERGER

Mamou (left) and Martin Reamy rap over the solid sounds of the rest of the band. Mamou said the music of the Jazz Poets Society is spiritual to a certain extent. Whether or not the audience felt like the show was a religious experience, they appeared to enjoy the show thoroughly. Mamou showed he could go from a smooth rap to a frenzy that reminded some of Bone-Thugs and Harmony. Not to be outdone, Reamy showed that he has some fantastic skills as well. The crowd also liked Reamy's towel antics. The show lasted for well over an hour and featured some fantastic material. Many crowd members rushed to buy the JPS CD that was for sale in the Knight Club afterward. It was the final small act that Student Activities Board is bringing in this semester. Of course, SAB will still be presenting the large act.

JPS a conscious band

BY JAY WEISBERGER
MANAGING EDITOR

AU crowds can be picky. It's hard to please all of the diverse groups on campus at the same time.

However, if you looked at the group of people lined up to buy the Jazz Poets Society's CD *Poets Lounge: The Show*, you would get the impression that all groups were happy with the show they just saw.

As people of all races waited to get vocalist Mamou's autograph, one might actually have some hope that we could realize diversity around here.

Maybe we just need the vibe of JPS in the background all the time.

"It's more of a vibe music we play," said Mamou.

Mamou had just finished a rousing set, sounding like a member of Bone-Thugs and Harmony in the process.

"Lauryn Hill showed you could hear some conscious songs and get into it," he said of the "conscious," politically aware songs his band plays.

Mamou added that he thinks the unity-conscious world of hip-hop that has emerged is a move in the right direction.

The Poets come from Richmond, Va.

"It's a growing scene," Mamou said of the Richmond music

scene.

He noted that there is a lot of music similar to that of the Poets'.

"We're trying to start bringing some attention to the scene there," he said.

Mamou seemed at ease with the crowd, but is open to larger audiences.

"We can just turn the energy up for more people," he said.

Mamou said the JPS has been having a fair amount of success playing colleges.

Martin Reamy, his on-stage co-rapper, is having fun, too.

"All I do is have fun," Reamy said.

Reamy noted that the group, which started by playing open-mic nights in Richmond, builds songs on top of the band.

He explained that the band finds hooks in the music and then develops them.

Reamy cited the Roots and Digable Planets as some influences.

He said the group tried some similar things and "eventually, you just become yourself."

Indeed, the Roots show in the music of the Poets, who use live instruments instead of sampling.

If the band continues to draw the autograph lines that Mamou encountered after the show, maybe the Poets will meet a similar success. □



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Two seniors commended for achievements

BY JASMINE LELLOCK
A & E Editor

Two students were recently selected by a panel as this year's Outstanding Senior Students.

A prestigious award, it honors one senior male and one senior female for their achievements throughout their time at Alfred.

The most important function for the students is for each to deliver a commencement address concerning their time at AU.

Rachel Kulp and Michael Christakis were selected to receive this honor.

Kulp, an accounting major

with a management information systems minor, is from Rochester.

The current president of Financial Management Association and the Student Managed Investment Fund, Kulp also served as a director of the orientation program.

She is a Co-coordinator of the Admissions calling program, a tour guide and a committee chairperson of Omicron Delta Kappa.

On receiving the award, Kulp explained, "I feel I've been

given a great honor. It's important to recognize involvement, and I think my hard work and determination has shown through."

Even though she is "nervous" about her graduation speech, she has already written it.

"I'm really excited to stand up and tell my peers how I feel about my four years with them," she said.

Her favorite part of Alfred is "the relationships that she has formed here," she added.

When asked what is unique about her, she responded on a lighter note.

"I can recite any line from Austin Powers at any given moment," she said.

Christakis, a double major in

political science and history with a minor in philosophy, is very involved.

Having served as the Omicron Delta Kappa Circle President, he is currently a Hot Dog Day committee chairperson.

Christakis is also involved in the campus guide program, and he is a resident assistant.

A very unique thing about Christakis is that he "has lost three campus-wide elections," he said, smiling.

About the award, he explained, "I feel very honored

and genuinely touched that I was chosen for this award."

Although he hasn't finished his speech yet, he is "very excited, and maybe a little nervous."

According to Christakis, the best part of Alfred is the people.

"There all types of people here. I really enjoy the mix of students," he said.

His favorite Alfred memories, in fact, "stem from friendships forged freshman year. I also like the experience with different groups and organizations," he added.

Christakis said he is "really going to miss Alfred."

Commencement will be Saturday, May 15 in the McLane Center. □

Visiting artist Dougherty explains his work

BY JASMINE LELLOCK
A & E Editor

Members of the University community stopped to stare as visiting artist Patrick Dougherty heaved piles of sticks onto the lawn next to the campus center.

Assisted by several art students, Dougherty gathered piles of dogwood and maple saplings from the area around Jericho Field before starting his project.

Dougherty, who hails from North Carolina, said that he "always works in sticks, which [he] gathers and cuts locally."

He added, "I like working with simple materials... they

naturally tend to join together and hook in on themselves, making a strong structure."

A traveling artist by trade, Dougherty works in three-week segments. Having worked in Savannah, he will later travel to Austria.

The idea behind his work in Alfred arose because of Alfred's association with ceramics.

"Since Alfred is such a leader in clay, I thought it would be fun to use ceramic shapes as a starting point," explained Dougherty.

He added that the core of the initial work in ceramics was that baskets woven out of sticks contained clay.

The baskets were then burned, firing the clay. For a long time afterward, there was

a basket pattern found on many clay pots.

The shapes of his sculptures are based on "a water jar, an Egyptian mummy jar, and a Grecian/Roman amphour shape," said Dougherty. "The pieces gain stability by leaning on one another. The uprights are in the ground, but balance is maintained by banking the pieces together."

The first part of the project involved the "structural work." Dougherty described this stage as "almost like making paper to work on."

The next part is dealing with aesthetics, which is like the "drawing" of a piece. Finally, he deals with "cosmetic" elements of the piece. This includes "tidying up so that people can go

inside [the piece] without poking their eyes."

The project was funded mainly by Pamela Joseph, an AU Trustee who has always been a "big supporter" of the arts, said the artist.

Of the students with whom he has worked, he said, "They put serious work into [the project]. They've been wonderful and very inspiring."

"Compared to other schools, the students here are superlative, well-grounded and interesting," he continued.

Freshman Fine Arts Major Shelly Lloyd-James commented, "It's definitely been a good experience working with him."

"It looks difficult, but it's just weaving, and it comes together beautifully," she added

One of the elements of his work Dougherty said he enjoys is the "adventure and drama of its getting built."

Dougherty thinks that the work "makes life interesting."

He added, "When you work in simple materials, people know that they could do this themselves."

Cindy Burns-McDonald, a graduate student in the School of Psychology, agreed.

"I like to watch the evolving process of it... [Onlookers] like to see the creative process and that people are being productive," she said

Dougherty said the three pieces should be completed by today.

The pieces will be displayed for several months. □

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AU softball hands out record breaking rout

BY ANDY BERMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

Home 32, visitor one. That is what the scoreboard said. And no, the Saxons were not the visitor.

The AU Softball team had bats-a-plenty in the doubleheader defeats of Hilbert College.

Both games combined, AU blew out Hilbert 42-1, 32 points of which came in game two.

Four team and three individual records were set in the 32-1 blowout.

The list is testimony to just how much of a rout the games were: most runs in a game (32), largest margin of victory (31), most hits in a game (24), most RBIs in a game (24), individual hits in a game (5, Jessica Snyder), individual RBIs in a game (5, Jen Benson) and individual runs in a game (5, Snyder, Michelle Whiteside and

Tara Harwood).

In game one, the Saxons won 10-0. Freshman pitcher Cortney Cleveland pitched a one-hit shutout.

Tara Harwood had three RBIs and Theresa Totedo scored three runs.

In the nightcap, Snyder went 5-for-5 with five runs and two RBIs to lead the Saxons.

Whiteside went a perfect 4-for-4 and scored five runs at the plate. She only let up three hits on the mound.

Benson went 4-for-6 with 5 RBIs.

Both games were called in the fifth inning due to the 10-run rule.

With the wins, the Softball team evened out their record at 3-3.

The Saxons will finish up their season on the road with three straight doubleheaders at Geneseo, D'Youville and Hartwick. □



PHOTO BY JAY WEISBERGER

Freshman Cortney Cleveland delivers a pitch in the first game of a doubleheader against St. John Fisher. The Saxons lost the first game, but came back to get a split. The game was played at Horrell High School, where Cleveland went to high school.

Women LAXers looking strong

BY ANDY BERMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

The AU women's lacrosse team seems to have one thing on its mind this season: winning games.

Last week the Saxons added two more to their win column, improving to 7-3 with wins over Allegheny 20-3 and Niagara 11-10.

Last Tuesday at Niagara University, Erin Sands scored off a pass from Lindsay Calkins

with 5:46 left in the game to defeat Niagara.

Calkins, who scored the game-tying goal, led the Saxons with three goals and two assists.

Lauren D'Aurio scored four goals in the win.

Goalie Mary Beth Bruder made five saves.

Two days later, the team traveled to Allegheny and posted a 20-3 rout.

Heidi Reynolds scored six goals and had two assists.

D'Aurio had three goals and five assists and Calkins had four goals and two assists also for the Saxons.

The team played at the College of Wooster on Sunday.

Their next home game will be on Hot Dog Day weekend when they play Oberlin.

The game will be at Merrill Field and has an 11 a.m. start time.

The Oberlin game is the last game for the women during the regular season. □

AU track & field host meet at ASC

BY ANDY BERMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

The Alfred men and women ran well at the Alfred Open on April 10th.

The men's squad won three events to finish second and the women won five events to finish third in the seven team meet.

Kurt Edmiston won the 400 hurdles in 58.50 and finished fourth in the 400m dash to lead the Saxons.

Kris Lickfeld won the 110m hurdles (15.07m) and Kristin

Lynch won the pole vault (4.11m), inching out teammate Chris Sabato (3.81m). Sabato also finished fifth in the 200m dash.

Mike Madejczyk was second in the hammer toss (48.84m) and Brad Bowen jumped 6.06 meters in the long jump, good enough for second place.

On the women's side, the 4 x 800m relay team of Traci Lincoln, Jen Bonner, Jen Ares and Millicent Boadi set another school record with its winning time of 10:32.60.

Jen Brewer took home two

victories, one in the high jump (1.55m) and a second in the 100m hurdles (15.67).

Brewer, along with Nancy Callen, Katy Gaydos and Ares put together the winning 4 x 100 relay in 52.20.

Callen was also first in the 200m dash (28.20), second in the long jump (4.79m) and third in the triple jump (9.70m).

Ares won the 400m in (60.70), Gaydos finished second in the 200m and Kristy Kopsaftis was second in the javelin (27.86m).

The teams head to Mansfield for a meet this weekend. □

Men's lacrosse bounces back after first Super Six loss of season

BY ANDY BERMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

The men's lacrosse team won two games last week, defeating SUNY Geneseo and 16th ranked Ithaca, but losing to RIT.

Junior midfielder Brad Morrison had two goals and four

assists and junior attackman Travis Brown had four goals in the win over Ithaca on Saturday.

Earlier, No. 8 RIT, was too much for AU, defeating the Saxons handily 18-4 and giving the Saxons their first Super Six League loss of the season.

R.J. Dawson scored two goals

and Morrison had a goal and an assist in the loss.

The Saxons came back after the loss and handed out a spanking to SUNY Geneseo 17-9.

Brian Pilliod scored for his team. Brian scored four goals and added an assist in the win.

Mike Pilliod had five assists

and Brown had four goals.

The Saxons, who held a slim 7-5 lead at halftime, went on a quick 6-1 scoring run in the 3rd quarter to put Geneseo away.

Freshman goalie Josh Dunn made 10 saves in the win over Geneseo.

The Saxons now post a winning 7-4 record overall on the

year, with a 2-1 record in conference play.

The Saxons play a big game against Ohio Wesleyan on April 24, Hot Dog Day, at 2 p.m. at Merrill Field.

Then, the Saxons will wrap up the regular season with a May 1 home match against Cortland. □