

## **Justice Clarence Thomas to Speak at AU**

11/13/98

Alfred, NY - Clarence Thomas, an associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, will spend two days, Thursday and Friday (Nov. 19 and 20), on the Alfred University campus. Thomas, who was appointed to the Supreme Court in 1991 by President George Bush, will deliver a lecture, open to the public, at 8 p.m. Thursday in Nevins Theater, Powell Campus Center, on the AU campus. His topic will be contemporary constitutional and legal issues. Friday, Justice Thomas will address several Alfred University classes, said Dr. Robert Heineman, professor of Political Science. Thomas, 50, is a graduate of Holy Cross College and received his J.D. degree from Yale Law School in 1974. He was admitted to the bar in Missouri that year and served as an assistant attorney general for the State of Missouri from 1974 to 1977 when he joined the legal staff at Monsanto Company. He became legislative assistant to Senator John C. Danforth of Missouri in 1979, and was appointed assistant secretary for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, in 1981; he served as chairman of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission from 1982 to 1990 when he was appointed to the U.S. Court of Appeals by President Bush.