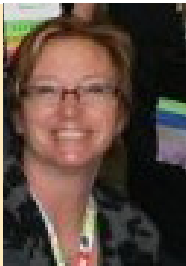




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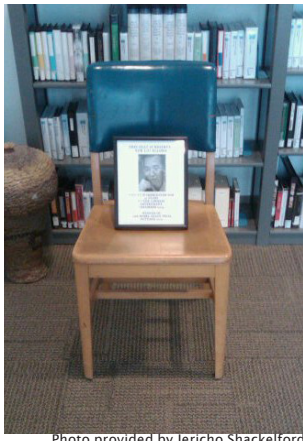


February 28, 2011

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AI at AU dedicates memorial to Nobel Laureate Liu Xiaobo



Jericho Shackelford
Editor in Chief

Student organization Amnesty International at Alfred University, led by faculty advisor Dr. Robert Reginio, held a memorial service for Chinese Nobel laureate Liu Xiaobo in protest of his continued imprisonment on Thursday, Feb. 24.

AI at AU has been a proponent of humanitarian change since fall semester of 2009, and has recently installed a chair in Herrick Library, complete with a photo and informational captions, to signify the saving of Xiaobo's seat at the Nobel reception.

"Xiaobo was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize this October and at the ceremony – he couldn't go to the ceremony – obviously because he is in prison, and his wife couldn't go because she knew if she left the country she would be denied re-entry and she needs to be there to continue his work," stated Reginio at the dedication's commencement.

In October, Xiaobo became the first citizen

Continued on page 3

Student Senate elections begin



Student senate vice presidential candidates Scott DeFranco-Norton (far left) and Ronja Ogrodnik (center left) joined presidential candidates Ana Devlin Gauthier (middle right) and Matthew Farrel (far right) Wednesday, Feb 23 at student senate to take questions regarding their candidacy and future goals.

Photo provided by Sarah Shafer

Photo provided by Sarah Shafer

Sonya Ellison
Staff Writer

Student Senate met on Wednesday, Feb. 23 to discuss the upcoming student elections. Running for Student Senate president for a second term is junior Ana Devlin Gauthier and freshman biology major Matthew Farrell.

Farrell is running with hopes to "further the development of diversity and sense of community in Alfred."

Ana stressed her previous experience as Student Senate president and representative, as well as being a part of other student organizations such as the Women's Leadership Academy.

For Student Senate vice president, running for office are junior biology major Ronja Ogrodnik and first-year engineering major Scott DeFranco-Norton.

The candidates met

in Nevins during the Wednesday Senate meeting to answer questions by Coordinator of Diversity Programming Craig Arno, as well as from students present.

Budget cuts have been among the biggest issues for involved students here at AU. Devlin Gauthier said that as president, she has had to make budget cuts and decide how to distribute the budget among the different clubs.

"It was one of the toughest things I've had to do and I think if we had more people involved in and aware of Senate then we could have a little more impact. When things happen that I don't agree with or I know will be against the interest of the students, I have stood up to the administration. I think I have the courage it takes to be this kind of leader."

Continued on page 3

AU meets Wall Street



Pictured left to right are: Brian Herbert, Mark Lewis, Samantha Puskar, Joseph Sasaki, Peter Nyitrai, Paige Johns, Sean Nielsen, Jacob Bird, Adam Maxam, Dan Ross and Mike Kudra

Joseph Sasaki
Contributing Writer

Ten AU College of Business students visited Wall Street as representatives of the university's Student Management Investment Fund on Monday, Feb. 7. They were accompanied by Faculty Advisor Mark Lewis.

They watched the Super Bowl from their New Jersey hotel Sunday evening and commuted to New York City the next day via train and subway, along with thousands of regular Wall Street workers.

Their first stop was the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), where they learned about the history of the exchange and then had the rare opportunity to actually be on the trading floor right beside the brokers and TV studios.

They watched the opening bell ceremony from the floor, and watched stock and option trading occur in real time.

Mr. Lewis, a former Vice President of the NYSE and currently an Executive in Residence at AU, arranged the visit.

"It was terrific being back at the NYSE, seeing so many friends there and letting our AU students experience the floor in person," stated Lewis.

Their next stop was Oppenheimer and Company, where AU Trustee Gene Bernstein had arranged for them to meet with John Sturges, Oppenheimer Director of Investments. John shared insights from his 30-year career in investing, as well as trends he sees that will impact future

opportunities for growth in the stock market. It was a special experience to have Mr. Sturges share his time with the group, as AU is one of only two universities whose students he meets with. The other university is his alma mater, SUNY Albany.

When the average person thinks of the stock market, he probably envisions the NYSE. The next thing that probably comes to mind are middle-aged men running around in suits yelling on a large trading floor yelling "buy!", and "sell!" But that is not what the students from Alfred University's Student Managed Investment Fund (SMIF) witnessed at all. Both stock and options traders were quite calm and conducted almost all of their business using hand-held devices comparable to

PDAs.

SMIF member and Executive Board Member Paige Johns said, "The trip to NYC was extraordinary from my standpoint, because it provided a snippet into the real world of finance. From physically being on the trading floor of the New York Stock Exchange (which, I have to say was smaller than I thought it was going to be) to meeting with money manager John Sturges from Oppenheimer & Co," the trip provided a number of valuable experiences.

SMIF was founded in 1993 by the Alfred University's board of trustees, who granted students \$100,000 of the school's endowment to manage in its stock portfolio. Over

Continued on page 8

Planned Parenthood threatened by federal funding cuts

Nickelina Noel
Features Editor

The House of Representatives voted to block federal funding for Planned Parenthood health centers on Feb. 18. This affects the accessibility of birth control, cancer screenings, HIV testing and other life saving care for women, men and adolescents.

The proposal advocated by the GOP to block federal

aid for Planned Parenthood was a success for anti-abortion political leaders, one of whom stated that taxpayer money should not be available to groups that support and provide abortion. A proposal made in order to cut government spending this year as part of a bill.

Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Inc. is a non-profit organization specializing in

reproductive health care in the United States. It advocates missions of its 85 affiliates nationwide and operates in more than 820 health centers in nearly every state providing health and education. The organization works with more than four million supporters and donors nationwide. Planned Parenthood health care affiliates, provide routine gynecological exams, breast and cervical cancer

Griffin Taylor
Staff Writer

If you had an errand that required a trip Main Street Saturday morning, or craved a hearty breakfast at the Collegiate to erase any last reminders of Friday night, you may have noticed a family of three with signs on the corner of Main and West University streets.

Chris Kodger, Alfred resident and part-time musician, protested with

his wife and daughter on Saturday in an effort to raise awareness about the efforts of Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker (R.) to remove collective bargaining rights from public employees in Wisconsin.

"If this bill goes through, both teachers and hard-working people everywhere will start losing jobs," Kodger said.

Walker said in a "Meet the Press" interview Sunday

that limits to collective bargaining were needed in order to address the state budget. Wisconsin's 14 state senate Democrats fled to Illinois later that day in order to prevent a vote on the bill.

If the bill passes, a primary group affected negatively would be the state's public-school teachers, who currently receive 74.2 cents toward retirement

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Cut Copy returns from the land down under



Melanie Baker
Arts & Entertainment

..Radiohead's new album "King of Limbs" is magnificent and you should all check it out. Especially keep your ears open for the tracks, "Codex" and "Morning Mr. Magpie." So, what exactly do we have on our plates this week?

This issue I've decided to switch things up a bit and bring you ten times the music. No, I haven't slaved over ten separate album reviews, although I really would. Since the last issue, a lot of great music has fallen into my lap. Rather, I have gone hunting through the music blogosphere, read up heartily on my favorite music magazines and even gone back in time through my iTunes library to bring you the ten tracks I can't stop listening to right now.

There is something about a song that makes you push the repeat button. It might be a new track with a catchy chorus you love singing along to, or it might be an old favorite that brings up memories. Whatever it may be, we keep playing those

songs for a reason.

Without further ado, here is my top ten playlist for late-February 2011 and why I am so in love with each song. Don't worry, you won't find guilty pleasure Far East Movement's "Like a G6" here.

1. "Under Cover of Darkness" by The Strokes: This brand new single from The Strokes' forthcoming album, "Angles", is an instant hit. Lead singer Julian Casablancas hits hard and shows off his pipes while electric guitars wail and riff the catchiest darn sequences you've ever heard.

2. "Badaboom" by Tapes 'N Tapes: "Badaboom" screams summer. Tapes 'N Tapes have been around on the music scene for a few years, but their newest release, "Outside", sounds like the brilliant lovechild of Ra Ra Riot and The National. Listening to this track makes me yearn for the smell of sun block again.

3. "His & Hers" by Rifle Men: These guys are brand new to the music world but their EP, "Treewolf is Dead," makes this Long Island duo sound like seasoned vets in the electro/ new wave game. "His & Hers" could easily be plucked out of any 80s teen movie makeout scene. If this song doesn't make you bust out your best indie dance moves (most likely some obscure jumping around and body twisting), I'll give you your money back.

4. "Howlin' For You" by The Black Keys: If you don't already know the musical

genius of The Black Keys, stop reading this article, go download their albums and then resume reading this playlist. "Howlin' For You" is a downright sexy track off of their album "Brothers." It has killer drums and echoic vocals; it hits you in all the right places. I wish I could be in a relationship with this song so go check it out and hear what I'm talking about.

5. "Erase Me" by Kid Cudi ft. Kanye West: I love rap and hip hop. Seriously, don't get me started on my obsessions with Jay-Z. However, recently my fondness for the genre has expanded to include the albums of Kid Cudi. "Man On The Moon II: The Legend of Mr. Ranger" is an album with a story and fantastic flow. "Erase Me" combines hip hop and rock elements to produce a full and addictive sound. Plus, it's got a pretty solid Kanye cameo. No complaints here.

6. "Anna Sun" by Walk The Moon: Warning- I'm about to do some shameless plugging. I heard about these guys from a friend who knows a friend at Kenyon College where Walk The Moon formed. Their sound is mostly pop rock, but the music video for "Anna Sun" is one of the best I have seen...ever. These guys are up and coming and catchy for all the right reasons. This song makes you want to jump into their music video and just dance.

7. "Take It Easy" by Surfer Blood: This song is the musical definition of "chill."

Their album "Astro Coast" has been out for about a year but I keep coming back for more of their mellow rock sound. Surfer Blood hails from Florida and it shows in their eclectic instrument choices. I want to run away to a beach house with these guys and commission them to play live 24/7.

8. "Bambi" by Tokyo Police Club: I have had the luck of seeing these guys play live the past two summers and I've been hooked ever since. Indie rock outfit Tokyo Police Club is not actually from Tokyo at all, but rather Canada, where they have honed their fun-loving sound. I could have chosen a dozen of their songs to feature, but "Bambi" seems to pack everything I love about this band into one song.

9. "Go Outside" by Cults: I'm ashamed to say I was a year behind this track's release in learning about the musical pair that is Cults. The band consists of just two musicians, a guy and a girl from New York who have both studied film. It is hard to find much else info on the duo but "Go Outside" sounds like a joyful trip to pop music's past. The melodies sound sweet and the group sing-a-long vibe will have you hooked. It feels like the perfect driving and rolling down the windows song.

10. "Cosmic Love" by Florence + The Machine: I am completely on the bandwagon with the Florence + The Machine craze. Lead singer Florence Welch

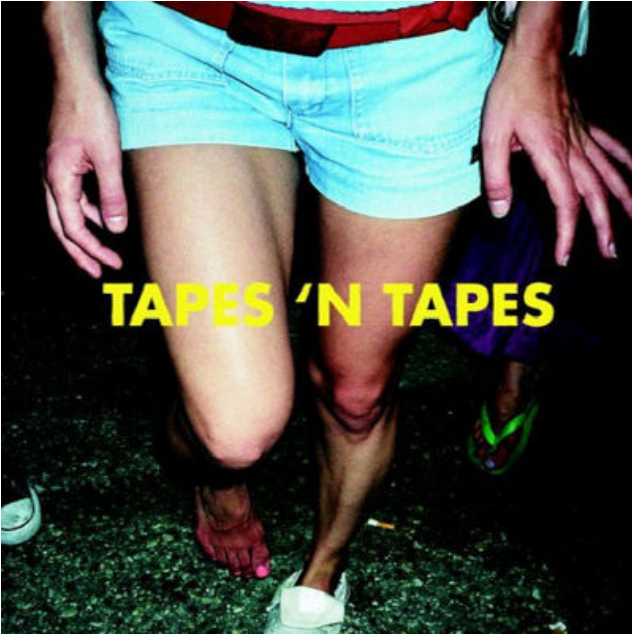


Photo provided



Photo provided

has some serious skills, not only when it comes to vocal ability but also with her epic songwriting. The band's most-known track, "Dog Days Are Over" has gotten infinite amounts of acclaim but "Cosmic Love"

matches up, and even surpasses the depth and guts of "Dog." This song is big and it feels like an experience to get lost in.

Happy Listening!

All Gleeked out

Kylie Smith
Contributing Writer

After a very hectic week-end and a very crazy start of the week, I like to get a group of my friends together on Tuesday night at 8 p.m. for laughs, screams and drama. The television series, "Glee," on its second season now, has had a lot of fans, or should I say "Gleeks". I am proud to say that I am a Gleek. There are thousands of reasons why I love "Glee," but I will narrow them down to a very difficult ten.

1. The Drama. There is something within each episode that makes me scream from excitement or drama. The best type of drama comes from the characters' relationships.

2. Sue Sylvester. The actress Jane Lynch is the funniest comedian on television today. Her character, Coach Sylvester, is vicious, cruel, vindictive, and hysterical. Even though I love the "Glee" kids and she is trying to get rid of them, she does it in a way to make the audience laugh. Another aspect of Sue Sylvester I love is even though she has a nasty front, deep down she has a heart that makes us all melt. One episode, Will Schuster (glee advisor) takes Sue to sing for kids in the pediatric cancer ward. This episode literally made me cry. The show illustrates the many layers of people, and each episode the directors continually to peel back more and more layers.

3. The Hot Guys. HOLY CRAP! There is seriously not one unattractive guy on this show. Puck is beautiful, his eyes look like he is about to do something dangerous, but then make you feel like you are the most beautiful person ever. Finn is so sweet, kind of dumb, but very angelic. All you want him to do is sweep you away and sing

you a love song. Last, but certainly not least is Sam. No one can deny that Sam is a hot Justin Bieber. Even though he looks like an average guy with blonde hair and blue eyes, his mouth makes him unique and so very hot.

4. Great songs from today, and classic songs. You can't wait to sing along to this show. The cast incorporates songs we all know and love, whether it is today's rap songs, indie songs, or classics from the '50s. It's amazing how this show brings in songs we all love and puts them into the story's plot.

5. Fashion. Every character wears something we all can say, "Hey I'm gonna wear something like that tomorrow." Everyone has a very unique chic look that emphasizes the character's traits.

6. Rachel Berry. She is my favorite character and this television show would not be the same without her. She has a very over-the-top personality, the best hair, clothes and vocals.

7. Great Vocals. There are so many different types of vocals, especially Kurt's. He is a soprano and has the voice of an angel. Men are typically not sopranos, but Kurt can hit some very high notes that many women can't. His song, "Rosie's Turn," literally gave me goose bumps. His vocals are insane and mind-blowing.

8. Great Dancing. Even though Brittany isn't the smartest kid in class, her dance moves are as amazing as Michael Jackson's. She is smooth and hip and really knows how to bring a group up. She did a Ke\$ha



Photo provided

impression last episode, and I was so surprised at what she can do. I heard on a radio show that the actress who plays Brittany wasn't supposed to be on the show; she was just a choreographer. The producers, however, thought she was quirky and talented and perfect for the role!

9. How you want your life to be. Haven't you had something happen to you and a song pops in your head? Well, in the life of "Glee," they are able to sing about how they are feeling. Can you imagine if you were talking to your professor and you started to sing "R-E-S-P-E-C-T, find out what that means to me?" In "Glee," that is what everyone does.

10. The Comedy. I don't think I have ever laughed so hard in 47.5 minutes. The actresses and actors are not comedians, but extremely talented people. They are able to transform into comedians and entertain all. By far, Jane Lynch's character is the funniest and her character complements the others very well.

Make sure you all watch "Glee" and experience a TV show that you never would have before.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

February Dance Concert embraces AU's artistic side



Photo provided by Jon Merrit



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Photo provided by Jon Merrit

Eric Hudack
Managing Editor

The spirit of dance was alive and well at Alfred University as the February Dance Concert came to fruition Feb. 17-20 in the new Miller II Theater.

Student and faculty choreographers, in addition to visiting artist Yoshiko Chuma, put together pieces that ranged from expressions of post-modern dance to conceptual visual art.

Chuma bookended the night with a two-part student-influence performance entitled “12 + 4 in 10 to 20.” Parts of the performance included the whole theater as the stage, in which performers entered into the crowd to

Chuma’s piece had a polarizing effect on the audience as many expressed confusion and dissatisfaction with aspects of Chuma’s direction. Others were able to appreciate the individuality each different person was able to bring to the piece. In that regard, Chuma did an excellent job highlighting the unique characters we have here in

Alfred.

“Morning Ritual,” from the mind of AU student Clair Pitts, was a particularly haunting experience. The performers took the stage in just underwear and bras, sporting rather wild hairstyles (symbolizing the “just woke up look”). They then went through a series of violent and grotesque movements that seemed to represent the chaos Hollywood-influenced body images have on female minds. The lighting of the performance created a very eerie atmosphere, coupled with the disturbing movements that the performers engaged in, “Morning Ritual” made for a very unsettling encounter.

“Along the Way,” choreographed by AU professor Chase Angier, featured professor Robert Bingham and AU art and design student Emily Smith in a very intense duet. The movements had a very primal feel to it, as audible exhaling gave the impression that the oxygen was being sucked right out of the performers

as they were moving. The performers contorted and moved in very uncomfortable, dynamic ways. There was a sense of pain in the movements, a sense of longing. It was interesting to note the expressions on the performers’ faces as they moved or paused.

“It [Along the Way] had the potential to make people uncomfortable,” Smith commented on the effect the performance could have on the audience. Smith explained how she felt she needed to be in the right state of mind for the performance, that in order for the piece to be fully appreciated, even the little things needed to be precise.

“And that was vulnerable because it was...not tragic, but required real emotion,” Smith added.

“Here, be now...”, choreographed by Smith, was another piece that caught my attention. According to Smith, “Here, be now...” was more like visual art rather than dance, using performative dance elements as the basis.

It was arranged in two different segments, first with the performers wearing masks and sitting on “chair performers” as they reached out for one another and attempted to, or what appeared to be an attempt to, communicate with other performers in the piece. As close as they were on-stage, it seemed as if there were so many variables and boundaries preventing the performers from connecting with one another.

“There was a sense of irony in some of the parts,” Smith explained about the themes of identity and communication in her piece. Smith added her sense of enjoyment exploring those different ideas through movement and art.

Other performances included pieces choreographed and arranged by Professors Robert Bingham and student choreographers include Laura Smith and Katie Barlow.

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Editorial: Radical to the core (or what will you)

By this point, we are all aware of the protests and political unrest occurring in China, Wisconsin and everywhere in between. Movements in Tunisia and Egypt have sparked a powder keg for revolution throughout the Middles East, and Asia – a great bang heard round the world.

Youth in these countries are playing significant roles in the dissemination of freedom and democratic ideas - a detail that should hit home to many of us here at Alfred University. Here in the states, we too are feeling the pang of political discontent.

Many of our professors look to students as those with hopes to acquire a better future still untinged by Big Brother, The Man or the day-to-day monotony. Yet, often, as college students, we tell ourselves there is nothing we can do to make a significant impact. We look at the House of Representatives passing a bill to cut funding to Planned Parenthood and feel outrage, or see the men and women in the Wisconsin labor union in danger of losing collective bargaining rights and shy past protests. We claim to be too small.

We talk, we argue, we complain and then we go to sleep knowing that none of this really impacts us immediately. One person can make a difference, but that one person can be someone else. We are complacent.

Social media helped youths worldwide to organize marches

in Egypt and Tunisia. Even in China, where media is blatantly restricted, the PRC cannot stifle the snare’s syncopated beat of freedom. Yet, here we are, the American counterpart, updating our Facebook statuses with hyper-emotional song lyrics – an emotionality just alt enough to be some kind of social indie. We have grown self-righteously vain.

As we look across the sea and watch our peers fight for what they believe in, one must stop and wonder, what would I march for?

Our concept of social outrage via activism is diminished. How can so many stand by and idly watch their peers and neighbors struggle for the basic rights we Facebook, tweet-stalk and skype with on a daily basis? We have grown so complacent with an ‘American’ society that we shy from an opportunity to join a family of three on Main Street raising awareness of the collective bargaining rights protest in Wisconsin. We appease ourselves into silence.

We are a better nation than that. If there ever was a perfect time to prove that statement it is now.

On campus, Green Alfred is attempting to encourage AU students to join them and over 10,000 other American youths in Washington, DC to stand up for a more sustainable future. At Power Shift 2011, thousands will stand together to push our

national conscious beyond accepting malignant energy sources.

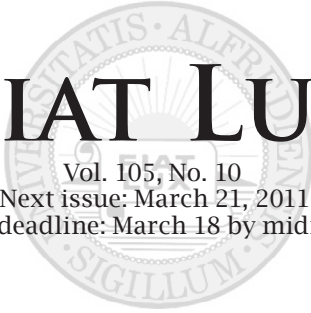
AU budget cuts a year ago invigorated a student body, nothing as radical as an organized protest, but at least we rediscovered that body’s stay-kick-drumming pulse. Students did not want to see their programs cut and our student-elected representatives fought for the majority’s will.

It is not impossible to believe that 1 is an individual, that 1 + 1 is a scarce minority, that 2 may be a contingency and that 1 contingency raised to the power of media can sum to a faction, then a movement – a national revelation.

We have followed the system and so allowed the system; relying on acquiescence we are commendably complacent. But protesting takes work. It takes passion. It takes effort and a blatant disregard for what is sensible.

Not everyone has the clout of a Jon Stewart or Glenn Beck (or access to their resources) to organize political rallies and marches on Washington. We can’t keep hoping someone else will do the work for us so we can continue to reap the benefits.

What will it take to beat that snare faster, to kick that drum harder, to inspire?



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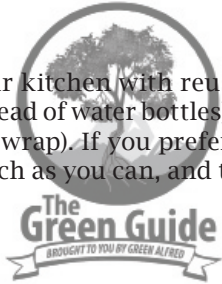
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Try to stock your kitchen with reusable items, like water filter pitchers (instead of water bottles) and plastic containers (instead of plastic wrap). If you prefer aluminum foil, reuse large sheets as much as you can, and then be sure to recycle.

OPINIONS

Capital Efforts: A woman’s right to autonomy



Jericho Shackelford
Editor in Chief

Issues such as a woman's right to affordable medical care, or consideration at all, have been politicized by pundits and politicians alike in regard to two recent developments.

The House of Representatives' Feb. 18 vote to discontinue federal funding of Planned Parenthood is the largest affront in the organization's history. A class action lawsuit filed Feb. 15 by fifteen women and

two men against Defense Secretary Robert Gates and his forbearer, Donald Rumsfeld, claiming the military refused to aid victims of abuse and sexual assault is a prime example of rights misrepresented.

Why is the wellbeing of women so politicized? The answer is all too akin to that of the question concerning the need for a civil rights advisory board in The White House. Neither ought to be necessary, yet here we are perpetuating necessity.

Awareness is the pre-requisite to any solution regarding one's rights. People must know and they mustn't falter – not even in the face of a word like feminist. Both women and men should fight for a voice to be properly represented.

This week, I had planned to write about something else, but this issue has drawn on each of my sensibilities and would have dulled everyone of them had I not relayed it back to whatever audience this

column claims.

In a political science class yielding just five students, one male of which remained absent for numerous role calls leaving three women plus me to sit sparsely about the room when the professor asked, “Which, if any, of you identify as feminist?”

I raised my palm just over my shoulder, and, being the only student in the front row, looked back to find that mine was the only vertical gesture.

True, there are many different degrees and factions within feminist thought. True, the most simplified of which is borderline humanist. But, for someone interested in equality, how can one discount the right of a woman to have control over her body?

“Informed citizens of the world know that when women are marginalized, victimized and obstructed from advancing their own status in life, children suffer, families suffer and societies suffer. I say this as an American woman,

feminist, educator and informed citizen. This war on women isn't about budget cuts; it is about fundamental human rights in our society,” stated Director of the Women's Leadership Center Dr. Julia Overton-Healy.

We are no city atop a hill, nor are we entirely without a moral compass.

Perhaps the word feminist is daunting, but until sometime out of grade school the word egalitarian was all-American. What happened to that? What if the United States of America really were a haven, really were a land built on dreams attained rather than rights deferred.

The amendment to deny Planned Parenthood federal funding germinated from talk within the House about how to alleviate the

national deficit.


To the call of the motion New Jersey Representative Christopher Smith touted this statement that, “Planned Parenthood clinics are among the most dangerous places in the world for a child.” Needless to say, he went on.

A nation that ignores sexual assault within its military and puts medical aid out of reach, the same aid a victim may need, is quite frankly loathsome – we are not that nation. I digress to say that we can be better than that nation.

Representative Jackie Speier rose to strike the word preceding hers with this statement: “You know, I had really planned to speak about something else, but the gentleman from New Jersey has just

put my stomach in knots... to think that we are here tonight debating this issue when the American people, if they are listening, are scratching their heads and wondering: what does this have to do with me getting a job; what does this have to do with reducing the deficit? And the answer is nothing at all... Planned Parenthood has a right to operate...to provide services for family planning.”

It's time – at least I wish it were – that we stop offering autonomy through an opaque lens. It is not always easy to do what is right, but sometimes just that is what is most needed to claim and maintain liberty – the simple action of following one's guttural direction.



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Clementines are awesome

Vreni Gust
Opinions Editor

I love to eat. Eating is good, and it makes me happy. One of the things I eat multiple times a day are clementines. I believe that clementines are the best food ever (other than bacon of course) for several reasons which I will share below.

The first reason clementines are awesome is that they are aesthetically pleasing. I really enjoy the look of clementines. They are so cute and round, and who doesn't love the bright and cheery shade of orange that clementines are? Furthermore, they smell delicious, and after peeling and eating one your hands smell like delicious citrus fruit. And, when you throw the peel away your garbage may become pleasantly scented as well: bonus!

Clementines are also perfectly packaged for eating on-the-go. They come snack-sized and pre-wrapped. Clementines are extremely easy to peel, hence the nickname “zipper orange.” And if you MUST throw your peel on the ground, it is natural

and biodegradable, so you won't necessarily be littering.

My favorite thing about the clementine is its ability to be split into wedges, which make it PERFECT for sharing. After all, who doesn't want to be offered a wedge of delicious citrus-y goodness? I regularly offer a piece of my clementine to my neighbor when I'm snacking on it in class, which almost always elicits a smile followed by a “thank you”. Clementines usually consist of eight-to-fourteen wedges, which means there is plenty to go around. In addition, they make for a great classroom snack because they provide hours of distraction. When I have nothing to do in class, I spend my time meticulously peeling my clementine, trying my best to eradicate all of the white, fleshy residue leftover from the peel. As a matter of fact, I have mastered peeling the clementine in such a way that the peel resembles a flower. I haven't yet figured out what use I can put this skill toward in the outside world, but it is still an efficient way to kill time!

Did you know that

clementines got their name from the French monk who invented them: Father Clement Rodier? Clementines didn't become popular in the US until the 1990s when Florida's orange crop was badly damaged by a cold winter. Because most clementines are grown in California and Spain, people began consuming them as an alternative to oranges.

Clementines can be useful for things other than eating. Play catch with one. Use one as a very tiny bowling ball, or even an air freshener. The flower-shaped peel makes for a lovely centerpiece on your dining table. Use the crate from the box of clementines you bought at the store as a step-stool or makeshift bookshelf. Anything is possible.

I did skip one final quality that the clementine possesses: it is both healthy and nutritious . One clementine only has thirty-five calories and it contains sixty percent of your daily vitamin C. All things considered, I'd like to wrap up with one final thought: clementines are awesome.

FEATURES

DeAnne Smith: Riley Lecture’s MVP



Photo provided

Eric Hudack & Melanie Baker
Managing Editor & A&E Editor

AU graduate and professional comedian DeAnne Smith is downright funny. Or better yet, in her own words, “I’m a feminist and I’m freaking hilarious.” Smith was chosen as the coveted speaker for this year’s Riley Lecture in Women’s Studies, which took place on Feb. 21 to a packed audience in Nevins Theater, despite it being a snow day. Attendees of the lecture knew they’d be in for a comedic treat as Smith opened with the title of her talk: “Amusing, Alliterative Title: Then a String of Academic Words like ‘Paradigm,’ ‘Mechanism’ and ‘Identity’ (Or How Feminists Can Be Funny).”

Much of Smith’s lecture detailed her experiences as a female comic and her inspirations for developing the material in her shows. The perfect joke, according to Smith, “is silly, absurd, but it has a message.” DeAnne Smith graduated from Alfred University in 1998 with a degree in English and a minors in creative writing and Women’s studies. Through English, Smith mostly focused on writing poetry and only began writing comedy in 2005. She realized she would rather “stand on a stage and make people laugh” with comedy rather than make them contemplate life with depressing poetry. Smith set the tone with a statement that accurately reflected her lecture. “I am not an academic, I’m a comic.” However, Smith did tie in prominent messages about women, comedic careers, feminism and academic jargon, ending her speech on the cliché word, “revolutionary;” a convention of academia she promised to work in. While she joked that she would have felt more at home if there was a rowdy bachelorette party in the audience, she was proud of the fact she put on a blue velvet blazer. She stated her burning

passion for comedy was the result of having, “no other marketable skills.” “If you peruse your passion, someone will eventually pay you in alcohol and elicit drugs,” Smith joked. Amidst side-splitting humor and her own self-deprecating style, “I look like the bastard love child of Harry Potter and Justin Bieber,” she proclaimed, Smith’s focus point for the talk examined her experience as a female comic in a male dominated field and proved that female comics are indeed very funny. Smith pointed out a trend that comedy clubs seem to revert back to a more misogynistic time, “where homosexual is a punch-line, where rape is a punch-line, and where homosexual rape is the funniest thing ever.” In order to express her frustrations with this reality, Smith slips into a misogynist “male” character from time to time. She sarcastically points out the irony and crude nature of some of these comics by saying things like, “Women. Can’t live with them, can’t punch them in the throat.” Unfortunately, Smith shared her fear that people fail to understand the irony of the joke and just take it for what it is at surface-level. When men on the street began to call out to Smith and repeat her



Photo provided

DeAnne Smith performing at a comedy club

ironic catchphrase, “tell it to my balls,” Smith grew concerned that the joke was not hitting home with all audiences. By sticking to her guns and developing her career independently, Smith remarked that she’s been able to hold her ground amongst the more acclaimed men in her field. She currently produces and hosts three comedy nights a month in Montreal, Canada and has toured with some of the biggest comedy festivals in places like Australia - not every male comic in the

world can say that. One show, entitle “Stand Up and Strip Down” is a comedy and burlesque hybrid in which Smith uses the tagline “Do you like jokes and boobs?” to garner publicity. While Smith admits that the term “boobs” can be seen as sexist, she explains, “My lesbian and feminist sides can be at war with each other at times.” As a feminist, Smith knows that it is wrong to objectify women, however, her lesbian side will argue, “sometimes women can

be sexy.” Smith’s “academic” talk proved that it is possible to get feminist ideas across and still be funny. However, when it doesn’t work, “it’s horrifically painful and soul crushing, but lets not focus on that,” Smith joked. Despite mentioning some of her lower points in comedy, DeAnne Smith’s talk received riotous laughter throughout and much deserved applause at the end. Now that’s revolutionary.

Adventures of a mishapped columnist:
Sushi: Not just a fad.



Victoria Flood
Copy Editor

Since the beginning of this year’s quest for a braver self, I’ve been toying with the idea of eating sushi. To put it mildly, I find raw fish intimidating. Actually, I find all fish intimidating, even canned tuna. I think it relates back to a tragic childhood incident with a suicidal goldfish. Perhaps finding the tiny, orange corpse on the carpet was visually suggestive of sushi, but we’ll never know for sure. The first thing I discovered about sushi, before I even tried it, is that people who love it will literally go out of their way to share their enthusiasm for it with you. In fact, this adventure became something of a field trip for several other Fiat staff members who were good enough to come along and show me the ropes. Rainbow Heaven Restaurant, specializing in Chinese and Japanese cuisine, is tucked away on Seneca street in Hornell and comes very highly recommended by just about everyone that I’ve asked in the Alfred area. The interior is spacious, clean and slightly reminiscent of a cafeteria, but inviting. Seated at our table, one colleague remarked that the music sounded like a “Japanese version of Jeopardy,” which seemed appropriate given the challenging nature of first-time sushi selection. It’s probably frowned upon to edit the menu for mistakes, but with a table full of newspaper editors,

there was no avoiding that. Also, there are only so many times you should accept the wrong drink before you acknowledge that something is misspelled, good sport or not. Sushi, I’ve come to learn, is a relatively formal experience. Your interaction with the sushi chef, or the Itamae, is apparently crucial. I am relieved now that I did not ask anyone “how fresh is the fish?” because I might have offended the man who handled not only my food, but a very large and sharp knife that he is most certainly an expert at using. Unfortunately, I did make some faux pas in the etiquette department. For example, it is considered impolite to give or receive sushi with the eating-end of the chopsticks. In reflection, that one seems pretty obvious for hygienic purposes, but according to sushifaq.com it is also symbolic of passing a deceased relative’s bones across the table ... that was somewhat less obvious. As it turns out, it’s just easier and more socially acceptable to extend the plate and allow someone to use the “grip-ends” of the chopsticks to take the sushi. I should have ordered less, because by leaving food on the plate, it would appear that I am dissatisfied with it. I simply couldn’t make up my mind between the Spicy Tuna Rolls, the Shrimp Tempura or the Philadelphia Rolls, so I ordered all of them. All three are a type of makizushi, which is rolled sashimi grade fish, often with rice and various other ingredients within a sheet of dried seaweed (also called nori). The list of options is much too long to recount now and is certainly worth investigating, but these items were recommended for their milder, more “rookie-friendly” flavors. I could also have ordered Nigirizushi (pieces of sliced sashimi on pads of rice), but that might have been too intense for my first experience. Our waiter generously offered to pay for whatever I didn’t like, but I suspect this was

due to the unreasonable amount of time I was taking to order. If anything at all can be said for this cuisine, presentation is taken very seriously. The table seemed to brighten as our orders arrived. Colorful pieces of fish and garnish, like dashes of paint on canvas sat before us, drawing our attention. It was a pity to disrupt the arrangements, but this treat for the eyes had more to offer. I expected sushi to have an overpowering taste of seaweed. Like the dripping wet, leafy chains washed up on the beach. In reality, the smell is there, but it’s more like a hint of ocean air than a sea-monster baking in the sun. I may have used too much wasabi (Japanese horseradish) and the cream cheese inside the Philadelphia roll was a little imposing, but I found the actual fish flavor to be very subtle, so mild that I had to savor it. The delicate texture felt something like biting into a sliver of fresh strawberry without the juice ... not dry, but only slightly moist. You would hardly need teeth at all, if it weren’t for the nori and the density of the rice. I left Rainbow Heaven, not wondering why it is the place where good rainbows go when they die, but thinking that eating sushi is a wonderfully social experience. It illuminated the joy of eating in a way that pizza and chicken wings never could. There is something almost ritualistic about it. Sushi brings many factors of life into one artistic ensemble of color, flavor, etiquette and sustenance. I’m beginning to understand why so many people have passion for this acquired taste, because it isn’t just the act of eating to fill an empty void, but to fill the senses.

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FEATURES

The yearning for democracy: demonstrations around the world

J.P. McCombs
Sports Editor

Since January, the news has been flooded with stories about protesting throughout Northern Africa and the Middle East. Tunisia and Egypt are the two nations that ignited the flame, but many more have followed suit. Here is a country-to-country breakdown of the other demonstrations:

Libya
Protesting began in January as demonstrators grew angry with the government's failed housing promises and broke into a delayed housing project taking it over. After the event, Libya's leader Muammar al-Gaddafi promised another \$24 billion for housing, but the money is yet to be seen. With the housing issue, failed promises and high unemployment, demonstrators are still very active.

Bahrain
Bahrain has recently released around 25 political detainees according to the Bahrain Center for Human Rights. Demonstrators took to the streets in the city of Manama last week, asking for political reform. The demonstrations are typically comprised of Shiite Muslims who, along with a demand for a constitutional monarchy, are protesting against discrimination and



Photo provided by Sarah Shafer



Photo provided by Sarah Shafer

high unemployment. To add to the issue, there have been accusations against the government for torturing political activists.

Cameroon
Opposition groups are planning demonstrations similar to Egypt and calling for the removal of President Paul Biya who has been in power for 28 years. Cameroonian protesters are not new, however. In 2008, protesters demanded that the government should lower food and gas prices and were also upset that Biya planned to change

the constitution in order to extend his term.

Yemen
Along with high unemployment rates, protesters in Yemen are demanding that the corrupt government begin to reform. President Ali Abdullah Saleh has responded to the protesters claiming he supports the making of a national unity government to watch over upcoming parliamentary elections.

Algeria
After seeing the protests in Tunisia and Egypt, demonstrators in the city of

Algiers began asking for the lowering of food prices. They also expect the unemployment rate to go down and for housing issues to be resolved. President Abdelaziz Bouteflika placed an "emergency declaration" in effect due to the protests, but announced that it would be lifted soon. According to CNN, analysts claim the declaration was "an attempt to head off a similar revolt."

Djibouti
Last Friday, police used force against protesters, throwing tear gas into

the crowd. Citizens are asking President Ismail Omar Guelleh to step down as his family has been in power since 1977, the year the country claimed its independence from France. Guelleh himself has been in power since 1999 and despite the protests, is seeking a third term. Economic issues have also added to the frustration of the people. Djibouti is especially important to the United States, because it is home to the only U.S. military base in Africa.

Jordan

Protesters are looking for governmental reforms along with the abolishment of the peace treaty with Israel. The distinguishing factor of Jordan from its surrounding nations is the unrest among the people themselves. On Feb. 18, around 200 anti-governmental protesters fought with pro-government protesters in Ahman and many people were hurt.

They've got you by the snowballs

Raffi Jansezian
Contributing Writer

Here at Alfred there is a huge prospect for winter fun, the seasonal coating of snow providing endless possibilities. We are encouraged to go out and do things - grab a sled and find a hill, maybe build a snowman - but whatever you like to do in the winter make sure you don't throw a snowball.

Yes, a snowball. Throwing snowballs was once a huge offense on campus; it was grounds for expulsion.

Throwing snowballs has been outlawed on campus for a long time. The ban started because of Snow Wars. Students would have huge snowball fights with one another,



Photo provided by Vreni Gust

but the harmless snowball fights soon turned into real fights. People threw ice and snowballs with rocks inside of them. The University

decided to ban the throwing of snowballs because of the fights breaking out, causing many injuries among the student body.

In the same way "Zombies vs. Humans" is no longer allowed on campus, when the students were put at risk, the University wanted



Photo provided by Vreni Gust

to keep them safe. Kathy Woughter, Vice-President of Student Affairs, looked to repeal the policy, and concluded that making the

throwing of a snowballs illegal on campus wasn't necessary and that it is already covered by another policy.

Today, throwing a snowball on campus is fine, but be aware that if somebody is hurt as a result of the snowball, the University can take action under the Assault Policy. All this means is that if you are going to have a snowball fight, be careful. Sledding is also allowed, but if there are signs prohibiting the act of sledding in a certain area, just don't do it.

The signs are there for a reason. Even though a hill might seem harmless, you risk injury and the University possibly taking action.

Status of WNY women, girls to be focus of researchers' presentation at Alfred University

Press Release

ALFRED, NY, February 2011 — On Wednesday, March 2 Alfred University's Women's Leadership Center continues its Women of Influence series hosting a presentation by Brigid Doherty and Dr. Kathryn Foster focusing on the status of women and girls in Western New York.

Doherty and Foster will talk about their findings included in "Pathways to Progress," a regional assessment on the status of WNY women and girls supported by the WNY Women's Fund and the University of Buffalo (UB).

Their findings show how women are underrepresented in managerial positions, are outnumbered 3:1 among top executives in the region, and how 66 percent of all families in poverty are headed by women. According to their research, Western New York is a hostile environment for girls and women, but they are optimistic the status can change.

Doherty joined the WNY Women's Fund as executive director in fall 2007, bringing a background in strategy, finance, and

education. Her goal is to bring together best practices from the for-profit world with those of the non-profit sector. She has worked in strategy consulting at Bain & Co. in Boston advising Fortune 500 CEOs and private equity firms, and she was an analyst in mergers and acquisitions at Goldman Sachs in New York City.

Doherty first became interested in issues affecting women and girls while attending an all-female high school, Nardin Academy in Buffalo, and has remained involved and passionate about these issues throughout her career. She currently serves on boards at Nardin Academy and The Burchfield Penney Art Center.

She earned an MBA from Harvard University and a bachelor's degree in finance from Boston College.

Foster is director of the University at Buffalo Regional Institute, a university-based research and policy center. Prior to assuming the directorship in 2005, she was chairman of the UB Department of Urban and Regional Planning, director of

research at the Regional Institute, and a visiting fellow at the Taubman Center for State and Local Government at Harvard University.

An expert in regions and governance, she is the author of "The Political Economy of Special-Purpose Government" (Georgetown University Press, 1997), "Regionalism on Purpose" (Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, 2001), and numerous book chapters, policy reports, and articles.

As a member of the NYS Commission on Local Government Efficiency and Competitiveness and the World Academy of Art and Science, Foster was selected by Business First (Buffalo) as the 2007 Woman of Influence in Public Policy.

She earned a bachelor of arts degree in geography from Johns Hopkins University, a M.C.P. (city planning) from the University of California, Berkeley, and a Ph.D. in public and international affairs from Princeton University.

Editor's note: The following letter was forwarded to the Fiat Lux by a Planned Parenthood official when they were alerted to the campus's concern for their political situation.

AN OPEN LETTER TO CONGRESS

To the members of the House of Representatives who voted for the Pence Amendment to H.R. 1:

How could you?

How could you betray millions of women — and men, and teens — who rely on Planned Parenthood for basic health care?

How could you condemn countless women in this country to undiagnosed cancer, unintended pregnancies, and untreated illnesses?

Your vote was not only against those who seek care at Planned Parenthood health centers, but against every one of us who has ever sought care there, and against every one of us who knows that when we are healthy, when we are in charge of our lives, we thrive.

It was a vote against me.

To every senator who will soon consider this legislation: I stand with Planned Parenthood to say to you: STOP THIS.

I stand with Planned Parenthood and the hundreds of thousands of people from every walk of life and every corner of this country who join me in signing this letter to tell you that we will fight this bill and we expect you to do the same.

I stand with and for the millions of women, men, and teens who rely on Planned Parenthood, and I expect you to do the same.

To every member of Congress, know that we stand together today against this outrageous assault, and together we will not lose.



ADDITIONAL NEWS

Xiaobo memorial continued...

of China to be awarded a Nobel Prize of any kind while living in China. He also became the first laureate to be denied a representative at the Nobel ceremony since the 1935 absence of Germany's Carl von Ossietzky.

The 55-year-old citizen of the People's Republic of China has been in and out of prison since 1989, following the Tiananmen Square massacre, to which Xiaobo negotiated an end on June 9, 1989, after a three-day hunger strike

Xiaobo's peaceful fight against the Orwellian big brother state of PRC has warranted him international accolades, yet he remains stifled by the government he wishes to amend. While Xiaobo's works are inspirational, the PRC continues to censor all revolutions in the media.

The chair dedication is meant to inspire conversation on campus, thus expanding awareness of Xiaobo's situation and the inherent ramifications of his imprisonment. While the dedication is an entirely new idea, the future of the memorial looks promising.

One of the greatest attributes of the Amnesty International organization, from a college student's perspective, is that it provides both information and ideas for political action. In this event, however, AI at AU displayed neither.

The idea for the memorial service and chair dedication arose from club



Photo provided by Jericho Shackelford

concerns that were ignited by both Xiaobo's captivity and the political situation in China. Both organization president Hannah Certis and Reginio intend to keep the chair in its current position until Xiaobo is released from prison.

Members of the AI at AU club intend to send pictures of their actions to Amnesty International in hopes of inspiring other colleges with Confucius Institutes to join their cause.

When asked by Reginio what he thinks about China's current political situation, the single student of Chinese background present at the dedication stated, "I'm not satisfied at all."

Reginio went on to wonder if Xiaobo's works and imprisonment have inspired anyone the student knew of.

"As far as I know, no...

But, there must be some improvement or revolution but in a peaceful way," replied the student.

An electric tea light candle placed at the base of the captioned portrait flickered for the dedication's expanse.

Although invitations were extended to representatives of Alfred

University's Confucius Institute, none were present at the dedication.

Originally, members of the Confucius Institute claimed that they would not be present at the event as representatives of the Institute, due to the event's political orientation. Those invited said they would be glad to come as individuals, although none showed.

The chair dedication featured a poetry reading of six of Xiaobo's works, the first of which, "Wait for me with the Dust", ended with the line, "You'll stand up like America."

Pamphlets on Xiaobo were left behind the chair for any interested person. AI at AU meets Thursdays at 6 PM in the McNamera room on the first floor of Powell Campus Center.

Student Senate continued...



Photo provided by Sarah Shafer

When Matt Farrell was asked how exactly he would promote diversity at the university, he responded that when he first came to AU at the beginning of this year, he had no idea how many different clubs there were.

"I think a lot of people just sign up to be on the email list and don't really

give the clubs a real effort or second thought. I think if students were made more aware of these organizations more voices would be heard and students would play a bigger part of the student government process."

This year, students can sign in and vote on the my.alfred.edu website.

There were issues when voting took place for last year's elections on Blackboard, because people were voting more than once. In that sense, this year's election should be more fair.

Elections started Sunday, Feb. 27 and will continue until Wednesday, Mar. 2.

Planned Parenthood continued...

screenings, contraceptive services, abortion care, HIV testing and education to three million women, men and adolescents.

PPFA is a community-based health care organization existing for more than 90 years. The organization stands for access to health care and promoting effective education and prevention policies. One of its most emphasized attributes is its protection of a woman's right to choose. The health care providers of PPFA provide safe and reliable health care options, mostly preventive options for unintended or unplanned pregnancies. Planned Parenthood assists 3 million women a year.

"We annually provide affordable contraception for nearly 2.5 million patients, nearly 1 million cervical cancer screenings, 830,000 breast exams and 4 million tests and treatments for sexually transmitted infections, including a half-million HIV tests," said Cecile Richards, president of Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

Richards also describes the House's decision to cut federal funding for Planned Parenthood as "a war on women's health."

Planned Parenthood advocacy efforts continue to broaden, including some of the poorest nations in the world. PPFA and some other PPFA affiliates partner with local organizations to promote policies benefiting women's health care.

The organization also acts as a respected leader for educating Americans about reproductive and sexual health, providing medically accurate information enabling knowledgeable choices, as well as leading healthy lives.

Planned Parenthood also provides relationship and sexuality information in the classroom in an effort to decrease the high rates of teen pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections in the US.

The Planned Parenthood mission states that the organization intends to defend policies promoting women's health, allowance of individuals to prevent unintended pregnancies through affordable contraceptives and protect young people by providing comprehensive sex education.

"If abortion is what you hate, you should love Planned Parenthood," Health and Wellness Educator and Assistant Director of Residence Life Pam Schu stated as she looked back on her seventeen years of experience as a Planned Parenthood nurse.

"No one works harder from the street, the health clinic, the capital of your state and country, to ensure that women have the education and medical care needed to prevent unwanted pregnancies. A woman who is not pregnant does not need an abortion," Schu continued.

The vote was 240-185. Democrats opposed to the federal funding cut stated that the cut would make it difficult for women to get access to basic health care and valuable family planning services and refer to the bar on cutting federal funding for PPFA as an attack on Planned Parenthood.

Representative Jackie Speier (D-CA) shocked members of the House when she spoke about her abortion procedure in a response to comments made by Representative

Christopher Smith. Speier's response disclosed brief information about the procedure she endured and mentioned that it was her loss of a baby.

"For you to stand on this floor and to suggest, as you have, that somehow this is a procedure that is either welcomed or done cavalierly or done without any thought is preposterous," Speier stated among members of the House.

Speier's speech was motivated by Smith's graphic speech in which he described what occurs to the fetus or "tiny dead baby" after the operation.

"From my own perspective, the rights of women which are under attack, but being politicized and over-simplified is an attack on Roe v. Wade. When a person's rights are whittled down--for the convenience of sound bites and pithy statements designed to inflame but not inform--to one issue, then the totality of their rights and their personhood are whittled down," said Women's Leadership Center Director Julia Overton-Healy.

"The current war on women, predicated mostly on the question of abortion, if successful will disadvantage women of all walks of life, even if those women are pro-life," Overton-Healy continued.

Planned Parenthood responded to members of the House who voted against it by petitioning the bar and sent letters to the House representatives who are supporting the funding cut.

The Senate, the majority of which is Democratic, is holding stronger abortion rights and has yet to vote on the blocking of Planned Parenthood funding.

Announcements

Class of 2011!
What do you think is One thing that someone should do before they graduate from Alfred University?
Tell Us!

We are making an "Alfred Bucket List." This master list will be a hub of information for new (or current) students to attempt to accomplish by the time they graduate.

SUBMISSIONS NOW ACCEPTED
(Keep in mind, although we are not planning on editing to the max there are certain things we cannot accept. This will be determined on a case by case basis)

Please email adg6@alfred.edu with any submissions or questions!

Thank you,
Ana Devlin gauthier and Jessica Repanes

This announcements section of the Fiat Lux originated out of a student's concern to be heard. Thus this section is the no strings attached portion of the Fiat, open only to students and associated interests. Simply send an announcement and it will be placed. For more information attend the next student senate meeting or email the Fiat Lux at fiatlux@alfred.edu

AU trip to Model UN conference

Nick Walker & Jessica Maffey
Contributing Writers

In the early hours of Feb. 13, 2011, ten Alfred University students led by their fearless advisor, Dr. Jeffery Sluyter-Beltrao, departed the frigid temperatures of Alfred and trekked to the equally cold city of Boston, Massachusetts. For five months, each student had physically and mentally prepared for this event. Their mission was deceptively simple: for the

next four days they would represent Alfred University at the Harvard National Model United Nations Conference and uphold the ideals of Alfred's representative country, the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal.

The conference is an annual event hosted by Harvard University. This year was the 57th meeting and promised to contain plenty of stimulating discussion and all the fun of a cosmopolitan city.

Participation in the conference is meant to show "the complexities of international relations, the intricacies of negotiating among diverse peoples and perspectives, the challenges of achieving consensus, and the patience required to win progress."

In a continually expanding global community, these lessons have become even more crucial to individuals and nations.

Over 150 schools from 39 countries represented

the 192 nations of the UN. Students from Australia worked side by side with students from South Africa, Russia and Albania. These students engaged in discussions ranging from the political instabilities in former African colonies to international organized crime. Discussing these topics in an international forum offered an important opportunity to hear new perspectives, share opinions and engage in a unique understanding of

the global community's ability to compromise.

Along with this chance to discuss international topics, the trip allowed students to experience Boston and interact with a diverse group of people. Alfred University students experienced Boston's history, nightlife and particular attractions, such as the Sam Adams Brewery.

The experience of Model UN was one that allowed students to discuss topics and learn from their peers,

and to take those ideas and perspectives back to Alfred. The opportunity to learn in an environment outside of the daily university classes provided fresh perspectives and forced students to think critically about topical issues. Ultimately, any Alfred student would benefit greatly from this experience.

Wall Street continued...

the last two years, SMIF has achieved a 156 percent return on its investments in the equity market. According to SMIF President Michael Kudra, “In SMIF we strive to identify highly profitable companies capable of generating strong future earnings growth. To that end, we look for companies with a sustainable competitive advantage, which usually translates to a strong brand name. In SMIF we do not look at analysts’ forecasts to predict future growth. Instead, we rely on the company’s historical results and seek out companies with strong management and who have

demonstrated expertise in their industry. This requires an in-depth understanding of the company’s business plan.” This program allows students to receive hands-on experience in the field of finance by allowing them to actually manage a portfolio of securities. Most undergraduate business programs do not offer this program to its students; it is typically a program reserved for MBA students. However, it is available to all students at Alfred University. The trip was an exceptional opportunity, unbelievably rare for business students our

age to participate in. It’s something that all of us will be able to put on our resumes. When you are in your early twenties and you are able to say you have helped manage a few hundred thousand dollars of your university’s endowment and articulate what investment techniques you used you will be in a position to stand out from most of the other job applicants. If not for trustee Gene Bernstein and College of Business acting Dean, Nancy Evangelista, this trip might not have happened and for that, everyone in SMIF is deeply grateful.

Shenanigans in Alfred

Sonya Ellison
Staff Writer
It’s midnight on a Friday and downtown Alfred comes alive for the weekend. Only two more hours until everything closes. Everything in town, except for B.B. Shenanigans, which will stay open for an hour longer. A customer comes in and cracks a joke at the modestly familial Blake Brown, Shenanigans’ owner. The owner laughs, playing along with a genuine smile on his face. “Our busiest hour is our last hour, from 2 a.m. to 3 a.m.” Brown says. “Weekends are our busiest time of the week.” The first location opened in Canisteo in December 2008, but is currently closed. Blake needed another job and decided to open a Shenanigans in

Alfred. He hopes to reopen the Canisteo restaurant in a few weeks. Originally from Canisteo, Blake wanted a laid-back atmosphere for the restaurant. “I really wanted something comfortable and not too high class so anyone could come in whenever they wanted and feel relaxed.” The walls in the dining area are bare now, but Blake hopes to fill them with Alfred sports memorabilia to show his local pride. “A lot of kids come in throughout the day just to sit down and do their homework and we’re cool with that. Everyone in the community is welcome here,” said Blake. The food is inspired by Nick Tahoe’s, a restaurant in Rochester where his aunt lives.

“No one else around here has a garbage plate.” The B.B. plate, Blake’s answer to the dish consists of hamburger, fries, chili and cheese. Other plates on the menu at Shenanigans include the chili monster, loaded waffle fries and all-day breakfast. So far, the food seems to be a hit. “Two Saturdays ago, we ran out of food before closing time,” commented Blake on the restaurant’s success. Alfred’s newest spot is open 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. on Tuesdays and from 11 p.m. - 3 a.m. on Wednesdays through Saturdays. Blake concluded, “I come to work to have fun and I haven’t had a bad day yet.”

Skate park proposed for AU campus

Raffi Jansezian
Contributing Writer
Skateboarders, bikers and inline skaters rejoice! A skate park is slowly making its way to Alfred University, thanks to a dedicated group of students who have continued to advocate for the park for a while. Student Doug Sassaman is spearheading the effort to have a skate park built. The mission statement is as follows: “To have an indoor location of appropriate size where skateboarders,

bikers and inline skaters can recreate comfortably in a safe, positive environment, while, at the same time creating an asset to our university. This skate park will foster the development of talent and creative connections within a diverse demographic.” The park would be open to everyone, AU students and Alfred residents alike, a potential community gathering place for everyone to come and enjoy. Even if you aren’t a skateboarder

or biker, come have fun watching, or maybe get work study at the proposed skate shop, which will be a combined effort with the Bike Hub. The park would be built in Davis Gym and take up to half of the space, but would leave the rest of Davis for many other student organizations that frequent the space. The logistics of the skate park are still being worked out, including things like budget, availability of the

Protests continued...



Photo provided by Griffin Taylor

and health benefits for every dollar they receive in salary, compared with a rate of 24.3 for those in the private sector. Walker wants to bring public-employee benefits into the ballpark of those in the private sector. A wild-card in the unfolding negotiations, and the aspect Kodger was most enraged about, is the involvement of the Koch brothers in the formation of the bill. Founders of Koch Industries, a conglomerate based in Wichita, Kansas whose annual revenues are said to approximate 100 billion dollars, David and Charles Koch own a coal subsidiary that has six timber locations in

Wisconsin, as well as a number of pipelines. It is believed the brothers have a vested interest in seeing the current Collective Bargaining Agreement abolished in the state. “This country was built by hard-working families like us, not the Kochs,” Kodger said. The Kochs are renowned supporters of the Tea Party, and played a key role in getting Walker elected. The brothers have launched the website, standwith-walker.com in an effort to encourage party support for Walker in his effort to pass the hotly contested bill. Kodger said that public employees and

their families would be protesting in every state on Saturday. As college students, he stressed the need for Alfred residents to take action and prevent a precedent being set with the passing of Walker’s proposed bill, and to keep the Koch’s from harming the lives of teachers hard-working Americans. “Koch is bad, everyone knows that,” Kodger added, only half joking.

Junkyard wars: A true test of metal



Photo provided by Sarah Shafer

Dan Bourlotos
Contributing Writer
It was a quiet night. The wind howled down academic alley, the stark white snow blanketed the somber streets. I looked down to my hands, stained and calloused, the grease marring my skin like a raging inferno consuming a peaceful grassland. I was weary, the labor of days past shown by the deep lines of my face. I heard a faint whisper within the wind, a voice calling me; a sweet feminine British woman. I pulled my jacket

around my neck to shield from the bitter fury of Mother Nature. She could not stop me, she could not delay me. There was somewhere that, through the recesses of reality, called to my soul. Junkyard Wars. Rust, metal and a welder whose ultraviolet light was capable of burning out my retinas more efficiently than the sun: these were the dreams my childhood was made of. This is probably why I became an engineer. I have always loved building (and destroying)

everything I could get my hands on and this is probably why I have a special affinity for any competition or activity where I can do both. Junkyard Wars was one such activity. I remember gathering around the television to hear the rather attractive British co-host explain the challenge each week. It was a staple of my childhood, which is probably why I really wanted to attend the competition Alfred University was sponsoring in its name. I showed up to the Knight Club that evening just planning to watch and learn, but as I heard more and more of the challenge and saw the pile of odds and ends that resided at every table, I became enthralled. The Challenge: to make a glider capable of safely transporting a raw egg at least ten feet. There were ten teams in the competition, one of which was even a duo of students from Alfred State. Each had their own rather unique interpretation of the task. Competitors had two hours to craft an aerospace grade glider capable of carrying the egg a minimum of ten feet. For these two hours we slaved, crafting our planes out of planks of wood and by the time we were all done each team

had a unique and rather unorthodox plan to squeak by to victory. Needless to say, by the

time. Also, it became very apparent that most of us should never work for NASA either, given that the



Photo provided by Sarah Shafer

end of the launches, the runway in the Knight Club was plastered with raw egg and all had an amazing

only thing that outnumbered the bits of raw egg were the shattered remains of our spacecrafts.

THE ALTERED BEAT

AU Star: Nicholas Tsibulsky



Jericho Shackelford
Editor in Chief

Nicholas Tsibulsky, graduate of the Kazuo Inamori School of Engineering with a bachelors of science in 2003 and a masters of science in 2008 has been progressing as an engineer within various facets of the rail transportation

industry for over a decade. "AU has given me the confidence to take on new and exciting challenges, both personally and professionally," said Tsibulsky about the experience offered to him by an Alfred University education. Following graduation, Tsibulsky created a home in his native town of Hornell, NY. Not far from the AU campus, the newly graduated engineer began finding success at the workplace. "The technical and interpersonal skills I gained at AU have allowed me to travel and work in various locations throughout the United States and Europe, as well as become an active and productive member in several large project teams," said Tsibulsky. Tsibulsky has spent the last ten years employed within the rail transportation industry where he has led teams, developed goals and bettered systems related to vehicle propulsion, diesel locomotives and push-pull commuter. He has also worked on long distance passenger cars as well as metro (aka subway vehicles) and wayside signaling systems. "I came to Alfred University as a transfer student ... I wasn't sure what I really wanted to do. I had an interest in ... electrical or mechanical

technology and thanks to AU, I was able to take that interest and turn it into a successful career," said Tsibulsky about the foundation on which he built his career. Always ask questions is the resounding motif of all engineers and is true of Tsibulsky's experience in the workplace. "Don't expect to know everything all of the time. Ask questions and seek insight from senior engineers or colleagues in your field. Peer reviews and discussions are invaluable in sharpening your skills as an engineer," said Tsibulsky on the topic. "My work has taken me

across the US and to Europe for work assignments. I've been able to go places and meet people that would not have been possible had I not received the education I did at Alfred University." Outside of work Tsibulsky enjoys spending time with family: wife and AU grad of '05 Sarah, son Deacon and daughter Mallory. When not flipping through old AU engineering texts in search of a technical solution, Tsibulsky enjoys golfing, hunting and ice hockey among others hobbies, all of which contribute to a happily balanced life. Tsibulsky also gets

involved in his community as a member of the City of Hornell's zoning board of appeals. His final words to students looking into a career in engineering is this: "Engineering is a profession, and as such your education is the foundation of a successful and rewarding career. Continue learning, studying and taking courses or seminars after you graduate to help keep up the pace with how fast technology changes."

THE ALFRED SOAPBOX

Why Alfred University is a great place to learn....



Corrie Burdick
Editor in Chief

Here at Alfred University we have a long and rich tradition in the arts. I was born and reared (it's technically "reared," but hardly anyone says it) in Alfred, and have recently returned to work in the Division of Education after 20 years away. In a recent faculty retreat for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences we discussed the unique qualities intrinsic to a college within Alfred University, and how those qualities might be reflected in our college and our courses. As an art educator, this discussion got me to thinking about ways we could take the rich history of the Arts in

Alfred and think about it in relation to the lessons with which a student from Alfred University would leave our campus. One of my favorite works is a piece by one of my heroes of education, Eliot Eisner, who wrote, "The Ten Lessons the Arts Teach". Here I wish to relate those ten lessons to what I hope we would all agree to be something students take from their time at Alfred University. I hope Dr. Eisner won't mind my tweaks with regard to my own experience as faculty at Alfred. 1. The arts teach [students] to make good judgments about qualitative relationships. Unlike much of the curriculum in which correct answers and rules prevail, in the arts, it is judgment rather than rules that prevail. At Alfred, where we are surrounded by the arts, connections among disciplines and ideas are made

more visible. 2. The arts teach that problems can have more than one solution and that questions can have more than one answer. When our claim as a University is to help students become critical thinkers, this approach is imperative. 3. The arts celebrate multiple perspectives. One of their large lessons is that there are many ways to see and interpret the world. AU's history and mission statement is one that celebrates and embraces diversity. 4. The arts teach that in complex forms of problem solving purposes are seldom fixed, but change with circumstance and opportunity. Learning in the arts requires the ability and a willingness to surrender to the unanticipated possibilities of the work as it unfolds. At Alfred, we value collaboration and

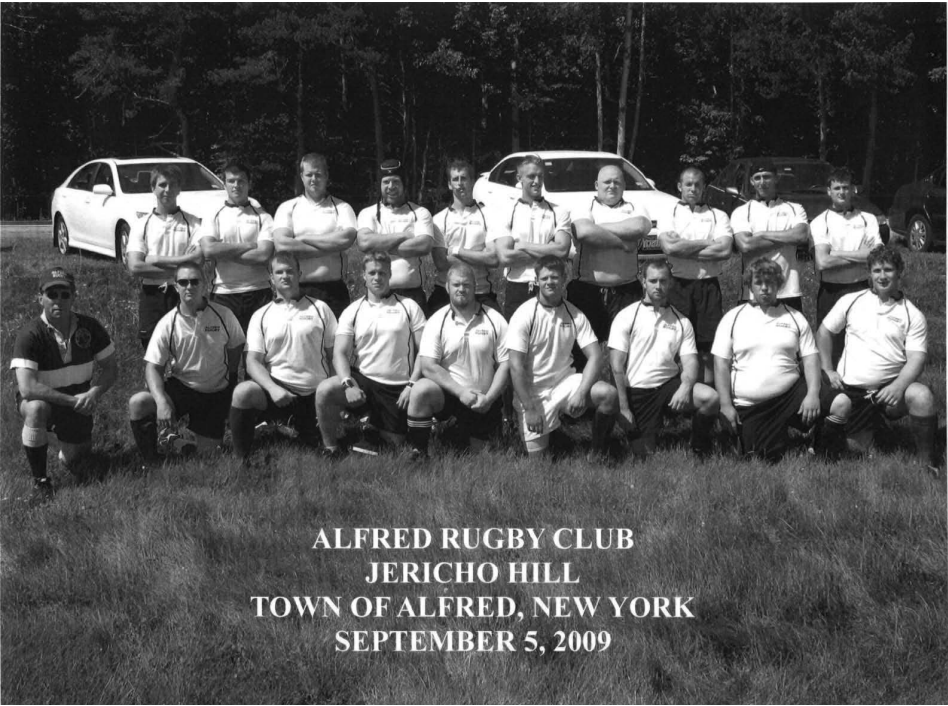
cooperation. We encourage students to stretch themselves beyond their comfort zone, and in response we are stretched beyond our own as teachers. 5. The arts make vivid the fact that neither words in their literal form nor numbers exhaust what we can know. The limits of our language do not define the limits of our cognition. How can we as faculty encourage our students to express their knowledge beyond the ordinary? How might we make space in our curriculum and study for multiple means of expression of knowledge? 6. The arts teach that small differences can have large effects. The arts traffic in subtleties. The connection between the community and our campus is undeniable. Each student (and person) who becomes part of our campus, becomes part of our community and takes with him/her a piece of Alfred to share with the

world around us. Our faculty and out students travel the world sharing work, ideas and words that inspire change and transformation locally and globally. 7. The arts teach students to think through and within a material. All art forms employ some means through which images become real. Exploration and research are hallmarks of our campus. Whether it is in engineering, science, math, chemistry or creative endeavors we see the innovations of our students everywhere! 8. The arts help students learn to say what cannot be said. When artists or viewers are invited to disclose what a work of art helps them feel, they must reach into their poetic capacities to find the words that will do the job. Again I challenge my colleagues to find ways to honor the diversity of human expression.

9. The arts enable us to have experience we can have from no other source and through such experience to discover the range and variety of what we are capable of feeling. There are many people who have said just this very same thing about their experience at Alfred University, perhaps it is because of our rich connection to the arts and what they teach. 10. The arts' position in the curriculum symbolizes to the young what we believe is important. I believe this is what each of us, as contributors to this campus are called to do, to share with our students what we believe to be important, and hope that they will carry that message with them to share with others. In closing, I hope that this has offered each of you who reads this a chance to reflect upon what it means to be in this place, at this time.

Alfred Rugby Club

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Devlin Gauthier and Dean present at symposium

Melanie Baker
A&E Editor

Junior Ana Devlin Gauthier and senior Kacie Dean traveled to Washington, D.C. from Feb. 24-26 for the George Washington University Student Leadership Symposium. The pair, both members of the Women's Leadership Academy, learned of the Symposium through the Women's Leadership Center and felt motivated to devise a presentation proposal for submission. Inspired by the skills learned within the WLA and the importance of mentoring in students' lives, Devlin Gauthier and Dean crafted a workshop that taught Symposium attendees about identifying their personal leadership style based on research by Shoya Zichy. After identifying one's personal leadership style through a brief quiz, participants were able to match their results to colored poster boards with pictures of famous women who exemplify similar leadership or mentoring styles. Following the quiz, Devlin Gauthier and

Dean asked attendees to mark down on Post-It notes their college majors, extra-curricular activities, academic activities and some of their own personal mentors, and place them on a giant board. The purpose of the board, "is to find trends among leaders in their specific result groups," said Devlin-Gauthier. For example, people who got green as a quiz result might show a trend towards a similar college major or extracurricular activities. Later in the symposium, the two moved on to the importance of mentoring in the growth of student leaders. By asking the audience what they viewed as a mentor, Devlin Gauthier and Dean were able to gage the direction of how they addressed and stressed the influence mentors can have. For those more uncertain of what a mentor is and how to go about acquiring one, the speakers highlighted the accessibility of mentors to college students. "Mentors can be a peer, a professor, just someone you simply look up to," said Devlin Gauthier. When asked how this seminar would influence attendees outside of the symposium,

Devlin-Gauthier and Dean collectively remarked that acknowledging one's personal leadership style helps individuals realize how to co-exist with other leaders and students at their own universities. The two shared the positive response they received at the symposium, noting "It went very well. We got excellent responses and good data. We're excited to do it again." Being able to present their seminar at the symposium is a huge success, not only for the two students, but also for Alfred University and the acclaim our leadership programs are sure to gain. Devlin Gauthier and Dean's success will continue in April when they travel to Medaille University, host of the 2011 Western New York Leadership Conference to present the same seminar for a brand new audience, broadening their message of leadership, mentoring and the amazing work they have done so far at Alfred University.

FEATURES

Death Cab For Cutie unveil new album

Press Release

Atlantic recording group Death Cab for Cutie has announced the release of their hugely anticipated new album. "CODES AND KEYS" will arrive in stores and at all DSPs on May 31st. The multiple Grammy Award-nominated band will herald the album's release with a series of eagerly awaited live shows in and around their native Pacific Northwest. The dates begin with a pair of Canadian concerts, slated for May 24th at Edmonton, Alberta's Shaw Conference Center and May 25th at

Calgary, Alberta's famed Stampede Corral. DCFC will return to the US for a May 27th performance at Bend, Oregon's Les Schwab Amphitheatre, followed by a May 28th headline appearance at the 2011 Sasquatch! Music Festival at George, Washington's Gorge Amphitheater. Pre-sale tickets are available now to members of the band's official fan club, DCFC Union Local #1138 – for more information, please visit www.dcfunion.com.

In addition, Death Cab for Cutie is scheduled to

film an installment of VH1's acclaimed series, Storytellers. Full details and broadcast information will be announced shortly. "CODES AND KEYS" marks the first all-new DCFC release since 2009, which saw the release of the single, "Meet Me On The Equinox" (featured on Chop Shop/Atlantic's "THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON - ORIGINAL MOTION PICTURE SOUNDTRACK") as well as "THE OPEN DOOR" EP, which later earned the band their third consecutive Grammy Award nomination for

"Best Alternative Album." That collection came hot on the heels of the RIAA gold-certified "NARROW STAIRS," which made a stunning debut atop the Billboard 200 upon its May 2008 release. Two Grammy nods followed the album's release, including "Best Alternative Album" and "Best Rock Song," for the hit single, "I Will Possess Your Heart."

Death Cab for Cutie made their Atlantic Records debut in 2005 with their fifth studio release, "PLANS." The album proved the critically

celebrated band's commercial breakthrough, earning RIAA platinum-certification as well as spawning two gold-certified singles in "Soul Meets Body" and "I Will Follow You Into The Dark." The latter track was honored with a Grammy nomination as "Best Pop Performance By Duo Or Group With Vocals," with "PLANS" receiving the nod as "Best Alternative Album." As if that weren't enough, in 2006 DCFC released a DVD companion volume to "PLANS" entitled "DIRECTIONS," which itself earned a Grammy

Award nomination as "Best Longform Music Video." Death Cab for Cutie is: Ben Gibbard: guitars, keyboards, vocals * Chris Walla: guitars, keyboards * Nick Harmer: bass * Jason McGerr: drums. For up-to-the-minute news and tour information, please visit www.deathcabforcutie.com.

AU English equestrian team wins at Cornell

Press Release

THACA, NY — The Alfred University English equestrian team won its show at Cornell on Sunday, Feb. 20, as four AU riders qualified for regional competition. Alfred took first place of nine teams competing as senior Barbara Koziol (Syracuse, PA/Bishop Ludden) claimed two first-place ribbons and was named the show's High Point Rider. Koziol won in open equitation over

fences and open equitation on the flat, qualifying for the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) Zone II, Region II championships in the latter event. Regionals are April 2 in Ithaca. Other event winners for AU were: freshman Megan Burke (Montrose, NY/Hendrick Hudson) in novice equitation over fences; senior Maire Cosgrove (White Haven, PA/Bishop Hoban) in open equitation

on the flat; senior Natalie Grow (Hyde Park, NY/Our Lady of Lourdes) and senior Johanna Moore (Summit, NY/Morristown-Beard) in intermediate equitation over fences; sophomore Tesla Parker (Waitsfield, VT/Harwood Union) in novice equitation on the flat; and senior Erin Toone (Williamsville, NY/Williamsville South) in advanced walk-trot-canter. Cosgrove and Parker each

qualified for regionals in their respective events. Senior Michelle Flannery (Syracuse, NY/Westhill) and sophomore Amelia Keyes (Webster, NY) were second in novice equitation over fences, with Flannery qualifying for regionals. Junior Katie LeSuer (Edinboro, PA/Cambridge Springs) was second in novice equitation on the flat; junior Kalcy O'Keefe (Rochester,

NY/Penfield) was second in open equitation over fences; junior Erika Raye (Sussex, NJ/High Point Regional) was second in novice equitation on the flat; junior Kelly Rinebold (Ontario, NY/Wayne) was second in open equitation over fences; Moore was third in intermediate equitation on the flat; and freshman Kaylyn Slater (Phelps, NY/Midlakes) was third in advanced walk-trot-canter.

The AU English equestrian team is in action next on Saturday, Feb. 26, when the Saxons will host a show at the AU Equestrian Center.

‘Melo: Does the sum equal its parts?

Griffin Taylor
Staff Writer

At roughly 11pm ET Monday night, and certainly not a moment too soon, New Yorkers got their guy, and Carmelo Anthony got his city. The Brooklyn native is headed home as part of a three-team, twelve-player deal, where he will pair with Amare Stoudemire to form a lethal one-two punch certain to electrify Madison Square Garden. In addition to Anthony, the Knicks receive from Denver Chauncey Billups, along with Renaldo Balkman, Sheldon Williams, and Anthony Carter. In exchange, Denver will receive Raymond Felton, Danilo Gallinari, Wilson Chandler, Timofey Mozgov, two second-round picks (via Golden State as part of the David Lee sign-and-trade)

and New York's 2014 first round selection. The Minnesota Timberwolves will receive Anthony Randolph along with the expiring contract of Eddy Curry from New York, in exchange for G Corey Brewer. In Anthony, the Garden floor welcomes the most aesthetically pleasing offensive skill set in the game, through which the 2008 USA Olympic Basketball Team, with the likes of Kobe Bryant and LeBron James on the court, ran much of its offense. An argument can be made that Anthony is the most prolific scorer ever to wear a Knicks uniform. As is the case with teammate Stoudemire, Anthony carries a swagger suited perfectly for the bright lights of Broadway, and as elite teams in the NBA adopt a conglomerate

mindset, the Knicks now boast two superstars who take a back seat to no one. As for the departed players, Felton gets a pat on the back for giving New York a point guard to be proud of for the first time in years. Though a bit long in the tooth at 34, Billups brings with him a veteran poise which could prove invaluable come playoff time, and should fill the void left by Felton quite admirably. Gallinari and Chandler were both drafted by New York, and on the precipice of promising careers. However, neither figures to approach the caliber of Anthony, who averaged at least 20 points per game in each of his eight seasons with Denver. Both Mozgov and Randolph did not live up to expectations placed on them before the start of

the 2010-11 Season. New York fans will not forget the light Stoudemire brought to them in his first season as a Knick, on the heels of the darkest age in Garden history. He is the unquestioned leader of this team, but cannot bring an NBA Finals Game to New York on his own. On many nights Stoudemire looks like the most unstoppable offensive force in the game. On most nights he looks like the most unstoppable at his position. And on a few nights, he looks (ultimate understatement) like he is not the best player at his position. This is where Anthony must earn his lofty paycheck. Knick fans need only look at the hated Celtics to gauge the importance of multiple leadership sources in the NBA playoffs. Filling up the box score on a nightly

basis is a nice party favor, but New Yorkers should keep in mind that from this point forward, the Knicks are again the team in the city; the objective is not to be swept by the Celtics in the second round, but to remind the city of Boston it is second-rate both on and off the court. To question whether 'Melo can bring enough to the table for New York to accomplish its goal is valid. While his picture belongs next to the word "scorer" in the dictionary, it could find its way next to the term "one-dimensional" as well, as one can argue Anthony has interest in little beside putting the ball in the hoop when on the floor. Further, New York has 40 million dollars committed to both Anthony and Stoudemire for the next couple seasons. With the

prospect of a new Collective Bargaining Agreement, which will place further restrictions on the salary cap, on the horizon, the Knicks may not be able to borrow the Black Card from the neighboring Yankees each offseason. Opportunity aside, a Dwight Howard or Chris Paul will not sign for half of what Anthony makes in 2012, even if 'Melo picks up the tab at all meals. Carmelo Anthony must understand that his legacy is now on the line in a city where careers can be made or broken in the blink of an eye. He asked for New York, and New York asked for him. Now it is time to go to war.



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SPORTS

New York state of mind



Griffin Taylor
Staff Writer

New York Knicks: vs. Milwaukee, W 114-108.

(For information on Carmelo Anthony, see “Melo: Does the Sum Equal its Parts?”).

“Chauncey Billups. Chauncey Billups.”

As Billups iced the game with free throws number 11 and 12 Wednesday night, the crowd finally snapped out of its Elvis-like fixation with Carmelo Anthony and turned its eyes toward Billups. At that point, they realized that it was Billups who made sure 19,000 plus

hearts weren't poured onto the Garden floor for naught last night. Because after all that, it would have been pretty embarrassing if a non-playoff team scooped up a win and a portion of the city's pride.

Billups netted 21 points, six rebounds, and eight assists, including a perfect 12/12 from the line. He set the tone early with a string of highlight reel plays, emphasized by a pretty no look feed to Stoudemire for the and one, and a silky smooth, pull-up transition three that pumped electricity to the crowd right from the start.

It was a show of class by the Garden crowd and a heart-warming moment, to watch them serenade Billups, who spent his high school and college years in Denver and was not thrilled with the prospect of relocation, displaying its appreciation to a player not lacking for hall-of-fame credentials in his own right.

After all a case can be made it is Billups, rather

than Stoudemire or Anthony, whose shoulders the Knicks dark-horse title hopes rest squarely on. While I don't want to get ahead of myself, still riding this adrenaline rush, all Billups has done this past decade is lead his team to six straight conference finals appearances. If the Big Apple can pump up his ice-water veins, Mr. Big Shot may be doing just that (making big shots), a couple of months down the road in South Beach.

We can debate the depth of this team after the trade, and the gruesome outlook for the salary cap a couple of years down the road ad nauseam.

But for now, for one night, what a feeling.

St. John's: vs. Depaul, W 76-51

With five regular-season games remaining on its schedule, St. John's has posted a winning record in a conference which may send more teams to the field of 68 than you or I have fingers.

The above statement speaks volumes, and probably should be both the beginning and end to this column, but since I like to talk...

The Red Storm gained national attention with its 93-78 victory over Duke Jan. 30, a final score which does not do justice the drubbing received by the Blue Devils at the hands of the Johnnies. While it was refreshing to see Singler, Kelly and the rest of the Blue Devils rattled by muscle built Bronx tough, I must confess I was not yet sold on St. John's. It is not uncommon that a team gets up for a ranked opponent like the Blue Devils. The true test would be whether a band of seniors, experienced yet foreign to success, could prevent a let down in the games which followed.

After a couple of scares, St. John's squelched any reservations I had with a pair of conference road wins at Cincinnati and Marquette. The Johnnies'

ability to go on the road and defeat two conference mediocres, if the term were ever applicable in the Big East, was a true sentiment of character and grit.

While both the Bearcats and the Golden Eagles may yet earn at-large births come March, both rank in the bottom half of the conference standings, and both were games the Red Storm needed in order to solidify its victory over Duke as something more than an aberration. After all, it is what a team does when the rest of the country is not looking which sets the stage for it to shine when it is.

Dwight Hardy's buzzer-beater from in/out of bounds to defeat No. 4 Pittsburgh, 60-59, this past Saturday all but secured the Red Storm its first at-large bid since the Marcus Hatten era. Led by senior guards Dwight Hardy and D.J. Kennedy, this year's outfit may be the first threat to see the tournament's second weekend

since Ron Artest was in Queens.

Syracuse: at (15) Villanova, W 69-64

The opening sentence to the above blurb applies here: Syracuse has double-digit conference wins in a Big East tougher than any in memory. That automatically renders the Orange a title contender, but at this point it would be wise to at least split its last two regular season games, at Georgetown and home vs. woeful Depaul, so it is in position for a first-round bye in the “hell in a cell” this year's Big East Tournament promises to be. A strong showing in the conference tournament at the Garden would earn 'Cuse a much-needed top three seed in the big dance, as the field will have more parity than in recent years, and more than a couple of No. 4 and 5 seeds won't make it past the first round.

NFL: No Fun League

Charles Engleka
Contributing Writer

The NFL has officially become the league where no fun can be had. The league has been getting worse and worse over the past few years with flag-happy referees; but it has gotten ridiculous.

In recent years, the NFL has made every defensive player in the NFL afraid to touch a quarterback for fear of getting a flag for unnecessary roughness, hit below the waist, etc. A perfect example was when New York Giants linebacker Mathias Kiwanuka had Tennessee Titans quarterback Vince

Young wrapped up for a sack and let him go which resulted in Young running for a big gain.

You can't blame Kiwanuka for the mistake. Every week during the NFL season you can see a defender make accidental contact with a quarterback (sometimes they even make it blatantly obvious they are trying to pull up) and still get a 15 yard penalty. Quarterbacks wear pads for a reason; they are supposed to get hit just like every other ball carrier.

This fear of costly penalties has made it difficult for defenders in the NFL to

do their job. It sometimes seems like referees wait for offensive players to complain about a play to throw the penalty flag. It appears that referees in the NFL need to be reminded that football is a contact sport. Many people play and/or watch football exactly for that reason.

I'm not saying that every all NFL referees are too strict or that every defensive penalty is unnecessary. Some of the rules implemented over the past few years have been necessary. But I do think that the NFL is becoming too soft and that a lot of the fun is being taken away.

The increasing finesse of the NFL has been a source of aggravation for me for years. But the thing that really put me over the edge occurred in the Super Bowl a few weeks ago. It was when Green Bay safety Nick Collins received a 15 yard unsportsman-like conduct penalty for his end zone celebration following his interception return for a touchdown.

Upon crossing the goal line, Collins went to his knees and raised his arms in complete bliss. What was extravagant about that? Falling to one's knees after a touchdown is one of the oldest celebrations in the

book. Collins just made an incredible play for his team to give them a big lead, in the Super Bowl, while the entire country is watching! In that situation, Collins has every right to be completely ecstatic. After making a play like that in the biggest game of his life, the man was on top of the world.

Throwing a penalty flag for a celebration as simple as Collins' was just wrong; especially considering it was in the Super Bowl. Something like that just sucks all the enjoyment out of what will probably be one of the best moments in his life. And a penalty like

that could have been costly for the Packers at the end of the game. Fortunately for Collins and the Packers, the penalty didn't come back to haunt them.

The penalty given to Collins in the Super Bowl is a sign; NFL referees need to lighten up.

Kobe vs. Jordan, or Kobe vs. Shaq

Griffin Taylor
Staff Writer

Since Lil' Wayne immortalized him in lyric, the collective regard for Kobe Bryant amongst my generation has steadily intensified from one of admiration to infatuation. The common perception that Bryant is the greatest today has given way to murmurs he may have been the greatest on other days as well. You know, those days back in Chicago.

It cheapens what Bryant has accomplished, which is no small bit, to even make the comparison. Imagine you make that first bonus at work, only to come home and have your girlfriend waiting at the front door, calculator in hand, ready to run your wealth against that of Bill Gates. So come on people, don't do Kobe dirty like that.

Yes, maybe he would hit better than .202 for the Birmingham Barons.

But Mike has six rings, and a strong case can be made that it'd be seven had he not spent a year hovering on baseball's I-95. Let's first allow Bryant to guide his Lakers out of this current slump and get that sixth one so he can at least enter the discussion, before we discuss him getting a seventh and ending it.

At the individual level, everyone knows about Jordan's scoring titles and NBA All-Defensive 1st Team selections. But may I remind you that Michael shot the rock at a career clip of 50 percent. In the past decade, the next

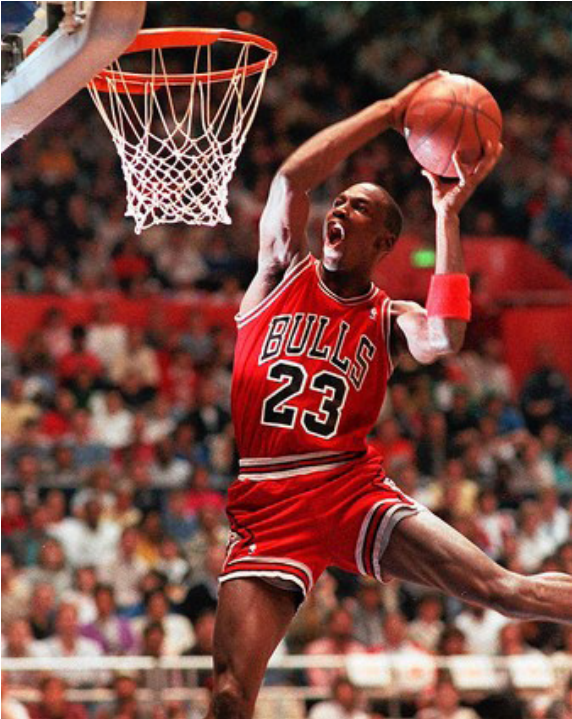


Photo provided

best mark by a swingman with over twenty attempts per game for his career is LeBron James at 47 percent, and he's not even human. Bryant's is 45.5 percent. These differences may seem trivial to some, but enough know they matter.

A better argument would be whether Bryant was the best player in his own era, or even his own team back when Shaquille O'Neal was in town.

I tend to side with Bryant. He makes the hairs on the back of your neck stand up at least once a game, and during crunch time, the level of creativity employed on each Kobe bucket would render a HORSE game over in five shots. While much of Shaq's dominance can be attributed to his Godzilla genes, Bryant is no bigger or stronger than

the average player at his position, thus his ascent to the zenith of backcourt players was forged by skill. The world is still largely void of seven-footers, thus Shaq's level of competition was limited.

Bryant has the work-ethic of an overachiever fighting for a ten-day contract, and provides kids a much-needed role model in an era of trade demands and Twitter escapades. And did we mention the aura? Kobe simply raises that index finger during an altercation, and his opponent looks and feels like a fourth grader caught tripping a classmate on the recess deck.

Of course, the above qualities are all subjective in one way or another. There is no way to objectively quantify just



Photo provided

how many points Bryant's intimidating persona is worth to his team.

In the case of Bryant v. O'Neal, I feel this article would be amateurish were it to ignore the tale told by the advanced metrics. In his book “Wages of Wins,” former professor of economics at Stanford University David Berri argues Shaq was the better player of the two. Berri cites an impressive formula, known as Wins Produced, as evidence for his claim.

Shaq's least productive season as a Laker was the 2003-04 campaign, when he produced 30.4 wins for his team. That same season, Bryant produced 19.1. The real difference in production between the two players is less significant; Bryant handles the ball and attempts more outside shots than O'Neal, thus his propensity for turnovers

and missed field goals is inevitably greater. O'Neal has greater opportunity to contribute a Wins Produced score with rebounds. When adjusted for league-average by position, O'Neal produced 15.4 wins in 2003-04, Bryant 12.2. Keep in mind O'Neal's last season with the Lakers was his worst.

That is not to say the organization was incorrect in its decision to send Shaq to Miami in the summer of '04. Both age and window of opportunity pointed in Bryant's favor. But as for the argument that Bryant did not excel until the Diesel was out of the paint in L.A., consider this:

Following the trade, Bryant produced 9.8 wins in the 2004-05 season. Shaq produced 15.9 wins for the Heat and won a championship. Three-point specialist (a kind term for “I can do nothing but stand at

the three point line and shoot”) Damon Jones produced 10.2 wins for Miami in 2004-05 as a result of Shaq's presence down low.

Who is Damon Jones? Exactly.

I cite the numbers not as a knock on Kobe in any way. If anything, I do so as a salute to the Big Fella as he concludes his farewell tour.

So accept advanced metrics as factual or blasphemous – alas, there is still no “right” and “wrong” when assessing merit of professional athletes. But at least acknowledge that Bryant vs. O'Neal is a valid argument, one Kobe could conceivably win with proper representation.

In the meantime, allow #23 and #24 to remain separate entities. Both deserve to be in a class of their own.

SPORTS

AU swimming and diving conclude season in high spirits

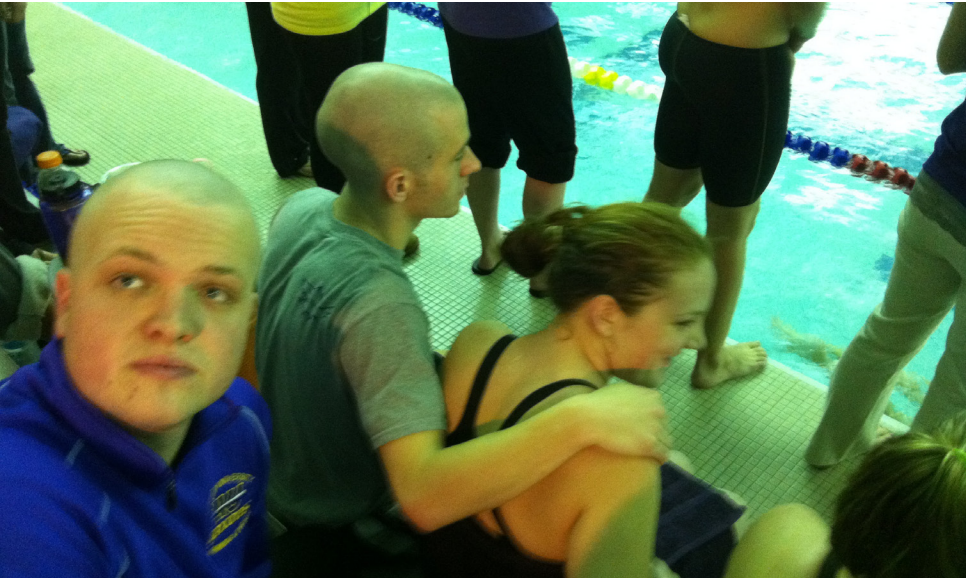


Photo Provided

Vreni Gust & Eric Hudack
Opinions Editor & Managing Editor

After months of preparation, Alfred University’s swimming and diving season came to a close with a gutsy performance at the Upper New York State Collegaite Swimming Association championships, which concluded Saturday. The AU men’s and women’s swimming and diving teams finished in sixth and 11th place, respectively.

“We really opened the ‘can’ at this meet,” senior

diver Zach Grosser explained about his team’s success in Webster.

Swimming and diving, which season ended last Saturday, boasts the longest season at AU, which spans from early November to the end of February (and that does not include the “captains practices” which start in August.)

“We’ve been training all year for this, and we met our goals,” freshman swimmer Rachel Garramone stated.

The four-day UNYSCSA

championships were held at the Webster Aquatic Center. The Alfred men placed sixth with 690 points. Champion Ithaca had 1,325 points and runner-up Stevens had 1,309. The AU women were 11th with 285.5 points; Ithaca won with 1,505 points and Stevens was second with 1,481.

Seniors Tyler Olsen (Saratoga Springs, NY/Saratoga) and Matt Lobban (Pittsford, NY/Pittsford-Mendon) paced the AU men Saturday. Olsen was

second in the 100-yard freestyle with an NCAA “B” provisional cut time of 45.83 seconds. Lobban was fifth in the 1,650-yard free (16:29.28) and 13th in the 200 backstroke (1:59.86).

“States went phenomenally. I would say for the talent and abilities that we had on the team, we did exceptionally,” said Lobban. “We swam so well. We didn’t beat some of the stronger teams because they had more talent than us, but with what we had we did the best we could. And we couldn’t ask for more,” Lobban continued.

“Per capita, we had the most best times that we ever had,” Lobban commented on the improvements the team made by the end of season.

Freshman Peter Sowinski (Akron, NY/Akron) was 12th in the 100 free (47.56); juniors Warren Dolben (Rye, NH/Berwick Academy) and Jeff Swartout (Binghamton, NY/Chenango Valley) were 14th (2:15.68) and 20th (2:20.40), respectively, in the 200 breaststroke; sophomore Nate Chapman (Hornell, NY/Hornell) was 21st in the 1,650 free (17:38.67);

and senior Ted Remington (Pike, NY/Letchworth) was 22nd in the 200 backstroke (2:02.25).

Seniors Dan Steere (Hornell, NY/Alfred-Almond) and Zach Mix (Mt. Morris, NY/Mt. Morris), Sowinski and Olsen were fifth in the 400 free relay (3:10.16).

Senior Calista Merritt (Conesus, NY/Livonia) was 21st in the 1,650 free (19:12.24) and senior Sarah Blair (Auburn, NY/Auburn) was 21st in the 100-yard free (55.13 seconds) to lead the Alfred women.

Junior Donna Hoops (Geneseo, NY/Geneseo) was 24th in the 200 back (2:18.93) and sophomore Shelby Remington (Pike, NY/Letchworth) was 24th in the 1650 free (19:29.67).

The team of Hoops, Remington, Merritt and freshman Paige Citarella (West Islip, NY/West Islip) was 12th in the 400 free relay (3:55.01).

In the end, AU just didn’t have the talent to keep up with the other teams in the state.

“As far as diving goes, the other teams had better talent, there were a lot of records set,” Grosser stated.

Grosser was excited about his teammates and himself setting personal records; the general improvement of the team as a whole.

“And I would argue we have the best coaches,” he added.

All in all, the excitement level seemed to be what carried this group of swimmers through the season.

“Usually states is separate, so there is a guys states and a girls states but this year it was co-ed. Usually for the guys states the guys go absolutely crazy so they really helped the girls get pumped up,” Garramone said.

“Our team was a cohesive group and that made us very strong. I felt like we were the best ‘team’ there in terms of, we were up for each other, we were supporting, we were cheering each other on and that’s where we really excelled,” Grosser added on the team’s chemistry and unity.

Men’s basketball ends season in Rochester

J.P. McCombs
Sports Editor

The AU men’s basketball team lost to host RIT, 67-61, in their last game of the year.

Despite the Saxons leading 30-29 at intermission they were not able to stay ahead at the end. Alfred shot 48 percent in the first half and RIT 46 percent.

AU (8-17 3-13 Empire 8) was on top until 7:19 left in the game when RIT came away with a three point play to tie the score at 49. RIT went on to outscore

AU 18-12 for the rest of the game to get the win. Alfred shot 42 percent after two halves and RIT (11-14, 8-8 Empire 8) shot 48 percent.

Junior forward Patrick Hollenbeck (Ontario, NY/Wayne) scored 13 points and had a game-high 11 boards to pace the Saxons. Junior guard Josh Parker (Tonawanda, NY/Sweet Home) had 14 points, nine boards, and four assists while senior guard Gary Kwiecien (Perry, NY/Perry) tallied 10 points along with five assists.

Alfred finished the 2010-11 season with a 8-17 record and 3-13 for Empire 8 play. They will lose two seniors in Kwiecien and senior guard Mike Stopera (Scotia, NY/Scotia-Glenville). Both had great careers with the Saxons. Stopera will definitely miss playing basketball.

“It has been such a huge part of my life for so long,” said Stopera. The next thing to do for the Saxons is to start working for next year and hope for a playoff birth.



Photo provided

AU women’s basketball falls short at season’s end

Gillian Lichter
Copy Editor

The Alfred University women’s basketball team lost its season finale, falling 73-65 to host RIT, on Saturday, Feb. 19.

“On the good side,” stated senior Lyndsay Murphy, “we were able to win on senior night, the night before, against Nazareth. The seniors really stepped it up and we were able to overcome a large deficit.”

RIT (6-19, 3-13 Empire 8) held a 37-35 lead at intermission as the Tigers shot

an impressive 46 percent from the floor, while holding AU to 33 percent shooting. The Saxons went on a 13-5 run to tie the game 65-65 with 3:09 remaining. Then Tigers then went on an 8-0 run to close to out the game 73-65. For the game, RIT shot 44 percent, and held the Saxons to a mere 30 percent from the floor.

Senior guard Lyndsay Murphy (Hornell, NY/Hornell) scored a team-best 22 points and had eight assists to lead the Saxons

(10-15, 5-11 Empire 8). Junior guard Chrisitina Jordan (Cornwall-on-the-Hudson, NY/Cornwall) netted 20 points (six three-pointers), and freshman forwards Grace Williamson (Olean, NY/Olean) and Sarah Federico (Buffalo, NY/ Holy Angels) each pulled down a game-high 12 rebounds.

Leslie Havens and Courtney Tennant scored 24 and 22 points, respectively, to pace RIT. Jackie Hom recorded a double-double on 12 points and

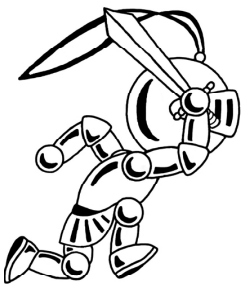
10 rebounds, and Kayla Wheeler chipped in with seven points and eight boards.

“The season went well and, as always, I try to enjoy every minute, because collegiate sports only last for so long. We ended up sixth in the league, two places behind our goal of getting at least fourth to make post-season,” Murphy stated.

Alfred finished the 2010-11 season with a 10-15 record and 5-11 for Empire 8 play.



Photo provided



Alfred Saxons Scoreboard

Team	Last Opponent	Result	Record	Next Opponent
Men's Basketball	RIT	L, 61-67	8--17--0	Empire 8
Women's Basketball	RIT	L, 65-73	10--15--0	Empire 8
Indoor Track and Field	States			
Swimming and Diving	States		5--3--0	