St. Pat's committee plans bowl-a-thon

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To raise funds for the St. Patrick's Day Festival it hopes to bring back to the Alfred University campus this spring, the St. Pat's Day Committee is challenging groups to a bowl-a-thon starting at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 29, at Maple City Bowl in Hornell. Cost per five-member team is \$25, and the committee is encouraging clubs, academic departments, residence hall groups, and residents of the community to enter the competition for prizes donated by local merchants and businesses, who may also sponsor teams. Those planning to participate are asked to call 607 871 3339 or to e-mail stpat@alfred.edu in advance to reserve a lane. The festival, once an event that drew students, alumni and members of the community together, was discontinued about 20 years ago. Among its highlights was a parade, with faculty members playing kazoos, and the arrival of "St. Patrick," a student chosen by the committee for the honor. "Favors," small ceramic pieces made by the students, were also a feature of the celebration."A lot of alumni recall how much fun St. Patrick's Day was, and would like to see it restored," said Jeff Spiro, publicity chairman of the newly formed St. Pat's Day Committee. While originally the festival was organized by ceramic engineering students, today's St. Pat's Committee draws members from throughout the University.Among the activities being planned are an open house for the community and prospective students; a parade; and a dance.