



Democratic congressional district candidate Eric Massa spoke in Nevins Theater about health care, the Iraq War and the economy.

Features on page 5



Alfred University's 'Drawn To Diversity' students made a pitch to Wegmans representatives on April 12. Each student presented a poster designed to educate about diversity commonly found in marketing.

Features and A&E on page 6

AU's equestrian team heads to nationals. Turn to the sports page to see what is ahead for the highly successful team.

Sports on back page



# THE FIAT LUX

ALFRED UNIVERSITY  
VOLUME 102 ISSUE # 11  
APRIL 14, 2008

## Remembering C.B.



PHOTO BY ELAINE HARDMAN

C.B. enjoying a normal day of reading, writing and music-making in the Pondhouse with her loyal companion Cindy.

BY JASMINE REESE  
MANAGING EDITOR

Author and Alfred University professor Carol Burdick, known as C.B. to friends, family and students in the Alfred community, died in her home in the company of her family on April 12. She was 79 years old.

She had been battling with a brief illness for about two months, according to fellow musician and close friend of C.B., Elaine Hardman.

According to Hardman, Ben Howard, poet and friend of C.B., is planning a memorial service possibly set for April 26 (more details to be released later).

Although a retired faculty mem-

ber, C.B. was an active and cherished person in Allegany County and at AU.

C.B. was born in Salem, W. Va., on Aug. 8, 1928 and grew up in Alfred, N.Y.

Beginning her writing career at the young age of 16, C.B. left behind a vast legacy of literary works, including poetry, which has been published in many literary journals, and articles that have appeared in renowned publications such as Reader's Digest.

Some of her books include "Stop Calling Me Mr. Darling!" and "Women Alone: A Farmhouse Journal."

C.B.'s most recent book, "Haps

*Continued on page 3...*

## DAN OF THE DEAD: A HUMAN'S STORY



BY THOMAS FLEMING  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

NERF-gun-wielding Zombies vs. Humans player Daniel Bourlotos, a first-year materials science major, did not expect that he would be the cause of an April 8 campus-wide lockdown.

"It was pure chance that I was the gunman," Bourlotos said.

Bourlotos, a human player in the campus-wide team-tag game Zombies vs. Humans, was the "male Caucasian on campus possibly with a gun...wearing a green hoodie sweatshirt," as emergency text messages and e-mails reported at 3:35 p.m.

An unidentified female AU staff member thought she saw Bourlotos with a gun and reported him to AU Public Safety. She caught a quick glimpse of the silver part of

Bourlotos' yellow, silver, orange and black Maverick Nerf gun, which Bourlotos carried in the pouch of his green hoodie sweatshirt, Chief of Public Safety John Dougherty said. Dougherty could not release the full details of AU Public Safety incident report to the Fiat Lux on deadline.

Bourlotos carried the Nerf gun to protect himself from players on the opposing zombies team. Although the game has a large following, it is not officially recognized by Alfred University. The game's organizer, BAFA sophomore Alex Geddes, said that the game had 56 participants on that day, eight of whom were human players.

Bourlotos said he walked from his Cannon Residence Hall dorm room at around 2:50 p.m. to get to his 3:20 p.m. chemistry lab class

*Continued on page 4...*



PHOTO BY THOMAS FLEMING  
Daniel Bourlotos, a first-year materials science major and the alleged "gunman," poses behind McMahon Engineering Building, where he was spotted wearing his green hoodie sweatshirt and a carrying a Nerf gun identical to the one mistaken for a real gun on April 8, causing a campus-wide lockdown.



PHOTO BY SILAS ALBRECHT

(Above) Chief of Public Safety John Dougherty speaks to emergency responders during the April 8 incident. (Below) Police vehicles set up a perimeter in front of the Science Center.



PHOTO BY SILAS ALBRECHT

## Dean Lichtman to teach again

BY JASMINE REESE  
MANAGING EDITOR

As AU greets Mary McGee, the new Dean for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, many students are also glad to welcome Interim Dean Louis Lichtman back as a full-time psychology professor.

"He is one of the best professors that I've ever had," sophomore psychology major Megan McKee said. "It'll be nice to have him teach more psych classes." Lichtman held the interim dean

position of AU's Liberal Arts and Sciences College for four years.

Lichtman has been a faculty member since 1970, including his time as Chair of the Psychology Division, associate dean of the LAS and over 16 years of administration experience, he has won AU's Awards for Excellence in Teaching on three occasions.

As dean, Lichtman works a "70 hour week," and is frequently seen around the AU campus attending events and supporting students, volunteering and "doing

things to help Alfred flourish." Lichtman loves to interact with students, which is why he is excited to teach full-time again.

"I love this place (AU)," Lichtman said in regards to students under the impression that Lichtman is leaving AU for good. "I do not have plans to retire anytime soon. I can't imagine doing anything more enjoyable than being here."

In regards to his time as acting dean, Lichtman emphasized that he will miss how "rewarding and gratifying" it was to have

*Continued on page 4...*



PHOTO BY JASMINE REESE

Soon-to-be-former interim Dean Lou Lichtman sitting at his desk in the LAS office.



Editorial...  
The silver lining in a dark cloud

Law enforcement’s response to the distress call of a potential gunman on campus was quick and impressive. They came and took their job to protect lives seriously. The Fiat Lux commends and thanks the Alfred Village Police Department, the Allegany County Sheriff’s Department, the New York State Police, Alfred State College University Police and the Alfred fire department and all other school and law officials for their efforts to diffuse the situation.

Although an expensive mistake, Tuesday’s events tested the University’s emergency response plan. Both positive and negative critiques of the trial run came to light — especially from the faculty, staff, students and community members who experienced it first-hand

For many, text alerts spread the word. Not everyone, however, is registered to receive them. For instance, out of an entire class gathered for a movie in Powell Campus Center’s Nevins Theater, only one young woman felt the buzz or heard the ring of a text message coming through on her cell phone.

The campus-wide e-mails also helped students outside of the classroom, but students in class cannot check e-mails unless they happen to be in a computer lab. Some teachers, such as criminal justice professor Jessamyn Tracy, do not use cell phones and do not allow their students to have them in their classrooms.

“I absolutely do not like cell phones, and I do not allow my students to have them in my class,” Tracy said. “So, what do we do in an emergency situation?”

Looking back at the episode on April 8, there were pockets of people throughout campus unaware of the serious search near Academic Alley. For instance, near the statue of King Arthur, students were throwing a Frisbee.

Although the situation was later perceived as a case of mistaken identification, The Fiat Lux is positive enough to say, “What a great trial run — now what can we learn from it?”

In a small town such as Alfred, the texting system has its advantages, but a siren would be far more effective.

While the air siren next to Seidlin is great, students ignore the monotonous calls day in and day out.

The Fiat Lux proposes that the current siren be a blue print for a new system. This new system should include a sound similar in volume but different in tone that signifies only a “lockdown” situation. This would immediately grab the attention of everyone on and off campus. Similar to a tornado alert in the southern part of the U.S., a siren that signifies only one detrimental scenario provides ample opportunity for students in classrooms, residents driving through the town and any others incapable of receiving texts and viewing e-mails to find a secure situation.

In a recent interview with Chief of Public Safety John Dougherty, The Fiat Lux was pleased to find out that for over a month, officials have discussed just such a siren system and will be bringing in a demonstration crew to test possible choices out on April 24.

Clearly, AU can learn from such events, and The Fiat Lux commends administrators’ efforts to make AU a safe place for everyone.

THE FIAT LUX

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A Tribute to C.B.

Carol Burdick, more affectionately known as CB, was the most influential person I have met while at Alfred. She was a kind, loving person with unending compassion and joy. Through my relationship with CB, I was able to explore darker corners of my life that were untouched for many years. Her warmth and understanding never ceased to amaze me, and I always felt comfortable and welcome in her home.

I stayed with CB last summer while she recovered from a knee replacement surgery. I came to learn that there was nothing CB wouldn’t ask of me, but also nothing she wouldn’t give. It was a particularly rocky summer for me, and while I was there to help CB recover, she in turn did the same for me.

Without cable or high speed internet, I spent the summer reading (mostly CB’s work), playing with her dogs, doing puzzles and spending as much time outside as the weather would allow. CB often threw me out, insisting I enjoy the nice weather for the both of us. At night we would work on a puzzle or watch episodes of “The Golden Girls” at my request. These are some of my favorite memories of Carol Burdick.

Those who knew CB well also knew she was cynical, sarcastic, pessimistic and constantly worrying. None of that bothered me, however, because I behave in a similar fashion. I think we had a special relationship, because I laughed at all of her jokes and she always made me feel intelligent. We often discussed life’s meaning and the greater problems



BY JENNY SCRUFARI  
CONTRIBUTING  
WRITER

of the world. Things I knew nothing of, like parenting, were topics of discussion, as were education and college life. I doubt many, if any, of my ideas were new or original to CB, but she always made me feel as though they were. At the Pondhouse, my ideas had merit and were meaningful. What’s more, however, is

that she was genuinely interested in what I had to say. This cannot be said of all seventy-nine-year olds, and I feel it speaks volumes of CB’s character.

I find it difficult to fully capture CB’s light and spirit in a few short paragraphs. Therefore, I will make a plea on

her behalf. To those who have yet to read CB’s work, do it. When I read her work, I can hear her voice, as if she is in the room speaking directly to me. While she is very funny, she is also extremely powerful. I have found few other authors who are as engrossing as Carol Burdick.

I hope I did CB justice in the words above. In closing, I would like to add that I feel extremely privileged to have known and lived with her. The time we spent together was much too short, which always seems to be the case with loved ones. For me, Alfred seems incomplete without her.

I would like to thank Quinn and Jill for giving me this opportunity to express how I felt about such a wonderful person. To everyone whose life was touched by CB, I offer my deepest condolences. She will truly be missed.

Recycling on Hot Dog Day

Why not recycle on Hot Dog Day?

Hot Dog Day, Alfred’s most anticipated annual event, will take place on April 26. Most AU students seem to be looking forward to this festive day. Why not make it fun and eco-friendly?

On Hot Dog Day one thing is sure—a lot of trash will be produced in a short period of time. GreenAlfred is planning to place a recycling bin next to every trash can on Main Street, according to GreenAlfred President Andrew

Ivovich, a junior materials science and engineering major. He says that, unfortunately, although most of the trash generated at Hot Dog Day last year was recyclable, it went into trashcans.

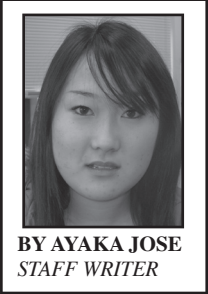
One of GreenAlfred’s main goals is to reduce environmental damage caused by large campus events such as Hot Dog Day, according to GreenAlfred faculty adviser

Kathryn Hilfinger, a Herrick Memorial library secretary. Such efforts will reduce the amount of paper, plastic, tin and glass that heads straight to the dump, Hilfinger added.

It would be great if Hot Dog Day helped the Alfred community realize the importance of recycling, according to AU environmental and geology studies professor Michele Hluchy. It’s a good opportunity to show students how to work toward solving environmental problems.

So why not pitch in during Hot Dog Day weekend? All you need to do is place your plastic, glass and metal bottles and containers in recycling bins and trash in trash bins. And, if you find trash and/or recyclables scattered around town, just pick them up and throw them into appropriate bins.

Let’s make Hot Dog Day a success for ourselves by preserving our local environment.



BY AYAKA JOSE  
STAFF WRITER

Roving Reporter:  
Where were you and what were you doing during the campus lockdown?

BY QUINN WONDERLING  
STAFF WRITER

PHOTOS BY LOGAN KJEP



“I was slaving away in Harder Hall. So, the lockdown didn’t really make a difference to me.”

Juli Carlson  
Senior, Art and Design



“I was outside the Science Center. At first I thought it was a joke, so I stayed there, but then I went to Powell and got locked in. They gave us free food and it was great.”

Emily Dowd  
First-year, Theater and Psychology major



“I was in my office, working with a student on her senior thesis – with the extra time we got to go over the whole thing.”

Dr. Brian Newsome  
Professor, History



“I was on a field trip in Rochester with my photo class. I was annoyed by all the rumors buzzing about!”

Olivia Getkowski  
Junior, Art and Design



# Who is Professor Harriss?



PHOTO PROVIDED

BY KEN FIIFI AMOAH  
STAFF WRITER

Chad Harriss is an assistant professor of communications at AU. He holds a doctorate in Mass Communication from the University of Alabama and a Bachelor of Science in Journalism and a Master of Science in Mass Communication from the University of Tennessee. His special interest is in television and film criticism. He has lived in Alfred for a “couple of years,” and is “married to a beautiful wife.”

## Tell us about your family life.

I have two kids, a boy and a girl. They attend Alfred-Almond Central School. They are wonderful kids. I have a lot of fun doing things with them.

## As a professor, what is your greatest passion?

I enjoy working with students. My passion is to teach students who love to learn. In the classroom, I prefer discussions to lectures.

## When did you decide to become a professor?

I ran a printing business for six-and-a-half years, but I just didn’t like the work I was doing. I decided to sell my business and go back to school. I then got my masters and PhD. Once I was in Alabama, I decided to research more about film and television criticism. One of the nice things about being a professor is having the freedom to focus on and study topics that interest you.

## How different is Alfred University from the other places you have taught?

I enjoy the fact that I know most of my students by names. Other schools have a lot of students in a class. In Alfred University, which is a small college, you get to know students better.

## What are some of your greatest achievements and challenges?

One of my challenges is raising my kids. I also have this challenge with dealing with Time Warner Cable for better provision of services. Earning my Ph. D. was one of my greatest achievements.

## What do you do when you are less busy?

I play video games with my son. We have a Nintendo Wii and a Playstation. We have fun with it. Also, I would like to travel more than I do now. This summer, I will travel to Alabama to visit some friends and family. I will also spend some time sitting on a boat on the lake. I spent most of my

formative years doing this. When I am less busy, I watch a program called Dexter that runs on Show time, I watch House M.D., and the family watches American idol.

## What do you like and hate about students?

I don’t hate students per se, but I don’t like some of the things they do. I hate to see a student come to class and sleep, receive phone calls and text messages. On the other hand, I like students who are interested in trying to learn. You people are paying for college, I encourage you to take advantage of the investment. I also enjoy students who involve themselves in class.

## What kind of books do you read?

Currently, I am reading a book called Free Culture. It is about copyright law in American media. Most of the books I read are academic. I read for work. I also enjoy blogs.

## What final advice would you give to students at Alfred University?

Have fun. Don’t do anything unless you have fun doing it. I will also encourage them to stop writing for me and to write for themselves. They should be happy about what they write. I tell students that grades are letters on pieces of paper. I use grades largely as motivation tools. When I give a brilliant student a low grade, my encouragement is for that student to do better.

## Remembering C.B. ... continued from front page.

& Mishaps,” which detailed her life in Pondhouse, her self-designed and remarkable cottage, was published in December 2007.

Bath Courier Editor and Hornell Evening contributor Rob Price commented on the book.

“These finely chiseled essays offer vivid representations of Carol Burdick’s natural world, ranging from a reedy beagle in search of a free lunch to an antique bed loaded with memories; from a doomed road trip through Naples to the ups and downs of operating a wood-burning stove,” Price said. “But they are also much more: each piece is grounded in the rueful, ironic, sensitive perspective of Carol Burdick. To read them is to enter a uniquely wonderful world.”

C.B. began to teach at AU in the late 1970s, when she quickly gained the AU community’s love and deep respect. She won numerous awards: Excellence in Teaching, Faculty Friend of the Alfred Alumni Association, Omicron Delta Kappa Outstanding Faculty Leader Award, Honorary Alumna Award, The Abigail Allen Award and Omicron Delta Kappa Exemplary Service Award.

Besides writer and teacher, C.B.’s identities ranged from pianist to environmentalist to expert scrabble player. Through her many fields, C.B. was able to meet and inspire many people from “different walks of life,” according to one such person, AU Alumni Publications Editor Deborah Clark.

“I first met C.B. when she was coordinating Summer Place, a place where musicians, writers and poets came together for the summer to work on their arts,” Clark reflected. “I was a reporter at the Olean Times Herald, and I was supposed to interview her.”

From then on, Clark and C.B. worked together at AU in the public relations office, and even when separated they maintained a 22-year-long friendship, meeting for lunch every Tuesday.

“She taught me about maintaining friendships,” Clark said tearfully. “It’s hard to find friends like C.B. She shared food with me, but we shared so much more. She was like a

second mother to me.”

According to Hardman, C.B. was able to spend the last two weeks with her family, which included her children Peter Hudson, Chris Hudson, Anna Pool and her sister Judy Downey.

Peter Hudson could see just how much C.B. “treasured her students” and the community, appreciation reflecting on the faces of those he met on the AU campus.

“During her son Peter Hudson’s stay in the last two weeks, he said he didn’t realize just how much love there was in the Alfred community for C.B.,” Hardman related. “It really touched him to see how many people loved his mom.”

Visiting her shortly before she passed, Hardman said C.B. was “bright and coherent,” her usual radiant self, always jovial and joking.

“She loved her children and grandchildren so much,” Hardman said. “She loved playing piano; she loved people; she loved Cindy (her dog) who kept her company and was a loyal companion for a long time. She was surrounded by love.”

Some of her acquaintances, students, closest friends and colleagues from the AU community reacted and shared their sentiments with the Fiat Lux.

“We are going to miss her tremendously, and it is extremely hard for me right now, because she was a friend much more than a colleague,” the Women’s Leadership Center Director Amy Jacobson said.

“Her loss will be a tremendous hole, not only in the English department, but in the community as well,” English Division Chairperson Susan Morehouse said.

Throughout the AU community, losing C.B. has been a painful sting to many people’s hearts and minds. Her smile, her passion and her subtle feistiness will be missed. However, she will live on through her awe-inspiring literature, the results of her activism, and in the memories of all who knew, respected, and loved her.

Students who would like to talk to someone during this difficult time can feel free to seek out counseling at the Crandall Health Center (ext. 2400).

# Culture shock: Professors’ experiences abroad

Have you ever been to other countries before? Where have you been? I have heard that a lot of American people don’t go outside of the United States. Since English is a global language, Americans can travel around the world easily. So, take the opportunity — go and see what is outside of your own country!

I have been to several countries, such as Australia, the Philippines, and the United Kingdom, and I have enjoyed all of my experiences. One of the reasons why I came to the United States to learn English is because I wanted to meet different people and experience different cultures.

To let you know where people around you went and what they have gained from their experiences, I interviewed three professionals at Alfred University about

foreign countries.

The first person, Petra Visscher, Director of International Programs, has been to more than 10 countries, including Italy and the Dominican Republic, in the past two years. She also lived in different countries such as Germany, France, Slovenia and Japan. She emphasized the difference between traveling abroad and living in other countries.

When people stay in a different country for a long time, they can truly feel and absorb the cultural differences and customs. Her culture shock occurred in Korea. “I was totally lost,” she said. This was because she had stayed in Japan for two years, so she expected Korea was somehow similar to Japan.

Of course, there are some similarities between Japan and Korea,

but they have some big differences as well. For instance, the languages are totally different.

“Reverse culture shock is worse than culture shock,” Visscher said. Because of her first-hand experiences abroad, she encourages students to go to other countries, and gives them great advice to prepare them for a different world.

The second person I interviewed was anthropology and public health professor Robert Myers. He told me about reverse culture shock. He has been to Nigeria, Germany and the Caribbean countries, such as Dominica St. Maarten.

His reverse culture shock story began when he returned from Nigeria. He thought everyone in the U.S. was weird. He lived in Nigeria for two years and people there were always facing their deaths and lives. On the other hand, in the U.S., he “can see thousands of deodorants on the shelf at a

supermarket,” he said. “People in the U.S. don’t think about the death and (life) that much. They always think about consuming.” He always sees America from a different perspective when he gets back from other countries.

Myers really wants to emphasize that people should go abroad because anything abroad affects every single days of our lives. To know what is outside of your country provides you with a better understanding of the things around you.

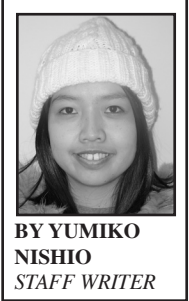
Sociology professor Arthur Greil, the third person I spoke to, agreed with Myers’ ideas of reverse culture shock. He wants people to see how things relate to our lives by gaining the global perspective. He has been to Brazil, South Africa and India, and he is going to Norway this summer. He experienced a culture shock in India because everybody there was trying to be his servant. Peo-

ple in the U.S. feel comfortable being equal to people or superior to others, but people in India are willing to be inferior to others, especially for money. He told me that it was uncomfortable for him, and he didn’t like it at all.

“The most impressive country for me was South Africa,” Greil said. “It was interesting to watch the country try to redefine itself dramatically.”

As a sociology professor, he uses his experiences abroad for examples in his classes. He hopes it leads students to a better understanding of the societies around them.

I will go back to Japan in May. Through these interviews, I am afraid of experiencing reverse culture shock, but I feel I am growing up. Experiencing culture shock and reverse culture shock is a sign of people growing and gaining a new perspective of the world.



BY YUMIKO NISHIO  
STAFF WRITER



Human’s story ... continued from front page.

in Myers Hall, going through the Science Center first. He walked to class behind McMahon Engineering Building, entered the Science Center through the side entrance, and exited the Science Center through the front entrance to enter Myers Hall. Bourlotos said he chose that seemingly “suspicious” route and left for class early in order to avoid zombie players.

According to *Zombies vs. Humans* rules, academic buildings are safe zones from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Zombie players cannot attack human players in those buildings during that time.

The police entered Bourlotos’ classroom around 5:15 p.m. and asked him if he could answer some questions, since he matched the description of the alleged gunman. From there, officials proceeded to search Bourlotos’ room. The lockdown ended at 5:53 p.m.

Despite Bourlotos’ strange ordeal, he agrees with the actions taken by officials and others.

“I agree with the woman who did tell police that I had a gun,” Bourlotos said. “I agree with what she did 100 percent. If I thought I saw somebody with a gun, I’m sorry, I would have to report it to somebody.”

However, Bourlotos did express some frustration that his NERF gun had been confused with a real gun.

“If all she saw was the black and the grey, she could have only looked at me for a second because with a change of perspective,

you would have seen the rest of the (NERF) gun in my pocket,” Bourlotos said.

Bourlotos talked about the day’s events and his experience the same evening on his WOLF radio show, “The Heathen Gods of Yore.”

“I am the AU gunman,” Bourlotos said on the show. Bourlotos “cracked” up when early news reports stated that he was Hispanic.

“My friends ran up to me, asking, ‘You’re Hispanic? I didn’t know that,’” Bourlotos laughed. “I didn’t either.”

He addressed those rumors and other concerns regarding the events of the day by accepting phone calls on his show.

A clip from his radio show can be heard on The Fiat Lux Web site at [www.thefiatlux.com](http://www.thefiatlux.com).

Bourlotos did not violate the game rules and he will not face charges from law enforcement.

He will, however, get a breach of conduct violation from AU for the camping gear, paintball gear and collector swords that were found in his room when officials searched it during the lockdown.

As far as the game *Zombies vs. Humans* goes, Tuesday’s events will not doom the game to an everlasting ban, according to Dean of Students Norm Pollard. The game, however, is suspended for the rest of the spring semester.

Pollard said that he is interested in working with *Zombies vs. Humans* players to create a “safer version of the game.”

Pollard met with three game representatives, including Geddes, on April 9, after the representatives approached Pollard about the fate of the game.

“To their credit, they understood the seriousness of the situation and approached me,” Pollard said. “I do not want to infringe on their fun, and besides, it’s nice to have an activity on campus that is alcohol and drug free.”

How is Bourlotos reacting to all the publicity and attention he is receiving, which includes coverage in The Evening Tribune, Wellsville Daily Reporter, WIVB-TV, New York Post and many others?

“I got a kick out of it, personally,” Bourlotos said. “The only reason why I got in any trouble at all was pure fate.”

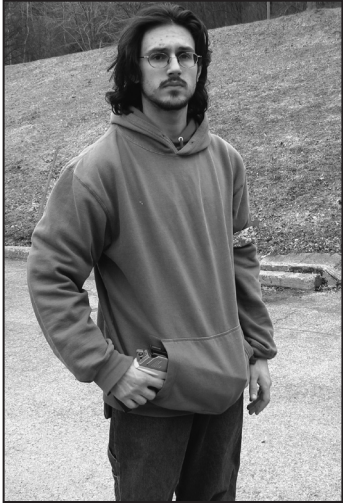


PHOTO BY THOMAS FLEMING

**First-year Daniel Bourlotos, the alleged “gunman,” as he re-enacts his walk from Cannon dormitories to the Science Center. Enroute to the Science Center, Dan was spotted by an unknown Alfred University staff member. Dan, who was still a human at this point, chose to take this rather unorthodox route in order to prevent a zombie attack before his 3:20 class.**

Go see Lysistrata!

BY QUINN WONDERLING  
STAFF WRITER

On April 16, Dr. Becky Prophet’s production of Aristophanes’ *Lysistrata* will open at the CD Smith Theater in AU’s Miller Performing Arts Center.

This empowering story of women’s persuasive and political strengths tells how the women of Athens, Sparta, Boeotia and Corinth, lead by *Lysistrata*, banded together during the Peloponnesian War to bring peace to their land. They accomplished this with the creative decision to withhold sex and other services from their husbands until the men agreed to end the war.

The important message of female leadership, determination, and unity is uplifting and nicely delivered,

while the alternate theme of sexual frustration will keep you laughing. Amanda Holland, as the title character, Tabatha Bettin, Philip Feichtner, Sharee Allen and Melanie Baker lead a lively and talented cast. And, by adding music and a contemporary twist, Prophet makes this play a must-see.

One student who had the privilege of observing a rehearsal (for the purposes of this preview) commented, “It was hilarious! I’m going to go see it all four nights!”

The play will run from Wednesday to Saturday and starts at 8:00 p.m. Tickets are \$1.00 with an AU I.D. and \$5.00 for general admission. For reservations, call the box office at 871-2828 or email: [performs@alfred.edu](mailto:performs@alfred.edu). Do yourself a favor and don’t miss it.

Lichtman ... continued from front page.

the support and cooperation of faculty. The relationship he shared with them was one of joint decision-making and no secrets. They were a “leadership team, as opposed to one leader” holding the reigns.

“I have gotten to know and worked with many faculty (members) even before I was dean,” Lichtman said. “However, being dean really opened my eyes, and I gained an appreciation for all they do.”

Five years ago, the faculty of LAS was awarded the Alpha Gamma Chapter in New York. “Only the top 15% of colleges in the U.S. have this recognition,” Lichtman said. “AU is known for the arts; they get all the glory, but people do not know that LAS is a part of that top 15%.”

Lichtman also expressed his gratitude for the staff in the LAS office, which consists of only three people, excluding himself: Secretary to the Dean Barbara Timbrook, Associate Dean of LAS Nancy Furlong and Academic Division Secretary of Liberal Arts Deb Ohara.

“The staff in this office has been an absolute joy to work with in terms of dedication, commit-

Mitchell moves on

BY CAYAL UNGER  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

After 17 years at Alfred University, Dr. Linda E. Mitchell is moving on.

Mitchell has been offered a position as the Martha Jane Starr/Missouri Distinguished Professor of Women’s and Gender Studies at the University of Missouri in Kansas City, which, for her, involves more available time and money for research.

She will complete the Spring 2008 academic year. Come fall, she will begin teaching at her new academic home in Kansas City.

Mitchell arrived at AU with a Ph.D. from Indiana University in medieval history, and has since proved to be not only an asset in the field of history, but in a wide variety of other fields as well.

In her years at the University, she has taught courses ranging from women’s studies, to ballet, to bookbinding.

In 1995, she received the Excellence in Teaching Award from the AU College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and from 2003-2007 she served as the Hagar Chair in Humanities, an endowed chair for the fields of English, Modern Languages, and Human Studies. She has also managed to write three currently published books, on women and family life in medieval culture during her time at AU, and a fourth and fifth book are on the way.

She is also now the senior editor of “Historical Reflections,” an international journal of history produced in Alfred. The journal was originally published on campus or in the area, but this past year Mitchell has struck a deal with a prestigious publisher, meaning that despite her departure the journal will be able to thrive.

When I spoke with Dr. Mitchell,

she appeared both excited and sad to leave. She said that she has had “a lot of wonderful students,” and that it will be hard to leave. She became emotional while describing her fondest memory of Alfred, which ironically came during a time of pain.

Diagnosed with cancer in 1995, she was forced to undergo chemotherapy during that academic year. Fellow faculty members, as well as the student body, were all “conscious, conscientious, and supportive,” and she says her experience with them was “indescribable.” In her time of need, the Alfred University community was there to provide help and sympathy, which she believes “typifies what Alfred is capable of.”

While Dr. Mitchell is saddened by leaving and has greatly enjoyed being a professor at Alfred, she mentioned some amount of frustration towards the seemingly endless conflict between the faculty and upper level administration.

As a member of the University Senate, Mitchell dealt with constant challenges that she says, “have still not been addressed.” Money, staffing and respect issues have been, in her experience, the “most frustrating” aspect of teaching at Alfred, and she hopes for a resolution in the future.

The current Hagar Chair, Emrys Westacott, says of Mitchell that “she has an unusual breadth of talents” as a dancer, historian and editor, and that she has remained “a productive scholar and dedicated teacher” in her time spent here.

Westacott added that while it is always sad to see a colleague leave, the faculty recognizes the importance of Mitchell seizing an excellent academic opportunity.

Green Chemistry Institute director will deliver Scholes Jr. Lecture

Paul Anastas, director of the Green Chemistry Institute at the American Chemical Society, will present the 10th Annual Samuel R. Scholes Jr. Lecture at Alfred University April 15 from 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the Powell Campus Center’s Nevins Theatre.

Anastas is currently a visiting professor in the chemistry department at the University of Nottingham, U.K., and serves on the editorial board of the journal “Environmental Science and Technology.” He also serves in the National Security and International Activities Division in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. His responsibilities consist of furthering the science and technology relationship between the United States and China, and the international public-private cooperation in areas of science for the sustainability such sciences as green chemistry.

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# Massa discusses Iraq, health care and the presidential race

**BY TOM HAYDEN**  
*STAFF WRITER*

Eric Massa, the Democratic candidate for the 29th Congressional district, shared his thoughts on the Iraq War, health care, the economy and the presidential race with the AU community at a question-and-answer discussion on Wednesday night, April 9, in Nevins Theater.

“The Iraq War is the biggest strategic blunder in the history of the United States,” Massa said.

The AU Political Science Club hosted the event.

Massa has a strong military background and served as a special assistant to Supreme Allied Commander of NATO forces, General Wes Clark.

Massa retired from the U.S. Navy in 2001.

In the talk, Massa said he supported and helped to develop a responsible plan for withdrawal from Iraq, and he suggested that the audience members view this plan on the Web: [www.responsibleplan.com](http://www.responsibleplan.com).

He continued his talk by addressing the national issue of health care, and how many Americans are without coverage.

“All Americans deserve Cheney Care,” Massa said. Massa described “Cheney Care” in reference to the vice president. Americans deserve the level of coverage that federal elected leaders enjoy, according to Massa.

“Americans should have access to any doctor, any hospital, any prescription plan, at any time,” Massa said.

An audience member asked



Eric Massa speaking to an audience member after the question-and-answer discussion.

PHOTO BY NADINE TITUS

how much this plan would cost.

“\$7 trillion,” Massa replied.

He explained that the for-profit HMO model will fail because there is no way to predict the demand side of the health care industry, and that health care should be taken away from private industry.

Discussing the economy, Massa stressed the lack of federal funds that return to New York State taxpayers.

“New Yorkers receive 74 cents for every dollar they contribute to the federal government,” Massa said.

New York ranks 44 in the nation for the amount of federal

funds that are returned to taxpayers.

“New York is funding the rest of the United States,” Massa quipped.

An audience member asked Massa what he could do to help create jobs in Cattaraugus County. “Nothing,” Massa said. “Congress can’t help create jobs. The long term plan for America should be to stop free trade.”

2008 is a major election year with many congressional races along with the presidential race. “I will not challenge my competitor’s personal life; I will, however, challenge him on his voting record,” Massa said.

When asked which democratic candidate he supports for president, Massa said “I am a New York guy, and I am fond of Senator Clinton, but I am also inspired whenever I hear Obama talk.”

Massa clarified his stance for not endorsing a candidate for the democratic presidential primary race.

“I am a candidate, and candidates don’t endorse other candidates,” Massa said.

In reference to recent political scandals, an audience member asked him if there was anything in his personal life that he was not proud of and would like to

share with the Alfred crowd.

“Yes, there is something that I do, and it disturbs my wife,” he said with a smile. “I do not put the lid down on the toilet seat.”

Massa said he was thankful to Alfred’s Political Science Club for hosting the discussion, and said that he would return whenever asked.

Republican incumbent Congressman Randy Kuhl is running for re-election, and will be on campus to meet with students, faculty and the community on April 18.

# Casey Stangl featured at the 13th Annual Riley Lecture

**BY QUINN WONDERLING**  
*STAFF WRITER*

“Figure out what makes you different, what you can offer that no one else can – help yourself by knowing your value,” award-winning theater and opera director Casey Stangl told students and audience members during the annual Women’s Studies Riley Lecture on Monday, March 31 in AU’s Knight Club.

Her talk, entitled “The Good, the Bad, and the Pretty: A Woman in American Theatre” outlined how she ventured into directing, the role her gender plays in her work, and some lessons she learned throughout the course of her career.

A longtime friend of associate professor of French Cecelia Beach, Stangl came to AU from California to discuss her experience in several areas of the performing arts. She has directed plays and operas all over the country. She also co-founded her own theater company.

Minneapolis Star Tribune named Stangl Artist of the Year, and City Pages’ “Best of the Twin Cities” named her Best Director as did Lavender Magazine. She has recently broadened her experiences even more, breaking into the field of television by shadowing playwrights and directors such as Grey’s Anatomy’s Peter Horton and Six Feet Under’s Alan Ball.

Stangl began by explaining the

lecture’s title. “(It refers to) my relationship and history working with the Guthrie Theatre,” Stangl said.

In Minneapolis, the city with “the largest number of theaters per capita,” the Guthrie Theatre is certainly an important and prestigious establishment. So, “the good is that I am the third woman to direct (there) in 44 years,” she explained. “The bad is that I am the third woman to direct there in 44 years!” From this alone, it’s clear that this profession “can be a boys’ club in a big way.” So how did Stangl manage to achieve such success?

She outlined three important lessons she’s learned on her career path. The first dealt with the idea of mentoring. Though she “didn’t really have any [mentors] growing up,” Stangl found an encouraging influence in her male theatrical director in high school. “He told me that choreography was a good way for a woman to make her way into the arts,” she recalled, “and I thought, no, I want to do what you do.”

Stangl found a stronger mentor when working on Tony Kushner’s

“Angels in America” at the Eureka Theatre and realized she wasn’t just a choreographer, but also a director. Her mentor told her, “Just do it – grab a play you love and start directing.” Stangl herself later became a mentor to young women when she and her husband started The Eye of the Storm Theatre, where she worked as the Artistic Director for 12 years.

Stangl’s second lesson was about value – knowing personal value, not only economically, or spiritually, but what one possesses and can offer in the workplace. She gave the example that if someone is fundraising, and he or she asks a donor for \$100, no matter how much his or her work improves after that, he or she is still going to be worth around \$100 in that donor’s mind.

“Most students don’t value their work highly enough...no one can tell you you’re great if you don’t believe that you’re great yourself,” Stangl emphasized.

Finally, she advised listeners to focus their energy and attention into what they really want to accomplish. She also urged students

to network, citing that all of her professional opportunities were rooted in some kind of relationship.

“Some people see it as sucking up or selling out, but I encourage you to develop those relationships,” she said.

Stangl concluded by acknowledging that as a woman in a male-dominated field, sometimes you “don’t have to be just as good, but better than” your competition, and telling students not to be afraid to take risks. “I’ve always had a ‘leap and the safety net will appear’ sort of philosophy,” she stated. Clearly, that philosophy has paid off. In addition to being persistent and ambitious, “see people as the complex creatures that they are, and insist they do the same for you,” Stangl advised.

The Riley Lecture series is made possible by Pamela, Patricia, and Melissa Riley in memory of their parents, Elizabeth Hallenbeck Riley and Charles Riley who supported activism for women’s issues.

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‘Drawn to Diversity’ presents posters depicting diverse characters in advertising



PHOTO BY JEREMY JUHASZ

Drawn to Diversity class members, Drawn to Diversity instructor Dan Napolitano, Wegmans Corning employee representative Maria Ball and A’Lelia Bundles, great-great granddaughter of American cosmetic pioneer Madam C.J. Walker, pose for a picture Saturday morning after the Drawn to Diversity class’s formal presentation of their work.

BY JEREMY JUHASZ  
SPORTS EDITOR

AU students in the Drawn to Diversity course displayed posters to fellow and former students, faculty and a Wegmans food market representative depicting minorities in an advertising theme on Saturday, April 12, in Susan Howell Hall.

“The focus of (Drawn to Diversity) 2008 is the history of advertising and, for the first time, we tied it into the College of Liberal Arts as an academic course, Director of Student Activities and Drawn to Diversity instructor Dan Napolitano said. “Students could then get credit for their work.”

In developing the theme

of advertising, Napolitano was inspired by a book titled “The Real Pepsi Challenge,” written in 2007 by Stephanie Capparell. Throughout the book, Edward Boyd, a Pepsi executive in 1947, assembled a black sales team that marketed to specialized communities, Napolitano said. The book was a perfect template for the course because Napolitano wanted to find his own small diverse group to research other large corporations in the U.S.

The students faced hurdles in their research, albeit to a lesser degree than Boyd’s team post-World War II, when the nation was on the verge of the Equal Rights Movement. Napolitano emphasized that students’

work may not see any immediate recognition, but this small social activism may have an impact in the years to come.

Others also appreciated the diligent work that Napolitano’s students earned this semester. Attending the presentation was A’Lelia Bundles, the great-great granddaughter of the black cosmetic pioneer Madam C.J. Walker.

“This Drawn to Diversity initiative is a wonderful way to study American history, the history of business in America, popular culture, consumer culture and the evolution of racial attitudes in America,” Bundles said.

Bundles felt that the students’ work has the potential to spawn into the mainstream.

“At the very best, I’m envisioning that there will be an article in the Wall Street Journal.”

Wegmans attended as a prospective partner to display the posters in its supermarkets. Corning employee representative Maria Ball was pleased with what she saw.

“I think it’s awesome,” Ball said. “I would love to show this at my store level.”

The posters will be formally presented to executives in Rochester to decide if, and which, stores will adopt the idea.



PHOTOS PROVIDED

Students in the 2008 Drawn to Diversity class created posters showcasing diversity in popular and iconic brand names. This year marks the first time Drawn to Diversity has been offered as a class.

Some national secrets are better left



Ben Gates (Nicolas Cage) and Abigail Chase (Diane Kruger) discover an ancient Native American carving inside a desk at Buckingham Palace in England.

BY KURT PITZER  
STAFF WRITER

Colonel Mustard in a library with a wrench? Nope, it’s Nicolas Cage as historian and treasure hunter Benjamin Gates in the Library of Congress with a book.

Director Jon Turteltaub is back in the saddle, bringing National Treasure: Book of Secrets to the big screen. Picking up where the first film left off, Book of Secrets continues the story of the somewhat trouble-filled life of Benjamin Gates.

Now a far more respected scholar with the recent discovery of a massive treasure that had been missing for centuries, Ben Gates (Nicolas Cage) and his father Patrick Gates (Jon Voight) find themselves confronted with a problem: a man by the name of Mitch Wilkinson (Ed Harris) claims to have a page of the diary of John Wilkes Booth. On that page is the name Thomas Gates, an ancestor of Ben and Patrick.

In an effort to clear his great-great grandfather’s name, Ben Gates pulls out all the stops, enlisting the tech savvy Riley Poole (Justin

Bartha), and his historian girlfriend Abigail Chase (Diane Kruger). They come to the decision that the only way to clear the name of Thomas Gates is to find the treasure - the treasure that the elder Gates alluded to in the story handed down through the Gates family.

Ben follows the clues as they lead him across the globe, pursued by the rather heavy-handed Wilkinson, in an effort to locate the treasure. His travels take him to Paris, France, London and, much to Patrick Gates’ chagrin, his mother’s office.

The film closely follows the format of the first National Treasure film, in that much of the cinematography is not so much flashy as it is rather elegantly capturing cinematic beauty. This time, the audience is treated to some rather impressive shots of the Washington and Lincoln monuments at sundown, as well as some close-ups of Mount Rushmore.

The cast remains much the same, only taking on a new villain of sorts (played by Ed Harris). Other characters include Ben’s mother and Native American professor Emily Appleton (Helen Mirren) and the President of the United States (Bruce Greenwood).



PHOTO

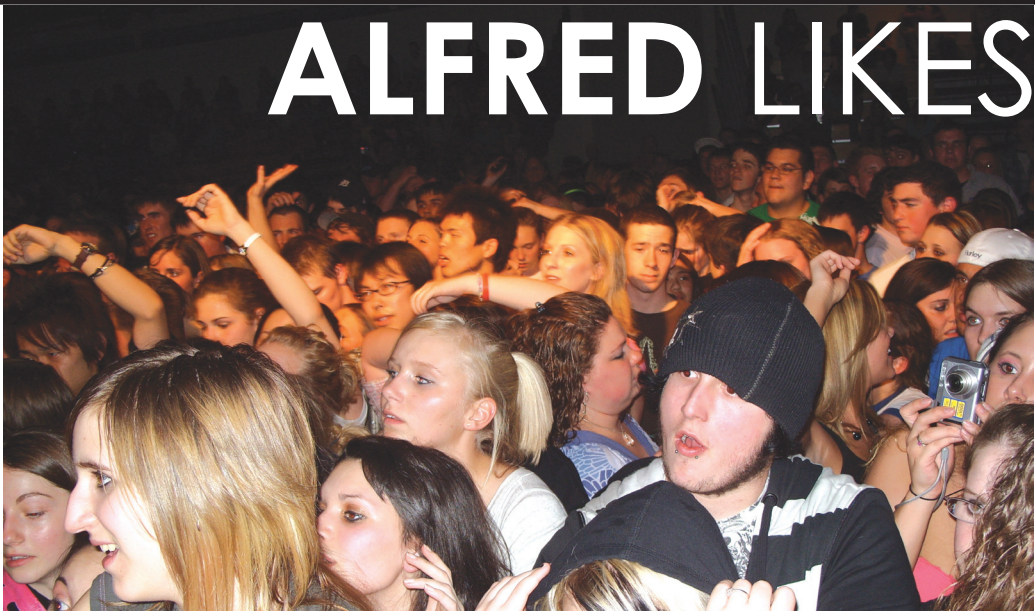
Ben Gates climbs the steps of the Lincoln monument in Washington, D.C. as he searches for the link between his great-great grandfather and the Lincoln assassination.

The writing is clever, building a great deal off of the situational humor of the last film. The character of Riley Poole provides much of the comedic relief as he comes to find, rather dejectedly, that nobody has read his book. FBI Agent Sadusky (Harvey Heitel) provides his own set of quips, and the bickering interactions of Patrick Gates and Emily Appleton bring in a new taste to what would otherwise be the same old thing.

The major drawback to the film is the idea behind the story itself. The first film broke new ground, bringing a historical twist to



# ALFRED LIKES BOYSLIKEGIRLS



(Above) A crowd of students jamming out at the Alfred State's Orvis Activities Center during the Boys Like Girls performance on April 10. (Below) Lead guitarist Paul DiGiovanni shredding chords on stage with lead singer Martin Bennett Johnson.



PHOTOS BY SILAS ALBRECHT

BY SILAS ALBRECHT & QUINN WONDERLING  
STAFF WRITERS

"The best compliment in the world is when a fan can relate to a song that we have," Boys Like Girls singer and guitarist Martin Johnson said before the band's performance on April 10 in Alfred State College's Orvis Activities Center.

It appeared many fans in Alfred do relate to the group's music. The well-attended concert, sponsored by both Alfred State College and Alfred University, was surely a highlight of the school year for many students from both schools. Groups Cash Cash and Runaway Orange were the opening acts.

When asked at a press conference in ASC's Orvis Activities Center how the Boston-based band got its start, Johnson explained that the four band members were best friends living in an apartment and working different jobs — at CVS pharmacy and a hardware store, and waiting tables at the Ground Round — then they decided to chase their dream of becoming rock stars. They quit their jobs, moved into Johnson's dad's house, started writing songs and practicing eight hours a day.

Clearly, it worked out well for them.

A reporter asked whether they felt famous since their first and only album, self-titled "Boys Like Girls," was released August 22,

2002 and sold over 200,000 copies. Drummer John Keefe replied with a smile, stating the number is now over 500,000.

Even after selling a good number of records, however, Johnson said, "We're still the same dudes. We still go home and have to take out the trash. And our friends have kept us grounded."

"We're just excited our dreams came true," Johnson added.

Keefe gave some advice for upcoming bands, saying they need to "tour, tour, tour."

Johnson also stressed the importance of using the Internet to generate publicity.

"The age of the demo tape is over," he said. "The bands that get the most buzz and attention are going to be the bands the kids are talking about. They decide who gets signed. Do something that sets yourself apart."

One way for bands to get the kids talking, Johnson said, is by using social networking Web sites like MySpace to showcase music.

The band members also discussed how they feel about Internet piracy and illegal downloading.

Keefe said it's disappointing to have something stolen when "we work so hard on it."

He also agreed with Johnson, however, who said the situation is a "catch-22" because it's difficult for the band members to be angry at their fans.

"How can you get pissed at a kid in the pit who's bought a shirt and is singing along, who downloaded some songs?" Johnson said. "The people who are really getting boned are the producers."

"People (at the record companies) are losing their jobs over it...downloading is a good way to check it out, but if you like it, buy the album on iTunes," Johnson added.

Concertgoers agreed--Boys Like Girls put on a good show, playing their hits and even covering Frou Frou's "Let Go."

Fans waiting for BLG to release their next album will be happy to know that they have already written approximately 27 songs towards it, and of course, if you want more you can check them out on MySpace!



Band members Martin Johnson, Paul DiGiovanni, Bryan Donahue and John Keefe talk with fans after the show in Orvis Activites Center.

## unsolved



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the conspiracy theory idea. The second National Treasure built on that idea, but in truth, nothing substantially new was added this time around. The idea of one massive treasure nestled somewhere in this nation was as appealing as finding Atlantis, but the idea of two treasures hidden in the United States carries the emotional appeal of discovering that there were two Lost Cities.

If anything, the film is still worth Netflix-ing as the comedy is fresh and still funny, and the story has enough enigmatic aspects of history to keep it interesting. However, I wouldn't be putting it on a wish list anytime soon.

### Movie Review



Meh

## Art Union juried art competition to be announced:

Alfred University Art Union is holding a Juried Art Competition called The Union Show! The show will be held April 21-27 at Gallery 17 on Main Street. We will hold a reception April 25 from 6-8 p.m. at the gallery where you will find delicious food and refreshments in addition to the announcement of prizes!

Please view the online prospectus form at <http://alfredartunion.blogspot.com> for more information on how to enter. Entries are open to all graduate and undergraduate students at both Alfred University and Alfred State College.

Seven Alfred University faculty members will choose all submissions anonymously. This is a great opportunity to become involved in the Alfred community as well as to pump up your resume

Everyone should act promptly as the final day for submissions is April 10. Please remember this is open to ALL students, not just art students!

## Featured artist sponsored by Art Union

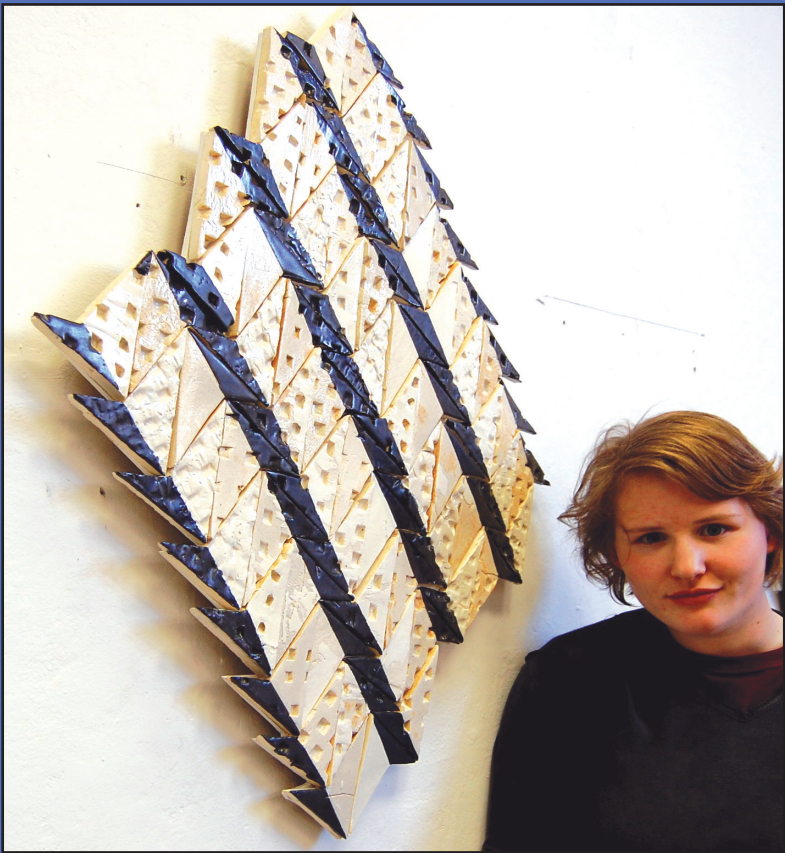


PHOTO PROVIDED

Jenn Urfer pictured with her ceramic tile piece: "Untitled." Jenn said that this piece rouses "the seemingly random ... marks of tires crack and are resolved in the snow."



# AU appoints McGee dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

Alfred University’s oldest college will have a new dean.

Dr. Mary McGee, who has been associate dean of the faculty and dean of students at Columbia University School of General Studies since 2000, will join AU as dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, effective July 1.

In announcing McGee’s appointment, Dr. Suzanne Buckley, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, said “Dr. McGee is an inspired choice for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. She will bring her many talents and experiences as a teacher, scholar and administrator to the leadership of our largest college. All of us involved in the selection process are very pleased she accepted the appointment.”

McGee says she welcomes the opportunity to join the faculty as dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences at a time when the administration and faculty are eager to explore and support innovation in pedagogy and curriculum.

“Alfred University has a reputation for faculty members who care deeply about teaching, and I

am excited to partner with these dedicated scholars, especially as we work towards building and strengthening interdisciplinary programs.

“One of my first goals is to start a serious conversation about and review of the curriculum. While reaffirming the core values of a liberal arts education, we want to make sure that the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences’ curriculum prepares our graduates to be informed and responsible citizens, able to thrive in a world that is changing rapidly due to technology and globalization.”

McGee notes that while her energies will focus primarily on faculty and curriculum development within CLAS, she expects to collaborate with Alfred’s other colleges as “we continue to build traditions of excellence for our students at Alfred through programming and creative use of resources.”

McGee is known for her commitment to teaching and to developing programs in support



PHOTO PROVIDED

of strengthening teaching, said Buckley, and she has a wealth of experience with academic program development; interdisciplinary and dual-degree programs; and creation of academic support networks for students.

A graduate of Georgetown University with a B.A. in sociology, McGee earned her master’s and doctoral degrees in the history of religions from Harvard University. A scholar of South Asian religions, she has been on the faculty of Harvard College, Vassar College, and Columbia University, where she currently teaches in the Department of Religion.

Her teaching and publications in religious studies focus on issues relevant to gender, ethics,

and ritual; among her on-going research projects is a study of Hindu temple architecture in the United States, with a particular focus on temples in New York State. A recipient of two Fulbright awards and grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, McGee’s scholarship has also been recognized by grants from the Ford Foundation, the Charlotte Newcombe Foundation, and the International Federation of University Women.

She is on the editorial board of the journal Religion and has served on the Board of Directors and Executive Committee of the American Academy of Religion, having chaired its Committee on International Connections for six years.

In her present position, McGee oversees the academic curriculum and advising for 1,250 undergraduate and 450 post-baccalaureate premedical students enrolled in the College of General Studies at Columbia. She is responsible for the overall management, budget, operation, supervision and staffing relating to academic advising, academic support services, and

student activities at the College. Previously, McGee directed the Dharam Hinduja Indic Research Center at Columbia University and was director of the Program in Asian Studies while at Vassar.

“The LAS Dean Search committee is thrilled and excited that Mary McGee has accepted the position of dean of our college,” said Dr. David Toot, professor of physics and chair of the search committee. “Our search brought in a large number of well qualified candidates. However, Prof. McGee has a combination of background, scholarship, teaching and administrative experience, and personality that seems an ideal next step for us. She will be an important addition to the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences and to the University. We are eager to begin working with her.”

Buckley commended the LAS dean’s search committee for its work, which began more than six months ago and resulted in four finalists visiting campus.

# Madam C.J. Walker: An inspiration

**BY KATE COHEN**  
*STAFF WRITER*

Award-winning author A’Lelia Bundles discussed the history of her great-great grandmother Madam C.J. Walker April 11 in Nevins Theater.

Introducing a series of new innovations to come from Drawn to Diversity (D2D) — a class of students creating advertisement posters with a diversity theme for regional supermarket chain Wegmans — they collaborated with Bundles and organized the event.

Bundles, a journalist and former network television news executive, authored the best-selling and first comprehensive biography on Madam C.J. Walker called “On Her Own Ground.” It

detailed the life of Madam Walker and her entrepreneurial skills in business as a black woman at the turn of the century.

In the presentation, Bundles educated the audience about the path that her great-great grandmother decided to travel.

“There is no royal flower strewn path to success, and if there is, I have not found it. For whatever I have attained is the result of much hard work and many sleepless nights ...”

This as a statement by Madam Walker referring to her rags to



PHOTO PROVIDED  
Great-great granddaughter of Madam C.J. Walker, A’Lelia Bundles

riches career and her outstanding successes as a black woman.

In 1867, Walker’s extraordinary journey began with her birth to two former slaves on a cotton field in Louisiana. They named her Sarah Breedlove. She was orphaned at age seven and moved in with her sister where her sister’s husband, Jesse Powell, treated her cruelly. At the tender age of 14, she married Moses McWilliams to escape

the pain her brother-in-law caused her. Soon after, she became a mother and a widow, striving

to provide a better life for her daughter, A’Lelia Walker.

Walker’s eventual success started with an irritating scalp. She was losing her hair, and she was frustrated with her appearance. She experimented with many different products until she found one that helped her scalp heal and her hair grow.

Walker moved to Denver to be with her husband, Charles Joseph Walker, which is how she became known as Madam C.J. Walker.

In Denver, she started her own line of hair care products. Walker made her way across the South selling her products. She soon gained enough funds to start a school in Pittsburgh, Pa., which was designed to train her very own sales team for the Walker

hair care line.

Her products became so popular that her workforce sky-rocketed, and her name became an icon in breaking down the barriers for not just black women in business, but for all women in business.

Sadly, Madam C.J. Walker passed away in 1919 at age 52. Her legacy, however, still lives on through her great-great granddaughter, A’Lelia Bundles, who takes pride in speaking about the triumph of Madam C.J. Walker.

After the talk, audience members seemed to be awed and inspired by Walker’s experiences.

“I cannot believe the hardships this woman had to overcome,” Kate Davis, a freshman art student, said. “Her early childhood experiences are just unbelievable.”

“Madam C.J. Walker is an innovator who opened doors,” senior communications major Jonathan Wordingham said. “She opened doors not only to black women, but to anyone trying to make their way in the business world.”

In regard to AU’s D2D, Bundles feels that the program is outstanding and important.

“I am fascinated by Drawn to Diversity,” Bundles said. “It allows people to analyze history and the present.”

For more information about Madam C.J. Walker and A’Lelia Bundles’ book, “On Her Own Ground,” you can visit the Web site: <http://www.madamecjwalker.com>



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May 19 – June 20

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May 26 – June 13





‘No country for atheists:’ Church, state, and the religious right.

BY SOFIE MILLER  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

America, a country in which the religious right dominates the Republican Party, is not a place for atheists, according to Professor of History Gary Ostrower, speaker at the Bergren Forum on April 3 in Nevins Theater.

“We once had a president who thought that ketchup was a vegetable, but if you admit you are an atheist, you are political toast,” Ostrower said.

The Bergren forum is a free event open to the public every Thursday at 12:10 p.m. in Nevins Theater.

In his lecture, Ostrower emphasized the current lack of atheist politicians, especially in comparison with the highly influential religious leaders of the political right. Amidst the pronounced shortage of atheist politicians, the religious right is experiencing growth, particularly from the evangelical Christian denomination.

Even though America

established the separation of church and state in the First Amendment, Ostrower claims that the Republican Party is “close to becoming the first main-line religious party” in the United States.

The resurrection of the religious right strongly impacts the political arena. Evangelicals, Baptists and Catholics all tend to vote Republican; the influence of these strong voting blocs is subsequently felt in Washington.

Other countries are not experiencing the same Christian influence in politics.

Even though Denmark has an officially government-sponsored national church, less than 5 percent of the Danish population regularly attends church services. This is in comparison to 40% in the United States. Ostrower used this statistic as an example of the deeply rooted religious sentiments in America, where 90% of the population believes in God and less than 35% believes

in evolution. “Americans simply cannot divorce religion and politics.”

“I have low expectations from politicians,” Ostrower explained. “It is silly to believe politicians act as anything other than politicians.”

Ostrower expects that politicians will cater to the religious right to gain the vote of its influential demographic (religious groups have high voter turnout rates), and that religion is just a cover for “more dubious tendencies.”

Ostrower contends that the Republican Party is “simultaneously religious and exploitive,” relating to the religious community in order to secure public office and re-election. He said he speculates that the presumed Republican nominee, John McCain, will select a religious running mate in order to extend his appeal to the Christian Republican demographic for this very reason.

It is frequently stated

by the religious right that the Founding Fathers were religious men. Though Ostrower does not argue with this assertion, he reminded the audience that the Founding Fathers also believed in religious tolerance and freedom.

James Madison insisted that establishment of a National religion would be “erroneous.”

Traditional Republicans run into resistance from Evangelical Christians who emphasize “compassionate conservatism” instead of the conventional small government attitudes of their right-wing companions.

In closing, Ostrower quoted the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment: ‘Congress shall make no law making an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.’

“I’m not sure that 100 years from now our Constitution will be our Constitution,” Ostrower added.



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Zipcar: a great move for AU

BY AYAKA JOSE  
STAFF WRITER

Alfred University is hoping to bring Zipcars to campus.

“I would love to offer this great service at AU,” AU Vice President of Student Affairs Kathy Woughter said.

Zipcar, a car-sharing service, provides low-cost and environmental friendly transportation. Zipcars can be rented by the hour or day 24/7.

The company was founded in 2000 in the United States. Currently, its services are available all over the United States and at over 70 university campuses.

Since Zipcar could offer many advantages to AU students, Woughter is considering bringing it to campus.

Woughter said the great benefit of Zipcar is its reasonable price. For example, renting a Zipcar would cost about five to eight dollars an hour or about 60 dollars a day, according to Zipcar Inc. Such rates include gas, maintenance, insurance and parking.

Senior art and design major Julianne Davis said she is also excited about possibly bringing Zipcar to campus. After all, such cars would be cost-effective and a welcomed convenience.

“It (Zipcar) would be a really great idea,” she said. “It seems much cheaper than having a car.”

Zipcars are also especially user-friendly, according to Zipcar Inc. To use a Zipcar, one only needs to follow four easy steps: join, reserve, unlock and drive.

First, join online with a credit or debit card and driver’s license. In three to seven days, a Zipcard, a credit-card size plastic key, will

arrive.

Second, reserve the car online or over the phone.

Third, go to the Zipcar parking lot, and press the Zipcard against the windshield. When the doors unlock, get in and drive.

Fourth, Zipcars help to save the environment. According to Zipcar Inc, its members, on average, drive only 369 miles annually compared to about 5,295 miles annually before they joined. Such reduced car usage decreases greenhouse gas emissions and oil usage. Zipcars are often hybrids, which also significantly reduces greenhouse gas emissions.

“If we introduce it (Zipcar), we can use hybrid cars,” Environmental and Geology Studies Professor Michele Hluchy said.

Before moving forward, Woughter said she must be more sure about student demand before further investigating bringing Zipcars to campus. Although she said students have expressed interest in this new offering, they have not done so in large numbers.

If AU students want Zipcar services, this is the time to let AU know.

“It would be great if some business students were interested in this program, and they might want to take this on a business plan and predict how likely Zipcar would be to succeed here,” Woughter said.

Students interested in bringing this program to campus should contact Woughter at [woughter@alfred.edu](mailto:woughter@alfred.edu).

“Dreams to Reality,” a CAP team documentary to air April 22

BY JASMINE REESE  
MANAGING EDITOR

The campus action project (CAP) team documentary “Dreams to Reality” is set to air Tuesday, April 22 in Nevins Theater.

“We wanted to create a visual representation of the realities of life after college with a focus on financial issues and security,” senior art and design major, Co-President of the Women’s Issues Coalition (WIC) and member of the CAP team Catherine Aiello said.

In December 2007, the American Association of University Women (AAUW) offered a grant to college campuses wanting to take part in a project that addresses and educates students about the pay gap (the difference between what a man and a woman earns on their paychecks).

With the AAUW laying out the general topic, Aiello and other students jumped on the opportunity to create “the dream team,” according to Director of the Women’s Leadership Center and CAP team adviser Amy Jacobson.

“We have an experienced documentarian, an Outstanding Senior Award winner, an Abigail Allen Award winner and sophisticated sophomores,” Jacobson said. Professor of Sociology Karen Porter also serves as adviser for the team, along with Becky Schick, secretary of the Alfred/Hornell AAUW Chapter.

For the project, CAP team members traveled to research and talk with different people relating to the pay gap. They also brought such events as the Smart Start

Workshop to the AU campus.

“I always love working with students bringing together creativity,” Jacobson said.

In the documentary, CAP team members filmed interviews with AU alumni. Five graduates talked about their experiences and gave advice.

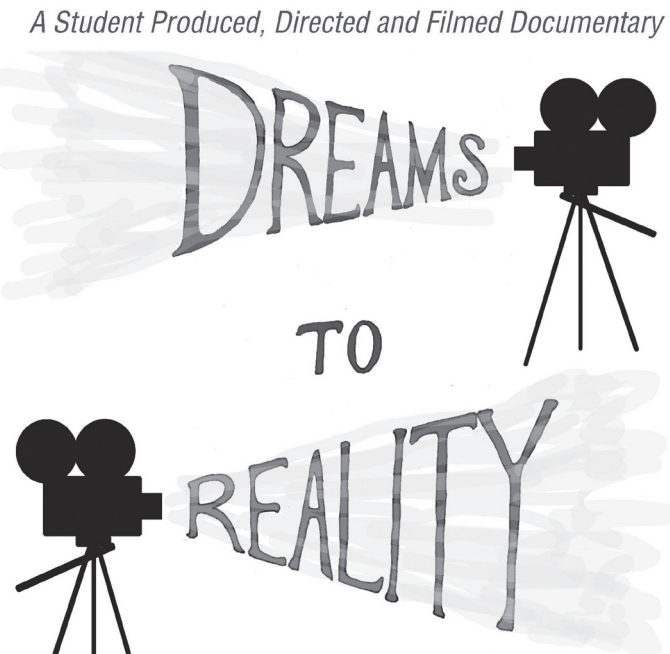
“Getting to meet alumni and hearing their stories was the fun part,” Aiello said.

Current students also were interviewed and given surveys

about their finances and asked whether or not they were worried about life after college.

“A lot of students do not know the details of what to expect after they graduate, especially in regards to finances, which is why we wanted to make this film in the first place,” senior art and design major and CAP team member Grace Stewart said. “We do not know what to expect either. Hopefully, we’ll learn.”

*A Student Produced, Directed and Filmed Documentary*



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# Cats are awesome

BY JESSICA BARNTHOUSE  
STAFF WRITER

My name is Jessica Barnthouse, and I am a 21-year-old cat lady. No, I'm not extremely lonely, nor do I own 15 cats, but talk to me for about five minutes and you'll probably wind up having to suffer through 20 minutes of me talking about how awesome my cat is, followed by a slideshow of photos on my cell phone. One might think this behavior is an indication of an unhealthy obsession, but trust me—if you met my cat Wendy, you'd understand.

Looking back, I'm pretty sure my feline affinity began at the age of three when my mom brought home two kittens. They were awesome! I dressed them up in my doll clothes, followed them as they hunted through the woods behind my house and surprise-attacked my brother by “cat-apulting” them in his direction when he refused to share the TV remote. Pretty soon, I was checking Cat Fancy out of my elementary school's library on a monthly basis. I am well aware that this could be viewed as a “lame” activity, but you're wrong. Cat Fancy was, and I'm sure still is, a



perfectly respectable feline literary magazine.

So, back to Wendy. Wendy is so cool. Log on to my Facebook page and look at my senior year album and you'll find that photos of Wendy make up about 94% of the total pictures-- and she's tagged in each of them. I am not ashamed. And I'm certainly not alone.

According to [www.vetmedecine.com](http://www.vetmedecine.com), approximately 34.7 million Americans own at least one cat. 34.7 million! To put this number into perspective consider this: 20 million people currently live in Australia—a country roughly the same size as the United States. More people own cats in the United States than the entire population of Australia?! Clearly, we are a cat-loving society.

This really shouldn't come as a surprise, seeing as cats have been not only cherished, but also worshipped in many cultures for thousands of years. According to [www.touregypt.net](http://www.touregypt.net), the cat was domesticated in Egypt at around 2000 B.C., and quickly achieved the status of a deity. Bastet, the most famous of Egyptian cat goddesses, was so popular among ancient Egyptian society that she literally became a household name, protecting women, children and, of course, cats. With the body of a woman and the head of

a cat, Bastet was also the goddess of the sunrise, dance, pleasure, family, fertility and birth.

Similarly, according to [www.felinefanatic.com](http://www.felinefanatic.com), Thai legend suggests that only highly spiritual people are allowed to reincarnate as cats during their last life-stage on their way to heaven. These ancient Thais also believed that the dark patches (called “temple marks”) displayed on the shoulders of some Siamese cats were the result of Buddha's fingers touching them in blessing.

Listen to the words of the ancients! Cats are not moody, they don't steal the breath of babies and they certainly do not bring bad luck! Misrepresentations throughout European and American folklore have given cats a bad reputation, but I, along with approximately 34.7 million Americans, feel differently. I might spend an ungodly amount of time clicking through websites like [www.kittenwars.com](http://www.kittenwars.com) (it's sort of like “Hot or Not.” But for cats.) and [www.stuffonmycat.com](http://www.stuffonmycat.com), but that's only because I know that cats, as affectionate, loyal and clean household deities, are deserving of such time-wasting internet habits. Plus, everyone knows that cats are far better than dogs anyway.



Each night of the week at Alfred bars

BY SAMUEL URANN  
FEATURES AND OPINIONS EDITOR

It's been a few weeks and the investigation of the bars in Alfred, N.Y., has continued.

This update will answer the questions, where should you, the healthy and legal consumer, spend your hard earned (or perhaps not so hard earned) dollars each night of the week? Which bar has the best deal for Monday? Tuesday? Friday?

You decide.

To begin, this comparison will be done simply between the two bars that offer a varying daily deal; Alex's located right at 25 N. Main St. and Gentlemen Jim's, or GJ's, located at 1 Mill St. I decided to do a comparison between only the two because the third bar, Café Za, is under examination, and does not maintain any daily specials.

**Monday:**

GJ's maintains pitcher deals from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. (close). There is beer, such as Coors Light, Michelob Light, Budweiser, Labatt and Labatt Light all for \$4. They

also do \$8 pitchers of various mix drinks; screwdrivers, vodka/cranberry, sex on the beach, Gin and tonic, vodka and tonic, rum and Cokes, as well as cabana boy drinks for \$1.50.

At Alex's from opening till close, there are 22 oz. Budweiser and Bud Light bottles for \$2.50 each.

**Tuesday**

GJ's has a bit of a medley on Tuesdays, starting at 9 p.m. There are Jägermeister shots for \$1.50, Corona bottles for \$2, and mixed drinks of Captain Morgan's & Coke for \$1.50.

Alex's, on the other hand, has “Beer in the Barrel” night. This is where a cornucopia of different beers is mixed in a barrel, and the eager consumer can reach in, without looking, for \$1. What they pull out can range from nearly any high-end to low-end bottled alcoholic beverage.

**Wednesday**

GJ's sells all well drinks (drinks using the cheapest brand in stock for that alcohol) for \$1 from 9 p.m. to 12 a.m., and for \$1.50 from 12 a.m. to 2 a.m. There is also

a policy of “buy one get one” with shots of Crown Royal. Thirdly, they sell Bud and Bud Light 12oz bottles for \$1.50.

Alex's, on the other hand, makes “Jet Spray.” This is where the bar makes a large quantity of two types of mix drinks like one with vodka and one with rum. The price is \$1 for a single and \$4 to fill your Alex's Mug\*.

**Thursday**

Starting at 9 p.m. as usual, GJ's has a “Ladies Night” where all well drinks and drafts are only \$1 for all the female patrons. There are also Yuengling bottles for \$1.50, and Soco & lime shots for \$1.50.

In comparison, Alex's has its infamous “Mug Night.” This is where customers can fill their Alex's Mug\* with Natural Ice for only \$1.25.

**Friday**

GJ's has “Molson Madness” where Molson and Molson Canadian Light bottles are just \$1.50. Alex's, on the other hand, sells Long Trails for \$1.50.

**Saturday:**

GJ's sells Labatt Blue and Labatt Blue

Light bottles for \$1.50. Alex's maintains another Alex's Mug\* deal by charging \$4.50 to fill it with any well drink.

Alex's also maintains a policy of \$1 shots in your Alex's Shot Glass\* of whatever special shot is being served that evening.

Neither of these two Alfred, N.Y., bars have specials on Sunday most likely due to that they both already maintain a full week of patron pleasers. read up next time on an account of the bars as a whole. Which prices coupled with the right atmosphere or ambiance, if you will, creates the best bar-going experience for you?

\*The Alex's Mug can be purchased for the price of \$21, and holds about 2.5 to three 12 oz. beers. The Mug can be used for discount drinking whenever Alex's has a special.

\*The Alex's Shot Glass can be purchased for \$4.



AU track making strides

Records broken in women’s lacrosse

**BY NATHAN WEISER**  
*COPY EDITOR*

The AU men and women’s track and field teams participated in a meet on April 6 at the University of Rochester.

The players on both of the teams should be pleased with its results, according to Head Coach Andrew Crawford.

Alfred competed against a wide array of schools during this competition: St. Lawrence, RIT, Geneseo, Brockport, Nazareth, Fredonia, Buffalo State, Alfred State and Erie Community College to name a few. The Saxons battled some fierce foes, but they should be applauded for having a couple second place finishes as well as numerous top 10 performances in various events.

After going through many arduous practices leading up to race day, there is one critical aspect that the Saxons displayed during the race.

“They showed a lot of heart,” Crawford said. “I could tell that a lot of them were tired, but they pushed through it really well.”

Hard work and determination are critical aspects of long-term team success, and Crawford pushed the teams in practice during the them inbetween seasons in order to produce faster times in future races. Since the Saxons’ work ethic is so impressive, and

since they’ve worked so hard leading up to the race, it might seem somewhat surprising, that times were slower than expected. So, the spring campaign should improve as long as the teams recover from the grueling winter workouts.

“The plan was to work them hard in the first few weeks and compete on tired bodies, and then rest them up and the times will be good,” said Crawford.

The Saxons are driven to improve because in the back of their minds they would like to qualify for states. One can qualify for states during any regular season race, and one just needs to get under a set score or time for their respective event. Crawford believes that at least half the players will qualify for states based on their skills and determination.

The cream of the crop go to regionals, and it is likely that 75 percent of the people who qualify for states will in turn be invited to regionals. This should be a promising campaign for the Saxon track and field athletes, and their devotion will be an inspiration to us all.

**BY NATHAN WEISER**  
*COPY EDITOR*

Despite the AU Women’s Lacrosse team holding a 1-8 record, talents from predominately freshman and sophomore goal scorers have the team excited for the future.

The lady Saxons record isn’t all that impressive, but they have made many strides since last year. According to coach Samantha Valder, the offensive zone pressure has increased dramatically from a year ago.

Another positive is that the team is equipped with a multitude of weapons on the offensive end as opposed to, last year, relying on two elite players.

On the defensive end, the turnaround begins with AU’s goalie feeding off the rest of the defense.

The team, due to its youth, has failed to string together a complete game.

“Overall we have played well but not for the whole game,” Valder said.

A game that stands out for Valder and players is the April 5 14-13 defeat to Hartwick. The teams were evenly matched, but containing a standout Hartwick player who scored eight goals proved to be the difference.

Alfred had a slim lead, 7-6, at halftime. After an even second half, the game came to Alfred

unable to stop Hartwick’s offensive attack.

“We worked very well as a team, and that game showed everyone the ability that we have and will continue to have in games to come,” freshman Michelle Adams said.

The team’s closest contest in the Empire 8 establishes a mindset that the team needs moving forward. In defeat, Adams tied a school record by scoring 10 goals. Adams’ also tallied 16 shots on goal, which broke school and E8 conference marks. In fact, Adams is the only player in the E8 this season to fire 10 shots on goal. For her outstanding play, Adams was awarded E8 player of the week.

“It’s a privilege to be on a team where such a feat is possible. I could not have attained such honors without the support and help of my team and coach,” Adams said.

Even on this team, with so many talented athletes, every individual on the team contributes in their own way.

“Every player has a job, which they do really well,” according to Valder. Another player who has been a huge contributor this season is Emily Tobin who is leading the team with 18 assists. Tobin, too, broke an AU record with eight assists in the aforementioned Hartwick contest. Tobin said she’s pleased to be a part of a unit that plays together cohesively. She didn’t believe that she would pull it off, but she has great chemistry with Adams.

“Luckily, (Michelle) Adams and I have a great connection on the field, and I am able to find her when she is open,” Tobin said. “The offense and defense of the women’s lacrosse team is something to watch out for in the coming games and coming seasons.”



PHOTO BY NATHAN WEISER  
Alfred’s Michelle Adams looks to set up the offense on Saturday, April 12, against Elmira College. The Saxons lost 12-10.

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For further information about summer art courses, please contact Beth Woodworth at 607-871-2412, [whritebr@alfred.edu](mailto:whritebr@alfred.edu). Questions about all other summer school courses should be directed to the Office of Summer Programs at 607-871-2612, [summerpro@alfred.edu](mailto:summerpro@alfred.edu).

Alfred University

SUMMER SCHOOL



Lady Saxon’s spirits aren’t dampened by the weather

Inexperienced Saxon ‘lax team loaded with young talent

BY JON WORDINGHAM  
STAFF WRITER

Coming out of the gate, AU’s Lady Saxons accumulated a roller-coaster four wins and six defeats.

“Well, we missed six games when we went down to Florida because we got snowed in (Rochester),” Head Coach Gino Olivieri said. “And in a couple of those (losses), I feel like the officiating was poor.”

The team’s first game back from the trip was a double header against perennial powerhouse Ithaca College (4-0 Empire 8). The first game was tied 1-1 heading into the top of the fourth inning when Ithaca’s Nicole Cade smacked a solo homerun, a run that would eventually be the difference. In the second game, Ithaca had an offensive explosion, putting seven runs across the plate and defeating AU, 7-1. The players seem not only un-phased, but also excited about its performance in those games.

“The first game was very close, I thought we had it,” sophomore team captain Jessica Figallo said. “Coming that close to a nationally ranked team really gave us momentum for the second game. We had both of those games won in our hearts and if those games are any indication about the rest of our season, I’m pumped.”

The defensive performances for the Saxons have been stellar for the most part, but the team’s biggest concern remains the same: offense. However, the team remains upbeat with their progress thus far, and they believe that they are destined for an Empire 8 playoff birth.

“I believe if we just keep our con-

fidence and go into every game like it’s the game that’s going to take us to the playoffs, we won’t fall,” Figallo’s co-Captain sophomore Jesika LeBaron said. “We have to go out with attitude, confidence and self determination and we will have nothing to lose.”

So far, another opponent has been the cause of turmoil in the AU dugout: weather. Early in this new season, the Saxons have been snowed in and rained out of 10 games, four in the Empire 8 alone.

“It stinks to get rained out, but I’ve come to expect it in early spring in western New York,” Olivieri said.

The snow-in meant missed opportunities to play and learn for the young players on the team. The Saxons missed six all-important games in Florida because they were stuck in Alfred with several feet of snow. The team will now have to learn how to play together throughout their arduous Empire 8 conference schedule. Although officiating and weather are constant battles, the Saxons seem poised to push through the adversity.

“The only thing we can do is go out and play our game, we can only do so much,” Figallo said. “Yes, here and there, there are going to be bad calls, but we need to move on from those, use those, and push ourselves harder.”

The team will need to push harder to achieve their preseason goal of an Empire 8 playoff birth. As long as the belief remains intact and the plays continue to be made, this team just may have pre-ordained its future.

BY JEREMY JUHASZ  
SPORTS EDITOR

On this year’s AU men’s lacrosse roster, seniors are hard to find. Youth oftentimes equals inconsistency. But, it also can mean a good nucleus of young talent.

“Sometimes we show up for halves and we can play with pretty much anybody,” head coach Jason Lockner said. “But two-quarters of lacrosse isn’t going to win that many games in our conference.”

Lockner admits that it’s his responsibility to tease out that talent on the club. It’s been a roller coaster season thus far with the team posting an overall record of 3-5. The disappointing 1-4 in Empire 8 is where Lockner would like his team to improve.

From a coaching perspective, Lockner expects the team to grow and the younger players continue to gain valuable game-time experience. For young players such as freshman Adam Schutz, the goalie position provides enough pressure regardless of skill. Schutz believes that the prospect of AU returning to the glory years is achievable through the current players on the roster.

In addition to the talented roster already assembled, Schutz has confidence that Lockner’s expertise in recruiting will catapult AU lacrosse back to those prior successful seasons.

“With coach’s ability to get recruits, Alfred lacrosse will be like it was in the 90s,” Schutz said.

Two out of the three captains on the roster are currently freshman. Short stick defensive midfielder Dave DeRaddo and Schutz lead the youth revolution and senior midfield-

er Andy Haynes provides the senior experience to complete the leadership trio.

Haynes understands that the few experienced players on the roster need to assist the rookies.

“The young guys are stepping into their own shoes, getting ready to lead this team in the future,” Haynes said. “The upper classmen are doing all they can to help them out.”

Alfred still has playoff aspirations, but to do that, more consistency is required. Haynes agrees with Lockner, and in order to earn more victories, consistency remains vital.

“The biggest thing we need to work on is stringing together four quarters of solid play,” Haynes said. “Once we do that, we can run with any team in the Empire 8.”



PHOTO BY JEREMY JUHASZ  
(Above) AU goalie Adam Schutz attempts to save a shot fired on goal April 12. AU fell 5-3 to St. John Fisher and dropped its conference record to 1-4 in the Empire 8 contest.

# AU Equestrian team heading off to nationals

BY SAMUEL URANN  
FEATURES AND OPINIONS EDITOR

The Alfred University Equestrian Team received a landmark invitation. After its recent victory in the semi-finals, the team will be the first ever to be accepted and go to the Intercollegiate National Horse Show.

Traveling up South Main Street and continuing over Jericho Hill, there is a driveway with a sign at the entrance for the Bromeley-Daggett Equestrian Center.

Established in August of 2005, the state-of-the-art center is located at the Maris Cuneo Equine Park. There are offices, classrooms, a 200-foot by 80-foot indoor arena, two outdoor arenas and 56 horse stalls, and it is all on the 400-acre facility just a few minutes off campus.

The AU Western Riding Team has only been in existence for two years now, while the English Equestrian Team (AUET) has been around for some time longer.

AU, being a member of the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA.com) where the Western Team’s recent second place win in the semi-finals on March 29-30, has allowed for the entrance into national competition.

In the semi-finals, the team showed potential, beating Cal Poly Pomona College of Agriculture, which has finished first or second in recent years.

The Intercollegiate Horse Show Association was established in 1999 to develop sportsmanship, team enthusiasm and horsemanship for all competitors. The stipulations of these competitions include riders not being able to use their own horses, but

also there is no personal tack and schooling (warming up) permitted. This is all done to truly test horsemanship and ensure that no rider has a particular advantage.

Three members of the AU team (Gilbert, Groen, and Mix) agreed that the random drawing of a horse “is the most difficult aspect of the competition.”

The team will be going to Los Angeles, Calif. where the event itself will extend over a four-day period, while the trip lasts eight days. Five riders who will be competing in the upcoming event.

Once at the event, everyone in each particular class rides as a group, which is anywhere from 12 to 16 riders from all over the U.S.

First for the team qualifiers, in the Beginner Western Horsemanship division, is Natalie Gilbert.

Second for the team qualifiers, in the Intermediate Western Horsemanship division, is Kelsey Coggiola.

Third for the team qualifiers, in the Novice Western Horsemanship division, is Jenny Groen.

Fourth for the tram qualifiers, and qualifying for the team in both Open Western and Open Reining Horsemanship, is Kaitlyn Mix. Mix also qualified for both Open Western and Open Reining as an individual rider outside of the team.

Harry Hurd, the head coach and trainer of the western team, expressed his feelings toward his contestants.

“I’m really proud of this group of kids,” Hurd said. Hurd also noted the difficulty of the Open Reigning division.

“If they miss it by two strides, they get a zero,” Hurd said.

The Open Reigning division involves running circles, and performing sliding stops all in a set pattern. Hurd went on to praise the hard work and merit of the AU team rider who qualified in this division.

“Katie needs to be national champion,” Hurd said.

The western team has been continually training and preparing for the upcoming event. The regular practices are from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., although this does not including individual riding time.

One member of the team, Natalie Gilbert, said practicing approximately took “3 hours a day.” Harry Hurd added that they “don’t have to be together for practice, but they try too.” Mix said she was there “pretty much everyday” and Groen concurred that she practices daily.

In terms of total experience time, team members Groen, Mix, and Coggiola all have been riding for about 13 years, while Gilbert, having qualified for the Beginner Western Horsemanship division, has only two months under her belt. Gilbert commented on the team’s continual preparation.

“The team is extremely supportive getting everyone in shape,” she said.

“Great effort was put in by all the team,” the team’s co-captain, Corey Urtel, said. “Consistently doing well is what got us to nationals.”

Mix, Gilbert, and Groen all agreed that the team was “enthusiastic and practicing hard” to put forth the best effort.

The upcoming competition should be an exciting one with the AU team riders having a chance at winning saddles, boots and hats along with national respect from fellow competitors.

The AU Equestrian Club (AUEC) is open to all current and former AU students, faculty and staff. Any member of the AU community is encouraged to visit the facilities and get involved with this growing organization.



PHOTO PROVIDED  
Members of the AU Equestrian team hold their second-place ribbons after a semi-finals competition, which qualified the team for finals. From left to right: Coach Christina Brokaw, Natalie Gilbert, Jenny Groen, Katie Mix, Kristen Kovatch, Corey Urtel, Kelsey Coggiola and Coach Harry Hurd.