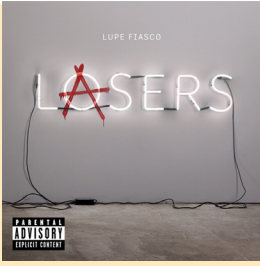


Men's Lacrosse
Team keeps streak of
perfection alive
Page 6



Melanie Baker reviews
Lupe Fiasco's Lasers
Page 2



Below: Women's
Lacrosse team will
rally for a win March
26 on Merrill Field

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF ALFRED UNIVERSITY



March 22, 2011

FREE (additional copies \$.50)

www.thefiatlux.com

Photo provided by Sarah Shafer

Drawn to Diversity goes to Brooklyn

Jericho Shackelford
Editor in Chief

Alfred University club Drawn to Diversity brought messages of temperance and respect to students of Passages Academy, a Brooklyn remedial school, Thursday March 10.

The Drawn to Diversity contingent left from AU Wednesday morning for a Thursday show. The crew was composed of staff-persons Director of Student Activities and club organizer Dan Napolitano, Diversity Coordinator Craig Arno and students Isaiah Cassin, Sam Miller, Kevin Carr, Jack Yu, Andrea Castro and Brittany Gardener.

The March 10th event marked the third Drawn to Diversity appearance at the passages school. Therefore the three performances given to different levels of students were fitting.

Although this was the debut presentation for many members of the Art Force Five - the performing hand of Drawn to Diversity - the springtime comrades found success in Brooklyn.

"I was proud to bring a new generation of the art force five to serve as positive role models for troubled youth," said Napolitano.

The first class consisted of five middle and high school aged girls, the second of nine boys the same age and a final lesson was taught to students of a higher functioning class.

While each section began with the same introduction and clearance to begin from Napolitano's command center the individual classes also offered their

Continued on page 6



Photo provided



Photo provided



Photo provided

Student senate elections yeild two new faces and one familiar

Kim Rau
Contributing Writer

Juniors Ana Devlin Gauthier and Ronja Ogrodnik saw victory in there races for president and vice president while Scott DeFranco-Norton was elected as student senate treasurer following his vice-presidential upset.

Voting in the student senate elections took place from February 27 through

to March 2. Running for the presidential seat was junior, Devlin Gauthier and first-year biology major Matthew Farrell. Vying for position of vice-president was Ogrodnik, a junior biology major and first-year engineer DeFranco-Norton.

Major issues facing this year's election were budget cuts, diversity on campus and how to engage more of the student body.

For the 2011 elections, voting turnout saw higher numbers than former years, with a total of 334 students signing in to participate. Over the course of the four days, students logged on and voted through my.alfred to cast their vote in the election. The system of voting for this year's election was a

Continued on page 6

Alfredo's Pizzeria classes up Powell



Photo provided by Eric Hudack

Eric Hudack
Managing Editor

Alfredo's Pizzeria, the third installment of Lydia Becker and Gretchen Lohnes's "One-Swipe Café" endeavor, served to great reviews Saturday evening in the Knight Club.

"Contractually, AVI Dining could easily just keep all the student meals in the traditional dining halls, but Lydia and Gretchen work extra hours to provide these great alternative meals and fun atmosphere in order to strengthen our sense of community for our students," Student Activities Director Dan Napolitano said.

Becker and Lohnes created The One-Swipe Café in order to host special events to surprise students with an occasional "different" option to the dining hall.

As November brought Cinco de Noviembre, a Mexican-night, and the All-American BBQ made its debut in February, it only made sense that an Italian night would follow.

The atmosphere created in the Knight Club was impressive to say the least, although, if the theme from "The Godfather" was played one more time, Napolitano

may have had to deal with an offer he couldn't refuse. Napolitano donned the surname "Alfredo" and acted as host to the student-diners. The lights were dimmed, creating an elegant and romantic setting.

Perhaps the most significant aspect was the quality of the food. The pizza far surpassed the traditional "dining hall" slice. It was not greasy, the sauce was not overloaded with garlic, but actually had a sweet flavor to it. The portions were even appropriate.

The one short-coming was the service. Unfortunately, the Knight Club was so overrun with students, some ended up waiting over an hour for their pizzas after ordering. "Some students did have to wait a while for their food but we really appreciated everyone's patience as we tested out this new program," Napolitano said.

That being said, the quality and the atmosphere did merit the wait.

Napolitano added that if students express the desire, more One-Swipe Cafés will be held in the Fall. Becker and Lohnes are interested in hearing suggestions for themes.



Photo provided by Vreni Gust

Opossum shatters Sub Shop window

Eric Hudack
Managing Editor

The Alfred Sub Shop became the latest target of drunken vandals as an opossum was thrown through the window after

the bars closed early Friday morning.

"Everyone thinks it's funny, but it's not," Ellen Odell, owner of Alfred's Sub Shop that got hit by the vandalism.

According to student

witnesses, a group of Alfred University students found a dead opossum on the street and began throwing it at each other. After a bit of encouragement, one

Continued on page 6

Unfair Dining Hall Prices

J.P. McCombs
Staff Writer

Between the cost of tuition, books, transportation and board, college is an expensive endeavor. Adding to that cost is the food factor. A meal plan is obviously a substantial part of the cost of college regardless of what school you choose to attend, but at Alfred University it seems as if it's too much.

In fact, it's much higher than multiple surrounding area schools at its



Photo provided by Sarah Shafer

yearly rate of \$5,598 for the full meal plan. This seems pretty unfair when comparing the price to others: Saint Lawrence at

\$4,900, Cortland at \$4,300, St. John Fisher at \$3,700 and Brockport at \$3,566 which is \$2,000 less than

Continued on page 6

In defense of nuclear power

Griffin Patterson
Contributing Writer

With the nuclear power plant situation in Japan worsening every day, media efforts continue to inform us with updates of what exactly is going on. But, what exactly is going on? What does all of this mean?

Nuclear energy is a complicated area with very intricate theories that go way beyond what we learn in Chem 101, so while information pertaining to the Fukushima reactors is

important, a general background in how a nuclear reactor works might be the most important thing to grasp the full situation.

Coal and natural gas power plants operate by igniting the fuel inside a tank, which ignites more fuel and boils water around the tank. This water vapor then turns turbine generators and then is condensed back into water to be used again. When this occurs, the fuel is burnt into CO2 and a solid material known

as coal ash.

Nuclear energy is not too different. Uranium fuel rods are heated in a chamber so water around it will boil and rotate turbine generators. However, the reaction involved isn't as simple as lighting a match.

Nuclear power reactions continue at a steady rate when the status remains at critical mass. Of the two or three neutrons that discharge in a traditional Uranium atom split, an

Continued on page 7

News

pg 8. Two arested in mugging on AU campus.

Features

pg 7. Bryan Daly finds his Wit and Wisdom
pg .7 Victoria Flood conquers a hardcore fear
pg.7 Eric Hudack investigates journalistic responsibility

Editorial/OpEd

pg. Editorial: Radical to the core (or what you will)
pg 4. Vreni Gust fights Facebook addiction



Alf Student Writing

pg 5. A section inspired by student writer for writers of genres other than new.

Sports

pg 11. Griffin Taylor has mad thoughts for March Madness' Round of 64

The Alfred Beat

pg. 5 Main St. Profiles
pg. 5 How to save a buck on software

News

pg 8. Hearts out to Japan with a recap on catastrophe



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Carousel spins its way into AU music scene

Eric Hudack

Managing Editor

The Alfred University Student Activity Board left a floater in the Knight Club when the grunge/alt band Carousel took the stage Saturday night.

While audience members claimed it was a good show, this writer thought otherwise.

Carousel is the kind of band that makes up for their lack of musicianship and song writing ability by turning up the amps and hoping you cannot hear their glaring flaws. Like lack of talent, for example. The arrangements lacked inspirations and the melodies lacked creativity.

You can clearly hear an Eddie Vedder and Kurt Cobain influence, but it just ends up sounding like a more annoying version of Creed (yes, I didn't think it was possible either.)

Carousel is unsigned for a reason. Maybe they should go to Seattle and learn a thing or two about true grunge music.

While I will admit that they sound better live than in the studio, Carousel did manage to keep the crowd happy. And I guess that is half the battle.



Photo provided by Rebecca Spitz



Photo provided by Rebecca Spitz



Photo provided by Rebecca Spitz

The show goes on: Lasers by Lupe Fiasco



Melanie Baker

Arts & Entertainment

It seems to be the year for epic hip-hop albums. Releasing an album in the hip-hop world comes with a very high set of standards these days, packing tons of name-drop worthy producers and collaborators onto as many tracks one can fit, all while telling a musical story in a cohesive and aurally-pleasing manner.

Naturally, my hat goes of to Lupe Fiasco's brand new release, Lasers. After a significant delay due to record label disputes, the album has finally hit the masses and the acclaim is pretty astounding as Lasers continues to dominate the charts. The album isn't flawless, however, and I would argue that his competition, Kanye West and Kid Cudi, have put forth more immaculate records this year. Nevertheless, Lasers is an album to appreciate and pluck definitive smash singles from that will keep Lupe Fiasco as a fixture on the hip-hop scene.

The first single racking up radio playtime is "The Show Goes On," which consists of a back-melody borrowed from Modest Mouse's hit "Float On." This style has become a convention in hip-hop in recent years, from Flo Rida's "Right Round" and "Sugar" to "Whatcha Say" by Jason Derulo. What could

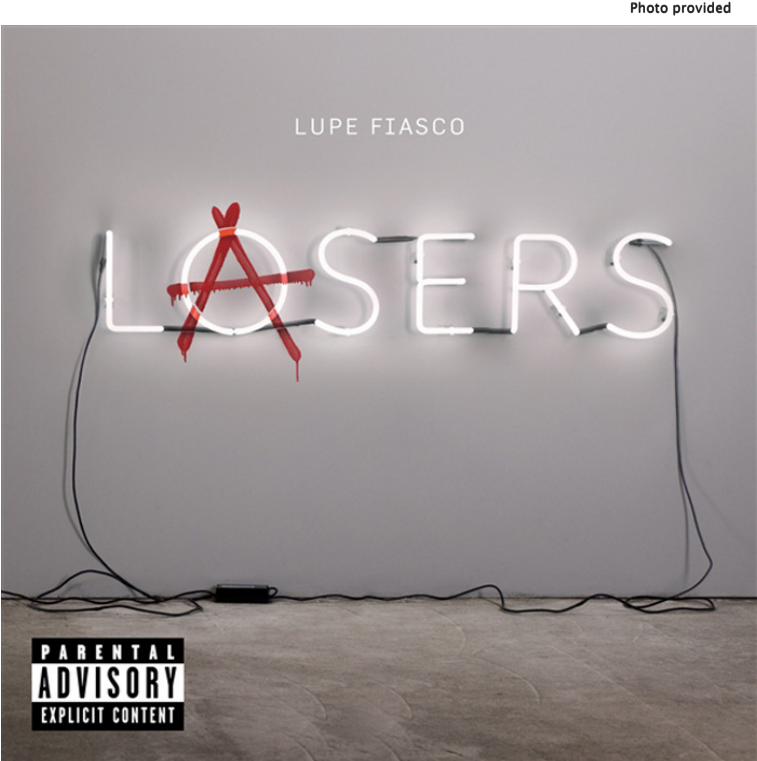


Photo provided

be taken as a lack of creativity in songwriting can be seen in the same vein as guaranteeing success by using what's worked in the past. "Float On's" forever-catchy backbeat provides the stage for Lupe Fiasco's lyrics, which seem lighter than his verses off of past records, "Food & Liquor" and "The Cool." Despite being lyrically slight, the song has an uplifting feel and will probably have you hitting repeat a few times.

Parts of Lasers feel like Lupe Fiasco fell victim to over-producing in the studios, causing tracks to feel layered haphazardly or covering Lupe's own lyrics to show off what a cool studio soundboard and some computers can do. Tracks like "Break the Chain" feel like a house club remix lacking soul and lyrical care that listeners know Lupe Fiasco is more than capable of.

Redeeming tracks include "Beautiful Lasers," "State Run Radio" and "All Black Everything," three masterpieces

that tie in the sound we were spoiled with on Fiasco's previous albums. A tension can be heard throughout the album that hints at a possible struggle with the production of Lasers. Lupe Fiasco's integrity as an artist feels compromised on more pop collaboration tracks like, "Words I Never Said" which features up-and-comer Skylar Grey. Fiasco fights back though, with brilliant social commentary on war and the economy. Luckily, the song will probably gain a lot of popular pull due to Grey's recent stint on tracks by Dr. Dre and Diddy Dirty Money.

Lupe Fiasco's Lasers is a definite change from the sounds of "Food & Liquor" and "The Cool," but the album packs a punch and defines itself apart from the past records as a completely legitimate re-entry for the rapper's career. Avoid the over-processed tracks, and get straight to the good stuff. It's there, I promise. Lupe Fiasco wouldn't have it any other way.



FIAT LUX

Vol. 105, No. 11
Next issue: April 4, 2011
Next deadline: April 1 by midnight

JERICHO SHACKELFORD Editor in Chief
ERIC HUDACK Managing Editor
ADRIAN TO Advertisement Manager
Griffin Taylor Sports Editor
NICKELINA NOEL Features Editor
MELANIE BAKER Arts & Entertainment Editor
VRENI GUST Opinions Editor
REBECCA SPITZ Head Photographer
JONATHAN MERRIT Contributing Photographer
SARAH SHAFER Contributing Photographer
GILLIAN LICHTER Copy Editor
EDDIE BROWN Copy Editor
VICTORIA FLOOD Copy Editor
JEFF SLUYTER-BELTRÃO Faculty Advisor

Earth Week

April 18 to 22

All kinds of events!
All week long!

- › environmental movies
- › forums and panels
- › Eco-swap
- › info tables in Powell
- › painting your own flower pot



it's not just a name.
it's an action.

Look out for
more details
coming soon!

Editorial:

Eleven days after catastrophe

March 11, 2011 an earthquake and tsunami struck the north-eastern coast of Japan with shocking consequence. Within hours the world caught word of possible nuclear meltdown – the side affect of disaster.

The aftermath is unfolding as millions of Japanese are still wondering in which direction to turn, which harbor is safe and which homes may have water.

11 days after the catastrophe, this magnitude nine earthquake has left 18,000 casualties, 3,000 missing persons, an estimated 350,000 people living in evacuation centers and 1 million homes without running water.

Sale of milk and vegetables originating from or sold in certain areas have been banned.

Government officials in both Japan and the United States have claimed that the risk of full on nuclear failure is diminishing with each day as workers successfully counter the damage.

Meanwhile the United States is making potassium iodide tablets available to government personnel stationed in Japan; the tablets are said to reduce

the risk of thyroid cancer if exposed to higher levels of radiation. Release of these tablets has caused frenzy as far as the United States' west coast despite assurances of security.

Just over a year ago a magnitude 7 earthquake hit the Caribbean island of Haiti. People were shocked and not just overseas. Students fearing for the safety of family members took action: T-shirts were sold, fundraisers were had and the Pour for Haiti became an award-winning example of student innovation.

History, however, may not be the place to turn for answers as communities on a global scale find themselves evermore helpless to the announcements of international news.

Innovation is taking hold in communities throughout Japan as the stepping-stone toward a brighter, more secure future. So too should that spirit take hold here at Alfred University.

A good idea and the heart to follow it led this community's efforts as over \$5,000 were earned in the initial Pour for

Haiti.

Currently the Center for Student Involvement is orchestrating an entire week (beginning yesterday), March 21 through Friday, March 25 with a day of solidarity. Students may wear T-shirts (bought and decorated the preceding Thursday) in recognition of Japan's continuing struggle with tragedy.

Alfred to Asia is planning to donate all proceeds from the annual A2A event to the Red Cross in Japan in hopes of aiding relief efforts.

As previously seen, there is no idea too small to be worth hearing, no hand too singular to have a force, no feeling too solitary not to be expressed.

As consideration goes out to AU's four Japanese students and all alumni who currently live there, please remember that no act in response to this tragedy may be deemed insignificant.

For information on more events sponsored by AU's CSI please contact Nancy Banker at banker@alfred.edu.

FIAT LUX

Vol. 105, No. 10
Next issue: April 4, 2011
Next deadline: April 1 by midnight

Editorial Policy

The *Fiat* welcomes your opinion. Anyone may write a letter to the editor. Submissions must include name, address, phone number and class year (for students). Letters to the editor should be limited to 250 words; guest columns should be limited to 700 words. The *Fiat Lux* reserves the right to edit all letters for space, clarity, brevity and fair play. E-mail your thoughts to fiatlux@alfred.edu. Submissions should follow the rules of fair play (i.e. get the facts straight).

Editorial Policy: The *Fiat Lux* welcomes feedback from its readers. Letters to the editor will be subject to editing for space and content purposes. The *Fiat Lux* reserves the right not to print any letter. Letters must be accompanied by name, address and telephone number. E-mail: fiatlux@alfred.edu or mail letters to: *Fiat Lux*, attn: Editor, Powell Campus Center, Alfred, N.Y. 14802.

The *Fiat Lux* supports the perpetuation of a broad and liberal education conducive to free speech. Only unsigned editorials reflect the opinions of this newspaper. All other editorials reflect the author's opinion.

The *Fiat Lux* is printed by Adnet Direct and is typeset by the production staff. It is funded in part by Student Senate. The *Fiat* can be reached at (607) 871-2192.



Did you know you don't need fancy cleaners to wash your windows? Just mix a little vinegar and water, and use those left over newspapers that you've finished reading. The vinegar is a natural disinfectant, and the newspaper leaves a streak-free shine.

Opinions

Capital Efforts: requiem for a union



Jericho Shackelford
Editor in Chief

These days, revolution isn't only happening somewhere across the pacific or even far away over the Atlantic. Currently, revolution is happening right here, in town halls, on the streets and in committee rooms. It is being broadcasted as a war on unions. News flash, it is a war on unions.

Like the proverbial dinner table, I would love to keep politics out of this

issue. Unfortunately, it seems that too many hands have already dipped into this bowl to deny their presence as the force backing the issue of breaking unions.

In Wisconsin, Governor Scott Walker has proposed an end to collective bargaining rights with newly proposed legislation. Judge Maryann Sumi of Dane County, Wisconsin has blocked the act based on allegations stating that Wisconsin's republican senate violated its open meetings act. In Ohio, Governor John Kasich has passed the SB-5 bill, which also works to do away with collective bargaining. In fact states as close to home as New Jersey are currently struggling through talks about this issue.

In one sense a union essentially monopolizes a workforce creating higher capital costs for less work than perhaps could be found outside of unions – hence the outsourcing of jobs. The

upside to this is that for a unionized individual one has the opportunity to do less work (weekends were non-existent before unionization) for either the same or more pay.

Truthfully, for some states an end to collective bargaining may be better than for others. Ohio, for instance, gained much more traction with this anti-union movement as citizens are suffering from the highest unemployment rates out of any of these three states.

As we are living through, and many of us will soon be graduating into, an unprecedented era of American society we must be careful not to allow another 'quick fix' to dissuade the American working class out of their right to affect a positive future. There may be problems with collective bargaining, but to bust unions, which is an affront on the first amendment, is ludicrous.

This is so, especially

when the root of the problem is not collective bargaining but capital costs such as healthcare and retirement benefits associated with cost of living.

I am all for getting negligent medical practitioners out and firing inept teachers, but that is why workers organizations – unions – should be made more flexible, not constitutionally ineffective.

For those who may not know, I moonlight as a could-be writer, while acting as one of those first year hall sentries strategically placed in an office six to 12 hours a week between incoming visitors and all the fun in the world. But, Thursdays and Fridays I daylight as a peer advisor at the university's Career Development Center. One of my first assignments came out of a one-on-one with an education student who at the time wanted to know that their future would be secure – in the form of a union.

I can't speak for the

necessity of all unions, but as I researched teacher's unions (one of many public unions) I found that in fact teachers unions play a pivotal role in securing futures for many of our nation's educators.

I'm all for the Ben-Franklinesque work ethic, balancing three jobs and school is no easy feat. For Mr. Franklin's sake I must say let's try, just try, to leave livelihood out of the political mix.

For the right-leaning out there, I used to be a very committed one of you. At some point I realized trickle-down economics doesn't work if you don't let it trickle. It has been proven time and time again but I believe that Bernie Madoff made that point most poignant. Medical care doesn't work as well if it isn't preventative and jobs won't pay if there is no salary floor. Slavery after all, is capitalism optimized – no wonder all our clothes are from China.

Being that I plan on

living my life out the tip of my pen or by the press of keys binarily attributed I can't say much for my own vocational security, but it does seem that to disallow an even playing field such as that provided by collective bargaining via limitations on a group's right to organize seems like an assault on the first amendment.

Americans, including college students – who will be most impacted, need to find a more sustainable alternative than what is being proposed. As political moves such as this will affect more than some demographic in Ohio we must learn to look at the problem as more than right, or left or employed or not. As Governor Walker stated, this movement should be in the best interest of future generations. I say it is time for us to act that way; it's time to press for harder decisions.

I don't believe in Facebook addiction

Vreni Gust
Opinions Editor

I don't believe in Facebook addiction, I just think people need to go outside more. I wanted to look up how much time people procrastinate on Facebook but I came across something far more interesting: information on Facebook addiction and Facebook addiction treatment centers.

Really? A Facebook addiction treatment center? Come on people. When people talk about the "wimpification of America" this is the kind of bologna they are talking about. I realize that any addiction is serious, and can take a serious toll on someone's health. But Facebook is a website, it's not real. Just because Facebook tells you that you have a life doesn't mean that you actually have one. Go outside, hang out with some actual, real-life people. Maybe then you'll be more productive.

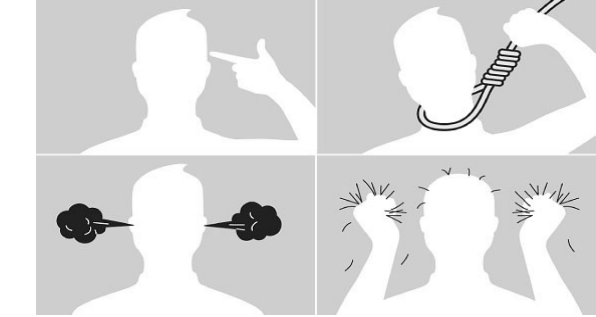
In an interview conducted by AddictionIntervention.com, Kimberly Young, a psychologist who is the director of the Center for Internet Addiction Recovery in Bradford, P.A. said of people with a Facebook addiction:

"A lot of them are finding their own balance," she said. "It's like an eating disorder. You can't eliminate food. You just have to make better choices about what you eat... and what you do online." Wrong. Facebook is not comparable to food. Facebook does not equal sustenance or nutrition or fulfill any basic needs.

Really, in the grand scheme of things, Facebook is not that important. People just need to man up and get offline.

Other studies suggest that students, specifically in college, have lower grades because of Facebook use in class. This I can believe, because I must admit I bring my laptop to classes I hate and surf the web, which includes going on Facebook. But some people just need to exercise some control. What is the point of paying for college when you are going to spend all four years of your time there on Facebook?

Dr. Jane Morgan Bost, associate director of the University of Texas Counseling and Health Center, highlights the problem is not Facebook itself, but the disconnect people are able to achieve when they use the platform. The



warning signs are easy to spot when social networking usage starts to interfere with the daily routine.

"Could be a student's grades start tanking, they could be losing sleep, they're often unaware of how much time they've spent on Facebook," said Dr. Bost. "They're not really making the choice to do it, they're just feeling this sense of compulsion and having to do that behavior."

Facebook has become somewhat ingrained into our social functions, but let me reiterate that Facebook is actually not real, and our interactions through Facebook aren't as meaningful as our face to face interactions. Sherry Turkle is a psychologist, the director of the Initiative on Technology and Self at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and author of the book "Alone Together," which is about

our generation's obsession with social media. She talks about one 18-year-old boy for whom "Facebook wasn't merely a distraction, but it was really confusing him about who he was." She said he couldn't handle trying to live up to his own descriptions of himself. Why are we taking Facebook so seriously? You're online persona is not as important as your happiness.

I just feel like we need to get back to basics. What sounds better to you: going for a walk with a friend and catching up, or stalking them on Facebook to figure out what's new with them? Facebook might be good and useful in some ways, but it is not something to be addicted to. People should be addicted to their real lives, not the online version of themselves.

Finger Lakes Parent Network - now hiring

Finger Lakes Parent Network, Inc. has an opening for a childcare worker to provide skill building and respite care for emotionally/behaviorally and/or developmentally challenged children in Allegany County. \$10 p/hr. plus mileage, up to 20 hrs. per month. Flexible hours with some evenings and weekend availability. MUST have HS Diploma/GED and reliable transportation. References, background check and fingerprinting (at no cost) required. To apply call 800-934-4244.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Alfred to Asia: The Award-winning show is back with more

Adrian To
Advertisement Manager

Last year's Alfie-Award-winning show, Alfred to Asia (A2A) will once again showcase talents and culture from various parts of Asia beginning at 7 p.m Saturday, April 2, in Holmes Auditorium.

This year's theme is Air Tour; audiences will experience a unique flight experience to Asia through performances including traditional and pop dance, as well as music performance.

Organized by the International Student and Scholars Organization (ISSO), Alfred to Asia has been presenting and bringing Asian culture and elements to the Alfred community since 2006.

What can audiences expect to see in this year's A2A?

"Audience members will have a whole new experience from last year," said Linh Do, the newly-elected president of ISSO.

"This year, we tried to show more elements of Asia to AU; we will be bringing a rock band, lion dance and many more surprises. I hope audiences will have a 'WOW' after the show," he added.

One of the most-applauded-parts of last year's show, the Boys and Girls pop dance, will be back this year with Girls Generation's "Hoot" and SHINee's "Lucifer." If rehearsals are any indication, both dance groups are very well prepared to rock Holmes Auditorium with dynamic pop music and unique Korean dance moves.

In addition, this year's Alfred to Asia will have more local students' participation in various parts of the show from stage management to performances to graphic designing. First-year student Cassie Klipera, newly-elected vice president of ISSO, is one of the active members of the upcoming show; she will be in a traditional Chinese Fan Dance with several other students. She said she is very excited about the show and loves being a part of it.

This event is open to all and admission is free. In response to the tragic earthquake and tsunami that recently affected Japan; there will be a donation box by the door at Holmes Auditorium that night. All donations will directly benefit the American Red Cross relief efforts in Japan.



Westboro Baptist Church brings views to NYC

Melanie Baker
A&E Editor

Attendees at the 2011 College Media Advisers Spring convention in NYC were given the opportunity to witness a rare presentation when Margie Phelps, a member of the Westboro Baptist Church sat down to answer questions and speak about her church.

The Westboro Baptist Church has gained notoriety and infamy in recent years, most prominently for their controversial picketing of American soldier's funerals. Often the group can be seen holding deeply offensive and irrational signs with hateful messages like, "GOD HATES FAGS," "GOD HATES AMERICA," and "THANK GOD FOR DEAD SOLDIERS." The church headquarters are located in Kansas where Fred Phelps founded the institution. To this day, the extremely small church (around 100 members) is predominately comprised of Phelps' very large family.

Convention-goers were hyped up and anxious for Margie Phelps to take the stage, as every other overheard sentence involved, "Will they boo her

off the stage?" In a room jam-packed with up-and-coming journalism and media students, Phelps must have known the odds were stacked against her in terms of support, something I'm sure her church is familiar with on a daily basis. Once Phelps and the interview moderator took the stage, it was made very clear that the talk would be educational, focusing on the first amendment, a topic very close to media studies as well as the Westboro Baptist Church.

The first amendment focuses on freedom of religion and freedom of expression and free speech. The Westboro Baptist Church has, not surprisingly, been in and out of the legal system defending their right to the first amendment based on the outlandish nature of their picketing. Most recently, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of Phelps and the Westboro Baptist Church, allowing them to continue picketing as it falls under the rights of the first amendment. The decision was 8-1.

As Phelps spoke at the convention, sneering,

Adrian To
Advertisement Manager

Personally, I do not like Miley Cyrus. A lot of it has to do with her depiction of such a silly character in the Disney Channel series, "Hannah Montana," where she doubles as a high school girl by day and teenage pop-star at night. If you have watched that show before, even one episode, you will probably notice how annoying Hannah Montana is and wonder how this show can be a global sensation among teens and children.

Following in the footsteps of teen stars like Macaulay Culkin ("Home Alone") and Lindsay Lohan ("Mean Girls"), the former Disney Channel Star is beginning to show the unpublicized side of her life. From provocative photos and messy

relationships, to pole dancing on a teen award show and most recently, video of her smoking Salvia (a legal herb in California that will produce hallucinogenic effects) from a bong, her life is pretty much a copy of Lindsay's - a messed up former teen star who got stuck in her career.

Miley wrapped up the 'Hannah Montana' series last year, and is officially released from the Disney chain. She has since starred in a couple movies and her scandals continue to spread around the internet.

What surprised me is that she stepped up and hosted Saturday Night Live two weeks ago after being parodied numerous times on the show's sketch, "The Miley Cyrus Show" starring SNL cast member Vanessa Bayer.

I would give her a B+ for her efforts on SNL. She definitely stepped out of her comfort zone, and even made fun of herself, referring to the bong incident and her acting on Hannah Montana.

She did a great job in her monologue where she sang a show-tune about about not being perfect, despite having the voice of a baby goat. I particularly liked the Charlie Sheen sketch where Cyrus played the ever strung-out Lindsay Lohan and the Black Eyed Peas sketch where Miley played a horribly annoying version of Fergie.

Miley tried her best to bring out the humor in that night's show, especially in her improvisation of Justin Bieber in the "Miley Cyrus Show." Miley did all of Justin Bieber's

trying- to-be-a-cool-kid moves in the sketch, like the eye-wink and tossing of Bieber's disturbing bangs.

Although she was definitely not the best host of this season of SNL, she was indeed way better than Russell Brand and January Jones.

So, what does Miley's future look like? I would say it's pretty unclear, depending on how she utilizes opportunities like SNL. Oh, and I really hope she stops being a poor influence on children and teens, considering salvia sales rose 50% after the leaked video of her incident. If Miley wants to stay relevant in the media, she needs to become a better role model... Or a better actress... Or a better singer.

Alfred Rugby Club

THE ALFRED RUGBY CLUB IS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS.

MEMBERSHIP IS OPEN TO ALFRED UNIVERSITY STUDENTS.

WE'VE BEEN IN BUSINESS SINCE 1985.

IF YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME EXPERIENCE WITH GREAT TEAMMATES, TERRIFIC ACTION AND EXCITEMENT, TRY ALFRED RUGBY.

PRACTICES ARE 3 TIMES A WEEK WITH 5-6 GAMES THIS SPRING.

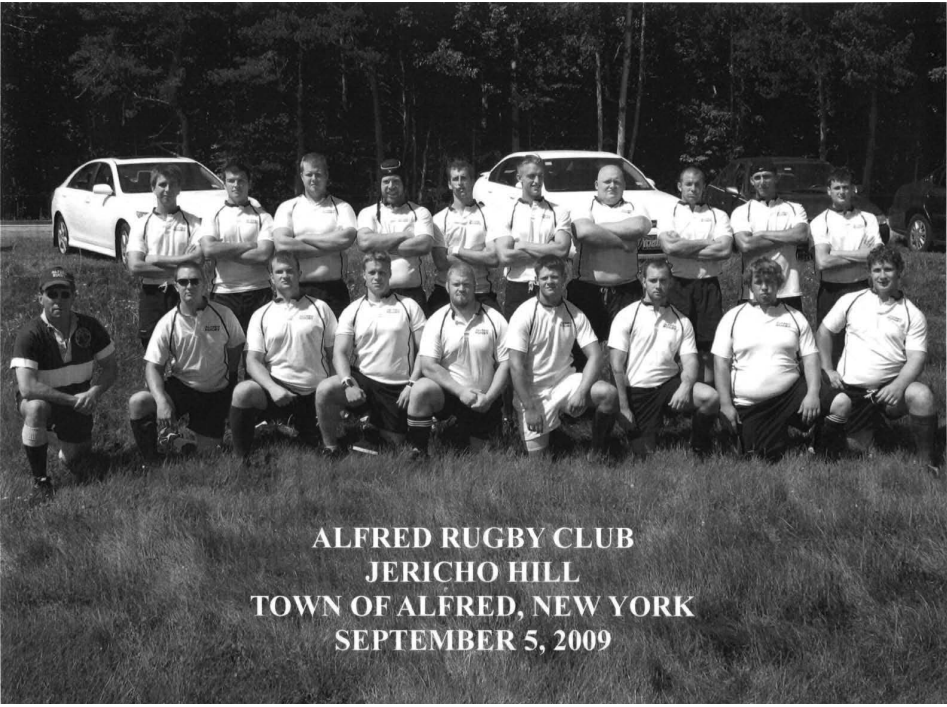
NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY. CONTACT ZACH @ 518-321-4625

(CELL) DARROWZA@ALFREDSTATE.EDU <MAILTO:DARROWZA@AL-

FREDSTATE.EDU> , MARK @ 585.615.5734 (CELL) MNH1@ALFRED.

EDU<MAILTO:MNH1@ALFRED.EDU>, OR COACH PULOS @ WPULOS@

STNY.RR.COM<MAILTO:WPULOS@STNY.RR.COM>.



laughter, and a sense of unease fell over the room as answers to rational questions produced irrational responses on sinning, damnation, imminent doom and countless, "Don't say the Westboro Baptist Church didn't tell you so" phrases. What became most clear was how strong minded Margie Phelps and her church are, how certain they are that they're word is written in stone, and we're all living under it without a care.

Phelps constantly reminded the room that we have sinned beyond repenting as a country, that we are beyond forgiveness or repair and at the maximum, America has 10 years before it literally implodes from its sinning. Whether you believe this or not, it's safe to say, the entire room erupted in riotous laughter; maybe we like our sinning, or maybe we're just confident America probably won't implode so soon.

As student journalists at the talk grabbed microphones and asked a myriad of intelligent questions, Phelps condescendingly

shot each and every one down with her stock answers, Bible verses and immature antics. One student asked about the nature of bringing children to pickets and actually putting signs of hate speech in their hands. After the attendees cheered the journalist for her question, Margie Phelps quickly referenced three young adult women from her church that she had brought along for the trip, noting that they were three of the most well adjusted, happy and intelligent girls in America. It was in that moment all I wanted to do was ask those girls, "so how do you really feel about dying within the next ten years?"

Throughout the question and answer session, Phelps continued her attempts at belittling gays, jews, our country as a whole, with the exception of throwing her support behind muslims and the controversial building of a mosque near Ground Zero. I'm still not sure where her double standard is working there. The highlight of Phelps' radical speech, however,

came through in an unexpected moment when she plugged the Twitter accounts of her, the church and the three young women accompanying her. Phelps threw around words like "for shizzle" and "BFF," transporting her ancient and twisted beliefs into a far too modern realm.

The laughter from her use of modern jargon soon ceased when she called media, journalism and everyone in the room "ignoble," and calling media the devil. The combined quick wit in the room shot back with responses like, "Well stop plugging your Twitter if you hate the media so much," alluding to her media-whore persona which she chooses to ignore.

With the conclusion of Phelps' tirade, attendees could finally breathe a sigh of relief and reflect on what they'd just witnessed. To say the general temperature in the room was far above blood boiling is definitely accurate, but we all felt a sense of appreciation for witnessing something so rare, so

radical and mentally engaging. By coming so close, practically face to face with views that oppose mine completely, I was able to step back and gain a greater perspective of my country. If we only listen to opinions that match our own, we'll never grow as people.

Of course, Phelps herself will continue to stick to her own kind and block out any "rational" thought not found in her religious books. No matter how much they keep protesting and picketing, or how much hate speech they intend to spread, their church is still small and their attempts are only as significant as we make them.

I commend the 2011 College Media Advisers convention for having the courage to bring Margie Phelps and the beliefs that come with her to the stage to offer a unique experience, a radical perspective and an amazing opportunity for budding journalists and media experts.

PUJARI

Main St. Profile: Pujari Mart

Griffin Taylor
Sports Editor

He goes by PK, he hails from Eastern PA and in just a few months, he has changed the landscape at Pujari Mart (formerly Uni-Mart) both literally and figuratively. He has adjusted the layout of the store, employing clever new tactics such as placing everyday items (milk, bread) opposite each other in the store. This way, when traveling across the store, the customer might just give in to that pack of Reese's. Profit increase in a single day is minimal, but these types of things make money over time.

"Students tell me they want nice stuff, so I try and get it for them. And it improves sales," PK said with a smile.

Customers should also notice a spike in designer brands throughout Pujari Mart. Dove and Softsoap products now sit on the shelves, while Ocean Spray

and Vitamin Water pace the back refrigerators. It is not only items in the store; PK has made significant improvements at the register as well. He now has two active registers to shorten lines, and either he or his wife is nearly always present to oversee the action at all times.

PK has also enacted a five dollar minimum for credit cards at the register, that way the kickback on the fee the store must pay to the creditor is not as crippling and students may be willing to throw one more Gatorade on the pile for card-using privileges.

The store has shortened its hours on Sunday-Tuesday; it is now open from 6am-1am. It has also installed a better camera system for safety purposes both in and out of the store.

"I want to buy a house here, so I want the community to be safe," PK added.

Nick Clark
Contributing Writer

Computer software can be simplified into sequences of commands. These commands can range from very simple, like "move this folder over there," to very complex, such as "decode the data on this DVD so that I can watch INCEPTION."

Most of the software that people are aware of is in a closed source format, meaning that the source code, which acts like a blueprint for programs, is not available for non-copyright holders. Windows, Mac OS, Office (including Word, Excel, Powerpoint, etc.), Adobe Creative Suite (including Photoshop, Illustrator, and InDesign), Maple, AutoCAD, ArcGIS, and others are closed source.

All of these programs have something in common: they all cost money.

Keeping the code of a program secret is perfectly logical, because possessing the code to a program is pretty much the same thing as having

the program itself. If the code to Windows was publicly available, Microsoft wouldn't be able to sell it.

Open Source Software (or "OSS") is software that is developed to be shared. The code to the software is freely available and distributed to users. The benefit of this, and part of what makes most OSS so appealing, is that it is free.

There is actually a complicated conflict of ideologies between the "Open Source Software Movement", and the "Free Software Movement." But, for the purpose of explanation, I will lump the two into one, because the software that we will look at exists in both spheres.

I know what you're thinking. Why is this worth writing about, Nick? What are you getting at?

Computers are all about making life easier. Remember when you had to write all of those papers by hand? How about before the teacher let you use a calculator?

I love my computer, but I loathe having to shell out money to do things. If you use a computer, you know what I'm talking about; Photoshop: \$699, Microsoft Office Home and Student: \$210, AutoCAD: \$3,995, Rhino: \$995, Final Cut Studio: \$1,000, Maple 14: \$995, and that's just to name a few*.

Is this starting to sound expensive? What if you just wanted to edit one quick photo? There are probably tens of thousands of people who have wanted the same thing.

Luckily for us, some of those people can program. There are open-source alternatives to every major program that I thought to look for. One useful site that I found for listing alternatives is www.osalt.com. If you type a program name into their search bar, it will list free alternatives for that program. You can google the names that come up, or you can look to www.sourceforge.com for the download.

For example, Photoshop's free, open-source alternative of choice seems to be GIMP. GIMP imports files from Photoshop, as well as performs comparable tasks

to its expensive commercial brother. GIMP even has a "skin" called "Gimpshop" which can be installed to make its workspace similar to Photoshop.

Programs like Microsoft Word have many more alternatives, including OpenOffice Writer, AbiWord, KWord, and Google Docs. All provide similar environments to Word... completely free of cost.

The only reason you hear about closed source commercial products, is because they pay for advertising. Free software can suit your needs competitively. Always check and see if there is a free alternative to something that you are thinking of buying... it could save you a couple grand.

*These prices are just what I found from browsing around. As a student (or teacher) there are plenty of cheaper options available to us. Check out the bookstore or your friendly ITS helpdesk worker for more information.

ALL STUDENT WRITING

Window-shopping

Stephine Hunt
Contributing Writer

When someone asks who you are, how do you answer the question? You tell them your name, your age, your year in school, what you plan to do with your life. You tell them really anything except what you see in the mirror. We leave what we look like to them; after all, that's what we stand in the mirror for, for hours of our lives, to perfect.

So, who is Abigail Floyd?

Abigail is a pale-skinned girl with long, dirty blonde hair. She's average height for her late teens, a couple inches over five feet, and almost too skinny. Her most outstanding feature is probably her eyes, green like her father's.

This, of course, is not the description of herself that she'd give if you asked her. But, it's the same list she goes over every night before crawling into a bed of cold cotton sheets. It's the same list she gives the questioning girl in the mirror.

Do I know her? Sure, I do.

That's the girl who glances in every window she passes to check her outfit and excuses herself to the restroom several times a day to check everything else. She's that girl who notices her reflection in the polished door handle, the glass tabletop, and her best friend's glasses throughout the day. The one who catches herself pausing on the sidewalk in front of a store window, to see just long, dirty blond hair and green eyes gazing back at her. She only wonders afterwards why so many things in our lives have reflective surfaces, why she stops to look, why the eyes from the crowd around her glance at



the glass, at her, if anyone else stops too.

A few streets down she pauses for the next window. She likes to call it window-shopping.

Why is every window the same?

The first thing she does when she gets home is peek at the mirror next to her coat rack. She stops here too and stares, fixes her shirt, practices smiles, sighs. I tell her she looks good. I tell her she's beautiful, unique, amazing.

She wonders when that will be enough. She wonders when I can say "beautiful" and she will believe it. She wonders when the mirror will let her go.

You are Abigail. You are you, and that is beautiful.

The girl in the mirror doesn't believe me, but I keep trying.

I am Abigail. I am me. But, is that enough? When will I be able to look in the mirror and know that it's enough? When can I look at the girl in the window and find the green eyes I've been looking for? Green eyes with answers, green eyes that understand, green eyes that know.

"You're beautiful."

For a moment, she smiles, green eyes shimmer, and then it's gone. As if she's been caught in front of that window again, window-shopping.

"You're beautiful," I whisper.

She smiles a smile that she has been practicing for ages. And for now that's good enough.

Soul Rider (Lyrics - Db Major)

Thomas Delmonte
Contributing Writer

Everyone feels the need to breathe
Once in awhile
With our hands we tend to share
Secrets, all the while
Rocking back and forth, to the
Rhythm deep inside
Hold on girl, lets take it all in stride
It's out of season for this reason
To find its way home
Burrowed deep in our streets
Lit from below
Reflections in our rain clouds
Of streetlights aglow
With our fires we race
We race alone
Can you be my soul rider?
If I could be your knight in shining armor
Can you feel the weight on your strings?
And you play and you cry, you say as you lie
How the world can get by on small things.
Have you found a way around
Matters of the heart?
Wouldn't we all be better without
Knowing all along?
Sliding into view comes another
Wave crashes down, hard
Hold on girl, lets go back to the start
Can you be my soul rider?
If I could be your knight in shining armor
Can you feel the weight on your strings?
And you play and you cry, you say as you lie
How the world can get by on small things.



Springtime

Jacyk Grzeda
Contributing Writer

"It's not my fault! It's yours! If it wasn't for you this wouldn't have happened!" The yells could be heard from across the hallway. "Why don't you just go! You don't belong here!" The smoke drifted from the room as a person ran out into the hallway hands on her eyes trying to stop tears from flowing. She came to the end of the hallway and slouched in the corner crying. Her lament resonated across the empty length of the building. "I'm sorry," she whispered. "I didn't mean to." Her tears couldn't stop. Footsteps were heard from the room billowing smoke rapidly. A man in a suit and tie approached the girl sitting in the corner crying. He put his briefcase down and sat down next to her. "We make mistakes all the time, Sarah. That won't stop any time soon," said the man. "It's human to make them. We have to learn to live with them. To learn from them," He drew his arm around her and hugged her. "It's going to be alright," he said as he smoothed her hair while looking out of the window. "It's springtime after all."

Kinfolk

- The Best in Fresh Fruits and Vegetables
- Delicious Cheeses
- Natural Juices
- Fresh Fish Weekly
- Great Breads

Open 10am to 6pm Mon-Fri
12pm to 5pm Sat. and Sun.

• 607-587-8840 •

Just one block from Main Street
• on West University •

We're Going Wild At Relay for Life!



Create a team with your friends and have a roarrrring good time!

Friday, March 25-Saturday, March 26
Davis Gym
7pm-7am
Registration beings at 6pm

ADDITIONAL NEWS

Dining hall prices continued...

AU. Two grand isn't "chump change," especially for college students who in many cases have to really watch where they spend their money just to get by.

John Dietrich, Alfred's Director of Dining Services through AVIFood says that "AVI has nothing to do with cost to students.

"The cost to students is through the school and AVI charges the school," said Dietrich. Regardless of who charges who, students are still at a disadvantage here. When the \$5,598 is broken down, students pay roughly \$8.91 per meal. If students took that \$8.91

elsewhere in Alfred, they could get a good meal at better-than-dining-hall quality. For example, large subs at Fox's Pizza Den are \$7.99 before tax, a Garbage Plate at BB Shenanigans is \$7.00 or a ham and cheese omelet with a glass of O.J. at The Jet is \$8.08. These are all some pretty solid meals; much better than the "Italian sandwich," that I saw during my last visit to Ade, which was just grilled provolone cheese.

Another thing that I spoke with Mr. Dietrich about was the fact that Alfred State students can use their meal plan

money at area restaurants in Alfred and Hornell. Mr. Dietrich said that AVI is "looking into it" and that he is "in favor of it." Personally I think that it would be a great idea to implement into the meal plan system, but only if the cost doesn't surge even more.

This investigation is not over yet because I was unable to find the actual source of where this unfair cost to students is coming from. The main question is why is it so much more than some surrounding schools? Be sure to look for a follow up in the Fiat's next issue.

Opossum continued...

student threw the opossum into the closest window. Odell's restaurant became the unfortunate target.

"[The police] don't think it was intentional," Odell commented on whether or not her business was the deliberate target of vandalism.

Bystanders of the event immediately went to the nearby restaurant, B.B. Shenanigans, to inform owner Blake Brown what was happening outside. Upon discovering that the Alfred Police Station was locked, Brown called 911 to report the incident.

Fifteen minutes later, officers arrived on the scene. Prior to that, no officers

were stationed on Main Street as the bars closed on St. Patrick's Day.

Where were the police? St. Patrick's Day is notorious for its association with drunken vandalism across the country. The police made 37 arrests at a local St. Patrick's Day parade in Scranton, PA. In Brown County, WI, police say St. Patrick's Day is comparable to New Year's Eve in the number of people out drinking. Bars were also filled with patrons to watch college basketball.

In Alfred, it took fifteen minutes for police to respond to a report of vandalism on a night when officers around the

country are on high alert to maintain public safety.

Luckily for Odell, insurance will end up covering the replacement of the window. However, the pricey lettering originally printed on the window will no longer be there. This, Odell sees as a costly problem.

"People are not stopping to look at the other window," Odell said. Instead, they walk by the restaurant, looking for a sign to tell them what it is, and they are not finding it.

"The weather's getting nice. People are going to be out and you want to get that business," she added.

Two arrested in March 1 mugging

Eric Hudack
Managing Editor

Two Alfred State College students, Paul Moore Jr. and Damoni Hall, were arrested in connection with the alleged assault of Alfred University student Nick Lambrose, March 1.

In response to the Alfred Police Department report filed, Alfred University's Dean of Students Norm Pollard issued persona non-gratis to Moore and Hall. If seen on campus, they will be arrested for trespassing. The offices of Public Safety, Residence Life and Student Affairs were all immediately notified.

Lambrose was attacked from behind in front of Davis Gym, receiving blows to the head around 10:30pm, as he was walking back from the Pujari Mart. Luckily for Lambrose, a bystander witnessed the attack and immediately called the police.

The Alfred Police Department responded immediately and found the attackers still in the area. After a foot chase, Moore and Hall were taken into custody and charged with resisting arrest and third-degree assault.

Other charges are pending.

Both Moore and Hall were taken to the Allegany County Jail on \$10,000 bail.

Lambrose was able to find a little humor in the situation.

"All I had on me was my old-old, thick flip phone. They gave it back," Lambrose joked.

Lambrose maintains that he did not know either assailant, and that he was not sought out. In his opinion, the attack was random.

"I didn't have any money in my wallet. When I got hit in the head, my iPod flew into the snow," he added.

In addition to the timely response of the

Alfred Police Department, Lambrose also noted how quickly the ambulance arrived on the scene.

Unfortunately, Lambrose's case was not an isolated incident, but what seems to be a growing trend of violent behavior in the town and on the two campuses.

Lambrose mentioned he was the third assaulted in that week alone. Allegedly, there were two other cases of attempted assault prior to the March 1 incident.

While there doesn't exist as big of a threat of violent behavior and muggings as there is in bigger urban areas, people still need to take those extra precautions.

Lambrose said he doesn't walk around campus with an iPod anymore. But people still will. He added that he hoped people would learn to be smarter at night as a result of his assault.

change from the previous format.

Previously, voting was conducted through Blackboard. The switch was meant to rectify the controversy associated with last year's election where there were claims of unfairness in the voting process. Some students were allowed by the system to vote multiple times, while some were not allowed to vote at all.

Devlin Gauthier was awarded a second term after winning with an overwhelming 73% of the vote. Ogrodnik won the

vice-presidential spot with 65% percent of the vote.

Senior Peter Nyitrai, who was in charge of monitoring the elections, said he was more or less pleased with the course of the election, reporting "all candidates were professional and no appeals were filed."

Alfred has an undergraduate population of around 2000. Therefore, given the fact that there were only 334 student participants, only 16% of the student body was involved in the election.

While these numbers

are an improvement over past years, they still reflect the continued need for Alfred students to utilize their invaluable place as students on this campus. Budget cuts, in one way or another, affect every student at Alfred University and those elected to senate will be the ones representing the student voice.

The college experience lends itself as a platform, opening students up to what they will be capable of in the future. Our voices and our votes count, but only so far as we are willing to use them.

Drawn to Diversity continued...

own individual obstacles.

Through their efforts, the students of Drawn to Diversity taught how to deal with adverse and abrasive situations through art. They discovered a new

meaning of flavor and left the school having earned much respect from both Passages students and staff.

Drawn to Diversity meets in Nevins Theater

Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.

SPORTS

Mad Thoughts: Round of 64

All season, we waited for the Spartans to snap out of their 14-loss coma and resemble the team with a no. 2 preseason ranking and defending Final Four berth.

All season, we waited for Durrell Summers to snap out of a Siberian slump and resemble the future NBA All-Star he did one March ago.

All season, we waited for Kalin Lucas' surgically repaired knee to heal so it could again belong to the Big Ten Player of the Year that it belonged to two seasons ago.

Then, with 5 minutes remaining and the Spartans down 15, it all happened. Only 45 seconds or so late.

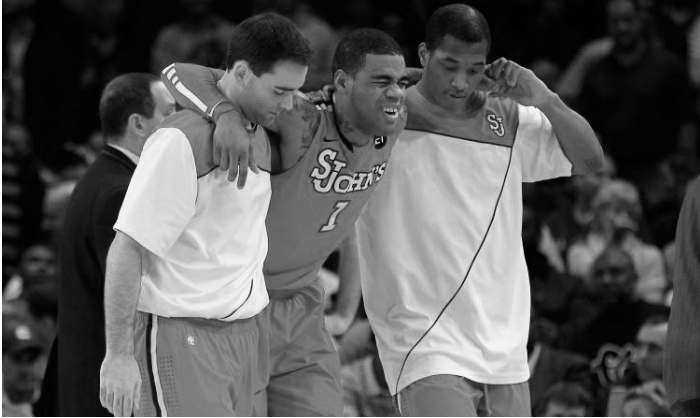
All season, we were surprised by St. Johns.

The Big East sent more teams to the field than you or I have fingers, and the Johnnies posted an 11-7 mark in conference play.

They beat five Top 10 opponents, three more than they did over an entire past decade. They drubbed Duke on the Garden floor, and restored pride to both the World's Most Famous Arena and its greatest city.

Then D.J. Kennedy, who one year ago led the team in every major statistical category, went down 45 seconds too soon. And the Johnnies fell in the first round to the Zags of Gonzaga, who by the way have quietly won 20 games and an NCAA bid in twelve straight seasons.

I hate to play the "what-if" game, but it's hard not to with the boys from Queens. No matter what, St. Johns and its nine departing seniors did 8



million New Yorkers proud this season.

Kentucky's first round match-up was really a no-win situation for the Wildcats. As Katt Williams said, "these weren't no got 'em at the mall tigers," but a solid, smart team guaranteed to at least make you beat them. It was a no-win for Kentucky. Beat Princeton, and to the world you beat a bunch of white kids.

Yawn. Lottery picks should do that.

Lose to the Tigers and you lost to Princeton. You are a walking punch line.

Iran an offense nearly identical to that of Princeton on my college team. Our plays were annoying. There were backdoor cuts ad nauseam. And there was always an option you forgot about.

When we were hot, we could beat somebody. When they were distracted, we could beat anybody. The question was whether a young team with lottery money coming up on the left, would get distracted during all those 30-second defensive possessions

and backdoor cuts. Young teams lose to Princeton.

But the Wildcats passed the test. Everyone knows this team has talent - Calipari is the ultimate middle-man between high school and the pros. The doubt was whether an 18 year-old kid with millions waiting at the next exit could pay attention for full 30-second spurts on defense, and in the case of Princeton, a ton of back door cuts.

Which leads me to believe the Wildcats may have the focus. Then I think back to the dismantling of Florida in the SEC Championship last weekend. Suddenly they resemble a very dangerous team.

Oakland deserved better. Keith Benson is a horse, and had Greg Kampe's Golden Grizzlies drawn any no. 4 seed aside from the no. 4 seed that is a no.1 seed in disguise, I'd have expected to see them in the second weekend of play. Now they just need a team name that doesn't take up an entire tweet.

Announcements

- Orientation Guide applications are available at the info desk. Due April 1st.
- Medieval club is hosting a movie night tonight at 9:30 PM. Will continue to do this every Wednesday. Free.
- Relay for Life - Friday, March 25th from 7 PM to 7 AM. If you are planning on signing up a team, do so ASAP. www.relayforlife.org/dansvilleney. Make sure "AU" or "Alfred" is in team title.
- Rescue Squad - Blood Drive Thursday from 10-4. Chance to win tickets to Rochester Red Wings.

Class of 2011!

What do you think is One thing that someone should do before they graduate from Alfred University?

Tell Us!

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

SUBMISSIONS NOW ACCEPTED

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

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

Thank you,

Ana Devlin gauthier and Jessica Repanes

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

Charlie Engleka
Staph Writer

The Alfred University men's lacrosse team kept their unblemished record intact as they improved to 5-0 in an 11-9 victory over Morrisville on Merrill Field, Wednesday.

The Saxons are still riding the momentum they've had since their first game against Shenandoah nearly three weeks ago. AU has a chance to double their win total from last season with a victory over Medaille

this Saturday.

The new guys in purple looked good in the team's fifth straight win. Junior attacker Stefan Dabkowski, transfer from SUNY Delhi, dominated the game with six goals. Freshman midfielder Tyler Brooks-Lambert had a firm control of face-offs winning 19 of 24.

Though he's a freshman, Brooks-Lambert doesn't appear to be having too much difficulty adjusting to the pace of college

lacrosse.

"The hardest thing for me [in terms of adjusting from high school to college] was acclimating to the speed of the game and getting used to playing with a new team and a new system. I think I've adapted well," said Brooks-Lambert.

The veterans did their part as well with senior captain Marc Zoyhowski contributing two goals and three assists to the Saxons' win.

So what is the reason for

AU's hot-streak? Captain midfielder Brendan Murphy thinks it's the offense.

"We're getting contributions from our midfield and our defense is playing pretty solid, but our biggest strength is probably our attack," Murphy said.

Sophomore long pole Jake Spadoni attributed the hot-streak to, "Talent. Lots and lots of talent."

AU took advantage early of a Mustangs team that came out flat. The Saxons flew out of the gate and

established an 8-4 lead at halftime.

AU got a little sloppy in the second half and let a poor Morrisville team get back into the game. The defense struggled a bit in the second half. The Mustangs mustered some energy and scored a few unanswered goals to bring them within two, late in the game. AU cannot afford any careless play against upcoming opponents like Nazareth and Stevens.

AU has obviously been

playing well, but inconsistency is a cause for concern for the players. "I think we're headed in the right direction. We just need to start putting full games together," said Brooks-Lambert.

Though the Saxons weren't as crisp in the second half as they were in the first, they didn't lose the lead the entire game. AU made the plays to win the game and remain undefeated.

EQUITY SOAPBOX

Nature’s first gold is green

Tim Cox
Visiting Gertz Assistant Professor

“Five dollar gas is going to screw my summer.” My heart sank in the split second it took to read that status update by one of my Facebook friends (a professor of communications at a university not far from here). Rats. There go my hopes of seeing friends in Maine and Virginia—guess it’s time to get Skype. Then, I rallied. Come on. Snap out of it. A few heartbeats later, I commented on her update, “But think how quiet the woods will be without all those damned three- and four-wheelers. Try to look at the bright

side!” I had hoped to nettle her a little. Her brief reply (“True...”) brought me back down when I logged in again the next day. My half-hearted optimism failed to net a barb, not even a blank look of disbelief—which I suppose would be pretty hard to show (how ironic that it’s called Facebook, then, but never mind). Luckily, she and I were not chatting. I hate those awkward silences, fingers drumming. Good grief! It’s winter, my conscience gnawed at me. People just want to think of summer and get at least a wee endorphin rush. Sure, spring has officially

arrived, but around here, spring is just winter in overtime. March madness indeed! Our thoughts on summer are all brackets, predictions, and upsets. If only that would give us—gas! There was a certain meanness in my blurting out that silver lining in her cloud. I felt the stab of the gas price in my wallet, so I wanted to injure someone somehow with impunity. Not willing to let my friend indulge in disappointment, a finer category of pleasure than one admits being used to, I soothed her with a balm of gall. And I figured if I could make villains of some

rowdy roughneck riders of those noisy, enervating ATVs (I, after all, scout around in the woods on a—Hmmp!—Specialized Hard Rock mountain bike), that would set me a rung higher on the moral ladder of this summer’s disenfranchised drivers. Lifestyle adjustments seem hard to make, but they come. The attitude adjustment is what one just cannot stomach. It is mighty tempting to try to compensate for lost status by maligning and blaming those of the presumed opposite order, as our American mass media prove daily. But that thinking is pointless because it will never

change facts. Most Americans probably grow up taking it to be their right to get the resources the nation wants, unlimited and guilt-free, as if the myth of Manifest Destiny were still tenable. But if we care to notice how rapidly last year’s Gulf of Mexico oil platform disaster faded from our mediated memory, we may be reminded by the current crisis in Japan of the power of physical reality to humble the human race, should we continue to fail to learn from modern mistakes and fail better to govern ourselves. Moral courage about our lifestyle sacrifices may quail before the temerity of

self-righteous entitlement to abundant, affordable energy from fossil fuels. But our moral courage will not quail if we slough off prideful attitudes and hubris that truly are too dear to be held on to. The woods await us: they beckon, they welcome, they replenish. The world is experienced very differently by someone on foot, bicycle, or horseback. Maybe five dollar gas is going to save the summer.

BEHAVIORS

Adventures of a mishapped columnist: Making headway with hardcore fears.



Victoria Floor
Copy Editor
On my list of fears, encountering public displays of sexuality is one of the most intimidating. Sure, I’ve been to bachelorette parties and played along

with all of the fun and naughty games, but I’ve never really been comfortable with the exposure. So for this issue, I decided to work out my fear of porn. By a stroke of luck, I learned of a recent controversy at Northwestern University. For those who aren’t familiar with the story, Professor John Michael Bailey of the popular “Human Sexuality” course at Northwestern allowed a live demonstration of how to use a sex-toy after his class, and now a lot of people are upset about it. I won’t argue for or against the incident’s educational value, but it did make me wonder how I would feel about such a display. What better place

to go to find out than an adult entertainment store? Ironically, I’ve never felt as exposed as I did upon entering the building with blacked-out windows. The series of XXX’s stuck to the glass were of even less comfort. Inside the store, a vast array of phallic shapes and unlikely colors surrounded me like an army of inappropriate action figures. FYI, a porn store is no place to practice what you learned from “How to Win Friends and Influence People.” Don’t smile, make eye contact, shake hands or attempt to memorize the names of your fellow patrons. They don’t like it, trust me. Ok, I didn’t actually try to shake hands with anyone, but the advice is

solid. Also, if you really must ask what something is, try not to look surprised when they tell you. Once you start blushing, it’s almost impossible to stop. I hid behind the island of bawdy birthday cards and surveyed the rest of the store. I felt a little safer from that vantage point. Unfortunately, this approach gave me the shifty, nervous appearance of someone who might be stealing. So I was under observation for the rest of my visit and was thus shamed into buying a video that my fiancé now has no interest in other than to play when we have visitors. He’s quirky that way. Everyone has a different level of tolerance for sexual

content. After taking a poll of several classmates, I discovered that I am not alone in my trepidation on the subject. Asking people how they feel about pornography is probably not the most effective way to make new friends. But once the initial “What do you want from me?” reaction dissipated, I found that most of the people I spoke to were neither for nor against it. It’s just something that people don’t generally talk about. In the past, when I’ve thought about adult entertainment, I would immediately try to shake the image of Ron Jeremy out of my head (the man could make moving furniture seem dirty). Now I think

of it more as a personal freedom that we’re lucky to have than something to be ashamed of. Some of our most beloved artwork has been called pornographic, which just goes to show that opinions vary on what is beautiful, artistic and educational. I probably won’t be applying for a preferred customer card at a porn retailer any time soon, but I think the experience has done me good, if only for making a better sport out of me. Maybe someday I’ll help the industry write a scene where the female lead gets to eat her pizza while it’s hot, though for now I’ll stick to less challenging, more likely goals.

Responsibility of journalists

Eric Hudack
Managing Editor
Apparently “google problem” can be a lot more serious than originally intended. Pennsylvania Sen. Rich Santorum recently announced his desire to run for president in 2012. On the Colbert Report, Stephen Colbert joked that Santorum is having a “google problem.” Google “Santorum” and the first two results (sorry, there is no polite way to say this) are: “A frothy mix of lube and fecal matter that is sometimes the byproduct of anal sex.” Internet humorist Dan Savage created the “Santorum” definition in response to the PA. senator’s anti-gay rhetoric. Colbert supported the pro-gay agenda by encouraging his viewers to google

“Santorum” and click on the definition in a way to ensure that it continues to be the first result. It also encourages others to speak out about Santorum. I think at the surface-level, the Google campaign is very funny and a clever way to show displeasure with Santorum’s anti-gay message. But if we dig deeper, Colbert’s support of Savage’s definition can be seen as a negative campaign that sways from the issue. Instead of criticizing Santorum for his appalling statements comparing homosexual sex to “man-on-child or man-on-dog (sex),” Santorum’s name is just connected to a joke that depends on “potty humor.” Colbert and Savage’s approach, though effective and entertaining, is an example of the kind of

journalism we should be avoiding. I think it crosses a line. As well-intentioned as Colbert is by supporting this disgusting definition, the technique used reflects a growing trend of sensationalist journalism that he and Jon Stewart have been critical of in the likes of Glenn Beck, Sean Hannity and other Fox News pundits. But who is responsible for this potentially unethical trend in journalism? My money is on the journalists. But are Stephen Colbert and Jon Stewart journalists? Not in the strictest sense. We cannot compare what they do to Brian Williams or Katie Couric, but there is a level of journalistic investigation and reporting on their shows. We cannot deny the fact that many college-aged

viewers tune into the Colbert Report and the Daily Show in search of news updates. Julia Fox, assistant professor of telecommunications at Indiana University, conducted a study in 2006 that examined how the Daily Show compares to traditional television news as sources of political information. “It is clearly a humor show, first and foremost,” Fox said of Stewart’s program. “But there is some substance on there, and in some cases, like John Edwards announcing his candidacy, the news is made on the show. You have real newsmakers coming on, and yes, sometimes the banter and questions get a little silly, but there is also substantive dialogue going on ... It’s a legitimate

source of news.” In reference to the 2004 presidential campaign, Fox compared Stewart’s coverage with that of major networks. The results were stunning in that there was no significant difference in the amount of substance covered in the broadcasts. How are we supposed to take such comedians seriously if the moment we criticize their words or actions, they take the “I’m just a comedian” defense? But Colbert and Stewart are not the problem. Sure, a lot can be solved if the ratio of jokes to news-content were equalized, but these shows do not exist just to share the news. In a world that has scandal after scandal, is filled with war and terror and 11 p.m. news lead-ins with murder, sometimes

we need a different take on the stories occurring in our world. Something that will not leave us depressed after watching it. If we can’t laugh at anything, then it just becomes sad. If more people are turning to Colbert and Stewart for journalistic news, perhaps the real journalists need to step up and do a better job reporting and maintaining viewership. We need to hold our journalists up to a stronger ethical value. Did Colbert cross a line by supporting the “google bombing” of Savage’s definition of Santorum? Perhaps. But as a comedian, we expect Colbert to cross those lines. It may not be the most ethical way to get news out there, but hey, it got me writing this article, didn’t it?

Zombie Town Apocalypse: Alfred Zombie Attack!

Adrian To
Advertising Manager
Junior communication studies major, Nickelina Noel will be creating a faux-documentary film, “Zombie Town,” with the assistance of the Alfred University community. The event will be filmed this coming Saturday, Mar. 26 at 4 p.m. in front of the Alfred bandstand. “The project’s main goal is to bring the Alfred University community together through the use of social media, to participate in this exciting project,” Noel explained. “As a student organization leader, I have learned that convincing the student body to partake in campus activities is not a simple task,” Noel continued. “Clubs or organizations are facing outside competitions

such as house parties and some other off-campus entertainment.” Noel stated that her project is unique because it introduces a whole new recreation specifically designed to encourage community and generate participation among students who share the same interests – the fondness for zombies. The Social Media classroom assignment allows students the opportunity to pursue a project of personal interest and to share the accomplished work with the world. Various social media will be used in this project including facebook, twitter and blogs. When asked what inspired her project, Noel disclosed that it all began with her blog post, “A Brief Introduction to the Cyberspace Zombie Era.”

“This blog post introduced a generation of living-breathing cyberspace zombie fanatics, also known as my generation. It is not that we are zombie fanatics; it is that the cyberspace fanaticism most usually leads to the ‘Zombism,’” Noel said. “I’ve always kept an eye out for good horror films, and it’s obvious that nothing beats a classic.” Noel mentioned, while explaining inspirations to her project. This project welcomes anyone in the Alfred community to join. You can dress up as a zombie or simply show up at the band stand, make-up, accessories and tools will be provided to assist in filming.

Bryan Daly shares his Wit and Wisdom

Melanie Baker
Arts & Entertainment Editor
Bryan Daly, an art and English major at Alfred University presented his poem, “Foster Lake Elegy” at the Bergren Forum on March 3. Daly was chosen as the winner of the second annual Phi Beta Kappa Wit and Wisdom competition, which honors the best of student writing in creative and scholarly disciplines. English major Liz Wager was the winner of the competition last year, where she also presented a work of poetry. The always-humble Daly took the stage and gave forum attendees a background on his piece. Through a slideshow of photos, excerpts from letter correspondences and personal memories, he managed to transport the

audience to Foster Lake and peel back the mystery of its creator, the mildly elusive Eddy Foster (who proved tricky to research due to lack of documentation). Daly revealed that it was his trips to the lake over the summer and early fall that made him fall in love with the history of the land and the creation of the lake itself. When he needed an assignment for a class on writing long-form poetry, he realized the idea of the lake had been right in front of him. After introducing the poem, Daly proceeded to read his piece eloquently, stopping only for water periodically as listeners became rapt in the elegance, wit, and endearing qualities behind the poem. Throughout the presentation, the audience’s connection to Eddy Foster, the

lake as its own character, and Daly’s relationship to the lake and outside world grew. Stunning passages like the following flowed frequently during the work: Let my last gasp, too, be as full of spirit and joy as that surfacing breath and I will raise my voice from every lake until I have exhausted my poor song and the patience of everyone. After concluding the poem, Daly, looking clearly relieved and proud of the reading, took questions from the audience. In addition to having the honor of presenting a Bergren Forum, Daly was also presented with a check and received a dinner in his honor amongst professors and friends at the Honors House.

ADDITIONAL NEWS

From 2011 Tohoku Earthquake and tsunami to Japanese culture

Adrian To
Advertising Manager

There are 12,000 Japanese residents missing and more than 10,000 people dead or injured following the highest intensity earthquake in Japan's history, on Friday, March, 11. This catastrophic earthquake not only affects northeastern Japan, but also affects other places like Japan's capital, Tokyo.

The earthquake and tsunami also spread across the Pacific Ocean to Hawaii and the US west coast.

Photos and videos on CNN and other news networks depicted cars washed up on houses, a whole village completely destroyed and several other traumatic photographs.

From the photos, huge lines in front of the telephone booths remain evident. Everyone is trying to get hold of their family members, but since the wireless network in Japan has broken down, Japanese residents need to use landlines to reach their families.

However, it should be noted that no major reactions like panic or any out-of-control situations which usually occur after



Photo provided

natural disasters.

Just about 800 miles away in China, there were rumors that the radioactivity leak in Japan will spread across the sea and lead to cancer and other serious health issues in China. Rumors being spread also include that salt and iodine can help resist the radioactivity leak from Japan (which is not true).

This led to a salt-buying frenzy all over China.

A small bag of salt was priced up to 3 dollars or more; Chinese are stocking up bags of salt. From the photos beside, we can see the panic of Chinese citizens trying to fight for a bag of salt.

Fortunately, China has not experienced such a devastating earthquake, but the Chinese are panicking and buying bags of salt

just to follow the "trend." No one is lining up, people just panic and stock up unnecessary bags of salt because of an insensible rumor online.

From twitter and other medias, it became more and more apparant that the strong community and group effort the Japanese displayed in the face of this disaster, with one heart and a single faith.

Hours after the earthquake broke out, convenience stores such as 7-11 and FamilyMart gave out free food and water to everyone in need. Schools were opened for people unable to travel; hotels and small hostels were opened for free for people who needed shelter; Tokyo Disneyland gave out candies and water and also

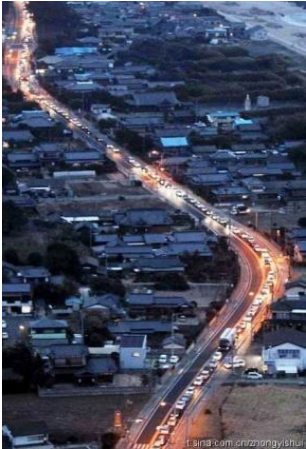


Photo provided

provided parades and fireworks for people who were trapped in the theme park

Clearly, the strong "community power" in Japan is not built based on how many donations are received but is the warmest caring between neighbors and the society.

For more tweets and prayers regarding Japan Crisis 2011, please refer to <http://prayforjapan.jp/message/?lang=en>.

There will be a series of events this week regarding the Japan Relief, please refer to posters around campus.



Photo provided



Nuclear power continued...

average of one is used to split another Uranium. Less than that and the reactor will slow down, cooling and stopping itself. Higher than that, the reactor will go supercritical and heat up. If it remains supercritical for too long, the reactor will go into meltdown.

A nuclear meltdown occurs when the Uranium fuel melts and escapes the primary containment vessel. Radioactive contents escape in the air, ground or coolant systems, as a result.

However, engineers have methods of controlling a reaction if it begin to tip supercritical or subcritical.

Along with the Uranium fuel rods, there are control rods made of boron that attract discharged neutrons very well. If a reaction is becoming supercritical, the control rod will enter the reactor absorb more neutrons. If it becomes subcritical, the control rod will exit the reactor and allow more neutrons to react with Uranium.

With this sort of control, the fuel can last for up to

18 months (or until there is not enough fuel left to remain at critical mass) at which point the reactor is shut down by pushing the control rods all the way in.

The rods are stored in water not only because the rods are still hot, but also because water inhibits the path of different forms of radiation, preventing rods from continuing to heat up by radioactive means.

If the water in the cooling tanks boils away, the rods will continue to get hotter due to decaying radioactive atoms. When the fuel rods get hot enough to melt, the protective shell around them begin to burn releasing hydrogen gas as well as radioactive materials.

If enough of this hydrogen gas builds up, then it can combust and an explosion can occur causing the three concrete containment shells surrounding the whole process to crack. If all three of them crack then all of the dangerous chemicals release into the air.

So why would we go through this exceedingly

intricate and potentially dangerous reaction if we can just use fossil fuels to achieve the same result?

Fossil fuels release large amounts of CO2 and coal ash while waste for nuclear plants is much smaller. Unfortunately, the quality of the waste is much different.

CO2 can be converted by photosynthesis into O2, while nuclear waste has to remain in storage facilities for thousands of years or until there is a way to convert it into a non-radioactive material.

That being said, coal ash formed from fossil fuel processes can contain high levels of materials such as arsenic, lead, mercury, radium and other harmful materials.

The US produces over 130 million tons of coal ash per year as well as 2.8 billion tons of CO2, while the entire world produces approximately 2.5 thousand tons of nuclear waste per year. So, while nuclear reactors cause more immediate damage than simple

fossil fuel reactors, there are certain benefits that help keep nuclear power on the map for alternative energy sources.

While the dangers of nuclear energy linger in the minds of the public, it does also have major benefits; more energy for less waste and money (0.39 \$/MMBtu for nuclear fuel compared to 5.08 \$/MMBtu for natural gas), as well as a longer lasting fuel supply.

And while nuclear energy can result in disaster, fossil fuels have also seen their share of the media attention. In the past 20 years, America has seen over 23 million gallons of oil spilled into the ocean (not including the BP oil spill) costing anywhere between \$150,000,000 to \$700,000,000.

So, until renewable energy sources like wind, hydroelectric and solar energy make their big breakthrough in the energy market, there will continue to be a large debate over which energy source will cause the least destruction.

Alfred University responds to crisis in Japan with fund-raisers, awareness projects

AU PRESS RELEASE

ALFRED - Alfred University faculty, staff and students will participate in a week of activities, beginning Monday, March 21, that heighten awareness for those affected by the earthquake and tsunami in Japan.

Organized through Student Activities, "Our Minds on Japan, Our Actions in Alfred" begins Monday. Dan Napolitano, director of Student Activities, also leads Drawn to Diversity, a program that encourages engagement through creative responses to current events.

"All week, students have been trying to process the sad news from Japan and are looking for ways to respond through action," said Napolitano. "These simple programs serve more as therapy for our community, putting our emotions into actions. The gestures are intended for us to take pause and show our sincere concern, rather than simply returning to

our daily routines while such unimaginable suffering occurs."

Alfred University has strong ties with Japan, primarily through the Kyocera Corp. and its founder, Dr. Kazuo Inamori. Those ties were solidified in 2005 when the Kyocera gave a \$10 million endowment for the School of Engineering, which was then renamed in honor of Inamori.

Monday's activity is "Connected to Japan." Students, faculty and staff will be asked to add notes or correspondence to a large map of Japan to "symbolize Alfred's connection to those in need. The map will be located in the Powell Center lobby from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m.

The "Paper Crane Project" is 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday. For a dollar donation, participants will receive an origami (folded paper) crane to hang in the Powell Campus Center lobby. The goal is to make at least 1,000 cranes and to raise \$1,000.

Kendall Westbrook, one of the organizers of the

"Paper Crane Project," explains "As long as I have been here, Alfred has had a strong friendship with people and places in Japan. I wanted to start making paper cranes to show that we are thinking of them, and that we are hoping that peace will soon return to their nation."

Wesbrook is a senior Communications Studies major from Rochester.

"Message in a Bottle" is Wednesday's activity. Bottles - which may be worn as a necklace - will be sold between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. in the Powell Campus Center lobby. For \$5, participants may purchase a bottle and place a message of hope inside.

"On Our Minds & In Our Hearts" is Thursday's activity. White tee-shirts, which may be decorated with the Japanese flag or other symbols, will be available for \$10 each.

The decorated shirts are to be worn on Friday for a "Day of Solidarity," when the entire Alfred University community will be asked to

show their support of Japan and its citizens. There will be a short ceremony at 12:15 p.m. in the Powell Campus Center.

All during the week, the Center for Student Involvement in Powell Campus Center will be collecting items for "hygiene kits" to send to those displaced by the disaster. Items to donate include new toothbrushes, soap, toothpaste, pocket combs and hand towels.

All proceeds from the fund-raising events will be donated to the American Red Cross, which is working with the Red Cross in Japan to provide food, clothing, shelter and medical supplies to those who are homeless because of the earthquake and/or tsunami damage, or those who have been relocated because of the threat of contamination from the nuclear plant disasters that resulted from the earthquake and tsunami.