

What should we tease here? I can't do everything around here, guys. Our readers need teasing...

Tease.
Page 2

FIAT Nox



Not Since 2002



The King of Infomericals
coming to AU
Page 3

THE ZOMBIE NEWSPAPER OF ALFRED UNIVERSITY

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March 32, 2010

OMINIOUS HEADLINE

Sub-headline that will upset people: Inamori School of Engineering to be closed

By Stephanie Hui Yan Choi
Business Manager

As much as the student body demands for a collective decision on the budget cuts, the University has made the final decision. "We are excited to announce this change," said Thomas Rubisch (Personally I find this name very disgusting. No offense.), the spokesperson of the Strategic Planning Council, "Inamori School of Engineering will be closed to accommodate the budget deficit."

According to the documents released by the Strategic Planning Council, Inamori School of Engineering is considered to be the weakest school at Alfred University because of the unbearably low enrollment rate. "97% of AU students are engineering majors," said a student who insists to remain anonymous, "that is ridiculously low. We have to get rid of the school, or else it will drag the entire University down."

As soon as the decision was announced on www.thefiatlux.com, a majority of AU students have left 745,634,762,347 com-

ments on the website, showing approval of the budget cut decision. "I am glad the University has finally listened to our need. Let's party," stated web user [spicy_saxons_forever](#). (Obviously this was me.)

Following the budget cut decision, the biggest concern raised by the student body is how the saved money will be spent. At the moment, inviting a pop star to perform on campus seems to be the most supported option. According to the Center for Student Involvement, Michael Jackson has shown interest in performing at AU because he has never heard of the town of Alfred. Additionally, Billy Mays has already scheduled an appearance. Before students get too excited for the King of Pop's visit, Kristin Fleming, our favorite fortune-teller in town warns us of a possible zombie attack due to the excessive amount of money the University possesses. "As we all know, zombies live on cash. Sure, brains help, but mostly so they know what to do with the money when they get it. Look at major CEOs and you'll



PHOTO BY DAVID LEMMO

If you actually read cutlines, e-mail us! We want to question your sanity. fiatlux@alfred.edu.

see what I mean. To avoid this attack, we have to burn our cash into ashes. Now."

***Whoever sees this, please extend this a little bit. Feel free

to make something up; nobody will know.***

P.S. If you want to meet up with Michael Jackson one-on-one, send a blank e-mail to michael-

jacksonhasnoheardofAlfred-buthasbeentoAlfredbefore@liar.com/. "C U l8er," said Jackson.

Zombies attack Alfred: NERF guns ruled A-OK: *Colons are awesome!*



(Above) The perfect NERF gun for destroying zombies. Get one!

By Kari Aldrich
Conan the Grammarian

Due to a massive influx of shambling undead in the Alfred Community, officials at the university have decided to revise the university's stance on Nerf Legislation. One time players of the game "Humans vs. Zombies" are both excited and decidedly smug about the entire ordeal.

"We aren't saying 'I told you so,' exactly," said a representative of the group at a survivalist meeting on Monday. "It's more, 'Oh wow, I bet you feel stupid. I bet you wish you'd practiced your survivalist skills. I'm so glad I was prepared for the worst, just like they always taught me to be in boy scouts and in The Lion King.'"

When students ran screaming

into the offices of University staff and barricaded themselves inside with heavy wooden planks that they nailed to the doors and caught their breath and thanked God they were alive and asked if the University would reverse the Nerf Policy, faculty and staff were initially quite skeptical. However, once students got the backing of pseudoscientist Rofish Kingmonk, University officials changed their tune.

"It's a common misconception that you can only defeat zombies by smacking their noggins with something hard, like a bat or a bullet. This 'hit 'em hard' mentality is not informed by Science. I have studied the zombie extensively and discovered that as their atomic mass decays, they actually undergo a chemical change and their flesh becomes

a substance called 'Minnium Rotsum Becomium.' This odd substance lacks the integrity to consistently remain itself, and as a result zombies take on the characteristics of whatever they absorb." Kingmonk says.

"You shoot zombies with lead or smack it with an aluminum bat, all you're going to get are hard-nosed, steely, cheesed-off adversaries who now just want to eat your brains out of spite. But something nice and squishy and well aimed, like a Nerf dart, is a perfect defense."

It may seem counterintuitive, but early attempts to stop the hordes with Nerf products, as well as other squishy and inoffensive items like teddy bears, pillows and wads of paper seem to have met with success. Some students claim that they have

stopped zombies altogether by confusing them, forcing them to absorb tomes of complex art theory, pages of calculus homework, notes on Hobbesian theories of anarchy and some particularly brutal modernist and post-modernist texts. These reports are as of yet unconfirmed.

Kingmonk is dubious. "That sounds like a really good way to create zombies that will force you to do arduous math problems, or read you Gertrude Stein. Isn't it bad enough that they want to eat your brain?"

The Humans vs. Zombies representative, upon hearing Kingmonk's Nerf theory and seeing its practical application, increased his smugness by approximately 75%. "Okay. Now I'll say it. I told you so."

Also inside...



Merrill bleachers collapse? If you care, read this. If not... don't?
Page 4?



Something equestrian/zombie.
Back page.



Keep up with the zombie invasion
on thefiatlux.com liveblog.

EDITORIAL

Hey, we need a witty headline followed by an ellipses...

An editor’s last letter:

My term as Editor in Chief began with zombies, and now it appears that it will end with zombies.

The Fiat Lux staff has been locked up in the Powell Campus Center office since the infection began to spread. Our closed blinds and normal acceptance of darkness has allowed us to remain hidden from the zombies so far.

Two years ago on April 8, 2008 Alfred University was locked down after a student was seen carrying a Nerf gun around campus. The real cause was a game known as Zombies v. Humans, but little did we know that the game was only the beginning.

Footage of the zombies made its way to Fox News and The Colbert Report. Next thing we knew, professors were writing about and teaching zombie folklore, making our campus the perfect starting point for the zombie uprising.

I sit here – having been bitten – without much time left for a non-zombie life. I sometimes shutter at the idea of seeing Nerf guns, rolled-up socks and marshmallows, key weapons against attacking zombies. What had started as rules for an on-campus game have become rules for survival.

Currently, the theory is that the cause of the zombie illness is a mutated strain of MRSA infections, but that was only because athletes were the first to be infected. I think that they were only the first to be infected because they were not immune. This is only speculation, but I suspect that the sedentary lives of most students was what led to a greater resistance to the zombie illness.

My appetite for brains will soon be insatiable. I have tried to curb my hunger by eating important works of literature, particularly Jane Austen’s *Pride and Prejudice*, while Jefferson Airplane sings to me that I should “feed [my] head.”

I have found that books can only satisfy the brain by way of reading, not through oral consumption.

Now we have come to the part of the editorial where we are supposed to just fill space. Since I have run out of ideas, there will probably just be gibberish for the rest of this editorial. One may interpret this gibberish as my infection taking over, but think what you will. Zombies like cake, too.

Not only do zombies like cake, did you know that the word ‘zombie’ is from 1871 Louisiana? This year is the same year as the Great Chicago Fire. Coincidence? You bet! Betting, or gambling, can get people into a lot of money problems. The end. And in the end, the love you make is equal to the zombies you make... or take.

The Editor

FIAT NOX

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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.

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OPINION

The Alfred Computer Guy: Better surviving through technology



So, “The Infection” is upon us and the undead are prowling the streets. A common attitude I see is one of technological retreat. A Luddite mentality sweeps over the mind and forces it back into survival mode. After all, if major power lines are still active, it’s only a matter of time until they fall dormant, and even if that wasn’t the case, major communications have long been severed.

May as well ditch the ol’ computer and go about things cave-man-style, eh? Not so fast! According to a study performed by Dr. Thomas Savini at Purdue University, by adopting this line of thinking, you have just cut your long-term (6 months or longer) survival chances by a staggering 37 percent!

How can this be? Well, computers and technology still have a place in our modern infected world. Although the ability to communicate with one another has been severely hindered, the necessity of it has never been

greater.

Community groups are sprouting up across the nation to deliver communication nodes on the borders of their cities. Typically, these nodes are made up of small solar-powered flash-based servers delivering information over an Ad-Hoc WiFi Intranet. What information, you might ask?

How about the latest day-by-day information on survivor camps? Schools, town halls, underground dwellings and other buildings that have been locked down and properly secured along with maps and step-by-step instructions on how to reach them can be downloaded at these nodes.

Many of the nodes have adopted a universal icon set indicating the availability of food, water, medical services, beds and particularly nasty zombie infestation zones. Make sure to look at the date of the last update. If it was a week or more ago, you may want to steer clear of the town altogether since it has likely been overrun.

Some smaller towns or less tech-savvy communities have adopted a slightly less high-tech approach, but mostly effective nonetheless. In my travels, I have seen USB pendrives tethered to the Lions International Club sign at the outskirts of most every town in the nation. These pendrives usually contain similar information as the aforementioned nodes, but get updated much less frequently which poses inherent risks.

As always, be extremely cautious when approaching anyone offering help. A world thrown into chaos is easily inhabited by those that would prey on the helpless. Thieves and pirates may provide false information in an effort to take your supplies, food, weapons and most likely, your life. In order to defeat the zombies – or at least live through their reign – we must use every available resource we can. They may not eat, sleep or stop moving, but one of the best advantages we have over them is our collective intellect.

This is why I find it frustrating when people throw their laptops away and laugh at the notion of a technological future. After all, when going on foot with a maximum target of 50lbs on your back, you may need to decide between a five pound laptop and solar charger or another few clips of ammunition. I don’t pretend that’s an easy choice for anyone to make.

Still, one of the greatest things about the last few decades before *The Infection* has been our ability to make the world a little smaller through mass communication and international personalization. With so many that have passed away or been turned, the world is smaller than ever, which is all the more reason to use every tool at our disposal.

Watch out for the next issue of the Alfred Computer Guy – “Looking to the past to preserve our future – how to build your own Ham Radio!”

What the (blank) is going on in Alfred?



The current zombie invasion in Alfred, NY is an interesting case study of localized conflict within the United States. Admittedly, little is known about the events. I searched Wikipedia, but found nothing. Only field research (in conjunction with information I’ll “borrow” from my colleagues at the Fiat Lux) has produced the following details.

It is rumored that the pres-

ence of these zombies relates in some way to the problems with Merrill Field. More details on that can be found on the Sports page (insert page number here). In short, the virus that originated with MRSA infections has mutated and infected members of the community.

Despite early efforts from the Wellness Center to contain the virus, it spread far too quickly. Experts believe it relates to the small size of the population and the close quarters. They called the CDC, although none of us are really sure what the Career Development Center can do to help. I guess Mark McFadden knows employers who wouldn’t mind a few zombies. God knows I was headed towards the mental capacity of a zombie well before the virus spread as a result of excessive international crises research.

In any event, the estimated figure of infected Alfredians is approximately 50%. It is also said that 66% of statistics are made

up on the spot. Things are not looking good for little Alfred.

As it stands now, students, faculty, staff and community members alike are creating human strongholds. There are rumors of a NERF gun shortage, but many humans are learning to rig a surveillance system with Mike Stone’s help to at least maintain the safety of their hideouts. Neighboring Alfred State has already succumbed entirely, and without external aid (or at least help from Dr. Gray and Dr. Grove), Alfred faces an apocalypse.

Can you think of a better ending, Tom?

The purpose of this column is to inform people about global events. While one article is not enough to fully explain a conflict, it is enough to provide the reader with the basics. It is my hope that when you are finished reading, you can readily answer the question, “What the (blank) is going on in (blank?)”

Hey this is some awkward empty space. Someone should probably make me less awkward. Thanks!

Love,
Mom/Managing Editor

Billy Mays to come to AU today, or whenever he gets here

By Sharifa Barrow
News Eitor

Billy Mays, The King of Infomercials, will be here in the flesh for one last performance, in light of the resurrection of Humans vs. Zombies.

Mays (1958-2009) has had one of the most, if not the most, successful entertainment careers in the history of history, according to the writer. The writer is a history major, so you can be sure that she knows what she is talking about when she says this is going to be a performance that

you will not want to miss!

“Hi, Billy Mays here for Sharifa Barrow, letting you know that she is [the] smartest history major that has ever existed, she really knows her stuff,” said Mays.

Mays will be performing all of his most famous, classic hits, including: Awesome Auger, Heeltastic, Simoniz Fix It, Oxy-Clean and many more.

And there is a surprise performance in store for all attending. Mays will be performing a whole new infomercial that will deal with a new and improved Slap

Chop, called the Tap Chop.

“I don’t want to give away too much but, this time you only need a finger,” said ... someone.

Though zombie Mays will not be participating in the game Humans vs. Zombies, he wanted to come out one last time to show his support.

“Hi, Billy Mays here for AU, letting you know that I will be returning to grave immediately after my performance,” shouted Mays.

A guest appearance by Bill Murray is also rumored, but no

one is sure if he's actually a zombie or not.

Mays will be performing in Nevins Theatre, today ... right now. Tickets are free but, they’re going fast ... so fast they were hardly here to begin with.



(Right) Billy Mays, the King of Infomercials, poses at a recent OxiClean event. Unfortunately, Mr. Mays forgot to use the product on his own blood-stained clothing. That’s bad product endorsement, Billy.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY SAB

Grove vs. Gray - Who is really leading the human resistance against zombies?



By Melanie Baker
Staff Writer

When the threat of an impending zombie attack caused mass panic and hysteria in world history, the citizens and students of Alfred were startled at first. People traveled in droves to Walmart and Wegmans to stock up on canned goods, protective masks and of course, the appropriate defense weaponry. Talk of the zombie invasion spread like wildfire. What would the

zombies look like?

How many would come? Would they really intend to eat all the humans and transform them into zombies? As the confusion and chaos turned the possible attack into an unleashed monster of rumors and fear, two brave Alfred professors decided to stand up for their community.

Dr. Allen Grove and Dr. Juliana Gray, both of Alfred University’s Division of English, were brave and prepared when faced with the fear and uncertainty of a

zombie attack. Their collective previous knowledge of zombies made them ideal candidates to be leaders of the Human Resistance. However, when asked who was most prepared, who really took the most control in the Resistance, Dr. Grove and Dr. Gray certainly weren’t ready to back down from their seats of power.

Dr. Gray noted the impressive preparedness of Alfred. “Using the models developed in the Humans vs. Zombies ‘game,’ we were able to study patterns of behavior, tactics, strengths and weaknesses, opportunities and threats. Unlike other zombie hot zones throughout the nation and the world, we weren’t overrun or overwhelmed when the Great Zombie War broke out—we were prepared.” Dr. Grove proudly stated, “More accurately, I was prepared.”

Dr. Grove argued that his undergraduate degree made him more equipped to tackle zombie forces. “In engineering, I learned

how to make sharp things and blunt things that will be much more effective against zombies than a well-crafted metaphor. I learned how to use high technology tools like a hammer. I wouldn’t recommend that you turn to the poet.” The poetry connoisseur Gray snapped back effectively, “While it may seem frivolous to write papers and poems about the zombie threat, you cannot deny that the veterans of my class became instrumental in leading the Human Resistance. Sure, we lost a few brave students – I still remember the horrible crunching sounds, the brains dribbling down the zombie chins – but all in all, we acquitted ourselves well.”

The fiery debate turned somber when the two professors recalled the courageous battle of the famous Dr. DeGraff. Grove grimly raised the point, “Was it really a good idea to send him into battle on a unicycle?” Although the mood had turned, Dr. Gray was quick to defend the honor of Dr. DeGraff. “He volunteered to ride that unicycle! He was our hero! I won’t stand for

you desecrating his memory, even if he did turn and devour that entire astronomy class!”

After all the heated debate was said and done, these memories seemed to unite the professors. Both Dr. Grove and Dr. Gray agreed that each of them were valuable assets in the Human Resistance, carrying impressive weight in the defense against zombies. Yet, as the two leaders were about to shake hands and call a truce of power, Dr. Gray seemed to get the last laugh. “Perhaps,” she said, “he should consider retiring to the literary life, and leave the fighting to the rest of us.”

As survivors of the Great Zombie War, we as a community saw the zeal of both Dr. Grove and Dr. Gray. I guess the feud over dominant leadership remains ongoing and we hope they will put their differences aside in the event of continued zombie threat.

A day in the life: the sweatshop artist: *We still looooooooooooooooooooooooooooooove coooooooooooooonssssss*



PUBLIC DOMAIN IMAGE. WHO’S ASKING? The words “God bless us, everyone” come to mind.

By Jericho Shackelford
This name is for reals

A profile of the average student enrolled in the School of Art and Design concludes that too much art causes arthritis of the heart, a crippling critique of the mundane liberalist’s perspective, increased light sensitivity and pale as fark skin pigmentation due to severe lack of windows, vitamin D deficiency and early AM art critiques.

Rickets, “the Tiny Tim disease” of Charles Dickens’ novel “A Christmas Carol,” has seeped into the echous halls of Harder, flicting foundations students with frail limbs and a call for pudding. The following statements were sequestered by an initiative spurred by

sympathy of the most sincere. Hopefully there will soon be windows and nourishment in Alfred’s hardest hall.

An alumni who prefers to remain anonymous stated, “When we grew up and went to school there were certain teachers who would hurt the children in any way they could- -We grew up wishing we didn’t need no education”

When asked about her daily diet a junior art student exclaimed, “How can we have any pudding if we don’t eat our meat!?!” Truly perturbed by her lack of pudding the gaunt madam pattered off in search of meat.

A student sitting beside a pottery wheel in Harder’s subterranean deepness was clearly lying with his eyes

while his hands were working over time throwing, molding clay into one of the curriculum’s ordained thousand pots as he went through his daily routine, “Half of what I say is meaningless.” He prefaced as he muttered melodious, “Woke up fell outta bed, dragged a comb across my head, found my way down hill and drank a cup, and looking up I noticed I was late, found my clay and grabbed a stool, made the mug in seconds flat, found my way upstairs and had a smoke and somebody spoke and I fell into a dream.” As drool mucoused from his lips it became apparent the thrower was truly dreaming: autopiloting since some secretive speech.

Walking into Moka Joka a

sullen looking girl from the north country came sobbing, “He blew his mind out in the car/He didn’t notice that the lights had changed/A crowd of students stood and stared/ For it was our stop light’s birthday.”

Truly traumatized a fellow attempted consoling her with, “[but] All in all its just another brick in the wall, a day in the life of harder hall.”

The next foundry pour will be March 32. Students surmise that with some luck they may have enough money to install a few windows. Hopefully for Harder Hall and its sweatshop artists times will be a changin’.

SPORTS

Taking the village by horseback

By Jessica Marello
Staff Writer

The Alfred University English and Western Equestrian Teams have joined forces to defend against the growing zombie infestation. The two teams train side by side at the Bromley-Daggett Equestrian Center to introduce the horses to the reality of the infected. While experts suspect that horses fear the very smell of the dead, team members hold their horses' abilities in high regard.

"I have no doubt that experienced riders can handle the spook a horse could get from sensing a zombie," states AUET Western captain and senior English major Kristen Kovatch. Zombies are a new threat and something the horses are not accustomed to. Kovatch and her co-captain Brittney Biegel are helping supervise desensitizing the University's horses to gunshots and the sight of the undead.

Both teams are split on the titles of their defensive groups. While the English team insists on being called the Cavalry, the Western team calls themselves the Outlaws. Since their formation, the groups have taken these separate titles but continue to work together to defend Alfred.

"It isn't really a big deal. The English team wanted to be a cavalry, and the

Western team wanted to look like cowboys," explained Kovatch. "We handle the reins a little different and we get to wear our hats."

Horses that do not handle well around the undead after training will be used as transport away from infected hordes. The Bromley-Daggett Equestrian Center also owns a wagon and two draft horses which are being kept in shape for supply transport. While the wagon isn't fast, the horses are strong and can safely pull supplies or the severely wounded.

The capabilities of the horses were tested during the first signs of outbreak in Alfred, when five infected citizens closed in on a horse in the fields. Spooked, the horse hopped the fencing and circled the building, nearly trampling several students. The zombies were shot down on the spot.

"The horses have progressed majorly since we started training," assured Kovatch. "While not all of them like the idea of zombie hunting, most of them trust their handlers enough not to completely spook."

Both teams have expanded their outreach since Alfred State collapsed to the virus. The Bromley-Daggett Equestrian Center is accepting donations for their riders, many of whom have taken residence in the center itself. Necessities in-



PHOTO PROVIDED BY SOMEONE? WHO TOOK THIS?

(Above) Junior Natalie Grow of the Outlaws wrangles herself a zombie on Stud, one of the first stallions trained to tolerate the smell of rotting flesh. This particular roping manuever earned the Outlaws an extra 5 points.

clude spare food, weaponry and warm clothing for night watches and scouting missions. Donations can be left for pick-up at the Equestrian Center itself or in Powell's mail room.

Recent wrangling excursions have given the Outlaws a 10 point lead over the Cavalry.

Merrill Field bleachers collapse

By Kristin Rubisch
Mom

The bleachers on Merrill Field finally collapsed yesterday after various indications that this was probable.

Last summer, the fate of home games was questionable when structural instabilities were found in the bleachers. The university created a temporary solution for this issue, putting off building new bleachers for at least the year and allowing home games to be held at home.

The instabilities, however, have proved too great and the bleachers collapsed suddenly. Most students and faculty hadn't noticed as the field itself is with-

in the quarantine zone. When informed and questioned, the common response lacked surprise.

No connection has been made between the zombies and the collapsed bleachers, but interviews with the zombies have been summarily rejected by the claim, "uuuuughn!," which we translate as meaning "no comment."

Remaining outdoor sporting events have already been postponed, so the collapsed bleachers have no effect on the athletic calendar anyway.

(Is this a relevent article?? I better not have interviewed a zombie if this doesn't go into print.)



PHOTO BY THOMAS FLEMING

Wow, we really couldn't do more than put in a stock photo from 2008?

(blank)

(blank)

Fill our blank space!

The Fiat Lux meets every Monday at 5:30 p.m. in the Student Organization Suite.

(blank)

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