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Inside



The Student Newspaper of Alfred University

WORLD NOTES



LOCAL

•Owners of the former Pizza Factory are planning to open a bagel shop in the building by the 2nd or 3rd week in February.

•Third Eye Blind and Smashmouth will be performing at AU March 20 for SAB's large act. Tickets go on sale to AU students Feb. 9.

NATIONAL

•President Clinton announced a \$6.3 billion plan to combat global warming. The plan will include tax breaks for energy-efficient cars and buildings.

•The vegetarian activist who is being sued with Oprah Winfrey by a Texas cattleman claims that he was not trying to convince people to become vegetarians when he announced on the show that an outbreak of mad cow disease "could make AIDS look like the common cold."

•Investigators have issued a material witness warrant for a man whose truck was seen near the Alabama abortion clinic which was bombed last Thursday morning.

INTERNATIONAL

•The *London Daily Mirror* announced that it has film taken by tourists of a white car speeding at the Paris Ritz the night of Princess Diana's death.

•U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright told a London news conference "the window is narrowing" on Iraq and that diplomacy is not working.

PERSONALITIES

One local lawyer put it best when he said Pam Lakin is "the most arrested woman in Allegany County."



PAM LAKIN

Lakin is an educational services and electronic resources librarian and director of the Study Abroad program. She is also an activist who has worked on civil rights issues and local issues, such as the proposed ash dump in Allegany County.

She has been arrested three times because of her activism, but said she is not the most vocal activist in the area, she just has the bad luck of ending up where people are being arrested.

In her spare time, Lakin said she enjoys working in her flower and vegetable gardens, reading and cooking. She said right now she is especially enjoying cooking Italian food.

Lakin recalled her first day in Alfred after moving from Seattle. She asked her new landlady where the bus stop was and received only a laughing response, since the bus did not stop in Alfred at that time. She even remembers the first day the bus stopped in Alfred.

She said many residents stood on Main Street to watch for it. "All our town dignitaries got on and rode to Alfred Station," she remembered.

Fiat Lux



Clinton issues discussed by panel

BY MEGAN ALLEN

With theories on President Clinton's future in the White House bombarding headlines, a panel knowledgeable about the issues involved met last Wednesday in Nevins Theater to give their opinions.

One thing soon became clear—all of the panel members had very

different ideas of what the coming months would bring for President Clinton.

The discussion, attended by students, faculty and community members, included: President Edward G. Coll Jr.; Christina Lombardi, a senior who interned at the White House during the fall of 1996; Rob Price, an *Evening Tribune* reporter; and Gary

Ostrower, professor of history.

Beginning the discussion, Coll said the Republicans won't let Clinton be impeached because Vice President Al Gore would then take office, which would give him an advantage in the next presidential election. "[They] want Gore to be another candidate, not a sitting president," explained Coll.

He predicted that the end of Clinton's term will be "rocky," however, and that it will be hard for Clinton to get any legislation through Congress.

Coll complimented Clinton on his State of the Union speech last Tuesday night and the First Lady for her public relations contribu-

SEE CLINTON, PAGE 3



PHOTO BY RACHEL DANFORTH

Members of the band Bloo perform to a packed Knight Club Friday Jan. 3. The band was sponsored by SAB. Bloo performed at AU last semester and was brought back by popular demand. They play regularly in clubs in New York City and colleges around the country.

Fire closes Harder Hall

BY MARIE LOWELL

Sparks from a welder ignited oil which started a fire in Harder Hall on Jan. 26. No one was injured in the fire.

The fire broke out shortly before 8 a.m. on Monday in the third floor equipment room. According to Jeff Johnson, director of the College of Ceramics physical plant, contractors in the room were replacing part of the air conditioning systems.

Nancy Furlong, Alfred fire chief, said the fire was quickly extinguished by the firefighters. She explained the building was closed because of the smoke and the need to shut down the heating system to check for possible fire damage.

Though the fire was contained in the equipment room, the burning oil generated heavy smoke which

SEE FIRE, PAGE 3

AU student dies over break; friends reminisce

BY MEGAN PARK

AU student Brian Blesy died while home over winter break. Blesy is remembered for his heart, dedication and cheerful personality.

Blesy was a freshman business major, a member of the football team and a resident of Tefft Hall.

Called "Jim Bean" by his friends, he is remembered as "a really, really nice [guy]," said Nick Alvarado, a freshman education major.

Alvarado said Blesy was always happy, and "he was always there for his friends."

Alvarado recalled Blesy's optimistic nature. He said Blesy would "always look at the higher point" and cheer you up if you were down.

Charity Lord, a freshman edu-

cation major, said, "He was a funny guy."

Blesy was always willing to try new things, said Bryan Knight, a freshman art and design major.

Alvarado recalled the time Blesy used a highlighting marker on the residence hall's ping pong ball and ping pong table's lines then turned on a black light to play ping pong in the dark.

"He was really outgoing... [and] he loved to party," added Knight.

But Alvarado added, "He always studied. He wouldn't go out unless he was done."

Knight and Alvarado also recalled his prowess on the Sega Genesis during tournaments with friends. Alvarado said no one could beat Blesy at NCAA GameBreaker, a game he played while wearing his Southern Miss.

hat.

Knight remembered one night when Blesy put on his high school football helmet and began playing one-on-one football in the hall.

Alvarado said Blesy would talk about football all the time and was a dedicated member of the football team.

James Moretti, coach of the football team, said Blesy "really played with gusto."

"He came from a very successful football program in Springville." It won the state championship his senior year, said Moretti.

Moretti said Blesy was only 5'9" and 155 pounds, but "he had a huge heart."

Moretti said he was one of the hardest hitters on the team pound for pound.

Blesy made a lot of friends here

and was respected both on and off the field, said Moretti.

"He always had a smile on his face and a gleam in his eye," Moretti added.

"Even now, we still miss him," Moretti said.

Blesy committed suicide. Alcohol was involved, said friends.

A memorial service was held for Blesy Jan. 23 in the Kenyon/Allen/Davis rooms in the campus center. Knight said so many people attended that there was standing room only. □

Donations in memory of Blesy may be sent to:

The Brian Blesy Scholarship

Fund

c/o Mr. and Mrs. Harold Blesy

7129 Henrietta Road

Springville, NY 14141

Students question choice of May Commencement speaker

BY JEN BUTTARO

Senator Alfonse D'Amato will be speaking at Commencement this year, and many students have negative reactions to the choice.

D'Amato, a Republican, is a native of Long Island and was elected for his first term as a New York state senator in 1980. Since

then, D'Amato has served three terms in office and is up for re-election this year.

D'Amato is known as the "pot-hole" senator because he champions New York City causes, such as mass transit, AIDS funding and the death penalty for drug dealers.

D'Amato has been a controver-

sial figure because of rumored unethical business dealings. He was also mildly reprimanded by the Senate Ethics Committee for allowing his brother use of his office while representing a defense contractor.

According to Mike Christakis, a junior history major, "you barely hear about his policies; you

only hear about his right-wing controversy and Democrat-bashing."

Candice Cardasis, a senior art major, said "D'Amato is not a man I look up to or respect because so much is speculated about him. It's hard for me to believe that he is

SEE D'AMATO, PAGE 3



Fiat Lux

Going dry is not the way to go

Going dry is becoming a national trend at colleges and universities. Following the alcohol-related deaths of students at Louisiana State University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, as well as a Harvard study citing a high frequency of binge drinking, institutions of higher learning have been regularly banning alcohol from their campuses.

Perhaps AU administrators are eyeing this prospect as well. But while going dry may sound like a great idea in theory, in practice it is not feasible. Once alcohol is banned on a campus, the university authorities lose any power to regulate its use.

In addition to college campuses, many national Greek organizations have made the decision to go completely dry. Many have reported an increase in numbers and positive feedback since the change. Are AU's Greek organizations next?

Going dry may not be the best solution for AU's drinking woes.

Common knowledge points to under-age drinking as the majority of irresponsible drinking. Going dry won't touch this, as it is already illegal for such students to possess or drink alcohol. In fact, going dry would make under-age drinking more of a problem.

Making campus dry will force students to drink in places that are inherently more dangerous. It will have to be in either a remote location far from possible sources of help or in a small, locked room, where if something goes wrong, no one will know. Cutting all drinking on campus may remove students from a support community that could help them if they misjudge their limits.

With Alfred's relative isolation, students may also have to go farther to drink, and thus the problem of transportation arises. Long walks in an intoxicated state are not conducive to safety. And driving drunk will increase if students go somewhere else to drink. Already, drunk driving is a problem in Alfred with 40 DWI arrests in 1997, a 17 percent increase from 1996.

A ban on alcohol looks even less promising when one looks at the success of past bans on this campus. For instance, the ban on candles in campus housing resulted in two fires the year it was instituted. Forcing students to hide behaviors may make a few stop, but the hiding invariably makes it more difficult to recognize when problems begin, and it may convince students to resort to places or acts they would normally consider unsafe, to hide their actions.

For drinkers of legal age, there is also a property issue involved. Students tend to have more consideration for their own living arrangements than for those of others. If they must drink away from their rooms, such as in a bar, they may not feel such concern for that property. One doubts that those who live in the Alfred community would appreciate this.

Overall, enforcing current drinking rules and treating individual problems more aggressively would be a better solution than making AU a dry campus.

Administrators have taken a good step in that direction with the new policy of notifying the parents of students who repeatedly appear before judicial board for substance abuse violations.

With the pressure coming from parents in addition to the University's pressure, perhaps these students will think more about their actions.

Beyond stricter enforcement of rules and the new judicial board policy, we hope that students will also take responsibility for solving the problem. In light of the recent reports and statistics, students need to monitor their own behavior more closely.

Students also need to help with any potential problems with drinking among their friends, so that their friends don't become another statistic.

With administrators and students working together, hopefully Alfred can become a safer place for students without the passing of a dry campus policy. □

COLUMNIST

D'Amato bad speaker choice



BY MICHELLE PANCOE

Would you ask a murderer to give the eulogy at his victim's funeral? Would you like a pro-choice activist to be the keynote speaker at an anti-abortion rally? Of course not. So why would a university ask an anti-education Senator to speak at a Commencement ceremony?

I can tell you why—politics. Senator Alfonse D'Amato could help this University get money. And AU could get considerable publicity as a stop on D'Amato's campaign trail. But is that enough of a reason to ask him to speak?

By choosing him as our Commencement speaker, we are, in effect, endorsing him. Do you want to endorse him? As an article in this issue suggests, many students do not.

As an institution with education as its primary mission, it seems hypocritical to select a senator with D'Amato's record to speak to our graduating seniors.

Though most of D'Amato's anti-

education sentiments are focused on public schools and teachers' unions, some of his decisions have affected college students. In November 1995, D'Amato voted to cut student loans by \$5 billion over seven years. How many students would agree with that decision?

Though not directly related to college students, D'Amato's views on education are still disturbing. In May 1995, D'Amato voted to kill an amendment that would have given more than \$1 billion to public schools in New York State. He cannot even claim he was trying to save taxpayers' money since it would have been funded by closing corporate tax loopholes. I would like to know why he sacrificed the education of children for a few large corporations to save money on their taxes.

But education is not the only principle D'Amato does not believe in. He also seems to lack the virtues of honesty and fair play, two other ideas an institution of higher education such as AU should be promoting.

Recently, D'Amato's main campaign tactic has been attacking teachers. His major target has

been tenure, an issue which is governed by the state Legislature and has nothing to do with his job. According to Alan Lubin, executive vice president of New York State United Teachers, "[D'Amato] is shamelessly exploiting an issue on which he has no standing, and marketing through myths and misinformation." That does not sound like honesty and fair play to me. And his smear tactics toward his challenger, Democrat Geraldine Ferraro, are malicious and juvenile.

As a student, I object to the University's choice of D'Amato as a commencement speaker because his values do not coincide with those a university should support. As an education major I resent the endorsement of his anti-education platform. And as a person I object to being asked to listen to a speaker of such questionable character.

So, Alfonse D'Amato is a wonderful choice for a Commencement speaker... provided Alfred University is an institution which cares more about money and publicity than it does about honesty and education. □

COLUMNIST

Clinton fiasco getting wrong focus



BY JAY WEISBERGER

When President Clinton leaves office, how will he be remembered?

Will people see the man who brought peace between the Palestinian Liberation Organization and Israel? Or remember the man who helped bring us out of a recession?

Perhaps, but it is more likely that Clinton will go down in history for the number of scandals his office has seen.

Currently the big issue is whether or not Clinton had an affair with Monica Lewinsky. We have yet to see whether or not there is anything to support this.

Certainly, the television media is hoping that Clinton is guilty. They have put their credibility on the line over the past two weeks, reporting unconfirmed pieces of possibly non-existent evidence.

Should it turn out that Clinton is guilty of having an affair, and asking Lewinsky to lie about it, he should resign. Any Clinton supporter, this writer included, will

have a considerable amount of trouble staying on the bandwagon.

If, in fact, there is nothing to support these allegations, we need to rethink the way we treat Clinton.

Regardless of the outcome, however, we should also learn a lesson about the way we treat all of our country's politicians.

If we want to remain a world power, we can't get bogged down questioning every little aspect of the president's personality. There are laws to make and foreign policy to worry about.

No wonder European countries laugh at us. We spend more time trying to save face than actually working to make the world a better place.

Over the next 20 years, with more candidates coming from the baby-boomer generation, which very publicly used illegal drugs, we are going to have to adjust to the idea that the people we elect may not have been trademarked angels.

We as humans are imperfect, thus any human leader will also be. The presidency is a job like any other.

The president will make mis-

takes, as we do. Imagine if you were held to the same lofty standards we hold politicians to.

That would mean every time you cut class, even if you were sick, you would come under fire.

Citizens also need to take some responsibility. The next time there is an election and you have doubts about the character of candidates, don't vote for them. Study up on their pasts before election day, so once in office, they can do their job with the least amount of interference possible.

Also, the television media needs to remember that, even though they are caught in a ratings war with one another, they still need to report news in an ethical manner. Don't give me reports on speculation, give me facts.

No president should ever have to put up with the barrage of scandalous nothing that Clinton has been smeared with.

If Clinton is cleared, maybe he can get through the last three years of his term without difficulty. Maybe he could even go back to what the president is supposed to do: making a difference.

Maybe we'll even remember him for something good. □



Fiat Lux

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KUDOS & KUMQUATS

Kudos:

- Professor Gary Ostrower for organizing the panel discussion on the Clinton controversy last week
- Dining Services for doing another cereal survey
- The owners of Alex's for their plans to open a bagel shop on Main Street
- Li'l Alf for their new calzones
- Student Activities for creating an especially professional-looking activities calendar and assuring its efficient, timely distribution

- Dining Services for publishing a catering guide for student organizations
- WALF for taking a more serious approach to the station by stating a no tolerance policy toward theft and vulgarity on the air
- Computer Services for fixing the many VAX problems which occurred recently

Kumquats:

- AU students for their lack of attendance at the Clinton panel discussion

- The administration for scheduling jackhammering in Harder Hall while classes are in session
- The *Kanakadea* staff for being unclear about deadlines for senior portraits for the yearbook and for not being more specific in identifying studios where seniors could have their portraits re-taken
- The administration for choosing a commencement speaker many students object to
- Lauren Studios for their unprofessional handling of senior portrait sittings

Ceramic Corridor continues to grow

BY STEPHANIE WEBSTER

David Szczerbacki, dean of the College of Business, has high hopes for the growth of the ceramics industry in the western Southern Tier.

In the Jan. 29 Bergren Forum, titled "Ceramic Corridor Update," Szczerbacki defined the Ceramic Corridor and gave an update of the project in Alfred and Painted Post.

According to Szczerbacki, a corridor is an area where fledgling businesses are given special assistance to allow them to grow, such as inexpensive rent. The intent is to "graduate" the businesses but keep them in the local area to provide economic growth.

The Ceramic Corridor was established by Alfred University and Corning Incorporated with a \$10 million investment by New York state, five million of which is in the form of a loan, Szczerbacki said. The Corridor was opened in 1992 by a company called Alfred Technology Resources Incorporated.

ATRI had five main objectives

for the Corridor, including "enhancing and enlarging resources for job growth," said Szczerbacki. The group's goal was 1,000 new jobs by the year 2000. According to Szczerbacki, that quota has been attained. Since 1992 1,110 jobs have been established, he said.

Szczerbacki went on to describe the general impact of the Corridor. "It may not be apparent here in Alfred, but it has been quite successful," he said. "[We have learned that] the project works."

In the future, said Szczerbacki, "We could just rest on our laurels and not do anything." However, he expects that ATRI "should and will be a catalyst in the industry cluster."

Goals for the future include helping to organize the existing ceramics firms across New York state.

Szczerbacki also said he hoped the Corridor will grow both nationally and internationally. "The Corridor is coming to life in richer fashion with a bigger payoff," he said. □

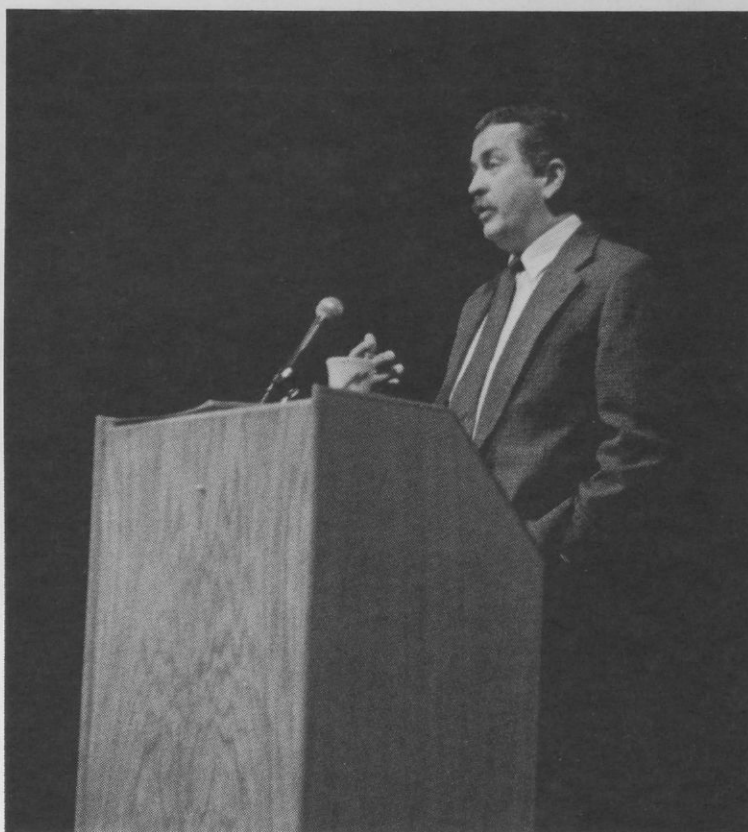


PHOTO BY SHEILA CALLAHAN

Dean David Szczerbacki explains the Ceramic Corridor at the Bergren Forum Jan. 29. The Ceramic Corridor is an area designed to assist ceramics businesses in their early stages of growth.

NEWS BLURBS

- Dean of Students Jerry Brody recently asked Steve Harpst, director of Student Activities and the Powell Campus Center, to take over direction of Greek Affairs from Paul Kingsbury "for a while," said Brody.

Brody would not comment on why Kingsbury had been removed from the position and said he did not know how long the change would last.

Kingsbury is currently working on the Student Affairs finances and doing "special assignments" for him, said Brody.

Kingsbury did not return phone calls.

- Binns-Merrill Hall may soon undergo a complete renovation if the \$12 million Governor Pataki earmarked for the College of Ceramics in his proposed budget gets passed.

The renovations would produce a "state-of-the-art" facility for engineering and fine arts programs, said David Pye, dean of the College of Ceramics.

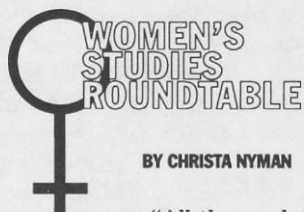
Pye said renovations in Binns-Merrill have been needed for many years, but have been held up by budgetary constraints.

Depending on when the budget is approved, construction on Binns-Merrill could begin as early as September, said Sue Goetschius, director of external affairs and communications for the College of Ceramics. The project would take approximately two years to complete, she said.

- The Office of Admissions is trying to get more students involved in the recruitment process.

Admissions already has a few upperclass students interviewing prospective students, and now they are expanding the overnight housing program.

Students who live on campus, preferably freshmen, can volunteer to host a prospective student overnight. The program is believed to give high school students who are considering AU a chance to experience campus life.



BY CHRISTA NYMAN

"All the work I've ever done [has been] completely gender free," said Diana Sinton, assistant professor of geography and environmental studies.

"Mapping a life" was the title of Sinton's discussion at the Women's Studies Roundtable on Jan. 23.

Sinton has studied topics including trees and zoo plankton and has mapped Allegany County and AU's Pine Hill.

Despite research that says women tend to use landmarks to get to a destination, Sinton said she has always loved maps. In

Sinton's younger years she was labeled the "navigator of the family" and would direct her family to the correct destination using maps.

In thinking about maps and her love for them, Sinton chose to make a map of her life for the presentation.

In map-making there is a certain element of art as well as science, Sinton explained. To make her map, she needed to determine what parts of her life to include and what symbols they should each be given, she said.

Sinton was born in the 1960s during the era of Civil Rights. Her parents moved to rural Virginia in a town called Farmville so her father could teach. Sinton's mother, who was Colombian, was extremely active in her efforts toward racial integration.

When Sinton came of age to join Brownie Girl Scouts, her mother did not want her in the troop that excluded blacks. Instead, she started the first integrated Brownie troop in that area.

Farmville made "big impressions" on Sinton's life. On her map she put a box over Virginia. Half of it was left white and the other half colored black.

She went on to explain some other symbols she included on her map, including a wine bottle to remember her trips to Europe and a heart in Vermont where she met her husband.

A flamingo represented the next 'destination' of her life: the Yucatan. In the summer of 1990 her future father-in-law, an environmentalist, asked Sinton to go with him to the Yucatan in Mexico to be a translator. His work dealt

with the flamingos that have their breeding and nesting grounds there.

This trip gave Sinton her "first culture shock." Families lived in grass huts, had no drinkable water and the toilets were holes in the ground. Sinton said she was "feeling really out of place," and eventually got sick with dehydration and had to leave. The Yucatan gave her a dose of reality, she said.

Other symbols on her map included one for each of her children, and finally one for New York, where she now lives. Sinton chose a Yin Yang symbol to describe the "balance between career and family." She is a teacher and a mother, but she said that "deep down inside, I can't truly lose myself in one or the other."

...D'Amato

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

going to share any words of wisdom with us."

D'Amato was chosen for the May 16 Commencement after a lengthy voting process. Nominations for a Commencement speaker are received from a variety of sources, including professors, students and alumni.

Nominations are then voted on by the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees. According to Provost W. Richard Ott, the committee is looking for someone "who has insight to share with the graduates."

Senior performing arts major Erik Myers said, "I'm paying \$27,000 a year to come here and I'd really like to have someone speak who will have something intelligent to say."

Senior philosophy major John Hartmann said he also disapproved of the choice. "I don't think it speaks well of Alfred University that their Commencement speaker is a man whose moral depravity is matched only by Bill Clinton."

Christakis said he felt D'Amato has ulterior motives for speaking

at Commencement. "This is a way to place [D'Amato] in an educational spotlight, which is a weak issue for him. This is really a campaign stop," he explained.

Other seniors did not like the choice of D'Amato because they come from states other than New York and D'Amato is unknown to them.

Some faculty also questioned the choice. "Although graduating students might not believe this, the person who gives the Commencement address at one's graduation is someone one remembers forever," said Linda Mitchell, associate professor of history.

Mitchell said she wondered if D'Amato would give graduates a positive memory, since the choice may not have reflected the interests of the seniors.

"Was the choice of Sen. D'Amato one which received support from the seniors, or was it presented as a fait accompli? Perhaps the method of choosing the speaker should be revisited," she said.

Defending the choice, Ott said AU is very fortunate to have D'Amato as a Commencement speaker. "The senator is somewhat controversial, but part of the education process is getting diverse opinions," he said. □

...Clinton

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

tions. Coll explained that he believed Hillary Clinton was the "strategist" handling the recent events, and had been the one to tell Bill Clinton the importance of being forceful when he recently denied allegations.

Coll said he even joked with his wife: "Perhaps we voted for the wrong Clinton."

Presenting quite a different view, Lombardi said the allegations against the president are "absolutely fabricated." Lombardi, who as an intern had the same security pass as Monica Lewinsky, said it is impossible for an intern to have an affair with the president because interns' access to even senior staff members is limited and the president is always surrounded by three to four secret service agents.

Lombardi also said she was "disappointed in the nation" because of the focus on the allegations. She said the nation should be talking about more important topics, such as health care.

Price predicted that the main stories of the scandal have already been revealed, and that the events will now slow down. For instance, depositions and

going to a grand jury with evidence will take time, he said.

Price also discussed the difficulty the media has had in covering the scandal because the main facts of the case are confidential, since they are part of investigations. "There are going to be lots of us with egg on our face," he said, referring to the likelihood of printing mistakes, since the facts are so difficult to confirm.

The current scandal will lead to Clinton's resignation or impeachment, predicted Ostrower. Reflecting on unconfirmed stories of past presidents, for instance that Thomas Jefferson had illegitimate children, Ostrower said he "couldn't care less" about the president's private life. However, it does matter to him if Clinton lied, said Ostrower, as it does to most Americans.

Following the panel's statements there was a brief question and answer period. □

...Fire

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

spread throughout the north end of the building. Smoke removal was hampered because many of the windows in Harder Hall cannot be opened.

Harder Hall was closed all day on Monday to allow for smoke removal. Holmes Auditorium was closed through Wednesday, Jan. 28 so that the auditorium could be thoroughly vacuumed.

Harder has re-opened and is now back to normal. □

Fiat from home!

<http://fiatwww.alfred.edu>

PREVIEW

Macbeth coming

BY RICH ROBBINS

This semester William Shakespeare is coming to Alfred... well, almost.

April 15-19 AU students will be performing Shakespeare's classic play *Macbeth*. Steve Crosby, associate professor of theatre and chair of the division of performing arts, is the director.

Crosby explained that he chose the production because it is a well-crafted play and is fun and

entertaining for both the audience and the actors.

The play will be highly reliant on sound and lighting effects to give the audience the feeling of being in the presence of the supernatural, Crosby said.

Crosby said that to put a twist on things, the setting will not be Scotland. This change is to demonstrate that what happens to Macbeth could happen to anyone, he explained.

The play will be performed in the C.D. Smith Theatre. □

Featured Student Poetry

BY JENNIFER HAVEY

"The Piano"

Some say one's whole life can be told in a song.
Oh, and I quite agree.
But sometimes the song gets the feelings wrong,
And tells a story that can never be.

A young man looked toward tomorrow,
And we all, of course, do the same.
But this young man drowned in his own sorrow,
And his tomorrow never came.

At a lone piano he'd sit idly.
Just playing random notes.
He pressed a key and nodded decidedly.
He'd found the key that held his hopes.

This key could not make a musical

sound.
Just the sound of wood hitting wood.
No matter how much he tried or how hard he'd pound,
His efforts did no good.

Nothing could make that key useful again.
The string and hammer had broken with age.
He'd think back to what his life had been,
The years he'd spent in that cage.

As he raised his arms above his head,
The sound echoed in his ears.
He closed his eyes and lifted his head,
And that sound echoed through the years.

Jennifer Havey is a freshman performing arts major. □

Student serial fiction: chapter two

BY RACHEL LANGE

I'm fully aware of cultivating an attitude. If I maintain the illusion long enough, it sets, so to speak, and I really do become a bad -ss. The truth is, I hate to hurt her so much, and it isn't as if any of this is beyond my control. It's her fault—she shouldn't be so godd---ed sensitive. I for one am not going to humor her tantrums anymore. It really is too bad about those glasses, though.

I keep walking and swinging my hips. I am resisting the impulse to go into all the little shops I pass, to strike up the inevitable conversation with the inevitable bronze, blonde 20-year-old, leading to the inevitable torrid fantasy at the very least. I have a mission, and I can't get distracted.

When I get home, there's a letter waiting for me from Michael. I have a date with him this weekend, and this is probably just a reminder or a slutty little love note. I wince and light another cigarette.

I haven't decided yet what I will tell him about Lee. He thinks she and I are just close old friends, as she thought he and I were until recently. Someday she'll probably get upset and leave angry messages on my machine, or start sending things back to me. He'll wonder if we've fought, and why, and probably miss those champagne glasses pretty soon.

Inside the light is blinking, and

the message isn't Michael's.

"I'm so sorry, Sweetie, I know..." I turn down the volume on Lee's whining, and put the letter in the desk drawer without opening it. I know what both of them will say. They'll forgive me for whatever "mistake" they say I've made, and tell me they love me, blah, blah, blah. I've heard it quite enough from both of them. I don't even take the drama seriously anymore, sad to say. I guess since they forgive all my transgressions, there's never a need not to transgress anymore.

I'm sick of these people, and I'm sick of the way my life's going. I try to shake these thoughts. I have to keep a clear head. I have something to do later, and it's not going to be easy. If I am not clear-eyed I'll screw the whole thing up. My bag is in the bedroom closet, and I take it out and gather up my things. I grab a bagel and slam the door on the way out.

The Next Day:

I'm done earlier than I thought, and I sleep a few hours. When I get up, I'm starving. I put some water on, it boils and I'm about to put the macaroni in when the doorbell rings. I dump it in and run to the door.

"Are you Chris?"

I'm startled. There are two officers, a man and a woman, trim and grave, New York's finest. They have their hats in their hands. I'm pretty sure why they're here, and I don't even question their shortening of my

name. I stammer:

"Yes. Chris Sposado."

"Uh, we found your name and address on a letter in the house of Lee Posten..."

"What? She's a close friend of mine... What's going on?"

"You see, this is hard..." He doesn't know how hard. "She's dead. A neighbor called in this morning..."

"What happened?" I ask, sure of the answer.

"A suicide, we think."

My real grief helps me feign surprise.

"Oh my god. Oh my god."

Blackness creeps in from the edges of my eyes and completely obscures my vision.

When I wake up, the female officer is waving smelling salts under my nose, and the other one is in the kitchenette turning off the stove. The macaroni has completely turned to mush and there is hot water all over the place. □

The Alfred Review-Poiésis is looking for chapter three of this story, due February 25. All submitted chapters are Alfred Review submissions and will be published in the Alfred Review-Poiésis in May. One will run in the March 4 issue of the Fiat Lux. Mail submissions to the Alfred Review, Powell Campus Center, e-mail them to ALFREV, or drop them in the box in the Registrar's Office or Herrick. Include contact information. Chapters should be 300-500 words long, but may be edited for space.

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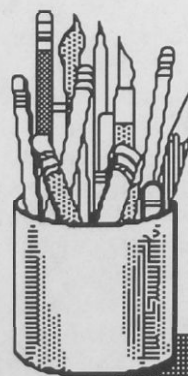
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Students to experiment in weightlessness

BY MEGAN ALLEN

Two Alfred students who have dreamed since childhood of being astronauts now have the chance to take a first step towards that dream.

The students, juniors Michelle Korwin and Kristin Lynch, have been selected to perform an experiment in the "Vomit Comet," an aircraft which allows its occupants to experience zero-gravity.

Their experiment, "The Effects of Micro Gravity on Glass-Metal Composites Prepared Via Sol-Gel," was chosen for the "Reduced Gravity Student Flight Opportunity" program. The program is run by NASA and the Texas Space Grant Consortium. Only 48 teams from across the country were chosen for the program.

"[I started screaming] then ran around campus telling every professor [the news]," grinned Korwin, remembering when she found out Dec. 12 via e-mail that their experiment had been chosen. Next she spent three hours on the phone telling everyone she knew, she said.

Screaming was apparently a big part of the celebrations of the day, since Lynch also recalled screaming when he found out. "We were almost expecting it, but still when we knew we were [it was exciting]," he said.

Besides the honor of being chosen for the program, the opportunity could lead to a career as an astronaut. Korwin explained astronauts are chosen from employees at space centers around the country. To get a job at a space center, it is necessary to do internships and make contacts in the industry, she said.

With the initial celebrations over, Korwin and Lynch are now involved in lots of preparation for the experiment itself.

Preparations have included having physical examinations, paperwork and "structural load analysis," testing the reliability under changing amounts of gravitational pull of the oven they will take with them in the "Vomit Comet."

The two spend evenings and

weekends working on the extensive amount of preparations, explained Lynch. "I've even had dreams about it," he said.

Korwin and Lynch will travel to the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, March 16-28, to perform the experiment. They will go up in the "Vomit Comet" for two flights which will be approximately two to three hours long. During each flight they will experience zero-gravity 40 times, for 30 seconds each time. When not in zero-gravity, they will be kept busy with lectures, training on how to communicate their findings to the public and questions from scientists about their experiment.

Also on their team and traveling with them to Texas are Dan Edson, a senior ceramic engineer; Doug Korwin, a graduate student in glass science; and Bill La Course, professor of glass science. Doreen Edwards, assistant professor of materials science and ceramics, has also acted as an adviser to the project and will help with testing the material when they return.

Doug Korwin and Edson are part of their ground team, meaning they will make control samples on the ground as Michelle Korwin and Lynch make samples in the "Vomit Comet." Also joining Lynch and Korwin in the "Vomit Comet" will be Mike Vogel, a science reporter from the *Buffalo News*, to record the experience.

While in zero-gravity, the two will combine glass and metal using the sol-gel method, which is a method of making glass at room temperature.

Normally the two materials would separate because of their different densities. With zero-gravity, however, the metal will be dispersed homogeneously in the silica gel.

After the gel has been brought back into gravity, it will be sintered, or fired, to remove any liquids, such as water and chemicals. Silica, which is one structure of glass, will remain. Korwin and Lynch will then test the material's electrical and mechanical properties, including its conductivity and strength.

The effect of zero-gravity on Korwin and Lynch will be somewhat different, however. Approximately 98 percent of people who go up in the "Vomit Comet" get sick, said Korwin, who figures she will probably fall into that category. Not Lynch however. "I have no intentions of getting sick," he said, recalling his love of roller coasters.

If the experiment is successful, it could provide a standard for future composites created by others, said La Course. That may not sound too exciting, but having standards is absolutely critical in science, he explained.

The information could also lead to future experiments in space shuttles, La Course said.

If the material combines the high strength of metal with the wide range of temperatures glass can withstand, it could be used for many applications, Korwin explained. One application that interests her is using it as a building material on Mars or the Moon, she said.

Whatever the future brings, La Course said he was really pleased with Korwin and Lynch, especially with their "stick-to-it-ness."

"Many students and faculty have good ideas, but they don't follow them through," he said.

Edwards agreed. "[They have] set an example for other undergraduate students at Alfred for what can be achieved."

"Alfred should be very proud of them, and they should be proud of themselves." □

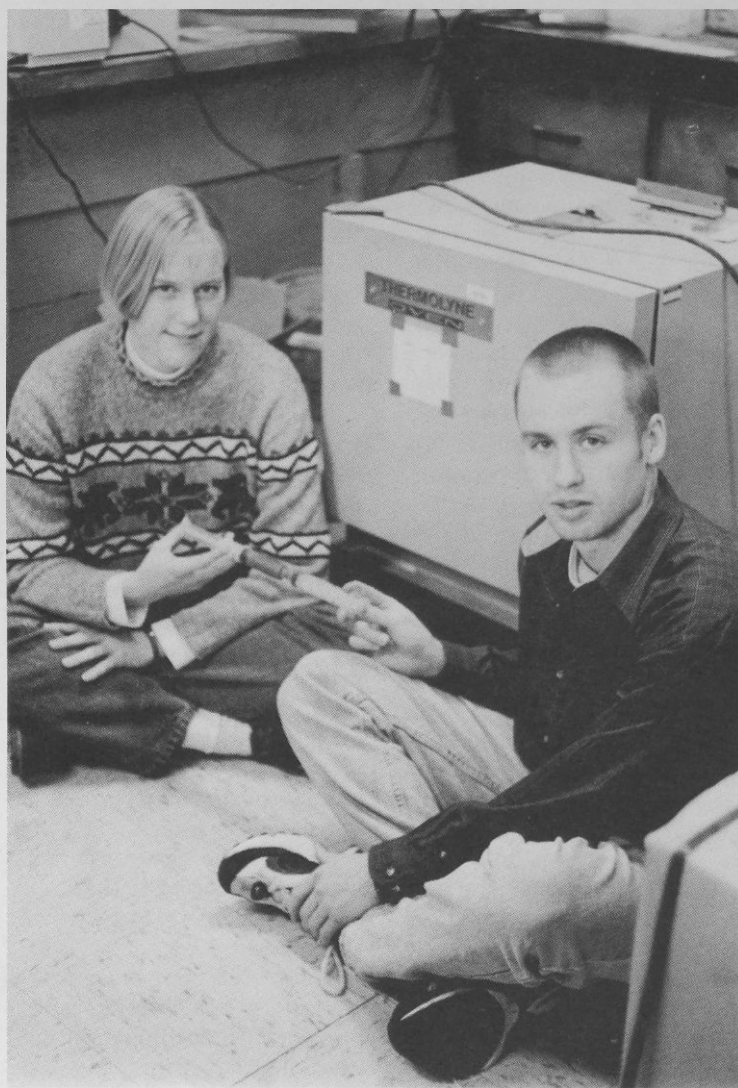


PHOTO BY MEGAN ALLEN

Michelle Korwin, left, and Kristin Lynch hold one of the 72 syringe-apparatuses they will take up with them on the "Vomit Comet" in March. In the zero-gravity of the plane they will perform their experiment, combining metal and glass using the sol-gel method. Only 48 teams from across the country were chosen for the program, co-sponsored by NASA. Behind them is an oven which will also go up with them.

Bar attracts students

BY DANIEL J. MAHONEY

The owners of Alex's on Main Street have strived to develop a relaxed and easy-going atmosphere for the students of Alfred University and Alfred State College.

"The atmosphere here at Alex's is definitely different than that of any other place in Alfred," said Stanley Wisniewski, co-owner of Alex's. "We don't have any trouble with customers causing problems with each other."

Alfred Police Chief Randy Belmont agreed. "We hardly ever receive complaints concerning the patrons of Alex's Bar."

As people come into Alex's they are greeted with a rustic atmosphere and a plethora of artwork. The artwork was donated by several of Alfred's art students throughout the years.

One piece that is usually noticed is a giant mousetrap that hangs on one of the walls. There

are also various paintings and sculptures scattered throughout the establishment.

Art students and the owners of Alex's have developed a sort of tradition, said Wisniewski. "They hang out here and [if they like it, they] donate their art."

Besides having a full bar, Alex's has two large pool tables, video games, a jukebox and a foosball table. In addition, Alex's frequently hosts live entertainment.

Alex's also offers pizza. "In my opinion, Alex's has the best pizza in Alfred, hands-down," said Brad Murray, an AU senior and a customer of Alex's.

Alex's was established in the early 1970s by a man named Alex. It was purchased by the current owner in 1986.

Alex's offers different specials on different nights. Monday and Thursday are "Mug Night." Tuesday and Friday are "Dollar Draft Night" and Wednesday is "Molson Night." □

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Senate UPDATE

BY MICHELLE PANCOE

Within the next few weeks, Senators will vote on a financial restructuring policy which will make the distribution of money among organizations more equitable.

Changes in the AU judicial system, upcoming Senate elections and the executive board's goals for the rest of their term were also discussed at recent Student Senate meetings.

Finance chair Jim Kostiw proposed a financial restructuring plan last Wednesday which is essentially a revision of last year's proposal. He said the new proposal makes necessary revisions to the original as well as accounting for the new cabinet structure.

The plan will eliminate the distinction between cabinet and standing organizations and eliminate the current problem of the majority of the money going to a few organizations, said Kostiw.

One change included in this plan is asking standing organizations to budget for the whole year, instead of for each semester. Some Senators expressed concern over this change, but Kostiw explained that since some of the cabinet organizations budget annually, all organizations would need to for the plan to work.

Another change will be eliminating the need for eight hour finance committee meetings to allocate money. If the proposal

passes, the cabinet will divide the money among the councils and the councils will allocate the money among their member organizations.

Finally, organizations now considered "cabinet" will be renamed "unregulated" and "standing" organizations will be called "regulated." Under the current system, standing organizations must operate through the finance chair and treasurer of Senate to handle monetary transactions. Cabinet organizations are allowed to go directly through the Office of Business and Finance.

Regulated organizations which demonstrate fiscal responsibility will be allowed to apply for unregulated status and unregulated organizations who have trouble keeping their own books may become regulated.

Senators will continue to discuss this proposal before it is voted on, said Kostiw.

Sue Smith, judicial coordinator, told Senators it will now require a less severe sanction by judicial board for a student's parents to be notified.

Prior to the change, parents were only notified if their student was suspended or expelled, she said.

Under the new policy, the University is allowed to notify parents if a student is given any sanction from disciplinary probation to expulsion. She added that parents can also be notified if a student has been involved in repeated violations of the substance abuse policies.

Smith explained that many schools are moving in this direction because of alcohol-related

deaths and because when a student is suspended or expelled, many parents are surprised and angry that they were not notified sooner.

Dave Walsh, chair of the Elections Committee announced the elections for president and vice president will be Feb. 23 and 24. Senators approved a \$25 cap per candidate on publicity spending. This money will be provided by Senate Allocations and must be spent on publicity through PolyPro.

With less than six weeks remaining in their term of office, the Senate executive board members listed the goals they still wish to accomplish: finishing the financial restructuring, completing a guide to off-campus housing, sponsoring a benefit show for the Red Cross, organizing the Festival of Nations, as well as addressing the issues of parking, bookstore prices and tutoring.

Greg Hilgert was named chair of the Renovations Committee.

Craig Calvert was chosen as the AU chair for the AU/Alfred State College Committee.

Chandra Leister, secretary of Senate, announced she will be designing a webpage for Senate. She added that organizations interested in having links on the page should talk to her.

The Food Committee has a VAX account for suggestions: FOOD. There is a suggestions box for the Campus Safety Committee located at the information desk in the campus center.

The benefit show to raise money for the Red Cross will be Feb. 28.

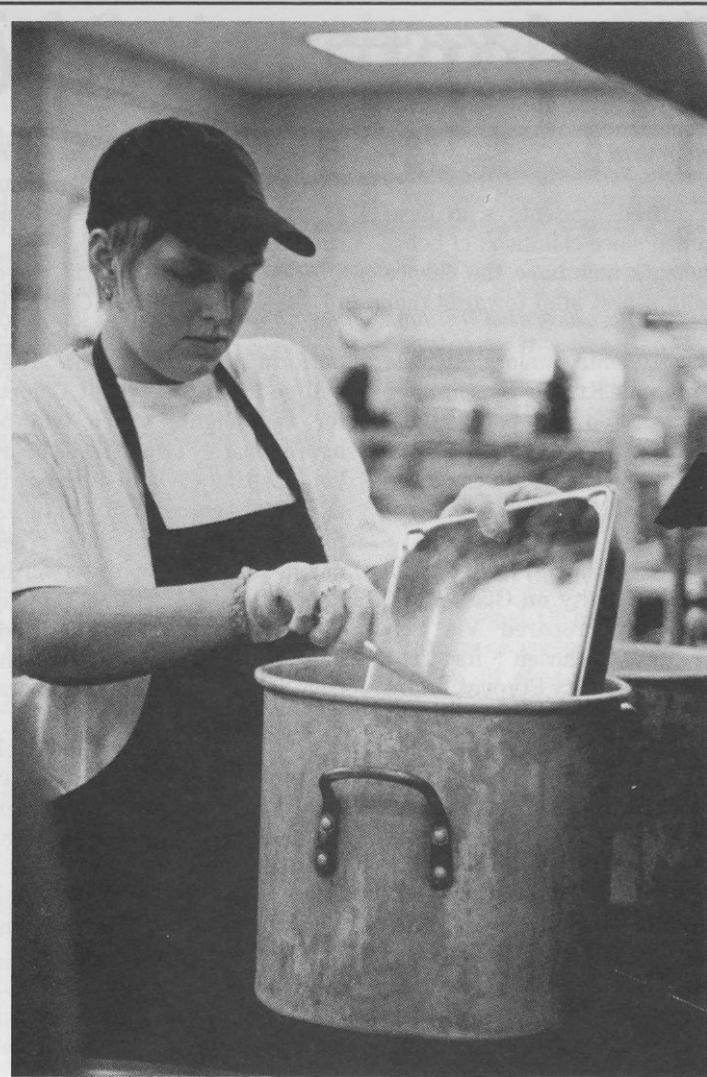


PHOTO BY MEGAN ALLEN

Senior Lisa Solowiej checks on the Tom Yum Koong, which is a hot and spicy shrimp soup, for the Cultural Cafe held Jan. 31 in the Knight Club.

Sponsored by the ALANA Team, the Cafe featured food from Thailand and the Philippines. Approximately 70 people attended the dinner.

Eight students cooked the food, which included: Satays, which is grilled chicken on skewers; Caldereta, a beef dish; Gkaeng Kiow Wahn Moo, which is green curry with pork; and Chicken Apritada.

The Cultural Cafe features food from a variety of cultures.

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A Lordly Price

How much are you worth? We're not talking about "net" worth, the amount of money which really belongs to you. What are you worth? Someone calculated the human body to be worth less than \$10 in inorganic components. What are you worth? Priceless in your mother's eyes, maybe even in your own. Who can put a price on you? Judas betrayed Jesus for less than \$20. "A lordly price" the old prophet sarcastically states. But how much less are you giving Jesus Christ up for? Are you letting Him go for a little pleasure, a little ease, perhaps you're even profiting by His name in some church. God puts a much higher price on His Son. He says of His Son "This is my well beloved." So valuable is He that He can redeem any one out of any sin. He was the spotless lamb of God who bought us with the price of His blood: cheap to the world, precious to God. How precious we must be to Him. How precious is He to you?

The Alfred Assembly of Christians
(607) 276-6720

Friday night Bible study, 35 Sayles St. 8 p.m.

LAS dean search continues

BY PATRICK BOYLE

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will soon be getting a new leader.

Alfred University is currently entering the final stages of the dean search process, with campus visits by the top five candidates Jan. 21 through Feb. 6.

While on campus the candidates are attending interviews and public receptions.

Following their visits the LAS Dean Search Advisory Committee will present feedback collected from the Alfred community to the provost.

The final decision will be made by the president in consultation with the provost and the Human Resources Committee of the Board of Trustees. Provost W. Richard Ott said the University's goal is to have a new dean in place July 1.

The search for a new dean began last March following the resignation of Christine R. Grontkowski. The process has been an extensive one, said Karen Porter, chair of the LAS Dean Search Advisory Committee.

The five visiting candidates were from a "strong pool" of 101

applicants, she explained.

"[The candidates] have collaborative... leadership styles, extensive administrative experience in university settings, broad personal interests and impressive records of significant accomplishments," Porter said.

Patricia Rueckel, a senior consultant for the Academic Search Consultation Service agreed. "[The applications represented] one of the strongest candidate pools I have ever seen," she said.

The ASCS is a non-profit organization that assists educational institutions in locating qualified applicants for various positions. □

COURT REPORT

Issuing Bad Check:

- Jason Hallett, Hornell, reduced to disturbing the peace (\$50)
- LisaAnn L. Taylor, Cuba, reduced to disorderly conduct (\$95)
- Jon M. Crocker, Hornell, reduced to disturbing the peace (\$50)

No Seatbelt Driver:

- Joseph S. Miller, Ellensburg, WA (\$50)
- Joseph S. Miller, Ellensburg, WA (\$80)

Speed in Zone:

- Steven M. Rankin, Jordan (\$85)
- Corey J. Swinson, Bay Shore, also unlicensed operator (\$135)
- Kym J. Watson, Bath (\$85)
- Harlan T. Heineman, Sardinia (\$85)
- Chad J. Loblaw, Webster,

- reduced to failure to obey traffic device (\$125)
- Phillip J. Bruner, Attica (\$85)
- Marcy L. Cady, Spencerport (\$85)
- Jennifer A. Cestari, Kearny, N.J. (\$85)
- Brian L. Curtis, Deposit (\$85)
- Gregory Schreck, Canandaigua (\$85)
- Heather E. Lewis, Hornell (\$125)
- Brian M. Stephens, Hornell (\$90)

Following Too Closely:

- David A. Knight, Andover, reduced to failure to obey traffic device (\$100)
- Elizabeth A. Stewart, Wellsville (\$125)

DWI Reduced to DWAI:

- Kevin D. Rasinski, Angola

- (\$375)
- Matthew T. Somerville, Orchard Park (\$375)
- Albert W. Cannata, Grand Island (\$375)

Other:

- James E. George, Almond, failure to yield (\$105)
- Elizabeth L. Katta, Brooklyn, passing school bus (\$275)
- C.M. Mucha, Delevan, speed excess 55 mph (\$90)
- Seth P. Cobler, Tully, failure to obey traffic device (\$125)
- Edward D. Frazzini, Corning, expired inspection (\$75)
- Ryan K. Thompson, Rochester, unsafe backing (\$130)
- Eric B. Gremli, Moravia, noise ordinance (\$50)
- Eric J. Nichols, Apalachin, unlawful possession of marijuana (\$95)

POLICE BLOTTER

The Alfred Police Department reported the following arrests and complaints from Jan 3 to Jan 24.

Arrests:

- Marc Spencer, 34, Hornell, aggravated harassment (Jan 9)
- Eric Gremli, 20, Moravia, violation of noise law (Jan 20)
- Lindsay Calkins, 19, Alfred, open container (Jan 24)

Complaints:

Animal Acting Rabid:

- Rte. 244 (Jan 3)
- Sayles St. (Jan 3)

Parking Problems:

- W. University St. (Jan 3)
- Church St. (Jan 7)
- N. Main St. (Jan 19)
- Church St. (Jan 23)
- Church St. (Jan 23)
- Church St. (Jan 23)
- W. University St. (Jan 24)

Bad Checks:

- Sub Shop (Jan 6)
- S. Main St. (Jan 6)
- Town Justice (Jan 10)
- Village of Alfred (Jan 15)
- College B.P. (Jan 20)
- Uni-Mart (Jan 23)

Deer Incidents:

- E. Valley Rd. (Jan 6)
- Pleasant Valley Rd. (Jan 21)

Reckless Driving:

- Waterwells Rd. (Jan 5)
- Rte. 21 (Jan 7)

Harassment:

- Davis Hill Rd. (Jan 7)
- Church St. (Jan 8)
- S. Main St. (Jan 19)
- AU Campus (Jan 23)

Criminal Mischief:

- Church St. (Jan 8)
- Rte. 21 (Jan 23)

Alarm Activation:

- N. Main St. (Jan 9)
- Waterwells Rd. (Jan 23)

Disabled vehicle:

- Kenyon Rd. (Jan 16)
- N. Main St. (Jan 20)

Other:

- Dead animal, Sayles St. (Jan 7)
- Motor vehicle accident, W. University St. (Jan 5)
- Garbage complaint, S. Main St. (Jan 5)
- Lost property, Church St. (Jan 10)
- Trespassing, N. Main St. (Jan 10)
- Dog complaint, Pine Hill Dr. (Jan 12)
- Traffic light malfunction, N. Main St. (Jan 13)
- Suspicious vehicle, AU campus (Jan 14)
- Criminal impersonation, Rte. 244 (Jan 15)
- Burglary, Ford St. (Jan 18)
- Car blocking driveway, S. Main St. (Jan 19)
- Four-year-old boy found walking along Rte. 12, returned to parents (Jan 21)
- Disorderly people, N. Main St. (Jan 21)
- Possible assault, Green St. (Jan 24)
- Person shooting off fireworks, Lower College Dr. (Jan 25)
- Potential altercation, N. Main St. (Jan 25)
- Vehicle found blocking street after it slid down driveway, Sayles St. (Jan 25)

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Scores

Men's Basketball defeated Bethany

65-62



Fiat Sports

Upcoming events...

Alpine Ski teams host their home meet at Swain

SCHEDULE

Men's Basketball

2/6 7:30 p.m. Wash. & Jeff.
2/7 7:30 p.m. Waynesburg
2/10 8 p.m. R.I.T.
2/14 4 p.m. *Bethany
2/18 8 p.m. Grove City

Women's Basketball

2/6 5:30 p.m. Wash. & Jeff.
2/7 5:30 p.m. Waynesburg
2/10 6 p.m. R.I.T.
2/14 2 p.m. *Bethany
2/16 6 p.m. Cazenovia

Men's & Women's Track & Field

2/7 Syracuse Invitational
2/14 Bucknell Invitational

Men's & Women's Swim

2/4 7 p.m. William Smith
2/7 1 p.m. Hartwick

Men's & Women's Skiing

2/7 *Swain
2/14 Toggenburg

*denotes home game

RESULTS

Men's Basketball

•Alfred 60, Grove City 57
Downing: 27 pts, 8 reb, 6 st; Filosa: 13 pts; Quinlan: 12 pts
•Waynesburg 92, Alfred 68
Yeager: 18 pts, 6 reb; Quinlan: 18 pts; Downing: 13 pts; Filosa: 13 pts
•Alfred 65, Bethany 62
Downing: 25 pts; Quinlan: 21 pts

Women's Basketball

•Grove City 81, Alfred 45
Northrup: 12 pts; Hayes: 11 pts, 4 assists
•Waynesburg 77, Alfred 44
Evener: 12 pts; Benoit: 9 pts, 9 reb
•Bethany 67, Alfred 44
Evener: 10 pts

Men's Swimming

•U. of Rochester (AU was 6 of 6)
100 backstroke: T. Striker 1st; 50 freestyle: B. Striker 4th; 100 freestyle: B. Striker 4th; 50 backstroke: T. Striker 5th
•LeMoyne 110, Alfred 106

Women's Swimming

•U. of Rochester (AU was 4 of 6)
100 freestyle: Youmell 3rd; 100 butterfly: Youmell 4th; 50 freestyle: Youmell 5th; 50 butterfly: Picarella 3rd; 50 breaststroke: Brooks 3rd; 100 breaststroke: Brooks 3rd
•LeMoyne 144, Alfred 85
100 freestyle: Youmell 1st; 200 freestyle: Youmell 1st

Men's Alpine Skiing

•Morrisville (AU was 1 of 10)
giant slalom: Engle 1st, Clary 10th; slalom: Clary 5th

Women's Alpine Skiing

•Morrisville (AU was 4 of 9)
slalom: White 1st; giant slalom: White 1st, Oakes 15th

Men's Indoor Track

•Fredonia Early Open
shot put: Valitutto 4th, Homrighaus 5th, Young 6th; triple jump: Scheibner 4th; 1000 m: Winkky 6th

Women's Indoor Track

•Fredonia Early Open
55 m: Ares 3rd, Callen 6th; 500m: Ares 2nd

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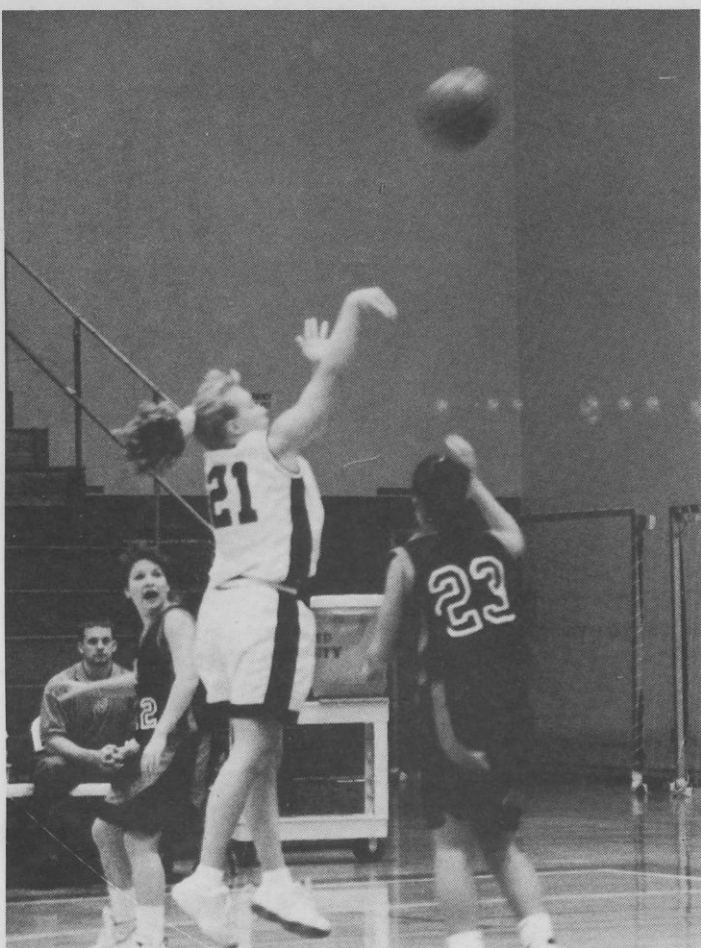


PHOTO BY RACHEL DANFORTH

Senior guard Katie Evener shoots from outside in Saturday's loss to Waynesburg, 67-44. Evener was the high scorer in the game with 10 points. AU drops to 0-2 in the PAC while Waynesburg moves to 1-1.

COLUMNIST

Olympics no place for professional athletes

BY ANDY BERMAN

With the Winter Olympics approaching, I am reminded of what is wrong with the Olympics—the unacceptable use of professional athletes.

When the Olympics were originally formed, it was a way for all countries to compete against each other as equals. Now countries like the United States and Canada are sending their best professionals to the games, in an effort to squash the less sports-oriented countries.

The spirit of the games is being ruined. When the rich, more powerful countries send their high-paid, over-publicized athletes to the games, it gives these nations an unfair advantage over less-developed nations.

For the Olympics in Nagano, Japan, Team Canada has a team of the greatest players in the National Hockey League. Team members include goalies Martin Brodeur and Patrick Roy, defensemen Scott Stevens and Ray Bourque, and forwards Eric Lindros, Wayne Gretzky, Paul Kariya and Joe Sakic.

In many people's opinion, the greatest event in American sports history occurred in the 1980 Winter Olympics, when the United States Hockey Team upset the Soviet Union to win the gold medal. With professionals representing countries, the dramatics are not as high. What makes that team so special is that these were not pros getting played. They were more like everyday Toms and Joes representing our nation.

In 1992 at Barcelona, an athlete pulled his hamstring while running a track race. He hobbled the last straight-away to the finish line with a standing ovation from everyone in attendance. That is what the Olympics are all about.

Do you think if a professional baseball player hits a home run, he would crawl around the bases with a pulled hamstring, even if the team was down by 10 runs in the bottom of the ninth, knowing he might endanger his \$10 million-a-year professional career? I don't think so.

Also, who can forget the Dream Team at Barcelona? It was stacked with professionals, including Michael Jordan, Larry Bird and Magic Johnson.

Before this team, our nation's best college players were playing in these competitions.

Through the Olympics, our college players can learn about different cultures and have great experiences in other countries. Some of these players may never have such an opportunity again. In contrast, if Michael Jordan wanted to play a game in, let's say, Germany, I'm sure something could be arranged.

At the Sydney games in 2000, professional baseball players may be playing. About a year ago, Roberto Alomar spat in the face of an umpire after a pro baseball game. We obviously need that to happen again in front of a worldwide audience, instead of the friendly end-of-the-game handshake that is customary in college baseball games.

Let's return to the original spirit of the Olympics. Leave pros for the pro circuit and let college players represent our country in the Olympics.

AU to leave PAC after this semester

BY ANDY BERMAN

After two seasons, Alfred University has decided to leave the President's Athletic Conference. Effective Sept. 1, 1998, all AU sport teams will officially be independent.

President Edward G. Coll Jr. and Athletics Director Jim Moretti both said the decision was made primarily for two reasons: recruitment of new athletes and the expense caused by the geography of the PAC.

The decision was made by Coll, Moretti and all AU coaches, said Coll. The decision was then presented to the Faculty Senate.

Moretti said, "We enjoyed our affiliation with the PAC. There are no hard feelings. We leave on good terms." Coll said, "Being in the PAC was a good experience."

Coll said that the Athletics Department overspent their budget this fall season. "The expenses related towards traveling were higher than ever anticipated," said Coll.

Moretti explained, "The PAC is based more towards Pittsburgh. There is a high cost for travel, food, hotels and transportation."

For instance, the football team made trips to Waynesburg, Bethany, and Washington & Jefferson this past season. All of these trips to Southern Pennsylvania and West Virginia were for PAC games. The football team will still play two PAC teams, Thiel and Grove City, for

the next two seasons.

The second major reason for the change was to play more games in areas where AU recruits players, said Moretti. By going independent, AU will play more games in upstate New York. Therefore, Alfred will gain recognition in the state of New York, where recruiting is more concentrated, said Moretti.

Coll said, "I agree with the coaches, it just didn't make sense [to stay in the PAC]." Moretti also said if AU were to play four or five hours away, he would rather play against RPI, Hartwick or Clarkson. These schools are near recruiting areas, and it would help if players could see our teams annually, he said.

Coll said he did receive three inquiries about Alfred's plans. Two were from State University conferences. Coll said that he is looking for a conference with schools like Alfred. He said he wanted AU to be in a conference with "small private schools with rural campuses that have a huge Liberal Arts emphasis."

Coll also said he tried to form a Northern Conference of the PAC, but there wasn't enough interest.

In an informal survey around the McLane Center, most athletes said they are happy with the decision to leave the PAC. The most common response was that there would be less travel, which would allow athletes more time for studies and other activities around campus.



PHOTO BY DON HOWARD

Senior Matt Kessler competes in an AU Nordic ski meet held Jan. 24-25. Alfred's men's team took 3rd in both the 5K Freestyle and the 15K Freestyle. The women's team was not ranked due to too few team members. Clarkson, Cornell and USMA were the other three schools competing.