Power failure, explosions interrupt campus life

BY KELLY KNEE
NEWS EDITOR

A broken water main caused flooding and power failures, which resulted in four buildings being closed last Tuesday afternoon.

According to a University press release, Harder Hall, Scholes Library, Diana-Merrill Hall and the McMahon Building were evacuated just after 4 p.m. Tuesday. The buildings remained closed until Thursday afternoon or Friday morning.

The release stated that classes were canceled Wednesday and Thursday. Problems on the AU campus were compounded on Wednesday when a fiber optic line was accidentally cut in another part of the county.

This cut some telephone service, including Allegany County's 911 service. At AU, students, already without e-mail due to the power loss, had no access to the internet and had difficulties with long-distance telephone service.

Associate Dean of the New York State College of Ceramics Carol Wood said a water main break occurred at the corner of Pine and State Streets on the campus first, because there was no water.

Furlong said the fire department was unable to locate an active fire and determined the cause was the result of a ventilation fan, which had short circuit, and the building's alarm systems will have to be repaired or replaced.

Wood also said that the extent of water damage to Harder Hall is yet to be determined, as well as the amount of damage suffered by equipment in the various buildings.

Survey finds most students did not vote in last election

BY JAY WEISBERGER
MANAGING EDITOR

AIDS Quilt visits Alfred

BY JASON PILARZ
BILLING MANAGER

The Student Newspaper of Alfred University
There probably was very little Alfred University could have done to prevent the explosions and power outages that occurred last week. Unfortunately, bad things happen. However, the University, as well as Village officials such as the fire department, did a good job making sure that no further damage was done. Although this leaves several campus buildings without power is a contingency that probably doesn’t come up a lot during administration meetings. In a moment that could have resulted in a whole lot of chaos, the University managed to keep everything fairly calm. And we are fortunate that no one was hurt by the incident. Flying manhole covers can be quite a hazard.

All in all, the University did well. However, the University fell short in one area. At one point on Wednesday there was almost no way for students to communicate with the rest of the world. Not only was AU’s e-mail down, but telephone service was interrupted. Again, AU cannot help that someone in Avoca managed to cut a fiber-optic line, nixing long-distance telephone service. However, the incident does show that AU needs to come up with some sort of back-up system for the future.

Not only did it nearly impossible for professors to communicate with their classes as a whole, but students couldn’t reach others outside. Today, e-mail has become a staple, especially to most of the nation’s college students. Obviously, in an emergency, students are going to need to contact parents, friends and, a good deal, the campus police. For a little while, that wasn’t possible. AU was totally isolated. The University should take steps to make sure this sort of thing doesn’t occur again.

Students should vote

We have known for years that college students vote in abysmally low numbers. As the student newspaper of Alfred University, we have taken upon ourselves on numerous occasions to reprimand students for their apparent apathy. We are going to do it again. Why? Because the incredibly ignorant attitude of some students is an important issue!

The fact that student believes it doesn’t matter who they vote for should chill all our blood. We may seem to live in a country immune to dictatorship and civil strife. We do not.

There are politicians out there who think the country would be better off if those of us with certain race characteristics “disappeared,” and those of us with more desirable characteristics changed from our blue jeans to white robes and hoods. Those people certainly have a right to their opinions. But we do not believe that the majority of Americans agree with them.

One country, certain politicians will always vote. They believe in expressing their opinions and standing up for them in the voting booth. If you do not vote to express your opinions, then it is very easy for fans-to-gain power.

If you feel false about a government and by for the (Ku Klux Klans or dic- tionary’s minority, then by all means, don’t vote. Continue to think that electrons are merely containing between atoms.

If you think that the ultra-right or left wing taking control of this country when you nightmares, then vote.

But if the thought of the ultra-right or left wing taking control of this country is what you fear, then vote.

Sure, the student who has a strong political belief in voting will not be called an NFL great, he is prov- ing week in and week out that he can play. It also doesn’t hurt to have your balls and Bledsoe’s throwing ability, the Patriots have, and can go the hall to them, you are going to win games. Plus, with Bledsoe’s ability to come from behind in the fourth quarter if needed, anything can happen.

In Buffalo, Doug Flutie is mak- ing everything happen. Flutie is exactly what the NFL needs. He will do to football what Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa did to baseball.

With Flutie’s scrambling ability, any play can be blown open into a 30-yard run. Not to mention that Eric Moulds, Flutie’s number one target, is healthy again and will be getting the ball a lot more. Not, let’s look at the Jets. Last season, everyone was all worked up about Vinny Testaverde taking the Jets through the playoffs into the Super Bowl. But, in their first game of the year Testaverde went down with a season-ending injury. The Jets are now posting a 2-6 record.

If that isn’t enough evidence, let’s look around the rest of the league.

In the NFC East, the New York Giants are second and only team with seven wins, is winning because of good play by Marc Bulger. The Eagles are 6-2 behind Neil O’Donnell and the Saints are 6-2 with John Klaatu calling the plays.

The perennial best teams in the NFL all have ranked quarterback. Dallas is 4-4 while Troy Aikman is out with head injuries, the San Francisco 4-5 with Steve Young. Also, having complications from concussions and Green Bay is 4-4 with a seriously hurt but still playing Brett Favre.

Washington and St. Louis are the only real contenders to go into the Super Bowl. That’s because Brad Johnson and Kurt Warner are playing so much better than anyone could have imagined.

In the NFL, there is no one to handle the pressure of driving your team 80 yards with less than a minute left in the game, you cannot win in the NFL.

We have the Fiat Lux delivered to your Powell Box for free! Just fill out this form and place it in campus mail to: Fiat Lux, Powell Campus Center.
Dear Editor:

Thank you for publicly and personally re-affirming what many of my students (in classes such as "Psychology of Adjustment, Close Relationships and Psychology of the Self") have shared with me about their concerns about "cyber non-response" to them often and sometimes tragically "default." We substitute the words and names of others for our personal connections too often these days. I think we do it in isolation and in silence.

My students confide that they miss the "real" and feel "misunderstood" by the electronically superficial.

Alone with our keyboards and monitors, we deprive ourselves of the opportunity to develop and practice meaningful and effective interpersonal communication skills.

Of course, it is often difficult to be honest and self-disclosing in the presence of another.

But isn't it worth to risk true intimacy with each other?

Sincerely,

David Meissner
Psychology Division

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Dear Editor:

Regarding the column “Student Activities” that appeared in your last issue, I must express my concern that credit is not being given where it is deserved.

Although the Office of Student Activities is a student-run organization, not related to the Office of Student Affairs, that often goes unnoted. SAA provides weekly entertaining and enlightening events on campus. For hardworking members volunteer their time so that everyone on campus can enjoy and attend these events that provide an alternative to drinking.

SAA is also responsible for bringing large acts to Alfred. Concerts such as Third Eye Blind and Smash Mouth, the Barenaked Ladies and Alanis Morissette, to name a few, were produced by our very own Alfred University students — not the Office of Student Activities and its professional staff.

As president of SAA, I feel that it was necessary to make clear the difference between the Office of Student Activities and SAA. The members of SAA try very hard to bring activities to AU and would appreciate being given credit when it is truly deserved.

Sincerely,

Abbi Allen
President, SAA

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Dear Editor:

I have been writing in response to the article “Players at SLU suspended for hazing,” in the Nov. 3 issue of the Fiat Lux.

St. Lawrence University suspended members of their men’s lacrosse team after 19 first-year students were forced to drink at a party on Oct. 18.

I believe that teams need to find other ways of encouraging unity besides drinking. This country has seen too many people who were injured or killed because of hazing incidents.

The article stated that the team had been through two anti-hazing seminars before the incident. However, it seems to me that something isn’t working.

After the attention the media gave the incident at Alfred last year, the University developed anti-hazing programs for athletes and more strict alcohol policies.

While it is commendable that St. Lawrence and Alfred took such swift action against their players, there is no reason to wait until after an accident to develop policies that are more strict.

Students need to see that incidents involving alcohol and hazing will not be tolerated any day of the week, not just when something gets national attention.

Finally, as for the players on the St. Lawrence team, I think their actions were stupid. If I understand this right, most people play a sport because they at least like, if not love, the sport. Maybe if they remember this, and then build unity from there, we would not be faced with yet another case of athletes’ talents going to waste.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Kahn
Class of 2000

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Dear Editor:

I found the remarks made about art and the artists themselves disappointing, but so is equating “bad art” with the punk movement. Most offensive was the ignorant association of these artists and punks as “talentless, passionless, and thoughtless.”

Works like those shown in the SENSATION show are important to seeing people that not every-one-else fits within this social bracket.

There have been plenty of unpalatable examples of “art movements,” including punk, where the aesthetic was considered by the general public as degenerate. Often, this aesthetic is there to reinforce the idea that the “talentless musicians” called punks have purposes in their playing.

First, the punk movement is based on the idea of “Doing Yourself.” Self-discovery and learning outside the institution are inherent values within the movement. It’s about seeing ourselves inhabiting our potential because we don’t feel as though it would be acceptable within society.

Although the work was dismissed, it did have the impact of making a few people look at the way they saw the world, art, politics, modernism, etc.

Thanks to the avant-garde and a few unpalatable people, we have feminism, civil rights movements, new technology, environmental conservation, recycling, child labor laws, unions, you name it.

In the fall of 1997, some of the artists have done is take what the mainstream intended for “bad art” and take it out of its daily consumable context. In its displacement, we are forced to think about it more.

Punx once said that if you paint a face and put the eyes where they anatomically belong, no one would notice them. Put them on top of each other on one side of the face and distort them, and people will not only notice it, but wonder why.

Before making value judgments about intentions, you better know what the intentions were. I encourage you to read some of these artists’ statements. I encourage you to really listen to some punk music.

Ask questions, but even more importantly — and I know this might sound odd but don’t be afraid to say you hate it. I encourage artists to strip away that religion, implying we’re not supposed to question it. Don’t assume your audience will be able to extract your ideas from the work, because, again, we see the world differently. Please, artists, start writing artists’ statements, and be honest about what your concepts are, otherwise, no one will take you seriously, including myself.

Sincerely,

Abbi Allen
Class of 2000

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WORLDNOTES

LOCAL

Thanksgiving recess begins after classes Tuesday.

Residence halls close at 3 a.m. on Wednesday morning, meaning all on-campus students must leave.

Classes resume on Monday, Nov. 29.

• RHC and Peder Latino are sponsoring a charity dinner and auction tonight. Proceeds will benefit the Make a Wish Foundation.

The two campus groups hope to raise enough money to sponsor one child’s wish.

The Make a Wish Foundation gives terminally ill children a chance to live out one of their wishes.

NATIONAL

Mark Manes, the man who sold Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris the TEC-9 they used to shoot classmates and teachers at Columbine High School, has been sentenced to six years in prison for his role in the school shooting.

Manes is the first person to be jailed as a result of the events in Littleton, Colo., last April.

Manes sold the gun to Harris and Klebold for $500.

• In an announcement that probably has Pitney, the maker of the impression drug Viagra, worried, the Importance World Association said last week that within 25 years, it may be possible to grow fully-functional — you, fully functional — artificial sex organs.

Reportedly, the genetic technology already exists in the laboratory.

More than 80 million men and women in the United States suffer from some form of impotence.

• A special U.S. Senate committee overseeing the preparation for the Y2K bug has requested horrific information from nuclear regulators about reactor safety and contingency plans.

While the committee said they believe that the electrical grid will be fine, there are still some answers the committee wants, if for no other reason than to shore up the public’s confidence.

INTERNATIONAL

Turkey was hit with another major earthquake last week. This tem- blor was measured at a magnitude of 7.2, centered near the city of Duzce. Over 300 people had died because of the quake as of press time. The Mediterranean has been repeatedly rocked since August when a strong earthquake hit another part of Turkey. Greece also saw a major earthquake.

• The official height of Mt. Everest has been changed, but have no fear, the Himalayan mountain remains the highest point on Earth.

A new survey of the mountain measures the height at 29,015 feet, a change from the measurement of 29,028 feet that has been recognize for 45 years.

Climbers have been climbing the mountain since 1953 as part of the project. The results have been given to the National Geographic Society, which will update its records to reflect the new height. All new maps and globes should have the new measurement.

The calculation was derived with the help of sensors on specific points on the mountain, as well as satellite global positioning sys- tems.

Also, it was discovered that the mountain is moving 2.4 inches to the northeast every year.

Nothing is better than curling up with a nice warm flat on a cold winter's evening.
Fishing and art connected

BY BEN GOLDBERG
CONTRIBUTOR

Did you ever wonder how somebody could love to stand in a river all day long with a stick in his hand hoping to catch a fish, only to throw it back? Richard Thompson gave a new understanding about the art of fishing in his lecture at last Thursday’s Bergeron Forum, titled “Standing in a River Twice: Fishing and on Making Art.”

“Fishing is no longer just bamboo and wicker,” he said. “It’s about passion.”

Thompson, the dean of the School of Art and Design, expressed the relationship of two themes in his life — art and fly-fishing — to paint a picture of the beauty and intricacy of fly-fishing to an audience of 50 in Nevins Theater.

Being able to paint the emotion of fishing has “connected the circle of my two lives,” he said. Before coming to Alfred two years ago, Thompson became a respected painter in the art community. He began his artistic expression fishing in his childhood backyards streams in New Mexico before he developed his painting skills. Thompson said that he is a “fisherman before an artist.”

However, his art is far from second-rate. He showed the audience slides of his emotional, bright and descriptive paintings of fishing scenarios. His paintings appeared to be an extension of the impressionable streams and the fancy fish he loved being with.

Traveling around the world from Australia to Germany to Mexico before he developed his consciousness.”

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Traveling around the world from Australia to Germany to Mexico before he developed his consciousness. There is more to fly-fishing then just passion and art. “I have formed great friendships within the circle of great artists and anglers,” he stated. The friendships were bridged while fishing in over 30 of the top 100 trout fishing waterways.

To his friends he explained his love of fishing in his paintings. Fishing has been around for hundreds of years and is as important to American culture as telling stories by a campfire.

The joys and sorrows recount ed by Upson reminded the listener that, regardless of circumstances, there is a story of personal suffering behind each AIDS death. Following the opening ceremony, visitors were able to view each of the panels on the various quilt sections. Each panel has been created by friends or family of the deceased and represents one person who has died from AIDS. The measurements of the panels are three feet by six feet, the size of a human grave.

As visitors perused the Quilt sections, volunteers read, in alphabetical order, the names of those who have died of AIDS. After viewing the Quilt, visitors were able to share their own thoughts and impressions of the Quilt on a signature square, which will now become a part of the overall AIDS Quilt. One visitor summed up the mood of the day quite well by writing, “the feelings are beyond words.”

The Quilt display at Alfred was co-sponsored by a Responsible Environment, with help from Sexual Assault Victims’ Advocacy Program, the Counseling Health Center, and the Student Health Advisory Committee.

Viewing the Quilt is an extremely thought-provoking and somewhat depressing experience, but walking through the various sections of the Quilt reminded the visitor of the necessity of the Quilt as a tool for remembrance; as stated on one of the Quilt panels, “the light is gone, but the memory remains.”

Thompson a canvas for uncovering some of his unconscious thoughts. “Underneath the water structure,” he said, “lies the unconscious.”

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\[\text{News — Page 4}\]

\[\text{November 17, 1999}\]
Ceramic museum gets funding

BY JULIE WOHLBERG

Styrofoam

In an effort to increase tourism to the Southern Tier of New York, a combination of public and private funding has come together for the purpose of constructing a new building for the Ceramic Education Center and Museum at Alfred University.

A total of $1.6 million will go into the construction of the new building for the International Museum of Ceramics Art, which will be located on the current site of South Hall. The existing museum is on Route 444, just a short way from the AU campus.

“The International Museum of Ceramic Art, founded in 1991, has established itself as a destination attraction in Western New York in the past few years, gaining regional, national and international acclaim through its exhibits, catalogues, web site, and special education programs,” said Margaret Carney, director of the museum.

The museum will not undergo a change in location, but a change in name as well. The AU Board of Trustees at the museum voted to change the name of the museum to The Schumin-Joseph International Museum of Ceramic Art, after the project’s highest private donor, Pamela Joseph and her late husband, Jay Schein.

“We recognize the importance of Ms. Joseph’s gift and the faith behind it,” said Gene Bernstein, chairman of the Board of Trustees. “She made her gift before the new building was a certainty, clearly demonstrating her commitment and support for the museum, which in turn spurred other private and state supporters.

Joseph’s donation, although the largest, was not the only private donation. Other private donors to the fund included Marlin Miller, Otto Heino, Robert and Sue Turner and Joel Moskowitz.

“These private gifts, totaling $3,650,000, really persuaded the State Legislature that we were serious about building a world-class facility here in Alfred for the economic benefit of the entire Southern Tier,” said AU President Edward G. Coll Jr.

The State University of New York Construction Fund is in the process of hiring an architectural firm to design the museum, and thus the timing of the project has not been set.

Regardless, museum officials are optimistic as to the attraction of the new building.

“We look forward to more real visitors in the near future, and are grateful to the state for its recognition of Alfred as one of the ceramic education centers of the world,” she said.

New money for study abroad students

BY RICHARD SEO

State Worker

If you are considering studying abroad next year, try the International Internship Award Alfred University is offering for the first time.

A University trustee contributed to the fund anonymously with the willingness to offer great opportunities for students to broaden their education.

The search for international internships is up to the students. However, the Career Development Center is there to give help if needed.

Both the Career Development Center and the Study Abroad Program are supporting this award. As many students as possible are asked to participate in this program.

There are certain qualifications to be eligible for the award, including:

- A GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. Applicants with less than a GPA of 3.0 can still apply and will be considered on an individual basis by the scholarship committee.
- Students must be at least second semester sophomores at the time of their internship.

University graduate students and recent graduates within 6 months are also eligible for this opportunity.

Students must have parental consent or acknowledgement of intent to travel abroad. Special circumstances will be considered each case by case.

Other requirements for a trip abroad with this program are:

- A report/portfolio to the Scholarship committee upon returning to University
- Two workshops prior to departing the United States (dates and times to be announced)
- Submission of the Declaration of Intent form and all materials required for application by April 15 for 2000 - 2001 school year
- Once the internship is secured, the Internship Proposal must be submitted to the Coordinator of Experiential Education.

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Titanic Proportions

It was the greatest maritime disaster in human history, the sinking of the Titanic. It was the ship of dreams, said to be unsinkable. It was dubbed The Millionaire Special. Both passengers and crew were caught up in its luxury. When one ship tried warning them, the tragic reply was Shut up, shut up! We’re busy. Seven warnings in all failed to slow its headstrong motion until it hit an iceberg that tore a 200-foot gash in its side. Many passengers laughed it off-partying the night away until it was too late. After the tragedy, some survivors spoke of a blind preacher who had been a passenger on the Titanic. Before falling victim to the icy waters, he swam from lifeboat to lifeboat, raft to raft, piece of ship to piece of ship, crying out Trust Christ. Take Him as Savior. Receive Him into your heart. Call upon the name of the Lord and you will be saved. Is the ship you’re on about to sink? Are you ignoring the warnings? Are you ready for the judgement day?

Interested? Then come to 35 Sayles St. in Alfred, 8 p.m. Friday nights for Bible study & discussion.
LaBruce screens controversial Skin Flick

BY EMILIE HARDMAN
STAFF WRITER

Still wearing his sunglasses at midnight, Bruce LaBruce is a tall tale rebel even if you don’t happen to know he is the writer and director of one of the most talked about underground films of the year.

The controversial queer punk Canadian filmmaker consistently perplexed audiences as his newest film, Skin Flick, moved across Europe, where it was filmed this summer.

Recently appearing in North American art theatres and lesbian/gay film festivals, American audiences are getting a peek at just what all the fuss has been about.

Despite all warnings of sexual content, racist violence, disturbing and dark images, the University of Rochester’s Hoyt Auditorium was packed when LaBruce brought his show to town.

Viewers were shoulder to shoulder waiting to watch the film with a mix of excitement and fear as LaBruce prefaced it with a “Well, I’ll just let you see it and you can all crucify me later.”

Viewers were shoulder to shoulder waiting to watch the film with a mix of excitement and fear as LaBruce prefaced it with a “Well, I’ll just let you see it and you can all crucify me later.”

The grainy black and white opening of the film feature Cameltoe, a skinhead with a scar etched as if in stone across her face. A tourist snaps pictures of the lean woman and she obliges by striking sexual poses, but when he is done she sweetly asks for the camera.

Unassuming, he hands it over. She rips out the film. Swearing and throwing vicious punches, Cameltoe assaults the tourist.

“Don’t steal my soul,” she screams as he scrambles away from her. And thus, the pornographic Skin Flick begins.

If that strikes you as an unconventional way to open a pornography film, you’d get an “A” in Porn 101.

Skin Flick is not at all conventional.

The film’s intent is to deconstruct the conventions of what LaBruce calls the reliance of pornography, particularly gay pornography, on “racist images and mentality.”

Switching into color, Skin Flick introduces us to Dirk and Dieter, members of a London skinhead gang. The skins follow a quiet gay gentleman, played by LaBruce himself, along a secluded path.

They then force him off the path into a cemetery where they brutally beat him.

Motivation for the violence comes from the gang’s stance that gays “should be exterminated,” but wait, what happens next? Aroused by the violence, Dirk and Dieter lock into a deep kiss, which leads to sex against the tombstones and all the while, Dirk’s boot rests heavily on the battered and bleeding gay man.

LaBruce says that this image of two skinheads, who are not gay identified — who are in fact homo-negative — kissing with a boot on his face was a summary of the film’s thesis.

He does have a sense of humor about all of this, and indeed, the idea represented in this powerful image are played on throughout the film.

In the next scene, Cameltoe, appearing for us in color this time, is fed up with the sexist expectations of her skinhead boyfriend, Reinhold. He wants her to make dinner; it’s her “job,” and in response she assails him and the gang with homophobic jeers.

For daring to link the gang’s behavior with gay behavior she is violently dragged out of the apartment. From the street she yells up to Reinhold, “you always were more homo than erectus,” prompting him to throw all of her possessions out the window.

As soon as Cameltoe is out of sight, however, the gang members turn to each other and we move into another steamy sex scene.

In this way, LaBruce examines themes of gay denial and violence.

Motivationally, he addresses, with the use of racist scenery and imagery in the apartment, his premise of pornography’s fascist context.

The connection between pornography and fascism is explored along with the tie of sexual identity to national identity during the scenes that bracket all sexual acts in the film. Again in grainy black and white, the male skinheads are shown reciting poetry, singing Nazi songs and spotlighting homo-negative diatribes.

The singing of “Deutschland Uber Alles” brackets the most intense scene of the film where the skinheads break into the apartment of an interracial couple, Karl and Leroy. The skinheads destroy the apartment and then humiliate the couple sexually through a drawn-out rape scene.

Here LaBruce points the finger at the pornography industry’s attempts to use rape in erotic contexts while also claiming pornography is literally fascist.

Skin Flick’s rape scene is enough to bring a viewer to tears, and in fact, Leroy, the black character and his partner, Karl, are actually shown with tears streaming down their faces.

Contrast that with the typical depictions of rape in pornography as joyfully erotic experiences and we begin to see how powerfully Skin Flick turns the staples of pornography.

LaBruce explained that because American pornography is generally created in an exploitative vein, he felt that he could not make the film in North America. He traveled instead to London where the film was made with actors from around the world.

The European attitude toward pornography, which allows for more narrative and art, was much more conducive to creating the film, said LaBruce.

Certainly, it would not at all be the same film without the narrative.

There would be none of the intellect or wit that make Skin Flick an engaging, if disturbing, film.

“My films,” said LaBruce in closing, “are against the notion of gay assimilation because to be co-opted strips the history and wonder of a gay culture or a black culture or any other culture.”

That is why Skin Flick works to deconstruct the nature of gay pornography that has become swept up in the exploits and emptiness of traditional pornography.

Next on LaBruce’s agenda is a larger budget film that is not pornography but is set in the pornography industry.

Until then though, Skin Flick is still showing at art theatres and film festivals in North America and will soon be out in a software version on video in the States.
Lyrics examined

BY EMILIE HARDMAN

There was less talk and more rock at the Women's Studies Roundtable last Friday afternoon when members of the Women's Issues Coalition gave their presentation, “Lyrical Feminism.”

“This music is a source of inspiration for me and the lyrics help give me ideas,” said presenter Carolyn Corrado, a new WIC member.

Four WIC members brought in song lyrics and slam poetry that they felt addressed feminist concerns. These pieces were either played or read for the 26 attendees.

Corrado, a Track II women’s studies student, read a slam poem from Ani DiFrenzo and Tracy Chapman. Corrado selected DiFrenzo’s “Fare Up and Sing” and “Little Plastic Castle” and Chapman’s “Bolled the Walls.”

Corrado said that the DiFrenzo songs express that women all need to take part in activism because they are so often stereotyped.

“Chapman’s song deals with the issue of domestic violence that many people in our society would like to ignore,” said Corrado.

First-year comparative cultures major Madeline Baker read “Skeletons,” a poem by slam poet Tori Amos.

“I think this poem is about a woman getting over being forced into situations that make her feel shameful,” said Baker.

Amy Garbark, a junior fine arts major and co-coordinator of WIC, also presented slam poetry. Garbark’s selection was “Your Revolution,” which was written by Sarah Jane, who has visited Alfred to present her work.

“Your Revolution,” weaves popular rap and hip-hop lyrics into a feminist critique. Illustrating the ways in which women are portrayed in these lyrics is an important accomplishment of this piece, said Garbark, especially, because, “even high-pop women play into these roles, like Foxy Brown.”

The final presenter was first-year ceramic engineering student, Jake Amoroso. Amoroso read “Precious Things,” a song written by Yara Jammal.

Though the genre of women’s music is generally hailed as one that promotes women, together all participants felt included in the “Lyrical Feminism.”

“I say this not just as an English professor, but as a woman,” said Carol Board, producing her remarks. “These lyrics are examples of sloppy language, inaccurate language. I need to be included in these adventures, but am not.”

Also, Professor of History Vicki Eckler said that the lyrics did not speak to the tradition of women’s music.

Sarah Karger, a sophomore, felt that the range of ages and WIC’s lack of a topic definition that led to these final comments by professors.

“Lyrical Feminism” was the last Women’s Studies Roundtable of this semester but will return to its monthly schedule next semester starting on Jan. 28.

BY LAURA ESPINOZA

Abigail Allen played an important rule in developing women’s rights at Alfred University, said Associate Professor Susan Strong at the Bergren Forum two weeks ago in Novins/Theater.

Allen was a woman of many talents who became, Alfred University, Strong said. She was an organizer and an early suffragist.

Strong noted to her audience of 40 community members and students Allen’s importance in shaping the school by “making the connection between educational ideas and social reform.”

Strong said Allen spent her life pushing for women’s rights to education, employment and the vote.

She helped move women forward by assisting in the founding of Alfred University, the second coeducational college in the United States.

Allen was a teacher and the leader of women at the early years of the Academy. Strong said. She added that during this period Allen started one of the first literary societies in the country. Alfred Academy’s literary society was especially progressive because it was supported by faculty and encouraged women to speak.

Strong said the literary forum was “a crucial form for debate and development of self-confidence.”

She pointed out that in the 19th century, women were typically not allowed to speak in public, especially if they gave orations that spoke their minds.

Strong spoke of the many speeches and conventions that Allen attended in her attempts to improve women’s rights. She told of a convention that Allen attended when Susan B. Anthony shook the audience by speaking out.

Strong said Anthony asked why teachers weren’t as respected as doctors and lawyers, and why men would have to prove that they were equal to women. She also spoke of speeches that Allen herself gave in which she noted that women had to work hard to go to school because their parents only spent money on their sons’ education.

Strong said that Allen and her husband, the second president of Alfred University, were both extremely active in the fight for women’s suffrage. They believed women needed to improve their own position. Women at Alfred University publicly endorsed suffrage.

In 1887, Strong said, Allen and 10 other women voted. They were arrested, and were only let go when someone noted that in order to charge them someone would have to prove that they were women.

Even before her death in 1901, Allen continued to push for women’s suffrage by driving around Allegany County encouraging women to attend school board meetings.

Strong spoke of Abigail Allen as an ambitious, confident and generous woman who helped move women’s rights forward not only for Alfred University, but for the entire nation as well.

Strong concluded that although Allen was a woman who was not afraid to speak her mind, she was not always welcomed by her fellow women.

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Despite audience, Lyrical Unity good overall

BY JUDY TSANG
COPY MANAGER

Coffee, tea, poetry and music are trademarks of Lyrical Unity, but last Saturday's event was not like previous ones.

Student Activity Board's Coffeehouse presented Lyrical Unity last weekend, as sponsored by Alfred Review-Poesia, Poser Latino, Shades of Ethnic Spectrum, Umoja and the Women's Issues Coalition.

Lyrical Unity was a means of bringing the Multi-Cultural Suite together, Amy Garbar, SAB's Coffeehouse chair said.

As expected, Lyrical Unity presented about 20 entertaining and interesting acts to an audience of over 120 attendees. Entertaining if you could have heard and focused on them.

Throughout the night, a constant buzz sounded from the crowd.

When the audience walked into the Knight Club, they forgot an important aspect of spectator etiquette: respect.

A good portion of the audience could not seem to show their respect to the performers and remain quiet. They entered as a mass and talked straight through most of the evening.

This was probably due to the lack of respect at this show, Katie Bailey, a junior, said.

"People have to realize the amount of guts [it takes] to get up there," she said.

With guts and nerves of steel, the show began on a shaky start with four members of Rhapsody. It took the quartet a while to "find our note." The giggles got the best of them, which cut their delicate song short.

What would Lyrical Unity be without poetry? Literature ranged from the work of famous poets to original student poetry. "Women Work" and "No Loser, No Winner" by Maya Angelou were presented.

Clintom Powell attempted to pass off "The Road Not Taken," by Robert Frost as his own work.

He was greeted with chuckles.

The contents of original poetry covered a wide spectrum. Topics and focal points of some of these poems included the steam of a shower; the actions of a washing machine; racism, sexism; fear and pain.

Shuffling between acts occurred, as viewers became performances.

At the keyboard was Maggie Fairman, playing and singing two songs she composed. "Lullaby" was a dedication to a friend lost to a drive-by shooting and another friend lost to suicide. Fairman's second song was "Find My Rainbow," "as about coming out.

During Lim Aneal's rendition of the IndoGirls' "Bombfire" on the guitar, a few of the attentions grew restless and murmurs emitted from the crowd.

Performers were not limited to just AU's ratification. Some AU students presented two pieces he penned. "Epic Eye" was more than just a recital; Bonahill embellished "Epic Eye" with hand gestures, echo simulation and pacing into the crowd.

His second piece, "Graffiti Artist," compared a "graffiti guru to a "modern day Matisse."

The audience responded with cheers and applause. It was evident that Bonahill was the highlight of the show.

Lyrical Unity, as a show itself, proved to be entertaining.

However, the overall effect of the show was diminished due to a couple of bad seeds in the crowd. After the show, many claimed to have enjoyed last semester's Lyrical Unity much more.

Maybe some of us will have grown up by the time the next Lyrical Unity comes to Coffeehouse.

Review

Rage blends music and politics

BY JAY WEISBERGER
MANAGING EDITOR

Rage Against the Machine does not put out an album that often. They made the world wait four years after their debut to release Evil Empire. It has been almost four more between that release and the release of the band's newest album, The Battle of Los Angeles.

In that time, Rage has found itself no longer the only major player in the rap-rock game. How many albums has Limp Bizkit from loud to soft at the perfect moment.

Regardless of your political views, there is something on this album for you.

It is quintessential Rage. The lyrics of the songs fit the ever-changing sounds of the music, ranging from the emotional reflections of "Wish I May," "Soft Shoulder," "Going On," "Carry You Around" and "Cloud Blood" to the upbeat and funky "Swing" and "Back Back Back.

DiFranco even lightly extols the virtues of watching public affection at the airport in "The Arrivals Gate," complete with jumpy banjos in the background.

Despite criticism of her last few albums, To the Teeth confirms DiFranco's sound experimentation as her style rather than her transition between phases.

"To me it all feels very connected. I always hate when people refer to my work as 'alternative' because it didn't sound like they expected it to sound, or because they were surprised around what to them is a new combination of sensibilities," said DiFranco.

While DiFranco's "sensibilities" do not go over well to my friends, To the Teeth is worth the listen. It's a love letter to the Teeth, such as jazz and soul artist Ani DiFranco (whose own band toured with DiFranco's this past summer) and his son Cory, who offers a rap section to "Swing."
Prophet tells of next production

BY JASON PILARZ
BILLINGS MANAGER

Following the success of Prometheus last month, the performing arts division of AU is now gearing up for a different kind of play, Scapin.

The play is a farce and thus was made to be fun. Yet it will also provide an opportunity to “shove into the 1950s as a social and cultural movement, noted Professor of Theater Becky Prophet, director of the play.

Scapin was adapted by Prophet from Les Fourberies de Scapin, a play by Moliere, into a diner set located in 1950s Poughkeepsie, N.Y. The play revolves around Scapin, a trickster who uses his deceit to trick his parents’ wishes. Ultimately, however, Scapin’s deception catches up with him.

Prophet sees her adaptation as an opportunity to “exploring soci-ety and myth of the 1950s” as she has added a great deal of social commentary, which she explains, is “quite effective in farce.”

In the play, Prophet has remained true to many aspects of the original playwright, most notably the festive and carnival-like atmosphere that surrounds the plot.

As a farce, the play is designed to keep the audience entertained, but also to make them think about underlying issues. Prophet feels that the new version keeps with these characteristics of the original play.

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**AU beats Griffins**

**BY JAY WEISBERGER**  
**MANAGING EDITOR**

**AND JUDY TSANG**  
**COPY MANAGER**

With the weather turning colder, most people aren’t thinking about hitting the pool. However, the AU women’s swim team did just that last weekend in their first home meet against Buffalo rival Canisius College.

The weather inside was apparently perfect for AU as the Saxons triumphed over the Griffins 165-57.

Kiley Johnston led the team with 14. She also made two kills. Andrea Williamson nailed four kills, as did Beth Merrill. Stephanie Sprague had the lone ace for the team.

Just reaching the tournament was a major accomplishment for the squad, however. The team finished at 500 last year. This year the team posted one of the best records in recent history. Making the tournament marks a big move up for the team.

Now, the team must look to next year. If the team shows the same improvement next year as we had this year, another bid to the tournament may result.1

**NCAA bid for v-ball**

**BY CHARLIE CASPARUIS**  
**STAFF WRITER**

**AND JAY WEISBERGER**  
**MANAGING EDITOR**

When people think about an NCAA tournament, teams that first come to mind are Duke, UConn, Kansas and the like.

However, for AU last week, it was the Saxons heading into tournament play.

The women’s volleyball team ended their regular season with a bid to the NCAA D-III tournament. The team was seeded fifth in their region.

This was the first time the AU spikers made it to the elite post-season tourney, held last weekend in Ohio.

However, the trip went quickly. Maybe too quickly.

In the Saxons’ first matchup against Gettysburg, they were hit hard, dropping the first game 1-15. This was followed by a 4-15 loss and then a 5-15 loss, which ended the Saxons’ season.

Kelly Johnston led the team with 14 digs. She also made four kills.

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**Women commended**

**BY GEOFF ROSE**  
**AU SPORTS INFORMATION**

Senior co-captain Kellie Hawks and Lynn Barbori of the women’s soccer team were named second team Empire Eight on Monday.

“I am really proud of Kellie and Lynn,” head coach Pat Codispotti said. “Their leadership is what carried us through some of the rough parts during the end of the season.”

Hawks was a leader of the AU (7-9-1) defense this season, being placed in the stopper position after spending the past three seasons as a forward and a midfielder. She scored two goals this season and added an assist. She leaves AU tied for fifth in career points (55) and fifth in career goals (24).

“Kellie has done it all for us for her four years here,” Codispotti said.

Barbori, a midfielder, was also a key to the Saxons this season. She turned on the offensive fire late in the season, scoring two goals and an assist against Pitt.-Bradford, and added another goal in the season finale against Canisius. Barbori finished the season tied for the team lead in goals (5), assists (4), and points (10). Her career 13 assists rank her third all-time.

“Lynn never looked for hus- tle,” Codispotti said. “I can’t even think of a time when she didn’t give 100 percent on the field.”

**Others receiving votes:**


**Fiat Lux**