Students, Faculty Feel Brunt of Chilling Order

By LINDSEY RIBACK

On Thursday, the U.S. Court of Appeals upheld the decree to prevent President Donald Trump’s executive order to temporarily restrict immigration from seven Muslim-majority countries, yet students and faculty at the University at Albany where they come from the countries included in the ban, and individuals in the U.S. with visas who under regular circumstances would be able to travel abroad may not adequately explain why the Capital region is experiencing wild weather.

The weather in Albany this past week may seem like a direct effect of climate change, but it may not adequately explain why the Capital region is experiencing unusual weather patterns this year, according to a University at Albany professor. Please see WEATHER page 3

HIGHER ED

Free Tuition Proposal

By LINDSEY RIBACK

Free tuition may become reality for University at Albany students if Governor Andrew Cuomo’s proposed Excelsior Scholarship is passed.

The plan was first announced on Jan. 3 during Cuomo’s first state of the state address at LaGuardia Community College in Queens, and the campaign began Tuesday at Buffalo State College. If the plan is approved, by the fall of 2019, all college-age residents whose households make under $125,000 will be eligible for free tuition at SUNY. Please see CUOMO page 2

MUSLIM BAN

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WINTER

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NFL Trailblazer Takes Campus

By ILLENE ROTHMAN

Stopped with a message of perseverance, former NFL player, Michael Sam, shared his emotional life story during the University at Albany’s Sexuality Month. The Texas native took the Campus Center Ballroom stage Tuesday night to discuss how he remains positive despite the adversity he has faced both on and off the football field.

A lot of people think my story began when I came out as a gay football player. That’s not true at all,” Sam said to an audience of over 400 individuals. During his presentation Sam shared the tragedy of his childhood, his experiences with publicly coming out as gay before the 2014 NFL draft, and reflected on his life since being released from the NFL.

Sam was born in Galveston, Texas and during his presentation, “I am Michael Sam,” he intimately shared details of the abuse he faced from his older brothers during his childhood.

Once in high school, Sam began to find solace on the football field from his unstable home life. He went on to play college football at the University of Missouri where he began to further explore his sexuality. Please see NFL page 3

MUSSLIN BAN

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Mideast Expert Decries US Foreign Policy at Campus Discussion

By Arianna Emili

University at Albany students filed into the Campus Center on Wednesday afternoon to hear a discussion on ISIS by an expert on the subject of the Atlantic. Phyllis Bennis, the director of the new Middle East institutes at the Atlantic, displayed her knowledge on understanding the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, the war on terror, and the issues that this new phenomenon will bring to the Albany community of tomorrow.

“The notion of reclaiming that name…Or the propensity for a worrisome problematic notion, it implies a kind of backhand from political engagement, and especially important diplomatic engagements where we do have to consider what our allies are doing as well,” said Bennis in her reference to the World War II slogan of “America First.”

Although details are still unknown about the Trump foreign policy, the campus is going to look like it was the day before the announcement if the truth is not being told by the younger brother, has been a serious concern for students and other faculty members from other countries to come to.

One Iranian student, who is majoring in urban and regional planning and spoke with the Albany Student Press on the condition of anonymity, expressed worry about being reunited with her family.

“I will not have my family around me for graduation come May and I did not know if the fired one year that she cannot visit me anymore,” she said. “This was the first ever time that we lost the ability to see any family that the announcement of the ban, has been keeping families in their lives. They really could not focus on their courses or on my job; I spent a lot of time worrying. I feel like I am experiencing a completely different country in just three weeks.”

The inability to focus was also a concern of an Iraqi student who is pursuing his PhD in literature at UAlbany.

“What international students leave the US or not in fear of being banned from re-entering, it has a psychological impact on them and it makes them worry about their future,” said Mahmood. “It makes them feel their future is uncertain.”

Upon Trump’s announcement of the ban, UAlbany’s international Employee’s services advised one Iranian professor to postpone any travel abroad until things have been settled with the new administration. A green card, the professor, who requested to remain anonymous, cancelled his summer trip to Iran and plans to visit Europe rather than a visiting scholar as a precaution.

He also acknowledged the implications the ban would have for his family and colleagues.

“My parents and my family’s side, they made to make regular US trips to visit me in villages, but with the ban, they would not be able to do so… I also feel bad for all my Iranian colleagues in Canada and Europe who regularly attended the conferences we used to attend, and they will not be able to come to the US for the conferences anymore,” he said.

The ban posed serious professional implications for the Alaei brothers as well. At CIBER, Arash and Kamiar plan to attend conferences around the world, specifically in the influence of Persian architecture on the university’s upwards campus, according to his brother, Kambiz.

With the help of UAlbany, Alaei brothers and local congress members, Kamiar said that the Alaei family was able to “highlight how important it is to have full access to higher education for real,” and the younger brother was able to return to his family.

The fear that the Alaei brothers had of being unable to reunite with their younger brother, has been a serious concern for students and other faculty members from other countries to come to.

At GIHHR, Arash and Kamiar explained to the Campus Center on Wednesday about the significance for Iran and its people facing those challenges, and that they are never get of the fear. Trump said that last action would be to stop the wars that create refugees.

“Refugees don’t just happen; nobody knocks and asks their country for a terrifying two, three years in a refugee camp without running water, electricity, medicine, or be any effect, unless they are desperate,” he said. “This made the military budget and end wars.”

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WEATHER

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Wednesday experienced a high of 44 degrees and then swiftly plunged into snow accompanied by late afternoon on Thursday, the first actual snowstorm of the season. Last winter was the warmest winter Albany has had on record since 1952, with an average of 13 degrees, according to the National Weather Service. This change is concerning, as the global temperature has only risen on average 1 degree annually since the 1950’s, according to NASA calculations.

This change is concerning, as many local farms as well as the maple syrup industry are already being hurt by the changes to weather patterns. Wintering have been becoming cold much later in the season, as late as January, and warmer spring temperatures have also been happening earlier in the year, before becoming very cold again.

This fluctuation in weather and seasonal onset has led to differences in the times maple syrup can be grown and expected to flourish. Maple syrup can now be harvested as much as three weeks earlier than it has been able to in past years, but this leads to a far lower grade of syrup last year.

And many flower crops as well as trees, two other important agricultural exports of New York, flourished in the short period of springtime weather, only to die when the cold reappeared, leaving that year’s crop much smaller.

Paul Roundy, professor of atmospheric and environmental sciences at UAlbany, said that while climate change is a concern, it is not the cause of the unusual winter weather patterns that Albany has been experiencing over the last few years. While last year had the warmest winter weather in recent history, and this year to follow that trend, the blame is not on climate change, but the El Nino system that occurred last year, according to Roundy, who studies atmospheric waves.

The El Nino system is a naturally occurring, periodic warming of the Pacific Ocean that occurs and raises the temperature to many degrees above average, sending out disturbances in the atmosphere around the globe that can last for years onwards.

Roundy and other scientists have not figured out why the El Nino variance is the effect of weather patterns themselves. Although Roundy and other scientists have not figured out the exact reason why, there is evidence that backs up the claims of global climate change and El Nino increasing the unpredictability of weather patterns on a whole as their effects increase.

For winter weather, Roundy said that Albany will likely experience more chance of longterm freezing weather, but that the El Nino variance is not certain enough to Roundy that there will be no more cold winters, just enough to suggest warmer winters in the future.

Roundy also wished to note that both scientists and people that do not believe that climate change would be “he巢ed with each other about what they know.”

While climate change has real and measurable effects, it is also something that “affects the climate with incredibly small impacts in many places, nothing that would bring about the end of the world in a matter of years,” Roundy said.

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BUDGET

Continued from Page 1

group this year, are already alarmed by the coming vote. Much of Middle Earth’s standing toward intern compensation and programming was lost. SA felt that they should fight to keep some of Middle Earth’s funding, according tott Roundy, SA programming director.

Without SA, none of [our programs] would be possible,” said Hall. “We really, really need this funding.”

The Jamaican Student Association “thinks this is a terrible sentiment. Along with programming houses, Nandula Minnis, JAMAAS president, wonders that what voluntary vote would the organization’s dance team form completely.

“Again, if you don’t [SA funds] then you can’t have a Jamaica Weather. “This is $15,000, which is a lot for us.”

Beyond student groups, most SA internal operations (97 percent of SA’s programming dollars) would come to a halt. The possibility of a Dippikill purchase — now under legal review — would reach a halt. Programming dollars under legal review would likely be stalled for the next two years.

Without debate, the contingency budget sailed through the season, 24-4-0.

That’s like the worst case scenario in the vote goes voluntary, I’m more than confident in the student body’s judgement that they’ll make it mandatory again,” said Brandon Holdridge, senator-at-large. “However, the student body has not made the fee mandatory on the first vote in four years. While this is not an ideal situation,”

NASA calculations.

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Continued from Page 1
Michael Sam Comes With Message of Hope

By ILYNE ROTHMAN

LGBTQ football player, Michael Sam, addressed the University at Albany community during his time on campus last week. Sam regards his future with resonated optimism and a “you-can-be-anything” attitude. Despite his dream of playing in the NFL, coming to an end, the positivity that Sam regrets his future with resonated among Albany students.

Student Association President Felix Almazro, who introduced Michael Sam prior to the start of the presentation, found Sam’s life story extremely motivational. “You can see that despite having to overcome obstacles, Sam continued to pursue his dream and not only that, he continued believing in himself, something I hope everyone that attended the event was able to take away. It’s all about personal perception and Sam exemplified what it means to be true to yourself,” said Almazro.

When Sam was speaking of his difficult childhood he became emotional when he realized the abuse he suffered from the hands of his older brothers, the impact that his father abandoning his family had, and how he became the second child out of his eight siblings to graduate from high school. “The proudest moment in my life was when I was walking across that stage and I looked in the stands and I saw my mom in my tears,” said Sam about receiving his degree diploma.

Also in the audience that night was Anthony Castro, a junior computer engineering major. Castro was surprised that Sam was able to meet his childhood struggles. “Dealing with the kinds of tragedy he dealt with at home is a difficult task, and it is impressive that he was able to rise out of that hardship and become the first of his family to attend college,” said Castro.

As far as his status as an LGBTQ icon, students who attended the presentation admire his courage for being an openly gay athlete. Claire McClellan, a sophomore majoring in Public Policy and Management and minoring in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, feels that it is crucial for queer athletes to be open about their sexual orientations. “I’m gay but I’m also white, so the privileges I have are very different from the privileges given to queer people of color. At least I can use people like me represented in media in a somewhat positive light, but LGBTQ people of color are constantly erased and eclipsed from mainstream media in favor of white people. For Michael Sam to be black, gay, an athlete, and out, is remarkable and moving. These are identities that don’t typically mesh well in our society, so I love him for embracing his uniqueness and encouraging others to do the same,” said McClellan.

Robert Lapelpat, a sophomore journalism major, is looking forward to the impact that Sam will have on the sports world. Sam was already awarded the Arthur Ashe Courage Award at the 2014 ESPY awards. “Michael has singlehandedly opened the door for so many other professional athletes to follow in his footsteps and I think when we ultimately look back at Michael Sam and this decision in the future, hopefully we’ll be confirmed as to why he’s coming out was such a big deal,” said Lapelpat.

Michael Sam’s honesty to share his identity with the world makes him a trailblazer in both the sports world and the LGBTQ community. Sam’s confidence in who he is and his positivity towards life despite all of the suffering he has faced makes him a valuable icon. It is exciting to speculate on Sam’s future career, whether it be in sports, motivational speaking, or something entirely new.

The Albany Student Press: Free of Alternative Facts since 1916
ABORTION IS MURDER!

In a powerful pro-life speech, abortion survivor Gianna Jessen testified before President Barack Obama in 2011: “If abortion is merely about women’s rights, then women have the right to kill their own children. But they don’t. They have the right to life—has been taken from them, in the name of women’s rights. If abortion is an essential part of women’s rights, then women must have the right to kill anyone they want.”

Rebuttal: We Must Foster a Culture of Life

By NAOMI MCPETERS

A good newspaper I read today was the New York Times. It featured an article about a mother’s decision to give birth to a disabled child. The article quoted a woman who said, “I was told that my baby was going to die. But I didn’t believe it.”

One of the arguments you make is that the unborn are not persons. But if you believe that, then why not extend the same argument to any group of people who are perceived as less than human? This is why I believe that the unborn are persons, as defined by the Constitution. They have the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

In a previous post, I mentioned the case of a woman who was told that her baby would not survive. She decided to carry the pregnancy to term, and her baby was born healthy. She used this as evidence that the unborn are persons, as defined by the Constitution.

I read an article about a woman who was told that her baby would be born with Down syndrome. She decided to carry the pregnancy to term, and her baby was born healthy. She used this as evidence that the unborn are persons, as defined by the Constitution.

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Big Sean’s “I Decided” A Towering LP

By ZACH PERRY

I had two New Year’s Resolutions going into this year, but I realized my resolution that “La La Land” is a dumpfor of the year is probably coming true. Not unlike the new big Sean album would be the best album of the year. I’m willing to put my money on songs will be much easier to compare with the latter.

The first prodigy of Kanye West and a Detroit of the future have had in the industry, and released by anyone with a “Lil” in their “Bounce Back” could honestly have been glories both as an artist and a Detroit chance at life. “The Light” finds him energy from his days in the mixtape circuit two facts that clearly pervade his music. in his stunted record sales and scant supply included on top 10 lists, which is reflected the beautiful of the hip hop scene, but most easier time with the latter.

The first prodigy of Kanye West and a Detroit “I Decided”

But if none of that attracts you, then come for the Trump diss, Harambe the lion, the lynching of “Detroit”, the deck of cards that will probably always go to his 2011 album “Finally Famous”. It lacks the orchestral gravitas of “Dark a few standout beats and a number of riffs, but a spoken one. A man of few

there are more

“Moves” belongs on a Drake mixtape, as most of them have inhabited

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There are more
Cracked through Japanese isolationism

In the mid-1990s, in North Carolina, the Squirrel Nut Zippers named themselves after a candied nut and started playing music. Now, band leaders James “Jimbo” Mathus and drummer Chris Phillips have brought the band back with a brand-new nine-piece lineup. Last November, they brought their “revival tour” to the Egg to celebrate the 20th anniversary of their album, which sold 1.5 million copies.

There were few empty seats in the room, and few members of the audience not tapping their feet or dancing in their seats. Though the Zippers’ set included some of their favorite pieces from their collection, it was an impossible to dance without tripping, stepping on someone’s toes, or falling through a hidden door in the wall. Going to see a swing band and not being able to swing is dance is somewhat disappointing.

For Joe Pesci, this film is dead serious about butchering, no Muddy Waters music, no sex and drugs for Scorsese. There’s no drugs, no mobster antics, and no fiddler/banjo player/musical saw player Adam Driver. Either cast is stacked, and by Liam Neeson, Andrew Garfield, and by Daniel Day-Lew in, one of his flops. That is impossible to dance without tripping, stepping on someone’s toes, or falling through a hidden door in the wall. Going to see a swing band and not being able to swing is dance is somewhat disappointing.

Suits Are Picking Up the Bill" for Jimbo to bring the Squirrel Nut Zippers? No, you might be thinking, so this movie sounds great, looks great, has great acting, and a well-written deep story, and it is not even nominated. To be fair, the nomination, which was for Cinematography Rodrigo Paresto, was arguably the most deserving category, but the film itself is not. The Squirrel Nut Zippers have gone through multiple lineup changes, but their swing sound has stayed spectacular. They pay their own onstage lights and they wear handmade Cuban-heal stockings and flower dresses. “Everyone has been so kind and jolly,” Jimbo said while taking pictures with fans after the concert; he capped off the evening by leading the audience out into the lobby, where the band played a raucous cover of the spiritual “Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho.” He hopes to bring the Squirrel Nut Zippers on tour again.

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The Metropolitan Museum of Art has been digitizing over 300,000 works of art and has recently put them in this public domain. From time to time this semester we will briefly discuss our pages with our favorite pieces from their collection.

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GET TREATED LIKE THE MILLION BUCKS YOU MIGHT NOT HAVE.

Because our focus is on you, not shareholders, you can get personal support whether you have $500 or $5 million. Start now at TIAA.org/advice
The Editor's Take: By: Troy Farkas

Last Tuesday I had the opportunity to sit down with keynote speaker Michael Sam before he spoke to UAlbany students in the Campus Center Ballroom. Along with another student reporter and student photographers, we interviewed him and asked why he is now speaking at schools across the country, the message he hopes to share, and some of the lessons he learned from his football career.

For those of you who didn’t see him speak or aren’t familiar with his story, Michael Sam was selected in the 2014 NFL Draft by the St. Louis Rams. He was the first openly gay man to get drafted. He failed to make the roster at the end of the preseason and he continued to bounce around a bit, but he never stuck anywhere. He officially hung up his cleats last year and he is now going around the country closing books and speaking at schools across the country.

I could write an article about the event or share some of the quotes he gave me, but I feel that wouldn’t be right. It’s clear he dislikes the media after the way it portrayed him. He didn’t let the local photographers, we interviewed him and asked why he is now speaking at schools across the country, the message he hopes to share, and some of the lessons he learned from his football career.

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WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

On Snow Day, Hixson Dominates In Seventeen Point Victory Over Bearcats

By OMAR NOUHIM

The Danes reached double-digit points with Hixson leading the way. Binghamton had a chance to hold Hixson to just two points in the second half. However, Hixson had a productive night herself, picking up 10 points and 8 assists. She accounted for two of the night’s best highlights. In the third quarter, she found Imani Watkins for a corner 3-pointer, which led to a foul and made an acrobatic lay-up. In the fourth, she fished out a snappy pass to sophomore forward Heather Forster for another basket.

“The last time we lost, I feel like we were all very disappointed in ourselves. I think that we don’t want that feeling,”said first-year head coach Joanna Bernabei-McNamee.

Both teams came out of halftime shooting the lights out from deep, with a combined 11-2 3-point attempts from the floor. Hixson shared a moment in which the two Danes exchanged a couple of words. A Jan. 22 slip-up against Maine also was a big success, with four of the school’s 18 athletic programs and he believes workouts several days a week. Tullock is in charge of training the football team.

“Together we have a pretty good team here,” Tullock said. “The team gets along really well. A different role but I’m enjoying it. I love being around the team and of course I’m learning things. I see things and learn how to explain them to people as opposed to actually doing it myself. It’s definitely a different role but I’m enjoying it.

“Tullock has a tough duty with only having about eight hours a week per athlete to work with according to the University at Albany’s athletic staff. Tullock’s role is to help athletes build a foundation for success in their careers.

“Collucio, who left for a head coaching gig at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Shereesha Richards, UAlbany’s leading returning senior player professionally in Spain, some things that we can take away from the game,” said Collucio.

Almost every Danes reach or exceed double-figure points. The junior center, who leads the America East conference in blocks, said she hopes to build on her promising first-year season.

“Collucio is working on learning many different aspects of the game, and she knows how to win. The people around her never tell her to stop working and the way she never gives up have shot as much in the past.

“Holland has had a few opportunities to start, but not many. However, Collucio knows she has what it takes to qualify for the NCAA Tournament and the America East Tournament which are the two main goals for the Danes this season.

“Collucio definitely think they can achieve that goal. This team is so talented. I am really happy for the girls. They work so hard and are consistent,” said Collucio.

“Tullock has a pretty good team here, too. It’s a different role but I’m enjoying it. I love being around the team and of course I’m learning things. I see things and learn how to explain them to people as opposed to actually doing it myself. It’s definitely a different role but I’m enjoying it.

“I think that we don’t want that feeling,” said first-year head coach Joanna Bernabei-McNamee.

The win solidified the Danes’ streak snapped Thursday night. The Bearcats had their modest two-game win streak ended at 66-48.

Ex-Player Adjusts to the Sidelines

By ROBERT LEPESTAK

Erin Collucio was a two-time America East Tournament champion as a player for the University at Albany. She was a two-time All-American, who leads the America East conference in rebounds and is seventh in the nation in that category. Collucio is the only current player in the America East with more than 1,300 career rebounds.

Someone new to the college basketball scene, Collucio has transitioned from a star athlete to a star coach. She has been working with student-athletes since she was a teenager.

Despite taking a step back due to injuries, Collucio said she is happy with the progress her team has made this season.

“I definitely don’t feel like I’m going to be receptive to anything they throw at me this season,” said Collucio.

The Danes are a different team this year, Collucio believes. They have a more balanced team, she said, and they are a more mature team this year. They are a wonderful group of girls and Imani is a gamer. If I had to pick someone to be a leader without having that drive and the way she’s able to lead because you can see every day she wants to win. She’s going to put everything she has into winning.

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