

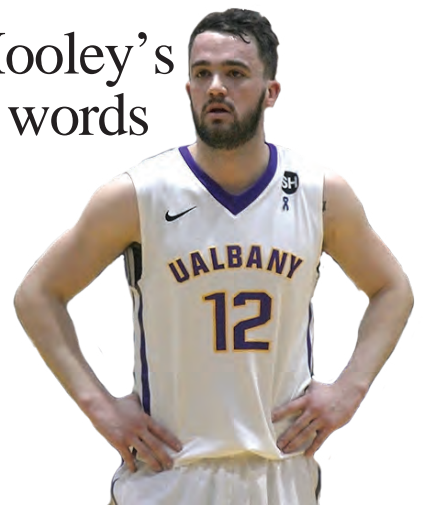


ASAP

ALBANY STUDENT PRESS

Pres. Jones returns to the stage with Sounds of Blackness.
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Peter Hooley's parting words
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TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2016 ISSUE 19 ALBANYSTUDENTPRESS.NET

POLITICS

UALBANY SUPER TUESDAY REACTIONS

By **KAITLIN LEMBO**

The CDTA bus incident was not the only talk on the University at Albany campus last Tuesday.

March 1 marked Super Tuesday, the day where 13 states and one territory voted for candidates of the Democratic and Republican parties for the 2016 presidential election.

"I had a feeling that Trump and Clinton would likely take majority of states/delegates," UAlbany junior Molly O'Bryan said.

Business mogul-turned-politician Donald Trump took the most states with seven wins in the Republican race, and former Secretary of State

Hillary Clinton prevailed on the side of the Democrats with seven states.

Ph.D. student and teaching assistant Charmaine Willis agreed with O'Bryan.

"I expected that Clinton would win most of the southern states and Sanders the more liberal states, such as Colorado and his home state of Vermont," Willis said. "The results of the Republican primaries were also fairly consistent with what I expected: Cruz took Texas (as well as neighboring Oklahoma) and Trump won most of the other states."

Junior Tatiana Kobe is pleased with Clinton's win.

"I am beyond happy Clinton took the lead for

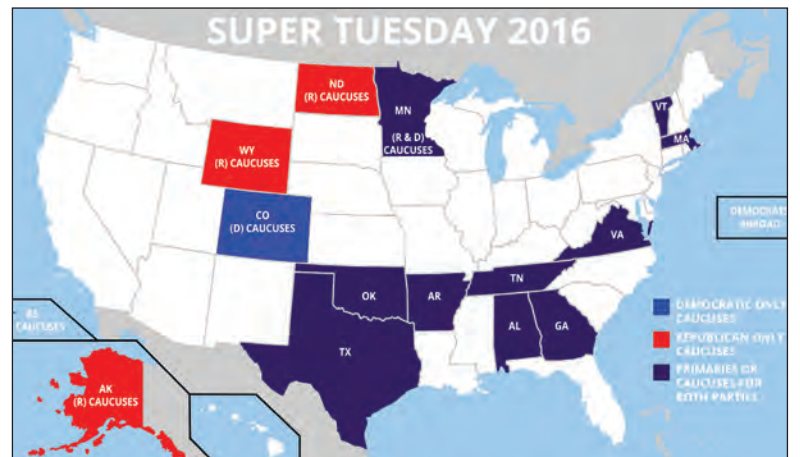
the Democrats," Kobe said. She also expressed concern that Trump remains the lead candidate for the GOP.

Freshman Natasha Makowicz disagreed with Kobe, saying that if Clinton wins, she is fleeing the country.

Not only are students reacting to the primaries, but teachers, like political science professor Anne Hildreth, spoke on what she feels about the outcome.

"I am fascinated that exit polls continue to show late deciders are less likely to choose Trump," Hildreth said. "On the Democratic side I remain surprised with the level of competition Sanders is supplying Clinton."

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DonkeyHotey / Flickr

Super Tuesday is a Tuesday during the presidential primary season in which the greatest number of states hold a caucus in one day. More delegates can be won on Super Tuesday than any other single day during the primary calendar. Super Tuesday is said to represent a candidate's overall electability, which is why winning Super Tuesday is so important during primary season. Many past nominees have been Super Tuesday winners.

PHOTOGRAPHY



Alvin He / Albany Student Press

One last look at winter before we hop into spring

Staff photographer Alvin He took some majestic photos of UAlbany's campus at snow sprinkled with snow. To see more, scan the QR code to the right.



IN THE NEWS

Learning from the crisis in Flint

By **LINDSEY RIBACK**

As the safety of the nation's drinking water comes under scrutiny, the University at Albany is working to do its part in alleviating the short and long term effects of this public health crisis.

The presence of lead in Flint, Michigan's tap water made national headlines this year and on a more local level, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has advised Hoosick Falls residents against drinking their tap water due to the discovery of perfluorooctanoic acids (PFOAs) in the public water supply.

According to Lawrence Schell, the director of the Center for the Elimination of Minority Health Disparities (CEMHD) and an anthropology professor at UAlbany, the presence of these contaminants in the water are a result of neglect on both ends: the government and manufacturing companies.

"Old cities have infrastructure that has to be maintained... when cities do not have the money to keep these things up then human health suffers," he said. "We have to prioritize our health and security, and spend what is necessary to see that we have clean water that is not contaminated with chemical or with organic matter."

To help those affected by the unsafe drinking water in Flint, UAlbany's Association for Black Social Workers in conjunction with the School of Criminal Justice's Graduate Student Association has hosted Flint Week. According to a press release, members from the Association for Black Social Workers spent the first week of March raffling

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CAMPUS SPEAKER

From Sudan to Israel: The story of an escaped slave

By **ELENA POLLACK**

On March 3, the Great Danes for Israel, co-sponsored with the Community for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America (CAMERA), hosted speaker Simon Deng, who escaped from slavery in North Sudan.

"Wrong is wrong, no matter how small it is," Simon Deng said.

Deng began by clarifying that, even before the United Nations acknowledged it, Sudan was two countries, North and

South. Overall, Sudan was overtaken by radicals who attempted to impose religious views on the African tribes. It took years for the people of South Sudan to gain recognition as an independent state, and preserve their culture in the face of an invading force.

Deng was 9 years old when he was abducted from his home village by his own neighbor and forced into slavery as a "gift" to the man's cousin. At the time, Deng didn't understand the meaning of slavery. He was beaten, humiliated,

For three and a half years, it was hell. I was not considered a human being"

- SIMON DENG

and forced to do hard labor. He could not "even say a word because [he] was owned by another human being."

"For three and a half years, it was hell. I was not considered a human being." We, as free citizens, cannot imagine how he felt. Slavery is still a serious issue, and as Deng spoke, we should be concerned about it.

Fortune smiled upon Deng when he was nearly 13 years old. He ran into

Please see **SUDAN** page 3

FROM THE ARCHIVES

THE ASP TURNS 100 THIS YEAR. CELEBRATE WITH ARCHIVES.

Campus Crime Increases Sharply

by Linda Fried

The number of crimes committed at SUNYA seem to have risen with the temperature.

Compared to March 1975, last month has seen a 75 per cent increase in campus criminal activity reported to the University Police.

The value of damages incurred during March 1976 exceeds \$9000, whereas the total for the same month last year reached only \$2320, an increase of 296%.

Cases of petit larceny are most predominant, tallying 111 so far this year. Bicycle thefts are becoming increasingly prevalent, with the threat now extending to Citizen Band radios found in many motor vehicles.

There have been five incidents last month in which rooms were burglarized while the occupants were asleep. Personal offenses for March numbered eight, including five cases of harassment, and two assaults. The rash of false fire alarms last month total twenty-two, with two actual fires.

The fifteen criminal arrests made during March involved just one SUNYA student. The other arrests included a number of area high school students, a SUNYA employee, and one former SUNYA employee. Two of those arrested

were consequently cleared

As the coming of pleasant weather heralds an increase in crime, the University Police urge students to take precautions, such as registering bicycles and locking-up valuables. Eighteen reports of doors found unlocked or open, were received in March.

Of the crimes reported during last

month, there were 23 felonies.

Parking Problem Up
The monthly crime report list parking violations as a major problem around campus. The report said that illegally parked vehicles are causing substantial damage to lawn and gravel areas. As a result, the University Police gave out over 100 parking tickets daily last month.



Source: Albany Student Press archives

A story and separate cartoon from the ASP in April 23, 1976.

STUDENT PROFILE

A model student

By JANIE FRANK

Teah Sisti was 12 when she gave a presentation to her class about what she wanted to do when she grew up. Sisti told her classmates she wanted to walk in New York City Fashion week.

"Everybody laughed in my face," Sisti said. "They were like: you're not pretty, your nose is too big, you don't have the right proportions."

Sisti, a junior at the University at Albany, laughs when she tells the story now, but back then she was hurt.

"I was completely laughed at," she said.

Sisti used that as her motivation.

"I'm the type of person when something like that happens, I fight for it so much more than I ever would have. I was like screw them, I'm gonna do this," she said.

She went to open calls over the course of five years before she landed her first big job.

The first gig Sisti was hired for was a job she found via Craigslist.

"Things were much different then," she said. "You can't do that anymore because today everything is very sexualized. It's like 'Looking for Feet Models' and you're like, 'Are you though?'"

After a year of going to auditions and castings, Sisti got a real job at the age of 17. She was hired to work as a model for the International Beauty Show (IBS) at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center.

"It's so true in any industry, you're told no a million times," she said.

She believes that she was told no so often because of her body.

"Nobody chose me because my proportions for the modeling industry are off," she said. "I'm considered plus... Standard high fashion is 00 to 4 and I'm an 8/10."

Sisti recognized that there is a big difference between being a plus size in the modeling world and actually being plus sized. She noted that she is still under the average clothing size for women in the United States, which is 12/14.

The IBS was Sisti's first big break.



Photo provided by Teah Sisti

The model has faced some hardships due to her body type. Standing at 5'10" and a size 8/10, she said she's not the typical type.

"I made connections," she said. "A few photographers liked me. I started putting together a portfolio and that was kind of my foot in the door."

A photographer from IBS who liked her suggested she go to an open call for Fashion Week. Sisti went. She was 18 and a freshman at UAlbany.

The man in charge of casting told Sisti she had a European nose which made him love her look. She immediately remembered her classmates telling her that she couldn't model because her nose was too big. He offered her a spot in the show.

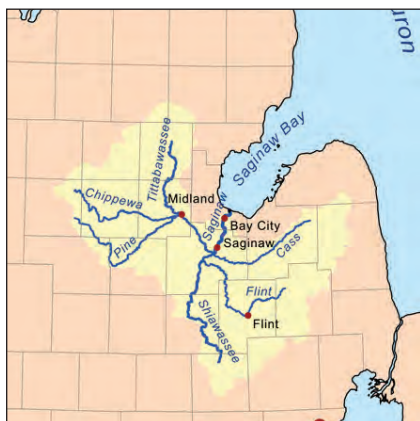
"It was one of the best moments in my life," she said. "For me, it was such an incredible moment and from there

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FLINT

Continued from Page 1

bake sale on the Downtown Campus on March 3. The group wrapped up their week-long event on March 7 with a free showing of "Blue Gold: World Water Wars" in Husted Hall. All proceeds from the raffles, bake sale and any donations received at the movie showing will be donated to the victims of Flint.



Kmusser / Wikipedia

off gift cards in the Campus Center and hosted a

The closest that the UAlbany community has come to contaminated water was the presence of trihalomethanes in the town of Bethlehem this past summer, according to Schell. His main area of interest is centered around the effects that contaminated water can have on developing children.

"I'm an anthropologist studying what human beings do to themselves indirectly," Schell said. "We build an environment for ourselves, we live in it and it changes us biologically."

His past research has focused on the adverse health effects of lead and polychlorinated biphenyl, PCBs, on the development of Akwesasne Mohawk Indians on the St. Lawrence River. The anthropologist found that lead can decelerate the rate of sexual maturation in females, while PCBs accelerate it. The main issue with these two contaminants is that once they are in the human body they are very hard to get rid of.

Schell will participate in a public panel discussion at SUNY New Paltz on March 15 titled "Toxic Water: The Poisoning of Flint, MI" along with Emily Garner from Virginia Tech and



TruthSec Anons / YouTube

A woman holds up water bottles in Michigan to show the level of contamination they were in.

Michael Mascarenhas from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Schell will discuss the research he conducted with the late Alice Stark during the 1990s on the effects of lead on the infants of disadvantaged women in Albany County. He also plans to present to his audience the federally recognized effects that lead

can have on short and long term health. "What happened in Flint is terrible because unsuspecting populations were exposed to a very dangerous toxicant with well-known properties of health risk. The people who were supposed to protect them didn't," Schell said.

CRIME BLOTTER

Identity Theft

2/26/2016
Podium
A female subject was found to be in possession of a stolen credit card.

Crisis Intervention

2/27/2016
Colonial Quad
Report of depressed female student with thoughts of hurting herself. Transported to hospital by 5 Quad.

Medical Incident

2/27/2016
State Quad
A female student complaining of having an anxiety attack. Transported to hospital by 5 Quad.

Drug Complaint

2/27/2016
State Quad
A female student, a male student and male subject were found to be in possession of marijuana and alcohol and referred for the same. Female student transported to hospital by 5 Quad due to alcohol consumption.

Medical Incident

2/28/2016
Freedom Quad
Report male student urinating blood. Transported to hospital by 5 Quad.

Medical Incident

2/28/2016
State Quad
Female student complaining of abdominal pain. Transferred to hospital by 5 Quad.

Criminal Possession of Controlled Substance

2/29/2016
Empire Commons
A male student was found to be in possession of LSD and marijuana paraphenelia. An arrest was made.

Grand Larceny

2/29/2016
Indian Quad
Report of unauthorized use of SUNY card.

Harrasment

2/29/2016
Collins Circle
Report of male and female student being harrassed on CDTA bus by a group of females.

Driving While Intoxicated

2/29/2016
Roadways
Female student was found to be driving while intoxicated. Vehicle towed and arrest was made.

Maintenance Problem

2/29/2016
Dutch Quad
Report of three students stuck on elevator.

Medical Incident

2/29/2016
Empire Commons
Report of male student

suffering from general illness.

Fire Alarm

2/29/2016
Podium
Fire alarm. No smoke of fire detected.

Aggravated Unlicensed Operation of Vehicle

3/1/2016
Roadways
Female subject found to be operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license.

Drug Complaint

3/1/2016
Podium
Report of two males in tunnels smoking marijuana. Referred for same.

Medical Incident

3/1/2016
Other
Report of female student suffering from dehydration. Transported to hospital by 5 Quad.

Unlawful Possession of Marijuana

3/2/2016
A female student was found to be in possession of marijuana. A referral was made.

Medical Incident

3/2/2016
Podium
Report of female student unconscious. Transported to hospital by 5 Quad.

Medical Incident

3/2/2016
State Quad
Report of female student throwing up. Transferred to hospital by 5-Quad.

Medical Incident

3/3/2016
PE Building
Report of a male student with dislocated shoulder. Transported to hospital by 5-Quad.

Petit Larceny

3/3/2016
Roadways
Report of a male student removing boot from vehicle.

SISTI

Continued from Page 2

it was mayhem. Sisti didn't live in the city at that

time so she had to travel in and out for fittings. She ended up walking in Fashion Week for 12 different designers.

Because Fashion Week was held over a school break, she only had to miss one day of class. However, she does feel like being at UAlbany has hindered her modeling career.

"It definitely limits me. Modeling while being at a university in Albany is virtually impossible," she said. "I don't have a car so I'm very, very limited here."

Sisti knew going into college that her decision could affect her career.

"I could have been signed to a few different agencies but nobody wanted to hear the fact that I was going away to school."

She chose UAlbany anyway.

"I really wanted to be in Albany and have this experience," she said. "I could put modeling on hold, I wanted to focus on my education."

She hasn't put modeling on hold entirely though. Instead, she makes sure to book jobs while she is home on breaks. She usually does trade shows. Over

winter break Sisti worked as a model for Accessories The Show.

"You get paid and it's fun but it's not couture, it's not high fashion, it's not Fashion Week," she said. "That's what I really miss."

Even though she still loves modeling, she has become disillusioned by it.

"It's just a very high demand industry and it is hard," she said. "You have to have thick skin."

At 21, Sisti is considered by some in the industry to be old.

"They really start you when you're 13. They train girls from very young ages."

At 5'10", Sisti is on the shorter side for high fashion modeling. She said the requirements usually ask from someone who is a minimum of 5'10" and a maximum of 6'.

Sisti said models have to have the look that a certain company is looking for.

"High fashion is constantly changing and you either have what they're looking for or you don't," she said. "It's not as fun for me as it used to be. You really are a hanger and that's why they want you so skinny."

Although Sisti has never suffered from anorexia or bulimia, she has seen it first hand, especially in Fashion Week.

She admitted that she could get carried away from counting calories as well.

Sisti said modeling is very personal because models are judged on how they look, but it can be very impersonal as well.

"They're not taking pictures of your face or even your body. They want the piece, they want what you're showing off," she said.

In fact, a model, unless she is well known, will rarely hear her name.

"They call you sweetie a lot in the industry... because they don't care to know your name. They don't care at all," she said.

Sisti is not sure she wants to be a model for her career. "I realized that I actually love marketing so I think my new goal is to do something more like that."

She hopes to go into fashion marketing and would love to intern over the summer for a company like Victoria's Secret.

While she may have changed directions for her career choice, Sisti still feels that modeling has taught her a lot.

"I really believe that if you persevere and you believe in yourself that you can accomplish anything," she said. "When you do achieve what you set out for, it's such a satisfied feeling... It's beautiful and no one can take that away."



Photo provided by Teah Sisti

Although Sisti still models on her breaks, she's hoping to work in fashion marketing as her career.




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TUESDAY

Continued from Page 1

Freshman Celine Thompson disagreed with

Hildreth about Sanders' competition, and was disappointed at Sanders' take of four out of 13 states.

"I honestly thought Sanders would have done better," Thompson said. "Everyone seems to be rooting for him."

Freshman Lorrie Lord agreed with Thompson, saying, "I was hoping that Sanders would be passing Clinton after the voting was finished but was disappointed when I found out that wasn't the case."

The lack of support for Sanders was not the only surprise. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, took home three wins. Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fl., earned his first win in Minnesota.

"I was surprised to see Cruz win as many [states] as he did," said O'Bryan.

Historically, Super Tuesday was a way to regulate who became the Democratic nominee.

"The original purpose of Super Tuesday, at least on the Democratic side, was to moderate the party's nomination process with a Southern stamp," said Hildreth. "I think it worked that way on the Democratic side, but on the Republican side it was not kind to the more conservative candidates and favorite sons."

As mixed as reactions are, most feel that results gave a good indication of who will be running in November.

Willis said, "The results of Super Tuesday seem to be a continuation of the trends and primaries of the previous caucuses and primaries. I expect that Clinton and Trump will be the names on the ballots in November, barring a drastic change."

SUDAN

Continued from Page 1

two men with tribal markings when the sons of his owners

attended high school in a more populated city. These two men connected him to someone from his village, who secreted him away from captivity and back to his home, where he reunited with his family. Deng learned that his father had offered 10 cows, a substantial reward, for anyone who could provide information or help find his missing son. The family was overjoyed to be whole again once more.

The first thing Deng did when he returned home was to have his tribe's markings placed upon his face. Deng recalled how his slave master would tell him that unless he gave up his identity as a member of an African tribe, and joined his master's religion, Deng would continue to be less than human. Deng took the markings to give himself an identity, something he considers just as

important, if not more so, than freedom.

Deng has spent much of his life since, traveling parts of the world and speaking to anyone who will listen, about the horrors he lived through, and the steps we need to take to fix these issues. He has organized Sudan Walks across the United States and in the Netherlands to build support for his people. He thanks and supports Israel, as the only country in the world that gives freedoms and rights to immigrants and refugees. Israel was the first country to recognize South Sudan as an independent country, and South Sudan remains allies with Israel.

For more information on Simon Deng, check out his profile on the American Program Bureau website. <http://www.apbspeakers.com/speaker/simon-deng>

For more information on Great Danes for Israel, visit MyInvolvement or find them on Facebook.

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RELIGION



Source: Wikipedia.org

The idea that Islam is associated with terrorism is still relevant today. People need to learn to dissolve the association between the two, as there is not necessarily a connection.

ISLAM DOES NOT EQUAL TERRORISM

By WAJIHA KAZMI

Despite being brought up in Ontario and living most of my life in the United States, I knew I was considered a foreigner. I never paid much attention to it because no one treated me differently. I've always had friends from all ethnicities and I felt safe in this country. I felt comfortable knowing that I could be who I am, even if it was different from others.

While I read through Jeffrey Berman's book "Death Education in the Writing Classroom," I came across one of Kasia's experiences. I was left speechless.

Kasia spoke about 9/11. She wrote how she was cutting through the towers as she always had with her sister, Katia, to go to school. But on that day, they stepped out of the train into "chaos." Everyone was running around, and the two sisters didn't know why. They asked a lady what the mayhem was about and she said, "there's a fire."

They were able to get out of the area safely amid the shrieking and running people. Some screamed, "Look, there's another one. Look!" but they couldn't see past the smoke in the towers.

Eventually, they did.

She saw arms and legs falling from the building. Looking away immediately, her eyes were already in tears. She said that if it weren't for her calm and brave sister, she wouldn't have known what to do.

When the second plane hit the towers, the ground shook like an earthquake and Kasia thought that "[they're] going to die." Her sister stayed calm and got them out of that horrifying situation and after four hours, they were finally home.

Kasia said that "[she] had always known that the world was a dangerous place, but [she] never felt that fear until 9/11. [She had] never felt such hatred until 9/11. And [she] had never truly understood the value of life until 9/11."

Just like Kasia, I never valued my "former world" until it changed.

I can relate to the lesson that Kasia learned from this incident because I can relate to 9/11 because it shattered my world too.

We have frequently heard the news in the last decade, and it has impacted all of us in different ways, but I've never met anyone who was actually there during that day. I can't fathom the fear that one feels when he or she sees bodies falling from the sky. That's unreal to me.

My sister and I learned something similar on that day. My sister used to wear the hijab, which is simply a head scarf, until 9/11 happened. Suddenly, she was reminded that she wasn't an "American," that she was still somehow a foreigner and mostly, that despite being a little girl, she was treated as if she was responsible.

After the incident, students from her

school started harassing her, calling her a "terrorist," pulling on her scarf, and treating her like she wasn't human. She was just a little girl. She used to come home crying every day and started making excuses not to go back to school. My parents noticed that she was going through trauma at school and told her to take her scarf off.

Her life became "normal" again. She wasn't mistreated anymore although she felt unsafe no matter how friendly people were with her. Since 9/11, my sister realized that it wasn't safe for her.

Eleven years after 9/11, my sister and I decided to wear the hijab. She wasn't hesitant about the idea because her faith in her religion was stronger than the fear that was instilled in her.

Kasia wrote that "[she's] not sure what she lost on that day but even though [she] always knew that the world wasn't a safe place, that day [she] found out that it was a malicious one."

I'm a woman who holds Islamic beliefs but I'm not quite sure of what people see me as. I don't feel like a foreigner. I was raised in the United States all my life so why would I? However, there is something in the back of my mind that reminds me that I might never be accepted for who I am and I feel like I always have something to prove.

I've always heard in the news that there are evil people in the world and we should be aware of them. But I never imagined that

a few people who destroyed the image of my religion in front of the whole world would leave millions of Muslims behind to answer for their deeds.

I don't blame her for feeling the way she does because of it since millions of people in the United States, as well as in other countries, feel the same way. I was always too afraid to think about the impact that 9/11 had on me because I felt like I was somehow to blame.

It's probably because whoever did it claimed to be "Muslims."

I couldn't talk about 9/11 because of guilt. I wanted to apologize to those who lost friends, relatives, and family members, as if I was to blame.

I had to realize that people, like myself, follow a religion that does not promote chaos and violence whereas others out there use the word "Islam" in the worst ways possible.

There are incidents in our lives that destroy who we are within moments, and it takes years to put those broken pieces back together.

This world may or may not be "malicious," but I do know and am grateful for the people who put their differences and personal experiences aside, and see people for who they are. I realized that even though religion is impactful, there aren't such "people" as Christians, Jews, and Muslims, but that there's really just good and bad.

MEDIA

UAlbany's CDTA controversy

By KEVIN MERCADO

Let's finally talk about the elephant in the room. It's been about a month since the infamous "CDTA incident" has taken the University at Albany and surrounding community by storm.

Last month three young women, Asha Burwell, 20, Ariel Agudio, 20, and Alexis Briggs, 20, filed a police report claiming that they had been victims of a hate crime. They reported that they were beaten on a CDTA 11 bus due to the color of their skin. They claimed that racial slurs were thrown their way during the altercation and thus, they were forced to retaliate.

It was the fight heard around campus. The story made campus, local and national headlines, inciting rallies, tweets and letters addressed to President Robert J. Jones and the three students themselves. Just on campus, a #BlackLivesMatter and #BlackGirlsMatter rally was held in front of the Campus Center at the small fountain.

The story has been an ongoing

development since it was first reported.

It has even garnered the attention of presidential candidate Hillary Clinton who tweeted, "There is no excuse for racism and violence on a college campus."

Finally, the CDTA footage was revealed on several formats and with several angles, all showing the fight was not exactly as the three girls claimed it to be.

The three girls were reported to have started the fight, throwing the first punch and being the aggressors. No racial slurs could be heard based on the videos released, and the incident appeared to be false.

According to a recent Times Union report, "All three were charged with misdemeanor assault, punishable by up to one year in jail."

The New York Times followed up in more detail, reporting that "Ms. Burwell and Ms. Agudio, who publicized the episode through Twitter, also pleaded not guilty to charges of making a false report. The judge who oversaw the arraignment called the charges, if proved, 'shameful.'"

A letter addressed to Jones found in an earlier issue of the Albany Student Press called for an apology to be issued.

UAlbany senior Jeffrey Rosenheck, in his letter, said, "I believe that you should send a personal apology to the UAlbany family. We cannot, and will not, be the victims of something that has plagued our nation. We must reserve judgment until all of the evidence is brought before us. You must lead the way. You must prove to us that due process does not have a skin color."

The letter also addressed the hysteria that surrounded the campus and how quickly Jones and the rest of the student body were to criminalize the students who ended up being victims.

Personally, I did not want to jump on the bandwagon of ostracizing the 10 to 12 white students who were being blamed

for a very heinous crime.

I needed the facts. And now that the truth is coming to light, I have only cemented my belief that with a radical claim, facts and backup information are much needed. It was far too easy to assume that a hate crime was committed.

And with that, I do not want the person reading this article to ever believe that I condone hate crimes or think that this issue simply needs to blow over. I appreciate how quickly this campus came together, over one weekend, planned and threw a successful rally with a massive turnout and tons of media coverage. There was an overwhelming sense of unity and strength in numbers. Every life matters, and we need to do more to reflect the fact that black lives matter too.

Unfortunately, UAlbany's newest mascots of this movement on the local level turned out to be frauds. More importantly, by lying and being the aggressors, they have perpetuated the exact idea that they were trying to shy away from: They became the stereotypical aggressive black girls whom most people want nothing to do with. They made a mockery of the movement, hindering it rather than promoting

it.

Kevin Fadairo, 19, a UAlbany sophomore and human biology major, said the incidents "make it seem like #BlackLivesMatter is a joke. [The girls] made it look like a joke."

"I feel like they tricked us. What does it mean for us now?" he said.

I encourage the university and the entire student body to continue to stand together and support one another.

"The vilification of these young women is quite disturbing and scary," Agudio's lawyer Mark Mishler said, according to The New York Times.

I agree. These girls deserve what the law is giving to them, but they are not wrong to shed light on an issue that needs to bathe in the sun. The same goes for Jones. The man has only said what he knows to be the truth, he has never sided with any particular student, but has sided with the notion that racial discrimination and hate crimes should never, under any circumstance, occur on this campus.

We must keep this notion alive and let the liars lie.

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS
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CAMPUS LIFE

UALBANY'S ANTHEM IS A FIRE ALARM

By DANIEL PINZON

From kindergarten to elementary school, stop, drop and roll has been engraved into our heads, as if being caught on fire was so common. For those students who live on the quads at the University at Albany, that may be plausible, or so it may seem.

The fire alarm has gone off more than enough times, specifically on the freshmen quads, State and Indian. Although it may seem as though an actual fire is upon us, it might just be a bag of popcorn triggers the alarm, forcing residents to evacuate.

The problem here can either be that freshmen are too reckless or the smoke alarms are too sensitive, or a combination of both. As a freshman, I'm aware that my fellow freshmen are not adjusted to a life of a fire alarm being right next them at all times.

Every room in a suite has a fire alarm. And even though we can get away doing certain things in our homes, those loopholes don't apply here. But with the surplus of fire alarms, not only does it maximize security against fires, it also increases chances of minor things setting off the alarm.

"I feel as though fire alarms are a double edge sword because we hate them, we hate leaving our buildings at 5 a.m. on a Tuesday, but we can't live without them," said Kayla Popuchet, a freshman at the UAlbany living on a freshman quad. "It sucks, but how can you really complain. . .

I mean I think the student body needs to get their shit together."

If anything, it's pretty easy to not set off the alarm. If someone needs to smoke, they can smoke outside. The weather shouldn't matter - smoke outside. If someone is using the microwave, they need to pay attention to it. If they know the substance being used burns easily, watch it. Don't go into the world and forget about the thing in the microwave.

With these constant non-fires occurring, it's going to reassure the students in the dorms that the next time the fire alarm rings, it doesn't have to be taken seriously. But it should be taken seriously, not matter the fire alarms' history. An actual fire did occur on Feb. 23 in Oneida Hall on Indian Quad. It was caused by an unattended candle, which we aren't even suppose to have in the first place. These fake fires are making residents too comfortable when fire safety is extremely

important.

It's a running joke for freshmen that they cause too many fire alarms. So in turn, not only do freshmen not take fire alarms seriously, no one is going to take freshmen seriously. It may come to the point that whenever the fire department gets a call to tend to State or Indian Quad, they may not expect an actual danger present. They will still tend to the matter, but they won't be surprised when no fire is present.

More so, these incessant fire alarms are simply annoying, especially for a person that lives in the tower. The tower has 21 floors of residents. I used to live in Eastman tower, and residents can agree that having the fire alarm go off in the middle of the night isn't the best thing in the world. I've even experienced two consecutive fire alarms, both in the middle in the night. It was clear that the residents of Eastman tower were not happy. It also

wastes time to evacuate 21 floors of the tower.

And some people are convinced they can get away with doing things such as smoking inside. Even if you think covering the fire alarm with a plastic bag, blowing smoke straight out of the window, or fanning the air will not set off the alarm, there's a strong chance it will make about one hundred people have to evacuate. That's not fun. Moral of the story: be responsible living on campus, acknowledge that there are other people living in the same building. Don't be reckless. Don't set your microwave to 30 minutes on an item that only takes two minutes. Be mindful of indoor activities.

The fire alarm is there for our safety. So we might as well let it do its job and keep us safe, and let it go off only during an actual hazard. Eventually, we will learn to live with the fire alarm in peace.



Credit: Brian Bushner

Feminism seems to be putting more emphasis on being a "hoe" rather than the other rights that women have, according to writer Shekera Clarke.

REBUTTAL

Being a hoe has taken over the meaning of feminism

By SHEKERA CLARKE

When did being a feminist and believing in female empowerment become more about advocating and justifying being a hoe?

In our day and age, being a hoe has become some sort of cool trend that females want to partake in. It has become normalized. Feminism is supposed to be the advocacy of women's rights on the grounds of political, social and economic equality to men, but somehow it's become a term to mask being a hoe without being called out about it.

NBA's MVP Stephen Curry's wife, Ayesha, got heat for a tweet she sent out a few months ago where she told her followers what she prefers to do with her body.

"Just looking at the latest fashion trends. I'll take classy over trendy any day of the week," Curry said. "Everyone's into barely wearing clothes these days huh? Not my style. I like to keep the good stuff covered up for the one who matters."

That tweet sent Twitter into a firestorm. Some women on Twitter thought Curry was looking down on women that like to dress provocatively by somehow correlating "being classy" with the clothes you

choose to wear. But you could not be more wrong. With this being a touchy subject, Curry was not suggesting you wear floor length skirts with turtlenecks everyday. What she was doing was voicing her opinion. The backlash she got was asinine and ridiculous.

There was absolutely nothing wrong with what Curry said. Her choosing to dress "modestly" doesn't mean she's shaming other women. Your body is supposed to be your temple. That meaning, leave some to the imagination. You don't have to be provocative in order to be or feel sexy. It's not supposed to be something that you share with the entire world.

With that being said, there is nothing wrong with wearing whatever makes you feel sexy or doing whatever you like as an adult, but to take the meaning of feminism and misconstrue it to fit your narrative is just wrong.

There was an article in the Albany Student Press on Jan. 26, 2016 by Daniel Pinzon, where he wrote that Cardi B. has had an impact on female empowerment. Cardi B. is a stripper who became famous on Instagram and is currently on "Love and Hip Hop New York" on VH1.

"Cardi B. breaks the constraint on women and

embraces harmful words such as 'hoe,' 'thot' and 'slut.' She owns up to it, and acknowledges that being overly sexual is not abnormal for women," Pinzon wrote.

While she's taking those words away and not giving men (or other women for that matter) the power to degrade her with them, it's not "empowering." What you do in your personal life is your prerogative, but to sit there and call yourself a "hoe" is actually demeaning.

One of Cardi B.'s costars on the show, MariahLynn, has a song where the first couple lyrics are "once upon a time, not long ago, I was a hoe and I'm admitting it." While the song is catchy, when did this become empowering?

This is not a judgment to these women at all, but it's not empowering. I don't believe that being a stripper or overly sexually active is something to be frowned upon, but it also doesn't mean you're a feminist, empowering or driving the feminism movement forward.

It seems that millennial feminists want to partake in "hoe-like" activities without being labelled with the term. Somehow this has become the standard and something to look up to and that has to be changed.

RESLIFE

In with the new freshmen, out with the old students

By KEVIN FUREY

Traditionally, freshmen at the University at Albany were housed on Indian and State Quads while sophomores who were admitted as freshmen were housed on Colonial and Dutch Quads. Transfers and International students were housed on Alumni while juniors and seniors had the option to live in university apartments or to move off-campus.

However, ResLife is bringing some changes to the current housing requirements.

From now on, freshmen entering their second year at the UAlbany will be given priority registration for Colonial and Dutch quads and it's only after all returning freshmen sign up for housing that Colonial and Dutch will be open for juniors and seniors to sign up. The university will also be allowing some sophomores to live on Alumni and several others to live in university apartments.

Overall, what the university is trying to accomplish is to get more juniors and seniors to live off-campus so there is more availability on-campus for new students.

As often is the case, freshmen dorms are overcrowded. Many rooms are forced triples, while some lounges are converted into living space. This can result in low retention rates for freshmen.

That's why pushing more juniors and seniors off-campus is a good idea, but only if the university starts to take some leadership on the off-campus housing situation.

Take a walk through the area where most students get their off-campus houses, Pine Hills, and you will notice that some houses are in such dire need of repair that they are literally slouching.

It goes further than that.

When my suitemates and I first started looking into houses off-campus for next year, we noticed a few unsettling things.

To start, most of the leases contained hidden fees, which can equal a costly bill once the leasing term is over. One such lease we looked at had a \$300 fine if the tenant forgot to clean underneath the refrigerator when they vacate the property.

Other leases disclosed that the tenants were responsible if anything happened to the house, meaning that if the slouchy house collapsed the first day that the tenants moved in, they would be held liable.

However, the worst was when we toured an apartment on Hamilton Street and saw that the landlord had allowed nearly 15 people to live there, in a three-bedroom apartment.

UAlbany currently has an Office of Neighborhood Life that handles problems that residents have with their landlords.

However, if the university wants to push more students into off-campus houses, Neighborhood Life needs to be drastically expanded.

My suitemates and I were able to find a perfect house with a perfect lease, but not all students are as keen about reading leases. Many students will learn the hard way that the lease they signed contains hidden fees and leaves the tenants subject to responsibilities that should be the landlords'.

If UAlbany wants more students to move off-campus, perhaps they could create a registry where they keep track of all landlords, and their leases, that rent to students. That way less students sign leases with slum landlords who scam them out of money.



Source: Flickr.com

The University of Albany is making a big change concerning dorm life. Only allowing lowerclassmen on the uptown campus.

UAlbany THEATER

A 'BLOODY BLOODY' GOOD SHOW

UAlbany Music and Theatre puts on spring production



Source: UAlbany Department of Music and Theatre

The cast of "Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson" rehearsed for months to put on their spring production.

By KEVIN MERCADO

The University at Albany Department of Music and Theatre's spring production, "Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson," wanted to be both educational and offensive. It managed to accomplish both.

The satirical emo-rock musical, directed by UAlbany student Chad Larabee, began showing at the Performing Arts Center on Wednesday, March 2. The play introduced itself by saying they wanted to make sure that every group present would be a little offended by the end, including Celine Dion.

Originally written and directed by Alex Timbers, the musical recounts Andrew Jackson's rise to presidency, the creation of the Democratic Party, hardships he faced including the death of his wife, Rachel, and relocating the Native Americans through the Indian Removal Act.

Despite the heavy subjects, the show takes a light approach when conveying these times. Who wouldn't want to see a closeted homosexual Martin van Buren, a bloody date and the narrator getting shot in the neck?

Nevertheless, at its core, the show intended to show UAlbany students that despite the political agenda being far different in the 1800s, similar characteristics still currently face the United States and its most recent presidents.

During Jackson's presidency, he was forced to make a decision regarding an isolated and ostracized group of people. The show wanted to address groups today in similar distress. During one of the final scenes, images of Islamophobia protests, #BlackLivesMatter rallies, and

LGBT protests were projected onto the back wall.

Despite doubling the size of the United States with the Louisiana Purchase, Jackson's reign was tarnished because of the Trail of Tears, the forceful removal of Native American nations from United States territories following the Indian Removal Act of 1830. The relocation led to the suffering and deaths of thousands of Native Americans.

"I'm really proud of our cast," said Larabee. "We wanted to produce [the musical] because of the presidential primaries. This show is so timely. We're hoping audiences will be more involved in the presidential process."

Larabee hopes that this show has moved students to go find the polls and cast their votes to make a difference in the upcoming presidential election. He was smart enough to do that through emo rock solos.

"Andrew Jackson" himself, mental health counseling graduate student Alec Lewis, 23, gave the presidential role a modern spin, donning tight pants, a musket, and lots of blood. Bloodletting is a metaphor for illness, according to the lyrics by Michael Friedman.

This version of Jackson is all about his greatest achievement: equality.

"It's kind of ironic that my last line in the play is 'I hope you remember me as a man whose achievement was for everyone in this country: equality' because the entire play is about him killing all these people who live in America," said Lewis. "[His achievement] absolutely wasn't [equality]."

Computer science major Devin Chacho, 18, who plays John Quincy Adams, said that looking back at what's happened throughout in the light of the message

perpetuated by the UAlbany theatre program, it is best to try and avoid the mistakes of the past.

The production was unapologetic in showcasing a "lighthearted" massacre of pretty much everyone on stage, much like the initial narrator of the musical. The show even ends with one of the actors, Serena Zajac, getting shot by an arrow and lying dead on the stage floor until the audience left.

"I had a lot of fun," said Zajac. "Some people were concerned with me dying on stage, but I'm fine."

The show also has several fourth wall breaks including conversing with the narrator, the audience and the band that were hidden in the back corner of the stage. The songs were filled with comedic light, even with heavy context at times.

Katherine Kulikowski's rendition of "Ten Little Indians" was both haunting and comedic, casually killing off ten "Indians" as she sang. The show also categorized several former presidents into fun archetypes. Chacho's John Quincy Adams was awkward and in his father's shadow, Sean Dolnick's Martin Van Buren was humorous in his closeted homosexual activities, like sensually eating a Twinkie.

It was a production that called for no expectations, but it did deliver.

"It was such a fun experience," said Alexei Candreva, who played Lyncoya Jackson. "I would do it again in a heartbeat."

After the performance, theatre department marketing supervisor Kahlia Taylor said that "it's like watching your babies grow up."

NEW RELEASES

'Zootopia,' a furry yet inclusive tale

By DIEGO CAGARA

The Easter Bunny may bring colorful eggs to children but a different kind of bunny appears in Disney's "Zootopia" - and this one strives to not be solely seen as cute or innocent.

Since she was growing up in Bunnyburrow, Judy Hopps (Ginnifer Goodwin) has dreamed of becoming a cop, something her carrot-farmer parents found problematic since rabbits are believed to not be capable of such a physically demanding career. However, her determination and passion for achieving her dream career, along with her intelligence, help keep this fur-filled animated film hopping.

In a world where civilized and anthropomorphic animals live in harmony regardless of whether they are prey or predator, they dress, talk, work, act and even park their cars like we humans do. The film focuses on Hopps becoming a cop in Zootopia, an animal-heavy metropolis akin to New York City. It is split into numerous districts like Tundratown, Rainforest District and Sahara Square, where different species get to live in their natural habitats, like in the real world, but still coexist peacefully—for the most part. Hopps is initially awestruck and excited about working at Zootopia but immediately realizes that her peers,

especially her boss, Chief Bogo (Idris Elba), also believe that she, a small rabbit, does not belong there.

The film often contains funny puns throughout such as when Chief Bogo addresses "the elephant in the room," only for the audience to see the police wishing an actual elephant policeman a surprise happy birthday. Stores and products in Zootopia like DNKY (parodying DKNY), a Carrot smartphone (Apple), Preyda (Prada) and Hoof Locker (Foot Locker) help provide a background comedic effect and add to the overall metropolitan feel.

The film does turn somewhat dark and serious sometimes as Hopps, fed up with just ticketing parking offenders, is tasked with finding a missing otter with Nicholas Wilde (Jason Bateman), a sly red fox and con artist with whom she initially clashes. Their adventure to locate the otter inadvertently leads them to discover numerous other caged animals who had been recently reported missing, all of which now behave erratically and "uncivilized."

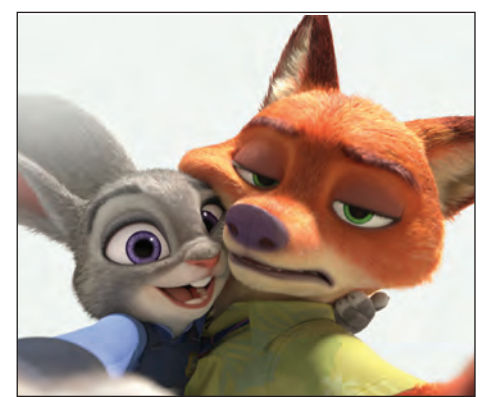
They realize that there is a mastermind plot behind these missing animals: to make all predator animals be seen as "savage," hence dividing Zootopia and make prey animals believe they are dangerous and thus marginalize the predators. During a press conference, Hopps, under pressure,

incorrectly assumes that the "savage" animals have deteriorated to their primitive ways. This severs her friendship with Wilde who feels offended and also divides Zootopia as prey animals distance themselves from predator animals and the film neatly links this to racism. There is a heartbreaking scene where a mother rabbit moved her child away from a nearby tiger on a train.

"Zootopia" provides great social commentary and teaches poignant life lessons about fighting ignorance, racism and inequality as well as the importance of persistence and proving one's worth despite being bullied or frowned upon. Such messages may have become repetitive in contemporary culture but the injection of anthropomorphic animals makes it feel new again, showing viewers just how critical these issues are. While filled with hysterical one-liners and crime-based adventure, how it tackled racism and prejudice brilliantly champions the idea of inclusivity.

Goodwin's voice emits optimism and positivity as Hopps while Bateman's successfully projects the slick con fox's rhetoric. Colombian singer Shakira portrays pop star Gazelle and her song "Try Everything" continues to spread the overall sanguine theme throughout the film.

Zootopia, with all its districts, looks like an interactive theme park and the



Source: Gamezot.com

animation looks iridescent and effervescent to complement the many species that grace the screen, enriching its Pixar-level storytelling. As Zootopia's inclusive amenities accommodate all from tall giraffes to small lemmings, the city itself is just an astonishing sight.

"Zootopia" is a refreshingly original film since recent animated films like Pixar's "The Good Dinosaur" and 20th Century Fox's "Home" have not received as much acclaim as past ones, with the sole exception of "Inside Out," making critics wonder if animated movies have become stale or dependent on sequels. But the emotional and inclusive themes in "Zootopia" are entertaining yet revitalizing.

LOCAL MUSIC

SOUNDS OF BLACKNESS PERFORMS AT UALBANY

By HANNAH BRIGADA INFANTADO

To conclude Black History month, the University at Albany hosted the Grammy award-winning musical ensemble, Sounds of Blackness, at Page Hall at the Downtown Campus on Saturday, Feb. 27. Despite the winter blues and cold weather, the auditorium was filled by warmth and energy with inviting music that ranged from African songs to gospels to spirituals to rhythm and blues.

"This is the Sounds of Blackness first performance here in Albany at the university under President, former Sounds of Blackness member, Dr. Robert Jones. We're so proud of him and we are just so honored to be here. This audience was amazing; everything from their energy to their sing-along, their spirit, and we can't wait to come back," said Gary Hines, the director of Sounds of Blackness. Hines wore a royal West African, Nigerian and Ghanaian cloth - a binding tie between us connecting the continents ancestrally and spiritually.

The group was formed at Gary Hines' alma mater, Macalester College, where the ensemble began.

"We always have that academic connection. When they brought me on as director, really the vision that God gave me

was to continue the tradition like Quincy Jones and Duke Ellington and when you hear those names you think of jazz, blues and we should. They would say, 'I do the music of my people,'" Hines said.

"The music is in all of us, sounds of blackness, the black music that we sing, all genres of black music bring that out in the people we perform it for. That's what makes it all worth it, it's healing music, it's inspiring music, it's honoring as you have experienced tonight," said Sherice Jones, one of the singers for Sounds of Blackness.

Jones surprised the audience and joined in on the last two song numbers with Sounds of Blackness, his former group of which he was once a member.

"We were hoping he would and when he went up there, that just made the evening, it was just tremendous definitely," said Roberto Vives, director of the track and field and cross country programs. "This was an excellent performance."

"Once a Sounds member, always a Sounds member and you just never know when you'll be called up on stage to perform," Sherice Jones said.

"I told them I wasn't gonna dig tonight but Lorissa came and insisted, then I got caught in the moment. I'm glad I did, it was for my soul. I enjoyed it, I miss these folks a lot," said Jones. "That represented 30 years of my life, singing."



Hannah Brigada Infantado / Albany Student Press
President Jones performs with his former musical ensemble.

FILM

Another year, another Oscars

By DANIEL RUSSELL

As the winter season begins to end, movie lovers everywhere gathered for the award show they cared about the most: the Oscars. On Sunday, Feb. 28, the 88th Academy Awards were hosted at the Dolby Theatre in downtown Los Angeles, as the world of film came together for one night to celebrate the best in the business.

The show kicked off with a monologue by host Chris Rock, who wasted no opportunities to fit in an "#OscarsSoWhite" joke. The monologue went over well, and it seemed as if Chris Rock's performance was well-received.

When the awards started rolling out, it was clear that the Academy was mad for a certain film. "Mad Max: Fury Road," won six out of the first seven awards in which it was nominated, winning almost every award in the technical categories of the show. "Mad Max" would go on to win no more awards for the night, losing in the major categories of Best Picture and Best Director. Despite not winning these awards, "Mad Max" was the biggest hit of the night, winning the most awards and a surprising six out of their 10 nominations.

One of the biggest surprises of the night came during the presentation of the Best Visual Effects Award, with low-budget sci-fi thriller "Ex Machina" winning the award. This category almost always goes to a blockbuster film with a budget in the hundreds of millions, this year facing up against "Star Wars: The Force Awakens," "Mad Max," "The Revenant," and "The

Martian." All of these films have budgets at least 10 times that of "Ex Machina," which was only created with a mere \$15 million. In fact, it's the lowest budgeted movie to be nominated for Best Visual Effects since "Alien" in 1979, budgeted at \$11 million, without even taking inflation into the mix.

Relatively early in the show, the awards in the supporting acting categories went to Mark Rylance for "Bridge of Spies," and Alicia Vikander for "The Danish Girl." As the show started to move to its close, the big awards for acting in a leading role were finally unveiled.

Brie Larson took home the award for Best Actress for her role in the indie drama "Room," while Leonardo DiCaprio finally took home his long-awaited Oscar for his role in the revenge thriller, "The Revenant." He finally took home the gold as this was his fifth nomination, receiving a standing ovation from the crowd, and giving an acceptance speech that could probably win him another Oscar in the process. "The Revenant" also stole the award of Best Director, going to the acclaimed Alejandro González Iñárritu.

With the biggest award of the night left to go, "Spotlight" took home the award for Best Picture. Focusing on the uncovering of the Catholic Church sexual assault scandal by the Spotlight team at The Boston Globe, the film was critically lauded and considered to be a frontrunner for the award for Best Picture when it was released. This award ended the night, as most of the celebrity attendees made their way to after parties, basking in the joy of the greatest night in the world of film: the night of the Oscars.

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW



Source: PWR BTTM Bandcamp

Queer punks PWR BTTM play The Hollow in Albany

By ELI ENIS

They waded through the dense crowd of chattering twenty-somethings, stepped up onto the stage, and picked up their respective instruments.

From that description, this could be any of the thousands of bands that played in front of a live audience on the evening of March 2. In actuality, PWR BTTM (pronounced Power Bottom), who took the stage last Wednesday at The Hollow, are unlike any other band and by the end of the set. Everyone in that room could've told you why.

Ben Hopkins, who uses the pronouns they/them/their, was clad in a tight red dress, tube socks with multi-colored frogs on it, black tights, and black Doc Marten boots. Their face had a streak of glitter painted down their upper right jawline and purple glitter lipstick on their lips. Liv Bruce, who also uses they/them/their, was wearing light blue overalls, a pink sports bra, and a subtler red lipstick than their bandmate. They both had stylistically untamed mops of hair, although Liv's was partially dyed blonde. Despite being just a two-piece, they commanded the stage, switching instrumental roles mid-set and providing some hilarious banter that often referenced their queerness.

But it's not just that they're queer that makes them unique. It's that they're so openly proud of it in a manner that's incredibly refreshing, empowering and admirable. It's their unbridled willingness to be true to themselves and stand for what they believe in a genre that always has, and continues to be dominated by straight and cisgender males. In a genre where the concept of "music with a message" has become trite, PWR BTTM found a way to not only avoid stereotypes, but to smash them.

After their set, Hopkins and Bruce sat down in the venue's backstage area to talk about how being queer affects the band, their fan base, and to reflect on their career since releasing their debut album "Ugly Cherries" last fall.

ASP: Obviously your queer image and culture is very important to the essence of the band. But would you guys prefer to be called a "queer punk band" or a "punk band who also happen to be queer?" How important is that distinction to you?

Hopkins: My kneejerk reaction is to say both. Being a queer punk band denotes this idea of being fetishized. Like "oh they're queer punks." Some people see it as being lesser than. I actually take that as a badge of pride. Often in our society, it's hip, in a way, to be queer but it doesn't feel glamorous. I started calling myself a queer punk 'cause it was scary to me to embrace that as a public image.

Bruce: There are queer artists who don't label their music that way, and that's totally fine, that's their right to do. The reason we were interested in doing it is 'cause it comes through in the music whether we affix that label or not. And just by putting it there it stabs away the thing where people are afraid to say it. If we say it, then no one's gonna feel uncomfortable calling us that, 'cause we call us that.

ASP: You guys recently announced that you have a request on your tour rider for gender-neutral bathrooms to be made easily accessible for fans at each venue you play. How's that been going since implemented?

Bruce: It's been really exciting to do so far and a lot of our fans have been really grateful to us for it. Not every venue can do it and when a venue can't do it it's complicated. We don't want to make it seem like we should be like "fuck these venues even though we're playing here." There's

some venues that can't do it because of laws and local ordinances. That's the only place where we run into trouble.

ASP: What's been your most rewarding experience that came as a result of being in PWR BTTM?

Hopkins: I wasn't openly queer before PWR BTTM. It actually pushed me to come out of the closet and have queer experiences. The summer before we were gonna do the band I was like, "I'm sick of thinking about this every day, I'm just gonna do it." So I downloaded Grindr and started fucking boys.

Bruce: It's been a really exciting way to connect with other queers, to travel around the country and meet queer people. I never had a lot of queer friends in New York and Boston, where I'm from. It's a whole other thing to go to Eugene, Oregon and meet a boatload of queers.

ASP: Is there a message or thought that you want straight, cis males, specifically, to take from your music or live shows?

Bruce: Straight cis males are the last people on my mind when I write my music. I don't think about them when I'm writing it. I'm writing for myself. But it is sometimes exciting when I'm writing a song and then I think of a line I can imagine someone identifying with. Those people that I imagine usually aren't straight, cis males. If there's anything that I want [them] to get from PWR BTTM's music is that we're not writing for them, but that's okay and they're still welcome at our shows if they're respectful to people.

Hopkins: I don't think we write songs for queer people. I think we do, but I don't think we write songs for just them. I think that would be a really shitty way to make art.

ASP: You guys released "Ugly Cherries" last fall. How do you feel about the record now after having months to let it soak in? Anything you'd change?

Hopkins: It feels old. Actually it doesn't feel old, it feels right. It feels like a perfect chronicle of that period of time. I actually listened to it the other day and was like "oh this feels far away from how I'm feeling right now," which is good because it feels like we have something to say with this new record we're working on.

ASP: It seems like PWR BTTM has been getting a lot of media attention over the past few months in particular. How do you guys feel about the majority of the articles that've been written about you? Are the writers generally channeling your thoughts well or is there something that's getting lost in translation? Is there something you want to say that's not getting said?

Hopkins: A good interviewer feels like a collaborator. A lot of people helped us understand our band more through interviews.

Bruce: It's really fun when we get asked questions that make us think about our work in a way we haven't yet. You never really know beforehand who's gonna give you one of those magic interviews. It's kind of fun. It's like playing the lottery.

ASP: Tonight marks the beginning a fairly lengthy run with Sun Club and Ra Ra Riot. Both of those bands are pretty different than the bands you guys usually play with so what are you looking to accomplish on this tour?

Hopkins: Just to be visible. To show that our audience is no different than anyone else's audience.

Bruce: To be very openly and resolutely ourselves in front of crowds that are not the same as crowds we always play in front of. Give PWR BTTM shows to people who don't know they're PWR BTTM fans yet.

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HEALTH

Eating Disorder Awareness

By MILO VOTAVA

Last week was National Eating Disorder Awareness Week, but many people were unaware of that even though a 2006 survey by the National Eating Disorders Association revealed that 20 percent of all college students have or have had an eating disorder at one point. That means one in every five students has or has had an eating disorder.

Why is there such a high number of college students with eating disorders? Being constantly surrounded by people makes it difficult to not compare one's body to everyone else's, even though comparing bodies can be damaging. It is difficult for those with eating disorders not to see themselves as inferior to those around them.

Another factor that might cause the high rates of eating disorders in colleges is the sudden removal of a family setting. For most students, college is the first time that they are living away from their families. Families generally act as support groups for students, and can help them through tough times. When students are suddenly on their own with no one reminding them to come eat dinner, it can be a lot harder to keep a schedule of structured eating.

The types of meal plans that colleges offer can also affect people. Faced with an open buffet-style dining hall, some people will find it hard to stop themselves from bingeing, and others will eat nothing but the fresh fruit and yogurt that is provided round the clock, which eventually will lead to malnutrition and unhealthy weight loss.

Others, in the face of such an abundance of food, will shy away from it instead. Drew Anderson, a psychology professor at the University at Albany and head of the Weight and Eating Disorders lab wrote many articles on the thought processes behind food avoidance, noting that mindful eating can be harder when one is presented with many options, and that

mindful behavior leads to healthier eating habits. Dining halls are effective in feeding many students at once, but those with eating disorders might find it harmful to their mental health.

Something that's also worth noting is that many eating behaviors and diet tips that are passed around in college are incredibly unhealthy, yet many students follow them, thinking that they will be fine since so many others do it. A sophomore biology major ate nothing but salads for her freshman year, noting that she lost about 50 pounds, but was unaware of the health problems such a restricted diet would cause in the long run, such as malnutrition, fatigue, and anemia.

If you notice a friend trying out a potentially unhealthy diet or avoiding the dining hall at all costs, talking to them about it can help. People with eating disorders often know that what they are doing is unsafe, and do not know how to stop. It's important that everyone gets to enjoy their time at college,

and eating disorders are serious problems that can take up all the time and energy of those they affect.

For information about eating disorder recovery, scan the QR code below and visit <http://www.nationaleatingdisorders.org/recovery>



Source: Pinterest

This is the symbol for those recovering from eating disorders.



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LACROSSE

BALANCED ATTACK DEFEATS CORNELL

By MICHAEL TURAY

On Saturday two familiar teams faced off at John Fallon Field, as No. 15 University at Albany Lacrosse (2-1) hosted Cornell (1-2) in a rematch of last year's first round matchup of the NCAA Tournament.

The last time they faced off, senior goalkeeper Blaze Riorden scored on an amazing ESPN top 10 play, taking the ball coast-to-coast and stunning Cornell's defense. This time around the Pre-season All American recorded 18 saves and led the Great Danes to a 12-8 victory over the Big Red.

Riorden also had help from a spread offensive attack. Six UAlbany players scored including sophomore attack Connor Fields who had four goals and two assists, and junior attack Seth Oakes, reigning America East player of the week, who added a hat trick.

Oakes put UAlbany on the board first scoring the first of his three goals less than a minute into the contest, off a great look from Fields. A few minutes later, Senior midfielder John Maloney found freshman middle Jack Burgmaster who scored off a long distance shot for his first career goal. Cornell replied with a goal, however UAlbany closed

out the first period 2-1.

In the second period, the Great Danes continued to play an aggressive offensive and sophomore attack Justin Reh contributed. Reh scored three minutes into the second off a pass from Fields and less than a minute later Reh returned the favor setting up Fields for a textbook UAlbany 4-1 lead. These two, along with fellow attackman Oakes have shown effortless chemistry already this season.

Just when it looked as if UAlbany was getting ready to run away with this one, Cornell scored back-to-back goals to trim the margin to one goal. One goal didn't seem to threaten the Great Danes because minutes later Oakes had an impressive no look over the shoulder pass to junior Eli Lasda for a goal. Oakes also added another one to his stat sheet and after another Cornell goal, Fields split a double-team Cornell defense and added another one for himself, giving Albany the last laugh to end the half.

At halftime it was UAlbany leading 7-4.

The second half mirrored the first; with Fields scored two goals to start the third period, pushing UAlbany's led to 9-4. However, Cornell responded

with three consecutive goals trimming the lead once again, this time to two.

Junior midfielder Adam Osika responded this time. With 2:17 remaining in the period, Osika added another UAlbany point to the board. The Great Danes defense remained stout, Reh forced a turnover and Riorden made a buzzer beating save as time expired in the third. UAlbany clung to a 10-7 lead after three.

Riorden continued his defensive prowess in the fourth quarter stopping four Cornell shots at goal in the opening 3:15. The aggressive Cornell squad connected with 10:27 left in the game, making it 10-8. But a transition dunk by Reh and a dagger shot by Oakes put the game away. Albany took the contest 12-8.

Oakes extended his goal streak to 20 games in a row. He has netted a goal in every contest he has suited up for the Great Danes. Fields extended his game point streak to 22, which means he has scored or assisted in 22 games straight for UAlbany.

UAlbany will have little time to rest, as they take the road to face UMass in Amherst Tuesday, March 8.



Brittany Gregory / Albany Student Press
Connor Fields had four points to anchor the Great Danes on offense Saturday afternoon.

ATHLETE'S CORNER

Player perspective: Men's lacrosse

By BENNETT DRAKE

JUNIOR ATTACKMAN BENNETT DRAKE COMMENTS ON CORNELL WEEK FOR THE MEN'S LACROSSE TEAM.

Cornell week did not disappoint. After playing them twice last year, the energy was far from forced, we couldn't wait to revisit a team we beat down last spring.

All week, the word "team" was ingrained in our minds, we knew that this year especially we had to focus on our collective effort to win games. When we came out onto John Fallon Field Saturday we knew that Cornell was coming to Albany hungry and ready for revenge, however that didn't scare us-- Coach Marr had prepared us all week for the opening minutes of the game.

We won the first face-off against a perennially great

face-off specialist and were able to score on that very possession on an absolute bomb of a shot from Seth Oakes. That momentum seemed like all we needed to get us going all game. From there, we continued to ball and make plays all over the field. Blaze had an incredible performance, making 18 saves, yeah that's a lot of saves. Connor Fields anchored the offense with four goals, yeah that's a lot of goals.

What a lot of people don't know is that although this game meant a lot in terms of a re-match from the NCAA tournament, it also hit a few family chords within our own team. Starting back in the day with Brian Lasda, father of our very own midfielder, Eli Lasda (#41), played for Cornell and won the 1976 national championship. Brother of Ky Tarbell (#42), Kason Tarbell plays for the Big Red currently, and John Maloney's (#0) little brother Ryan Maloney is committed to join the Big Red next season. Needless to

say, winning this game means a few of our guys can sit with their chests puffed up at the next family dinner.

The team as a whole showed up Saturday to get this win. It will be that kind of effort that we need on Tuesday as we head to UMass-Amherst for our yearly showdown with the Minutemen.

Drake has been documenting the 2015-16 journey for the UAlbany men's lacrosse team using a GoPro. Scan the QR code below to check it out.



Brittany Gregory / Albany Student Press
Junior midfielder Adam Osika had a late goal in the third quarter for the Great Danes win over Cornell.

OTHER GAME RESULTS THIS WEEK:

Women's lacrosse traveled to North Carolina and split with a 12-4 win over Elon and a 20-9 loss to UNC.

Baseball played at NYIT this past weekend and went 1-1, with a 5-2 win and a 0-3 loss.

Softball was in South Carolina all weekend and went 2-3, with a 0-8 loss to Kentucky, a 12-10 and 10-8 win over Winthrop and a 4-5 and 0-9 loss to Lehigh.

Women's tennis fell to UMASS Saturday 6-4.

Women's soccer played in a 7-v-7 tournament at Syracuse University Saturday, Syracuse, Albany and Colgate all played one another.

Women's basketball beat Vermont 95-43 in the America East quarterfinal Saturday and beat Binghamton Sunday 79-43. Friday they play for the championship against Maine in Albany at 4:30 p.m.

MISS THE GAME? WE'VE GOT YOUR BACK.

Check out www.albanystudentpress.net or follow us @Sports_ASP to find game recaps and pictures!

BASKETBALL

HOOLEY'S GOODBYE

By PETER HOOLEY

Senior basketball player Peter Hooley offered an open letter to the University at Albany. This letter was written after the UAlbany men's team fell to Hartford in the America East Quarterfinal Wednesday night. Hooley told the newspaper he wrote this at 4 a.m., unable to sleep after the game.

I don't know where to begin. But, five years ago, I made the decision to come across the other side of the world and try my luck at college basketball in the United States. Looking back, never in my wildest dreams would I have envisioned the journey I have had, and I owe it to everyone who has been around me throughout my time.

I was just a small country kid from South Australia when I was given the chance to come here to play basketball. I had no intentions of ever playing Division I basketball, but I got this chance. I had no intentions of ever having the success I have had over my time here, but I did. I had no intentions of ever gaining a second family across the other side of the world, but I have.

I guess the normal trend of college sport is to come and play at a high level, get an education and then be on your way after that. But I never saw it like that. I saw a program and a community that took me in as one of their own and showed me an experience that I still cannot fathom. And for that, I say thank you.

From the moment I stepped foot on this campus in 2011, I could never have predicted how my life would turn out over the next five years. From championships on the court to dual degrees in the classroom, my life will forever be different because of my time here. Through all my ups and downs, I have seen the true value of life firsthand, and the fragility of it as well. I have always believed that family is the most important thing in the world, and I am special enough to have two of them on the opposite sides of the planet.

Thank you to all the fans of the program who have ridden every high and every low with me and our teams for the past five years. We do everything for you because we see how much we all enjoy success together.

Thank you to the university for showing me how to not only get a great education and be surrounded by some incredible people, but to also show me that school goes much further than simply sitting in a classroom. Every student that has been through this university will forever be connected, because we all have this place together. I was so

grateful to have the opportunity to speak on behalf of my graduating class last year, and I am so thankful to have been able to enjoy my academics as well as prosper in them.

Thank you to all my coaches who I have had over my career for getting me to where I am today on the basketball court. You took a small town country kid from Australia and helped me achieve more success than I could have ever dreamed of. Three championships in succession, along with many other incredible memories. You helped me grow and you helped me shine, and for that I thank you.

Thank you Coach Brown, for not only helping me to reach my full potential as a basketball player, but for also being something much more to me as a person. I don't think players are supposed to have had the relationship we had, but the way you watched over me and guided me in all my ways of life, I can never say thank you enough for. Whenever I struggled or fell, your door was always open to help me stand again. You could have taken a chance on anyone else, but you chose me. You never knew who I was, heck, you probably didn't even know if I could really play basketball, but you took a chance. We have been through a lot together, but the one thing that I will forever remember is how you have helped me become the man I am today. So for so many things, I say thank you.

Thank you to my teammates, all of them who I have had the privilege of playing alongside across my time here. I shouldn't refer to you as just teammates, because you are so much more than that, you are my brothers. Through all the highs and all the lows, you showed me the true value of a team, but even more so, you showed me the true value of family. I love you all. I will forever miss our locker room shenanigans and bus rides, but when we see each other again years down the track, I can't wait to bask in the memories together. I wish you all the most success in your future endeavors you are all destined for greatness in so many different ways, and best believe I will be following your every move. Purplefam for life.

Taking away all my on court and off court success, I have managed to have the time of my life here at UAlbany. I learned so much about myself along this journey that I have become a better man for it. I have made friends for life and a second home that will always be here for me. I don't know how many people can truly say that, so I feel deeply privileged to have been a part of such a great school, program and community. I gave everything I had to this place, and my only regret is that I can't do it all again. I hope that I have left my mark on some people's lives and made them better, because that has always been important to me.



Jonathan Peters / Albany Student Press

The UAlbany men's team shares one moment together during the National Anthem before the quarterfinal game.

I leave this place a better basketballer, a better student but perhaps most importantly, a better person. And ultimately, that's all I could have ever asked for.

I used to think that playing basketball at college in America would be the toughest challenge I would face when I first came here. But I was wrong. The toughest challenge was being able to take all the highs and lows that college throws at you and still stand. It was being able to realize that college is all about making mistakes and learning from them and growing and becoming better for it. College is a stepping-stone to your future, and I have left so many beautiful footprints behind me as I have stepped on forth.

If I had to give advice to anyone who was about to take a step towards their college life, it would be quite simple - enjoy every single moment. Laugh when you can and cry when you have to. Live in every moment and don't look back, it'll be over before you know it. And always... always, be thankful and put others first, because you never know what could happen next.

My time here is nearly at an end, and it truly saddens me to see it go. But all good things must come to an end, I guess.

I don't know what God has in store for me next, but what I know for sure is that I will forever be a Great Dane and I will forever have a special home right here!

From the bottom of my heart,

Thank you, Albany.

AMERICA EAST

Tournament play cut short for UAlbany men's basketball



Jonathan Peters / Albany Student Press

Senior Ray Sanders's 13 points weren't enough for the Great Danes as they fell to Hartford at SEFCU Arena Wednesday night.

By BRYAN SAUR

The University at Albany men's basketball season came to a shocking end Wednesday night. The Great Danes were upset by No. 7-seeded Hartford (10-22, 4-12) 68-59 in the America East quarterfinals.

The No. 2-seeded UAlbany (24-8, 13-3) started slowly, shooting just 28.6 percent from the field in the first half. It was the complete opposite for the Hawks, who were seemingly making every shot they took. They shot 48.3 percent, including an unprecedented nine of 13 from beyond the arc.

Before they knew it, the Danes found themselves walking into the locking room down 17 points at halftime.

"We lost that game in the first half," UAlbany Head Coach Will Brown said. "You can't dig yourself a hole down 17 and give a team all of that confidence."

Despite facing a large deficit, the resilient UAlbany squad

wouldn't go down without a fight.

Mid-way through the second half the Danes began to find their stride. Freshman Joe Cremo made one of his signature drives to the hoop and finished with a lay-in and a foul. The three-point play cut the Hartford lead to 11 and brought thunderous cheers from the fans at SEFCU arena, which were missing for most of the game. Perhaps the most disappointing was the absence of the football team. At almost all the home games, the UAlbany football team would take over a good portion of the stands with their big bodies dressed up in superhero costumes. This first tournament game could have used their superhero power.

The Danes turned up the pressure in the second half, going to a full-court pressure and doubling the ball as soon as it got over halfcourt, which the Hawks had trouble dealing with, resulting in several turnovers.

Cremo created another turnover at halfcourt and dished the ball off to Ray Sanders, who was fouled on a made layup. The

three-point play cut the Hawks lead to five with 1:27 to play.

SEFCU was rocking with excitement, hoping this would not be the last game for the Danes and their senior class which features Peter Hooley, Evan Singletary, Ray Sanders and Reece Williams.

But the Hawks had other ideas.

On the following possession, the Hawks played keep-away, passing the ball all over the court to keep it out of UAlbany's hands. A swing pass to the corner found JR Lynch, who drained the dagger three-pointer that put the Hawks up eight points with less than a minute to play.

The shot brought a devastating silence to the fans cheering for the purple and gold. Meanwhile, the Hawks bench was ecstatic after realizing what they were just about to accomplish.

The reality then sank in. The Great Danes will not be the America East champions for the fourth year in a row.

During free throws at the end of the game, Brown made substitutions for his three graduating seniors: Hooley, Sanders, and Singletary, who each received standing ovations from the UAlbany faithful.

Following the game, the whole team stood at halfcourt, listening to cheers from the fans who remained to say goodbye. All of the players walked off the court together for the final time this season, except for Hooley.

The senior from Australia squatted down on the UAlbany logo and took a moment for himself to reflect on the fact that he would not return to this court again as a UAlbany player. Then he walked off the court for the final time.

"Coach took a chance on a small kid from Australia and I ended up making a family here," Hooley said after the game while fighting back tears. "I owe a lot to these people, but I can't say thank you enough for what they have done for me."

Despite the upset loss, Brown still found the positive in a first-round exit that is unfamiliar for his time at UAlbany.

"I'm proud of my team. This loss doesn't define our season," Brown said. "We were 24-8. This is extremely disappointing, but it's been a great year."

Even though the graduating seniors didn't walk off the court the way they had envisioned, it does not change the careers they had and contributions they made to the UAlbany community. Hooley finishes his legendary career with three America East championships, while Sanders and Singletary won their first after transferring to UAlbany last season.

Their time at UAlbany will end in a few months, but the legacy they left on this program will always be remembered. Especially for Hooley, who is one of the UAlbany men's all-time leading scorers.

Although UAlbany will not qualify for the NCAA tournament, they still have a chance to receive an invitation to the National Invitational Tournament (N.I.T.) or College Basketball Invitational (C.B.I.), which cross-town rival Siena won two years ago.