



# ASAP

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015 ISSUE 8 ALBANYSTUDENTPRESS.NET

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

# SORORITY HOLDS CANDLELIT VIGIL FOR MURDERED ALUMNA

By **JONATHON PETERS**

University at Albany's Asian interest sorority Kappa Phi Lambda was disturbed to discover what happened to one of their sisters this past summer.

Alumna Sunny Kim was murdered by her ex-boyfriend in South Korea. Her body was taken to a desolate area and buried in cement, police reported. Kim ended their relationship days before because of his prior domestic abuse.

Kappa Phi Lambda's publicity chair, Tianna Le, wanted to know how something like this could have happened. "Her death sounded like something right out of a horror movie," Le said.

The members of the organization's Upsilon chapter visited the UAlbany administration. They believed something needed to be done about Kim's death, as well as all the other domestic violence cases around the world.

The organization hosted "Shine the Light," a week of open events to spread awareness of domestic violence and to educate the community on the lasting effects it can have on the victims. The week consisted of self-defense training, workshops, movie screenings, and was concluded with an honorary candle lighting at the Main Fountain on Thursday.

People gathered at the fountain to hear speeches, and



Jonathon Peters / Albany Student Press

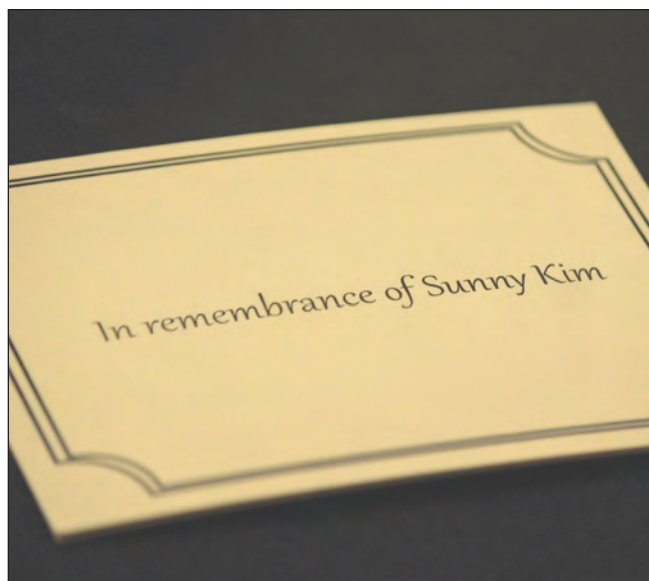
Students gathered around the Main Fountain by the Lecture Centers on Thursday to honor Sunny Kim, a UAlbany and Kappa Phi Lambda alum who was murdered in South Korea over the summer.

the sorority sisters read poems. As they lit the candles, there was a moment of silence for Kim. Kappa members then encouraged anyone who had been or knew a victim to share their experience. "She was an alumna and from my chapter," Le said. "We had to make sure we did this night right."

UAlbany was one of 10 schools selected to host a "10 Points of Light" candle lighting in memory of a domestic violence victim. Take Back the Night is an organization working to raise awareness of sexual violence. Every April and October, chosen schools host the "10 Points of Light" event on the same night.

Many students and faculty came out to support the sorority's cause. Student Involvement Assistant Director Arleny Alvarez-Peña said everything ran smoothly from the sideline on Thursday. "Tonight provides healing for our community," Alvarez-Peña said. She said it's ceremonies like these that bring people together and help them grow.

The chapter spent the month raising money and collecting supplies for women that have been victims of abusive relationships. A colorful assortment of products - beauty supplies, shampoos, soaps, and toothpaste - were laid out at the entrance of the candle lighting. People made care packages with personalized messages to send to Equinox, a shelter in the Capital District that assists domestic violence victims as well as victims of substance abuse and mental illness.



## LGBTQ

# UAlbany, pronouns, and gender identity

By **MADELINE ST. AMOUR**

After Yoonhee Kim, a University at Albany senior, "chopped her hair off," people sometimes called her "sir" when she worked at Stewart's. Once customers heard her talk, they'd correct themselves. Kim said she felt "out of place."

"It's actually really sad. It's like, 'Um, I don't know who you're talking to,'" she said.

For some students, their gender identity isn't something that crosses their mind.

"That's what privilege is," Courtney D'Allaird, coordinator for the Gender and Sexuality Resource Center at UAlbany, said. "When you have something, and you never have to think about it."

But for others, gender identity matters a great deal. Being free to choose what they are called is important for some students,

and a college's policies can either help or hinder this.

As originally reported by The Harvard Crimson, Harvard University's student newspaper, Harvard now allows students to pick their preferred pronouns when they register. They can choose from traditionally male or female pronouns, as well as write in others, using given examples like the gender-neutral "they, them theirs"

Please see **LGBTQ** page 8

## ON CAMPUS

# President Jones gives 2015 State of the University address

By **TOMAS GOMEZ**

University at Albany President Robert Jones delivered his fall 2015 State of the University address Tuesday. The president spent the hour highlighting the university's achievements as well as future goals.

Among the achievements was a National Science Foundation grant of \$4.5 million awarded to a team of atmospheric and social scientists which in-

cluded UAlbany's Everett Joseph. The grant will go toward research in early warning systems for detection of large storms. Jones also praised the launch of the College of Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security and Cybersecurity in response to a call from the governor for university programs in those fields. He also mentioned an affiliation agreement made this month with Albany Law School and a \$1.6 million grant given to

a joint faculty team for an international health law project from the Global Institute for Health and Human Rights.

Jones praised what he called the university's commitment to diversity, claiming that 42 percent of the freshman class were students of color. He expressed a desire to enroll 20,000 students by 2020, saying that developing programs in new, high demand

Please see **PRESIDENT** page 8



ELECTIONS

# The race for Albany County Executive is on

By PAT GAREAU

Incumbent Dan McCoy (D-Albany) is facing off against candidates Joseph Vitollo (R-Coeymans) and Dan Platt (Green Party-Albany) in the race for Albany County Executive.

While McCoy ran unopposed in his first election in 2011, this year he faced a contentious Democratic primary against Dan Egan (D-Albany), which McCoy was able to win with 60 percent of the vote.

McCoy is a heavy favorite to be

reelected, and one of the things he would like to do in his second term is engage University at Albany students. He believes it is important for students at the university to be aware of what is going on in the surrounding area.

"You need to pay attention to where you live because you are part of the community," McCoy said about students. A specific example that he said had been considered by his team is to partner with the university to provide a bus tour of the area to new students at the beginning of each academic year.

McCoy said the county government already interacts with the university in many areas including emergency services, and described the relationship between the two entities as a "partnership."

McCoy, an Iraq War veteran, was a firefighter before being sworn in as Albany County Executive in 2012.

Dan Platt, who was involved with Occupy Albany while the group was active, said he is running to "occupy the ballot." He said, "I didn't want Dan McCoy to run unopposed."

Platt wants to localize the economy and introduce participatory budgeting in to the process, where funds are set aside to be voted on at the community level. He believes the government should take a more active role in producing food and energy locally. Platt hopes to make progress on these issues over the long term and wants to reach out more to younger residents of Albany County.

Vitollo, 59, currently works as a registered nurse.

UAlbany College Republicans President Pat Cronin believes

the Republican's lack of competitiveness in this election is due to insufficient outreach in urban communities. "There is nothing about Republican ideas that are antithetical to urban voters. It's not a policy issue, it's more of an approach and messaging issue," Cronin said.

Vitollo and Platt have each spent less than \$1,000 on the election, while McCoy has spent over \$400,000, as reported by the Albany Times Union.

CRIME BLOTTER

CHECK A SUBJECT

10/19/2015  
Podium - Campus Center  
Report of male subject asking for money, gone on arrival.

EXPOSURE OF A PERSON

10/19/2015  
Other - Indian Pond  
Report of a male student exposing himself on the Purple Path.

CHECK A SUBJECT

10/19/2015  
Roadways - University Drive East  
Report of male subject sleeping on bench.

CHECK A SUBJECT

10/20/2015  
Roadways - Collins Circle  
Report of male student and female student arguing, area cleared.

ASSIST A PERSON

10/20/2015  
Podium - University Hall  
Report of a personal video and pictures being on a public website.

ASSIST A PERSON

10/21/2015  
Podium - Science Library  
Report of a male subject disrupting a class.

DOMESTIC INCIDENT

10/21/2015  
Indian Quad - Adirondack Hall  
Report of three male students being bothersome to a female student.

DRUG COMPLAINT

10/21/2015  
Colonial Quad - Delancey Hall  
Report of male student selling his prescription pills, referral made.

CHECK A SUBJECT

10/21/2015  
UPD  
Male student looking for piece of wood for art project.

PERSONS ANNOYING

10/22/2015  
Podium - PAC  
Group roughhousing.

EXECUTE BENCH WARRANT

10/22/2015  
Roadways - Northwest Lot  
A male subject was arrested for an outstanding Bench Warrant in Clifton Park.

FIRE ALARM

10/23/2015  
Indian Quad - Cayuga Hall  
Due to steam from shower.

ASSIST A PERSON

10/23/2015  
Roadways - Collins Circle  
Report of driver transporting passengers without a taxi medallion. Gone on arrival.

SEXUAL ABUSE 3RD

10/23/2015  
Dutch Quad - Schuyler Hall  
Report of an unknown male subject that entered a female student's room without permission and touched her without her consent.

MEDICAL INCIDENT

10/23/2015  
Indian Quad - Mohawk Tower  
Report of female student with rash. Transported to hospital by 5 Quad.

ASSIST A PERSON

10/24/2015  
State Quad - SQ Grounds  
Report of male student and taxi driver in verbal argument.

PERSONS ANNOYING

10/24/2015  
Roadways - Collins Circle  
Report of two female subjects verbally harassing others on bus.

PERSONS ANNOYING

10/24/2015  
PE Complex - Stadium  
Group of students shouting obscenities.

AGGRAVATED DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED

10/25/2015  
Roadways - Western Ave Entrance  
A female subject was found to be driving while intoxicated. An arrest was made.

MOTORIST ASSIST/DISABLED

10/26/2015  
Building 25  
Vehicle locked inside construction fencing let out.

PERSONS ANNOYING

10/27/2015  
Colonial Quad - CQ Office  
Report of recliner chair thrown over the edge of quad.

ASSIST OTHER PD

10/27/2015  
Off-Campus  
Assisted Guilderland Police Department in report of a male subject attempting to cash a fake money order.

CHECK A SUBJECT

10/27/2015  
Indian Quad - IQ Grounds  
Report of a male student being a nuisance to a female student.

UNAUTHORIZED USE OF VEHICLE

10/28/2015  
Podium - Biology  
Two male students were found to be in unauthorized operation of a Cushman Cart and referred for same.

CHECK A SUBJECT

10/29/2015  
Downtown Campus - Richardson Hall  
Report of homeless person wandering building.

MIDDLE EARTH

## Ins and outs of counseling

Dear Middle Earth,

I've been thinking about going to Counseling and Psychological Services to talk with somebody about some problems I've been having. I feel weird about it though. My life isn't easy, but I'm not completely falling apart either, so I don't even know if counseling is really something I need. I guess I really want to talk to someone, but I'm afraid that if I go I'll be seen as sort of messed up, like there's something really wrong with me. Also, if I get counseling, will it show up in my university record? I don't really want my parents or anybody else to know - could they find out? How much does it cost, and how do I pay? I have health insurance through my parents, but like I said, I'd rather not have them find out. Will they just recommend taking medication because I don't think I want that! Any information you could give would help. Thanks!

- Wondering

Dear Wondering,

I'm so glad you asked these questions! If you have these types of questions about Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS), you're probably not the only one on campus who is wondering these things. First of all, I want to assure you that if you want to talk about problems you're having, CAPS is a good place for you to come. Acknowledging that you want some help with difficulties you are having is sometimes hard, but it is the first step in working to resolve those difficulties. Every year, hundreds of students seek help for both personal and academic concerns, and thousands of students participate in our educational programs involving residence halls, student groups, and orienta-

tion programs.

Anyone who is currently enrolled at the University at Albany may use CAPS, and counseling is free. The staff at CAPS includes licensed psychologists and psychology interns and advanced doctoral students who provide services under the supervision of licensed staff psychologists. You can view pictures and bios of all the staff on their website ([www.albany.edu/counseling\\_center](http://www.albany.edu/counseling_center)). What you tell a counselor at CAPS is confidential. Your visits and conversations do not become part of any other record. CAPS is located at 400 Patroon Creek Blvd., Suite 104 and there is a free shuttle that leaves from Collins Circle and the Social Sciences bus stop approximately every 30 minutes. It is open all year. During the academic year, hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and during the summer and inter-session, it is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. You can call 518-442-5800 or come to the reception desk to make an appointment. It is also O.K. to request a specific staff member, or request the gender of the person you meet with if that is important to you. CAPS also offers couples counseling and various therapy and support groups each semester.

When you arrive for the first time, you will be asked to complete some paperwork on one of the secure computers in the waiting room which will help describe your concerns and provide other information that will assist your clinician in getting to know you. The focus of your first appointment will be to speak with a clinician to understand the issues you are facing and to consider a plan of action for

dealing with those issues. At the end of that appointment you can decide together how to proceed, which may be to make another appointment with that staff member or another option.

You also asked about medication which is a very good question. This is a personal decision and the staff at CAPS will respect your views on the use or non-use of medication to assist with your concerns. For some situations the use of medication could be suggested as an additional treatment option by a referral to the doctors at Student Health Services. The decision will be yours and we encourage you to be open with the psychologist and discuss your feelings on this.

Another option is the Let's Talk program. This service provides informal and confidential conversations with CAPS staff at various locations on campus. No appointment is necessary. Let's Talk could be a good way to try out what it might be like to meet with a psychologist or to get a different perspective of a particular situation.

Finally, the Middle Earth Hotline is also available to talk more about the services that CAPS provides or to further discuss how to decide if it would be a good idea to make an appointment. You can reach the Middle Earth Peer Assistance hotline at 518-442-5777. The Middle Earth Peer Assistance hotline is free, anonymous, and open when classes at UAlbany are in session during the academic year (September through May). The hotline hours are from 1 p.m. to midnight Monday through Thursday and 24 hours on weekends beginning on Friday at 1 p.m. and ending on Sunday at midnight.

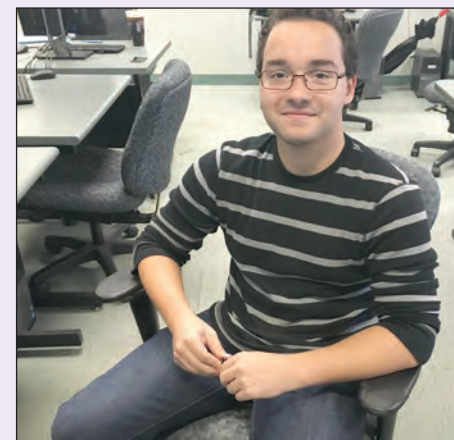
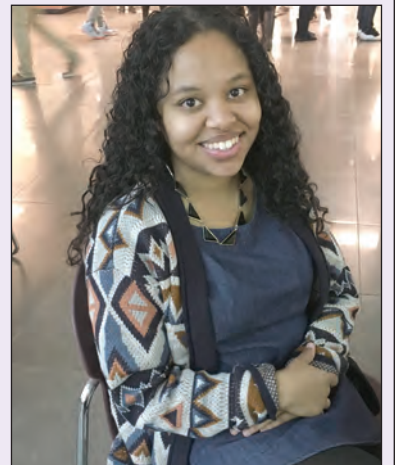
## DANES SAY WHAT?

This week, we asked students:

In light of recent school shootings, do you feel safe on UAlbany's campus?

"For me it's 50/50. I feel safe walking around the UAlbany campus because I know that there are safety precautions taken in case a shooting or another major tragedy were to occur. UPD is constantly doing their job by patrolling all of campus, so it makes me feel safe that they are out during all times of the day. Then again, there could be that one student or outsider that can enter our campus freely and potentially be a danger to the UAlbany community. It is a scary thought, but I just have to assure myself that everything will be okay.

- Crystal Matos, Class of 2016



"I do feel safe on the UAlbany campus. Sometimes I do come across people that I am wary of, but overall I feel fine. I don't think there needs to be armed security guards all over campus or anything, but I feel that a safe environment should be promoted. UAlbany has a safe environment and I don't feel like I am in danger."

- Mark Ranalletta, Class of 2017

"With so many assaults and shootings happening, it's hard to feel safe on campus. It makes you wonder if you'll be the next student in an email sent by UPD. Personally, I do not feel 100 percent safe on the UAlbany campus. When I am coming home from rugby practice or from the library at night, there's always a little bit of doubt in my mind that something could happen. I understand that this is a public campus and anyone can be here, but I believe UAlbany should put more effort into keeping their students safe on campus. Sending out emails informing students on how to stay safe on campus during the school year is not enough. UPD should be more productive! The only peace of my mind I get on this campus is when I ask God for protection and to keep me safe daily."

- Janay Bailey, Class of 2016



Compiled by Vaughnee Simmons



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ALBANY

# Take action against child homelessness

RUSSELL OLIVER

The truth about homelessness is that it's becoming a major issue in New York state. The number of homeless people has been notably increasing over recent years for the state overall.

Homelessness isn't just a problem for adults. During the 2013-14 year, 2,000 school-age children were without homes in the Capital Region, as reported from data compiled at New York's Education Department. This information takes into account children living in motels, shelters or staying with other people, along with those who don't have any place to stay.

"From New York to Buffalo, homelessness has been on a trajectory that's unsustainable," William Gettman Jr., the executive director of St. Catherine's Center for children, said in a 2014 Times Union article.

The amount of children without homes has been increasing over the past five years, according to data from the New York State Technical and Education Assistance Center. There were 90,596 children identified as homeless in the years 2010-11 in the state. By the next year the number jumped to 98,174, and by the last recorded year on the website, 2013-2014, the number had climbed to 116,847 children without homes in New York.

Overall in New York the

amount of children who are considered homeless has doubled in a five-year span. It's sad that we live in a state (and country) where child homelessness is becoming a major issue. This is a problem that we must actively try to prevent from getting worse. There are a number of things that New York can do to decrease the amount of homeless people out there.

The Coalition for the Homelessness is a New York-based organization dedicated to helping homeless men, women and children. It says that permanent housing assistance is less expensive than shelter or institutional care. These successful programs can come from federal housing assistance or from permanent supportive housing, which both provide long-term housing options for the homeless.

The Coalition also mentions that making sure homeless people and families can maintain their new housing is crucial, as many homeless people are often unable to have stability in these situations. Eviction-prevention



The Capital City Rescue Mission on South Pearl Street provides food and temporary shelter for homeless people in Albany.

Source: capitalcityrescuemission.com

grants are one way to allow new tenants the ability to pay their rent so that they don't get evicted and become homeless again.

Another way to prevent this is to provide low-income families and people with housing lawyers that they can afford.

There are many other things that can help decrease homelessness in our state. Raising the minimum wage will help low-income families afford their expenses. Career programs for low-income and homeless people are crucial, as many of these people need jobs. Also, just a general awareness of homelessness and its increasing

numbers should make people want to contribute and volunteer to prevent it from worsening.

All of these suggestions would help out, but programs that get people into houses are the most beneficial to the issue.

Albany has many homeless shelters available for those in need.

The Capital City Gospel Mission is a non-profit charity located on South Pearl Street. Its mission is to proclaim the teachings of the Gospel and Jesus Christ to the needy and homeless in the Capital Region. It provides a cleansing of the "body, mind, and spirit" so that the people who

come through its doors can rejoin society as a mature Christian citizen.

"I was homeless in Albany and addicted. Now I'm a sinner saved by God's read," a person named Bobby said on the Capital City Gospel Mission's website.

Another option is the Homeless and Travelers Aid Society of the Capital Region, which has two locations on Central Avenue and State Street. Both are open 24 hours a day to make sure someone has a place to stay. They welcome homeless families and their children, teen parents, and youths to their shelters.

TELEVISION

## That's so rude, Raven!

By DIEGO CAGARA

Actress, singer and "The View" co-host Raven-Symoné has recently received backlash for making controversial comments regarding race and police brutality on the talk show.

Her name may sound familiar to young people who grew up watching her hit Disney Channel television show "That's So Raven," while older generations may recognize her from "The Cosby Show" from around the early 1990s. Now she's getting attention for a negative reason.

Perhaps the most recent controversy involved Raven-Symoné commenting about the viral Spring Valley High School incident in which a sheriff violently sent a student to the ground during class time.

While reviewing the viral video during an episode of "The View," Raven-Symoné believed that teens "should put [their] phones away" and that they "have to understand authority." This stirred up angry and negative responses from viewers over Twitter who believed that Raven-Symoné was saying what the sheriff did was O.K.

Both the student and the sheriff were at fault for their individual actions. While I understood how Raven-Symoné argues that teens should respect authority, I would have focused on the sheriff's actions more than the teenager's.

When the incident grew viral, the hashtag #SpringValleyAssault was used. This hashtag's wording focuses on the sheriff's assault on the student, not the phone-wielding student. So, to deviate from the main issue - the sheriff's violence - seems to ignore how the sheriff truly treated the student.

Raven-Symoné's comments, regardless of causing controversy, did actually touch on how teens need to learn when are the appropriate times to use their electronic devices, something I thought was the only redeeming thing about her take on the incident.

I believe that teens should understand how imperative getting an education is. While I know how tempting it is to secretly use my iPhone in class, I try to push it off because getting a higher education costs a lot of money. So, it's important to recognize and embrace the fact that we, as University at Albany students, are lucky to go to college in the first place. But we should still never be victims of police brutality.

Raven-Symoné also was the center of another controversy during another episode of "The View" when she said she would not hire anyone who has a "black-sounding" name, a statement that deals with institutional racism.

"I'm not about to hire you if your name is Watermelondrea," she said, "It's just not gonna happen.

I'm not gonna hire you."

Her comments came off racist and discriminatory against people with such names and I am completely against what she said. It is tragic when a person, despite potentially having a great resume, still would not be employed because a potential employer may equate their "black-sounding" name with a lack of intelligence.

Growing up, I vividly remembered that a 2005 "That's So Raven" episode dealt with racism and that the Disney Channel had been praised for addressing such a dark subject to young viewers. The episode titled "True Colors" was about how Raven-Symoné's character, Raven Baxter, attempted to get a job at a store but was rejected despite proving how qualified she was. Instead, her character's best friend, Chelsea Daniels (played by Anneliese van der Pol), who is white, got the job despite lacking experience.

Raven-Symoné then deduces that she was rejected only because the manager was racist and she and Chelsea eventually confronted the racist manager. The episode managed to educate viewers that racism is wrong but is still present in modern times. Fast forward 10 years to 2015, when Raven-Symoné says she would not hire someone with a "black-sounding" name. It is heartbreaking that this is where she has come.

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COLLEGE LIFE

# CONS OF UNDERAGE DRINKING

By MEGHAN MAHAR

College partying is something we may not all take part in, but we all certainly hear about it. It is one of the reasons many students are eager to go to college. Unfortunately, it is also the reason some will never make it to graduation. According to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) roughly 1800 college students ages 18 to 24 die each year from alcohol related injuries. A majority of the deaths are people under the legal drinking age.

Last year the University at Albany had one of its own students, Trevor Duffy, die as a direct result of alcohol consumption.

Incidents like this raise a lot of controversy over who should be held responsible. Should the university be blamed? Should the people consuming the alcohol be blamed, or the ones who are of age and who are providing it to those who aren't?

When a student enrolls in a school, it is their responsibility to follow all the school's policies. It is against UAlbany's policy to have alcohol anywhere on campus in the presence of minors. No school should be held responsible for what happens outside its grounds. The moment students leave campus, they can make choices to their own

discretion, which should not reflect on the school.

Most students who take part in drinking know the effects of alcohol. They are fully aware of what excessive consumption can lead to. I think what some don't know is their own limit, and others persuade them to keep going through peer pressure like in Duffy's case. We all hear about those who die from alcohol poisoning and we all think it's something that won't happen to us, until it does.

After the death of Duffy, the Times Union reported that "Duffy was promised by the brothers of an underground fraternity that no one was ever killed while pledging."

Unfortunately, that is no longer true. Although his drinking was a result of hazing, alcohol was still the cause of death. It is still connected to one of the main problems on college campuses.

The Times Union also reported that a student testified the brothers of the frat argued over whether or not they should call the cops. This is another issue surrounding alcohol-related deaths. Although I have never experienced alcohol poisoning, I have witnessed it.

A close friend of mine in high school drank an excessive amount of liquor. By the

time she was taken to the hospital, she was in an alcohol-induced coma. Luckily she survived, but doctors told her mother that had they not called for help when they did, she would have died.

If ever in this situation it is important to remember that a simple phone call can be the matter of life and death.

In an interview with the Times Union, Michael Christakis, interim vice president of Student Success said, "The institution cannot be everywhere all the time... the most powerful deterrent is peer-to-peer."



Source: Wikimedia.org

College students often binge drink because they are unaware of how much alcohol their bodies can handle. Underage drinking can result in legal problems.

Peers have the most influence over each other in social situations. It is O.K. to tell your friends that you think they have had enough or that they shouldn't do something, even if you are the only one who feels that way.



Source: epSos.de / Wikimedia.org

China's old policy limited couples to having one child. Now, they are allowing couples to have two children as China's population grows older.

IN THE NEWS

# One more child please Is the new revision of a 10-year-old policy enough?

By KEVIN MERCADO

China's decade-old policy of limiting a family to one child has ended, but I don't think that is enough.

The New York Times reported recently that the Chinese Communist Party leadership decided to revise a policy from the 1970s which limited a Chinese family to only one child. The policy will now allow a family to have up to two children.

Chris Buckley, author of the article, said, "The decision was a dramatic step away from a core Communist Party position that Deng Xiaoping, the Chinese leader who imposed the policy in the late 1970s, once said was needed to ensure that 'the fruits of economic growth are not devoured by population growth.'"

In 2013, according to the New York Times, the policy was eased a bit allowing a family to have two children if one of the parents was an only child, though oftentimes the parents would refuse to have a second child on their own saying it would be too expensive to raise two children in the Chinese economy.

Perhaps coming from a larger family gives me a different outlook on the

bearing of children, but it seems ludicrous to take away the right of a couple to bear more than one child.

It has also severely affected the male-to-female ratio in China, favoring boys and men.

However, I suppose this new policy is a step in the right direction. The Chinese Communist leaders are giving the Chinese population more power over their own human rights.

Buckley writes, "Thursday's announcement was the highlight of a party meeting at which President Xi Jinping sought to display his control over a flagging economy after a jittery summer of tepid indicators, deepening skepticism about official data and a tumultuous slide in the stock market."

This policy change is going to have a drastic change on population in China as well as the funds necessary to support more children. Buckley reports, "Abolishing the one-child policy would 'increase labor supply and ease pressures from an aging population,' the National Health and Family Planning Commission, which enforces the policy, said in a statement issued after the party meeting. 'This will benefit sustained and healthy

economic development,' the commission said."

This is most certainly necessary for the development of China's freedom laws. However, I still fear that the Chinese would still not exercise this new law. The old policy has been ingrained in the culture for a long time and may be hard to break out of.

As much as I would love to see the Chinese population grow from this new law, it is solely up to the people of China to make the decision to have more than one child.

My second fear is that this just simply isn't enough.

Allowing families to have another child is better than just the one, but still is far too limiting on people's freedom to bear children.

Perhaps the American perspective plays a huge factor in how I perceive this law, but I still feel like having children is a personal decision that should be made solely by the partners having children.

Chinese policy has taken a necessary move toward a limitless world, but they are just not moving quick enough.

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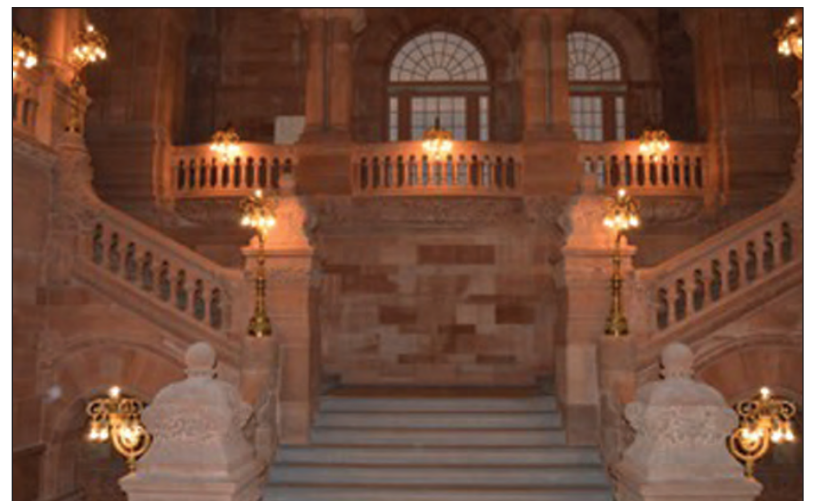
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## CAPITAL REGION

BRAVE ENOUGH TO  
FACE THE CAPITOL?

Russell Oliver/Albany Student Press  
The New York State Capitol hosts free tours year-round, but for Halloween they highlight the paranormal as opposed to solely the historical.

By RUSSELL OLIVER

This time of year, many legends of ghosts, serial killers and poltergeists pop up to get people in the mood for Halloween. Some of these urban myths have their basis in our very own Capital Region.

The Albany area has decided to follow the popular trend of haunting tours. During the entire month of October, Albany residents could take the Capitol Haunting Tour. The expedition took people throughout the New York State Capitol Building downtown, showcasing all the places where paranormal activities have occurred. The tour also informed guests about the history of the

building.

"While we certainly do talk about the ghostly sightings, we also talk a lot about the history," Stuart Lehman, one of the tour guides, said. "Every one of these stories is connected to events in Capitol history."

While showing some behind-the-scenes Capitol Building action, the tour also comes across a few supernatural disturbances. The Capitol is home to many mysteries, such as the ominous 1911 building fire that took out much of the State Library, the cause of which still remains unknown. The watchman who died during the fire is said to still make his rounds at night.

The tour also showed a hidden carving of a demon in the building's molding.

"A stone carver was so angry with his boss one day that he decided to put a curse on the entire building by carving a secret devil into the stonework," said Lehman.

Lehman also showed pictures taken in the building that have some ghostly-looking shapes in them. The tour was more history-oriented, but there were still a few frights.

The Capitol Building could definitely have a ghost or two floating around.

"Many people have reported that if you work here late at night, you might hear the noise of doors

closing," Lehman said. "You might even see the doorknob to your office being turned."

Lehman went on to say he has had some guests on the tour report some spectral sensitivity, but not to the extent they've had to leave the group.

"I really enjoyed the tour," said Stephanie Oberting, an Albany resident. "I went with my family and enjoyed it so much that I went back to take the tour the next week a second time with my friend."

Lehman, who is mostly called "steward" during the tour because of his outfit, has enjoyed being a tour guide for this event for over 10 years. The demand of the tours this year was unexpected, causing more tour events to be added.

"The tours get reserved very quickly when they're opened up," he said. "We advertised it, expect-

ing that we'd get about 30 people, and 3,000 people called so it kind of grew exponentially from there."

Lehman said that an average of 1,500 people have taken the tour every October in past years.

"All Capitol tours are free," he said. "The tour doesn't have a lot of special effects so it doesn't cost a lot."

"I think it's great that the Capitol has tours like this one for free," said Oberting. "It's smart that Albany tries to get its community involved with events."

Lehman added that his favorite part of the Capitol Haunt is the mysterious 1911 fire, however he also mentioned that he does not believe in ghosts.

"There certainly are a lot of reasons to believe in ghosts," he said. "But my experiences have been very subjective in nature."

## LOCAL CONCERT

## College-age malaise and a performance by The Front Bottoms

By ELI ENIS

There isn't any other band that embodies the college-age years like The Front Bottoms do. These late adolescent times are strange, fast moving moments that are decisive of our futures, while equally regarded as the best days of our lives.

As months feel like weeks and we have trouble recalling what happened last Saturday night, we long for something tangible to cling to. What we need is someone to shove the proverbial mirror in our faces, record our self-critical reactions and play that clusterfuck of emotions back to us in a way we can make sense of. We need someone who gets it.

Brian Sella, vocalist and lyricist of The Front Bottoms, gets it. He and his bandmates have developed a loyal, cult-like following, filled with like-minded adolescents who swear by Sella's terrifyingly relatable and brutally candid lyrics. There's something unique about TFB fans. Finding out someone is into them exceeds a shared appreciation for pop-punky, emo rock. It confirms that he or she is wired the same way and subscribes to a similar lifestyle. It confirms that that person also gets it. Roughly 1,000 of those types of people flocked to Upstate Concert Hall in Clifton Park, N.Y. on Oct. 17 to laugh, cry and scream together as TFB performed.

But before the titans of the evening took the stage, the crowd was treated to an eclectic couple of opening acts. Neo-shoegaze unit Elvis Depressedly kicked off the night with some upbeat, rocky renditions of their otherwise foggy, lo-fi recorded material. Stylistically, they were the odd band

out on the tour, but the modified versions of their songs supplied enough oomph to keep a majority of the heads bobbing throughout. However, their performance was quickly outshone by Australia's The Smith Street Band who went absolutely berserk for a full 45 minutes. Displaying more energy onstage than both TFB and Elvis Depressedly combined, the folksy, big-room punk quartet seemed to win over most of the room as the applause grew exponentially throughout the set.

Although The Smith Street Band took home the gold for enthusiasm (mainly because their songs are faster than TFB's), the crowd's reaction for the evening's stars was unmatched. Additionally, Sella and Co. were strikingly tight musically. Their 20-song set list consisted of the near entirety of their new album "Back On Top," as well as the obligatory fan favorites ("Twin Size Mattress," "Flashlight" and "Skeleton"), back catalogue deep cuts ("Tattooed Tears," "Rhode Island" and "Be Nice to Me") and even "Wolfman" off of their recent record with rapper and companion GDP.

Obviously, the band had been dying for a chance to play new material after steadily touring on 2013's "Talon of the Hawk" since its release, but what made the songs from "Back On Top" so special was that they're designed for the live setting. The fuzzy riffs in "Summer Shandy" and "Historic Cemeteries," the infectious choruses of "Laugh Till I Cry" and "West Virginia," and the colossal sing-alongs in "Plastic Flowers" and "The Plan (Fuck Jobs)" were done justice by the passionate crowd's response. Even the more laid back, summery vibes of "HELP" and



Source: The Front Bottoms Facebook page

New Jersey four-piece The Front Bottoms played Upstate Concert Hall in Clifton Park on Oct. 17.

"Cough It Out" fit nicely alongside their older material.

The most likely intoxicated Sella kept his irreverent banter between songs relatively short (except for his one Blink-182-esque quip about wearing women's underwear), as he took the time to glance back at his bandmates to giggle at inside jokes. However, when he did address the crowd, it was to express his gratitude for their support and to make note of his love and admiration for his tour mates and behind-the-scenes crew. The band's easygoing onstage demeanor was equivalent to how they project themselves in their music videos and interviews,

which added to the authenticity of their overall character and made their songs that much more loveable.

The highlights of the evening were when the whole sweaty mass was synergistically shouting back quintessential lines like, "Hey man I love you but no fucking way," and "When I am sad, oh god I'm sad - but when I'm happy, I am happy" at the top of its collective lungs. That crowd, which had become one entity, was unlike an ordinary group of music fans. These were people who were visibly tearing up, uncontrollably smiling, and almost instinctively swaying, flailing and jumping to the songs that had shaped their

very identities.

Is that heavy handed? Are TFB really some sort of magical, all-knowing, all-healing power who touch the lives of each pair of ears their music graces? Are they the solution to late-teen, early twenty-something angst? Was this concert a divine, life-changing experience destined for the history books?

Probably not. But that concert demonstrated to all 1,000 attendees that they're all in this awkward, stressful, continually intoxicated stretch of life together. TFB fosters a niche audience that connects with their music on an abnormally deep level. And that audience and I are proud to say we're creatures of the culture that they create.



UALBANY MUSIC

# GIVING STUDENTS A VOICE

## UAlbany's Performing Arts Center hosts the Art Song Festival

By HANNAH BRIGIDA INFANTADO

The University at Albany hosted the Eastern New York Chapter National Association of Teachers of Singing (ENY/NATS) in celebration of the Art Song Festival. The NATS is a series of competitions and programs which are celebrated across the United States, divided into regions. The three-day event began on Friday, Oct. 23.

The first day was full of rehearsals in preparation for the individual voice performances on Sunday. Students and adults both from the university and outside of it performed.

Saturday was the heart of the weekend. There was one-on-one coaching with singer/voice-instructor Jeffrey McEvoy for each individual. Michael Clement and Todd Sisley were featured pianists.

"[I] love to sing but learning to perform is something else entirely," said Lisa Burianek who sang "Sephestia's Lullaby (Britten)." "It's very scary to be out of one's comfort zone. This event helps all of us, students and adults."

The voice professor of the music department, Frances Wittmann, had most of her voice students from both UAlbany and her own studio participate and perform. They sang a collection of art songs in different languages including French, Italian, and German.

"What a wonderful opportunity to be in a beautiful auditorium and with expert coaching," Robert Willard, a senior student who sang an Italian piece, said.

Overall the event left both students and aspiring singers with some valuable experience.



Instructor Jeffrey McEvoy and pianist Michael Clement teach aspiring singers how to refine their voices.

Hannah Brigida Infantado / Albany Student Press



Source: Christopher Macsurack / Flickr.com

CELEBRITY COMEBACK

# Say 'Hello': Adele returns from hiatus

By DIEGO CAGARA

"Hello, it's me."  
These are the first lines British singer and songwriter Adele sings from her much-anticipated comeback song titled "Hello" which was released on Oct. 23 along with its accompanying music video. "Hello" marks Adele's return to music after a three-year hiatus.

"Hello" is a haunting and emotional ballad with elements of pop and soul that lasts almost five minutes. It was officially released as the lead single from her upcoming album "25," scheduled to arrive on Nov. 20.

With Adele's signature powerful vocals, the song deals with love, regret, nostalgia and past relationships that have since failed. Her familiar smoky voice is accompanied by the piano and soft drums as well as some additional background vocals during the last chorus.

Upon first impression, the mid-tempo song sounds similar to her past work like "Someone Like You," but it nonetheless marks a new chapter in Adele's music career. "Hello" sounds refined yet raw, giving off the impression that Adele worked hard with co-writer Greg Kurstin to pen it. Rushed work would not have been warmly welcomed by her fans, who had to wait three years for her return.

Her long-awaited return has also earned her a positive commercial response, as the song quickly skyrocketed to the top of iTunes, outselling the likes of Justin Bieber, Drake and One Direction. Within hours of its release, "Hello" also topped iTunes internationally in places like the United Kingdom, Australia and Russia, showing that Adele is still an international force to be reckoned with.

Its music video attracted over 27.7 million views within 24 hours of its release on YouTube, breaking Taylor Swift's Vevo record for the most views for a

single video within such a timeframe. The "Hello" video also reached over 100 million views in just five days, the quickest on record for Vevo, and it has been viewed over 133 million times as of Oct. 29.

The sepia-toned music video was directed by Xavier Dolan and was the first music video filmed with IMAX cameras, which can capture footage with a much higher resolution. Also featuring American actor Tristan Wilds as Adele's past lover, Adele is shown making a call with her flip phone—an obvious sign that her relationship with Wilds' character happened in the past—while sadly roaming around a petite house.

The song's release was preceded by a typed letter that Adele had published to the public through her Facebook and Twitter accounts on Oct. 21 in which she discusses how her upcoming album, "25," will be a "make-up record", unlike "21" which was a "break-up record." While "21" dealt with her separation from her past lover, Adele wrote that "25" will instead deal with how she personally misses her past and how she regrets not having done certain things, like savoring her childhood. She also apologized in her letter to her fans about her three-year hiatus.

Between her two album releases, Adele became a mother, underwent throat surgery, experienced writer's block, and won multiple times during the 2012 Grammy Awards.

Today, the big question among Adele's fans is no longer when will she return from her three-year hiatus - it is now whether Adele's upcoming album "25" can match the massive success that "21" had back in 2011. Since "Hello" has been positively received by fans and music critics alike, as well as made a large commercial impact on the Hot 100, Adele's music career seems to be steadily headed toward the right direction.

FILM

# Netflix debuts film 'Beasts of No Nation'

By THOMAS KIKA

Streaming titan Netflix is venturing into new territory with the release of "Beasts of No Nation."

The film, which debuted on the service on Oct. 16, is the first feature film to ever premiere on Netflix alongside a limited theatrical release. This new release paradigm has raised a lot of eyebrows, and generated as much controversy as it has excitement over what it means for the future of the film exhibition business.

Traditionally, theaters expected a period of at least 90 days between theatrical and home media releases. When Netflix announced its plans to debut films on their service, major chains like Regal, AMC, and others refused to play their films. For audiences however, Netflix's inaugural foray into film distribution sends a strong message and hints at an exciting new frontier for the ubiquitous entertainment service.

Amplifying all of the conversation surrounding the film's release is the fact that "Beasts of No Nation" itself is a stunning film - probably one of the best of 2015.

Set amid a deliberately vague civil war in an unnamed West African nation, the film follows Agu, a young boy whose peaceful life with his loving family is torn away from him by the slow encroachment of war. Separated from everything he has known, he is brought into a rebel militia led by a charismatic and power-hungry man only ever referred to as the "Commandant." From that setup, the film is a slow descent into the violence and moral ambiguity of being a child soldier, one of the modern world's most heinous truths. The audience is never spared any of the gruesome details, from the horror of Agu's first kill, to the indiscriminate murder of civilians on the thinnest of pretenses.

The film's director is Cary Fukunaga, a rising auteur talent in recent years, late of films like "Sin Nombre" (2009) and "Jane Eyre" (2011) whose profile exploded after helming the first season of HBO's "True Detective." As those credits might suggest, Fukunaga has never been a filmmaker afraid of facing mankind's dark side, and "Beasts of No Nation" is certainly a film that requires such creative bravery. While the shocking and often abrupt violence is one thing, Fukunaga is also keenly aware that such darkness works best when the other side is represented.

The film opens with an extended look at Agu's life before being thrust into the role of a soldier. Fukunaga perfectly captures the little details and moments of childhood fun that makes his life relatable. Agu starts the film going around to adults in his town, trying to sell them an "imagination TV," the

outer shell of a television behind which his friends act out everything from soap operas to kung-fu movies. Fukunaga also took on the role of director of photography and the result is a film with an incredible sense of control. The colors in Fukunaga's frames, both vibrant and earthy, are wonderfully rich and give each shot a depth of beauty that makes the violence all the more horrifying.

Idris Elba is the big name talent being pushed in the film's publicity, and he certainly has the showiest role as the Commandant. Elba has proven himself to be one of the more charismatic leading men in the business today and here that magnetism is used in a subversive way, creating a character who uses his charisma to manipulate young men into becoming killers. However, while Elba might be the film's big movie star, its biggest asset is young newcomer Abraham Attah as Agu. Like most stand-out child actors before him, Attah has a screen presence and a grasp of emotion more befitting a performer much older than him. The film follows Agu over a very dynamic time in his life, and Attah nails each beat, from the joy of childhood, to the tortured and broken soul he becomes by the end.

Being such a powerful film, "Beasts of No Nation" has been a major focus of awards season speculation, with particular interest in possibly going all the way to the 2016 Academy Awards. Fukunaga is a bona fide triple threat in this regard, with Oscar buzz for his roles as director, writer, and cinematographer for the film. Elba is the film's major player in the acting category, considered one of the front-runners for Best Supporting Actor. Attah is admirably being pushed in the Best Actor race, despite being the smaller name, but in that field he is considered more of a long shot against a field of veterans.

No matter how many nominations the film ultimately garners, the fact that it's being considered gives legitimacy to Netflix's move into original film programming. When the company started its venture into original series development, their first offering was the forgettable "Lilyhammer" and it was not until their second series, "House of Cards," that they became major players at the Emmys.

"Beasts of No Nation" sends a much more promising first impression for the company's original film slate, even if their next scheduled films do not inspire much confidence. The company has a four-picture deal with Adam Sandler's Happy Madison production company, the first of which, "The Ridiculous 6," debuts on Dec. 11. After that, an ill-advised sequel to "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" will debut in early 2016.



## LGBTQ

Continued from Page 1

identifies as female “he” not only insults and diminishes her, but also, according to D’Allaird, distracts her from class, causes stress, and can have adverse academic effects.

The university has policies that let students indicate a preferred name, according to Karl Luntta, UAlbany spokesman, and photos of students now accompany their names on rosters, D’Allaird said. However, UAlbany’s data management system, Peoplesoft, which collects students’ information, doesn’t include information about preferred pronouns.

“At this time we aren’t contemplating a change in gender pronouns in the registration process,” Luntta said.

Kim, the president of Pride Alliance and a staff member at the GSRC said that UAlbany should be doing something to change that. “It’s a must for our registration,” she said.

A must, but registration forms are only the first step, Kim said. “I think it should just be a daily thing, like ‘Hey what’s your name? What’re your preferred pronouns?’” she said.

Vik Strutinskaya, vice president of Pride Alliance and a staff member at the GSRC, agreed. While for some people pronouns might not matter, for “someone who is constantly misgendered, having that little box in the registration form to say ‘These are my pronouns,’ that could mean the world to them,” she said.

If there was a place for students to mark their preferred pronouns, “then you wouldn’t have to ask or wonder. You would just be able to see... I’ve never thought that more choice is a problem,” D’Allaird said.

Research shows that the professor often sets the tone for inclusion in a classroom, followed by the other students, and it’s the same for exclusion, D’Allaird said. “If a teacher openly refuses to correctly gender someone... that sets a tone for the rest of the students as to whether or not they will respect the student.”

or “ze, hir, hirs.”

Calling someone who

D’Allaird said that recent Title IX changes cover transgender people under anti-discrimination policies, including that a transgender student doesn’t have to suffer a hostile class environment. A professor addressing a student with the wrong pronoun is creating a hostile environment.

Strutinskaya said that she hears from students who encounter two types of professors. One makes an effort to use the correct pronouns and truly tries to learn. The other doesn’t much care.

“It’s been a thing where the professor doesn’t acknowledge it and is like, ‘I know that these aren’t the pronouns you like to use, but I’m using these anyways because that’s what I want to use and that’s how I think you should identify,’” she said.

Luntta said that there is no clear or set answer for what happens if students are faced with a professor who refuses to use their preferred pronouns. This is dealt with on a case by case basis.

“If the student has a problem with anything a professor says, there are a series of steps they can take. Essentially that is, go to the professor first, then your advisor, the chair of the department, the dean of the school... It’s a succession of faculty or administration officers who would be able to help resolve the situation for the student,” he said.

Mount Holyoke College, a women’s college, began accepting any student who “identifies as a woman” in 2014, including people born as men who identify as women. Dean of Students Marcella Runell Hall, who has worked in higher education for 15 years, said, “As the national conversation on the issues of gender identity continues, people of all ages likely will feel more comfortable identifying outside of the gender binary, and personal pronouns will be a small but important part of that conversation. Colleges and universities and the nation as a whole must continue the discussion about how to share information about personal pronouns in order to offer more inclusive environments.”

On Campus Pride Index, a tool that ranks campuses on LGBTQ-inclusiveness and helps schools find ways to improve, UAlbany has a 3.5 out of 5 star-rating. Its highest



Paul Miller / UAlbanyphotos.com

Students walk around the fountain on Torch Night in front of the Campus Center. The Gender and Sexuality Resource Center inside the Campus Center is a safe space where students can get information on everything from how to approach professors with problems to where to find the right doctor.

score was LGBTQ student life with 4.5 stars and its lowest was LGBTQ academic life with 2.5 stars. Not every school is in CPI - for example, Saint Rose College and Siena College are missing.

UAlbany is also one of 150 schools in the country that D’Allaird knows of to have a GSRC.

CPI has a list called “LGBTQ policy inclusion,” which tells what the school does in its policies to be inclusive. Two areas where UAlbany is lacking are: the ability to self-identify sexual orientation on application or post-enrollment forms, and the ability to do the same with gender identity.

However, the SUNY system is working on fixing this. In September the SUNY Board of Trustees approved a more inclusive policy, as well as a new data collection tool. With this new tool, all SUNY students

could choose to self-identify their gender identity, sexual orientation, and additional statuses (such as veteran status). According to Casey Vattimo, director of public relations for SUNY, the next step is for each SUNY school to create a plan to put the new policy and data collection into effect.

“I think creating more space for people to identify does two things,” said D’Allaird. “One: If you do identify as such, you have a space to claim... Two: It exposes people who have no idea that pronouns even exist, even though they are using pronouns... but never have to think about it.”

Kim, who holds events often as president of Pride Alliance, introduces herself with her name and her pronouns. Adding an option to identify pronouns would make more people aware of the issue and stop the confusion she’s often faced with, Kim said.

## RESLIFE

# Cats and hedgehogs and RAs, oh my!

By JANIE FRANK

“Have you met Henry yet?”, a girl in Professor Wulff’s Fall 2013 nutrition class asked her friend.

“Who?”

“My hedgehog, Henry.” The two laughed. The girl told funny stories about Henry the hedgehog - how he curled up in a ball in her hand, how he slept in the pockets of her hoodies, and how much he loved treats.

“What happens if your RA finds out,” the friend asked.

The girl shrugged.

“My roommate is the RA. She loves him.”

Tropical fish are the only types of pets allowed in dorms, according to the Department of Residential Life Terms and Conditions of the University Residence Halls. But that doesn’t stop many students, including Resident Assistants (RAs), from purchas-

ing other kinds of pets to live in their rooms with them.

Many students who spoke to the ASP on the condition of anonymity admitted to having pets like rabbits, hamsters, gerbils, guinea pigs, hedgehogs, and cats while on campus. One student even reported owning a dog.

When a student is found to be in possession of an animal other than a tropical fish, it is up to the Department of Residential Life to make sure the student gets rid of the creature.

“The [RA will] tell them to remove them if they’re not legal,” a ResLife spokesperson said. “They have 24 hours.”

RAs are not allowed to comment on this topic.

The Mohawk & Hudson River Humane Society adopted out 3,600 pets last year, but they will not allow college students living on campus to adopt.

Michael Buckley, the director of devel-

opment, says they have not historically seen a lot of animals being surrendered by students who could not keep them in their dorms.

“If someone says they live in a dorm in UAlbany, we will not adopt to them,” Buckley said. “Certainly, there are good pets for college students as long as you live in an environment that can have one. One of the residence halls is not a good environment.”

However, this does not always stop students from adopting new pets. Some students will lie about their address, or use the address of a friend who lives off campus.

Students who do not live on campus adopt pets as well.

“If students live off campus, it’s hard because they give us their address and it’s hard to know if they’re a student or not,” Buckley said.

Whether or not a student lives on campus, taking care of a pet is a difficult feat.

Avita Tarachand, a senior at UAlbany, has lived off campus for the last two years. She adopted a Yorkie a year and a half ago.

“It’s very hard. I feel bad sometimes,” Tarachand said. “I wish I could take him outside more. When I’m not home my housemates are there but they don’t really play with him so it’s sad.”

Buckley stressed that adopting a pet is not a decision that should be taken lightly.

“It takes a lot of work. It’s a big commitment. It’s a big financial commitment and it’s a big time commitment,” he said.

This is true for almost every animal, regardless of how easy it may seem to take care of one. For example, many people say cats are low maintenance, but Buckley said that is not the case.

“I don’t think people oftentimes, no matter what age they are, realize how much work having an animal can be,” Buckley said. “Get a fish if you do decide to get an animal.”



Connor Murphy / Albany Student Press

President Robert J. Jones delivered the State of the University Address last Tuesday.

## PRESIDENT

Continued from Page 1

fields will make his goal possible. Jones also referenced a plan from the provost to increase retention by 10 percent.

“Retention is absolutely critical to our enrollment goals. This is where we can make a big difference in our numbers,” he said.

Jones stated that \$8.8 million would be spent on new investments for 2016-17, with more than half of the funding going toward academics. Future goals include the creation of a UAlbany B.S. program in computer engineering and a new Advanced Data Analytics Institute. Jones also highlighted a desire to grow health sciences and biomedical research. He stressed that he wanted to continue funding the humanities as well and announced the development of the Institute for History and Public Engagement.

“This will be fertile ground for collaboration across

disciplines, to attract grants, host colloquia, and develop experiential learning programs,” he said.

Jones also announced the investment of \$2 million in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, an initial investment of \$400,000 for contingent faculty pay, and \$250,000 for graduate student stipends. Jones also intends to expand the university’s EOP program and has applied for a SUNY grant that he expects will grow the program by 30 percent.

“As the allocation of state resources to SUNY has declined, more and more we find ourselves in fierce competition for public funds,” Jones said. “So more than ever, we have to be targeted in our requests and we have to continually show a return on investment.”



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## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

## RICHARDS READY TO LEAD DANES IN 2015



Source: UAlbany Athletics

Richards is now UAlbany's All-Time leading scorer.

By AARON CHERIS

The University at Albany Women's Basketball Record Book might as well be called the SHEREESHA RICHARDS BOOK.

In just three years at the school, Richards has dominated on the court for the Great Danes and climbed into the top 10 of nearly every major program record.

She is currently the program's all-time points leader, and she still has a season left to rewrite the record that former teammate Ebone Henry set in a historic four-

year career.

Henry's number five now hangs in the SEFCU Arena rafters, and it's all but certain Richards' number 25 will be there shortly after her graduation.

For now, Richards is focused on her senior season at UAlbany, and she intends to make it a great one.

"We definitely want to win and continue the tradition of winning," Richards said. "We're looking forward to having a great year overall and getting back to the [NCAA] Tournament and winning a game, making it to the second

round."

UAlbany Coach Katie Abrahamson-Henderson lets the team's seniors dictate what the team's goals are going to be. This year, Richards and fellow senior Erin Coughlin are going to be the team's leaders on and off the court. Knowing it is her last go around with the Danes probably won't bother Richards.

"There's no added pressure because I know I'm always going to have the target on my back," Richards said. "As a player being out on the court I'm always going

to be pressured so I can't be focusing on that."

Over the past four seasons, the UAlbany women's basketball program has turned into a juggernaut, winning four straight America East titles to reach the NCAA Tournament. Richards was a part of the last three championship teams, and the chance to earn a fourth in a row is one she will relish.

"It would be great to be a part of this and it would mean we were able to continue the tradition of succeeding for the program," Richards said of a potential fourth championship in a row.

While Richards and the Danes have taken home a lot of hardware, one thing still eludes them - an NCAA Tournament victory.

Last season was the closest UAlbany got to success on the national stage. In a tough, hard fought battle at Cameron Indoor Stadium in March, the Duke Blue Devils escaped with a 54-52 victory over UAlbany in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

The loss was a tough one to get over, but it will serve as motivation for UAlbany heading into the upcoming season.

"It's always something that's right there. It's like that bug that is buzzing in your ear and you can't get rid of it. It's always going to be there and it's always going to be a heartbreak," Richards said. "You wish that you could have won the game but at the same time you have to move on, you can't dwell on the past."

Over her career, Richards' stats are mind-boggling. She boasts the two highest scoring

seasons in program history. She is the only Great Dane to score 40 points in a single game, and she has also scored 20 or more points in a game an astounding 37 times, the equivalent of a full season. Her rebounding numbers are almost as good, topped only by former teammate Julie Forster, whose number 11 also hangs in the SEFCU Arena rafters.

However, what may be her most important asset can't be judged in a stat sheet or record book.

"Just seeing her work ethic, she comes in every day working, she's getting better," Coughlin said. "She's becoming more of a vocal leader this year too, which is big for her because she has so much respect from her teammates just from her talent alone."

That talent has led Richards to two straight America East Player of the Year awards after a Rookie of the Year award her freshman year. Richards has come a long way from playing netball in her home, Jamaica. In fact, she didn't even play basketball at all until she came to America for high school.

"She's developed so much more when she got here," said teammate Imani Tate. "Everything that she does now as a basketball player is completely different since her freshman year or even before that."

"She can lead with her actions and now with her voice, that's big," Coughlin said.

Richards has rarely been stopped in her career, and that job falls to scout players in practice. Since few coaches have the answer on how to stop her, it begs the question, could Richards guard herself if given the opportunity?

"That's a good question. I really don't even know how I could guard myself. I don't really think I could, unless I really wanted to guard myself. I think it would be really hard to guard myself," Richards said.

The first test for UAlbany will be on Sunday, Nov. 15, against Pepperdine at SEFCU Arena at 1

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

## High hopes return as new season approaches

By SHANE MARSHALL

If Peter Hooley has a limited shot range, he doesn't know it. Either that or University at Albany men's basketball coach Will Brown hasn't addressed it.

Whether the fifth-year senior guard has "Jimmer-range" is another story.

"The [shot] in the Oklahoma game was pretty deep," Hooley said. "Let me test that theory and get back to you, we'll figure it out."

One thing Hooley has figured out is how to hit the big shot when UAlbany needs it. After all, he hit the game-winning 3-pointer with 1.6 seconds left, the Great Danes' only triple, to knock off Stony Brook 51-50 in the America East Tournament to send UAlbany to the NCAA Tournament for the third-straight season.

Then there was the first-half shot against Oklahoma to bring the Danes within two of the Sooners with 8:56 until halftime. UAlbany would lose 69-60, but Hooley provided a lot of energy all season.

"When our backs are against the wall we can all bond together," Hooley said. "The strongest part about UAlbany basketball is we're a family together. There's going to be times when our backs are against the wall and we've got to make sure we come together."

Now the page has been turned. It's a new chapter for



Aaron Cheris/Albany Student Press

Coach Will Brown's team will face their biggest challenge in their opening game, on the road against the nation's top team, Kentucky.

Hooley and Co., and it's not an easier one by any means. They open with No. 1-ranked Kentucky on Nov. 13.

"I'm always more confident playing the higher level teams later in the year," Brown said. "I think that our teams, especially recently, have really gotten better as the year has gone on."

UAlbany returns four starters from last season with Sam Rowley being the lone loss from last year's roster. Rowley was an all-conference first-teamer and led the Great Danes in scoring.

Returning with Hooley on the perimeter are Evan Singletary and Ray Sanders. Both transferred to UAlbany from junior colleges last season and played crucial minutes for the Great Danes en route to the Big Dance.

Sanders was recently named a captain along with Hooley and senior walk-on Reece Williams.

In the frontcourt, Richard Peters, Greig Stire and Mike Rowley all return from last year's team. The one called upon to fill the middle will be based on production.

"We just need to get some offensive production on a nightly basis," Brown said of his big men. "Those guys can all defend, rebound and help us win, they just have to contribute offensively."

The Great Danes added depth this season with junior college transfers and freshmen recruits.

Travis Charles, a 6-foot-6 junior forward from Brooklyn, has shown the most talent on the offensive end. Charles transferred from Howard College.

Freshmen Kyle McKinley and Joe Cremo could provide solid minutes for UAlbany.

McKinley is a 6-foot-10 forward from Stillwater, Minn. Guard Reece Williams says he's the biggest guy on the team since John Puk graduated in 2011. Cremo is a 6-foot-4 guard from nearby Scotia, who is regarded by teammates as a gym rat.

Both have helped add depth to a UAlbany roster that has added size for the upcoming season.

"I do think there is more talent and more depth on this



Brandon Phillips/ Albany Student Press

Senior Peter Hooley is beginning his final UAlbany season after last year's heroics.

team than there was a year ago," Brown said. "But, you can only play five guys at a time. I do think we're loaded on the perimeter, and we have a bunch of big bodies up front. It all comes down to production."

Brown says the Great Danes will have to be strong in transition defense, limit turnovers, and force the Wildcats to be a jump-shooting team in order to leave Lexington with a win in the season opener. It's a matchup that is bringing a lot of motivation to UAlbany.

"I've been thinking about Kentucky since I found out we were playing them in the summer," Williams said. "I remind the guys when we do drills, I might say 'Isaiah Briscoe' who is one of the guys who may start, or play a lot of minutes against us."

Along with Williams, Hooley has the chance to become one of the first players in UAlbany history to make the NCAA Tournament four times.

"This is it for him," Brown said. "His last go around. I want to make sure three is not good enough for him. Complacency kills and we can't afford to become complacent. The minute we do, that's when we're going to struggle."