

STUDENT ASSOCIATION

HATE GROUP CONDEMNED



PHILLIP DOWNES / ASP

A student tears down a poster from the group Identity Evropa, which has been labeled a hate group by the Southern Poverty Law Center.

By JANE LEONHARDT & PHILLIP DOWNES

University at Albany's Student Association passed a resolution Wednesday formally denouncing the white nationalist group Identity Evropa after at least 25 unapproved posters and stickers from the group were found across campus.

On Sept. 15, students reported seeing several posters from the neo-Nazi group hanging on the Academic Podium and on Western Avenue.

One sign had a message reading,

"FREEDOM OF SPEECH? NOT IN NEW YORK," alongside an image of New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo.

Another showed a young blonde-haired, blue-eyed girl holding an American flag with the caption, "Thank you Customs and Immigration enforcement."

The posters were not approved by the university.

Identity Evropa, the organization responsible for the postings, often target college campuses to spread its message.

The group has been identified as a hate group by the Southern Poverty Law Center

and the Anti-Defamation League.

Their following is small, consisting of only about 300 members nationally, but large enough to be actively involved during the riots in Charlottesville, NC last August.

The posters sparked unrest among students and were removed not long after first popping up by students such as Jamus Socker, a member of the UAlbany College Democrats.

"I felt shocked, shocked that this group would be bold enough to post its propaganda on our campus," Socker said, "I knew what the group stood for prior to this whole

thing, so I just felt incredibly angry."

On Wednesday, SA passed a resolution denouncing the postings and the group responsible and called on university administration to do the same.

Senators-at-Large Alline Alvarez and Alexia Holden drafted the proposal which had 11 co-sponsors.

The resolution passed unanimously.

"We want that group to get the message that they're not invited here," Holden said.

It is unknown whether the posters were placed by a student or an outside entity, however, the senators worry this is an

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POLICY

University Issues New Tailgating Policies

By PHILLIP DOWNES

The University at Albany recently took action to reform its tailgating policies for football games.

According to the university, the new regulations are oriented to, "improve the fan experience while also focusing on the safety and well-being of our campus community and guests."

Problems with tailgating are nothing new.

In May, the Albany Student Press highlighted several concerns pertaining to raucous crowds damaging vehicles during homecoming last October.

The university paid two claims "totaling less than \$2,500," according to Jordan Carleo-Evangelist, director of media & community relations for the university, as a result of students sitting on vehicles.

"Being completely surrounded by drunk and high young individuals was a situation that could have been avoided if proper security was put in place," wrote one person who attended the event in a letter to UAlbany president Havidan Rodriguez.

Last year, Rodriguez assembled a team to review the events in the Dutch Quad parking lot, where much of the tailgating before games takes place.

Several notable adjustments have been

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JOE HOFFMAN / ASP

A board with the new tailgating rules hangs in the Dutch Quad parking lot.

BYLAWS

Bylaw Changes Now Null

By CHAD ARNOLD

The Student Association has work to do. Rather, re-do.

That's because the organization's failure to display the most current version of its bylaws on its website has nullified any changes made to them.

A total of 11 revisions have been made since the bylaws were last updated on the site in February 2018.

The most notable adjustment: the organization's check on conference line spending.

Approved by the SA senate in March, the bylaw requires any member of SA attending

a conference to gain a two-week prior approval from the senate before departing.

The change came after SA leadership attended a diversity conference in New Orleans during Mardi Gras, spending \$500 on Uber rides to and from their hotel room in French Quarter.

The trip was lambasted as a "waste of money" by Anna Agnes, a former SA senator who sponsored the highly contested legislation, which was initially vetoed by former SA president Jerlisa Fontaine.

The senate voted to override the veto several weeks later, but - in order to comply with its own bylaws - must now pass the

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ELECTION

Campus Push for Voter Registration

By PHILLIP DOWNES

A coalition of various offices, student leaders and organizations across the University at Albany are aiming to bolster voter registration ahead of the Nov. 6 mid-term elections.

UAlbany is a diverse campus with a broad spectrum of ideologies and values.

According to official demographics for this semester, there are 13,598 undergraduate students on campus. Nineteen percent of the undergraduate population is Black or African American and 17.5 percent is

Hispanic or Latino.

"Currently our country is in an interesting state, so I want to make sure that by the time the elections come around, I can have my say and hopefully make a difference," said Julia Wilkeyson, a political science major, was passionate about her motivations as a voter.

The UAlbany College Republicans is a political organization on the university's campus that allows students to be active as republicans and meet others, according to Alexander O'Leary, the group's president.

O'Leary explained that the group

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HATE GROUP

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attempt by the hate group to gain more followers.

Both Sen. Alvarez and Sen. Holden hope to create an open conversation between SA and the student body regarding Identity Evropa.

“Students need to know what’s going

on,” Alvarez said.

UAlbany is a diverse campus with 48.2 percent of the 13,598 undergraduates enrolled being non-white students, according to an official university report.

A total of 5.2 percent of the undergraduate population falls under the classification

of international students and UAlbany maintains a position supporting DACA, with a notable population of “dreamers” enrolled.

“We are committed to fostering a climate that celebrates our individual differences and in which everyone is welcome and feels

welcome, University President Havidán Rodríguez said. “We will accept nothing less.”

Nicholas Sherman contributed reporting for this article

NULLIFIED

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controversial bill, and 10 others, all over again.

Here’s what you need to know.

The Bylaw

SA’s senate chair is tasked with updating, archiving and ensuring the most updated version of the body’s governing rules is displayed on organization’s website.

Failure to do so within one calendar week of any changes to the law, something SA has cited in the legislative and executive actions towards the affected legislation(s) being nullified,” according to the transparency policy-making directives portion of the bylaws.

A provision for “mitigating circumstance” can be found within the law, something SA has cited in the past as reason for its failure to upload current documents pertaining to the organization’s happenings.

Though the site has had its fair

share of technical difficulties, SA has had the ability to upload relevant documents to the site since early last semester.

In March, Joel Duran, SA’s former director of Information Technology, told the Albany Student Press he had the ability to upload information and documents to the site, and he was just waiting on then senate chair Jarrett Altilio to send such documents to him.

“Yeah, that’s something I just haven’t sent over to him,” Altilio said at the time regarding senate voting records, which are also required to be displayed on the SA website, according to the bylaws.

Whether Altilio failed to send an updated version of the bylaws to the IT department is not clear.

The bylaw, however, is. Failure to display the bylaws on the site puts the chair in direct violations of those same laws.

What’s Next?

SA has a choice: attempt to pass the 11 pieces of legislation again or move on entirely.

The prospect of re-doing nearly three months of work does not sit well with Brandon Holdridge, SA’s current senate chair.

Last year, Holdridge served as chairman of the Rules Committee and personally oversaw the now nullified revisions.

In May, he ran for his current position on a platform of adhering to the bylaws. Now Holdridge is hoping to find a way to “overrule the bylaw” to salvage last year’s work.

“I don’t think it’s right that everybody’s hard work and time and countless hours spent past midnight doing all of this should be thrown away because Jarrett [Altilio] didn’t do his job,” he said.

Holdridge plans to bring the issue before SA’s senate.

If no loophole can be found, SA must debate and vote on all

legislation pertaining to its bylaw revisions all over again.

“It’s certainly unfortunate that this bylaw has been overlooked in the years previous,” said Nicholas Pepe, SA vice president. “It was a mistake on the behalf of the Student Association, now the Student Association has to make up for that mistake.”

The Website

SA’s failure to update its website has plagued the organization for several years.

Senate voting and attendance records have not been displayed on the site within the required 48 hour period for an untold number of years. Current agenda and minutes are also nowhere to be found as of writing.

The most recent legislative agenda with working links dates back to March 2016.

Questions regarding transparency have surrounded SA, which

is funded by the \$110 per semester student activity fee, as a result.

SA’s department of Information Technology is currently in the process of updating dead links, outdated code and ensuring everything on the site is uniform, according to Royce Lobban, the department’s current director.

“As of right now, I would give it about a month from now for the website to start having relevant information on there,” said Lobban, who explained it’s just a matter of referencing relevant documents and putting it on the site’s server.

Lobban also hopes to roll out a new mobile app where students can reference all relevant SA documents by next semester.

Plans to digitize past documents and display them on SA’s website are also in the works

“We’re students first, so everything’s not going to be on a business time scale, but it will still get done at an orderly time.” Lobban said.

TURNOUT

Continued from Page 1.

discussed election information and deadlines at their meetings, where he has stressed the importance of voting to both members and non-members.

The UAlbany Democrats is another campus group with a similar objective, focused on getting its members opportunities, while allowing students to register through Turbo Vote on National Voter Registration Day and helping to obtain absentee ballots.

The upcoming election is seen as a unifying opportunity to Mirren Galway, president of the UAlbany Democrats, who has made voter registration a top priority for the organization.

“I think people feel more connected to their representatives and feel the need to do something this year,” Galway said.

The two groups share a key belief despite their conflicting ideologies: everyone should be encouraged to vote in elections.

O’Leary and Galway agree that, “exercising your constitutional right to vote is the most important civil action a citizen can do.”

These two groups have joined with the SA Civil Action Department and other university offices to promote, “voter registration, education, and engagement,” as UAlbany Votes Ambassadors.

The coalition is sponsored by the UAlbany Votes team and the Center for Leadership and Service.

This also includes the “The Voter Registration Challenge,” which challenges those groups to get the most voters registered through Turbo Vote. Turbo Vote is an on-

line platform that simplifies the registration and voting process for voters for individuals like the busy, preoccupied college student.

Joe Vesic, a freshman who had already pre-registered to vote, was excited about the university-sponsored initiative. “This is one of the best things to do for the topic of elections.”

Vesic expressed urgency for his classmates to vote, arguing that electing our public officials is, “the most essential right,” as a citizen. Vesic also noted that many of his fellow college students nationally aren’t very motivated to vote.

Hayley Yurowitz is a freshman student who has not registered yet but would be open to it if the process to obtain an absentee ballot was easier. This is a common concern among out-of-state students, and

she also expressed interest in meeting with a student group to actually go forward with the idea.

Each academic department, residence quad and student group involved expressed excitement about this program, which ends on October 12th, the voter registration deadline. And as Mirren Galway and Alexander O’Leary both provided, “the time to register is now.”



SA SENATE

SA Senate Elects Sevor as Vice-Chair



CHAD ARNOLD / ASP

SA senate elected Max Sevor, left, as senate vice-chair last Wednesday. Sevor ran against close friend Cassandra Jones, right.

By NICHOLAS SHERMAN

The Student Association senate elected Max Sevor as its vice chair Wednesday night following a lengthy debate.

Sevor ran against close friend Cassandra Jones, who he had supported in her run for senate chair against Brandon Holdridge back in May.

The vice chair is the second highest position in SA's senate and is tasked with coordinating the administrative duties of the senate, according to the organization's constitution.

If the senate chair is absent, steps down, or steps down, the vice chair is tasked with filling the role.

The pair joined the SA last year, representing State Quad where they sponsored the Protect Our Students from Asbestos Act, which called on the university to be more transparent in its dealing with asbestos-containing material found throughout various living areas.

"We had an agreement that our professional lives and our personal lives were two separate things," Sevor said following the election.

The two were seen hugging throughout the debate. "I adore him," Jones said after the results were tallied. "I

know he will do a great job."

To win this seat, a two-thirds majority vote was needed. Sevor received 29 of the 40 possible votes, two more than he needed.

Jones received the remaining 11.

Sevor, who served as the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee last year, is a Residential Assistant on State Quad and a member of the Alpha Phi Omega fraternity, a community service based fraternity.

His platform consisted of three points: listening, developing, and building a community within SA.

"If I can be the catalyst that will make you guys better listeners here in the senate, I really want to foster you to do that," Sevor told fellow senators. "I want you to listen, but I want to also listen to you."

Jones, who was appointed chair of the Housing Task Force following her work on the asbestos abatement bill last year, was the first freshman to be appointed to the Board of Finance and served as the junior ranking member of Constituent Relations last year.

Much of her platform mirrored that of Sevor's, but emphasized her attention and dedication to SA.

"My commitment to SA is my first priority behind my own health and my academics and I hope that you guys see that I am here to help you," Jones said.

Both candidates highlighted the negative tensions between the senate and executive branch, along with the organization's failure to follow its bylaws last year.

"I'll even throw a pizza party to make things work," said Sevor, referring to a possible bonding idea between the two branches.

Following a series of questions from the senate, both candidates were asked to leave the room to allow senators to further debate and vote.

Ultimately, the senate choose Sevor.

"I believe that Max will thrive in this position," said Brandon Holdridge, senate chair. "I believe we will work together beautifully."

The night ended with the newly elected vice chair calling attendance for the first time.

"I'm feeling great," Sevor said after the election. "I'm feeling very accomplished."

TAILGATING

Continued from Page 1.

made to the policy since then, including the time frame when tailgating is authorized.

Tailgating hours have now been reduced from six hours prior to kickoff to four and must now cease 15 minutes before kickoff. The parking lots must also be cleared 90 minutes after the game.

Significant changes were also made to etiquette and procedures.

Amplified music from vehicles is now prohibited, and the university has now reserved the right to limit tailgating to ticket-holders, those who paid for parking, and UAlbany students with student

IDs.

Large groups of tailgaters must now reserve space through the Athletic Tickets office in advance, but the university clarifies that it welcomes big crowds and wants them to have, "the best experience possible."

The university also cited a motive to respect neighbors adjacent to the Dutch Quad and SEFCU Arena parking lots.

Carleo-Evangelist said the change was influenced by "significant input" from the departments of Athletics, Student Affairs, Facilities, the University Police Department, and the Alumni

Association, according to Carleo-Evangelist.

Many fans view tailgating as a tradition that brightens the spirits of the home crowd. Some students are undecided whether the shift from 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. has negatively affected the event.

According to the university, fans have, "generally been understanding," about the changes.

Michael DeRenzo, who attended two of the Great Danes' home football games, was very enthusiastic about student attitude during the games.

"There did seem to be a lot of school spirit represented by stu-

dents, even before the game in the tailgating," he said.

Still, many students aren't convinced.

"The thing is, we don't truly know if the popularity of homecoming tailgaters is among actual students or simply alumni," said Gabe Flaten, a UAlbany student.

Students have also indicated a stronger presence of UPD officers and security personnel in tailgating areas.

The university says this is a result of the new policy, which allows them to allocate the "right resources" to the right places.

Focus is now on the UAlbany

homecoming game on Oct. 20.

The Great Danes' homecoming typically brings the largest tailgating crowd of the season, and space for tailgating may be limited.

According to the policy, the university will segment the Dutch Quad parking lot to let non-tailgaters "get in and out of the lots in a timely way."

As the season progresses, the true impact of these changes will become more prevalent, and the university hopes for a positive outcome.

CRIME BLOTTER

DRUG COMPLAINT

9/27/2018
Zenger Hall
Assisted subjects in a domestic dispute.

DOMESTIC INCIDENT

9/27/2018
Campus Center
Assisted subjects in a domestic dispute.

ASSIST RES LIFE

9/27/2018
Livingston Tower
Assisted Residential Life.

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF MARIHUANA

9/26/2018
Roadways-Washington Avenue
Report of a male student in possession of marihuana.

FALSELY REPORTING A CRIME/CATASTROPHE/

EMERGENCY-3RD

9/26/2018
Podium-Campus Center
No emergency found.

CRIM POSS CONTRL SUBST

9/26/2018
State Quad-Eastman Tower
Report of students in possession of marihuana and a controlled substance. Referrals were made for all.

CONCEAL/ALTER/DESTROY PHYS EVI

9/25/2018
Colonial Quad-CQ Grounds
Report of a male student in possession of marihuana. A referral was made.

PETIT LARCENY

9/25/2018
State Quad-Eastman Tower
Report of a stolen bicycle.

Crim Poss Contrl Subst

9/24/2018
Podium - Mail Center
Report of a male student in possession of a controlled substance. A referral was made.

OPERATING MOTOR VEHICLE IMPAIRED BY DRUGS 1ST OFFENSE

9/24/2018
Roadways-Univ Dr East
Report of a male subject driving under the influence of a controlled substance. An arrest was made.

PETIT LARCENY

9/24/2018
Podium-Arts & Sciences
Report of stolen property.

CRISIS INTERVENTION

9/23/2018
Paine Hall

Report of a male student harming himself. Transported to hospital by 5 Quad.

FIRE ALARM

9/23/2018
Tuscarora Hall
Caused by cooking

AGGRAVATED DWI:PER SE-BAC .18 OR MORE-NO PRIORS

9/22/2018
Roadways-Univ Dr West
Report of a female subject driving while intoxicated. An arrest was made and vehicle was towed.

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF MARIHUANA

9/22/2018
Indian Quad-Oneida Hall
Report of a female student in possession of marihuana. A referral was made.

Burglary - 3rd Degree

9/21/2018
Downtown Campus-Draper Hall
Report of stolen property.

Grand Larceny 4 Credit Card

9/21/2018
Colonial Quad - Livingston Tower
Report of stolen credit card

FIRE ALARM

9/21/2018
Tuscarora Hall
Caused by burnt hair.

SOCIAL NORMS

No Norms Represented in ‘Social Norms Campaign’

By MATTHEW MIRRO

One hundred percent of students at the University at Albany have seen the colorful posters riddled throughout campus. They’re taped to pillars, tagged to doors and hung over urinals. You can’t possibly miss them. UAlbany’s “Did You Know? Social Norms Campaign” are everywhere, and I mean everywhere, presenting messages like “64 Percent Choose Not to Use Marijuana”. Every single cardstock sheet stamped with the mug of Damien saying “Great Danes Make Great Choices”.

They’re almost like crop circles, leaving students asking where they came from, why they’re here and what exactly are they trying to tell us. Very few of us, if any, actually buy into these statistics. In fact, I know that they’re often the butt of a

joke amongst my friends and I, and I would bet good money we’re not alone on that one.

UAlbany’s website says the campaign is “designed to correct misperceptions about UAlbany students by providing members of the University community with accurate information about UAlbany students in the form of messages that are taken from annual student health surveys”. This seems to indicate that the Social Norms campaign was conceived as a direct response to UAlbany’s one-time reputation as a party school.

The poster itself claims that the survey was conducted by Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS), who anonymously polled 1,041 randomly selected UAlbany students. If this is accurate, that would mean these posters meant to demonstrate the

good choices of students are based off of less than six percent of Albany’s near 18 thousand strong



MIRRO

population. This is obviously an insufficient sample size to present as being indicative of the student body as a whole, yet they continue to be used for just that.

Furthermore, these posters often leave more questions than answers. I’ve taken the CAPS survey before and seeing the questions asked does help get an idea of where these claims are coming from. A poster claiming “75 Percent Don’t Let Alcohol Interfere With Having Safer Sex” seems to be based on a CAPS question asking directly “Do you let alcohol interfere with having safe sex?” That’s it; no parameters, no specifications, no place to clarify what you mean. So everyone who answers “no” gets grouped into that 75 percent, regardless of any variation most likely present.

That’s not to say these surveys don’t have any value. If analyzed correctly, surveys like these can be helpful indicators of medical and sociological trends for college students. But with such a limited sample size, UAlbany’s presenting of this campaign as being representative of campus life as a whole is both inaccurate and irresponsible. I understand the school wanting to better represent their focus and I never thought its reputation as a party school did justice to its academic successes. But a campaign like this does more to serve as a running joke than it does to serve the interests of the campus or the students.

As Mindful, have been slow. As a result, across campus, the overall Resident Dining food reputation has been slow to improve.

Wanna earn some extra dough?

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The Times Union packaging department is looking for qualified part-time employees to work day or evening shifts. This is the perfect job for a college student looking to work one or more four- to seven-hour shifts each week to make some extra money. Candidates must be able to stand throughout the shift to lift and load stacks of inserts into packaging machine feeders. Exposure to some paper dust and machine noise is expected. Ideal candidates possess a high school diploma or GED, have reliable transportation and are able to read and follow written and verbal instructions. These are part-time union positions of up to 28 hours per week. Pay starts at \$13.75 per hour and progresses up to \$18.50 per hour with training and experience. Benefits include health insurance, paid vacation and a 401K plan. You must list your job history in your application, or attach a resume, in order to be considered.

The link to apply is: <https://hearst.referrals.selectminds.com/hearst-capital-region/jobs/maile-traine-2513>



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*Students on a meal plan have Discount Dollars. For information about obtaining a student meal plan or the F/S Dining Plan, go to UALBANYDINING.COM.



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The Albany Student Press is published Tuesdays from September through May by the Albany Student Press Corporation, an independent, not-for-profit organization. Advertisements, as well as letter and column content, do not necessarily reflect the opinion of ASP staff. All unsigned editorials

are written with the approval of the editorial board. The ASP is a registered trademark of the Albany Student Press Corporation which has exclusive rights to any materials herein.

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SUPREME COURT

Kavanaugh Should Step Down from His Nomination

By **RAYMOND E STRAWN III**

Judge Brett Kavanaugh's nomination to the United States Supreme Court has been an embarrassing circus. It appears Kavanaugh's personal background was not thoroughly investigated. President Donald Trump should remove Kavanaugh's appointment into the U.S. Supreme Court, but the President has shown no concerns over these troubling allegations. Because of this, Kavanaugh should step down from his nomination.

Dr. Christine Blasey Ford was the first to come forward with allegations against Kavanaugh, claiming he sexually assaulted her during a high school party in 1982, according to CNN. A second woman, Deborah Ramirez then told the New Yorker that Kavanaugh exposed himself, thrust his penis in her face, and forced her to touch it without her consent at Yale University, according to the Washington Post. A third, Julie Swetnick claims Kavanaugh was present at a party where she was drugged and gang-raped but did not identify her attacker, according to CNN. According to the Washington Post, Julie Swetnick stated that between 1981-1983, she observed Kavanaugh at parties where women were gang-raped. Kavanaugh has also been accused of assaulting a woman he was dating in 1998 and assaulting a woman in Rhode Island in 1985, according to CNN.

These are disturbing allegations. If true, they show a continuous behavior of disrespect towards women. A man committing criminal acts that should place him behind bars, not behind the bench. Of course, Kavanaugh has denied these allegations. In fact, he has gone as far as saying he was a virgin through high school and many years during college in a Fox News interview. Time Magazine provides a full transcript of the interview. Fox News also posted the interview on YouTube if you'd prefer to watch it.

During last Thursday's hearing, Dr. Ford's testimony was convincing. The New Yorker stated, "the nation might be unable to deny her credibility." She answered any doubters about incorrectly identifying her attacker by replying, "100 percent." The New York Times stated Dr. Ford, "maintained her composure throughout the hearing."

"When Kavanaugh's turn came up, he did not seem ready," according to The New Yorker. "He made a show of being unprepared." Even during questioning about Kavanaugh's drinking habits, if he has ever been blackout drunk, Kavanaugh refused to answer the question by Sen. Amy Klobuchar. Instead, Kavanaugh asked her, "Have you?" The New York Times wrote, "Kavanaugh mounted a defiant and tearful defense" and described Kavanaugh as "aggressive." Overall, the hearing did not change my stance on Kavanaugh.

The American Bar Association urged for an FBI investigation into the allegations against Kavanaugh, as reported by CBS News. The ABA was quoted, "Each appointment to our nation's highest court (as well as others) is simply too important to rush to a vote." I agree with the ABA. These allegations are too horrendous to ignore and rushing a vote is reckless. That is probably why President Trump ordered the FBI to continue looking into Kavanaugh's background after the hearings, according to CNN. Hopefully, the FBI can seek out some of the truth. I still believe Kavanaugh should step down from his nomination.

I believe Kavanaugh is continuing with his appointment because he is hopeful his friends will support him, and it will be difficult finding evidence because of how long ago these allegations were. But if the FBI does a thorough investigation, which I hope it does, I believe these allegations will be shown to be accurate. Kavanaugh is better off stepping down now and end this embarrassing circus.



STRAWN

DINING

Resident Dining Halls Still Have a Bad Reputation on Campus

By **FATIMA SAYED**

As students adjust to life on campus, many turn to retail and resident dining areas to provide their meals and to offer a space where students can socialize until their next activity begins. Amid mixed feelings across the University at Albany about the quality, variety, and healthiness of the food offered on campus, I investigated the satisfaction level of some students who eat at the Campus Center and the residential dining halls, to hear their thoughts.

Out of 13 students I interviewed, ranging from freshman to seniors, and from off-campus to residents, all of them said they preferred the Campus Center dining to the residential dining. When asked to describe how they felt about the food that was being served at the Campus Center, positive words were evoked, most common were sentiments of, "more variety" and "better overall quality".

"There are definitely more options and variety available, and I do not have to worry about the option to eat unhealthy when I'm there," said Mackenzie

Mekeel, a freshman resident and criminal justice major from Rochester, NY, of the Campus Center food. "Even if the retail dining is more expensive and has smaller portions compared to residential, I am more satisfied with the overall quality of food at CC."

In contrast, when asked to describe how students felt about the food being served at the Residential Dining Halls, the word choice was more negative, common opinions including, "less variety" and "more unhealthy choices available".

"I have noticed that out of all the Residential Dining Halls, Indian provides the healthiest food year after year," said Emily Zimmerman, who is a senior communications major and an off-campus student also from Rochester, NY. "However, even after all the efforts I have seen throughout my four years at UAlbany, the increase in residential food quality has still been minimal."

I sat down at the Indian Quad Dining Hall on Thursday with Sodexo General Manager Rick Jones, to better understand how the university is cycling the food

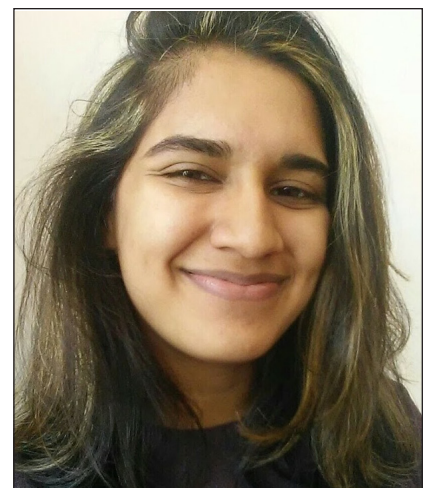
options that are provided at the Halls using the 5-Week Cycle Menu.

"Certain meals will always be in the dining halls, other open meal options will be switched up from lunch to dinner. You will not see the same lunch for 5 weeks, instead you may see lunch repeated as dinner after some time has passed," said Jones.

Jones emphasizes the tradition of keeping staple foods such as hamburgers and fries in the dining halls but also trying to switch up the times when they are served. To understand what the university is currently implementing towards healthy eating, I spoke with Campus Dietician Donna Duffy who introduced me to the Mindful program by Sodexo. Each station at Indian and State has at least one Mindful option where students, using the BITE app or looking at a framed menu at each restaurant, can visibly see which meals meet the USDA guidelines for "Healthy Americans". In August 2018, Duffy also brought in professional chefs to

train the dining hall staff how to reduce the cholesterol content in foods and maintain appropriate serving sizes.

Although the campus auxiliary services are actively trying to improve the quality of their food, the development of better communication between the students and the staff about the new programs implemented such as Mindful, have been slow. As a result, across campus, the overall Resident Dining food reputation has been slow to improve.



SAYED



JOE HOFFMAN / ASP

A campus center worker puts the finishing touches on a student's gyro at Niko's Cafe.

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ALBANY BOOK FESTIVAL

Writers Institute Hosts Inaugural Book Festival



DALIA YAN / ASP

Attendees purchase books in the Campus Center West Addition while attending to inaugural Albany Book Festival, hosted by the New York State Writers Institute on Sept. 29.



DALIA YAN / ASP

The Writers Institute hosted the inaugural Albany Book Festival in the CC West Addition



DALIA YAN / ASP

Volunteers direct guest to the Festival's various events.

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SOCIAL MEDIA

Aint Dat Something: Behind the Popular Instagram Account Taking UAlbany by Storm

By KATE WEST

If you have been scrolling through Instagram lately, it's likely you've heard of the account that is capturing the true culture of being a University at Albany student.

Started a few years ago, the page @AintDatUA has taken social media at UAlbany, and its students, by storm. The 'UA' in the handle stands for "United Albany".

"We wanted to entertain college students as well as give them a platform where diverse groups in Albany could come together and bring ideas, art, and movements in a close-knit community," said Oscar Gomez, co-creator and runner of the popular account.

The majority of the content on the account includes hilarious photos, sometimes shocking videos, and incredibly relatable memes.

Matthew Kim, the pages other creator, notes that the account is also meant to "reveal the fun, original and crazy social

lifestyle only a student in Albany can experience."

Gomez and Kim say the account actually started in the fall of 2016 as a group project for a mass communications course. After the class had ended, the two decided to continue running the account, growing it into what it is today.

"As the account progressed we created more homegrown content, videos and pictures, that catered specifically to Albany and that stayed relevant trying to bring more value and creative culture to the community," Gomez said.

Since its birth, the page has gained over 3,800 followers and upwards of 450 posts. It offers something that every student can relate to, regardless of the circle in which you belong.

Because the two founders have since graduated from the university, they decided to bring into a third student who currently attends the college to help run the account. Jameson Stummer, who says he's a "sophomore credits-wise... but feels more

like a junior."

"There was a need for someone who was actually in the school and on the streets seeing everything go down," Stummer said.

Stummer resides in downtown Albany and notes that it sometimes can feel like it's own planet.

On the @AintDatUA account, they try to bring people together through the comedy of that.

"It's productive Debauchery," said Stummer, who is currently working on a podcast that will be featured on the account entitled "It's Always Cloudy in Albany."

His idea for the show is to have people anonymously DM their wackiest and wildest stories to talk about.

"It's not only for fun, but for people to relate to other student," Stummer said. "Maybe what you did this weekend isn't as bad as you thought it was in comparison to others."

The link to submit your stories is included on the @AintDatUA Instagram page, and the podcast will soon be available

on SoundCloud.

The runners of the account want to stress that it's not just a comical social media page, but a brand. Gomez states,

"Our vision behind the brand is what we hope to bring more to light as it continues to grow. Our vision being that we want to Create a close-knit Albany prided on diversity, creativity, and community," Gomez said.

"We have plans to bring more art, inclusiveness, and a sense of togetherness through apparel, entertainment (online and offline) as well as campaigns and content that will push for a far more decorative and cultivated Capital of New York State."

If you want to know what's happening around SUNY Albany, or simply want a taste of student culture go give @AintDatUA a follow. It's sure to impress, or at the absolute least, make you double over in laughter.



aintdatua • Follow
University at Albany, SUNY

aintdatua Honestly, why even lock it up? How many other people on campus do you think possess the ability to ride a unicycle? You are one of a kind, Unicycle Boy. Ride on ☐

Source: @AintdatUA

The popular Instagram account was started in 2016. The account posts photos, memes and videos and currently has more 3,800 followers.



CREATIVITY

Art Collective Hopes to Engage UAlbany Musicians, Poets, Comedians

By HENRY BURKERT

Podcasts crackle with the sound of poetry, laughs float up to the comic on stage, and finally, the party is packed with countless people going crazy over the new mixtape of University at Albany rap artists. This is the goal of the university's artists collective, Culture Shock and the dream of their president, Alvin McNeill.

Culture shock aims to highlight student artists of all different backgrounds and skills, from poets, to singers, and comedians, bringing them under one space to showcase their talents.

"It's not just a club, it's a brand," McNeill said.

To date, the club's big accomplishment is the Culture Shock Party, which took place in the Campus Center Ballroom at the beginning of this semester. The party had over 600 people in attendance and featured some of the university's best DJs and rappers.

"I definitely wanna do a Culture Shock Two party," said McNeill. "It'll probably happen on Halloween weekend."

Involved in the club are some of UAlbany's most talented musical artists including D.J. Tekk whose Caribbean style is closest to another UA artist, Jedo. There's also the rap artists JD, whose style resembles the tight knit, jam packed bars a New York rapper. There's also Paris whose poetic lines are reminiscent of rappers like Nas.

In addition to their massive parties, Culture Shock produces a professionally made mixtape featuring rappers or artists to showcase their unique talents. In addition, there are a number of other podcasts and videos created by Culture Shock that features these artists. There's no limit to the amount of talent either.

"You could go to another club and be a part

of the back drop there. Or you could come to Culture Shock and be a pillar in the forefront, an independent pillar," McNeill said.

The club also features creative outlets for Albany's up and coming young writers.

"I wanna bring more creative writers together. Originally that's what I made the club for," McNeill said.

Culture Shock has created Poetically, a weekly podcast series in which writers can feature their poems or short stories to a wide audience.

While comedians are also featured on the Poetically podcast, McNeill wants to expand the presence of their talent in the club and hopes to draw more from the student body, who he is positive is full of funny people.

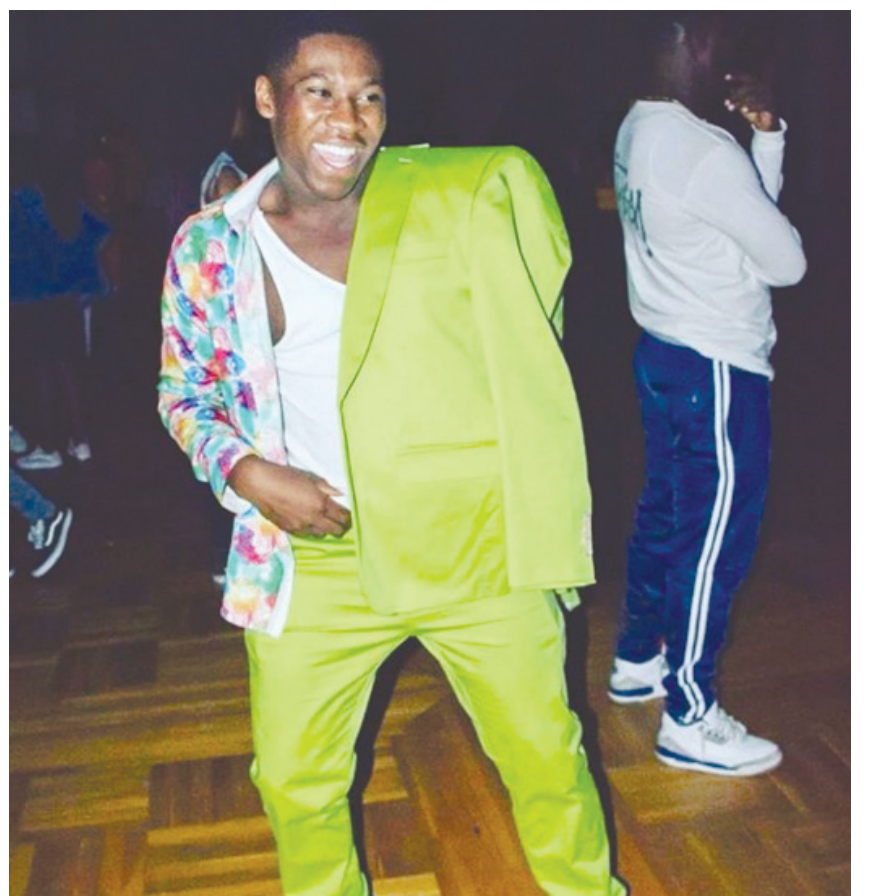
"There's so many fun people on campus, each squad has a funny person in the group. If we could just get one half or one third to join Culture Shock, it would make it much much funnier," McNeill said.

Thoughts of the Crossgates comedy club, The Funny Bone and Lucky Strike's Jupiter Hall, aren't far off his radar either, "Jupiter Hall would be a great place to host the Poetically stage show, or even the Culture Shock Two festival."

Albany, features a huge assortment of musical and artistic talent, to the point where there's always something to do.

The magnitude of the scene can be intimidating to some looking to get involved, leaving them unsure where to start and making them question if there's any room for them.

Culture Shock offers up the perfect solution. With friendly members and a number of talented artists to work with and learn from, Culture Shock a great example of students taking Albany's cultural scene by storm.



Source: Alvin McNeill

Culture Shock president Alvin McNeill at the group's first Shock Party in the Campus Center ballroom in September.

HIP-HOP

'IRIDESCENCE' Bursts with Originality and Energy

By KASSONDRA GONZALEZ

Hailing from San Marcos, Texas, up-and-coming hip-hop group stylized as BROCKHAMPTON released their much anticipated fourth album entitled "Iridescence" last week.

Following their first three albums released as independent artists last year only months apart from one another, "Iridescence" encompasses just as much heart but with a fresh twist of experimental bangers.

The group, most of whom met one another on a Kanye West fan forum, consists of a diverse bunch of rappers, vocalists, producers and more in their early to mid 20s. The amount of young creatives involved brings the official member total to 14, a number reminiscent of legendary collectives such as the Wu-Tang Clan.

In effort to redefine the term 'boyband,' BROCKHAMPTON break barriers by simply labeling themselves as such and rejecting the stereotype. Their merchandise has previously read: "All-American Boyband," as well as, "The hardest working boyband in show business."

BROCKHAMPTON's new record opens with the energetic "NEW ORLEANS" where actor and musician Jaden Smith makes a surprise feature. It smoothly transitions into a gentle second track that serves as an extension of the first, entitled "THUG LIFE" where 26-year-old Dom McLennon, arguably the most distinguished lyricist in the group, raps, "I understand what I neglect in times when I obsess / I'm learning to confess, this fate is harder to digest / The biggest threat I'm up against is who I face in my reflection / Depression still an uninvited guest, I'm always accepting."

BROCKHAMPTON seldom shy away from peeling back the layers of their identities and heaviest emotions. Softer tracks like "TONYA" and "WEIGHT" aim to normalize male vulnerability. In the latter, the band's 22-year-old leader Kevin Abstract openly raps about his experience as a gay young man growing up in Corpus Christi. "I thought I had a problem / Kept my head inside a pillow, screaming." Abstract's unabashed deep dives into his personal life deal with bold lyrical subject matter that BROCKHAMPTON is no stranger to.

"I have to exist in a homophobic space in order to make change, and that homophobic space is the hip-hop community," Abstract said in an interview with BBC Radio 1. "I don't want to be labeled as 'queer rapper,' I just want to be a rapper, but I want to be me and express that."

On the contrary, BROCKHAMPTON never fail to showcase their aggressive side through mosh-pit inducing earworms. "J'OUVERT" begins with eerie robotic noises held together by electric drums. A sinister verse by Texas-born rapper Matt Champion leads into exploding, furious vocals by rapper, singer and producer Russell Boring, primarily known as JOBA.

As though they were crafted for the sole purpose of being performed live, some of the most fiery and enticing tracks off "Iridescence" including "DISTRICT" and "VIVID" are sure to fire up crowds on their upcoming "I'll Be There" tour. Two out of three concerts in New York City next month are already sold out.

"Iridescence" is BROCKHAMPTON's first album following the departure of former member Ameer Vann. After sexual misconduct allegations made by Vann's previous partners, the band announced the decision on Twitter. "We want to sincerely apologize to the victims affected by Ameer's actions," they said in their statement. "We were lied to, and we're sorry for not speaking up sooner."

Nonetheless, the group emerged stronger than ever with a battle against Josh Groban for the #1 spot on the Billboard 200 with no single releases, proper promotion or consistent radio play, underlining "Iridescence" as a solid body of work and further proving that BROCKHAMPTON have quickly become ones to watch.



Source: QUESTION EVERYTHING, RCA 2018



Source: Wikimedia Commons

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Email lifeandent.asp@gmail.com

Come out to News Nights and meet writers on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. in Campus Center 326

FIELD HOCKEY

Danes Field Hockey Edges Out Delaware in 2-1 Victory



Source: Bill Ziskin, UAlbany Sports

By GABE FLATEN

Last weekend, the #24 ranked University at Albany Great Danes field hockey team rose to the occasion when they matched up with the 2016 NCAA national champion, the #15 Delaware Blue Hens.

In a match featuring two of the nation's toughest teams, UAlbany took the win in nail-biting fashion outlasting Delaware 2-1.

The Danes got on the board just four minutes into the game, capital-

izing off of a fast-break opportunity when freshman forward Elaina Burchell assisted the team's leading scorer, sophomore midfielder Ghislaine Beerkens for the first goal of the match, a lead that UAlbany maintained going into halftime.

Just three minutes after Delaware tied the game at one in the 48th minute, sophomore attacker Katie MacCallum set up junior midfielder Dana Bozek for a slap shot that gave the Great Danes the 2-1 advantage.

A year ago, UAlbany

traveled to Newark, Delaware to face-off against then #5 ranked Hens in a game that went down to the wire. After an intense regulation period, the Great Danes needed overtime to upset the Blue Hens 3-2, while giving the Danes one of the program's biggest wins in history.

Last Sunday's win versus Delaware affirmed that the victory a season ago was no fluke, and the sound of that is music to the ears of long-time head coach Phil Sykes, now in his 14th year with the

Danes.

"We knew it was going to be a tough game," Sykes said. "Delaware won the national title two years ago and they're loaded. They have such a good team. They're deep, talented, and have the national player of the year from a couple years ago, and they can do damage at any time. I was curious to see how our composure would be today and I thought that's what won us the game, just being calm and making good decisions and not being overwhelmed by the

situation," Sykes told ualbanysports.com after the game.

Through nine games, the Danes defense has allowed just five goals, and has not allowed more than one goal in any single contest.

Goalkeeper Melissa Nealon is saving the ball at an astounding 84 percent rate, while playing behind a defense that gives up less than four shots on goal per game.

To put that into perspective, UAlbany has scored four or more goals in four games this season.

UAlbany might not have the name recognition of top-ten ranked teams such as UNC, Duke or Princeton, but that does not mean that the ladies of Alumni Turf are not a force to be reckoned with in 2018.

PROFILE

Solabarrieta: Leading the Soccer Family

By ROB LEPELSTAT

A quick search of University at Albany men's soccer midfielder Nico Solabarrieta on Google and it won't be long until you see the comparisons between Solabarrieta, the Santiago, Chile native, and global superstar Cristiano Ronaldo.

It's no mystery where the comparisons come from - Solabarrieta, just like his Portugal idol growing up, wears No. 7. He has the same fade haircut as Ronaldo and like Juventus' biggest star, he scores both points and goals. A lot.

In a 3-2 overtime win versus Harvard on August 31, Solabarrieta set up teammate Carlos Clark on a give and go for the game winning goal in the 100th minute - the 16th assist of his career, becoming the all-time program assist leader.

What went through his mind? "We won." the 6'1" senior says with a smile. "That's all."

Two weeks later, with a 60th minute goal to end a 1-0 deficit on the road at Quinnipiac, he moved into sole possession of second place in program history in career points (51) behind former teammate Afonso Pinheiro (91), breaking a tie with Jarvin Skeet

(1999-2001).

He also ranks third on the all-time program scoring list in Division-I goals with 19.

So what are Solabarrieta's thoughts on the lofty comparison? "I don't think it's accurate at all," he says with a chuckle. "He's much much better than I am."

"It's obvious he's a player I always liked, one of the reasons I started loving this sport. Just how good he is and the hard work he gives to the game."

Over a decade ago, watching the 2006 FIFA World Cup, Solabarrieta watched the Portugal national team compete on TV. He saw a then 21 year old Ronaldo, wearing No. 17, dribbling by defenders and making them look 'like fools'.

He began to follow Ronaldo and his career. He was hooked.

"There's many things that every player should imitate. They way he works and his game style."

Clark, who Solabarrieta describes as his best friend, raves about his teammate's style. His fancy foot skills, his ability to take defenders straight on, his kind heart and a great person both on and off the field.

"He's got a long way to go [on

the Ronaldo comparison] but he's got the look to start - I guess" teammate and fellow senior Carlos Clark says with a smile, listening nearby to the conversation.

"I love this kid," Solabarrieta says. "We were roommates freshman year and sophomore year."

He pauses and then says, "Unfortunately now we spread apart. Carlos decided not to live with me on Empire so I miss the kid. We're always together though."

The senior forward also isn't afraid to push his teammates, make them the best player possible. He keeps the intensity high and even calls out someone out on the field when it's necessary - the sign of a proven leader.

Clearly it's worked, as Solabarrieta along with former Great Dane Afonso Pinheiro, the program's all-time program leader in points and goals who graduated in the spring, helped lead UAlbany to back to back America East conference championships in 2016 and 2017, the first titles in program history.

Like the young Ronaldo in the World Cup, the Great Danes star remembers coming in as a freshman and not being taken seriously, embracing that underdog mentality

- playing with something to prove.

Despite all their success, the goal for his 2018 senior season is simple, to go out on top.

"We know this year we're not the favorites but that's our motivation. We're back to back champions. We feel challenged that nobody believes us - that we can win this for the third time in a row."

Solabarrieta is very happy to bring up the diverse and international nature of the team he leads. With players from ten different countries on the squad, their camaraderie and chemistry they share is never guaranteed. They are a 'family'.

Despite many new faces with players like Pinheiro as well as defensive anchors Jeff Medina and Moosah Khanat all graduated, the Danes are confident as they begin to get into the heart of conference play.

"We want to leave this place bet-



Source: UAlbany Sports

ter than we came. Yes we won two in a row but we can't settle with that. We want to win three. This is our senior year. We won it sophomore year and junior year. Why not get out of here with another title?"

BASKETBALL

The Patroons: Minor League Mecca

New documentary highlights historic Albany basketball team

By ROB LEPELSTAT

What do Phil Jackson, George Karl, Rick Carlisle, Scott Brooks, Michael Ray Richardson and Tony Campbell all have in common?

Before their successful careers in the NBA, all of them were either on the court or the sidelines for the Albany Patroons - a professional basketball team of the Continental Basketball Association based right here in the Capital District from 1982-92 and 2005-09.

Jackson, the 11-time NBA Champion and highly regarded as the greatest NBA coach of all time, won his first championship ring when he led the Patroons to the 1984 CBA Championship. He would go on to win six more with Michael Jordan and the Chicago Bulls, as well as five with Kobe Bryant and the Los Angeles Lakers.

Brooks, current head coach of the Washington Wizards, and Carlisle, who holds the same position for the 2011 NBA Champion Dallas Mavericks, were guards on the 1987-88 CBA champion Patroons team, coached by the late Bill Musselman.

Last year, the team made its return to Albany, becoming one of the inaugural members of the North American Premier Basketball league (NAPB) and returned to the Washington Armory as their home court.

Insert Brendan Casey - the 39-year-old East Greenbush native and executive producer for the Minor League Mecca, a 90 minute documentary looking back at the rich history of the Patroons in the CBA.

His three year project with over 23 hours of raw footage finally came to life at the film's first public showing last month at the Palace Theater in Albany.

It all started with an interview with Jackson. Once that happened, he knew he had something.

"I got to learn what Phil Jackson's personality and coaching style was," Casey said. "I learned how George [Karl] approached the game... as they grow older, they have so much insight into the game and life itself."

In attendance for the showing - Patroons greats including former player/current head coach Derrick Rowland, former Patroons/ NBA player Tony Campbell and Karl, the 2013 NBA Coach of the Year and one of just nine coaches with over 1000 wins in their NBA coaching career.

Some of the other names on that 1000 wins list - Jackson, Pat Riley, Larry Brown, and Gregg Popovich.

Karl spent two seasons as the head man for the Patroons in 1988-89 and 1990-91, including leading them to a 50-6 record in 1990 while going a perfect 28-0 in home games that season. He was named CBA Coach of the year for the third time that season.

"The Albany Patroon family of basketball has a tradition of excellence," Karl said at the Minor League Mecca premiere. "It's nice to be a part of it."

Casey, a Columbia High and Villanova University grad, actually attended Patroons and Siena games as a kid.

He marvels at the decade from 1982-92 in which the documentary takes place, chronicling the untold story of the team's quick rise, championship success and ultimate downfall.

For a city that so desperately wanted a professional sports team to grab onto and support, he describes it as being the perfect match - in part with the growth of cable television during this time and the games being shown on nationally on ESPN.

Legendary ESPN reporter and journalist Bob Ley, who has been with the Worldwide Leader all 39 years from the start, is also shown in the film. He was the play by play man for many of those games covering the Patroons from the Armory in downtown Albany during their championship runs.

Current ESPN play by play voice Marc Kestecher, the network's lead voice for the NBA on ESPN Radio including the NBA Finals, also started his career as the radio voice of the Patroons.

As Casey recalls growing up - without smartphones, Netflix and UAlbany/ Siena not yet at the Division-I basketball level, on a cold February day in Albany, the Patroons were the place to be.

"Mike Tyson was there. Local celebrities were there. National celebrities too. You had to be here."

Although the showing was a one-time premiere, Casey's plan is for the documentary to be available worldwide in the coming months for anyone who wants to relive this special time in the Capital District sports history.

For more information, visit patroonsmovie.com and @[patroonsmovie](https://twitter.com/patroonsmovie) on Twitter.



Jamario Moon dunks over Damien Dantzler of the Dakota Wizards in the 2005-06 CBA minor league season. Source: Chuck Miller, Flickr

Note from the Sports Editor

Last weekend's Albany Patroons event at the Palace was another reminder as to why I started writing for the ASP in the first place as a freshman. Sports are supposed to be fun. Working and covering them certainly are too. You join a student newspaper because you hope to tell others stories - while at the same time, learning something new, getting better every time you write and meet some awesome people along the way. I can certainly say I've gotten all of these and so much more. On top of that, you might get to do some really cool things. Standing eye to eye while having a conversation with George Karl, the 2013 NBA Coach of the Year and one of the winningest NBA head coaches of all-time, along with other reporters, certainly was one of them for me. I say this to try and encourage you to join our ASP sports team. I know there are passionate journalists on this campus. I am certain there are just as many if not more passionate sports fans. But as it stands right now, there are very few of those put together - sports journalists - on our award-winning 103 year old newspaper staff. For those who have consistently written and contributed, thank you. You know who you are. One of my main goals for the year is to change THIS problem. To build and grow our staff. But I need your help. I can't do it alone. If anything I've said above resonates with you even the slightest - you know where to find us. sports.asp@gmail.com Go Danes!

-Rob Lepelstat