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FACILITIES

JONES: FLEX PARKING NOT 'FAVORABLE' FOR STUDENTS, WEIGHING OPTIONS

By JOE HOFFMAN

Faculty occupy 40 percent of the Flex Parking lot on State Quad at peak hours, and 25 percent of the 177 spaces at non-peak times according to Parking & Mass Transit Services.

"We definitely understand the Flex designation in State lot has not been favorable to the student population and we are currently taking a look at options," said Jason Jones, director of PMTS.

The recent designation of 177 parking spots on State Quad as Flex Parking for faculty has caused some grumbling among students.

William Johns, a commuter student graduating in 2019, parks on State Quad and walks through the flex lots to get to class. "The flex parking lot is never full," said Johns. "Why not give some spaces to students?"

PMTS is discussing construction of a new lot on the east side of Indian Quad. "We are also discussing revised options for State Flex but again we need the semester to move forward and the construction on the west side of campus to commence until we can make a better informed decision."

Samantha Daveys, a Colonial sophomore, reported similar problems. "I think on the



TYLER A. MCNEIL / ASP

A Flex Parking Lot sign on State Quad. In total, the lot holds 177 spots.

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RESIDENTIAL LIFE

SA State' Reps Question Asbestos Awareness

By TYLER A. MCNEIL

Newly minted Student Association State Quad senators believe residents don't know enough about asbestos despite notices provided in housing documents and dorm signage.

Cassandra Jones, a recently elected SA State Quad senator, dorm-stormed throughout Eastman Tower last month. What she

reportedly found: confusion and concern over asbestos notices.

"They didn't really feel comfortable with it," said Jones. "They weren't really happy that there was just a note on the back of the door as opposed to the university actually going out and saying 'okay listen, we are aware of it; don't worry—it's not going to hurt you.'"

"They just got stuck with a note on the door," said Max Sevor, Jones' ticket mate on State Quad.

Residential Life has posted signage on doors warning of low crystallite asbestos in dorms for roughly 20 years. It asks tenants to avoid disturbing the ceiling, a policy also mentioned in the department's housing license.

Asbestos—found in some quad ceiling insulation—is only harmful through long-term exposure. This can occur in dorms when a ceiling is disturbed. According to Residential Life, ceilings haven't been disturbed as of late.

Ceiling disturbances are often caused by heavy digs. Some

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WEB

UAlbany Website to Receive Facelift in 2018

By JEFFERY DOHERTY

The University at Albany website has been the same for roughly ten years. An old architecture that hadn't been touched since the day it went online.

Now, Joseph Brennan and a team of programmers, interns as well as school staff have a solution. An entirely updated website using the latest in open-source technology. It will be released in three stages, over the course of three semesters.

By the last phase, the UAlbany website will be changed, with new graphic designs and architecture to allow the best experience for incoming students, alumni and staff.

Brennan is the Vice President of the Office of Communications and Marketing. Along with the help of Simeon Ananou, Vice President and Chief Information Officer of Information Technology Services.

Brennan has led the drafting of a new structure for the school website to operate on. Almost every department on campus has been integrated in the implementation of the new system. This includes Student

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TYLER A. MCNEIL / ASP

Students walk outside of State Quad after the clock strikes 2 p.m. State Quad and Indian Quad are two of the campus's main freshman living spaces.

PARKING

Continued from Page 1

weekends they should open up the faculty spots to the students because there's so many empty spaces, and we're not allowed to park there."

Though Ralph Sahin, a sophomore on Dutch Quad, has not yet encountered problems finding parking space, two tickets PMTS issued him have been a thorn in his side.

During move-in week, he learned that PMTS would not issue him a parking permit because his car belonged to his stepfather, not an immediate family member.

Ralph then drove two and a half hours to his home in Staten Island, took his mother's car, and drove back to Albany.

"It would've been nice if I would've kept that first car," said Sahin. "I don't know why they made a hassle with me not being able to get that twenty-five dollar permit. Twenty-five dollars, are you kidding me?"

Parking and Mass Transit Services

have issued 1,885 such parking citations this September, down from last September's count of 2,350.

Administration continue to carry out surveys and studies focused on transit options for students, such as bus rides and carpooling.

The availability of parking is especially low from 9:45 a.m. to 3 p.m., and always toughest on Colonial and Indian Quads. Parking and Mass Transit Services reports that those two quads are at 99 percent occupancy during peak hours. State and Dutch Quads reportedly peak at 90 percent and 60 percent, respectively.

PMTS has issued 1,689 resident permits and 6,309 commuter permits so far this year. That's already more than the total number of parking spaces—7,500—but PMTS points out that not all students are on campus at once.

"Ultimately, our goal is [to] provide reasonable parking on campus and I can safely say there has never been a time when parking was not available," said Jones. "I understand it may not be in the closest location but we have never been at 100 percent capacity in student lots."

FACILITIES

Pipe Leak Prompts Maintenance and Cold Showers



JOE HOFFMAN / ASP

Water from the hot water main leaked onto pipes below for weeks before being repaired.

By JOE HOFFMAN

Last month's pipe maintenance which temporarily denied students hot water was the most recent incident of a costly, recurring problem on campus.

The total cost of the maintenance was \$13,500, according to the Facilities Management Vice President John Giarrusso.

A pinhole leak sprung in a section of high-temperature hot water main in the tunnels near the Performing Arts Center, which heating and cooling crew noticed at the end of August.

"It seems like every other year we catch one, which is not a bad track record given the amount of pipe we've got on campus," said Giarrusso.

Giarrusso estimated that the hi-temp pipe had leaked less than 20 gallons of water before being fixed by two private firms which the university contracted. The \$13,500 figure is a typical price for

these kinds of repairs.

The university hired TJ Bell Environmental to remove asbestos insulation from around the pipe segment.

Because most of the university's infrastructure pipes have not been replaced since the uptown campus was built from 1964-71, many of them are insulated with asbestos, which is now illegal to use in construction. Existing structures with asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) are not required by law to replace their installations, so the university is in compliance with the law.

Asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral fiber which is known for its high strength and heat resistance. If particles or fibers reach the lungs, it can cause serious health problems such as lung cancer.

However, asbestos-containing materials such as the university's pipe insulation only present a danger if their fibers become airborne. To ensure safety, the

university contracted TJ Bell to perform asbestos abatement, which involves controlling the release of particles for removal of the insulation. The tunnels are all safe to walk through at this time.

This time, the leak was in the welding that connected pipe segments, according to Giarrusso. He speculated that the break was due to the age and corrosion on the pipe and weld material.

"That could happen anywhere," said Giarrusso. "So what we do is we monitor pressures all the time, and... as we go through the tunnels we look at our piping systems as well."

Giarrusso said that the University had no long-term plans to update the pipes, as they do not view it as a pervasive issue.

Meanwhile, some students were displeased with the lack of hot water which the repair caused.

"A shower with cold water, and washing my face with cold water? That is the

worst," said Crystal Oyefeso, a freshman on Indian Quad. "I'm confused; I'm paying tuition for cold water?"

Other students, like Julia Estrada, don't take hot showers and thus were less inconvenienced by the shutoff.

"Personally, I found it kind of funny, and more comfortable," said Estrada, a freshman on State. Her suitemates usually take hot showers which fill her dorm with steam, but over the break they were forced to take cold or room-temperature showers.

Estrada also said that her dining hall gave them plastic silverware and paper plates to eat from; "That was a little disheartening because it's bad for the environment, but, it's not the best thing to be washing tons of dishes with clean water, either."

TJ Bell did not immediately return the ASP's calls for comment.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Munch with the Majors Brings a Bigger Crowd

By ELVIS GADTAULA

The University at Albany's Office of Student Engagement hosted its second annual Munch with the Majors event Wednesday evening in the Campus Center.

The event offers students an opportunity to discuss degree tracks and concentrations, post-graduate opportunities for majors, research, study abroad and/or internship opportunities with professors and advisers in a casual setting.

Before last year's inauguration, Munch with the Majors consisted of very small lunches with specific majors in which all sophomore intended majors were invited to meet with a few faculty members, but the turnouts were small.

However, students who attended found it transformational in that they suddenly left knowing exactly what course to take or what the possible tracks were and even learned about some internship opportunities. Thus, Dr. Linda Krzykowski, Assistant Vice Provost for Student Engagement and the organizer of Munch with the Majors, saw room for growth and improvement with the event.

"We needed to make it big," Krzykowski said. "We needed to have

all the majors come out and that's what we tried last year for the first time and it worked really well."

Krzykowski and the planning committee were given feedback that the space was too tight which resulted in having the background noise hinder ongoing conversations between professors and students.

Therefore, Munch with the Majors expanded from solely the Campus Center Ballroom in 2016, to adding the Fireside Lounge and Assembly Hall this year to accommodate the vast number of students attending the event.

"We wanted the conversations to happen," Krzykowski said. "Faculty love having those mentoring conversations with students."

K'Paw Gay, a freshman biology intended major, found attending the event enriching because he not only got to speak with professors, but interact with peers of similar interests as well.

"It was cool. A lot of people at the tables were asking different questions. I had the same questions as some people and I related to them. Others asked questions that I couldn't have even thought of so it was good," Gay said.

Despite Munch with the Majors being only in its second year, it had over 800



Source: LINDA KRZYKOWSKI

Provost James Stellar talks with a student at Munch with the Majors

students attend, nearly a 50 percent increase in student participation compared to that of inaugural event. The spike in attendance makes Krzykowski excited for how much the event will continue to grow.

"The idea that a lot of students come

out is a really powerful idea that you see all of your friends also interested in their academic success. It's great that thousands of people go to the football and basketball games but thousands also come out and talk about their classes and majors," Krzykowski said.

HURRICANE MARIA

SA President Feels Dominica Storm Aftermath



TYLER A. MCNEIL / ASP

Student Association President Jerlisa Fontaine in front of a poster which reads "Juju on that vote" with a Dominica flag.

By TYLER A. MCNEIL

What Jerlisa Fontaine described as an aura of positive energy from her Caribbean birth-nation has disappeared.

Fontaine referenced a cell phone video taken from a family friend in Dominica taken post-Hurricane Maria. In the video, a village is torn apart. Pieces of splintered wood and tossed chattels lie on the street. For her, it's not recognizable from her last visit in 2014.

"That's scary for me," she said. "To know that my family survived is great but to know that they're living in this kind of distress is scary because they weren't living like this two days ago or three days ago."

After Hurricane Maria hit Dominica on Sep. 18, Fontaine lost communication with some of her immediate family members back on the island.

She still hasn't heard back from one of her uncles.

Due to the island's limited electricity in the aftermath

of the Maria, direct relatives called her father, Desmond, to alert other family members. With her cramped class schedule and work as Student Association president, Fontaine is considered a less reliable contact to get in touch with.

It wasn't until Thursday that week which she began to hear about her family's status.

"When I tell you -- I felt like, 'Wow,'" Fontaine described hearing from her father talk about her immediate family's safety in Dominica. "I had a full tank in me and it was just like, 'Woow.'"

Fontaine, who has traveled to the island three times since moving to the Bronx early on, doesn't know when she will return. Her father, Desmond, had his plans for an October trip cut last month due to the storm.

For Dominiquais, the devastation still follows. Three weeks following the storm, over 50 people remain missing; the official death toll is 27; thousands are without

electricity or water. To counter the destruction, the United Nations released a \$31 million emergency appeal.

Dominica was one of six islands hit by Hurricane Maria: Barbuda, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Saint. Martin, and Barbuda. Some of the islands were already battered by Hurricane Irma.

Fontaine believes the wreckage has been overshadowed by more populated islands. Dominica has a population of 72,000.

"When you compare Dominica to Puerto Rico and Haiti, my scare and my fear for Dominica is that we're not a famous island," she said.

In an effort to grow support for the island, Fontaine launched a month-long SA Dominica relief drive. Along with the drive a week after the hurricane, Fontaine plans to host several Dominica relief events throughout her term.

"I'm not going to stop," the SA president said.

ASBESTOS

Continued from Page 1

students have mistaken dried paint shavings which fall from the ceiling for asbestos debris, RAs reported.

Radwana Rinta, a State Quad resident, has noticed pieces of ceiling fall down in her State Quad dorm.

"From time to time, she'll hit her head and it will fall or something, but I don't think it's that bad because she seems to be okay," said Rinta.

During a Friday interview with Residential Life, Environmental Health and Safety, and Facilities Management, John Giarrusso, associate vice president of the latter department, pitched posting a "frequently asked questions" section about asbestos on the university website.

UAlbany has pushed out asbestos information in the past. Seven years back, EH&S released an asbestos awareness guide.

With much of the university built in the 1960s and 1970s, unrenovated buildings have traces of asbestos. Most asbestos products were banned for fireproofing and insulating purposes under the 1973 Clean Air Act.

Over the years, some quads have received abatement through renovation, most recently Colonial Quad last year. Schuyler

and Beverwyck Hall on Dutch Quad are next up for large scale dorm abatement. According to Facilities Management, interior dorm renovations on State Quad have not yet been mapped out.

Fear over asbestos in housing and during abatements is often difficult to avoid, Giarrusso said. He referenced tweets by SA officials Jarrett Altilio and Anna Agnes who visited Eastman Tower last week. Agnes tweeted: "Want lung cancer or mesothelioma? Come live in the dorms at @ualbany!!!!!"

"I saw the recent tweets about it and I'm thinking, 'Oh no, here we go again,'" said Giarrusso.

The Albany Student Press received multiple claims from RAs that housing directors called for lower staff at an early September meeting on State Quad to refrain from talking about asbestos to tenants in an effort to avoid drawing panic.

Carol Perrin, director of Residential Life, last week denied such claims.

"That's not true," she said. "No, I mean, we post it on the doors. We put it in the license. It's not we're telling them not to talk about asbestos."

RAs agreed to talk under the condition of anonymity. As university employees, RAs in the past have requested to be quoted anonymously out of fear of termination from Residential Life.

"They thought it would be easier to keep it hush hush and not cause a panic instead of

trying to educate people on the situation and risking them just not listening and causing a panic," said a junior RA on State Quad.

Greater dialogue about asbestos would be more effective than signage, a senior State Quad RA said. She would rather have asbestos information featured prominently in the housing contract and told to tenants early on.

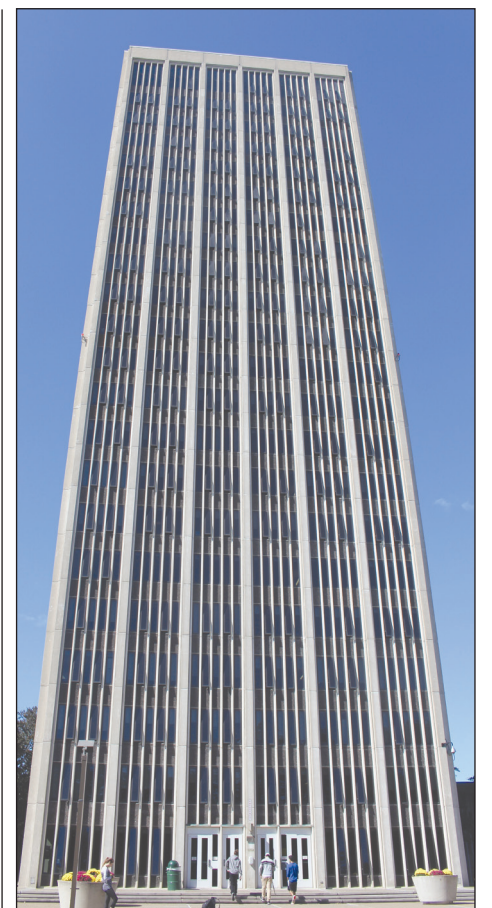
"Even if it was brought to their attention or they gave us the tools to say in our first [floor] meetings, 'Hey, this is part of the contract, you can pull it up whenever you want because you can, please read it, understand it, if you have questions you can go to the RD,'" she said.

"Instead of having this 'Oh, do we hush them when they talk about this' because then it's not like hiding it from you."

RAs are told to refer questions about asbestos to higher ups, according to Charles Rogers, associate director of Residential Life. With lack of professional knowledge about asbestos, this instruction is intended to prevent RAs from giving different mixed answers.

"Again, I don't want to put that type of pressure on an 18 or 19-year-old," said Rogers. "I don't think that's their responsibility."

Follow Tyler:
@TylerAMcNeil



TYLER A. MCNEIL / ASP

State Quad

WEB

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Affairs, the College of Arts and Sciences and Alumni Affairs.

In an interview, Brennan described using Drupal, an open-source website handler, to create an efficient website with a "create once, publish many" style of information distribution.

The new website would reduce costs from outsourcing and risks, and from

breaking federal web accessibility rules to errors and breaches.

The new system has been a year and a half in development, from its selection, testing its tools, and the training. The website will include new designs, and a new accessibility scheme meant to focus on student interests and searching patterns, not paths made from organizational charts.

There will also be new accessibility for persons with disabilities. All of this has been developed "to improve the website for the sake of the students," as Brennan said. Staff have also been trained to use

the new system once it is online.

The website will be updated in phases. 100 of the 30,000 pages account for 80 percent of all website traffic. The three release phases will emphasize this. In an overview document, three release phases were diagrammed.

Phase 1: Launching in December of 2017, most of the 100 pages of high traffic will be swapped out for the new pages. The OCM and ITS will have time to fix any bugs or non-functional pages during the winter session, the time with the lowest activity.

Phase 2: Launching in summer of 2018,

all other academic pages that hadn't been covered in Phase 1 would be changed.

This is planned for after commencement.

Phase 3: Launching in late fall of 2018, primary administration pages will be changed, these pages having the least traffic have the least need to be changed.

This year and half long process has had many hours of labor devoted to it. The web redevelopment project, as it is called, will remake what it means to interact with UAlbany online.

DEBATE

Should Sports Players Kneel to Protest During the National Anthem?

YES

By **RAYMOND E. STRAWN III**

I support kneeling during the National Anthem because it is a respectful and peaceful way to protest. Our country was built on revolting when our rights were ignored and violated from the British, and there isn't anything more American than revolting and protesting for our rights.

When I was in high school in 2002, I sat during the Pledge of Allegiance. My teacher demanded that I stand and I refused. I was protesting, and I continued to sit until my parents found out. They told me to stand because I was bringing the wrong kind of attention and only putting a bigger target on my head. In 2001, my civil rights were violated from law enforcement and I was suing. That is why my parents wanted me to stand — to not bring more attention to myself. That is why I sat — to protest over my rights being violated.

Being a father, I decided to stand during the anthem when I was with my children. I didn't want them to be exposed to any

negative attention from my actions. Back then, it was unheard of to sit during the anthem, and now, I am considering kneeling. As my children are getting older, kneeling is common now and the oppression from law enforcement continues.

In a span of several years, I had been stopped and searched by law enforcement about six times. My crime? Walking. Two years ago, I was at an event with my daughter, and a police officer was being rude to me in front of my daughter. She then ran off out of my sight and I asked the officer if I could follow her. The officer refused. Now I was illegally detained and I did not know where my daughter was. I filed a complaint to the sergeant. The sergeant verbally abused me and refused to take my complaint. Therefore, I support kneeling.

Even with my long history of bad experiences, I am not against law enforcement. Last year, I helped organized an event at my community college that created goodie bags for law enforcement. We went to the sheriff station and handed them out. We wanted our local law enforcement to know that we appreciate the difficult job they do and wanted to thank them. It was a gesture of

respect. Is it too much to ask for the same in return?

Those who are opposed to kneeling state it is disrespectful. I counter with this: is it disrespectful for police officers to continue violating civilians' rights? Is it disrespectful that police officers are not held accountable and continue to get away with their behavior? Change is badly needed. The only way anyone is going to care and listen is by peaceful protest. Many have criticized when protests were not peaceful. Kneeling during the anthem is peaceful. Isn't that the type of protesting you want?

When did taking a knee become a sign of disrespect anyways? According to Merriam-Webster dictionary, to bend a knee is also called genuflect. The other definition of genuflect is "to be humbly obedient or respectful." During medieval times, knights would take a knee in front of lords as a gesture of respect, loyalty, obedience, and to pledge allegiance. During some religious ceremonies, taking a knee is considered more respectful. When someone proposes to his

or her significant other, he or she takes a knee as a sign of respect and surrendering.

When a player is injured on the field, players from both teams take a knee as a sign of respect. On June 11, 2004 U.S. Navy Capt. James A. Symonds presented former First Lady Nancy Reagan the folded American flag from her late husband, Former U.S. President Ronald Reagan, by

taking a knee, according to the National Archives and photos taken during the event. If taking a knee is so disrespectful, why would a U.S. Navy Capt. take a knee when presenting a folded American flag from a former U.S. President to his wife?

Taking a knee is a sign of respect. Peaceful protest during a time of oppression and unrest is an American pastime. I'm sorry if some of you may feel uncomfortable when someone is protesting by taking a knee during the National Anthem. But if you are not uncomfortable enough to the point you are burning jerseys and making bans about the mistreatment towards U.S. citizens, that is the problem. And that is why we peaceful protest. That is why we sit. That is why we take a knee. You want us to stand during the anthem, then stand with us when we demand respect, change, and to be treated fairly and equally in this country.



STRAWN

NO

By **MATTHEW NOYES**

President Trump and the NFL have stirred up quite a scene over the past couple of weeks. The president's comments about firing NFL players were inappropriate because it is not the president's job to be involved with such affairs.

At the same time, the anti-American movement propagated by 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick, who, by the way, cares so much about politics that he did not vote in this past election, is a disgrace. Kaepernick stated, "I am not going to stand up to show pride in a flag for a country that oppresses black people and people of color" despite being in a country that has no legal discrimination and holds opportunity for anyone who wants to work for it.

When people kneel for the anthem, they are not considering what it actually stands for. Kneeling shows dishonor and reproach for the countless men and women who have

fought, suffered, and died so that even people as senseless as Kaepernick can disrespect the flag and the anthem. The anthem and the flag emulate what it means to be American; kneeling in protest of the anthem and flag is wrong because of what they represent.

The flag of the United States of America as well as the national anthem, The Star-Spangled Banner, are symbols that represent values. These values include those enshrined in the Bill of Rights: the idea that men and women are and should be free, as well as individualism. Regardless of whether or not someone supports a given policy, practice, or administration, the flag exceeds those things. It doesn't stand for specific laws, politics, or politicians; it is above those things. It is a symbol that stands for the liberty and freedom for people to live their own lives as they see fit. Who could oppose such a patriotic notion?

A minority of Americans thought Trump should have commented on the NFL, 35 percent to be exact, according to a poll by the CATO Institute. But at the same time, a supermajority of Americans themselves stand for the anthem. According to a poll by Reuters/Ipsos, "69 percent of Americans

say they stand in silence while the national anthem is played." Most people agree that the president should not have become involved in this issue, just as most Americans agree that kneeling in opposition is wrong — a finding reported in the Ipsos poll conducted for Reuters. In such a divisive time, it's tragic that Americans do not rally around one of the few things that we are overwhelmingly united on: the flag, the anthem, and what they stand for.

That being said, nobody has to stand. Dissent is important to society and everyone has the right to kneel even if it is considered unpatriotic. Establishing and defending that principle has cost countless lives from the time of the American Revolution to present day. However, every American should stand because of what the anthem and flag stand for. Since President Trump and the NFL exchanged verbal blows, this issue has come off as a very divisive one. However, in reality we, the American people, agree

on these three contentions: the president should not call for players to be fired, people have the right to protests even if it means dishonoring the value of liberty with the thousands who died protecting it, and that people should choose to honor the anthem and flag.

Although people have every right to kneel down or even burn the flag, it does not

mean they should. If instead people rallied around the flag and used it as a platform for their agenda, it would be more effective in impacting the public.

Patriotism is holding values above all else — the values of self-determination and freedom. Unlike nationalism that claims a nation-state's or a race's superiority, patriotism surpasses such a fallacious notion. Patriotism is the belief in freedom for all, regardless of origin, race, gender, religion and nationality. The flag and the anthem are symbols of larger ideas that benefit everyone.

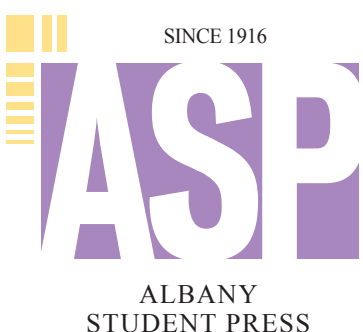
I may not agree with people dishonoring those symbols, but I am compelled to fight for their right to do so. That being said, I encourage everyone everywhere to respect these symbols and the broader message of freedom they represent.



NOYES

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or of the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

-First Amendment, U.S. Constitution



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WORLD

No Need to Fear North Korea: History Shows that Fear Leads to Suffering

By M. FRANCIS MIRRO

For decades, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, or North Korea, has been an isolated aggressor, constantly trying to shout its way to the world stage without any real substance behind its bark and no real ally behind its bite. It is a nation that was never meant to be, a product of a geopolitical pissing contest between two hubris superpowers who carved up a burning world in an attempt to rebuild it.

Korea was a unified, independent nation before being annexed by the Empire of Japan in 1910. That occupation lasted until 1945 when the Allied Powers liberated the Korean Peninsula and then bickered about how to rebuild it. The result was disastrous: Korea was divided along the 38th Parallel with Marshal Joseph Stalin's Soviet Union administering the North and Harry Truman's United States controlling the South.

The current North Korean leader, the infamous Kim Jong-un, keeps his people in the dark. North Koreans are taught that America is a warmongering enemy who divided the country during the Korean War and seeks to kill them all. No outside news is allowed in the country and the starving masses of the North are led to believe they have the highest standard of life in the world. Kim Jong-un is a dictator in every sense of the word, the latest in a line of tyrants that have a direct link to the barbarous Joseph Stalin.

What we have in Korea is a complicated situation that must be dealt with using a delicate hand. Well, we don't have a delicate hand. Instead, we have the tiny, orange, bumbling hands of a president who resembles a moderately trained circus orangutan more than a diplomat. Watching President Donald Trump discuss geopolitics is as painful and as watching a babbling toddler try to recite the work of William Shakespeare and what he's done in regards to North Korea is akin to throwing a flaming wrench at a wasp's nest and wondering why you got stung.

But the antics of Trump aside, Americans shouldn't lose much sleep over potential war with North Korea. The propaganda against the United States by Kim Jong-un exists not because the regime is secure but because they most certainly are not. As people suffer they demand reason; they demand answer. When the answer is simply "You suffer because we don't care

about you and we have all the money" you need a pretty good excuse. So, you invent a boogiemanager, a villain equal to the level of pain throughout the country. In the case of North Korea, their boogiemanager is the United States. If the people live in constant fear of America and her military, they will ignore the atrocities of their own government in exchange for their "protection" from a star spangled monster that goes bump in the night.

The boogiemanager lie only works if that villain is not an actual threat to the nation.

Kim Jong-un's greatest nightmare would be the lot of his citizens seeing how well off South Koreans are under United States tutelage. If they were to learn what it is like to actually live in a democracy why would they put up with the Kims anymore?

A real war with the United States is one that North Korea could not win in any conceivable way. North Korea's enemies are abundant and close by; their former allies, China and Russia, have condemned them for their leader's outspoken provocations towards the United States. An actual war with the United States or American-protected South Korea

would end in disaster, topple the Kim regime and possibly even reunite Korea under Southern rule. Losing power, the falling of the cult of personality to American prestige is Kim Jong-un's biggest fear. Only a foolish man fights a war he knows he cannot win and, despite the common misconception, Kim Jong-un is not a foolish man.

A solution to the North Korean issue is not easily found. Frankly, I doubt that any reunification of the Korean Peninsula is possible at this point. In the seventy-two years since the end of World War II, the two nations have become unrecognizable to one another. Korea has not been a unified state since 1905 when Japan first occupied the peninsula. Combining two cultures which have diverted so drastically would not fix the problem at hand but create new ones.

Creating a unified Korea, even under the government in Seoul, would create a Frankenstein state, a nation that is not one, but two states haphazardly sewn together. Whatever the case, North Korea is not a threat to the United States, her citizens or the American way of life. Now is the time to stand in solidarity behind the imprisoned masses who are left in squalor by a tyrannical leader. This is a situation with no clear path but there is one thing I am certain of: Americans have no need to fear for their own lives. Through that fear we lose ourselves, we lose our way. We fall for dangerous ideas. Just ask the people of North Korea.



MIRRO

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TRANSPORTATION

Uber is an Affordable Option for Students

By DANIEL RUSSELL

In case any of you are unaware, Uber is now available everywhere in New York State. Prior to its full New York introduction, I had never taken one, despite having the app and credit card set up on my phone for almost two years. Previously, on nights when I went out with my friends, we either had someone pick us up or would have to cut the night a bit early and take the last bus home. The taxi services in Albany were a last-resort option — until Uber came around.

Now, Uber has become a first priority when it comes to getting home. The first reason I say this is due to the reliability of an Uber. There's no need to hail one down in the street and fight for one with other people.

Instead, you just open up the app, put in your destination, and the driver should be there to get you in no time. It also helps that you'll always know who your driver is in advance and what other people have rated them. I've been in some cabs that have had sketchy drivers before and it was quite unnerving as I was being driven to my destination.

Second, and what I think will be most important to college students, is the cost of rides. Uber charges by mile rather than by time, so if you're stuck in traffic or your driver gets lost, you won't be charged extra for those extraneous reasons. A normal taxi from downtown to the uptown campus will normally cost you upwards of \$20 to \$25, while an Uber will cost you around \$9 to \$14, pending on how many people you have.

For a single person, that's pretty good, but when split between a group of friends, it won't amount to any more than a few bucks per person. Uber even has an option within the app to set up a sharing program between people in the car, should you choose the

split the fair right then and there. Uber is easily kinder to your wallet than regular taxis are, something that makes a big difference to many broke college students.

Third, and finally, there's the comfort factor that I briefly mentioned before, with the "sketchiness" of the drivers. I've also noticed that many Uber drivers tend to have much nicer and cleaner cars than regular taxis. Note to taxis (and everyone in general), I shouldn't feel like I need to take a shower after being in your car. It also beats taking the last bus home usually around 2:30 in the morning — where pretty much everyone is packed together to get the bus to maximum capacity. Imagine 100 sweaty, drunk college kids trying to occupy a space that only 50 or so people can fill. It's extremely uncomfortable, and should really only be done when you truly can't spend any more money. But if you're willing to spend a few extra bucks between a group of friends, I'd recommend an Uber in a heartbeat, where you have as much free space as you need, and don't need to worry about being crushed.

So what does this mean for the pre-existing taxi companies in Albany? It'll definitely lower their revenue, if not send them out of business. With all of the redeeming factors I've listed so far, taxi companies will die a slow death here in Albany. Students, likely their primary customers, are beginning to choose mobile ride-sharing services, rather than the arduous process of finding the phone number of a taxi service that will charge them more money for a ride. And the nail in the coffin? Lyft is also available throughout New York State as well. Lyft is practically the same as Uber, so taxi services in the area have two competing businesses to fear. I believe that the pre-existing taxi services in Albany will likely go out of business soon. But is that really such a bad thing?



DANIEL RUSSELL / ASP

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TELEVISION PREMIERE

ABC's 'The Good Doctor' Shines a Light on Autism

By KATHRYN DARA

ABC's new drama "The Good Doctor" had a strong series premiere last Monday with 11.8 million viewers. The series, from "House" creators David Shore and Daniel Dae Kim experienced the highest viewership of any ABC Monday night drama in 21 years.

In some ways, the show resembles many other medical dramas. There are tensions between co-workers, secret hook-ups, and life-and-death suspense. What sets it apart, of course, is that the protagonist, a brilliant young resident surgeon, is autistic.

His disability is also an advantage, giving him savant-like abilities in the field of medicine. Freddie Highmore (from "Bates Motel," "August Rush," and "Finding Neverland") delivers a wonderfully believable performance as Dr. Shaun Murphy. He immediately gains the audience's sympathies, for he is being treated as a nuisance when he is in fact an asset, and is kind, intelligent, charming, and capable.

The main concern surrounding the series was that it is difficult to "get it right" when portraying something as complex as autism. In this case, the character is high-functioning and perfectly capable of living independently. Despite his genius, Shaun is also childlike in some ways and struggles to gain the respect of his colleagues. He has difficulty communicating with others or accurately expressing his emotions.

He also finds it difficult to read the subtle emotions and social cues of others. He asks off-limit questions and blurts out taboo topics without a filter. It isn't to be cruel, but rather because he lacks the skills to control aspects of his communication skills. The first episode presented a solid opening; the scenes flash between the hospital's president convincing a board of officials to hire Shaun while Shaun himself utilizes his skills to save a young boy's life.

A heartbreaking backstory is given too—Shaun's family poorly addressed his disability as a child, which



Source: 2film.in

Actor Freddie Highmore's, above, portrayal of a young autistic doctor has impressed millions.

manifested in abuse as a teenager.

He eventually runs away with his younger brother after his father kills his pet bunny in an angry outburst. This escalates further when Shaun's younger brother is accidentally killed. This all comes into play when Shaun (now Dr. Murphy) has to make his case before the hiring board of San Jose's Saint Bonaventure Hospital.

So simply, he states that witnessing these deaths made him want to help people and that being a surgeon would mean that he could make enough money to buy his own television. This simplicity coming from the heart of such a complicated individual tugs on the heartstrings of both the audience and other characters.

Still, it is evident that Shaun will face an uphill battle in the episodes to come. He gets hired, but it is made evident that his colleagues will let him do little more than observe procedures. The next several episodes will most likely involve Shaun "proving himself" in the hospital, which should prove to be interesting to watch.

The most important question is what does this mean for autism?

This year, Netflix also tackled this issue with its new series "Atypical." Autism is on a spectrum and can present itself in a variety of ways. Some individuals are low-functioning, meaning that they are incapable of ever being independent. Others are high-functioning, like Shaun Murphy, and can in some ways lead normal lives.

Autistic individuals may be unaware of others' emotions or social cues, have limited yet intense interests, sensitivity to sound, speech issues, and limited attention spans. In addition, people with autism can have learning disabilities and social difficulties. A person with autism can have any combination of these symptoms to varying degrees from mild to extreme. The subjectivity of the syndrome is part of what makes it so difficult to portray.

Knowing someone with autism does not make any person an expert on it. That being said, in "The Good Doctor," the character of Shaun

Murphy can easily be identified as a realistically autistic person. Only time will tell if this portrayal continues to be just.

So, what will this do for the autism community as a whole? Hopefully, if the series becomes successful, it will shine a light on what autism really can be.

It is very easy to make assumptions and negative connotations just upon hearing the term, but seeing it portrayed in mainstream media may cause people to try to educate themselves on the syndrome. "The Good Doctor" will be a small step towards a more informed population and may prevent "autism" from being thrown around carelessly in conversation without really understanding what it means.

The show still has ways to go. Supporting characters and storylines still need to be explored further in future episodes. Most importantly, Shaun helps to portray autism with respect and compassion. Hopefully, this will continue through the season.

NEW MUSIC

Miley Cyrus' 'Younger Now' Brings Poignant and Reflective Record to Listeners this Fall



Source: Wikimedia Commons

Cyrus, above, has adopted a more conservative look for this era.

By KASSONDRA GONZALEZ

After two years since her last release, singer Miley Cyrus dropped her sixth studio album "Younger Now" this past Friday.

Cyrus debuted a much softer side to her than the public is used to seeing with her first single, "Malibu" and followed the summer hit with the second single that she named the album after, "Younger Now," an upbeat anthem about change and metaphorically feeling younger than she ever has before.

Other than the three songs co-written with

producer Oren Yoel and one co-written with her godmother and country music legend Dolly Parton, Cyrus wrote seven out of the 11 tracks on the record entirely on her own.

"Writing the lyrics for me solo on this record was important because I'm really trying to project what I think and feel, and I don't think that anyone can know that besides me," Cyrus said in an interview with the Recording Academy. "Lyrics are very sacred to me, and also to my fans. I want them to understand that this record is really all the truth, from me."

Perhaps the strongest of her lyrics come forth in the slower, more emotional songs on the album that give her country roots a modern twist, the acoustic heavy fifth track "Miss You So Much" among them. Here, she sings, "You can take my blood, take my bones / My heart is yours, I volunteer / But how can I miss you so much when you're right here?" Her song, "I Would Die for You," follows it with mellow yet heart-wrenching lead guitar chords where Cyrus declares to someone how far her love for them goes. "I am yours, and you are mine / I have your heart, I don't even need a ring / I'd give up all I have in exchange for who I love more than anything."

Despite her sensitive lyrics, the happy-go-lucky and carefree sound she possessed with her first two singles did not end there, and in fact, it

extended to songs like "Week Without You" and "Rainbowland" featuring Dolly Parton, where she and Parton dream of a world that exudes positivity, acceptance, and love.

Cyrus has been considerably more vocal in the recent years about this fight for what she calls a "Rainbowland," especially with the 2014 founding of her charity The Happy Hippie Foundation, a non-profit organization with emphasis on helping homeless youth and the LGBTQ community. More recently, she made a speech at the iHeartRadio Music Festival before performing her hit song "Party in the U.S.A." about not giving up in the fight for justice for all.

The relatively peaceful nature of the new Miley Cyrus record may cause one to think the singer has lost her signature edge, however she has made sure not to let that side of her fade away. Tracks like "Thinkin'" and "Love Someone" bring the spice and attitude to the album with her catchy, raspy tone and impressive vocals over thumping bass.

She sings in the latter, "I'm starting to think you have no heart / You don't even have a soul / You always give in or you try too late / All I do is give and all you do is take / I'm tired of protecting you from what you need to know."

With profound and moving lyrics, the album "Younger Now" is an eclectic mix of pop, country, and even some rock n' roll influences that are sure to please the ear and touch the heart of any listener.

In an interview with BBC Radio 1, Cyrus proclaimed her new music to be "a new way of thinking" for herself.

"I just want people to love the music," she said. "I'm really proud of it. I'm happy."

NOSTALGIC TELEVISION

‘Will & Grace’ Struggles to Find its Place 11 Years Later

By ZOE HICKS

Prior to 1998, few gay characters were depicted in mainstream entertainment, and fewer still were the leading characters on network programs. With its debut, “Will & Grace” changed history, by bridging the gap that existed between LGBT and straight audiences.

For many in the first camp, it became an icon; a major sitcom that didn’t relegate its gay characters to be sidekicks and punchlines, instead celebrating them by giving them well-rounded characterizations and plots that went beyond their sexuality.

The show succeeded for eight seasons because despite this, it didn’t alienate its straight audience, who outnumbered those who looked to it for representation.

The relationship between gay New York lawyer, Will Truman, and his straight female best friend, Grace Adler, was relatable, captivating, and hilarious—the joke often being that they did have the perfect relationship, except without the sex.

Hot on the heels of a recent surge of nostalgia television, which has brought us a mixed bag—containing “Fuller House,” “Girl Meets World,” a forthcoming “Roseanne” reboot, and new seasons of “Gilmore Girls,” “Twin Peaks,” and “The X-Files”—after eleven years off-air, “Will & Grace” returned for a ninth season on Thursday.

The cast first reunited for a web special that was released prior to the 2016 Presidential Election.

The mini-revival played on topical political humor and pretended that nothing had changed in the lives of the four main characters, which was a fun treat for the fans who had missed them over the past decade, rather than a serious attempt at continuing the series’ story.

And its positive reception led to the decision for the series’ small screen return, however even with 20 minutes and network backing, the season nine premiere failed to surpass the YouTube short in terms of comedy, story, or quality.

In fairness, the season eight finale in 2006 was bizarre at best, and left the writers in a difficult position when attempting to resume the story. An 18-year time jump depicted that the titular best friends fell out, went no contact and raised their respective families.

Given that we’re only 11 years into that look into the future, unless the series somehow survived going in a very different direction—one in which “Will & Grace” don’t actually talk or interact—any attempt to explain the discrepancy between the new beginning and the old ending would likely be weak.

Going with the “it was all a dream” trope, however, surpasses weak and treads into insulting-to-the-viewer territory.

The premiere cried out “exposition, exposition,

ERIC MCCORMACK DEBRA MESSING MEGAN MULLALLY SEAN HAYES

All in this together.



Source: Wikimedia Commons

The original main cast returns for season nine.

exposition” as it attempted to beat the audience over the head with the fact that now in their 40s, no character development at all has been achieved for any of the four main characters.

However, while the familiarity might be comforting in a brief and teasing web short, it’s depressing to see that a decade later Will and Grace are still single and living together, and just as neurotic and co-dependent as ever.

To its credit, the show was self-aware and attempted

just offensive.

But “Will & Grace” laid the groundwork for the culture that rejects it today, as greater representation of LGBT characters in media has led to less tolerance for politically-incorrect humor.

So despite its important part in entertainment history, it struggles to find its role today.

to make light of the lack of change, but it wound up feeling hollow, like little more than a cheap grab for attention riding on sentimentality and nostalgia, and lacking all the charm of the original.

Heavy-handed political humor tying Karen to Trump dominated the plot of the first episode, but the jokes fell flat as they tried to force the viewer to believe that the show was still relevant.

When done properly, political humor can be brutal and hilarious, such as on HBO’s “Veep,” but it has to be sharp and fresh to land. Tired and stale jokes about Trump’s coloring only went to show that the writers were no more informed than their characters and reemphasized that the show no longer has a place.

It was a brilliant show in its first airing, but in 20 years, comedy has changed. While “Will & Grace” was first notable for its well-rounded depiction of LGBT characters, that isn’t to say that stereotypes didn’t play a heavy role in its humor.

Found most strongly in Jack, the effeminate and promiscuous lover of Cher, these nods to mainstream conceptions of gay culture were part of what allowed this “edgy” show then to retain a mainstream straight audience on a primetime network.

However, today, this show wouldn’t be made. Many of the jokes would be seen as derivative or

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FASHION

Hijab Fashion: A Fashion Statement and the Perspective Behind it

By JASMINE MILLNER

The hijab has begun to make a larger appearance in mainstream fashion and media over the past few years. For instance, Nike recently released a hijab sport's line, H&M used a model wearing a hijab in a recent campaign and Rihanna included a woman wearing a hijab in her new advertisement for Fenty Beauty. While the hijab has strong meaning behind it, it is also used as a fashion statement by many, including UAlbany Junior, Aleyna Nur Sarap.

"I have a hijab that matches every outfit," said Sarap. "It's like dyeing my hair everyday."

Before moving to the United States, Sarap lived in Istanbul where the clothes you wore, no matter the time of day or excursion, truly mattered.

"In Istanbul, it is very important what you wear outside," said Sarap. "You have to look nice. You have to have your makeup done. You have to wear nice clothing. You can't wear pajamas outside; it's absolutely unacceptable."

Each day, Sarap makes sure to look as fashionable as possible, which of course includes a matching hijab. When she first moved to the United States, she noticed that a lot of people in her town didn't know what the hijab was. Sarap said that while fellow classmates used to make negative comments about her hijab when she was younger, she has noticed that the number of comments has significantly decreased over the years.

"I feel like it has gotten better because of the amount of attention that we have been getting in the media and with this wave of modest fashion that's been happening. It makes us happy to be included."

While negative comments may not be directly made, she has noticed the uncomfortable stares given to her at times.

"You see something different and you look at it. If you live in a Muslim country, you don't look at every single Hijabi you see. You're so used to them being there, but here it's not



Aleyna Nur Sarap coordinates her hijab with her outfit.

something you see everyday," she said.

Fatimah Ikram, a junior at the University at Albany, has had a similar experience.

"It's not so much saying things as it is the feeling or the looks,"

said Ikram. "Sometimes people are looking because they're curious or it's something new that they've never seen before, but other times you get a vibe where they're looking you up and down and wondering why you're here."

Ikram said that while the political climate has shifted after the recent election, she feels that it's all about perspective.

"I personally think that any time there's a far-right or a really strong opposing view to being open to people against a certain group, all of this other energy gets put into helping that group, like what we saw at the airport with the Muslim bans and how many people came out to support," said Ikram. "I think [President Trump] has definitely given people a platform and an ok to say that you can have these views and you'll be fine because I have them, but I also think that he's pushed people that were kind of neutral and forced them into helping Muslims or other oppressed groups."

Ikram notes that in terms of oppression, Islam was the first religion to give women the right to own land and also explains that she can choose whether or not she wants to wear the hijab.

"If I decide that I don't want to wear this anymore, I can take it off and I'm not going to get punished because it's my own journey," said

Ikram. "The whole idea behind wearing it is that it's from your heart, so if I'm wearing it for someone else, then I should just take it off."

Despite the current political and social climate, Ikram has a positive outlook on her own life, as well as the



PHOTOS BY JASMINE MILLNER

Fatimah Ikram: "Sometimes people are looking because they're curious or it's something new that they've never seen."

world around her.

"It's what you focus on," said Ikram. "I could focus on all of the negative things and all of the instances where people look at me or read about things happening to people, but I also see all of the support that has come out of it. It's how you view it."

FOLLOW JASMINE: @jasmillner

HEALTH

Four Apps to Stay Healthy

By CAROLINE DUNNE

While your years at college can be some of the best times of your life, they can also be the most stressful. Between classes, extra curriculars, work and even just learning to be an adult, college life can leave some students with poor mental health. Thankfully, there is a great variety of free apps available to help you navigate through any stressful time.

1. Mindshift

College students who suffer from anxiety or depression related issues will really appreciate the Mindshift app. It's simple layout is super easy to navigate. One of the best features of the app is the "chill out tools" section, which allows the user to discover different techniques to help stay calm during times of anxiety or discomfort. The app also features several other sections to help ease anxious students such as breathing techniques, inspirational quotes, body exams, and an interactive journal that helps to discover what makes you anxious, and ways to reduce the associated anxiety.

2. Headspace

For students who prefer a more straightforward and physical approach to anxiety and stress issues, Headspace is the perfect solution. The app uses a combination of ancient meditation techniques and applies them to modern situations to help the user combat the daily

anxieties found throughout their life. Users of the app receive daily meditations guided by a clear voiced instructor, progress reports with statistics and research, and even provides the basic instruction needed to visualize healthy breathing.

3. What's Up?

The What's Up? app includes various resources available to help the user discover a peaceful state of mind and remind them that they are never alone. There are breathing techniques and mediation sections, coping strategies, information regarding mental issue issues and disorders, and a personal growth section which monitors your daily feelings and symptoms to provide you with suggested help and available resources near the user.

4. Happify

The Happify app was created with the intention to help restore happy and positive feelings in every student's life. The user can play various uplifting games that were designed with the intention to make you crack even the smallest of smiles. The various games and activities are available to each user based on their mental health questionnaire that they filled out after downloading the app and using it for the first time. The games are also filled with positive reinforcement to encourage personal growth and self esteem. It's impossible to not feel the slightest bit happy after using Happify.

INTERNATIONAL

International Student Shares Struggles

By JUSTINE H. SHAFFER

22-year-old Japanese international student Haruka Hamamoto was enthusiastic about getting to share her political and social views with students at UAlbany, but soon encountered great difficulty connecting with non-international students.

During her first semester, she, along with other international students, struggled to make friends. "This school doesn't have a good support for international students even though we have so many here," Hamamoto said. "I see lots of posts from students going to another university and having a Japanese night [because] students are more interested in Japanese culture. I was jealous."

She feels some may have a stigma against international students, assuming she already has a group of friends or doesn't want to speak English. "I wanted to be social but I just didn't know how."

Students that were interested in Hamamoto's culture didn't always have the best intentions either. "The two things I hear from people when they know I'm Japanese is either, 'Do you watch anime?' or 'I like Asian women,'"

Hamamoto said. Although she is happy to practice with students studying Japanese, she prefers to be treated like everyone else.

Regardless, Hamamoto was looking forward to studying abroad. She was excited about the cultural differences between Japan and America. "People here always talk about politics, or gender and sexual orientation. Most Japanese students don't have their own opinions, they just don't care."

Americans are more open to talking about gender, sex, women's rights and race, according to Hamamoto. In Japan, these topics are considered taboo. "I always thought if I come to the U.S., I'll have more chances to discuss with people my

own opinions, and I love to listen to other's opinions," she said.

Hamamoto's more optimistic about this semester than her first: "I'm having fun this semester, I'm learning new slangs and I love speaking English. My internship is interesting." This is her last semester before she returns to Kansai Gaidai University.



JUSTINE H. SHAFFER / ASP

Haruka Hamamoto is a Japanese international student.

FOOTBALL PROFILE

From Freshman Walk-on to CAA Leading Tackler



JOHN C. LONGTON III / ASP

Nate Hataltsky is UAlbany's leading tackler with 42.5 so far in his final season.

By ROBERT LEPELSTAT

When Nate Hataltsky stepped on to Bob Ford Field as a walk-on freshman back in 2013, he fulfilled a lifelong dream of playing Division I college football.

Hataltsky stepped onto the field once again before his redshirt senior season this past summer for the fifth and final time; the Mechanicville native was in uncharted territory.

Hataltsky had found out that he would once again be playing for the team he suited up for the past three seasons, except this time he'd be playing with a full scholarship.

"I've always been told by my family the way I've been raised is to get back up on your feet and keep working hard," Hataltsky said. "I just go into everyday with a positive attitude and obviously it paid off."

Fast-forward to this past week where in his final home opener playing at Tom & Mary Casey Stadium, Hataltsky put on a performance to remember versus Big South opponent Monmouth finishing with a career high 15 tackles in the Great Danes' 28-14 victory on Saturday September 16th.

On top of that, Monmouth had come into their week three matchup rushing for over 500 yards in the first two games behind the third leading rusher in the FCS in freshman running back Pete Guerriero.

With Hataltsky leading the way for the Great Danes defense, UAlbany held him to just 26.

"We knew if we played our game, we would do well—we just did our jobs," said Hataltsky. "We came off the blocks, we filled our gaps and we took care of business."

Growing up in the nearby town of Mechanicville, NY, Hataltsky could be described as a small town guy. With a population of just over 5,000, the defensive anchor of the Great Danes defense recalls a sense of culture shock when he first arrived on the UAlbany campus.

"My freshman year I had more students in my one class than I did in my entire high school," Hataltsky said. "I graduated with 95 and had about 450 in my class that first year — it was pretty crazy."

Despite the transition, it's comforting for Hataltsky to know he has family and friends in the crowd to support each and every week — almost as if he is right back at

home playing linebacker once again for Mechanicville High School.

Hataltsky remembers the previous year where UAlbany started the 2016 season 4-0 before ultimately finishing 7-4, failing to qualify for the FCS playoffs and ending the season on the outside looking in.

As Hataltsky prepares for his final season with the purple and gold, he's confident things will be different this time around.

"That was our ultimate goal to keep playing after the regular season," Hataltsky said. "We know if we win eight (games) we're in so that's the plan and that's been the plan since I've been here — we just have to take it game by game and we'll get there."

When given the opportunity to reflect back on his most memorable moment with the Great Danes, UAlbany's leading tackler with 42.5 on the season opts to go in a different direction — similar to what he's been making opposing RB's do during fall Saturday's at Casey Stadium.

Instead of putting the spotlight on himself, the humbled Hataltsky puts the focus on his teammates and the brotherhood he shares with each and every one of them over the past five years.

"The love here is ridiculous," Hataltsky said. "We're all one big family. I have best friends from all over the place. I met so many people from different areas. That's the biggest thing — just playing with your brothers."

Head coach Greg Gattuso has nothing but praise for his senior linebacker, who he's seen grow into the player he is today both on and off the field from the moment he joined the Great Danes back in Fall 2013.

"When something like that happens, where a kid is such a great kid like Nate Hataltsky, and he's out there living the dream right now," Gattuso said. "That's a good feeling for a coach."

Hataltsky is ready to make the most of his final season with UAlbany and with him leading the way for the Great Danes, this team will certainly be hard to stop come playoff time. Regardless of what comes next for him post football, Hataltsky will leave behind a lasting legacy in purple and gold that will not be forgotten for many years to come.

MEN'S SOCCER

Danes Win Four in a Row, Setting Conference Tone

By ELIJAH CASPER AND CARA CLIFFE

ALBANY, N.Y. — UAlbany men's soccer team won their conference opener pushing their win streak to four after beating UMass Lowell by a score of 1-0 in a hard fought gritty battle.

The win put the Danes three points up in the early season America East conference table and it was their fourth win in a row, improving their record to 7-2-0 on the season. The River Hawks, who were ranked 18th in the country in the preseason NCAA men's soccer polls, dropped their third straight game and fell to 4-4-1 on the year.

"I think Lowell are on the top teams, not only in the conference but in the country," said UAlbany head coach Trevor Gorman. "We were excited to play against them tonight, it's always fun to get started with conference play and we're obviously thrilled with three points."

The Great Danes took the lead against UMass in the 36th minute and never looked back, scoring the lone goal from inside the box and gaining the insurance they needed going into the second half. UAlbany defender, Daniel Krutzen was in the right place at the right time when he ripped one into the back of the net after getting the assist from forward Nico Solabarrieta, whose missed header was quickly rebounded by Kutzen putting the Danes up 1-0.

"I saw Nico and [Afonso] running into the box so I decided for myself to drop off a little bit and I know Moosah can drop it off at the 18 and I was kinda hoping for that, but that didn't happen in the first place and I was just kinda standing around waiting for the ball to come and luckily it came and I scored," said Krutzen. The Junior defender is averaging a point per game for the Great Danes, leading the conference in assists, and has two goals on the season.

UAlbany's offense put heavy pressure on UML's defense the entire game out-shooting the River Hawks nine to six putting six of those shots on goal. The constant attack frustrated UMass Lowell as they ended the first half with a yellow card against UML defender Ivan Blaskic. Tensions flared yet again in the second half when another UML player, midfielder Franky Martinez, was sent off in the 87th minute with a red card.

"I thought it was a typical American East game," Gorman said in a game in which both teams combined for over 25 fouls. "You have two good teams with really good players on the field, each wanting to win the match, get the three points and get off to a good start in conference play."

UAlbany defender Moosah Khanat, whose defense has only allowed two goals in the past four games, stressed how important the win was to get the conference season started.

"It's pretty important because it makes a statement out to the rest of the conference" said Khanat, who also set up the lone goal with the cross into the box. "UMass Lowell was ranked in preseason polls of course that doesn't matter when you're in season, but it still means something to us and the rest of the conference to beat a big team like UMass Lowell."

The Great Danes look to improve their already impressive four match winning streak to five as they travel to Brooklyn on Tuesday where they will take on LIU Brooklyn, who is 1-5-2 on the season.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

UAlbany's Defensive Breakdown Leaves Danes at a Loss

By JEREMY RABBANI

The women's soccer team suffered an agonizing 1-0 loss in a second overtime at the hands of Binghamton on Thursday, one game removed from snapping a four game skid.

As the game progressed it appeared as if both teams would play to a draw. In the first half, good defense and pressure by both teams led to little action on the field.

Binghamton's goalkeeper, Katie Hatziyianis, was tested lightly, as she made two saves in the half on shots on goal by Kimberly Dieroff and Gina Bracamonte.

It was a different story for UAlbany's goalkeeper, Andrea Leitner, though, who saw no attempts at the net by Binghamton. Both teams had extreme difficulty pushing the ball further down the field into enemy territory and headed into the locker room in a scoreless tie.

In the second half, it was clear both Albany and Binghamton both found their step, as both teams put on the offensive pressure. It was Binghamton that really seemed to be in control of the half.

Bearcat forward Kayla Saager, who later would be the hero, having her way with defenders all half as she dribbled passed Great Dane defenders while passing with precision. This half would belong to Binghamton, as they created many chances and took eleven shots on the net. This is not to discredit Albany, as the Great Danes had many chances of their own while stepping up the defensive pressure.



JEREMY RABBANI / ASP

Albany and Binghamton found themselves in a deadlock, leading both teams to a sudden death overtime. The first overtime was the story of the entire game as both teams stepped up the offensive and defensive pressure.

Three minutes into the first overtime period, Saager, who had been dominating all game, hit the top of the crossbar in a close attempt, as Binghamton struck first. Later, Albany midfielder Caroline Kopp hit a laser of a free kick 20 yards out which was caught by Keeper Hatziyianis, sending the

game into double overtime.

It was there, three minutes into the second extra frame where Saager, unassisted near two defenders, hit a shot on the right post giving Binghamton the win. It was a heartbreaking defeat for Albany, as they watched in disbelief as Binghamton celebrated on the field.

Although a tough defeat, Coach Nick Bochette gave his team encouraging words after the loss.

"It's always tough to lose a close game," said Bochette. "We have to take a realistic look at it and just accept we weren't good enough tonight." Bochette also added that, "They dictated the game, and their pressure really didn't allow us to do what we wanted to do."

Bochette gave a truthful approach by saying tonight the team was just second best. Nevertheless, Bochette was proud of the team's performance. "We played tough, it's just they had one great chance and they capitalized on it."

Midfielder Caroline Kopp also shared her thoughts on the upsetting defeat saying, "We just have to learn from it, move on from there and take what we learned from this game and apply it to the next one." She added, "As a whole we were just simply outworked, we had a very hard time breaking down their defense."

Kopp acknowledged they have to start working harder to avoid defensive breakdowns like these.

UAlbany drops to 3-8 overall, 1-1 in America East play, while Binghamton improves to 7-2-3, 1-1 in America East play as well.

FOOTBALL

Danes Travel Long Road to Come up Short



Source: UAlbany Sports

Donovan McDonald tries to break a tackle in Saturday's game against Elon.

By JOHN C. LONGTON III

ELON, N.C. — The #19 Great Danes lost 6-0 to #23 Elon on a longer than expected road trip to North Carolina this past Saturday.

The UAlbany offense was abysmal and could only muster 224 total yards and turned the ball over four times on their way to a shutout loss to a team they beat 27-3 a year prior.

"We absolutely just did not play well on offense," said UAlbany head coach Greg Gattuso after the game. "We've got to get better at quarterback. He (Will Brunson) was good last week and the week before, but struggled here."

Brunson threw two interceptions and also fumbled the ball once on his way to passing for a pedestrian 125 yards on the game. He and his receivers could never find a rhythm as the Danes could only convert 2-out-of-12 third downs.

"We've got to go back to the drawing board because this isn't good enough obviously," said Gattuso. "This is a game we should have won."

The Great Dane defense fought hard and kept UAlbany in the game all the way to the final drive. They held the

Elon passing game to under 100 yards on the day and forced a fumble in the process. The only blemish the unit had was allowing Elon running back Malcolm Summers 171 yards on the ground. That was largely due to Summers' getting 39 touches.

The Great Dane defense came up in big spots Saturday including forcing a timely fumble on Elon's first drive. On that possession the Phoenix put together an eight play 66-yard drive and marched up the field into the UAlbany red zone. On third down the Danes got to Elon quarterback Davis Cheek, sacked him, forced the ball out and Brian Dolce recovered the fumble taking points off the board for an Elon offense that seemed to have momentum.

"The defense was spectacular in the way they played today and they deserve better," said Gattuso. "As a team we've got to stick together and keep working."

The UAlbany offense was held scoreless and have some people wondering if their travel burden had anything to do with their lack of enthusiasm. The Great Danes were forced to fly into Roanoke, Virginia then drive two hours south to the team hotel in South Boston, just north of the North Carolina Virginia state border. On Saturday the team had

to leave their hotel and take another bus to Elon. Normally UAlbany would just fly into North Carolina, but with recent state legislation that was out of the question.

A travel ban was signed into action in late March 2016 where Gov. Andrew Cuomo and the state legislature banned all non-essential government agency travel to North Carolina. This was fallout to North Carolina's transgender bathroom law, which has been recently revised, but wouldn't suffice for Cuomo and the state legislature to lift the sanction.

"We were glad to be able to find a solution that allowed us to both play the game and honor the spirit of the governor's executive order," said UAlbany's football Sports Information Director Pete Iorizzo.

All set aside the Danes have to lick their wounds and get ready to hit the road again this week to square off with #15 ranked Richmond, a team they lost to in three overtimes last season. The Danes can't afford to lose two games in a row and expect to make a playoff run.

FOLLOW JOHN: @LongshotLongton

WOMEN'S FIELD HOCKEY

Danes Suffer Second OT Loss in a Row

By ROBERT LEPELSTAT

The UAlbany women's field hockey team suffered a heartbreaking 2-1 upset loss to America East Rival UMass Lowell in double overtime at the Alumni Turf on Friday afternoon despite getting cheered on by the men's lacrosse team, who stayed to watch the game after their practice ended on the field adjacent to the field hockey game.

The players and fans in attendance got a double overtime thriller, but unfortunately for the Purple Family it wasn't the outcome they had hoped for.

In the 89th minute, the River Hawks' Sophie Gerels broke the hearts of the UAlbany faithful when she found the back of the cage in transition off a beautiful cross field pass from her teammate to seal the win for UMass Lowell.

After three passes to opposite sides of the field, Gerels powered a shot past Great Danes goalkeeper Melissa Nealon into the back left corner for the game winning goal for the River Hawks to improve to 6-5 on the season.

Nealon was surrounded by her teammates in celebration after the game as UMass Lowell sealed a perfect sweep of UAlbany and Siena in their 2017 Capital District road trip.

"Tough one today," head coach Phil Sykes said. "Conference games are always a battle. We will learn from this and hopefully rebound with a better effort on Sunday."

Freshman midfielder Katie Lynes broke the scoreless tie with a goal into the upper left corner of the net with just four minutes

remaining in the first half to give UMass Lowell a 1-0 lead and all the momentum going into the locker room.

Down 1-0 in the second half, the Great Danes tied the game when freshman Liz Ryan ripped a shot past the UMass Lowell goalkeeper Eva Berkhout for her first career goal.

With the loss, the Great Danes are now 4-5 on the season and could hurt the teams at large chances come postseason time.

The loss is also the Great Danes second straight loss with both coming in overtime or later and their third overtime game in a row.

UAlbany had trouble capitalizing on their opportunities during the afternoon as they outshot UMass Lowell 26-10 in addition to 10 penalty corners but only scoring once in the match.

Great Danes goalkeeper Melissa Nealon, who was named the Longstreth/ NFCHA goalkeeper, finished the game with seven saves—increasing her total to 62 on the season thus far.

UAlbany had moved up to the #18 spot in the NFCHA rankings after their 3-2 overtime win over defending national champion Delaware back on September 22nd.

The win is UMass Lowell's first ever



ROBERT LEPELSTAT / ASP

Junior forward Rachel Billig defended by UMass Lowell back Allyssa Moser during Friday's match.

win over UAlbany in program history as the Danes fall to 6-1 in the all-time series. This is also UMass' first win over a ranked opponent this season.

"We played a fantastic, full 90 minutes today," Head Coach Shannon Hlebichuk said. "We were structured, poised and disciplined in all facets of our game. As a coaching staff, we couldn't be more proud

of their game play today, but especially the preparation the entire team put in this week. All the details make a difference and it certainly showed today."

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