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ALBANY STUDENT PRESS

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INTERFAITH BUILDING STILL SITS EMPTY

Year After University Moved Student Groups Out of Center, No Activity

Hackers Target Black Board

By MICHAEL APOLLO



Michael Apollo / Albany Student Press

The former Interfaith Center has been relabeled but the University has not yet utilized it for a new purpose.

By EMILY AUCOMPAUGH

Since the Interfaith Center's official relocation in Fall 2018 the former Interfaith Building remains silent.

Now labeled "Building 511," the building has seen no student or faculty activity since UAlbany administration moved the three religious groups from their location on the 1.4 acre parcel to the third floor of the Campus Center last year.

The one-story wooden building, tucked neatly into a wooded section to the side of the main campus, formerly housed Catholic Newman Association,

Cornerstone Campus Ministries, and the Jewish organization Hillel. Now, the building stands empty and unused.

Richard Thomas, A junior participant of the Catholic Newman Association expressed his disappointment. "The fact that there's no plan for it makes me upset because, what was the point of shutting it down? I heard multiple rumors, but nothing's being done," he said.

UAlbany Spokesperson Jordan Carleo-Evangelist said this is because the university does not yet own the building.

The University at Albany Foundation is in the process

of gifting the property to the school, and the New York State Attorney General's office must approve the transaction.

"The transfer of Building 511 from UAF to the university is ongoing, but it's just a matter of the typical paperwork associated with property transfers such as these," said Carleo-Evangelist. "UAlbany does not control this process, but we expect that it will be completed relatively soon."

James Hyde, member of UAlbany's Facilities Strategic Planning Council, said there are no updates regarding the building's future use and has not been a

topic of discussion at any of the council's meeting. The council is responsible for the management and allocation of the university space.

However, Carleo-Evangelist said that the university intends to use the building as temporary office space for employees displaced by renovations occurring around campus, in particular those undergoing in the P.E building.

A previous legal agreement stipulated that the former Interfaith Building be used only by the Albany Collegiate Interfaith Building and its successors. Last

Please see **INTERFAITH** page 2

Internet hackers continue to target University at Albany information technology systems with cyber-attacks.

University systems recently experienced a total of 17 distributed denial-of-service, or DDoS, attacks in the space of two weeks, including threats as recent as Feb. 19.

DDoS attacks flood a network with malicious requests, disrupting normal data flow between servers and legitimate users.

"Altogether, since February 5, there have been 17 separate instances where the volume of inbound internet traffic has exceeded the carrying capacity of our [internet service provider] for 5 minutes or longer," said UAlbany's chief information security officer Martin Manjak.

The DDoS attacks impact the availability of several campus information technology systems, most notably Blackboard. Neither the integrity nor confidentiality of university information was compromised, according to Manjak.

Mark Berman serves as the chief information officer at nearby Siena College in Loudonville, New York. "We have not experienced anything like that," said Berman. "If there was any DDOS activity our firewall dealt with it without any need for our intervention."

Manjak, who has served as UAlbany's chief information security officer since 2006, believes the string of attacks may be related. No one has claimed responsibility for the attacks and a motive has not been identified.

Please see **ATTACKS** page 2

ENVIRONMENT

Students Petition University to Drop Plastic Straws

By ALAIN CLERINE and ADRIANA CARRENO

Using plastic forks seems unavoidable when they are the only options. The University at Albany's Green Scene hopes to change that in a meeting this Wednesday with VP of Student Affairs, Michael Christakis.

Student and sustainability blogger Grace McGrath has been leading the initiative to set up the meeting.

"My initial plan was to get rid of plastic entirely, but that's a very hard thing to do," said McGrath. "I think the easiest thing to start with is paper straws because there's a very good alternative, paper straws."

After McGrath showed up at Christakis' office every Friday for several weeks, he decided to set up a one-on-one discussion. Both Mary Malia, UAlbany's Director of

Sustainability and Steve Pearse, Executive Director of UAlbany's Auxiliary Services will be in attendance along with McGrath.

Pearse was hesitant to comment extensively on the matter before the meeting.

"I am not opposed to eliminating plastic straws on our campus if that is the final decision," said Pearse. "There are many points to consider, which is why we are meeting."

Some of those considerations include: How much is the school currently spending on straws? How much would the paper alternative cost? How long would an overhaul of all plastic straws on campus take? The latter two questions will be on the docket at next week's meeting, while the former will have to be discussed with student dining services.

An overhaul from plastic straws to paper is not unheard of in recent years. Starbucks announced plans in

Please see **PLASTIC** page 3



JOE HOFFMAN/ ASP

INTERFAITH

Continued from Page 1

By **EMILY AUCOMPAUGH**

Last January, the Foundation signed a deed in officially releasing them from this condition.

Last year the Chaplains used the 1987 agreement between the Foundation and John Holt-Harris, Jr. in an effort to remain on the property. However, the new deed, signed by the deceased Holt-Harris' son and the Foundation, frees both parties of this restriction and allows UAlbany to use the building for other purposes.

Until the property officially switches hands, Carleo-Evangelist says the Foundation has allowed the university in the mean time to conduct some maintenance and minor repairs on the inactive building.



FILE / ASP

The former interfaith center had a dedicated kitchen space, pictured in this fall 2017 image.



MICHAEL APOLLO / ASP

Long Island native Coach Will Brown has been coach of the Danes for 18 years.

ATTACKS

Continued from Page 1

By **MICHAEL APOLLO**

“All we know is that the resource being targeted is Blackboard,” Manjak said.

Computers on the university’s network, such as those in the library, were not affected by the attack. Students and faculty using personal devices were unable to access Blackboard.

“We’re able to maintain access to electronic resources from on-campus through a combination of firewall and filtering rules,” Manjak said, “but access from off-campus was affected because the attacker(s) filled our internet pipe.”

Students were unable to access course materials and submit homework assignments on Blackboard during the attacks.

“I had problems getting on Blackboard when I was trying

to do some homework,” senior chemistry major Jennifer Cabrera said. “It all made sense when they sent the email. I didn’t know there was a cyber-attack until then.”

Members of the campus community received two information security alerts by email from Manjak regarding the attacks—one on February 5 and the other on February 18.

“Communication is sent to the University community when we identify an active threat that has the potential to impact the entire campus,” Manjak said.



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STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Senate Fails to Administer New Treasurer's Tests

By KELLEY FEI

Student Association's senate cancelled their weekly meeting after a failure to implement a new bylaw.

The Student Association budgets hundreds of student activities and clubs, and has its own constitution. On February 7th, the SA Senate passed a new bylaw that affected the appropriations committee.

The law mandates committee members take a Treasures Exam and pass with an 80 percent or higher.

The bill outlined the immediate implementation of the exam upon passage; however, the appropriations committee never administered the exam.

Officials say this was due to miscommunication. As a result, other pieces of legislation passed before the exam law were made null and void.

Samuel Salazar, Vice Chair of SA Senate, says "Looking back at it, cancelling Senate was the right thing to do. If we had Senate, we would have harmed ourselves since we would proceed with breaking that bylaw."

Now, Senate has to re-pass



CHAD ARNOLD / ASP

A file photo from a senate meeting last year

the entire legislation again.

"I was disappointed because we missed an opportunity to create change," said Nick Chin,

Senator of Indian Quad. "Every missed meeting is a missed opportunity."

The pieces of legislation are

expected to be on the agenda for February 27th, and their weekly meetings will proceed as scheduled.

PLASTIC

Continued from Page 1

By ALAIN CLERINE and
ADRIANA CARRENO

in July to completely phase out non-disposable straws by 2020. With 28,00 Starbucks world-wide, UAlbany's Starbucks in Campus Center is one of the establishments that contributes to the 500 million disposable plastic straws used every day.

Though many of the stores offer customers paper straws as an alternative to plastic, the Starbucks at UAlbany does not.

A study done by For a Strawless Ocean, found that a single plastic straw can take up to 100-500 years to

decompose, most of them end up in the ocean, and at some magnitude animals like sea birds and fish are constantly eating plastic. For these reasons, McGrath doesn't seem like she'll stop pushing for this paper straw initiative any time soon.

"If they tell me this is not possible and we cannot do it, I'm going to have to stage something, do something," said McGrath. "Because the more students that get behind it, the more pressure it would put on the university to do something about it."

CRIME BLOTTER

CRIMINAL TRESPASS 2ND ENTER/REMAIN UNLAWFULLY IN DWELLING

2/19/2019 6:03 PM
State Quad - Cooper Hall
Report of a male subject trespassing on campus.

STALKING 4TH: CAUSE MATERIAL HARM TO MENTAL/EMOTIONAL HEALTH

2/19/2019 10:05 PM
Freedom Quad - FQ Office
Report of a female student being stalked. An arrest was made.

Assist a Person

2/19/2019 10:27 AM
Podium- Mail Center
UPD took report of possible banned items being shipped to a student. UPD took possession of package and will follow up with student to determine nature of the items.

Check a Subject

2/19/2019 4:21 PM
Freedom Quad FQ C-Northrup Hall
Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person doing laundry. Confirmation of a mother helping her daughter do laundry.

Persons Annoying

2/19/2019 8:00 PM
Roadways - Collins Circle
Report of kids throwing stink bombs and spitting on the CDTA bus. Officers spoke with those on scene. Bus driver allowed 1 person to take bus home. Scene cleared.

Assist a Person

2/19/2019 10:00 PM

Other - UPD

A female employee came to UPD informing officer of an active order of protection. No cause for further action at this time.

DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED- 1ST OFFENSE

2/15/2019 12:08 AM
Roadways - Univ Dr West
Report of a male student driving while intoxicated. An arrest was made and vehicle was towed.

CRIMINAL SEXUAL ACT 1ST:VICTIM PHYSICALLY HELPLESS

2/15/2019 2:19 PM
Other- UPD
Report of sexual misconduct from January. Investigation ongoing.

CRIMINAL TAMPERING -3RD

2/16/2019 1:54 AM
Podium- Biology
Report of an unknown subject pulling fire alarm and discharging a fire extinguisher.

CONFINEMENT OF COMPANION ANIMAL IN VEHICLE: EXTREME TEMPS

2/17/2019 12:25 PM
Roadways- SEFCU Lot
Report of 2 dogs left in vehicle. Owner returned.

Check a Subject

2/15/2019 9:51 AM
Roadways - Hawley Lot
Report of a male subject yelling at cars passing by. Subject left area without further incident.

PETIT LARCENY

2/21/2019

State Quad-SQ Grounds
Report of stolen artwork.

CRIM POSS CONTRL SUBST

2/21/2019
Dutch Quad-Stuyvesant Tower
A male student found to be in possession of narcotics and admitted to selling narcotics. Arrested for same.

CRIM MIS INTENT DAMAGE PROPRTY

2/20/2019-20:41:03
Podium-Campus Center
Officers responded to a report of a fight between a male and female who were gone upon arrival. Female student located with witnesses and were all questioned at UPD. A DIR was filled out, the male student was located and taken into custody, processed and held at ACJ pending arraignment.

Persons Annoying

2/15/2019 8:47 PM
Podium - Tunnels
Report of skateboarders in tunnels. Gone on arrival.

Assist a Person

2/15/2019 6:23 PM
Podium - Pod Other
Student wanted to report possible harrasment and desired no further action.

ISRAEL

Tweet Frenzy: Why Criticizing Israel Does not Equal Anti-Semitism

By **TIM CHIZZIK**

The internet frenzy over Congresswoman Ilhan Omar's tweets is emblematic of a decades long attempt to control the narrative of the Israeli/Palestinian conflict.

Last week, the internet went into a frenzy over Congresswoman Ilhan Omar's tweet about the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), a secular Israel advocacy group. In these tweets she quoted the 1997 Puff Daddy song "All About the Benjamins" in reference to politicians (both Democrat and Republican) receiving monetary support from various pro-Israel lobby groups. Following those tweets she was immediately accused of antisemitism, specifically accusations that she was propping up age-old conspiracies of Jewish money secretly running the world's governments.

Ever since the Democrat was elected as the U.S. representative for Minnesota's 5th District, she

has been a vocal supporter for the Palestinian people, even initially supporting their call for boycotts, divestments and sanctions against the state of Israel in support of the decolonization of Palestine and the right to self determination for its people.

These past few years, we have seen a heavy increase in anti-semitic sentiment as well as proto-fascist groups within the United States from groups such as: Identity Evropa (which posted flyers on the UAlbany campus last semester), The Daily Stormer and more. The growth of the American far-right, specifically online, has inspired multiple heinous hate crimes such as: the Pittsburgh massacre and the recent burning of a Yeshiva in in upstate New York. Furthermore, we also see the rise of blatant anti-semitic tropes by the American far-right about George Soros "buying" the American left.

Abroad we have seen blatant anti-semitism from leaders such as President of Brazil Jair Bolsonaro

and Prime Minister of Hungary Viktor Orbán, both of whom have been publicly supported by Prime Minister of Israel Benjamin Netanyahu.

The rise in global anti-semitism by these aforementioned antisemitic groups and leaders has horrified myself as well as the larger Jewish community I am a part of. The focus on Ilhan Omar demonstrates a grotesque attempt at ignoring and reframing the issue of antisemitism to manufacture consent for Palestinian suffering as well as silence those of Jewish faith on the left who may not agree with them.

In response to Ilhan Omar's tweets, there has also been an increase in the spreading of blatantly islamophobic rumors about her such as: having illegally immigrated to the United States, being married to her brother, having sexual intercourse with wild animals, and being a "secret recruiter" for a variety of jihadi terrorist organizations. It is

evident and not surprising that the American media at large holds women of color and muslims to a higher standard when it comes to Israel. This is a shameful attempt to continue the decades long framing of the "Israeli-Palestinian conflict" as a religious issue.

The claim that calls for justice in Palestine are anti-semitic insinuates that if given full self determination, Palestinians will violently expel the Israeli Jewish population from their land. Many of the same news outlets made similar claims about black south africans during their own fight for freedom. As history has shown, these claims hold no validity.

It is an erroneous accusation to argue that it is prejudicial to oppose: segregated highways, segregated courts (with an almost 100% conviction rate for palestinians), the nation-state law (which was praised by noted neo-nazi Richard Spencer), and a plethora of other discriminatory laws leveled against the Palestinian

people both living within Israel as well as the occupied territories.

We can no longer allow the American Jewish community to be regarded by the right as a political monolith all supporting Zionism and the Israeli state. And with the decades long suffering of the Palestinian people as well as Netanyahu's recent endorsement of the Kahanist and anti-arab party Otzma Yehudit, we can no longer stand for Israel's claim to represent us.

Ilhan Omar stood up to the Israel lobby, and more importantly despite her apologies, continues to call for an end to ongoing colonization and illegal West Bank settlement expansion. Her ongoing support for the Palestinian people is a courageous act, especially in this political climate, and no attempts to narrowly define the Jewish community can change that.

BUSINESS

Farewell, Amazon. You will be missed.

By **AARON GINSBURG**

On February 14th, Amazon cancelled their plans of building a headquarters in Long Island City, Queens due to intense protest from residents, workers, and politicians. Many were outraged over the deal struck between Amazon and the City which would grant Amazon \$3 billion in tax breaks over a 10 year period, and allow them to circumvent property laws in the area.

City council member Jimmy Van Bramer and State Senator Michael Gianaris spoke out against the deal, claiming that, "Offering massive corporate welfare from scarce public resources to one of the wealthiest corporations in the world at a time of great need in our state is just wrong."

It's not unreasonable for some to be upset

about the exorbitant tax breaks that would have been given to Amazon, considering that its CEO, Jeff Bezos, is the richest man in modern history, with a net worth exceeding \$150 billion. However, despite the perceived unfairness, Amazon's headquarters is a loss for the city and the for the future of New York State.

Amazon promised to provide 25 thousand new high paying jobs with the establishment of the headquarters in return for these tax breaks. On top of the 25,000 tech jobs, the state estimated that the headquarters construction would of provided 1,300 construction jobs and 107 thousand in direct and indirect jobs. Before there was even an official announcement from Amazon, realty website StreetEasy reported a 295 percent increase in buyer searches in the area from

the week before.

In Long Island City, housing prices have increased by 5% over the course of the year, even before Amazon's announcement. For those who don't know, Long Island City is a neighborhood which has grown in popularity over the past decade. It is a prime example of gentrification, and has become home for countless young families and progressive businesses. With this in mind, the increasing rate of rent prices is an issue regardless of Amazon moving into

LIC or not, through these jobs, Amazon would have generated \$27.5 billion in revenue over 25 years for the city and state. Now, due to the social issues which pressured Amazon to back out of the deal, the city will lose this opportunity. On the other hand, Amazon will not be affected economically

by this decision, as there are countless other cities eager to accept a headquarters. Even so, Amazon is not seeking to find a new destination for a headquarters.

As someone from Queens, I supported Amazon. While rent would have increased throughout Queens, the revenue generated from the headquarters would of benefited the borough, and the entire city, as a whole. I understand people taking issue with Amazon receiving seemingly unfair tax breaks and privileges, but the economic benefits would of outweighed the social issues. It would have been exciting to have a corporation as significant as Amazon to make NYC their home. Oh well.

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Joe Hoffman
Editor-in-Chief
theasp.eic@gmail.com
845-723-1409

Phillip Downes
Managing Editor
managing.asp@gmail.com

Phillip Downes
News Editor
theaspnews@gmail.com

Rob Lep
Sports Editor
sports.asp@gmail.com

Jacquelyn Orchard
Life & Entertainment Editor
lifeandent.asp@gmail.com

M. Francis Miro
Opinions Editor
opinions.asp@gmail.com

Dalia Yan
Photo Director
photodirector.asp@gmail.com

Lesley Rodriguez
Design Editor
layout.asp@gmail.com

Uma Pardo
Assistant Design Editor

Michelle Mullen
Social Media Manager
mrmullen@albany.edu

Gina Tan
Business Manager
asp.advertising@gmail.com

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Contact the ASP for information and publication schedules:
Newsroom: Campus Center 326
Email: theasp.eic@gmail.com
www.albanystudentpress.net

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HATE CRIMES

Crying Wolf: False claims can hinder victims of hate crimes

By JESSICA SHERMAN

There is much need for honest and progressive conversations about anti-LGBT violence. Even though it is 2019 there is still many reports daily about these hate crimes still occurring and it cannot be so casually swept under the rug. But one well known celebrity might have just only added to the increasing difficulty to have these conversations in the United States.

On January 29, actor Jussie Smollett, known for his role on the television show Empire, reported to Chicago Police that he was attacked for being black and gay. According to the report, while walking home from a Subway sandwich shop around 2 am, the actor was beaten and had a rope hung around his neck by two masked men. They also said homophobic and racist remarks to Smollett before fleeing the scene.

Since this incident was reported to have taken place it has been made known by the Chicago Police that Smollett is now being charged with a felony disorderly conduct for filing a false police report. This being a Class 4, felony Smollett could face a little as probation or up to 1-3 years in prison. Attorneys for Smollett at this time maintain that the actor will mount a "aggressive defense" against these charges.

While problems within the LGBT community have always existed when it comes to the believability of the hate crimes, this incident is just another example of the challenges that can hinder real victims of hate crimes. Many would like to sweep this type of violence under the rug. After the incident initially happened there had been social media posts that already was trying to call it a hoax. People started off on the negative side. If convicted this would just solidify what was already assumed.

What does this mean for the real victims?

Despair and shame. Victims of hate crimes already have fear of coming forward for reasons such as not being heard, being judged or even further consequences for reporting in the first place. If the victims are not reporting what is happening then they can't receive the help they need. Even if the report was to occur how many times people can cry wolf before the public stops believing in what is really happening? Leaving those that are actually affected to find no path to take.

These hoaxes also discredit those that are sympathizers of hate crime victims. They have to retract their support while not dismissing the real issue of anti LGBT violence in communities.

Our presidential administration has not been very supportive of the LGBT community and after taking office, the executive branch has actually taken several measures to strip the community of nondiscrimination protections including in places like health care, social services, employment etc.

With a lackluster of support from the president and the still pressing need to give protection to the LGBT community, we have a tough time ahead. That doesn't mean that we avoid the conversation in lieu for the more popular course of just forgetting things don't exist. We have to have higher standards for how we treat each other.

If you are a victim of, or witness to, a hate or bias-related crime on campus, report it to the University Police by calling 911 in an emergency, using a Blue Light Phone, or campus telephone at (518) 442-3131. You may also report to Community Standards at (518) 442-5501 or communitystandards@albany.edu.

ENVIRONMENT

Save the Planet: Support AOC's Green New Deal

By LIAM JEFFRIES

The issue of climate change is, without a doubt, the most important issue of our time. The stakes are enormous: if we curtail our carbon emissions and convert the United States and the world to green and sustainable practices, our generation will get to live on the Earth the way we currently know it. If we fail, we'd be veering into a future where more severe storms, flooding, and heat waves would be common, along with the destabilization of ecosystems.

In short, the livability of many parts of the world hangs directly in the balance (including, lest we forget, many coastal areas in New York City and parts of the Capital Region). Thus, a solution to this climate emergency is a must, especially in a country like ours, where coastal populations vulnerable to storms and floods number in the tens of millions, if not more.

Up until recently, however, the outlook of domestic environmental plans seemed grim. With the election of Donald Trump, now the world's most powerful climate denier, the United States became the only country in the world to openly defy the Paris Climate Agreement, and with attempts by the Trump White House to undermine environmental efforts piling up (including, horrifyingly, the appointment of noted climate-denier William Happer to a White House climate panel), the US environmental situation may get worse before it gets better.

Better it may get, though, especially if Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY) has her way.

On February 7, Cortez, along with Senator Ed Markey (D-Mass), proposed what environmentalists could consider a dream come true: The Green New Deal. The details, so far at least, are vague, but the aspirations of the proposal are anything but. If anything, the bill reads like an environmental activist wish list.

It calls for "net-zero greenhouse gas emissions," to be

achieved through, among other measures, "upgrading all existing buildings in the United States" to be more energy efficient, "Overhauling transportation systems" with investments in public transportation, electric car charging stations, and high-speed rail, and making all energy produced and used in the US renewable.

To say this is ambitious and far-reaching would be an understatement, but that's the point. The climate crisis is an extreme situation that demands a solution of this suitably extreme magnitude, and the proposal put forward in The Green New Deal, in its promises to completely reshape American energy and transportation infrastructure, is exactly that solution.

The environmental benefits of this, then, are obvious, but the effects it would have on the ground can also be easily imagined.

Take, for example, a student at the University at Albany. If the student lived in New York City (as I and many other students do), a high-speed rail investment would likely mean faster and more convenient Amtrak trips, allowing students to take the train over long car trips and packed buses. When in Albany, if the student lived off-campus, an investment in public transit would likely result in a more robust CDTA, leading to more frequent buses and routes (and, who knows, maybe a light rail system of some sort). Finally, if the student lived all the way out in the suburbs, a network of electric charging stations would make it more convenient to charge an electric vehicle instead of spending a large sum on gas, saving the student thousands of dollars a year.

The Green New Deal, then, would be nothing but beneficial for everyday Americans and the environment alike, so support Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's efforts to make this a reality. It may just save our generation's chances of living on this planet.



Source: Wikimedia Commons

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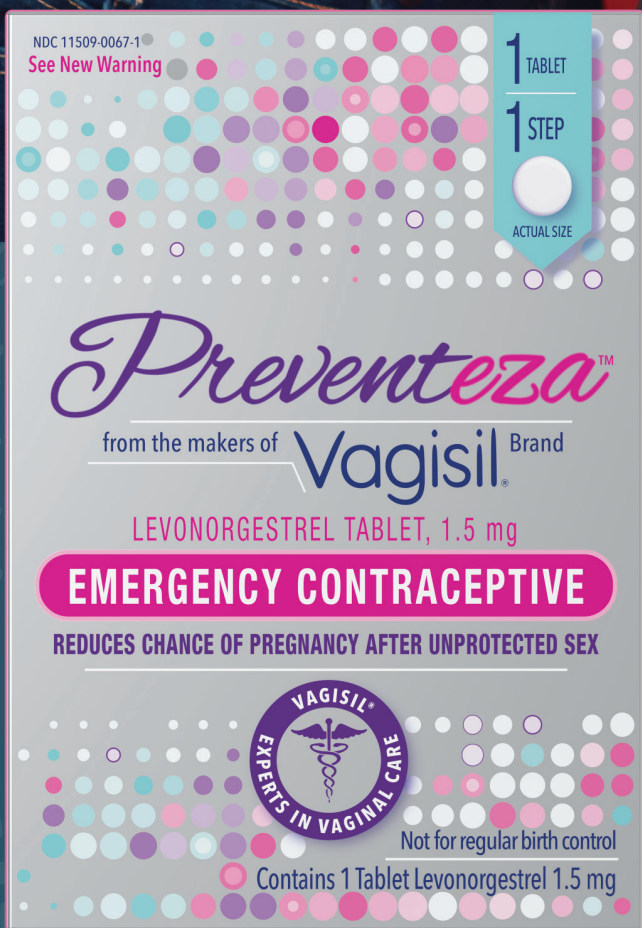
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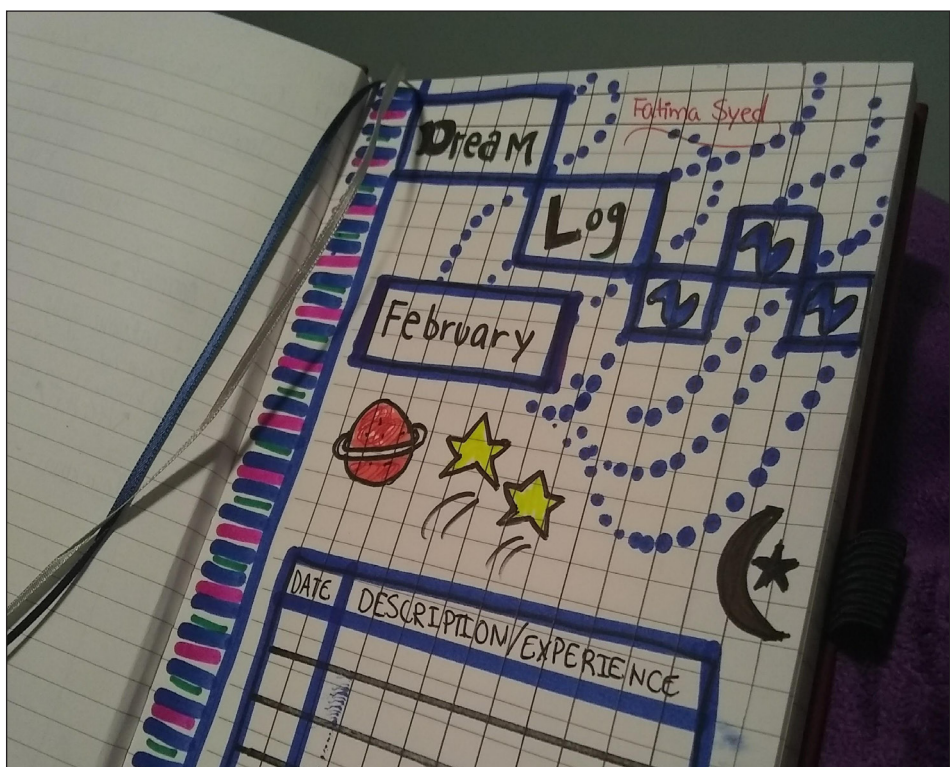
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DO IT YOURSELF

Bullet Journals: A Cheap and Creative Way to Organize

By FATIMA SYED



FATIMA SYED / ASP

This page was cheap, easy and fun to make

Coming home every day to a messy room with grocery lists, to-do lists, and numerous Chinese fortunes scattered all over made me re-think the method by which I keep track of documents that are important to me. In the past, my inability to find certain papers has really hurt my

grade in classes, and I wondered if there was a better way to help me compile all my personal items together. After doing some research online, I found the perfect way I could stay organized while having some fun. Two words: bullet journaling.

The 'bullet' in bullet journalism comes from bulleted lists, which typi-

cally include short, attention grabbing phrases to help condense jumbled ideas into a few simple words. It is a creative way to keep track of notes, important dates, finances, documents, and goals. Bullet journalism helps make life easier for many people, as it can serve as a planner, to-do list, and diary all-in-one. The functions that a bullet journal can serve for people are flexible, it all depends on what you need to keep track of.

Typically, bullet journal sheets have a dotted grid pattern so that you can make clean lines when you are creating a spread. Notebooks specially made for bullet journaling can be found online by many craft retailers. However, normal grid paper that students use for geometry can work just as well! The UAlbany bookstore sells these for less than \$3.00.

Think about what tasks you have difficulty keeping track of. After mentally compiling all the tasks you feel are important, number all your pages and create an index in the beginning of your journal that will help you easily locate your various spreads. Then, create a symbol spread which will help you easily group and identify similar tasks.

For example, in my bullet journal, I designed an X mark symbol that I use to quickly identify whether I am finished with an assignment or not. Instead of jumbling all tasks that I need to complete and hope I can find my homework tasks within it, I created a homework spread specifically for February. When I flip through my homework spread for

February, I no longer waste any extra time figuring out what I have completed and what I still need to complete.

As you continue to bullet journal, you may realize that there are multiple reminders that fall into the same category. One example of this are birthdays for the loved ones in your life. When I think of birthdays, I think of birthday cakes! In my birthday/special life event spread, I designed a birthday cake symbol that I use to quickly locate the birthdays of my friends and family when I am flipping through my bullet journal.

Your bullet journal can be minimalist and to the point with simple titled spreads consisting of one color throughout the page and short bulleted lists underneath them. Or, you may want to use this as a creative outlet, too, and incorporate color, stickers, and photos. For plain black ink, I recommend good quality fountain pens that will not bleed through the page. For incorporating color, I recommend mid-liners and fine-liners for striking through words, and then highlighters for coloring in and underlining words.

If you choose to buy the supplies through the UAlbany Bookstore, the cost will be approximately \$12 altogether.

There is no wrong way to design your bullet journal- just do it in the way that helps you become efficient, organized, and complete your goals. Happy Bullet Journaling!



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THEATRE

An Actress of Uncommon Ability

By ELIZABETH MCCORMICK

At a time when disability representation is lacking in popular media, a UAlbany actress with cerebral palsy takes the stage in March.

GLAAD's yearly Where We Are On TV report found that only 2.1% of characters on primetime television are characters with disabilities, even though people with disabilities make up 13.3% of the population.

Only a fraction of characters with disabilities on television were played by disabled actors. In the theatre, opportunities are starting to slowly open up for actors with disabilities.

Ali Stroker made history as the first actress in a wheelchair to appear on a Broadway stage in 2015, four years ago. Since then, there have only been two notable productions on Broadway that featured actors with disabilities -- The Glass Menagerie with Madison Ferris, and Cost of Living with two disabled actors, Greg Mogzala and Katy Sullivan. Cost of Living won the 2018 Pulitzer Prize for Drama.

Though representation is lacking, the UAlbany Theatre Programs upcoming play, Our Country's Good, features an actress with a disability: Teisha Riley. She plays both L.T. Dawes and Claire, a prisoner.

Teisha is a junior here at UAlbany, who was born with cerebral palsy. After majoring in Paralegal Studies at her local community college, she realized that wasn't for her and transferred here to pursue a degree in Theatre.

Teisha agrees that opportunities for disabled actors in theatre are expanding, and says "it really is a perfect time for me to be learning and pursuing acting professionally."

However, she does believe that her cerebral palsy can be a barrier when it comes to getting roles in heavy dance musicals.

"The theatre program here has been

really great about making sure I am comfortable with what is being asked of me and allowing accommodations to be made if needed," said Teisha.

Coming to UAlbany was the best decision I have made in terms of my training. All the faculty in the theatre [department] have been nothing but, encouraging and supportive. Having my first show here be directed by Chad [Larabee] is so fitting because he's really played a big part in me becoming comfortable in my own skin as an actor."

When asked how her disability has impacted her, she said "I'm now very aware of how I move and have had to accept the fact that it is different from everyone else," she adds, "Most importantly to me, it has taught me the true meaning of the phrase 'where there's a will there's a way.'"

Director Chad Larabee welcomes all actors with disabilities to UAlbany productions. He believes they can "weave new layers of understanding into a character," and that "part of the UAlbany Theatre Program's success lies in our desire to be inclusive of everyone who wishes to create theatre."

Director Larabee gave high praise to Teisha, saying "I am grateful that Teisha has been so fearless in allowing her disability to play a part in our telling of Our Country's Good. An actor's job is to use every aspect themselves in the creation of a character, if anything Teisha is able to bring added depth to the characters she plays because of her disability."

See Our Country's Good, showing from March 7 - 10th, 2019, on the Main Stage in the Performing Arts Center. Tickets are priced as follows: Advanced Student Price - \$12, Day of Show Student Price - \$17, Advanced General Price - \$17, Day of Show General Price - \$22.



Courtesy of Teisha Riley



DALIA YAN / ASP
UAlbany's former mascot Pedwin the Penguin patrols campus in support of a 'Throwback Game'

PHOTOS

CHAMPS AGAIN

Men's track captures 13th indoor title



All photos by
JAY BENDLIN / ASP

Q&A

Jeff Kaier: Leading Danes Baseball to Champions

By ALEC AMBRUSO

The following Q&A is an excerpt from an interview I conducted with UAlbany Baseball's Associate Head Coach, Jeff Kaier ahead of the 2019 season, his eighth as an assistant coach and second in his current position. In this interview, we discuss what motivates him, how he treats his players individually, how his 2007 NCAA Tournament appearance as a player made an everlasting impact on him and more.

What is your first baseball memory?

Probably when I was five or six years old when I started playing tee-ball. Before, it was organized with my family, with my dad—who would play catch with me, and we would hit off the tee. And throughout my whole life, my dad and I would hit all the time.

What has your father taught you? Anything specific to just get you through life?

Yeah, absolutely. I think my first memories of coaching were from him. And I think just understanding the game and understanding how to deal with people—he's a general manager of a business and has to

deal with people all the time—he's really taught me a lot more than just baseball. In this profession, that's big. When I was playing, our better teams were those that had good team chemistry. I was able to deal with a lot of different personalities, and kind of keep everybody together on the same path.

And how do you keep so many groups of people together to win a championship?

It's a difficult thing to do and we're in the process of doing it now. We have 11 new players on our roster, and there's 11 different stories that go with each of those players. We need 35 guys pulling the rope the same way to accomplish our goals—and if one guy's not, that's hurting the rest of the team.

What motivates you on a daily basis?

Well, I'm lucky enough to be in a profession that I really, really love. Seeing [my players] succeed

in all areas—not just baseball—but after college. That motivates me.



And also the motivation from a baseball standpoint is to get back to a regional. I was lucky enough to be in one in 2007. I think we've been close the past couple years. And we're hoping this is the year—it's something that the players can

take with them and have with them for the rest of their life. That'll keep you motivated on a daily basis.

What was it like to be a part of a team that went so far in UAlbany history?

When you see your name pop up on ESPN2, where you're going to a regional, it's something you never forget. When I look back at it now—and that's what I tell our guys—I look back at it now, it's just something I'll never forget and it's tough to understand when you're that age, and that's what we try to get our guys to understand, like at the end of all of this, this is what everybody is working for. And if we can get here, it's something that you can take with you for the rest of your life and you'll never forget.

Since baseball is such a big part of your life, and you have a [communication] degree, what else would you picture yourself

doing if it wasn't in the sport of baseball?

It's funny you ask that. I'm always listening to sports talk radio, and that's something with a communication degree that I'd be really interested in. Something in that field is very interesting to me just being able to talk sports.

If you had to tell yourself one thing to your younger coach-version of yourself, what would you tell yourself to get you to the point you are at now and to grow further?

Maybe when I first started, I was more like 'This is more of the way we need to do it,' but over time, it's kind of evolved into understanding everyone's personality, and that's what I would say is just getting to know each guy, staying in contact with them once they've committed to the school and learning their background. There's endless things, and getting to know them really makes them respond. That's what I think is important and what I would say to myself back then to this point now that I think has helped in the evolution of my coaching career.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Danes Dog Out Maryland Retrievers 84-75

By **SKYLER HELLER**

On Throwback night, the University at Albany men's basketball team breezed through an 84-75 victory over the University of Maryland- Baltimore County Retrievers (18-11) (AE, 10-4).

Hot shooting and a balanced attack helped the Great Danes open on an early first half lead, and strong defense would help the Danes secure the victory.

The Danes donned jerseys that read "NYSCT", paying homage to The New York State College for Teachers Pedagogues, the former team name that was used until 1963.

Five Great Danes scored in double figures as freshman guard Cameron Healy led the balanced charge with 21 points and a record-breaking performance.

With only two seconds to go in the first half, Healy sank a 30-foot buzzer beater, bringing his season total for three pointers made to 95, a new program record.

Healy would finish the night on 6-7 shooting including 5-6 shooting behind the arc.

"Its very rare to see a freshman break a record like that," junior guard Ahmad Clark said. "He worked so hard in the summer. I'm happy for him."

"Cameron is an absolute flamethrower" said Coach Brown, "every time he shoots, I think its going in."

Big contributions came off the bench, notably from Ahmad Clark, who had a big game on both ends of the court. Clark, who spent most of the season starting, put up 12 points, contributed eight assists as well as five steals in 25 minutes of play.

"What I'm trying to get him to understand is that there are nights where he's going to get 25, and we are going to need that," says Coach Brown on Clarks transition to the bench, "...And there are going to be nights where he might only get us six or eight points but he gets other guys 20. He has been great off the bench"

Freshman forward Malachi De Sousa had a break out performance, finishing with 15 points, six rebounds, three



Source: UAlbany Sports

blocks, and an emphatic dunk late in the second half to bring the lead to 20.

UMBC junior Arkel Lamar gave UMBC their only lead of the game when he hit the first basket of the contest to give the Retrievers a 2-0 lead. Once UAlbany built a double-digit lead midway through the first, they kept the pressure on and never let the lead fall below nine.

The Danes shot 56 percent from the field and made 13-of-27 three pointers. UMBC also had a hot shooting night, making over 55 percent of their shots, but found

themselves on the wrong end of 12 free throws made difference.

UMBC's leading scorer, Joe Sherburne finished the night with 13 points, six rebounds and six assists. Junior guard K.J. Jackson provided on the few bright spots for UMBC and led his team in scoring with 16.

The Danes improve to 11-17 (6-7 AE) and look to stay hot as the season starts to wind down.

MEN'S LACROSSE

UALBANY WINS THRILLER, BEATS DREXEL 13-12

By **WILL GAITINGS**

Philadelphia, PA – High intensity, momentum swings, and edge-of-your-seat action. This one had it all.

The University at Albany men's lacrosse team (1-1) defeated the Drexel Dragons (1-2) 13-12 at Vidas Field Saturday in a wild game that featured five ties and three lead changes.

Junior attackman Jakob Patterson led all scorers with five goals and junior attacking midfielder David Diamond added four as UAlbany withstood Drexel's second half push to win its first game of the season.

Junior goalkeeper Nate Siekierski made 14 saves including a key stop from 12-yards out in the final seconds of the game to secure his first career win as a collegiate starter.

"We had guys step up today," UAlbany head coach Scott Marr said. "We had good team chemistry. I thought our goaltender played outstanding. He made big saves at big times."

Drexel started fast, amassing an early 4-1 lead midway through the first.

UAlbany's offense came alive in the second quarter, ripping off a four-goal stretch that included a buzzer-beater from Diamond to put the Great Danes ahead 6-5 at halftime.

After Drexel tied the game at seven early in the third, the Danes responded. Patterson scored two goals while Davis and sophomore attackman Tehoka Nanticoke tacked on two more to give UAlbany an 11-7 advantage with 5:31 remaining in the frame.

Drexel answered with a five-goal run that bridged the third and fourth quarters, retaking the lead 12-11.

As pace slowed, Patterson scored



Source: UAlbany Sports

his fifth to tie it with 8:02 to play while Diamond provided what proved to be the game-winner with 5:46 remaining. The Dragons threatened in the final moments but UAlbany's defense stood tall to seal the victory.

Junior attackman Reid Bowering and

junior midfielder Collin Mailman both scored three goals in defeat for Drexel. Junior goalkeeper John Roulston stopped 14 shots.

The Great Danes, who scored their fewest goals in a game since 2010 last week versus Syracuse, ran well in transition and assisted

on six of their scores.

"We moved the ball a lot better today," Patterson said. "I thought we got our motion going, moved the ball, and we were glad to get the 'W.'"

UAlbany looks to win its second game of the season Saturday afternoon at Cornell.

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