



ASAP

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TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2017 ISSUE 10 ALBANYSTUDENTPRESS.NET

FREE TUITION

Excelsior Scholarship Receives Lukewarm Sentiment

By ELISE COOMBS

Students from households earning less than \$100,000 will receive free tuition at University at Albany this fall, but they will be bound by a set of requirements.

The free tuition as part of the Excelsior Scholarship will require students receiving the money to take 30 credits a year and live in state after graduation.

The scholarship is like a contract, according to SUNY Student Assembly President Marc Cohen

"I think students are going to look at it and recognize that they're entering into something of a contract," he said.

For instance, if students receiving the scholarship move out of state after graduation, they will have to pay back the scholarship in the form of a loan.

Some say this requirement is reasonable, but others say it is unfair for students.

Cohen is one who disagrees with the in-state living requirement.

"We need to be supporting students' access to higher education without strings attached,"

he said.

Cohen believes that if students receive a job offer in another state, they should feel free to accept it.

On the contrary, the chair of the university's economic department said that the requirement is reasonable.

"Entirely from a fiscal balance-of-the-budget perspective, it makes sense to do what they're doing," said Adrian Masters.

Masters said that the in-state requirement creates the potential for students to remain in

Please see **TUITION** page 3



Tyler A. McNeil / Albany Student Press

INTERIM'S NEXT TITLE UNCLEAR AS SEARCH NEARS FINAL STRETCH

By TYLER A. MCNEIL

Interim President James Stellar wants to lead the University at Albany under a permanent title.

But under SUNY policy, interim leaders are prohibited from throwing their

names into a presidential search unless a waiver is provided by the Chancellor. Stellar's request, sent over the winter, has not been granted.

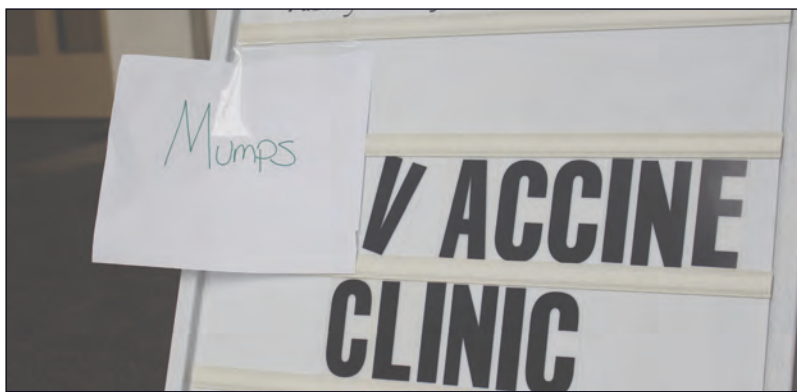
Stellar was appointed under these guidelines by the SUNY Board of Trustees in September before Robert Jones'

departure to lead dual roles as chancellor of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and vice president of the University of Illinois System. A search committee was formed thereafter.

"I did not expect to like it so much when I took it, but I'm having a great time

Please see **STELLAR** page 2

HEALTH



Tyler A. McNeil / Albany Student Press

Mumps Cases Grow

Eight students have been infected with mumps, a sharp rise in cases since the virus was first reported at the University at Albany less than two weeks back.



SUNY

Board Taps Engineer for Chancellor



Source: Wikipedia Commons

By LINDSEY RIBACK

The changes keep coming. Just two weeks after free tuition was approved for SUNY and CUNY schools, the state-wide university system appointed its new chancellor.

Kristina Johnson, a former undersecretary for the U.S. Department of Energy, was appointed as the 13th chancellor for the nation's largest public higher education institution. She will succeed Nancy Zimpher who has served as chancellor since 2009.

Following her appointment, Johnson said she was excited and grateful to be in Albany,

and "have the opportunity serve a system in a state whose governor has put higher education front and center of his agenda."

In addition to serving as undersecretary, the Colorado native who was born in St. Louis has a background not just in the physical sciences, but education as well.

Johnson is the founder and CEO of a hydroelectric company and has served as provost and vice president for academic affairs at John Hopkins University. Also, she was the dean of Duke University's School of Engineering and a professor at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Due to this wide range of previous positions, Johnson is aware of the need for an interdisciplinary approach to any topic, especially when it comes to higher education.

"You can't build a company by just having one discipline," she said, emphasizing the need for not just research, but teaching, education and outreach. "I do think technical is one path but it's not the only path to the future of jobs."

This philosophy is one of the reasons she stood out amongst other applicants for the position.

According to SUNY Trustee Chairman Carl McCall, she is a leader and entrepreneur in both

private and public sectors.

Another distinguishing characteristic of Johnson is her commitment to diversity, equality and inclusion as noted by both Zimpher and Trustee Marc Cohen.

"[She's] the right leader to keep SUNY at the top of its game," Zimpher said.

Besides continuing to promote diversity and inclusion, one major challenge Johnson could face is enrollment.

SUNY-wide, enrollment has declined roughly 15 percent in the past year from 442,940 in 2015 to 436,138 in 2016.

Please see **JOHNSON** page 2

STELLAR

Continued from Page 1

doing it, so if it was offered, that's the position I would choose -- president," said Stellar. SUNY has not yet provided a comment.

Should Stellar not be waived to apply -- which faces increasing odds as presidential finalists are set to be vetted before month's end -- he has considered taking on an administrative research role or teaching in the psychology program. His future would be sealed by the next president.

Despite a waning window, a growing online movement is afoot to throw Stellar's name in the pool. Last week, Erica Swatson released a petition on change.org advocating for Stellar to be considered in the presidential search. So far, the appeal has received over 700 signatures

The petition is not only set to be delivered to SUNY governance, but also Russell Reynolds Associates, the \$245,000 capped search firm, and Michael Castellana, chair of the presidential search committee.

"Interestingly, as potential applicants request information on the position, a common question relates to the eligibility of the interim, if one exists," said Castellana in an email. "Where there is not an exclusion of an interim, the pool is often dramatically reduced for [the] obvious reason of fairness."

He continued: "As Provost, Interim President Stellar had an opportunity to be considered for the permanent position but chose instead to be the interim and he has done an excellent job of keeping the momentum of the university in anticipation of our 20th president."

Stellar arrived at the university in 2015 as senior vice president for Academic Affairs and provost. In that role, Stellar helped launch two STEM colleges set on thrusting Jones' enrollment goal of 20,000 students by 2020 and securing university identity -- which took a blow after the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering left UAlbany.

Francis Agyemang, 2013-15 Student Association president, signed on to the petition based on his own experiences with Stellar over a year before stepping in Jones' shoes. Agyemang has lauded Stellar in the past for supporting UAlbany's Minority Association of Pre-medical Students.

"I think it would be the biggest mistake we have made," said Agyemang about not waiving Stellar.

In early December, SA unanimously passed a resolution asking for Stellar to put his name forward. It also called for the University Council to recommend him to the Board of Trustees. Stellar would be best fit to continue university expansion, the resolution argued.

UAlbany has had recurrent leadership shifts over the last 13 years: two officers-at-large, four presidents, and three interim presidents (George Philip served as both interim and permanent president). Karen Hitchcock was last university president to serve more than three years.

According to Jenna Ashley Robinson, president of the James G. Martin Center for Academic Renewal, a higher education reform hub in North Carolina, frequent turnover can hinder administrative initiatives.

"So I think that the upshot of all of that is that you're going to have a lot of time being spent where either you're searching for a new leader or that leader is trying to get a feel of what is going on in the institution," said Robinson.

Michael Christakis, vice president of Student Affairs, has experienced nine changes in leadership while working in the department. This round, he believes the university has landed on stable ground left by Jones.

Under Jones, UAlbany pushed several multi-million dollar construction projects, partnered with Albany Law School, and buoyed intercollegiate athletics.

"In a lot of ways, the search itself, the way it's been framed, my hope and general thinking is that candidates will be attracted to the University at Albany because of that momentum," said Christakis.

RENOVATION

Podium Door Upgrade Planned for Summer

By MAC BULLOCK

As part of the on-going effort to modernize campus, the University at Albany is in the process of receiving new doors.

The university's Facilities Management team is replacing the exterior doors of buildings on the podium, which have a reputation for being heavy and difficult to open.

"This project will replace sets of 1960's-era steel exterior door systems on the Academic Podium," reads the initiative's webpage. "Replacing these doors is a core deferred maintenance need as they are in poor

condition and continue to provide ongoing maintenance and operational challenges to the University."

As well as being infamously heavy, the doors do not meet the accessibility standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

The Facilities Management team plans to replace the existing doors with "lighter, easy functioning aluminum/glass panel doors."

The replacement doors will be similar "in style and function" as the ones at the entrances to the Campus Center, the University Library, the Fine Arts building, and the Arts & Sciences building.

Podium buildings slated for the renovation include the Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Education, Social Sciences, and Humanities buildings, as well as the Performing Arts Center.

Construction has already begun on the north and east entrances to the Social Sciences building, and the project is expected to be completed during the fall semester.

In addition to replacing the doors, the project will include "installation of motorized door operators at some locations," as well as cosmetic renovations to the vestibules between the exterior and interior doors.



Roughly 60-year-old hefty Campus Center doors latched onto the Education Building facing the Campus Center.

Tyler A. McNeil / Albany Student Press

JOHNSON

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However, there is speculation that the Excelsior Scholarship plan, which will provide free tuition for SUNY and CUNY students whose families make under \$125,000 a year by 2019, will garner a newfound interest in

attending SUNY and increase enrollment numbers.

Regarding the scholarship program, Johnson said, "I think it's very exciting one of the things that really attracted me to the position, the ability to work towards making higher education more affordable." She noted that an estimated 80,000 students are eligible for the scholarship, with half

currently pursuing aid under TAP.

"There could be another 40,000 students and I'm excited about those students having an opportunity to get a higher education," she said.

The former under secretary takes office Sept. 5 and there is speculation that Zimpher will find herself on the University at Albany campus.

According to Michael Parker, the associate director of communications, in the original appointment letter from when Zimpher assumed the role of chancellor, she also accepted a position with the School of Education.

"The information that I'm getting is from her original appointment letter ... I cannot confirm what her plans are," he said.

CRIME BLOTTER

DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED

4/21/2017
Western Ave
Report of a female student driving while intoxicated. Vehicle was towed and an arrest and a referral were made.

DRUG COMPLAINT

4/21/2017 1
Colonial Quad- Livingston Tower
Report of odor of marijuana. Nothing found.

PETIT LARCENY

4/21/2017
Dutch Quad- Bleeker Hall
Report of stolen prescription medication.

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA

4/22/2017
Indian Quad- Oneida Hall
Report of a male

student with marijuana paraphernalia.

AGGRAVATED UNLICENSED OPERATION OF A MOTOR VEHICLE

4/22/2017
Empire Commons Lot
Report of a male subject driving with an expired inspection sticker, a suspended license, an active warrant out of New York City and in possession of marijuana.

PETIT LARCENY

4/22/2017
SEFCU Lot
Report of a stolen banner from SEFCU.

ARSON

4/23/2017
State Quad- Irving Hall
Report of a fire in State Quad by an unknown subject.

HARASSMENT

Downtown Campus- Phillip Schuyler
4/23/2017
Report of a male subject and a female subject in an altercation.

CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA

4/23/2017
Alumni Quad- Brubacher Hall
Report of a male subject and a female student smoking marijuana in public. The female student was referred.

CRIMINAL NUISANCE

4/23/2017
Indian Quad- Montauk Hall
Report of odor of marijuana in a male students room and a covered up smoke detector. An ar-

rest was made.

FIRE ALARM

4/23/2017
Alumni Quad- Pierce Hall
Caused by a hairdryer.

FIRE ALARM

4/23/2017
Indian Quad Tuscarora Hall
Caused by marijuana smoke.

CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA

4/24/2017
Liberty Terrace North
Report of marijuana usage. Upon arrival there was an odor, however there was no contraband and all three male students admitted to smoking. Referred for same.

POSSESSION FORGED

INSTRUMENT

4/24/2017
Freedom Quad- Truth Hall
While on patrol RO detected odor of marijuana and was granted entry to student room. Marijuana was surrendered and one of the three male students was found to be in possession of a forged ID. All three parties referred for same.

GRAND LARCENY

4/24/2017
State Quad- Eastman Tower
Report taken for stolen property.

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA

4/25/2017
Colonial Quad- Livingston Tower
Odor of burned mari-

juana found while on routine patrol. Entry to room and search was allowed by the two male students. Marijuana and marijuana paraphernalia was confiscated. Referred for same.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

4/25/2017
Indian Quad Cafeteria
Report of male non-student damaging property of female student and throwing her against a wall before fleeing. Description of suspect given, Affidavit of ownership of damaged property completed, and domestic incident report filled out.

FIRE ALARM

4/25/2016
State Quad- Anthony Hall
Fire alarm result of

cooking. AFD arrived and the scene was cleared.

MEDICAL INCIDENT

4/25/2017 1
Dutch Quad- Grounds
Report of male student unconscious after another player landed on him while playing flag football. 5-Quad and GEMS responded, student regained consciousness and was then transported to hospital.

POSSESSION FORGED INSTRUMENT

4/27/2017
Podium Business Administration
Report of a female student in possession of marijuana, marijuana paraphernalia and alcohol. A referral was made.

TUITION

Continued from Page 1

for students to remain in state after graduation, which could generate more tax revenue for the state.

Echoing support of the requirement, Student Association Vice President Colin Manchester said, "New York state taxpayers are bearing the cost of this."

By making sure students don't leave the state right after graduation, they would be able to give back to the state's economy, Manchester said.

The other requirement of taking 30 credits a year will motivate students to complete their degree on time, according to Cohen. "This is a completion-driven scholarship," he said.

However, some students won't qualify for the scholarship because they are not taking 30 credits a year, like Connor Bucci, a freshman economics major with a minor in political science.

"I also don't plan on taking classes over the summer to meet the credit minimum because I plan on working on a consistent basis," Bucci said.

Bucci is in the 3+3 program with Albany Law School and came into UAlbany with at least 30 credits.

In the 2012-2013 undergraduate bulletin, the university reported that 55 percent of freshmen entering in fall 2007 graduated in four years.

While Cohen expects timely graduation rates to increase, he also expects the number of university applications to increase.

However, the effect on the university is not yet certain.



Tyler A. McNeil / Albany Student Press

New York State is the first swwtate to have tuition-free public higher education for both colleges and universities. Exactly 76 percent of students statewide will qualify for the scholarship, which translates to over 940,000 families.

Masters said the university will face the question of where the money for tuition will continue to come from.

Since the scholarship will be paid for out of state general funds, or revenues, Masters said that the scholarship could end up paying for itself when students pay taxes after graduation.

Even with this, the professor said the scholarship could take a while to benefit the state, but that

the effectiveness may be hard to detect.

"It's very hard to monitor whether it's paying for itself or not," Masters said.

The university has been in contact with SUNY administration regarding the scholarship every week, according to Sandra Starke, vice provost and associate vice provost for enrollment management.

Starke said that the university

is still waiting for more information from the Higher Education Services Corporation.

In the meantime, the 30-credit requirement will "certainly help more students focus on graduating within four years," Starke said. This coming year, the scholarship will cost \$163 million, which is 0.1 percent of the state's budget for fiscal year 2018.

Approximately 76 percent of students statewide will qualify for

the scholarship, which translates to over 940,000 families.

But with the requirements in place, senior Karman Lipscomb acknowledged that the scholarship must have passed as a result of some negotiations. Speaking to the requirements, Lipscomb said, "Unfortunately, that's just how our government runs. They give you something, but they need something back."

TECHNOLOGY

New York Makers Plan Busy Summer

By YOSHI NEILSON

Three hundred and fifty organizers attended the first New York State Maker Summit in Albany on March 24. President Obama's Senior Advisor for Making, Andrew Coy, in his keynote address, pointed out how the movement emphasizes the theme "create vs consume," and how makerspace members share technologies and tools to help one another build "creative confidence." Making is "telling a story and making mistakes, drafting and iterating."

The 1950s recreation center is being replaced with the 2010s technology center. New definitions of success emphasize how local collaborative efforts solve local problems. Makers see limitations as strengths. New York now hosts 70 maker spaces, in school campuses and non-profit buildings. "It's all about community," said Dan Schneiderman, President NYS Maker Network, "and inclusive diversity." Those who volunteer to learn a little, learn to volunteer a lot; both benefit themselves and their community.

Maker Summer Calendar

Capital Region

- May 3: IGDA Albany Meeting, Troy Start-up, Glens Falls Maker Space
- August 27: Troy Mini Maker Faire

Downstate

- Monday and Thursday Craft Nights: NYC Resistor
- May 18: NYU Game Center Student Show
- June 3: SLIME, Students of Long Island Maker Expo, Garden City
- June 10: Eastern Long Island Mini Maker Faire, Port Jefferson Summer, Creative Entrepreneur Bootcamps, Westchester CC Summer, STEM Summer Camp, NYC

Hudson Valley

- Weekly, Tour the Maker's Lab, Hurleyville
- May 27: Arts and Crafts Fair, New Paltz
- June 17: Great Hudson River Revival, Croton-on-Hudson

Central and Western NY

- Walk-in innovation coaching in Media, Arts, Games, Interaction and Creativity (MAGIC)
- May 13: Super Cool Indie Arts, Syracuse
- May 20: Buffalo Mini Maker Faire
- June 3: Ithaca Kinetic Sculpture Derby
- June 30: Wizarding Weekend, Ithaca, application for exhibitors/makers due

North Country

- May 9: Creating a Makerspace Culture in Your Classroom, Plattsburg

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ALBANY STUDENT PRESS

CLUBS

Martial Arts Club Fuses Different Histories

By EVE BREWER

Capoeira was created in the early 16th century by African people enslaved in Brazil. It is a fusion of various martial arts practices from different African peoples who were placed together on plantations, unable to communicate except in the language of their oppressors. People practiced capoeira in secret, disguising the deadly martial art as a harmless dance routine, training to become strong enough to revolt and escape slavery.

After slavery was banned by Princess Isabel of Portugal, some capoeiristas used their talents for evil, becoming mob enforcers called capoeira malts, and in reaction the Brazilian government banned the practice of capoeira. It continued as an underground sport until capoeira master Manuel dos Reis Machado, also known as Mestre Bimba, started a school to teach a variant of capoeira he called Luta Regional Baiana (regional fight of Bahia). The cultural elite learned capoeira from Mestre Bimba, and capoeira lost its association with organized crime; it became legal in the 1940s.

Since then, capoeira has spread world-

wide. Though its roots are in Brazilian culture and Portuguese remains the language in which capoeira moves are named and capoeira songs are sung, practitioners come from all over the globe.

"This is true and not true," according to Eng Wen Ong, founder of SUNY Albany's own capoeira club. The history of capoeira is murky, since it was passed down from teacher to student as an oral tradition for many years. The details of the story above may be exaggerated, but most of the history is true. Ong, who also goes by the capoeira name Cegonha, learned capoeira in his native Singapore. Six months before he started school at the University at Albany, the mestre—"master," an experienced capoeirista who teaches others-- who had run the capoeira club left and the club fell apart. Cegonha had no choice but to start a club of his own.

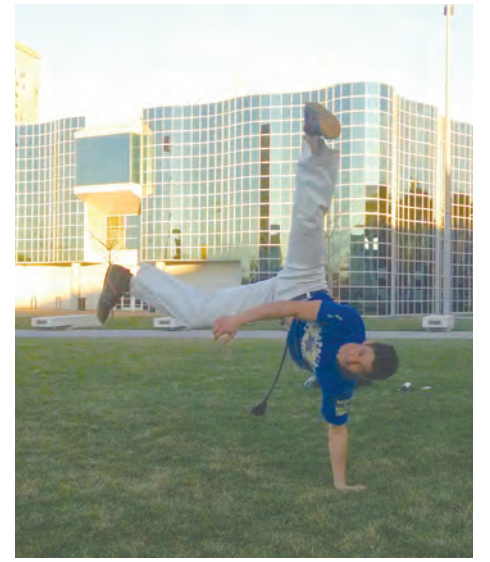
Each meeting of the capoeira club begins with song. The club members stand in a circle and sing in Portuguese, accompanied by handclapping and either Cegonha or his co-instructor Nick Moskwa on the berimbau. This instrument is a wooden bow strung with wire salvaged from a car tire,

with a hollowed gourd-like fruit as a resonator. It is played by tapping the wire with a short stick, while holding a metal disk and a small shaker in the same hand. Though the berimbau does not feature in the earliest depictions of capoeira, it has become the official instrument of the dance-like sport. The songs are composed specifically to accompany capoeira; one sung by the group at Albany, "Capoeira Mata Um," is about the oppression faced by the slaves who invented capoeira and their proficiency with the sport. The title translates to "Capoeira Kills One."

"The goal of capoeira is to hit your face! The goal of not dying after that is to protect your face!" as Moskwa put it while leading the other students in basic capoeira moves. He joined Cegonha's group in fall of 2015, and found he was the most advanced student. This led to him becoming a co-instructor.

Currently, the capoeira club has about a half dozen members. Their practice sessions, every Monday at 6 p.m., attract a lot of rubbernecking and many people who attend one meeting and then never return. Cegonha and Moskwa intend, if they can,

to continue the club over the summer and in future semesters. But to do that, they say they will need more members.



Eve Brewer / Albany Student Press
Nick Moskwa demonstrates capoeira techniques at a practice.

MUSIC

Pep and Marching Band are Part of the Sports Culture, Create Supportive Atmosphere

By ELENA POLLACK

One of my favorite parts of football and basketball games is getting to hear what new musical performances the marching and pep bands have practiced. It adds something extra to the games, and I love seeing all the ways people can get involved with our sports teams without having to be an athlete themselves! According to Mackenzie Trpcic, an athlete on the women's basketball team, the bands gives her team "a sense of the home crowd." But what does it mean to be a part of the Marching or Pep Bands?

From the band's perspectives, it's another home. It's a place where music lovers and at UAlbany can gather together and share their passions with newfound friends.

"I really enjoy the entire pep band as a group," junior Ben Shiller said. "It's a group of talented musicians who are showing their spirit every game to make the experience that much more fun."

Junior Erin Lynch, the section leader, loves the friendships she's made over the last three years.

"Band is one of the few places you get to interact with people from all walks of life and all different majors on this cam-

pus, which means you open yourself up to friendships you never would have had the opportunity of making."

Joining the band is also a great way of connecting with the athletes. Heather Forster, Trpcic's teammate, loves the support and enthusiasm the band provides.

"Not only do they use their free time to cheer us on at every home game, but they also made the long bus ride out to Maine to support us. The pep band has made up cheers for all of our players, posters for the championship game, and cheered us on at every game. I don't think there's anything they haven't done to show their support for us."

Oftentimes, it's the band members that are the biggest fans. Obviously, students and community members come to the games and support the athletes, but it's the musicians who put in hours and weeks of practice for their performances, just like the athletes.

"The bands are a part of our team and our basketball culture and without them, there wouldn't be the atmosphere that they help to create," Trpcic said. "Also, I do love it when they battle against a visiting band."

Charlie Voelker, the associate athletic

director, is incredibly proud of the bands.

"They've been a huge help to our atmosphere at our games. Kevin Champagne [the band director] has done an awesome job," Voelker said. "I wish we had 500 band members, because they're so enthused and they're so spirited. I think they represent a lot of what being a student is all about. Not everybody plays sports. But you can be a part of it without playing sports, and they're really a big part of it."

Champagnes said the members of the band should have musical experience, although it's not the be-all-end-all.

"The music we play is generally no harder than what they may have played in a high school pep band. There's just a lot more of it," Champagne said. "Every year we've had marching band we've had beginners. By the end of the semester they're as good as everyone else."

Joanna Bernabei-McNamee, head coach of the women's basketball team, said the band creates a "sixth man" and gives UAlbany a "winning atmosphere."

When asked what impact she felt the bands had on the school, Coach Mac said, "A collegiate band really sets you apart from other schools because true school

spirit and camaraderie shine through a great band - like the one we have here at UAlbany."

"The band really pulls everyone in and creates an electrifying atmosphere," Coach Mac said.

It's safe to say, the band is doing its job to everyone's liking.



Tessa Schaal / Albany Student Press

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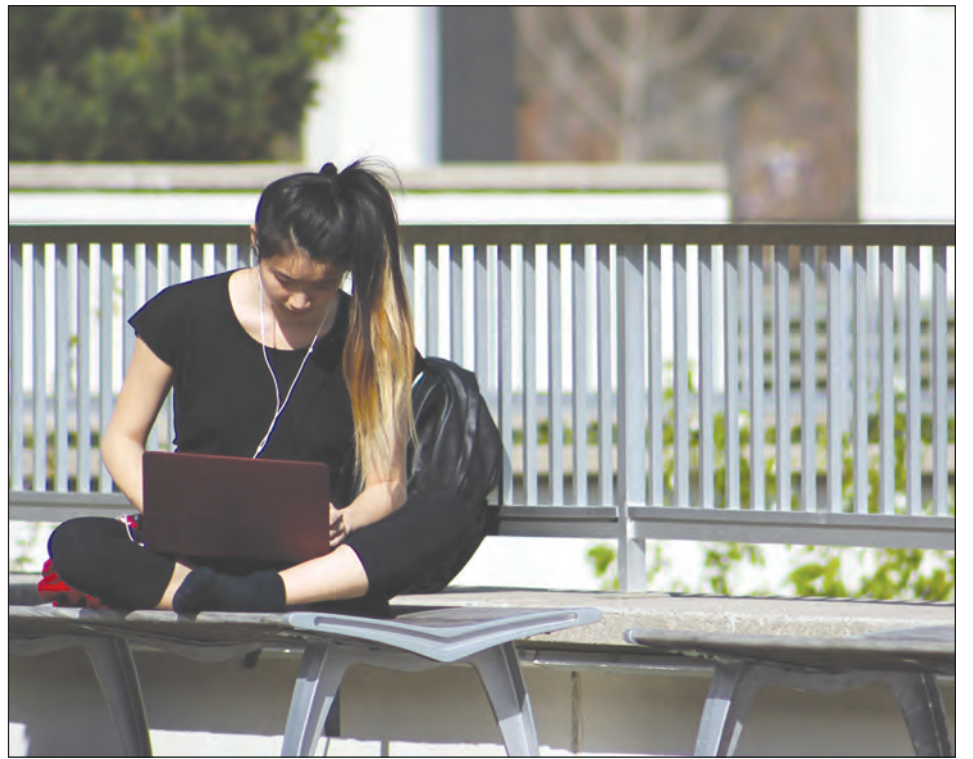
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Alexandra Nefadova and Christopher Pounds/Albany Student Press



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CINEMA

“THE CIRCLE” IS EASILY 2017’S MOST DISAPPOINTING MOVIE

By DANIEL RUSSELL

Adapted from the 2013 novel of the same name, “The Circle” hit theaters this past weekend. Directed by James Ponsoldt, the film revolves around a young woman named Mae (Emma Watson) who starts working at the eponymous social media company, founded by the charismatic Eamon Bailey (Tom Hanks). As Mae gradually becomes acquainted with her colleagues and responsibilities, she finds herself questioning the moral standards regarding privacy in the digital age, as well as a possible cover-up by the company. The result here is easily one of the most disappointing movies of the year that drops the ball in almost every way, and may even be the worst film of the year so far.

One of the film’s most noticeable errors is in the direction and editing, both of which never really seem to make up their minds. There’s some interesting ideas brought up by the film regarding the intentions of the company, but the film shies away from this, focusing largely on subplots that Mae is always the center of. The subplots themselves are shoddily paced and edited as well, with long stretches of time placed between them and the main story that aren’t weaved together very well. This all culminates into a climax that occurs just for the sake of ending the film, and doesn’t focus very much on the scenes before and after its “big” ending. Another 15-20 minutes or so could’ve been added to the film to make its ending more effective, but it ends rather abruptly, leaving much to be desired.

Going along with the editing aspect, the film’s tone has some issues as well. The film goes back and forth between attempting to be a comical satire in the same vein as an episode of “Black Mirror,” and attempting to be a conspiracy thriller. The film tries to be the former towards the beginning, but there’s times where scenes are too drawn out to be considered comical, and even comes off as cringy on occasion. When the film makes the transition to the latter, the stakes don’t feel earned, and the result is a “thriller” that doesn’t really have any thrills.

The performances here range from passable to poor. Thankfully, Emma Watson is passable as Mae, and Hanks is good as Eamon (is he ever not?). Unfortunately, most of supporting cast is either wasted, or turns in less than satisfactory performances. The most notorious of which is Ellar Coltrane as Mercer, a friend of Mae’s. He functions as someone who serves as an interesting opposite to the tech revolution going on, but Coltrane comes across as too angsty and overdramatic at times.



Source: Flickr

Karen Gillan stars as Annie, one of Mae’s friends and coworkers. She appears in and out of the movie, and can’t seem to decide on whether or not she wants to do a Scottish or American accent (Watson’s accent is spotty here too, but it’s not as bad as Gillan’s). John Boyega and Patton Oswalt are both present as well, but the film doesn’t really give them much to do, and they feel wasted as a result.

While watching “The Circle,” one can’t help but get the feeling that the

original script for the film had a lot of potential. But along the way, some aspects of the film didn’t carry over to the screen, or were carried over awkwardly. Although Watson and Hanks try their hardest with what they’re given, they can’t make up for all the film’s other failures.

The result is a film that’s hugely disappointing, and may be one of the worst films of 2017. If it wasn’t clear already, you might wanna skip this film.

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WEEKLY EVENTS

Around UAlbany and the Capital Region

TUES
May 2

Electropop Band

7:00 p.m.
English band Fenech-Soler performs at the Hollow Bar and Kitchen.

FRI
May 5

Cruise

4:00 p.m.
Cinco de Mayo Cruise at Dutch Apple Cruises and Tours. Tickets: \$25.25 pre-sale, \$30 day of. BBQ Dinner

WED
May 3

Open Mic

7:30-10:30 p.m.
At Old Songs Community Arts Center in Voorheesville.

SAT
May 6

Orchestra

3:00-5:00 p.m.
PROJECT Trio accompanies youth musicians from Empire State Youth Orchestra. Tickets \$10-20.

THRS
May 4

Evening at the Institute

5:00-8:00 p.m.
At the Albany Institute of History and Art. Free Admission.

SUN
May 7

Mayday Parade

7:30 p.m.
American pop punk band performs at Upstate Concert Hall. Tickets \$25.



The Metropolitan Museum of Art has been digitizing over 300,000 works of art and has recently put them in the public domain. This photo was a gift of the Eilenberg-Rosen Partnership, 2001.
Title: Earring with Wire and Granules **Date:** 8th-12th century **Culture:** Indonesia (Central Java)

TOBACCO

CRITICS STOMP VAPE BAN IN TOBACCO-FREE MOVEMENT



Tyler McNeil/Albany Student Press

By **MAC BULLOCK**

Students lobbied University at Albany policymakers to ban the use of all tobacco products on campus grounds last week.

As part of the National Public Health Week initiative, the New York State Public Health Association's undergraduate chapter at UAlbany worked to rally support from other students to prevent smoking on campus. In addition to cigarettes and cigars, the ban would include smokeless tobacco products and electronic vaporizers.

NYSPHA President and spokesman Michael Seserman has said the policy is meant to "improve the health of the campus community," increase "respect for the campus environment," and reduce tobacco-related litter campus-wide.

Seserman noted that nearly half of SUNY universities already have tobacco-free policies in place, and that UAlbany is the only university in the Capital Region that allows the use of tobacco products on campus grounds.

Pressed on whether the ban would

decrease the number of students who currently use tobacco products, Seserman said he believes it would, though he noted that's not the policy's purpose.

"The aim is to reduce exposure to smoke for all students," said Seserman, adding that the proposed ban would be more effective than the current policy of designating smoking areas, "as it's clear those don't work."

In regards to the inclusion of smokeless tobacco and electronic vaporizers, Seserman said he that does not want to encourage students who smoke to switch to another form of tobacco use, but instead to quit altogether.

Student Association President-Elect Jerlisa Fontaine supports the policy, agreeing that tobacco use affects the whole of the student body, not only the user.

"It is important to allow people to practice their liberty and do things that make them happy," Fontaine said. "However, tobacco doesn't help anyone; it only harms them."

Fontaine agreed with Seserman that the current policy of allowing tobacco use in designated areas is ineffective

and often ignored, and concluded that the push for a tobacco-free campus was a "great initiative."

SA Vice President Colin Manchester supports the effort to ban smoking on campus, but stops short of endorsing the NYSPHA initiative wholesale. However, he does not agree with the inclusion of smokeless tobacco and electronic vaporizers.

"No, I do not. These products are only harming the individual who chooses to use it," Manchester said.

Though he is inclined to support the ban, Manchester said that designating areas for tobacco use could be effective in limiting exposure to smoke, but added that such policies would need to be "implemented properly and enforced heavily."

Alec Vidiksis, a senior human biology major who smokes, supports the goal of creating a respectful environment for students who do not smoke, but only if the policies implemented are fair to those who do.

"You're telling me if I want to smoke my e-cig or a cigarette I have to walk 5 minutes off campus to take a few puffs? That's kind of ridiculous," he said.

While Vidiksis intends to follow the policy is implemented, he noted that many students may not.

Shane Carelli, a junior Psychology major who does not smoke but uses an electronic vaporizer, understands the push to limit tobacco smoke on campus, but is unsure how smokeless tobacco and vaporizers are harmful to other students. He is also doubtful that the ban could be enforced successfully.

"Nicotine use is an addiction, people aren't going to stop just because they make a rule stating it's not permitted," said Carelli. "The university is just going to waste more time and resources enforcing the policy that could be devoted to more important things."

The NYSPHA effort is not the first attempt to restrict tobacco use at UAlbany. The SUNY Board of Trustees passed a resolution in June of 2012 to support tobacco-free policies at all SUNY schools. Former UAlbany President Dr. Robert Jones had previously explored efforts to ban tobacco use on campus, but did not push for their implementation.

**It is not enough for journalists
to see themselves as mere
messengers without understanding
the hidden agendas of the message
and the myths that surround it.**

— JOHN PILGER, HIDDEN AGENDAS

NEW RECRUIT

MLAX INKS NEW RECRUIT FOR FALL

By GABE FLATEN

While the University at Albany men's lacrosse team is gearing up for a postseason run, its coaching staff is also putting the finishing touches on recruits for the 2018 season. The best of them all, Tehoka Nanticoke, is one who can help get the Great Danes in to the postseason again for years to come.

Nanticoke (pronounced De-hoge- uh Nan-tuh- coke), the IMG Academy (Bradenton, Fla.) and Iroquois star attackman, is committed to play for the University at Albany next season.

Last summer, he was named to the All-World Team and voted Best Attackman at the U-19 World Field Lacrosse Championships while leading the Iroquois Nationals to a bronze medal.

Don't let his quiet demeanor fool you. He plays like a rock star, constantly shooting and passing with one hand or behind his back. He has flair, vision, quickness, and an unmatched lacrosse I.Q. His solid, 6'1, 220-pound frame is a nightmare for defenses to guard, and his presence will be felt immediately next season.

Nanticoke is no stranger to facing stiff competition, which he will surely do when he arrives in Albany next season.

"When I turned 12, I started playing in U-18 lacrosse leagues," Nanticoke said.

Only a few years later, IMG's head coach, Jason Basso, saw Nanticoke light it up in the indoor leagues. Almost instantly, Basso knew the Native American could shine at IMG, a boarding school and popular sports training destination. Mark Burnam, an assistant with IMG, compares him to Lyle Thompson, the UAlbany alum and NCAA record holder for most points in a season (128) and career (400).

"Nanticoke is bigger and stronger than Lyle Thompson was at this age, and I think he will make a more instant impact," Burnam said.

Like Thompson, Nanticoke is an "unorthodox lacrosse player," who plays an unpredictable style that traditional defenses can't defend. Nanticoke's other assistant coach, Jason Levesque, noted his "presence" and ability to create opportunities for himself and his teammates.

"If you guard him one-on-one, he will get to where he wants," Levesque said.

UAlbany fans don't have to worry about how Nanticoke will adjust to the UAlbany offense. He turned



Source: Casey Vock/3drising.com

down offers from powerhouses Maryland and Syracuse-- teams UAlbany has lost to this season-- to join the Danes and head coach Scott Marr's system that allows for players like Thompson and current star Connor Fields to play freely.

"Scott Marr was the difference. I like his style; he gives his offensive players a lot of freedom," Nanticoke said.

Like Thompson and Fields, who currently leads the NCAA in scoring, Nanticoke will certainly take advantage of that freedom over the next four years. Also like Thompson and Fields, he has already made an appearance in SportsCenter's famed "Top 10." He reached the No. 2 spot in 2016 with a sensational one-handed, between-the-legs goal in a game against Don Bosco Prep High School in New Jersey.

"Those behind-the-back shots he does, the between-the-legs shots? I see him doing that when he is practicing by himself. He practices those shots," Levesque said.

Nanticoke and his coaches think he will fit perfectly

into UAlbany's offense, especially with Fields coming back for one more year. It's reminiscent of the 2015 season, when Fields was a freshman and was mentored by Thompson. Next year, Fields will have the chance to show Nanticoke the ropes so they can play off one another, much like Thompson did with him three years ago.

"I think we will mesh pretty well with our box backgrounds, running pick and rolls," Nanticoke said.

Burnam thinks the duo will cause serious problems for defenses. "When Nanticoke isn't getting double or triple-teamed, he's at his best because you can't guard him one-on-one," he said.

Nanticoke, like Fields, consistently draws multiple defenders. Next season, they will force defenses to play one-on-one or in a zone, which the duo will surely pick apart.

It is safe to say that in 2018, UAlbany fans wouldn't be surprised if Nanticoke starred in SportsCenter's "Top 10" again, which should give fans more hope and enthusiasm for the next four years.

LACROSSE

On Senior Night, Underclassmen Steal the Show

By TROY FARKAS

After a February practice, the University at Albany seniors gathered their team together. They hadn't practiced hard that day. They hadn't played to their capabilities. They failed to live up to UAlbany's standards.

Over two months later, the practice seems like a distant memory for the senior class, who played its final regular season game at UAlbany on Saturday night in a 16-10 win over Hartford.

On Senior Night, it was junior Kyle McClancy who stole the show. The red-headed midfielder scored a career-high five goals to lead the Danes to their 28th consecutive regular season America East win, the longest conference winning streak in the country.

"Five goals? Holy cow. That's a great night for him," head coach Scott Marr said after the game. "As a leader and a captain to step up in the second half, it was awesome."

McClancy scored his fourth and fifth goals at the start of the fourth quarter as part of a UAlbany run that saw the Danes score six unanswered. The Hawks had tied the Great Danes at eight with 8:22 in the third quarter, but UAlbany's relentless scoring attack extended the lead to 15-8 to put the finishing touches on Hartford.

Only trailing 8-5 at halftime, the Hawks hung with UAlbany longer than expected. UAlbany's face-off specialist, TD Ierlan, had won 12 of 14 face-offs and UAlbany nearly doubled Hartford's number of shots on goal. It was Hartford's physicality and intense defense that inhibited UAlbany's main scorers, Connor Fields and Bennett Drake, from getting clean looks at the goal.

On Saturday morning, Hartford still had a chance to qualify for the America East Tournament, needing a win over UAlbany and a UMBC loss to Vermont. Vermont won, so Hartford knew prior to the game it was eliminated before having the chance to face UAlbany.

"They definitely came to play," senior midfielder Eli

Lasda said. "I know they wanted that game."

It was only a matter of time before the Great Danes capitalized on Ierlan's dominance. The freshman finished 22-for-24 on the night, leading to UAlbany's attempting of 58 shots. Ierlan even scored a goal of his own, which came four seconds after he won a face-off. McClancy led the team with five goals, while Justin Reh, Adam Osika, and Mitch Laffin scored two apiece. Connor Fields, the leading point scorer in the country, finished with five points, four of them coming on assists. The win puts the exclamation point on another undefeated regular season in conference play. Last week, UAlbany locked up home



Bill Ziskin/UAlbany Athletics
Senior Adam Osika flies by a Hartford defenseman on Senior Night.

field advantage in the America East Tournament. The semifinals are set for Thursday, where No. 1 UAlbany will face No. 4 Stony Brook. No. 2 UMBC will play No. 3 Binghamton on the other side. The winners will square off in the championship game on Saturday afternoon with an automatic berth to the NCAA Tournament on the line.

UAlbany failed to earn the automatic bid last season after a slip-up to Hartford in the semifinals. Despite a fairly easy time in conference play this year, Marr will make sure his team comes ready to play next week.

Despite their loss last year, the Great Danes managed to earn an at-large berth to the NCAA Tournament. Because of how the rest of the NCAA has played out in the past few weeks, it's possible that, despite its No. 6 ranking, UAlbany could miss the postseason if it fails to win the America East. For Marr and his team, hoisting the trophy on Saturday will quell any fears of missing the tournament.

"I think we have a great resume," Marr said. "It all comes down to RPI's and numbers, but I certainly don't want to take that chance."

Marr is confident his team will pull through. His team has come a long way since that day in February. His seniors, who were honored Saturday afternoon at a luncheon, have come even further.

"Coming off the heels of playing with Lyle [Thompson] and Blaze [Riorden], it wasn't a class that had that superstar," Marr said of his seniors. "I think they collectively-- as a group-- did a great job of leading us every day in practice and being prepared."

McClancy is a junior. Fields is a junior. Justin and Troy Reh are juniors. Ierlan is a freshman.

But they've got more time.

For the six seniors—Jake Cullen, Adam Osika, Connor Russell, John Glancy, Lasda, and Drake—it's their last chance to make history for UAlbany, which has never made a Final Four.

Time is running out for them. And like that day in February, it's up to them to bring together a team that has the potential to make a deep postseason run.

**The ASP is done for the semester, but we will periodically update our website. So if you do anything cool over the summer or want to send something in...
Email: theasp.eic@gmail.com.**

STAR PLAYER

Savitcheff is in the Record Books, But the Senior is Not Done Yet

By ROBERT LEPELSTAT

Dakotah Savitcheff took a pass from Sarah Martin and scored a goal versus Vermont with 14:12 remaining in the first half, just like the two have done so many times in the past four years.

Except, this goal was unlike any other.

On April 5, Savitcheff broke the University at Albany women's lacrosse scoring record with her 176th goal. The following week, after scoring game-winning goals against No. 8 Cornell and New Hampshire, she earned U.S. Lacrosse's Player of the Week.

"I never thought from the start that I would accomplish something like this [record]," Savitcheff said. "But once I started hearing I was this close and could possibly beat it, I just wanted to work as hard as I could and do my best."

From the moment she stepped on to John Fallon Field as a freshman, Savitcheff became a scoring machine for UAlbany's offense. After receiving America East All-Rookie honors in her first season, she set a UAlbany all-time single season record with 64 goals in her sophomore campaign.

As a junior last season, she was named to the IWLCA All-Northeast Team for the second consecutive season and was given America East All-Conference First Team honors.

When Savitcheff looks back at everything she's accomplished, she raves about her teammates who allowed her to have so much success as a Great Dane.

"I couldn't have done it without my teammates," Savitcheff said. "I love working with everyone."

We all have each other's backs and not one person on the offense is selfish, which I think has helped us a lot."

Savitcheff's teammates have been with her every step of the way, especially this year's senior class, which includes Tewaaraton Award nominee Sarah Martin, defender Sierra McIver, and midfielder Emily Mizer.

"It's crazy how time flies that we are graduating soon," Martin said. "I've been working with Dakotah on offense for so long now. We have a really great connection and I can always sense when she's going to get open. She catches anything I throw her. She just makes my job so much easier."

It's not just Savitcheff doing the scoring. Martin leads the Great Danes with 83 points this year (52 goals, 31 assists), including a 10 goal explosion in a 13-11 win over Yale on Feb. 18.

Savitcheff is a nightmare for opposing defenses. The teammates who face her in practice every day certainly are aware.

"She's a wizard," McIver said. "You

think you have her, or you think your stick is in front of hers, but somehow she'll move it or find a way to go through yours."

But behind every great player, there's an even greater coach. John Battaglini, now in his 7th season at UAlbany, has nothing but love for his star attack.

"She's innately competitive and she loves to play the game," Battaglini said. "She just loves to compete. She's hard on herself. When she gets into a little funk, she might get frustrated, but I can see she just keeps going at it and she doesn't give up."

As Savitcheff puts the finishing touches on a historic college career, she has one final goal in mind.

Savitcheff and her senior teammates have lost to rival Stony Brook in the final of the America East Tournament each of the last three seasons. Savitcheff is confident there will be a different outcome in 2017.

"I truly believe this is the year we can win an America East Conference Championship," Savitcheff said. "Because of all the hard work, effort and time we have put in all year long."

Regardless of what the future holds for Savitcheff, she'll never forget all of the amazing people she's met along the way and the moments she has spent representing everything it means to be a Great Dane, on and off the field.



Source: ualbanysports.com

Savitcheff and the Great Danes will have a chance to bring the conference title home beginning on May 5. They'll travel to Stony Brook to face UMBC in the semifinals on May 5, with the hope of advancing to face the Seawolves in the championship game two days later.

From the Editor, Troy Farkas:

It's funny how things work out.

I never wanted to go to the University at Albany. Not in the slightest. I had no interest in it. As a senior in high school, I knew I was capable of better.

But I left my decision for the last minute, which led me to "settle" on UAlbany, the university 20 minutes north of my hometown of Clifton Park.

Now that I look back on that decision three years later (yes, I'm graduating in three years), I don't regret it. This school has allowed me to do so many things I never would have gotten the chance to do if I went to a school with a big sports journalism program like Syracuse.

With WCDB, I've had a weekly sports talk radio show every Thursday from 8-10 a.m. on 90.9 FM and wcdbrfm.com. It's been a blast. I've grown so much in the last two years with this show. I also got the chance to broadcast several football and basketball games, including the 2015 Peter Hooley miracle shot against Stony Brook in the America East final. That is definitely the best sports moment I've ever seen in person.

But this is about the ASP. I want everyone to know I've poured a lot of time into it this semester. I've tried to help out those who are interested. I genuinely care about good journalism and good writing because too many people can't write these days. How do you ever expect to be successful if you can't write coherent sentences? No one will take you seriously.

Now here's who I owe some thanks to:

Thank you to Aaron Cheris and Celia Balf for giving me chances when I was younger and for showing me the ropes. I tried to be the same kind of leader to others that you two were to me.

Thank you to Stefan Lambo-Stolba, the ASP's chief editor this year, for allowing me to have this position and for working with me. I also appreciate you letting me document my semester abroad in the fall. I really enjoyed writing it and I know many of my friends loved reading it. It really meant a lot to me.

Thank you to the UAlbany sports information department, who has the most demanding job of any department here. It's a ruthless life. They work nights and weekends and travel with several UAlbany teams every week. It's an unrewarding job and they don't get our thanks enough. You wouldn't know this, but Dave Vatz is the hardest working man in Albany. He set up all of my interviews for WCDB and the ASP and always lent me a hand when I was a deer in the headlights. I'll forever be grateful to how he helped me.

But what makes UAlbany is its athletes and coaches. I know basketball is the pride of UAlbany, (well, they say so. You wouldn't know by the attendance numbers, which NEED to improve) but it's not my favorite sport to cover here.

I had barely watched lacrosse or field hockey before coming to UAlbany. When I saw these two national powerhouses play, I fell in love. Their teams' chemistry is unlike any other. They play so freely and have so much fun playing together, which is really what it's all about. I'm especially going to miss those teams.

A lot of people think the best athletes are stuck-up. That's not the case here. Connor Fields is the nicest, most humble guy on the lacrosse team. Paula Heuser, Maxi Primus, and Anna Bottino are some of the greatest people in the world to talk to. I really appreciate all of them for working with me throughout the past few years and for being so kind. They made me feel special and like I was important. I'll never forget that. A special shout out goes to the softball team's Donna Conrad; I loved "the grind" with you last year and I wish you all the best.

Coach Will Brown was great, but I didn't have much of a connection with him. I loved Coach Mac in the short amount of time I spent with her. But it's really coaches Scott Marr and Phil Sykes that were the best to me. Like their players, they made me feel special. I looked forward to the end of every game or media availability just because I really wanted to talk to them.

So I'm moving on from UAlbany. I don't know what the next step is. But I know I'm prepared to handle whatever challenges come my way. I truly believe I worked harder than any non-athlete during my time here. If you've ever seen someone sprinting across the podium to get somewhere, it was probably me. If you've ever seen someone walking the Campus Center Halls at 7 a.m., it was me. If you've ever seen someone struggling to walk while carrying large pieces of TV or radio equipment, it was me.

I poured my heart and soul into covering UAlbany sports over the last three years. I gave up Friday and Saturday nights virtually every weekend. It was a grind, but I know I'll come out better for it.

There were so many failures along the way: technical difficulties, no one willing to help, battles with the administration, etc. But I always found a way to make it work. So here's my promise UAlbany:

When I make it big, which will happen, I'm donating some of my money to build the Troy Farkas Media Center at UAlbany. I'm not going to let future journalists go through some of the things I did. They deserve better.

And to the UAlbany alum who told me last year that I "completely ruined what former people built," thanks for giving me the motivation for the next 40 years of my life.

You're going to regret that.