FATE OF ACTIVITY FEE
UP FOR VOTE MARCH 6

Vote to Make $110 fee Optional Included in Upcoming Student Association Elections

By NATE DEPAUL

This week, students will vote on a resolution that would make the mandatory activity fee of $110 a semester optional. The fee was made a SUNY policy in 2006, and students have been voting on it every other year since then.

The fee is currently mandatory for all students who are taking more than six credits with the college. It is $110 a semester for students considering full time (taking 12 or more credits), $75 for students taking between nine and 11 credits, and $50 for students taking between six and eight credits.

This vote has been recurring since 2006, when it was made a SUNY policy that students would vote every other year on the status of the activity fee. SA manages an approximately $2.7 million budget, controlling funding for student groups, events and activities.

SA has the internal budget, which funds things like audits, office supplies, lawyers, and stipends for executive employees like president and vice president, as well as their own events. The internal budget is approximately 1.8 million dollars, while the external budget that funds student groups is around $930,000.

The programming events handled by SA may also be affected, including Parkerlee. SA senator-at-large Ivan Daquil argued that the financial burden of events put on through SA funded groups and by the SA itself would be placed on the students who want to enjoy them, and many of those kids would not be able to afford these groups without the help of the SA.

In recent years, SA has come under fire for controversial executive conferences and SA T-shirts.

Credit: Albany Outreach for Animals

SA manages an approximately $2.7 million budget would be lost due to the switch from mandatory to voluntary, as it’s impossible to predict just how many students would opt out of paying. For the roughly 120 groups funded by SA, a voluntary vote may mean less access to club funds. The ASP spoke to members of the Albany State University Black Alliance Austy Caste and Blessing Kahunwa, whose main concern was the organization’s annual fashion show.

In the future, the event, which takes nearly $20,000 to produce, may have to be cancelled if funding from SA was reduced. SA has the phrase “Remember to vote Yes on the activity fee” pasted on their website, but some students still have concerns about the fee remaining mandatory.

Albert Chang, a freshman commuter at UA, says he plans to vote to make the fee optional, as he is “not spending all my time on campus, or using any of those SA resources.” He believes he should at least have a choice on whether or not to pay the fee.

The election will take place from Wednesday, March 6 to Friday, March 8, and will include the vote for the activity fee. Voting will take place through MyU-Albany, with instructions on how to vote on the SA section of the University website.

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By MICHELLE MULLEN

How prepared would you be if an active shooter attacked our campus? That’s exactly what Lt. Steven Grassmann of the University Police Department asked a room of 18 people last Thursday during an active shooter training event.

Thursday’s program was one of many CEASE, or citizen response to an active shooter sessions that UPD offers to university students, faculty and staff.

An active shooter can engage in various types of lethal force not limited to guns. This includes actively killing or attempting to kill people in a confined area using knives, bombs, and even vehicles.

The average time of an active shooter event is 12 minutes. While the average response time of UPD is four minutes, response time to an active shooter may be a bit longer. Some officers are already out on patrol but those that are not, need time to put on proper gear and grab extra weapons, in addition to the time it takes to get to the event. Unfortunately, 55 percent of active shooters end pre-police intervention.

“The event may be close to over by the time we get here, so what you guys do is what matters,” Lieutenant Grassmann revealed.

Statistically, schools and universities are the number two most common locations of active shooter events, while places of commerce, such as malls, are number one.

Lieutenant Grassman urged his audience to break out of the habit of behavioral scripts, the act of following a sequence of expected behaviors in our everyday lives.

“Active Shooters are everywhere, and sometimes they are us,” he said.

University Police Teach Active Shooter Preparedness

By MICHELLE MULLEN

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Lieutenant Grassman urged his audience to break out of the habit of behavioral scripts, the act of following a sequence of expected behaviors in our everyday lives. These scripts are acquired through habit and routine. Please see page 3
**ELECTIONS**

Candidates Vie for Support in Races for SA Presidency and Senate Seats

By NATE DEPUI & CAMERON CUPP

It’s election season and students this week have a choice between a freshman senator or the current chief of staff for the position of president.

Desann Carty, chief of staff to current SA President Langie Cadesca, is running against State Quad senator Zachary Constantine.Constantine and his running mate Ivan Daquial are first-year representatives from State Quad and first-year-at-large, respectively.

Carty, currently a junior, has been involved with SA for the last two years, serving as a senator last academic year before becoming the chief of staff for SA’s current president, Langie Cadesca.

Her running mate, Ariel Nuñez, is a current Purple and Gold Ambassador and a member of SA’s Strategic Plan committee.

“I like the ideas that DeV (Carty) and Ari (Nuñez) have,” said Nikita Gasu, an RA on State quad, and a Junior Gold Ambassador and a member of SA’s Strategic Plan committee.

“I’m voting for Constantine because he has good policy compared to his opposition, who seems to have none,” said freshman Anthony Paolillo.

“I also don’t know them that well. (Constantine and Daquial),” said Nikita Gasu, an RA on State quad, and a Junior Gold Ambassador and a member of SA’s Strategic Plan committee.

“Constantine, however, has earned a reputation among some students who view him as a political outsider free of SA’s troubles past. “I do not want talk about what the Student Association can’t do,” Constantine said.

“We came into this organization knowing what we wanted it to do, what it should do, and what it’s capable of doing,” he added.

“I hope, if elected, to create three stipended “case-worker” positions in Student Group Affairs to serve as a liaison between student groups and the Executive Branch. They also hope to improve the efficiency in Park South, add more interactive events and increase accessibility of SA’s executive branch.

The organization faced criticism last year over its failure to provide timely expenditure reports and a controversial top to New Orleans during March Gar to attend a diversity conference.

**PERFORMING ARTS**

Love Jones: Performers Reveal Inner Desires, Struggles at Phenomenal Voices Talent Show

By ALAIN CLERINE

Tears were wept, emotions fluttered, and passion was at a premium at Phenomenal Voice’s talent show aptly titled “Love Jones.”

The program on February 23 encouraged performers to articulate their feelings about their respective relationships. This included everything from romantic, platonic, parental and even sexual.

Performers were challenged with being vulnerable while simultaneously making a connection with the audience. Vulnerability is an abstract concept that does not come easy to most, yet one after the other, poets and singers demonstrated a blend of talent and courage to deliver powerful and raw performances.

One artist, stage name “KingQuinc,” read a poem titled “ShowOut,” where he described his desire to please his woman of choice.

“God blessed me to have an amazing imagination to picture the things I write without it actually happening,” said “KingQuinc,” real name Quincy Lassiter.

“As far as vulnerability goes, in my pieces I always go by the mantra ‘Live your truth,’” he said.

The process of bearing one’s soul to a public audience is welcomed by some, and feared by others. However, performer Shanelle Webster finds it central to her art.

“I’m always giving the audience a piece of myself when I perform. The process can be uncomfortable even sometimes mentally and emotionally draining,” acknowledges Shanelle Webster.

Her spoken word unraveling of depressions’ pitfalls, titled “Love Depression,” seemed like an authentic revelation of a first-hand experience. It was met with praise and concern, but it was also met with cheers and appreciation from the audience, a thank you for revealing her internal struggle.

“I’ll take the ugly route in hopes of helping someone else by being their voice,” declares Webster.

Phenomenal Voices is a tight-knit group, so when Miram Joseph, President of Sanctuary, joined the lineup for the show, she was deeply moved by the bond the group shares.

“I was deeply moved by the bond the group shares. Every time I received a call from fellow performers motivated her to dig deep and share her experiences with others.

“I felt inspired to give my performance everything I had to offer,” she said. The program on February 23 encouraged performers to articulate their feelings about their respective relationships. This included everything from romantic, platonic, parental and even sexual.

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**Notes for the voice of the accompanying performer:**
Singer Alaka Williams complemented his poem with suggestive snippets of “Rocker” by Beyoncé. The use of the word “love” could not be heard throughout Lassiter and Williams’ sensual piece.

“Belief in order for the crowd to understand me I have to make sure I lay things people may be uncomfortable saying out loud, because it gives people comfortability to be themselves under any circumstances,” Lassiter said.

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Due to cooperation, no charges at this time. Marijuana paraphernalia, which they turned over to Officers. Center.

Report of a box of children’s toys found.

Report of a male subject trespassing acting suspiciously. UPD located and after interviewed issued a PNG.

Report of stolen laundry by an unknown subject.

Report of a bottle found with pills inside.

Report of a female student feeling threatened by another student. Does not wish to press charges at this time.

Report of a female subject driving while intoxicated. An arrest was made.

Report of a male subject living while intoxicated. An arrest was made.

Report of a male subject trespassing in campus acting suspiciously. UPD had already issued a PNG on this subject.

Report of a broken window on campus. Referrals were made.

Report of a female subject driving while intoxicated. An arrest was made.

Report of a male subject acting suspiciously. Does not wish to press charges at this time.

Report of a male subject acting suspiciously. UPD responded to a person in possible distress. Nega-

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF - 4
2/26/2019 1:47 AM
Indian Pond- Adirondack Hall
Report of a broken window on campus. Referrals were made.

CRIMINAL TRESPASS 2ND ENTER/REMAIN UN-Languages IN DWELLING
2/28/2019
Dutch Quad- Stringfellow Tower
Report of a trespasser on campus acting suspiciously. UPD had already issued a PNG on this subject.

CRIM POSS CONTRL SUBST
2/27/2019 11:34 AM
Indian Pond- Mohawk Tower
Report of a male subject and a male student in possession of a controlled substance. An arrest and a referral were made.

CAMPUS CENTER

CRIME BLOTTER

AGGRAV HARRASS-2 COMMUNICATE IN MANN-

ER LIKELY TO CAUSE ALARM
3/2/2019
Three students found to be in possession of marijuana and marijuana paraphernalia, which they turned over to Officers. Due to cooperation, no charges at this time.

Maintainance Problem

Due to cooperation, no charges at this time. Marijuana paraphernalia, which they turned over to Officers. Center.

Finished statement.

FINISHED STATEMENT

I...
Why A Mayor From Indiana May Be Trump’s 2020 Kryptonite

By ZACHARY CALDERON

Even if you have been following the preliminary stages of the Democratic Primary, Mayor Pete Buttigieg (boot-edge-edge, according to his Twitter bio) of South Bend, Indiana may only be in your peripheral, if on your radar at all. Who could blame you? With personalities Democrats such as Kamala Harris, Bernie Sanders, and Elizabeth Warren in the fray, it is easy to overlook this seemingly obscure candidate from the Midwest. And yet, “Mayor Pete”, as he is affectionately known by his constituents, has caught the eye of the industrial giant it once was, the 1980s. And although not the industrial giant it once was, to someone who not only served in the military, but served while in the military, but served while in the military, served while in the military, served while in the military, served while in the military, served while in the military, served while in the military, he has recognized that victory in the military...what all of these factors boil down to is pure electability. The Rustbelt States are vital to winning in 2020, and Buttigieg checks off all of the boxes of your perfect Rustbelt candidate. This is something that many candidates lack, especially the Eastern seaboard candidates. "East coast elitism" is a hard label to shirk, accurate or not, and West Coast candidates will face similar criticisms. Flyover country candidates, then, are the candidates to look to as middle America takes center stage in 2020. While we should of course keep an open mind during the primary debates, we should also keep an eye on Mayor Pete to make waves in the months ahead. Who knows? It could very well be that city hall is the shortest way to the Oval Office.
If you were to ask the President of the United States, Donald Trump, what are his priorities, he’d tell you that his role is to look after the American people. Yet, these athletes bring millions of dollars to the institutions they play for and for the NCAA (who brought in over $1 billion dollars last year) but receive absolutely nothing in return for their hard work and dedication. They actually lose the money when they choose to play in college. They get nothing but the “pride” and “accomplishment” they get from playing for their program.

Some might argue, “But student athletes get scholarships!” Yes, SOME athletes earn SOME scholarships, but not every single one does. Often times there are only a few scholarships reserved for each team, and many players get absolutely nothing. Plus, these scholarships don’t cover much for paying for food or gas (as it actually an NCAA violation if they get money for either). Not that playing a sport is an great and unforgettable opportunity. As a student athlete myself, I feel a tremendous amount of pride for my school and personally love every moment I get to compete for it. But the stringent regulations put forth by the NCAA are sometimes too much to handle and makes some athletes feel exploited.

Now, I do not say that every student athlete should be compensated for their participation in a college sport. I think it would be a very difficult task for college athletic departments to start paying every single student athlete. But, student athletes should undoubtedly be compensated for their participation in a college sport.

Trump’s campaign was built on this wall and, like the foundation of all his construction projects, that promise was faulty. He said, if you’ll remember, that immigrants were bringing drugs and guns and that and they were all rapists. It is the old school drug war rhetoric, the bating of white America through fear of sexual indissolute, the use of divisive dog whistle politics, that won Trump the election. And it is fear, not of immigrants or of drugs, and certainly not of guns, but of being shown as the co-assist us, he is that, driving Donna De Wong is born what very well could be his last political stand on something so incredibly stupid. The facts, and they are facts, are indisputable. Crossings on both a monthly and annual rate, are down and have been down since the early 2000s. And as for those so-called “dangerous immigrants” coming in to destroy us all, all studies show that immigrants are less likely to commit crimes, especially violent crimes, than native born Americans.

While Trump’s focus has been in his personal crusade, he has declared, for the time being, a state of emergency in an attempt to stop any illegal immigration. As a student athlete, I have been down since the early 2000s. And as for those so-called “dangerous immigrants” coming in to destroy us all, all studies show that immigrants are less likely to commit crimes, especially violent crimes, than native born Americans.

Trump can decry children as criminals all he wants and Secretary of Homeland Security (and your resident war criminal) Kirstjen Nielsen, can defile the administration’s actions with all she’s blue in the face, but policy based off of LIES can, and have already, caused serious, irreparable harms. As a result of Trump and Nielsen’s child separation practices have led to thousands of children being sexually assaulted while being held in ICE detention centers. We did that. The United States did that. And if you continue to support this presidency, you are an accomplice.

But be aware that those like this document is not to Trump’s Bell. The Constitution (Article I, Section 9) grants Congress, not the president, the power of the purse. Trump’s wall is, at its base, a budgeting issue. In December, when Congress passed a spending bill not including his wall, Trump balked and ignited the longest and most embarrassing government shutdown in our history. Thus Congress, in the wake of that episode, passed another budget (somewhat) and guess what? It still didn’t fund the wall. And thus, this State of Not an Emergency was born.

Simply, this was always Congress’ call and Trump displayed a fundamental misunderstanding of checks and balances while campaigning and startlingly continues to do so now. Trump truly believed building a wall would be as easy as being elected president and that is the problem with someone that clearly does not understand the power held by dictators around the world.

We have a president that believes Congress is an employer and the people of the United States are his employees unless they wear red hats and can’t tell you who won the Civil War. On top of every bit of damage, physical or symbolic, reparable or not, he now wishes to squirrel away with unprecedented budgeting power that even Franklin Roosevelt, in the midst of not one, but TWO world wars, did not want to use. And thus, this State of Not an Emergency was born. While Trump has fooled little in his personal crusade, he did that. The United States did that. And if you continue to support this presidency, you are an accomplice.

No Crisis At The Border

By M. FRANCIS MIRRO

START FLOODING OUR INBOX WITH IDEAS
SEND US SUGGESTIONS:

OPINIONS.ASP@GMAIL.COM

TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2019

OPINIONS

Editors:

M. FRANCIS MIRRO

TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2019

EDUCATION

M. FRANCIS MIRRO

OPINIONS.ASP@GMAIL.COM
When Preventeza™ Emergency Contraceptive is your plan a, you don’t need a plan b.

1-in-2 women may need to use emergency contraception. And when that time comes, Preventeza™ Emergency Contraceptive from the makers of Vagisil® is here to help you take control. Use as directed within 72 hours of unprotected sex or birth control failure to help prevent pregnancy before it starts.

On shelves at your local RITE AID PHARMACY. For more information visit Preventeza.com.
Camp and friendship bracelets — that’s what my summers were about as a child. Whether it was a scorching sunny afternoon or a dreary, downpour of a morning, friendship bracelets were a way to pass the time and make my friends smile. This fun craft does not have to stay in summers past! It can be revived in the college dorm room. It is a cheap, simple craft that can be a way to start up conversation with your roommate or a fun activity to pass a Sunday afternoon. Feeling contemplative? Making friendship bracelets is a great solitary activity as well. The rhythm of the repetitive motion is relaxing and akin to meditation before and after exams and big assignments. All you need is some colored string such as yarn, thread, embroidery floss or cord. Use masking or duct tape to keep the bracelet in place. Select a pattern and get to crafting!

There are several websites and YouTube videos that are helpful for learning patterns. I recommend the DIY Friendship Bracelets for Beginners video by Craft Factory. Or, if you want to go old school, there are several booklets available such as Friendship Bracelets 101: Fun to Make, Fun to Wear, Fun to Share by Suzanne McNeill and Friendship Bracelets: Pocket Guide by Leisure Arts.

A simple pattern is called “Chinese staircase” or, if you are feeling crafty, the “dog den” and “rag rug” are more complex. I suggest starting with a three-string braid or Chinese Staircase. The materials to make this craft are inexpensive; especially when bought in bulk. At the Walmart on Washington Avenue, 120 feet of Cousin Natural Hemp Cord costs about $3, J & P Coats Embroidery Floss Value Pack costs about $11, and Red Heart Super Saver Yarn costs between $2-$11. Personally, I prefer using yarn or some kind of cord as I find them to be easier to manipulate and to last longer. Thread tends to fray and separate.

You can add flair to your bracelet with choosing unique beads, charms, and pendants. An assortment of metal/plastic/wooden charms or beads can be bought at Walmart for around 5 dollars. These materials can be used for a bracelet or, down the road, an anklet, bookmark, key chain, or backpack decoration.

Taking the time to create friendship bracelets is an inexpensive opportunity to embrace the care-free attitude, joy, and bonds of friendship we had during childhood summers. The next time you are at Walmart searching for boring, adult necessities, take a moment and consider this nostalgic craft. We may be in college, but we are never too old for friendship bracelets.
Elton John Bids Farewell At Times Union Center Concert

By CHRISTOPHER POUCH

Elton John performed at the Times Union Center on Friday evening, gracing a Capital Region audience with the music that has fueled his dazzling career for more than 50 years.

According to NASA, since the 1880s, the Earth has warmed 2 degrees Fahrenheit, and 2018 was the fourth-warmest year on record since beginning in the 1880s. Climate change has become a pressing global issue, and UAlbany is working to keep its students informed.

Students for Sustainability aims at integrating environmental education on campus. The organization informs students about the need to reduce energy consumption and how to grow plants in your dorm.

Mary Ellen Mallia, director of Sustainability, looks at the campus' carbon footprint, which can be found online at reporting.secondnature.org.

"My job is to focus on engagement, education, integration on campus and research," she says.

Her office also is part of the Great Seat, a student organization dedicated to environmental sustainability.

From her office in the lecture halls, Mallia can look out over the vast expanse of land and see the campus' green footprint, she says.

"We run a special event every April for Earth Day," says Professor Rose.

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UNLEASH GREATNESS
impressive. He is a brilliant 4-0 student, but he grates under pressure because of his academic excellence, but luckily he now has two more years of NCAA eligibility remaining. Moving forward, the thing that is most important to him is to leave here with a master’s degree. Adam is currently majoring in psychology.

"I really just want to make the American East conference on Wednesday (3-1-10)," added Arm. "That is everyone’s dream here. I think we have a young group of kids, and the guys that are stepping up right now are doing a really good job of doing what they need to do. Adam will always give praise those around him, but when asked which of his teammates is the biggest help to him, he says, "the Big Ten. He’s really just doing well for himself but also other people by helping them. He’s been a great leader for all of us," Lulka said.

Lulka was forced to redshirt after missing his entire freshman season with a left shoulder injury and wasn’t even able to practice or walk under two minutes, however they were not able to score again after narrowing the score to 16-13 with 5:28 left. The Danes would never tie the score, going up 49-46 with 8:27, time for junior Erin Leghart who gave up the last time for the Danes. The Great Danes improved to 11-17 (6-7 AE) and look to stay hot as the season starts to wind down.

MEN’S BASKETBALL

DANES LOSE HEARTBREAKER TO WILDCATS AFTER SENIOR NIGHT

By CAMERON CUPP

The University at Albany men’s basketball (11-16, 6-10 AE) lost a heartbreaker to the University of New Hampshire Wildcats (14-2, 2-12 AE), who shot 56 percent from the field and scored 19 points in the first half, as the Danes built a double-digit lead midway through the first half, but they kept the score under two minutes, however they were not able to score again after narrowing the score to 16-13 with 5:28 left. The Danes would never tie the score, going up 49-46 with 8:27, time for junior Erin Leghart who gave up the last time for the Danes. The Great Danes improved to 11-17 (6-7 AE) and look to stay hot as the season starts to wind down.

By BYRNLE FEASTER

Adam paused for a few seconds than replied, "That is everyone’s dream here. I think we have a young group of kids, and the guys that are stepping up right now are doing a really good job of doing what they need to do. Adam will always give praise those around him, but when asked which of his teammates is the biggest help to him, he says, "the Big Ten. He’s really just doing well for himself but also other people by helping them. He’s been a great leader for all of us," Lulka said.

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