



# ASP

ALBANY STUDENT PRESS

Opinion:  
Time to  
Talk about  
Bail Reform  
PAGE 4



Beloved Pizza Pit Closes  
Doors PAGE 7

TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2019 ISSUE 10 ALBANYSTUDENTPRESS.NET

# GOODBYE STICKERS

## Electronic Plate Readers to Aid Parking Enforcement



MICHAEL APOLLO / ASP

By MICHAEL APOLLO

Braving strong wings on the Podium, spending a springtime afternoon at the fountain, and discovering a parking ticket on the windshield of your car – some of the realities of being a University at Albany student.

Students violating parking regulations should expect more stringent enforcement during the fall semester. In October, the Office of Parking and Mass Transit Services will implement license plate recognition for parking enforcement.

The license plate recognition system will be installed on two PMTS enforcement vehicles and will patrol lots for violations.

“Your decal will be replaced with your license plate,” UAlbany PMTS director Jason Jones said.

The increased efficiency of using license plate recognition will result in an initial

Starting next fall, two Parking and Mass Transit Services cars will patrol campus scanning license plates to check for violations.

increase in the number of tickets issued, explained Jones.

“Over time, the campus community – faculty, staff and students – will realize that enforcement is a little bit more precise,” Jones said in an interview Thursday.

University parking enforcement officials issued 12,308 tickets to members of the campus community between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018, according to data made available by PMTS.

Those tickets generated \$376,000 in revenue – 7% of PMTS’ overall revenue.

Jones anticipates 10,500 tickets will be issued for the year ending on June 30.

PMTS manages the university’s 7,500 parking spaces. Currently, students pay \$30 a year to park a vehicle on campus. SUNY students at the University at Buffalo and Stony Brook University receive parking passes for free - but Binghamton University charges students \$140.55 for parking

permits.

PMTS performs the majority of parking enforcement on campus. However, the University Police Department does issue parking tickets to vehicles parked in loading docks, fire lanes, accessible spaces, and at fire hydrants, according to UPD assistant chief Aran Mull in an email statement.

Jones said nearly all parking citations are avoidable.

“The goal is to not issue citations. We want people to park in compliance. If you park in compliance, you’ll never hear from us,” Jones said.

Jones explained that 80% of tickets issued last year were for parking in faculty/staff areas, improper display of parking decals or the lack of a decal.

Senior sociology and business student Victoria Encarnacion has received two \$35 tickets.

“Both were just for being in the wrong

Please see **PARKING** page 2

## Senate Cuts Funding Request for Camp Dippikill

By NATE DEPAUL, staff reporter

The 2019-20 budget of the Student Association will leave the SA-owned camp Dippikill with less funding than requested for the fiscal year, but adds money for more buses to the camp.

Dippikill is a wilderness retreat a little over an hour north of Albany, owned by SA Senate with cabins that can be rented by UAlbany students, alumni, faculty and staff.

Dippikill was allocated roughly \$30,000 less than they asked for to go towards “Development and Renovations,” which they said is necessary for critical maintenance.

“If these renovations are not made, it will be a long-term detriment to the camp and lead to many problems down the line,” said Dippikill Director of Operations Justin LaPierre.

“We work hard to maintain the roughly 40 buildings on site, and if we aren’t able to remedy these problems due to underfunding, it will impact visitors.”

LaPierre in his appeal cited roofs that need to be replaced, shed doors that need to be installed, and adding fencing as some of the issues on the top of their work list.

Senators Wednesday asked why Dippikill had put off the repairs for so long. Dippikill Board member Casey Crandall said that Julie’s Lodge, the newest building added to the site, had taken up most of their resources in the

Please see **DIPPIKILL** page 2

### SEXUAL ASSAULT

## Former Student Appeals in Lawsuit Against University Title IX Coordinator



Joe Hoffman / ASP

By STEFAN DE LA RIVA

A student expelled for alleged sexual assault is fighting the University at Albany for the release of recordings he claims prove

that the Title IX Coordinator was biased against him.

The Student Conduct Board found then-sophomore Alexander Sakolish guilty in fall 2017 of Sexual Assault I, Sexual Assault II, and Sexual Harassment. Sakolish denies that he committed the violations.

He began a lawsuit against UAlbany last summer, and is now in the process of appealing a court decision to the Appellate Court of Albany.

Leading up to his hearing with the Board, Sakolish met several times with former UAlbany Title IX Coordinator Chantelle Cleary.

The university’s legal team successfully battled Sakolish’s lawyer to prevent the video recording of one pivotal meeting on

October 30, 2017 from being presented in court.

In March, New York’s Supreme Court sided with the university, stating Sakolish’s claims were “based on speculation.”

Sakolish’s lawyer Marybeth Sydor alleged Cleary evaluated the evidence and concluded on her own that the Reporting Individual was unable to consent. She argues that, as a Title IX Coordinator, this was not Cleary’s job.

“That’s just really how it goes,” Sakolish said in an interview with the ASP. “Whether you did something or not, if you’re found guilty of it by anyone, anywhere, it doesn’t look good. It’s in my transcript. It’s sealed.”

Unless the Albany Appellate Court grants Sakolish’s motion to discover the recording, what happened in that meeting remains a mystery.

Please see **TITLE IX** page 3



Photo: Nate Depaul / ASP  
Finance Chair Subha Tasnim (left) and Senate Chair Brandon Holdridge facilitate the Senate budget meeting.

**DIPPIKILL**

Continued from Page 1

past years.  
The senate voted 33-8-1 not to allocate the \$30,000, although later in the evening \$14,000 was put toward the fund after moving money from another part of the budget.  
One reason that senators were so hesitant to allocate the money was that Dippikill's student attendance has declined.  
Crandall and LaPierre said that the camp is mostly used as a resource by alumni. Only 11 percent of the student body has attended Dippikill.  
"Transportation is a big issue for us," said Crandall. "If students don't have an easy way to get to the site, then they're not going to book a cabin for the weekend."  
To remedy this problem, the senate used \$5,000 of surplus money accumulated from previous years and from cuts made throughout the night to fund buses eight times a year to Dippikill.

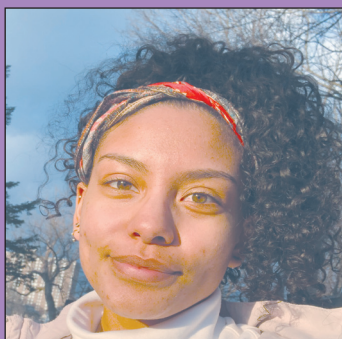
**OTHER BUDGET MOVES**

Besides Dippikill, Senate funded some new initiatives and cut old ones.  
Senate gave \$25,000 to senator Max Sevor's plan to help supplement the cost of graduate school entrance exams for graduating seniors.  
In addition, a new agreement with the department of Student Affairs to split the cost of various fees incurred by student groups was given \$30,000 in funding.  
"One of the things that we were looking into this year was reducing the costs for paying for room rentals for student groups," said Comptroller Patrick Carroll. "Groups spend on average \$60,000 on rental fees."  
These initiatives were able to be funded through a \$50,000 surplus accrued from the last fiscal year, as well as cuts made to the budget for conferences that SA attends.

**PARKING**

Continued from Page 1

spot in the faculty lot," said Encarnacion.  
The other 20% of tickets were issued for parking at Liberty Terrace, Empire Commons, or the Freedom Apartments with a standard student permit, commuter students parking overnight, parking at meters, in visitor lots, on the grass, at fire hydrants, and in accessible parking spaces.  
"Ultimately, you could say 99% of citations are avoidable," Jones said, although he prefers to say 80% are avoidable.  
Being unfamiliar with university parking regulations can lead to tickets.  
Arturo Martinez transferred to UAlbany from SUNY Delhi.  
"One time I was parked in the teachers' lot when I first got here," said Martinez. "I didn't know you had to get parking passes," Martinez said outside of his black Ford Fusion.  
Once a student receives a ticket, an appeal can be submitted via the MyUAlbany portal within 14 days. Appeals are processed by an independent appeal board consisting of faculty, staff, and students. Less than 30% of the tickets received last year were appealed. More than half of the tickets that were appealed were accepted.  
Approximately 12,000 vehicles are registered with PMTS, although they are not all on campus at the same time.  
Jones, a UAlbany alum, acknowledged UAlbany has a parking proximity issue but not a capacity issue.  
"People would rather go to a filled lot and drive around looking for a closer space than go to a lot that is wide open but is far away," Jones said.



**DALIA OUT!**

It has been my pleasure being the Photo Director for the 2018-2019 school year.

I joined the ASP Photography team in during the fall of 2015, and am grateful for the opportunities it afforded me.

There is beauty everywhere, even on the sometimes grey UAlbany campus.

I encourage everyone with a passion for photography to contribute their work to the ASP.

Congratulations to the Class of 2019!

We did it!

Dalia Yan, ASP Photo Director 2018-2019

*A photograph is a secret about a secret. The more it tells you the less you know. - Diane Arbus*

**Plans For More Electric Car Charging Stations**

By JEREMY TU

If you drive an electric vehicle, prepare to buckle up: the university is planning to build more charging stations on both campuses and is considering plans to start charging owners a small fee at all stations to meet growing demand.

The university plans to add three to five more electric vehicle charging stations at both the Uptown and Downtown campuses over Summer 2019, according to Director of Parking and Mass Transit Jason Jones.

Jones said there is currently no proposed date to implement a fee, but he estimated it would be 15 to 20 cents per kilowatt-hour. Most electric vehicles require a 4-hour charge at EV charging stations.

"It's getting to the point where we are out of the pilot phase of our testing," Jones said.

Mary Ellen Mallia, Director of Sustainability, said guidance for charging the fee could be ready during the Fall 2019 semester.

Chamberlain Harris, a student who owns a registered fuel-efficient vehicle and commutes to campus, said she agrees with Jones's pricing rationale.

"I'm not sure how necessary it is for the university to be implementing the stations, but the prices are reasonable," she said. "You need to pay for gas, so it makes sense that you are paying to charge your vehicle."

The university already has five charging stations on campus that are free of charge: Colonial Quad visitor's parking lot at Collins Circle, the SEFCU parking circle, Indian Quad along Life Sciences Lane, at the Parking and Mass Transit Services building, and Thurlow Terrace in the Downtown campus.

Jones hopes to have new EV stations built at the downtown campus and the Empire apartments.

"People get excited and you get to be a part of that," Mallia said. "We are in a new generation lifestyle; we are in the middle of societal transitions. That's why we'd like to support changing habits at institutional levels."

According to the parking registration software system, there are just over 300 registered fuel-efficient vehicle on campus.

National Grid data sent to Director Mallia showed that the Collins Circle charging

station was the second-most used in the state, while the Thurlow Terrace charging station was the third-most used.

Cat Pham, who uses the CDTA and UAlbany buses for his 2 hour commute to and from campus, sees the benefit of having more charging stations but prefers to see more buses on the road.

"I think improving bus schedules would help the campus community more because it encourages people to take mass transit," he said. "I haven't really thought about getting a car, let alone an electric one, because we have mass transit. In fact, I wouldn't need a car if buses ran more consistently."

When asked why he didn't ask for more buses, Director Jones pointed to the university community's commuting preferences in his grant opportunity research.

"Look at the system. We have a strong relationship with the CDTA and we already have our internal UAlbany buses, but many commuter students and faculty members still drive in their single person vehicles," he said. "What to invest in has become a balancing act, but I think we're at a great balance right now."

Each charging station is \$8000 - \$9000 for the equipment and \$3000 - \$4000 for installation. It's \$1500 to operate and maintain, according to Jones.

Much of the funding for past charging stations have come from grants, with about \$8000 or 67 percent of the total cost provided per station. The rest of the funding comes from the university's Finance and Administration office.

The Finance and Administration office has already supported building more EV charging stations, as it has approved the purchases, according to Director Jones.

"It's easier to implement these kinds of technologies when the university's agenda aligns with yours," he said. "There's a consumer and community benefit when they are used on campus."

# Cuomo-Mandated Food Pantry Coming to the Campus Center in May

By **KATY DARA**

Starting May 29, UAlbany will have its first on-campus food pantry for students.

Student Affairs plans to stock a room on the third floor of the Campus Center, near Purple Threads, with non-perishable foods next month. Eventually, they hope to offer fresh groceries.

UAlbany already has a partnership with St. Vincent's Food Pantry, located on Madison Ave. The partnership began in 2016, allowing students on both the uptown and downtown campuses and in the Pine Hills area off-campus to receive food once a month. Available items include fresh fruits, vegetables, meat, dairy, non-perishables, and toiletries.

"The university would provide them with volunteers, and we would do some food drives, we would help raise some funds for them, and in exchange they would open their doors to our students," said Luke Rumsey, Asst. Director of Student Affairs.

"We saw a high uptick in students that were utilizing the pantry, which is good because we wanted to make sure that students were receiving that resource if they needed it."

But St. Vincent's has limited distribution hours, making it difficult for students on a class schedule to access it. In July 2018, Student Affairs launched a delivery/distribution program where food from the pantry would be delivered to the uptown campus.

"As opposed to going to the pantry to pick up the food we would bring it to Empire Commons in the community building twice a month," said Rumsey. "We saw the program take off, again we launched it in July 2018, and to-date we have had over 400 unique students utilize that program."

Gov. Cuomo mandated in January 2018 that all SUNY and CUNY campuses must have an on-campus pantry or a stigma-free food accessible option. Until now, UAlbany has fallen under that second category.

An assessment conducted by the Food Insecurity Task Force in Fall 2018 found that UAlbany satisfied the man-



**Image: UAlbany Communications & Marketing**

The university's partnership with St. Vincent's Food Pantry, pictured above, is not as easily accessible as an on-campus pantry.



**JOE HOFFMAN / ASP**

date's requirements. However, the new on-campus pantry aims to be an easier option for students to access.

The new food pantry is made possible through a \$50,000 grant. The Kresge Foundation's Collaborative Opportunity Grant, administered through the Association of Public Land-Grant Universities (APLU)

"It's a pretty intensive grant process," said Sally D'Alessandro, Director of Student CARE Services. "They require us to come up with a business plan, and we have a lot of work to do to make sure that this is sustainable beyond the \$50,000 grant."

That sustainability will be driven through food donations and a membership with the Regional Food Bank.

"We're going to be using RSSW students who are working for credit to help staff it. We'll also be utilizing MSW (Masters of Social Welfare) students doing their field work," D'Alessandro added.

"We figure we'll be open about 20 hours a week, and we'll do it to keep with the class schedule - part day hours, part early evening hours just to make sure that we're hitting

The new food pantry will occupy a currently empty office on the third floor of the campus center, down the hall from Purple Threads, the Albany Student Press, and WCDB.

enough times for students who may have classes. We're also going to be open to any faculty or staff who may need to utilize it," D'Alessandro explained. "I think we are going to see the convenience of this really serve our students well."

A recent survey of over 1,800 UAlbany students residing in apartments on and off-campus revealed that 50 percent said they would use an on-campus food pantry. This is just above the national average of 48 percent.

About 1,780 days-worth of food (5,340 meals) has been brought to campus since the delivery/distribution program launched in July 2018. UAlbany will remain a partner with St. Vincent's, and that option will still be available for students.

## TITLE IX

Continued from Page 1

By **STEFAN DE LA RIVA**

Sakolish is also suing over several issues he experienced in the Student Conduct hearing.

During the hearing, Sakolish represented himself. His lawyer, though present, was not permitted to speak on his behalf.

The wording of Sakolish's charge had also been changed between the time he was notified of the charge and its presentation at the Board hearing. During the hearing, Sakolish questioned Cleary as to why this was.

The charge used to read: "You did engage in oral sexual contact with [Reporting Individual] without her affirmative consent." After the change, it read, "[Respondent] did put his penis in [Reporting Individual's] mouth without her affirmative consent while at his on-campus residence."

Sexual Assault I in the Student Code of Conduct covers "...any sexual penetration, however slight, of another person's oral, anal, or genital opening with any object (an object includes but is not limited to parts of a person's body)." Sexual Assault II includes any unwanted sexual contact.

"I think it's just a more descriptive way of saying the same thing," responded Cleary, according to court documents.

Sakolish complained to the Board that he was denied witness testimony at his own hearing, something that in his appeal he claimed was a guaranteed right by federal education law.

UAlbany's Title IX procedures have come under fire in the past.

A 2013 review by the US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights found that UAlbany's hearing pro-

cess had multiple procedural "concerns." These included failures in "giv[ing] the parties the opportunity to present evidence and witnesses," and "promptly provid[ing] written notice of the outcome of an investigation to the parties."

Sakolish's case is currently being appealed to the Appellate Court of Albany, Third District. This includes an appeal for discovery of the October 30 recordings.

"UAlbany is confident in its process to fully and fairly investigate and adjudicate all student conduct matters, including those involving Title IX," said Jordan Carleo-Evangelist, the University's Community Relations Officer.

Chantelle Cleary left her position at UAlbany last year, becoming the Title IX Coordinator at Cornell University in June 2018.

## CRIME BLOTTER

### AGGRAVATED UNLICENSED OPERATION OF A MOTOR VEHICLE- 3RD

4/25/2019 3:39 PM 14751-19

Roadways- Fuller Rd

Officer responded to motorcycles driving in a reckless manner. Officer stopped a subject who was found to be driving with a suspended license. A ticket was issued.

### GRAND LARCENY 3RD DEGREE: PROPERTY VALUE EXCEEDS \$3000

4/25/2019 5:33 PM 14764-19

Podium- Lecture Centers

Officer responded to a stolen backpack with a camera inside. Assisted in filling out an affidavit. Investigation on going.

### CRIM NUISANCE 2- CREATE CONDITIONS WHICH ENDANGER OTHERS

4/25/2019 10:18 PM 14809-19

Dutch Quad- Stuyvesant Tower

Report of a female student found to have a covered smoke detector in her room. A referral was made.

### Animal Report

4/25/2019 10:09 AM 14702-19

Roadways- Northwest Lot

Officer responded to a report of a dog left in a vehicle. Owner left a note on dashboard stating he had cracked all 4 windows and left food and water for the dog and would return in 2 hours. Contacted owner and advised him of the dan-

gers of leaving a dog in a vehicle in warmer temperatures.

### Animal Report

4/25/2019 10:49 AM 14707-19

Roadways- DQ Lot

Officer responded to a report of a dog running on campus without a leash. Officer spoke with owner who was playing fetch with his dog so he could get some exercise. Upon arrival

officer spoke with and noted that owner had full control over the dog while exercising him. Nothing further.

### Animal Report

4/25/2019 3:33 PM 14748-19

Other- Indian Pond

Officer responded to a report of a duck in distress in Indian Pond. Officer contacted wildlife office and a message was left.

### Maintenance Problem

4/25/2019 3:54 PM 14754-19

Colonial Quad- Livingston Tower

Officer responded to a subject stuck in an elevator. Power Plant advised UPD that elevator company was working on it and will check its status.

### Check a Vehicle

4/25/2019 9:03 PM 14795-19

Roadways- Alumni House Rdwy

Officer responded to a vehicle with hazard lights on.

Owner returned to vehicle after filling gas can up at Mobile. Subject had an expired registration and inspection. Officer advised subject to leave his vehicle parked until he can get the matter taken care of.

### PETIT LARCENY

4/24/2019 9:00 PM 14616-19

Other- UPD

Officer responded to a report of a male subject stealing from a vendor in Campus Center. Cameras were reviewed and investigation ongoing.

### Maintenance Problem

4/24/2019 5:16 PM 14602-19

State Quad- Eastman Tower

Officer responded to report of a subject stuck in an elevator. Upon arrival officer found a sweatshirt blocking the door, item was removed and subject freed with no injury and Power Plant notified.

### AGGRAVATED UNLICENSED OPERATION OF A MOTOR VEHICLE- 3RD

4/23/2019 2:49 AM 14428-19

Roadways- Fuller Road

Report of a male subject driving with a fake license. Vehicle was towed.

## ACADEMICS

## Don't Be 'That Guy' in Your Group Project

By JESSICA SHERMAN

Group projects are like government; you have to work together to achieve a common goal. No, it's not the same stakes. We're not running a country. We're all just students attempting to learn something while being forced to work with others. Group work is an important part of the student experience. Not only do you learn to be accountable and communicate but according to Psychology Today, many times successful group involvement can lead to a better self image and can help fight depression.

As students thinking about group work can leave many with the feeling of dread and additional stress. This is mainly for two reasons; they have a dislike for relying on others and they worry about a lazy group member dragging down the entire project. These feelings of apprehension must be overcome though.

You will encounter many instances not only in school but beyond where people work as part of a team. Even if you want to work for yourself there will come a time when you need help from others. Conflicts will occur but successful teams can get through it together a lot easier than someone going at it alone. And to the latter, mostly everyone has had a bad experience working in a group before, myself included.

What are some tips of being a good group partner? Here are five things you can try:

1. Communicate. I cannot stress this enough. Staying in constant contact will show your group that you are taking the assignment seriously and will allow everyone to be on the same page. This is a chance to show that you can convey ideas and thought processes to others. Active listening, which is a part of good communication, will make sure you can understand what is being said by your partners. Bonus: employers love good communicators.

2. Be Honest. A honest person receives a lot more respect than someone who lies. If you are not able to take on a portion of the assignment say so. Do not make up an excuse about a tragedy. Don't fake your dogs death. The dishonesty is always brought to the light at some point and you lose credibility. Not to mention possible points on the assignment. We are all human and forget things. If that happened say so and then ask your team how you can fix your error.

3. Reliable. Show up and do exactly what you say will do. Being able to be counted on allows your group to concentrate on their parts of the assignment. Constantly being late to meetups, not handing in the required part on time and just flat out not doing something reflects terribly not only on you but also the group.

4. Praises. You want to be successful right? Whether it is on this assignment or life in general. Successful people build each other up by encouraging and motivating those around them with praise. Even if an idea or action is not what you would have done, it has a place in the group.

5. Positive Attitude. No one and I mean no one wants to work with someone who is negative. It doesn't matter if you have the highest GPA or the best idea. So what if you can kill a presentation? Yes we want someone like that on our team but working with you will be terrible and make the process more painful than necessary. You will receive exactly the type of energy you put out.

With the semester drawing to an end, these tips might have resonated with how many of you already acted in your group. If so then I applaud you. For those that found group work to be one of the most difficult things you had to accomplish this semester, I suggest giving a few of these tips a try next semester. Maybe the next group project can be done with less tears and shady emails.

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE

## It's Time to Talk About Bail Reform

By MICHELLE MULLEN (staff reporter)

The system of commercial, for-profit bail has put financial interests above justice, resulting in a growing commercial bail industry that rakes in about \$2 billion a year. The system of releasing pre-trial defendants back into the community if the defendants put up money to ensure their return to trial has become a systematic means of oppression of the poor.

It has become a system of oppression to keep impoverished citizens behind bars, regardless of risk status. Because bail is set depending on the type of crime that is committed, those that can pay hundreds and thousands in bail, and sometimes, even more, would be considered a higher risk to the public but are released simply because they can afford it. It is crucial that we as a nation consider ending cash bail as it disproportionately targets the poor and consequently people of color. About 70% of those held in county jails are remain detained because they are unable to pay bail.

The purpose of bail has always been to enforce that the defendant does not abscond during the trial, as all the money paid is returned after the appearance in court. Often, people of lower socioeconomic status defendants cannot afford to pay the full sum of bail and have to choose between waiting in jail until the date of the trial, which can take years, or turning to a bail guarantor, or bail bondsman, for help. While a defendant would only be required on average to pay a 10 percent, non-refundable fee of the total bail sum to the bail bondsman, who will post the entire bail cost to the court, many people are still unable to afford that fee. In this situation arises the need for payment plans which accrue interest. If a family is unable to scrounge up the money for payment, they face late fees in addition to the interest and many times this debt can persist far past the end of the criminal case and the total amount paid to the bail bondsman turns out to be higher than the initial bail.

In 2017, the state of New Jersey reformed its bail system, ending the practice of releasing or detaining an individual based on their ability to post bail. Before this reform, 12 percent of New Jersey's defendants continued to be held

in county jails because they were unable to afford to pay \$2500 or less. A bail set this low is indicative of low-level, nonviolent crime. Even following the reforms, the courts are not allowing everyone to be released; instead, they have created new parameters by which to judge a defendant's ability to be released.

Preventative detention, which is the confinement of an individual to avert them from committing further crimes, or release is levied after a hearing with a legal counsel representing the defendant. Several elements factor into the decision: The level of violence of the crime, the dangerousness of the defendant, the weight of evidence against the defendant, past failures to appear, and criminal history. Those who were released were placed under pretrial supervision and received phone calls to remind them of their court date.

There have been many critics who oppose the need to end cash bail, fearing that allowing defendants to be released will cause crime rates to rise. Some question the trustworthiness of released defendants, suggesting the crimes themselves may indicate they have no respect of the law. However, using this as a barometer to judge those who have only been accused, not convicted or even tried of a crime, is antithetical to the basic tenet of innocent until proven guilty.

Critics argue that without the mandatory need for cash or collateral to be posted, more defendants will choose not to appear on their court dates, allowing potential criminals to roam free. But this is a fear tactic, not a reality.

Taking into account that those that pose a high risk of danger to the public would not be released, the need for cash bail reform is crucial at this point in our nation. The United States currently has the highest rates of incarceration with a whopping 2.3 million people in prison. Rather than prioritize risk, we prioritize the ability to feed money into the system, allowing for the wealthy to be presented with opportunities that the impoverished cannot afford. In a country that prides itself in liberty, justice and equal protection under the law, we are failing the basic human rights that people in the United States are entitled to.

## Employers Can See Our Social Media Lives - and That's Not a Good Thing

By LIAM JEFFRIES

While it may seem hard to believe to the older generations that raised it, the younger generation is almost fully grown up. The generation of kids and teenagers that grew up during the George W. Bush and Barack Obama Administrations, grew up on PlayStation and Xbox games, Nickelodeon and Cartoon Network cartoons, is increasingly becoming more active members of American society, which, by extension, means more active members of the workforce.

In several ways, though, this entry of the younger generation into the workplace is very different from generations past. While, for example, the past generation could get into most jobs with only a high school diploma, today college degrees are increasingly the new normal, adding an extra hoop for younger people wishing to enter the workforce. And, most important of all, while the past generation's private and social lives weren't on a public electronic database for employers to see, today, with Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram being ubiquitous and the methods of communication among young people more electronically public, there is more of a chance of their private lives being seen by employers.

This is a first. Unless the applicant was a member of a famous family or led an intentionally public life, never before has the personal and private

lives of a job applicant, the good, bad, and ugly of it all, been available for viewing by an employer.

In the past, the mistakes and dumb statements applicants made before applying were probably only known to their friends and acquaintances (and perhaps their parents if they got caught).

But as social media has become more of a regular addition to their social lives, those mistakes are now no longer merely past actions to forget about. As the old saying goes, the Internet never forgets, meaning that, like a real-life episode of Black Mirror, the social media posts chronicling all our mistakes are likely still there, lurking just shallowly enough below the surface to be seen in a background search by a potential employer or, if the job is public, by curious onlookers.

Take, for example, the case of Sean Newcomb. Newcomb is a 25-year old pitcher for the Atlanta Braves who became famous last year for almost pitching a no-hitter, one of the highest possible achievements a pitcher can achieve in baseball. Amid the congratulations afterwards, however, old offensive tweets of his, made when he was a high school senior, were found and quickly made public. As one might expect, this sent both Newcomb and the Braves scrambling, with Newcomb apologizing to the press after the game and the Braves releasing an official statement (on Twitter, ironically enough) regarding

the tweets.

While this example is much more high profile than other cases of old offensive social media posts seeing the light of day, it doesn't make the example any less pertinent. This is still a case of dumb and really bad looking posts from somebody's high school years coming back to haunt that person many years after the fact, and, while before the age of social media, offensive statements like this, as abhorrent as this one may be, could have at least been put behind the person if they were acknowledged by the speaker to be unrepentantly vulgar and offensive (or not if the person was still saying such things in the present), with social media, there is no escaping it, even if the person in the present completely denounces it.

This is uncharted territory then, a new phenomenon not known to any past generation in this country, and I predict that, as people even younger than Newcomb and even more entwined in the social media world enter the workforce, this is going to become a big, big problem that'll have to be addressed. Whether it will be addressed directly by employers, social media companies, or the young applicants themselves remains to be seen, but, as our society becomes even more enmeshed in an increasingly online world, it would be extremely foolish and damaging of us not to tackle it head on.



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

**Position Open**  
Assistant 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

**Liam Jeffries**  
Assistant Opinions Editor  
opinions.asp@gmail.com

**Dalia Yan**  
Photo Director  
photodirector.asp@gmail.com

**Michelle Mullen**  
Social Media Manager  
mrmullen@albany.edu

**Gina Tan**  
Business Manager  
asp.advertising@gmail.com

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

of the Albany Student Press Corporation which has exclusive rights to any materials herein.

**Contact the ASP for information and publication schedules:**

**Newsroom:**  
Campus Center 326

**Email:**  
theasp.eic@gmail.com  
www.albanystudentpress.net



**UNLEASH  
GREATNESS**





# PINE BUSH SUITES

## Off Campus Suites for Students!

- Stay for a semester, the school year, or a full year
- Affordable, private & convenient
- Weekly housekeeping
- Breakfast daily
- Fully furnished
- All utilities, cable & high-speed internet included
- Studio's starting at \$1050 per month

**Check out a virtual tour at  
[www.pinebushsuites.com](http://www.pinebushsuites.com)**

**JUST ACROSS THE STREET FROM CAMPUS!**

**1-800-388-PINE (7463)**

**DOWNTOWN ALBANY**

# Mild Wally's Closes Its Doors After 28 Years

By JACQUELYN ORCHARD

Albany's local pizza and wing delivery staple, Mild Wally's, closed last Saturday, April 20th, after 28 years of service. Brian Kovelman, the owner of Mild Wally's, started working there in 1991, and purchased the business in 1995. Since then, he has built a loyal customer base who depend upon his crispy wings. But, dedicated customers will not have to despair completely. Kovelman is replacing the every-day busy schedule of take-out orders with his new company, Wally's Catering.

Kovelman's nickname was never "Wally," in fact, the name of the restaurant was never a reference to a person.

"It was a branding attempt by the previous owner who was trying to rename wings as 'wallies,'" said Kovelman.

The name stuck, and has grown on him.

Many people have asked: Did Mild Wally's close because it went broke?

Kovelman says no. The money was never the problem, just the lifestyle.

"I am tired," Kovelman laughed. "I work 70 to 75 hours a week, every single week."

He purchased Mild Wally's in 1995 and he takes pride in his work. Because of that pride, he never gave himself the day off.

In 2007, when Kovelman got heart surgery, he was back at work less than 30 hours later. He remembers the moment he got the call that his father passed away. He had to finish the catering order in front of him and count the day's receipts before he could fly out for the funeral.

"I'm just trying to make my life a little more realistic and a little bit easier," he said.

His new catering business will give his life some more predictability, creative freedom, and, according to Kovelman, "an opportunity to take things up a notch for my customers."

At Mild Wally's delivery restaurant, Kovelman answered the phone with a, "Mild Wally's what can I make for you today?" and a friendly laugh. He also ran the counter, cooked food, and was constantly multi-tasking and running the catering sector.

"I'm going from a floodlight to a laser beam," said Kovelman. Instead of having to keep a wide variety of food hot and ready for a moment's notice delivery, he can instead prepare only what the catered event calls for, making it extra delicious.

"We're Italian based. I serve a lot of marinara sauce. I

serve a lot of Alfredo sauce," but he makes fresh salads and sandwiches, too, and talks with the client to see what fits their needs.

Kovelman catered before as part of the Mild Wally's delivery restaurant, he will continue to cater, just with less additional duties now.

"I'm just wearing a few less hats," he smiled.

Kovelman is walking away with some very fond memories. Two days before he closed, two UAlbany alumni walked into Mild Wally's to get one last wing fix before they closed.

Dave Hays and Jeff Grossman laughed and recounted "the good ol' days" when they lived in Dutch and State Quad dorms and ordered late night wings.

"The later at night we ordered them, the hotter they

Hays and Grossman both ordered wings and shook hands with Kovelman, who brought them out a box of old t-shirts and reminisced with them about how hot the wings used to be. Kovelman even handed them an old, tattered book of matches that says, "You're drunk, we're open." They all cheered.

"It's been great to serve as many people as we've served," said Kovelman. "If I had to guess, we've employed 5, 6, 700 people over the years. People in their 60s, college students..." He is still in touch with many of them, and says he has learned from each of them.

"When we announced we were closing, we had the most heartwarming, wholesome, overwhelming, outpouring," said Kovelman. "I never imagined it would be this kind of a send-off."

As for what's next, Kovelman is excited.

"Ending something that you've wanted to end for so long is a very joyous and satisfying thing," he said.

But, he doesn't want to completely abandon his fellow wing-lovers.

"I'll also be the secret outlet," Kovelman dropped his voice conspiratorially and whispered, "if you need your wings."

Kovelman is still happy to supply wings and small orders to those who ask, so long as it lines up with his catering hours.

"If you and your five family members called me up and said, 'Brian I need three pizzas and 50 wings for Thursday at 12:15.' I would look at my books and say, 'I've got a delivery here and a delivery here, ya I'll run your order over in between.'"

How is Kovelman feeling now that the doors are closed and he's on to the next chapter?

"Nostalgic," he said. He looked off into the kitchen as though seeing the last 28 years there.

"Wally's wouldn't exist without the customer base," he said, "I'm grateful for every one of them and grateful for every order, grateful for every time we messed up and they came back again, grateful for every bit of praise and feed-

back. Positive or negative. In the restaurant business you don't fear the customer that calls and complains, you only fear the customer that doesn't call you back."

Even though Mild Wally's Delivery restaurant is now closed, Wally's Catering has your back. You can call Kovelman anytime to see if he's available to drop off some wings for you and your family.

"If I can do it, I will," he said.



Jacquelyn Orchard / ASP

would get," Hays laughed. "There used to be a level called 'absurd' and we would get them- but that was when we still had hair."

Hays called Grossman about Mild Wally's closing after he saw the announcement on Facebook.

"I drove two and a half hours to come up for this," said Grossman. "It sucks because this place is a landmark for our lives. It's special to me. I even cranked Nirvana on the way here."

**SUMMER SESSION  
IN NEW YORK CITY**

750+ undergraduate and graduate courses  
Online, classroom, and hybrid formats.  
Visiting students welcome.

[www.lehman.edu/summer](http://www.lehman.edu/summer)



**SEIZE  
YOUR SUMMER  
IN NYC**

**GET AHEAD!**  
**Take a Hunter Summer Course:**

- towards your degree
- for professional development
- for personal enrichment

**EXPERIENCE NYC!**  
**Live in Manhattan Dorms:**

- available dorm rooms
- convenient location
- flexible scheduling

[www.hunter.cuny.edu/summer-programs/](http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/summer-programs/)



TELEVISION

# Student Wins Big on Wheel of Fortune Junior Goes Home With \$18,000

By KATE WEST

Not many college students can say they came back from spring break with 18,000 dollars and a trip to Aruba. UAlbany Junior, Logan Stone, can.

Stone auditioned for Wheel of Fortune in Saratoga Springs last July.

"They start with 70-80 people in a room and then they kind of narrow it down to 20," Stone said.

To make sure contestants are loud enough for the show, coordinators have the potential contestants stand up and call out letters as if they were on the show. Then, they distribute a timed fill-in-the-blank test consisting of 35 word puzzles that Stone described as "brutally hard."

The remaining few all stand in a line and pantomime



Photos: Logan Stone

spinning a wheel.

"There was no wheel for us to spin," said Stone, "but the coordinators wanted to visualize us on the show."

Contestants had to practice saying "I'd like to buy a vowel," without saying "can" or "please."

Stone managed to impress the coordinators and 6 months later had a tape date for the show. Wheel of Fortune only tapes 35 days out of the year, so Logan and his father were in for a 12-hour day at SONY Pictures in Los Angeles.

"At 8 in the morning Vanna White casually walked into our dressing room to say hi, and everyone just lost their minds," said Stone, "It was complete giddiness."

Clint Eastwood's daughter was Stone's makeup artist, but that wasn't the weirdest part for Stone.

"It was the first and last time I've had my makeup done," said Logan.

After shooting some brief promotional material, they got into actually playing the game.

"When the cameras started rolling, my heart was racing. But after the first toss-up and interviews, I settled right in. Pat Sajak even leaned into me and whispered, 'Okay now the hard part is over. Now we can relax and play.'"



Sajak was one of the nicest people Stone ever met.

After landing on two bankrupts in the first half of the game, Logan won the third toss-up and solved the final puzzle. This took him to the bonus round.

Although he did not win the bonus round puzzle (which was BOUNCE AROUND), he was still happy to leave with an all-expenses-paid vacation, not to mention 18,000 dollars in his pocket.

Although shooting was back in February, Logan says he still keeps in touch with the other college kids who also taped shows that day.

"We've been rooting each other on as our episodes air," said Stone, who's episode aired on March 24th during UAlbany's spring break.

"If I could give a piece of advice I would say if you want to be on this type of show, there's nothing to stop you. The worst that could happen is they say no, and you try again."

UNIVERSITY BOOKSTORE PRESENTS

# GRAD FAIR

APRIL 26  
2pm - 4pm

- Get all your graduation questions answered
- Pick up your cap and gown
- Order your class ring and diploma frame

Participating Departments/Vendor

Bookstore  
Alumni Association  
UCAN  
Annual Giving  
Career Services  
Graduate Studies  
Balfour

GAMES  
PRIZES  
FOOD/DRINKS

Enter to win your cap and gown!\*

BARNES & NOBLE COLLEGE  
UAlbany  
Four chances to win. Ph.D regalia is excluded from this raffle. Winners will be randomly selected on 4/27/19, contacted via email and announced on UAS social media accounts.

**No. 1** Public University in  
New York State

2019 Wall Street Journal / Times Higher Education

## Invest in your most valuable asset. You.

Work smarter, rise faster, pursue your passion, chart a new path and challenge yourself to achieve your fullest potential.

- UB is the highest ranked business school in the SUNY system according to Forbes, Bloomberg BusinessWeek and U.S. News & World Report.
- Meet emerging career needs with the broadest choice of **Master of Business Administration** programs, as well as our **Master of Science** in Finance, Master of Science in Accounting and **Master of Science** in Management Information Systems.

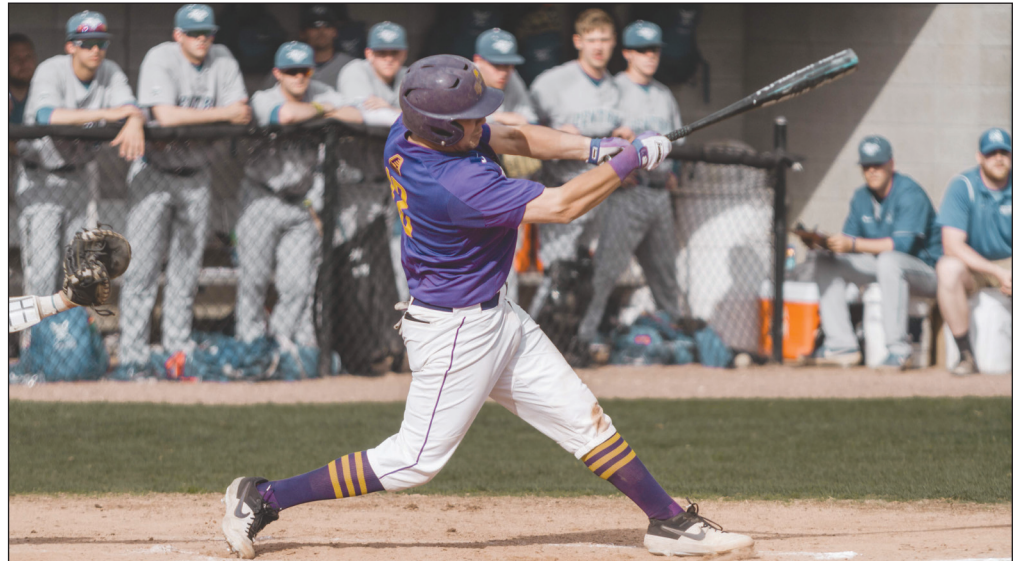
[mgt.buffalo.edu](http://mgt.buffalo.edu)

University at Buffalo  
School of Management





# UAlbany Baseball Goes 3-1 For the Week



By **CAMERON CUPP**

The University at Albany baseball team (18-20, 8-9 AE) had a nearly perfect week, going 3-1 with wins against Central Connecticut State University (15-16, 5-7 NEC), Fairleigh Dickinson (8-29-1, 6-9 NEC) and split a doubleheader with the University of Maine (9-25, 7-6 AE).

The Great Danes started their 10 game homestand on Tuesday with a 7-3 win against Central Connecticut State. Senior Infielder Patrick Lagravinese led the Danes at the plate, going two-for-four with two doubles and one run scored. Senior infielder Travis Collins also went two-for-four with one RBI and one run scored.

Junior infielder Chandler Debrosse drove a run in for the Blue Devils.

"The defense was solid and we were able to tack on runs over the course of the game," Danes head coach Jon Muller said. "Offensively we cashed in when we had to run with runners in scoring position".

The Danes scored first, scoring in the bottom of the first inning. Junior infielder Nick Kondo and redshirt junior Kevin Donati walked to start the inning, and Kondo was able to score on an error.

In the second inning, UAlbany added three more runs. Kondo reached on an error, and Collins was able to score. Donati hit a sacrifice fly to finish out the innings scoring.

The Danes added two more runs in the bottom of the eighth. Lagravinese doubled to right field, then went on to score in the inning.

The Blue Devils would not be shut out, scoring three runs in the top at the ninth. Their comeback fall short, as the final out was recorded with runners on first and third.

The following day, the Danes knocked off the Fairleigh Dickinson Knights 8-2.

Collins again lead the Danes, going two-for-four with a double and a home run, and recording four RBIs. Junior outfielder Marc Wangenstein went two-for-four with a homerun.

"We limited FDU to three hits and played solid defense," Coach Muller said. "Seven of the nine starters had hits and we added on later on in the contest to create some breathing room".

The Knights scored first as freshman outfielder Tony Socci launched a two run home run in the top of the first inning.

UAlbany took their first lead in the bottom of the fifth inning. Redshirt sophomore outfielder Josh Loeffler lead off the inning with a double, and scored when the Danes cracked another extra base hit.

In the same inning, Kondo reached first base, and Collins crushed a two run home run, making the score 4-2.

Wangenstein hit a one-out solo home run in the bottom of the eight, adding insurance runs for the Danes.

To end the week, the Danes take on the Maine Black Bears. The Danes split the series, winning the first game 19-3, and dropping the second 16-1.

In the first game, Collins went three for four with a double, three RBIs and three runs scored. Donati hit a two run home run and score three times. Sophomore infielder Brad Malm go three for four with two doubles, four RBIs and two runs scored.

Maine scored first, scoring once in the top of the first inning. UAlbany tied the game in the next inning with Kondo scoring on a wild pitch.

The Danes exploded for eight runs in the bottom of the third.

The bases became loaded with no outs in the inning, when a single drove in Collins and Donati. Lagravinese then laid down a sacrifice bunt to move both runners, who eventually scored on a bases clearing double.

In the same inning, Maine changed pitchers, only for the Danes to hit two consecutive doubles. The end of the inning saw UAlbany take a 9-1 lead.

The Danes opened the floodgates to score nine more runs in the bottom of the sixth.

Collins lead off with a single, and the bases quickly become loaded. The Score six times before Donati stepped up to the plate. He crush a three run homerun to cap off the inning's scoring.

In the second game, the Danes were led by Lagravinese, scoring once and going two for three at the plate. Collins went two for two with a walk.

Maine sophomore infielder Joe Bramanti went three for four with five RBIs, and senior infielder Danny Casals drove in two runs.

The game remained scoreless until the fourth inning when both teams scored one run.

Maine tacked on six runs in the top of the fifth inning. All runs came with one out, as Maine hit a three run home run, a two run double, and an RBI single.

The Black Bears took control of the game in the sixth. Casals drove a two run double and Bramanti drove home another two run single.

After a successful week, the Danes look to take the series against Maine with a win on Sunday. UAlbany will continue their 10 game homestand against Fordham during the week, and will take on LIU Brooklyn for a weekend series.

**JAY BENDLIN / ASP**  
**@jaybendlinphoto**

SUMMER@COGREENE



## GO AHEAD

Earn three credits in six weeks at C-GCC this summer — both on-line and on-campus courses are being offered!

### TWO SUMMER SESSIONS

Summer Session I: Monday, May 20 - Thursday, June 27

Summer Session II: Monday, July 8 - Thursday, August 15

Learn more at [SUNYcgcc.edu](http://SUNYcgcc.edu),  
or call (518) 828-4181, extension 5514.



Route 23 | Hudson, NY | 518-828-4181 | [SUNYcgcc.edu](http://SUNYcgcc.edu) | [f](#) [t](#) [i](#) [v](#) [o](#)

Let's Go, #CoGreene

**Live Music!**

**FOOD for FINALS BBQ**

**Giveaways!**

**Late Night · Free Food Faculty/Staff Servers and Fun!**

**FREE FOR ALL STUDENTS WITH STUDENT ID ALL FOOD FOR FINALS EVENTS · 8:30P TO 10:30P**

**MAY 9 - BBQ - ACADEMIC PODIUM SMALL FOUNTAIN**  
**MAY 10 - TEX MEX - INDIAN QUAD**  
**MAY 12 - APPETIZERS - STATE & INDIAN QUADS**  
**MAY 13 - COFFEE HOUSE - CAMPUS CENTER**  
ACROSS FROM CORNER DELI

[www.ualbanydining.com](http://www.ualbanydining.com)

## MEN'S LACROSSE

## Danes Fall Short of No. 1 Seed

By BRIAN MINUTOLO

UAlbany men's lacrosse fell to Stony Brook 12-10 Saturday night at LaValle Stadium. The Seawolves win places Stony Brook atop the America East standings heading into the tournament.

The loss snaps a 10-game winning streak against Stony Brook, dating back to 2013, and moves the all-time series to 22-14 in UAlbany's favor.

UAlbany scored first with 13:17 remaining in the first quarter before Stony Brook responded with five straight goals, holding a 6-2 lead after the first quarter. The Seawolves took a commanding 10-5 lead into halftime behind junior Tom Haun's hat trick.

The Great Danes scored four straight goals in the third quarter, by four different players, and held the Seawolves scoreless, cutting the lead to 10-9.

A two-hour, seven-minute thunderstorm delayed occurred before the beginning of the fourth quarter, breaking momentum the Great Danes built in the third. Stony Brook junior Chris Pickle Jr. scored 42 seconds after play resumed, completing a hat trick, and they held on to win 12-10.

"The storm obviously came at the wrong time," said UAlbany head coach Scott Marr. "I think if we could have rolled right into the fourth quarter with all that momentum we had going, it could have been a different story."

Haun finished with a four-goal game, bringing his season total to 31, third best in the America East. Pickle's hat trick raised his season total to 23.

Junior Davis Diamond led the Great Danes

with two goals and two assists. Sophomore Kyle Casey and junior Jakob Patterson added three points. Patterson's 54 points rank second in the America East.

Stony Brook dominated faceoffs, winning 19-of-26. Stony Brook began the game 10-of-10 before UAlbany won its first faceoff with 10:23 remaining in the second quarter.

UAlbany sophomore faceoff specialist Austin Jones, who ranks second in the America East in faceoffs won, was only 5-of-12 in the contest.

The Seawolves (9-5, 5-1 America East) hold the No. 1 seed while the Great Danes (5-8, 4-2 America East) fall to the No. 3 seed heading into the America East Tournament.

Stony Brook enters the tournament winning six of their last seven while UAlbany has lost three of their last four.

The Great Danes will face No. 2 Vermont, whom they lost to 10-9 this season, when the tournament semifinals begin Thursday, May 2 in Stony Brook.



Source: UAlbany Communications &amp; Marketing

The UAlbany men's lacrosse team fell 12-10 to Stony Brook in their regular season finale Friday night.

## A Farewell From Sports Editor, Rob Lep



All good things must come to an end. My time as sports editor of the Albany Student Press is here.

I've thought a lot about this moment and how I would feel when it finally came. I'm filled with so many emotions and nostalgia. If nothing else, I'm just so damn thankful.

I really can't help but laugh at least a little at how my journey here at UAlbany has gone.

When I walked on to this campus in the fall of 2015, I was just a freshman college student with a passion for sports.

But, I had never been given a true outlet to express that. UAlbany gave me that gift. I realized that a career in sports media was possible and the university's journalism major was my ticket in.

Some kids know exactly what they want to do from the second they enter high school.

They plan their age 15-18 lives around getting into the perfect college with an award-winning journalism school, the broadcasting epicenter that will help them reach their ultimate goals.

That certainly was not me. UAlbany was the school that was three and a half hours away from home, far enough away from my parents to have my own privacy but close enough that if there was an apocalyptic end to society, they could come pick me up from Indian Quad and take me back to Long Island.

I came into college thinking I was going to do one thing. I'm leaving with the expectation of something completely different. Journalism was absolutely the last thing on my mind. I had never written a newspaper article before. I didn't know what AP style was. I had no idea UAlbany even had a ra-

dio station, student newspaper or television station.

The fact I would become sports director, sports editor and Vice President of those three organizations respectively is actually mind-blowing to me.

The Albany Student Press along with WCDB and Albany Student Television have given me so many opportunities and opened up doors I never thought were imaginable.

I covered the UAlbany men's lacrosse team on their magical run to the program's first ever final four appearance, broadcasting the National Semifinal from Gillette Stadium, the home of the New England Patriots.

I've interviewed athletes like Mariano Rivera, Walt Frazier, David Cone and broadcasting legends like Gary Cohen and Verne Lundquist, among many others.

Internships and student media have taken me to places like the NBA Draft, Heisman Trophy Inductions, Justify's Triple Crown victory at the Belmont Stakes, Yankee Stadium, Citi Field and many others.

I get goosebumps thinking about it all.

On top of that I became a leader and mentor, working with other young journalists who aspire to be in the same field as myself. It's a role I've embraced and really enjoyed. Exactly like those who came before me did when I started out.

This profession is all about reps. My advice to anyone thinking about pursuing it: go out and actually do it. That's the only way to actually get better at it.

There were some of the fun times listed above but also plenty of hurdles.

I carried cameras tripods and lights to the Cobb Room and ATV's old studio in the lecture center sub basement. Stood in the snow recording b-roll for ATV's "UA Overtime" sports show. Lugged radio equipment across campus to Casey Stadium on a fall Saturday, turning it on and praying it would actually connect back to the studio. Sometimes it did, others not so much.

If you saw a stressed out short kid running around campus in a collared shirt and sort of reddish orange beard, it was probably me. Those are the moments that show what you're really made of. I call it character building or something like that.

A huge thank you to professors like Ian Pickus, David Guistina, Elaine Salisbury, Thomas Palmer, James Odato Thomas Bass, and Holly McKenna to name a few.

The editors who came before me like Troy Farkas, John Longton III and Stefan Lembo-Stolba, who taught me the ropes and

showed me the way things should be done. They were some of my biggest role models, mentors and supporters.

They patted me on the back when I earned it, but also gave the honest feedback I needed to hear. Pushed me to be better. Tough love too. I wouldn't be where I am today without them.

My experience here wouldn't have been the same without the UAlbany sports and information department, for my money and many others the hardest working people on campus. Long hours, nights and weekends. All the above.

I'll never forget the one and only Dave Vatz, UAlbany's assistant athletic director and sports information director, who helped with all of my sports media needs my first three years on campus. He had his khaki pants, black sunglasses and an unforgettable power walk. No one on this campus worked harder than he did.

I'll forever be grateful for all the athletes and coaches I covered over my four years. Afonso Pinheiro, Nico Solabarrieta and Moosah Khanat of the UAlbany men's soccer team as well as Connor Fields and Scott Marr of men's lacrosse to name a few.

They made me feel special, like I was a lot more important and put together than I actually was. Not just a nervous freshman with a iPhone voice memo app and a blue pen in hand.

I'm not 100% sure what comes next. I feel like that's the fun part. I'm a Great Dane for life. So excited for the next chapter. I'll never forget where I came from.

Rob  
ASP Sports Editor 2017-18, 2018-19  
UAlbany '19



Photo by David Lepelstat / Zone 5 Photos  
Rob interviews Yankees legend Mariano Rivera.