

THE ALBRIGHTIAN

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The Voice of Albright College Since 1904

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

FORMER PRESIDENT
ZIMON'S NEWEST
CONTROVERSY
PG. 2

WRESTLING PROGRAM
SUSPENDED
PG. 4

KEITH HARING
EXHIBIT COMES TO
READING
PG. 8

OPINION: SURVIVAL OF
GREEK LIFE
PG. 9

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Projector System Stolen From Campus Center Classroom

by Jessica Bair
The Albrightian

A 3M model X55 computer projector was stolen from Campus Center classroom 1 sometime after noon on Feb. 17 and before noon on Feb. 20.

The metal mount securing the projector to the ceiling was damaged beyond repair, bringing the overall damage total to nearly \$2,000.

A faculty member reported the projector missing on the night of Feb. 20.

According to Rosemary Deegan, director of the library at Albright, some sort of tool was used to cut the projector from the mount. The stolen equipment was property of the library.

There are currently no suspects or witnesses involved in the case, according to Robert Gerken, director of the public safety department

at Albright. The Reading authorities were contacted regarding the matter, but would not partake in the investigation because there is no exact information as to when the projector was stolen.

Gerken urges everyone on campus to stay alert and to report anything that seems to be out of the ordinary in the area, even if they are not sure of its legitimacy. Three separate cases of car theft have been recently solved because of individuals reporting suspicious behavior to the department.

As for the city of Reading, Gerken hopes to show that Albright is very aware of

what is going on within the campus and that criminals need to realize that it is not as easy as they thought to get away with criminal behavior at Albright College.

While it is difficult to say who might have carried out the theft, the location of the classroom in the campus center makes it accessible to a lot of people on campus.

The room is scheduled for both classes and extra-curricular activities and therefore is used by many people, according to Deegan.

"Whoever stole the equipment came prepared with cutting equipment," Deegan said. "So my only presumption was

that they may have been in the room before and knew how the equipment was mounted."

Sally Stetler, director of student activities, is working to ensure that precautionary measures are taken.

"Basically, what we've done is we've developed a procedure to lock the room when it's not in use," Stetler said.

Campus center staff will now be responsible for locking and unlocking the door for previously scheduled class and group meetings, Stetler said.

As for future security measures for overall protection at Albright, Gerken is looking to install surveillance cameras in any open or common area on campus. Right now his department is looking for ways to fund such measures, as it can cost up to \$2,500 for one camera.

"Whoever stole the equipment came prepared with cutting equipment," Deegan said. "So... they may have been in the room before and knew how the equipment was mounted."

Sesquicentennial Celebration Continues

by Jordan Mauger
The Albrightian

Since the kick-off of the Sesquicentennial Celebration at Homecoming in October 2005, the Sesquicentennial Committee has made a number of efforts to celebrate the momentous 150th anniversary of Albright and continues to formulate innovative ideas to commemorate this notable occasion in the College's history.

The Sesquicentennial Committee, made up of a cross-section of people on campus, including staff and faculty, is making a concentrated effort to create events that will benefit and appeal to the student body, according to Barbara Marshall, director of college relations and Sesquicentennial Committee member.

"It is our hope that students will get involved in the celebration," Marshall said. Events geared towards students include the creation of a time capsule scheduled for Fall 2006. "We'll be taking student input on what to put in it and where to eventually bury it," Marshall said.

The committee introduced the Albright Sesquicentennial Heritage Chain at the opening ceremonies as another means

for students to get involved in the celebration of the College's 150th year. This idea was inspired by the symbolic welding of two sections of chain together by former Albright President Warren F. Teel during a ceremony marking the merger of Albright College and Schuylkill College in 1929. Now students are invited to put their names on a link of the



Ted Isselmann speaking as Jacob Albright at the Sesquicentennial opening ceremonies
Photo by Ryan McFadden

Heritage Chain.

The chain has already collected signatures at numerous college events, including the Sesquicentennial Opening Ceremony, December 2005 Commencement and the senior class information sessions.

"Our goal is to carry the chain at all three Commencement ceremonies and collect signatures until the end of the

Albright's Strategic Plan Gets a Makeover

by Lydia Steiner
The Albrightian

While Albright may be in the midst of celebrating its history, the College is also looking to the future with the revision of its strategic plan.

Albright College is a place where the past and future meet and combine to make something greater. The College is always changing to make progress towards the future, and draws from its past and present strengths to reach that newer, brighter future.

Albright's latest change is the new focus on updating its strategic plan. Albright's strategic plan is the long-term plan for the college's issues and goals in the future.

In changing the strategic plan, President Lex McMillian has developed the Strategic Planning Committee to re-work the college's long-term plans for a more focused drive on improving things at Albright.

The Committee's goal is to have an updated plan for the Board of Trustees by October 2006, and remain as a committee afterwards to advise the President and Board of Trustees in the future.

"There is much that is good in the current plan, and much that has already been accomplished, so this is a time to re-vision," said President McMillian on Albright's Web site (www.albright.edu/stratplan). "We must not just think we are

on a path that has been laid out for us, but rather deliberately focus on our core strengths, make the most of them, and then let that guide how we use our resources."

Albright is planning many new and exciting things in the near future. These include a new science building and a new fitness center, with developmental ideas for other needed facilities and improvements on current facilities.

For the most part, students do not really seem to know a lot about the strategic planning in general. It's not a very well-known subject and does not lend itself to common knowledge. Yet some students were aware of it.

Freshman Travis Givler approves of the situation. "I feel that it's good for the college to move ahead," Givler said. "It's good to make progress. You've got to stay on the cutting edge."

Other students voiced similar approval, while some expressed an uncertainty about the situation. Freshman Sarah Ritacco felt that the progress the college is making is good. However, she was hesitant to the most recent change to come about - the new science building.

"It would cut down the trees there, and make it kind of crowded," Ritacco said. These

Continued on pg. 3

Continued on pg. 3

News in the Brief

by Andrew Holets
The Albrightian

Woman Killed in Automobile Accident Involving Albright Student

A city woman died in Reading Hospital a short time after she was struck by a car in the 700 block of N. Fifth St., officials said.

Donna L. Scavo, 55, of 728 N. Fifth St. was pronounced dead in the Reading Hospital emergency room Feb. 19 at 12:02 a.m.

Berks County Chief Deputy Coroner Charles E. Sweitzer said Scavo died of a head injury. The death was an accident, Sweitzer said.

Scavo is the ninth person to die this year as a result of accidents on Berks roads.

Scavo tried to cross the street from a neighbor's residence when she was hit by a southbound car driven by Tunesia Small, 21, Stroudsburg, Monroe County, investigators said.

"She ran out into oncoming traffic," Sweitzer said. "She

was wearing dark clothing."

Small, a senior at Albright College, was on her way to a school-sponsored event with two other students when the accident occurred, police said.

Scavo had just returned from a nightclub and was going home after stopping at a neighbor's house, police said.

Reprinted from the Reading Eagle

First Ever World Baseball Classic Begins

With sixteen countries competing, the inaugural World Baseball Classic kicked off on Friday, March 3 with Korea defeating Chinese Taipei 2-0. The tournament is structured in four separate pools with each pool holding four teams. The winning teams face one another until a champion is crowned. The United States team begins the tournament on Tuesday, March 7 where they will face team Mexico, followed by a match against Canada the following day, with a very unbalanced

match-up between the USA favorites and South Africa taking place on March 10. The WBC championship game will take place March 20 at 6 p.m. in San Diego, CA.

More than Music Spreading through the Ears of WXAC DJs

Two disc jockeys at WXAC radio station have experienced ear infections in the past two weeks, when they unknowingly shared the same set of headphones. The ear infections were reported by a community DJ and Albright student Dan William Mink.

"It hurt a lot," Mink stated, "I couldn't hear for a week." The source of the infection is believed to come from the coincidental use of a pair of headphones by the two men on separate occasions, according to station promotions director Gill Cornwall. The two DJs have separate shows and time slots on the WXAC broadcasting schedule.

WXAC has a policy of signing out one pair of headsets per DJ. WXAC 91.3 FM is presently celebrating its 40th anniversary as Albright College's radio station.

Iranian Nuclear Ambitions Illicit Warning from White House

Compiled from AP News Information

White House officials stood firm in their opposition to any nuclear development from Iran, spurred after Russia proposed allowances for Iran to make small quantities of nuclear fuel.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey V. Lavrov was in Washington on Tuesday to discuss a proposal to enrich uranium to fit Iran's energy needs. Vice President Dick Cheney commented on the situation during a speech in Washington at the annual gathering of the nation's top pro-Israel lobbying group, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee. He discussed Iran's continuing de-

fiance of the world with its nuclear ambitions and said that the United States was keeping "all options on the table."

"The Iranian regime needs to know that if it stays on its present course, the international community is prepared to impose meaningful consequences," Cheney said.

Baseball Mourns the Death of Kirby Puckett

Former Minnesota Twins player Kirby Puckett died in his Arizona home, Monday after suffering a massive stroke.

Puckett played in 10 All-Star games and was one of the game's best defensive center fielders. He won six Gold Glove awards during his career.

He also helped the Twins capture two World Series titles, in 1987 and 1991. Puckett was the American League's Most Valuable Player in 1991.

Puckett was only 45 years old. His death comes as a shock to the baseball world. His presence will be missed.

The Search to Find Albright's New Provost Nears its End

by Dan Orr
The Albrightian

Since the resignation of David C. Stinebeck, Ph.D., in 2005, Albright College has been without a provost.

The Provost Search Committee has been working to select the new provost and has narrowed the search down to three possible candidates.

The behind-the-scenes function of Albright may not be a concern of most students, but the search for filling the vacant provost position is definitely a pivotal process in respect to Albright's future. Perhaps some of the apathy has to do with the fact that many are not aware of what being a provost entails.

Created in 2002, the inception of provost was the result of an effort to expand the role of Albright's Administration — especially the Vice President of Academic Affairs and the Dean of Students — in advocating for stronger academic programming.

Dr. David C. Stinebeck was first in Albright's history hired as provost, but was eventually placed into the position of acting president in light of President Henry A. Zimon's resignation last year.

Since then, no one has been formally hired for the

position, but the Provost Search Committee is likely to announce their selection for the position soon.

Three candidates in the running are Andrea C. Chapdelaine, Ph.D., current acting Vice President for Academic Affairs at Albright College, William J. McKinney, Ph.D., currently serving as the Dean of College Humanities at Slippery Rock University, and Daniel N. Nelson, Ph.D., currently serving as Dean of Arts & Sciences at the University of New Haven.

A more detailed description of their credentials, available at the Gingrich Library, lists many other strong qualifications.

A crucial decision of searching for a new provost, has evoked opinions from some of Albright's faculty.

"I have been teaching here as an adjunct instructor since 2000, and I have been pretty dismayed by what I have seen when it comes to 'who's steering this boat,'" said English professor Marian Wolbers, Ph.D.

Although she does not appear to be alone in her sentiment, we should all agree one thing — to hope that the committee chooses whoever will best serve the interests of the Albright Community.

THE ALBRIGHTIAN

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Author to Lead Discussion on Censorship of Books

Adam Rapp, author of the controversial book "The Buffalo Tree," will present a discussion of his book and the impact of censorship in schools on March 27, 2006, at 7:30 p.m.

The event, which is free and open to the public, will be held in Memorial Chapel.

Following the complaint of a 16-year-old student in the Muhlenberg School District in April 2005 on the content of "The Buffalo Tree," a book assignment for class, the school board voted to have the book banned from the school's curriculum.

Rapp's novel is set in a juvenile detention center and narrated by a 12-year-old boy incarcerated there. Its graphic account of situations in the detention center spurred the heated debate between students and teachers on the appropriateness of such topics.

Rapp will be joined by several panelists: Dr. Joseph

Yarworth, former superintendent of the Muhlenberg School District and Albright professor in education; Dr. Alberto Cacicedo, professor and chair of Albright's English Department; Otto Voit, member of the Muhlenberg Board of School Directors; Michael Anthony, chair of Muhlenberg's English Department; and John Forester, featured columnist for the Reading Eagle.

A question & answer session and an opportunity to meet the author will follow the discussion.

This event is presented by Albright's Graduate Program in Education.

For more information or disabled assistance call Tiffany Siegel at 610-921-7856.

Memorial Chapel is located on the Albright College campus at 13th & Union Streets, Reading.

Courtesy of the Office of College Relations

Sesquicentennial (Cont. from pg. 1)

year," Marshall said. The Sesquicentennial Committee intends for the chain to serve a similar symbolic role, a means of linking together all of those involved in the historic 150th celebration.

The Sesquicentennial Committee is placing a particular focus on the Class of 2006 as this class is "another link in the chain" of the history of Albright, Marshall said. The gift of a photo book—"Albright at 150: A History in Photographs"—will be given to all seniors before they graduate.

"Commencement is the heart of what we do here," Marshall said. "I think it's going to be really special and from what I can tell, the senior class seems to feel that being a part of the class of 2006 is something special."

Other upcoming celebratory efforts include the continuation of monthly "Sesqui Stories" that pinpoint important moments in Albright's history.

New Sesquicentennial

displays will be placed in the campus center and library, and the Sesquicentennial will be the theme of a number of events on campus, such as Alumni Reunion Weekend, the Sesquicentennial Ball and the Presidential Inauguration.

According to Marshall, President McMillan is supportive of the Sesquicentennial theme at his inauguration and wants the College as a whole to reconnect with the history of the institution. "President McMillan believes it is a landmark occasion that warrants exposure," Marshall said.

Marshall said she also believes it is important for students to get involved in the Sesquicentennial Celebration in some capacity to create a connection with the history of the College.

"We are not here in isolation. We are the product of the work of a lot of people," Marshall said. "It's important for people to feel like they are a part of the history. It changes your sense of your education."

Strategic Plan (Cont. from pg. 1)

ideas, and others as well, are all important when considering Albright's future.

The Web site, www.albright.edu/stratplan, contains information pertaining to the new strategic plan as well as a link to a survey.

This survey asks questions like "What do you think is the central mission or purpose of Albright College?" and, "What distinguishes Albright—that is, characteristics, educational programs,

brand, — among colleges and universities?"

Everyone is encouraged to participate in this survey, from alumni and current students to Albright faculty, administration and staff, and even friends of the college.

The results of this survey will be seriously studied by the Strategic Planning Committee to help find Albright's strengths and weaknesses to make a better plan for the College's future.

Former Albright President Involved in West Virginia College Controversy

A former president of Albright College who was accused of making misleading statements about his academic and publishing record is one of three finalists to lead a public college in West Virginia.

A search committee at Glenville State College selected Henry A. Zimon, Ph.D., and two others from among 70 applicants to become president of the 1,350-student institution.

Zimon, a retired U.S. Army colonel, served as president of Albright, in Reading, Pa., from July 1999 to February 2004, when he abruptly resigned, citing "personal and family issues," as the college was about to embark on a capital campaign.

From the outset of Zi-

mon's tenure at Albright, some faculty members had questioned the veracity of several claims on his résumé, including listing two books as forthcoming although neither manuscript had a publisher. He also said he was editing a compilation of essays with R. James Woolsey, a former director of the Central Intelligence Agency. Mr. Woolsey told The Chronicle at the time that he did not know about the book. None of the books have been published.

In a public forum on the Glenville campus in February, Zimon denied that he had falsified his credentials. "I have never even lied to Mom and Dad," he said.

Allison Minton, a spokeswoman for Glenville State,

says the college only recently learned of the questions about Zimon's background.

Since leaving Albright, Zimon, has shown an interest in returning to academe. Last year he was a finalist for two presidencies in California, at Bakersfield College and at Los Angeles City College.

Glenville State's Board of Governors is expected to select a president by March 15 to replace Robert N. Freeman, who is retiring. The other two finalists are Peter Barr, provost and chief academic officer at Coastal Carolina University, in Conway, S.C., and Willis Perry, a former member of Glenville State's board.

Reprinted from the Chronicle of Higher Education

Attention all students! It's time to nominate your favorite professors!

Albright students are invited to submit nominations for Faculty Teaching Awards to be announced at Commencement in May. These awards are given to faculty who exemplify teaching excellence.

An excellent teacher is one who has knowledge of the subject matter, engages and challenges students, uses creative and clear methods to present class material, sets demanding academic standards, motivates students to excel, and is fair. Further, an excellent teacher is one who enjoys teaching, respects and cares for students, provides positive feedback and encourages students to think for themselves.

Please take a few minutes to nominate a teacher who you feel is worthy of consideration for this award. Please submit his or her name and a brief explanation for why you believe he or she is deserving of the award. You may nominate more than one faculty member. Faculty members who have been nominated must submit materials that are reviewed by a faculty committee. Possible recipients are then recommended to President McMillan who makes the final selection.

Nominations are due on March 17, 2006. Please submit your nominations to Dr. Andrea Chapdelaine, acting vice president for academic affairs.

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Wrestling Program Suspended Mid-Season

by Andrew Petrillo
The Albrightian

Albright College has added its name to the growing list of NCAA programs across the country that has dropped or is on the verge of eliminating their wrestling programs.

During the first week of January 2006, Albright's head wrestling coach for seven years, Joe Reilly, recommended to Steve George, Ph.D., Albright's Director of Athletics, that with just five healthy wrestlers left on the team it was time to suspend the 2005-06 season.

When the season was canceled in the middle of this year's schedule, members of the team were disappointed to say the least.

Senior Wade Ginter, who has compiled a 70-16 record and was on pace to accomplish 100 wins in his final season, said, "When I heard about the season being canceled it was like being slammed by a truck, something that I have been doing for the last 16 years was over. My family couldn't see me finish my career."

Junior Erik Murphy, who still has two years of eligibility left to improve on his 28-9

career record, said, "I'm still mad about this season. I want the athletic department to seriously consider giving the program a second chance, so I can have a chance to accomplish my career goals that I set before my freshmen season."

Albright isn't the only school to consider canceling wrestling from the athletic department. Division I and II universities like Syracuse, Slippery Rock and Seton Hall have already dropped their wrestling programs due to both money reasons and Title IX issues.

Title IX is the 1972 legislation that prohibits gender discrimination in public and private schools. Its presence has brought more equality in the athletic world, but at the same time participation in sports like wrestling, gymnastics and track and field have all been on the decline, while ice hockey, lacrosse, and soccer have been rising.

According to www.womenssportsfoundation.org, wrestling peaked in all NCAA divisions in 1971-72 when 60 percent of schools sponsored the sport. In 2000-01, 21 percent of schools in all three of the divisions had wrestling a

part of their athletics.

However, George said, "Title IX is mainly a problem at Division I schools, it has never been an issue at Albright."

If Title IX isn't the issue at Albright, then the question is why is the wrestling program's future in jeopardy?

"If we can't do it well then there's no reason to participate," said George. Allegations of the cancellation of other wrestling programs believed to be under the direction of George, as either athletic di-

rector or assistant director, could not be confirmed.

In the 50-year history of the team, Albright has posted a 150-461-5 record.

Recruiting for Albright wrestling has been a problem for a number of years. The College has only hired a part-time head coach, Reilly, and no assistant coaches to help out with the hard work it takes to run a successful program. Without strong recruiting and the effort of a full-time coaching staff, Albright wrestling is close to be-

coming just another number.

Although wrestling at Albright has not been permanently canceled, its status is going to be looked at thoroughly over the rest of the spring semester by a board consisting of alumni, student-athletes and members of the athletic department.

George said, "We will look at trends across the country and decide what we can do to be more successful. But, there are going to be some tough decisions to be made."

Men's Basketball Captures ECAC Title

Courtesy of Albright Athletics

After falling behind early in the contest, Albright College raced out to a sixteen point advantage at the half and coasted the remainder of the way as the Lions captured the 2006 ECAC Division III Southern Men's Basketball Championship with a convincing 92-72 victory over Pitt-Greensburg.

Albright's Trevor Deeter was named as the weekend's Most Valuable Player as he led the Lions with 24 points and 10 rebounds in the title game. For the two games played at Keystone College on Friday and Saturday, Deeter netted

37 points while pulling in an impressive 27 rebounds.

Deeter's 24 was a championship game high as four Albright players scored in double digits. Tom Murphy netted 17 points with six rebounds and three assists, while Taylor Steltz added 15 and Kyle Brudvig 13. Matt Kieselowsky dished out a game high 10 assists to pace Albright.

Duke Cooper led the way for Pitt-Greensburg with 13 points while Rashad Davison added 11 and Matt Rowland 10.

Pitt-Greensburg jumped out early building a four point

lead less than five minutes into the game. With Albright trailing by three, Steltz connected on one his two three-pointers of the day to knot the score at 17 and was followed by Brudvig bucket to give the Lions their first lead. The Bobcats regained what would turn out to be their final advantage with ten minutes to go in the first half when Matt Rowland hit two free throws for a 23-21 lead.

A minute later Albert Medero hit his only two free throws of the contest to give Albright the lead for good.



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Women's Softball Prepares for Spring

by Meg Hurst
The Albrightian

The women's softball team is ready to play and looking forward to another successful season.

Last year the team finished with a 23-15 overall record and went 9-3 in the conference. Along with making playoffs for the first time, they also played in the MAC championship game but fell second to Moravian.

"That's last year though," head coach Angela Nunan said, "For this year it doesn't matter how we did last year."

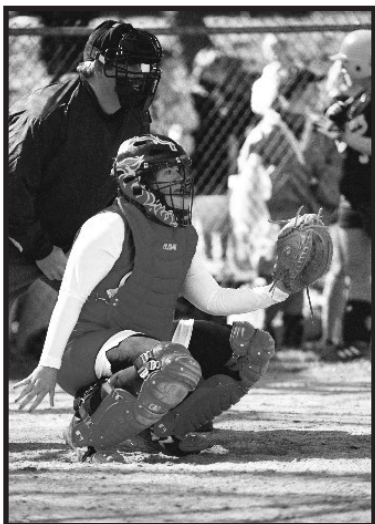
With most of the team returning, including four all-conference players, Nunan has high hopes for the new season. "We look to better how we did last year," she said.

Nunan stated that while she realizes there are always "fundamental things to work on," the main priority this year is for the team to gain experience, something that was difficult last year because the team was comprised of mostly underclassmen. She feels this experience can be gained by striving to win the conference championships as well as the regional tournament.

Another important goal Nunan has set for this year is beating long time rival Mora-

vian College. Albright has played the college eight times in the past three years and has yet to come out on top. Two years ago Moravian was national runner up, so while Nunan realizes Albright has their work cut out for them she still remains confident and very optimistic.

"I'm just really excited about the season and I know we have all the talent," she said, "Hard work and hustle is our motto."



Senior Meredith Hippert
Courtesy of Albright Athletics

The softball team kicked off their spring season March 3 at a tournament in Virginia Beach.

The team will be training in Fort Meyers over spring break and playing 40 games until the season ends in late April.

Men's Tennis Team Looks to Turn Record Around This Season

by Renée Blessington
The Albrightian

After losing three of their six starters from last year, most people would probably expect Albright's men's tennis team to be a little nervous about the start of a new season. But ask any of the guys on the team and you might be surprised by their excitement.

As their season is set to begin on March 8, the tennis team anxiously prepares for a fresh start. Coming off a disappointing season, the team is confident that spring 2006 will bring better luck than last year. After starting the 2005 season with six straight losses and having little success in the playoffs, the Lions have been working over the off-season to improve their game and solidify the line up.

Returning for his final season, senior captain Jeremy Speicher believes this season's team is more prepared to play than they have been in previous years. With the team practicing at local indoor courts three times a week and conditioning twice a week in the multipurpose room on the third floor of the Bollman Center, Speicher said he sees improvement in all of the players.

Despite losing three starters, Speicher believes the team is better than ever. "We're a stronger team than

we were last year. We're definitely more prepared for this season," he said. Speicher, the reigning Commonwealth Conference Player of the Year and team MVP, plays number one singles for Albright and finished last season with a 12-6 record, making it to semi-finals of the Commonwealth playoffs. Speicher has taken control of the team by leading practices and setting up conditioning drills. The team began organized practices at the start of the semester.

"Practicing way before the season started really helped. We're ready to play," said senior Jeff Sussmann, returning for his fourth and final year with the team.

In the hopes of replacing departed starters, the team has shown confidence in two freshmen, Yoshihiro Otsuka and Majid Ghodousi, by making them the number two and three singles players. Ghodousi, from Karaj, Iran, was nationally ranked in Iran before coming to America to take classes at Albright. "They're really good. They should really help our team," said Speicher.

Along with Speicher and Sussmann returning starters include sophomore Dave Scherler and senior Nick Loris. Scherler will start at number four singles and Loris, also

a member of Albright's soccer team, is entering only his second season with the tennis team and is expected to play number five singles. Sussmann finishes out the line up at number six singles.

The team believes they have a strong line up and are excited about the new season. "I think we have a really good shot at winning the conference. At the very least, we're going to be one of the top few teams. We're the best we've been in a while," said Speicher.

"We have a solid six guys this year, unlike last year. We're definitely going to improve on last year's record," said Sussmann.

Dale "Doc" Yoder will enter his 34th year as head coach despite officially retiring at the end of last season. The celebrated coach agreed to help out the team until they are able to find a replacement. Brian Gall was hired in October to coach the team, but quit in December after being unable to find a teaching job in the area. The team is thrilled to have Yoder back and appreciates his decision to stay with the team.

"I'm really excited to have Doc back for another year. He's one of the reasons that I came to Albright. It's great that he's here for my last season," said Sussmann.

Free Footballs and Fish Sandwiches? Must Be Arena Football

The Sports Chair



Photo by John Pankratz

by Nelson Baitzel
The Albrightian

So I took part in history a couple of weeks ago. Oh yeah, I know that's some pretty exciting stuff. What history did I help make? I was part of the first ever Reading Express arena football league.

Right, that's arena football. Reading is part of the American Indoor Football League, or AIFL. This isn't to be confused with the AFL, which has Bon Jovi and John Elway. The AIFL is a slightly smaller version of that, with teams in Erie, Canton, Steubenville, and of course Reading. What's so great about the Reading Express and

arena football? Not a whole lot, but making the trip will at least give you a good story. It's one of those situations where it's so bad, it's almost good. If that doesn't sound convincing, then listen to my experience and then decide.

First off, there were some things that went on that really showed you that Reading is new at this whole AIFL business. When the players were introduced, the announcer mistakenly called the team the "Reading Freeze" (Reading was playing the Erie Freeze that day). Luckily the Reading fans are not as fanatic as some other cities, or it would have been a historic first riot for the Reading Express. After that the teams got on the field and the game began with Reading kicking off to Erie. The only mistake there was that the Reading kicker kicked the ball right

into the overhead scoreboard. Somehow, the Reading kicker did this not once, but twice before learning his lesson.

Another fun part of being at a Reading Express game is that you are very close to the field almost all the time. This is great in general because any football that goes into the stands is fair game, like baseball (unfortunately, unlike baseball there were only 30 footballs for the entire game so fans had to start throwing them back in exchange for vouchers).

Even if you don't get a football, there's always the chance to heckle the opposing team. The group I was with was easily able to do this by just moving down to the front row. We spent the entire first half talking with both teams any time they were down in our end. This was pretty interesting, as one player asked us to get him a beer. Later, a Reading player asked a little kid to pick someone out for him to hit (unfortunately, the

Reading player got leveled just about every time he was on the field).

So if all this still doesn't sound so great, hold on a second. The strangest part of the whole game was Reading's wandering stadium DJ who would shout out random things any time a play was dead. Wearing a Reading jersey with "Stumhofer" on the back, he would move from section to section trying to get the fans motivated. At times, he would offer free fish sandwiches from McDonald's if Reading managed to score. The most memorable part of his night was the time he cheered that an extra point was good (with his back to the game). The kick was wide left.

So did I have fun at my first Reading Express game? Sure. I was part of the first wave in Reading Express history, I saw the first touchdown in Reading Express history, and I was part of the first group of people to be asked to return to their seats

before security was called. It is true that the game itself left a lot to be desired, but you can't expect much from a sport that isn't far from the XFL. I haven't even gotten to mention the Smokin' Hot Steam Team (their cheerleaders) or the many times the camera would shakily film empty seats. Hopefully telling you this will maybe inspire you to check out one of their games, if only for the stories you can tell.

I'll end with this story, which really shows you what a Reading Express game has to offer. After the Reading kicker hit the scoreboard for the second time in two tries, the Erie coach (coaches are on the field with the players) turned to me and said, "I'm going to f*****g kill that *****," laughed, and walked off the field. Only in the AIFL.

Nelson Baitzel is a sports columnist for the Albrightian. He is also planning to try out for the left tackle position for Reading next season.

Congressman Gerlach Makes Early Campaign Stop at Albright

by Andrew Holets
The Albrightian

Congressman Jim Gerlach discussed a variety of political issues to a sizeable crowd in Albright College's South Lounge on Feb. 22.

Students, faculty and community members listened to Gerlach speak on business, homeland security and other items for nearly an hour. Gerlach represents the 6th district of Pennsylvania, consisting of parts in Berks, Montgomery, Chester and Lehigh counties, in the United States House of Representatives.

Gerlach's first start in politics took place when he won a spot in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in 1990, after serving at a law firm in Downingtown, PA. He has served in the U.S. House since 2002 and is traveling the district in search of a third term re-election.

A stop at Albright was appropriate regarding his proactive campaign strategy this time around. This area of Pennsylvania is considered to be growing in Democratic tendency, and elections have been closely contested in recent years. During the 2004

election, Gerlach received 51 percent of the vote out of the 6th district against Democrat Lois Murphy's 49 percent.

During his speech, Gerlach touched topic to topic with brevity and overview. He focused on a few national issues, such as homeland/border security, welfare, lobbying ethics and illegal immigration, before moving to business.

"We've been trying to incentivize businesses by keeping down the three policy problems: taxation, regulation and litigation," Gerlach stated, "The focus has been on bankruptcy reform and the high cost of medical malpractice, which has yet to be taken up in Senate."

As for political lobbying, Gerlach remarked, "Lobbying is no more than your constitutional right to get your opinion to your legislators, whether it be individually or not."

Gerlach received \$30,000 from former Senate Majority Leader Tom DeLay's political action group, Americans for a Republican Majority, and has been questioned by opposition leaders and competitors to return or donate the money to charity. Gerlach stated that he

will return the money if DeLay is convicted of any wrongdoing. Gerlach explained further that the relationship between politician and lobbyist "ought to be more transparent."

Gerlach then discussed campaign financing, specifically 527 Group Reform. The 527's are political groups that support specific campaigns through advertisements while creating a falsified name, story or connection in order to illicit donation from voters.

Gerlach denounced this funding, mentioning MoveOn.org as one of the most notable groups. MoveOn.org selected only four congressional candidates across the nation to endorse and highlight during the 2004 campaign, with one being Gerlach's closest competitor, attorney Lois Murphy.

During the question and answer session, Gerlach responded to concerns over social security. "There has not been any progress on privatizing or stabilizing social security reform. There simply is not enough consensus in the Senate to take up discussion on social security reform," commented Gerlach, "Partly because the American people don't have a

consensus either."

Gerlach's detraction from the Bush backed social security reform is not surprising considering some of his votes on other issues. He was one of only a few Republicans to not support the Federal Marriage Amendment and voted against Arctic National Wildlife Refuge drilling.

Regarding the recent federal interest in energy-efficient fuels, Gerlach expressed a positive outlook for its implementation.

"We must promote the issue of fuel-efficient and flex-fuel transportation much like John F. Kennedy promoted getting to the moon by the end of the decade." When questioned how the American automobile industry will fair regarding the issue, Gerlach stated that the Ford Automobile Company will produce 250,000 flex-fuel cars this year.

"If our car manufacturers in America don't get smart," said Gerlach, "they will lose consumers to Koreans, the Chinese or companies like Fiat."

Political scientist and economics co-concentrator Abdul Khawam '07, asked Gerlach to

comment on the recent election results in Palestine which gave Hamas, an Islamist organization that has used suicide bombings and terrorism as a means to further its goal of creating an Islamic Republic of Palestine in Israeli area, majority control in the Palestinian government.

"The burden is on Hamas leaders to no longer support terrorists and recognize the right of Israel to exist," responded Gerlach, "Until that occurs, they will not get one dime of American money."

The subject of education and student financial aid appropriately was discussed. Although federal Pell grants have risen, Gerlach marked the ineffectiveness of such government assistance.

"The Pell grant gives an average of \$4,050 to students in need, but that number is not keeping pace with the rising cost of tuition."

Gerlach was introduced and thanked by President Lex O. McMillan, III and stayed after the conclusion of the speech to talk with inquiring students and faculty.

The congressional election will take place in November.

Albright Junior Gears Up for Cycling Fund raiser

by Kory Turner
The Albrightian

Have you ever thought it would be possible for someone to go on a 14-day bicycle ride across the state of Florida? Well if the answer is no, one should consider meeting Charles Kolb.

Kolb is currently a junior at Albright majoring in Business Administration/Marketing and Communications.

Among the many other areas in which he serves, he is the dedicated secretary of the Albright chapter of the Pi Kappa Phi fraternity.

As a part of his dedication to his fraternity, Kolb has decided to help raise money for the fraternity's philanthropy, Push America. This organization seeks to help those with disabilities with four core values in mind: abilities, teamwork, integrity and empathy. The Albright chapter of Pi Kappa Phi raised over \$6,000 for Push America last year, marking it as the 8th highest contributor in the nation out of over 125 chapters.

Although there are several events held to help raise money for Push America, including the 2nd Miss Push America Pageant. Kolb chose to personally participate in the program known as Gear Up Florida.

Gear Up Florida is an 800 mile cycling event beginning in Miami, Florida and ending in Tallahassee, Florida. Every day, volunteers for this fund raiser will ride their bikes for seventy miles from 6 a.m. to 12 p.m. In the afternoon, participants dedicate part of their time in service to children around the state of Florida with disabilities. Although Kolb is fairly new to bik-

ing, he is very excited to be able to gain a greater understanding of children with disabilities.

"I am excited to have the opportunity to be part of such an amazing event and I look forward to not only raising money but also raising awareness through my participation," said Kolb.

Kolb has been selling blue Push America wristbands a la Lance Armstrong with the hopes of reaching his \$2,000 fund raising plateau. Kolb forwarded the money out of his own pocket to purchase the wristbands in bulk. The wristbands are on sale every day in the Campus Center.

Additionally, Kolb is pairing up with the Reading Phillies minor league baseball team to sell tickets for the opening game of their 2006 season.

Kolb said that 40 percent of the ticket sales will go towards Push America, with reserved section tickets being sold at \$7 each. The game will take place on April 13 at 7:05 p.m.

For more information about Push America, visit the Web site at:

www.pushamerica.org

Campus Calendar

March 11, Saturday – 7:30 p.m.
Memorial Chapel
Choral Concert

March 12, Sunday – 3:00 p.m.
Wachovia Theatre
Instrumental Concert

March 13, 14 & 15, Monday – Wednesday – Times TBA*
Wachovia Theatre
Green and Growing

March 16, Thursday – 7:00 p.m.*
CCSL
Women's History Month

March 17, Friday – 8:00 p.m.*
Wachovia Theatre
The nexus project IV - Jeffrey Lentz Tenor

March 27, Monday – 3:00 p.m.
Baseball Field
Albright Baseball vs. Messiah

March 28, Tuesday 1:00 p.m.
Tennis Courts
Albright Tennis vs. Lebanon Valley

March 28, Tuesday- 7:30 p.m.
Klein Lecture Hall
25th Black Maria Film & Video Festival

April 1, Saturday – 1:00 p.m.
Softball Field in front of North Hall
Albright Lady Lions vs. Messiah

April 5, Wednesday – All day
Gingrich Library
1st Annual Edible Book Festival

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DCP Graduates Initiate Alumni Chapter

by Jessica Bair
The Albrightian

On Feb. 15, the Accelerated Degree Programs (ADP) at Albright College officially initiated an alumni chapter for graduates of their Accelerated Degree Completion Program.

"We are very excited to finally have a formal alumni chapter representing the DCP alumni," said Former Interim Director of Alumni Relations John Diamond. "And it is nice that it happened during our sesquicentennial year."

Cindy Werner, DCP graduate of 2005 and secretary for ADP, serves as secretary for the chapter and Carol Pockrus, DCP graduate of 2004, was appointed representative to Albright's Alumni Association National Board, the governing body of Albright's 16,000 alumni. Pockrus will attend her first of the semi-annual meetings on March 11.

The chapter members have expressed that they are looking at the chapter not just as a way to plan activities, but as a way to give back to the college through service and giving, according to Werner.

"We're discussing creating an ambassadorship to help build knowledge about DCP," Werner said. "We would possibly have representatives that go out into the community to talk about DCP, what it's done for us and what it can do for other people who want to finish their education."

The alumni chapter will be open to all DCP graduates. There are currently 16 mem-

bers who will work to recruit more students.

"Our main goal at this point is to bring in more graduates to the chapter," Werner said. "Part of the problem is that once they become alumni, because they are adult students from the evening program, they don't get a lot of information. There's probably a great deal who do not even know we've formed the chapter."

The first big event for DCP's alumni chapter will take place over the same weekend as the celebration of the formal inauguration of the college's 14th president, which will take place May 5-7. This will be the first formal reunion event for DCP, according to ADP Co-Director Elisabeth Woodward.

ADP is an accelerated education program for adults that consists of an Accelerated Degree Start Program, which concentrates on general studies requirements, and an Accelerated Degree Completion Program, which offers concentrations in five areas: accounting, business administration, applied psychology, information systems and crime and justice. Both programs are designed for the working adult of at least 23 years of age. In addition to the Reading campus, the program has eight extension classroom sites throughout the region.

DCP's first graduating class was in 1999. Up until now, the program was working on growing its alumni base, which is now at 850 graduates, according to Woodward.

The majority of DCP stu-

dents attend courses in the evening, hold full-time jobs and have families, Woodward said. Because of this they are not able to participate in student and campus activities and are less connected to the campus community.

"For our students attending our extension classrooms, often times the first time they see Albright's campus is at their graduation dinner and commencement ceremony," Woodward said. "We felt that the next logical step was to form an alumni chapter both for them to use as a net-

working tool for one another and to get them involved in the college."

Albright began this endeavor by surveying DCP students and graduates in August 2005 to see if there was any interest in beginning a chapter. Over 150 responses confirmed that the graduates were interested in forming a network for the DCP students.

ADP approached Diamond in fall 2005 about forming the chapter. According to Diamond, creating their own chapter was the fastest

way for DCP to have representation on the Board, since every chapter is allowed one representative.

"In the past when DCP alumni have run for office they have not received enough votes to win," Diamond said. "They were very talented individuals, but they were not as well-known as traditional students who spent four years living on campus, attending day classes."

The Board approved the motion to allow DCP alumni to form a chapter in January.

Photo of the Week



Photo by Dan Ruedy

A duck, most likely named Quackers, takes a swim by the Washington Monument.

Got Photos?

You can now submit your photos to *the Albrightian* for publication in our photo of the week feature. You can submit your entries by e-mailing them to albrightian@alb.edu as an attachment.

Philosophy Forum Attacks the Topic of Consumerism and Politics

by Elliott Wallace
The Albrightian

The connection between politics and consumerism was the topic of a lecture by Jason Read, Ph.D., on Feb. 23.

In the last century, America has been seen as a consumer culture.

After the attacks of 9/11, President George W. Bush told the country to unite, consume and fly. As we enter a new century, some have examined the distinction between consumers and politics and the ethics of both. What does one provide for the other?

Jason Read, a professor of philosophy who taught at University of Southern

Maine, gave a lecture on how politics intersects with consumerism.

The lecture started with a history of the division between rich and poor in the world.

The Greek philosopher Aristotle noticed the gap between the classes of the wealthy and impoverished, saying that there needed to be a middle class. As civilizations moved on, governments offered both the rich and the poor the ability to be a part of the economic process. The government also has the ability to distribute both wealth and rights by offering a free-market, according to Read. With this freedom comes choice of user goods.

Read continued the lec-

ture by pointing out how people have become more separated based on perspectives of their needs. Rights that come to people are based not upon unity but on separation. As commodities appear, they gain a higher cost that creates a need for a work force. But, the work force then becomes more a part of the consumers as goods replace needs. Part of Read's speech voiced the growth of Neo-Liberalism, which moved the worker out of politics and made the consumer a concrete idea.

This lecture was one of the first in planned philosophy forums that dealt with societal problems and examined them through philosophers views.

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WHERE THE LIONS TAN!!!

Keith Haring Exhibit Comes to Reading

The former local artist's exhibit at the Reading Public Museum stirs up controversy in the community

by Rachael Schwartz
The Albrightian

The Exhibit

Showcasing one of the most prominent artists ever to come out of the Reading area, the Reading Public Museum opened Keith Haring's "Journey of the Radiant Baby" exhibit on Feb. 18.



Above: Story of Red and Blue 3, 1989
Below: Andy Mouse

Open to the public until Aug. 6, the exhibit is separated by themes and fraught with Haring's stylistic, cartoon-like images. Classic rock songs of the B-52's and the Talking Heads pair with Haring's political, religious, and child-centered mediums of cardboard, screen prints, spray paint and crashed car hoods.

Crowds from Berks County to New York City have come to view Haring's works that have taken almost three years to become available. Donated by the Keith Haring Estate & Foundation, as well as his family, other museums, private owners and stores—paintings, prints, drawings, and sculptures fill most of the museum's second floor walls and floor.

More than one hundred of Haring's works are on display, including pieces with his famous babies, dogs, and pregnant women. Vibrant, neon colors suffuse the floor's space as well as thick, black, dripping outlines of his

characteristic forms. Large murals cover entire walls in some areas, including one created by Chicago school students (with Haring's assistance) in 1989.

"Andy Mouse," drawn by Haring in 1985 and 1986, is displayed and combines Mickey Mouse's classic appearance with that of his close friend, Andy Warhol. Spilling into another one of the museum's exhibit is "The Story of Red and Blue," a series of six panels with four scenes on each panel.

Each setting is composed of crude, blue and red marks of color with Haring's cartoonist limbs and details added. Scenes of Humpty Dumpty, animals, and human-like figures are among the featured works.

Haring, who first premiered in 1978 at the Reading Public Museum, was a mere high school student showcasing drawings of Berks County for a local competition. Then and now, the message in his work remains the same: to create art that people can see, understand and feel connected with by Haring's unrestrained joy—the joy to share his art with the world.



File Photos

The Controversy

From Channel 69 News to the Philadelphia Inquirer, no one can stop talking about Keith Haring's "controversial" "Journey of the Radiant Baby" exhibit.

Prior to its Feb. 18 opening, complaints from Berks County Public Officials, Reading School Board members and Berks County commissioners began to surface. Keith Stamm, a Reading School Board member, was concerned that the exhibit's "sexual" subject matter would negatively affect young children.

During the Feb. 17 edition of Channel 69 News, Stamm was quoted saying, "We wanted to bring attention to it so people were aware and they wouldn't walk into that and be blind-sided with their young children." Museum publicity coordinator Michael D. Anderson welcomed the controversy. "We are getting into discussion right here in Berks County about what is obscene. It's generated interest, which is great," he said.

Philadelphia Inquirer journalist Edward J. Sozanski felt that the show was "as pure as Ivory soap." A small section of the exhibit, prompted with a sign saying, "Some visitors may consider artwork in this section unsuitable for children," only contained two



Apocalypse 3, 1988

File Photo

questionable works.

Part of Haring's "Apocalypse" series, the pieces depicted satanic symbols, beasts, and collapsing cities paired with 1950's pop-culture mothers and infants. The section's other images revealed

comic-book-like, dancing pregnant women, a nativity scene, and two females sharing conjoined arms.

It is believed that several "controversial" works have been omitted from the original exhibit. A Statue of Liberty banner, created by Haring, actually was banned from hanging on Berks County's government-services building in a 2-1 commissioner vote.

Sozanski commented, "The commissioners decided that Haring's banner was inappropriate for such taxpayer-funded public display because - pause for drumroll - Lady Liberty's thumb allegedly resembled a penis." Kutztown University, however, has agreed to temporarily hang the banner on their water tower in April.

Amidst the controversy, positive comments have abounded from both the media and public alike. Reading community members such as Jeremy Tomzcak and Jodi Deyerter expressed their

The Artist

Born in 1958 in Reading, PA and raised in nearby Kutztown, Keith Haring was known by school mates as the "art guy" who doodled on homework and revered Dr. Seuss and Walt Disney.

pitals, day care centers, and even the Berlin Wall. His drawings tended to focus on issues of love, war, birth, death and sex.

Haring died of AIDS in 1990, leaving his artistry to

After high school graduation, Haring moved on to New York City's Visual School of Arts where he began his career making chalk drawings in NYC subways. He was known as a graffiti artist for his comic-book images, and he soon became popular in the East Village's hip hop and club scenes. Eventually attracting the famed Andy Warhol and



Photo © Jack Mitchell

Artist Keith Haring

File Photo

Francesco Clemente, Haring became popular and well-respected in the art world.

In April of 1986, Haring opened "Pop Shop," a retail store in SoHo that sold t-shirts, buttons, posters and the like with his now well-known images.

Between 1982 and 1989, Haring traveled abroad to create over 50 works that covered the exteriors of hos-

pattern the globe. On the Feb. 17 edition of Channel 69 News, Kay Haring, Keith Haring's sister, said, "If there is one consolation to losing my brother, it's that his artwork is all over the world, and yes—every time I look at a piece it's like having a part of Keith that's still here."

To find out more about Keith Haring and his artwork, go to www.Haring.com.

The Baby

Chalked on New York City Subway walls since his



Haring's famous radiant baby

File Photo

college years, Keith Haring has continuously included

this crawling baby image in his artwork. "The reason that the 'baby' has become my logo or signature is that it is the purest and most positive experience of human existence," he said in July 1986.

Always the same, simplistic image, the baby is drawn, or spray painted, in heavy, black, sinuous lines. Smaller lines depicting energy or light emanate from its surface.

views during the Channel 69 News broadcast.

"I love it," said Tomzcak. "Every artist has some obscure art. People should be so honored to have such a famous artist come to Reading." Deyerter, honored herself, commented that she felt uplifted by attending and that the art should not be censored.

Hana Rosen, '06, President of Society for Human Rights, agreed. Although not an exhibit attendee, she shared similar feelings about the exhibit's controversy.

"Art is meant to challenge social boundaries—it's not just something pretty

to look at. It is the expression of the artist's inner most feelings and they should have the freedom to express that. If parents are concerned with what their children are being exposed to, they should take responsibility for censoring their own children and determine what they feel is appropriate for their family, not what is appropriate for society."

Regardless of controversy, the "Journey of the Radiant Baby" has been, and is, a flourishing exhibit that draws crowds from all over the Mid-Atlantic.

Students Should Represent the Identity of the College

by Christiann Ryerson
The Albrightian

Generally here at Albright, when a new hiring takes place, it is natural for the administration to let the students know of the decision. Well, it is now March, and Albright has yet to announce one of its more important hires: the new public relations coordinator. Now, of course, they have not really hired a public relations person, but you wouldn't know it by all the new Albright additions on campus.

First of all, I understand that it is the 150th anniversary of this college. But much to the dismay of this school's administration, nobody really cares. In fact, there is so much school pride that students have stolen, have tried to steal, or are yearning to steal one of the many banners hanging around campus.

Also, as much as I adore school spirit, many of Albright's "upgrades" are things that come from neces-

sity, and certainly not things that are going to make us a top notch liberal arts college. The old football field was basically a practice field, so now this new "stadium," although very nice, is standard for college campuses.

Now this is where the student body comes in. You see, the best way to make this college an enjoyable place is to not let security, administration and "the man" get in your way of making this an experience. The "fun police" will always be here, as will the "court appearances" we all make in front of the higher ups. Off-campus living has not become so popular because of the student body wanting to grow up and have responsibility; off-campus living has become so popular simply because there is a lower likelihood of being harassed while trying to have fun.

Had Albright College hired a real public relations person to come in and give this place the environment of a great liberal arts school

where students can have fun and learn at the same time, they would have to look no further than to the students themselves. The best way to portray a college is to look to the students and ask them what they feel is necessary to make this place a top-notch environment.

Instead, Albright College has used the branding approach to cure the problems, and putting up banners and building stadiums have actually just put up a huge facade over what this school really is. Behind the banners is the same school with incredible money problems, a power-hungry administration with leaders who are not here for the students. One step in the right direction was the hiring of President McMillan. But as a junior, it is easy for me to see that this is not a problem that will be fixed by the time I graduate, nor will it probably be fixed by the time of the class of 2009 graduates. The power struggle between the students against security and administrative

decision making will be a part of Albright's legacy for many current students.

So naturally, as somebody who has pointed out the problems, many people will ask how we solve these problems. Well, first off, administration has to realize that college is basically about growing up and learning about oneself, not necessarily math equations and historical figures. Granted, that is what most classes are about, but liberal arts experiences focus on a well-rounded education, and through that, we learn about each other and ourselves.

Everybody will make mistakes, whether it be through a certain group of friends, or alcohol or even drugs. But here is the information that Albright does not acknowledge: this type of behavior goes on at every college across America and is monitored by colleges doing their best to keep this type of behavior on-campus.

What needs to happen is student action. Speak out,

speak up and speak away about how you feel. If you see something wrong or feel as if you are being taken advantage of by anybody, let somebody know. Most of the people in this administration are not exactly waiting with open ears, but professors are, and there are a few members of the administration that are here for us. The professors here are incredible and are always just a phone call, e-mail or an appointment away.

Now don't get me wrong, I love this school. There are people here that I would not want to live without. Coming from a close-knit group of friends at home, it surprises me how much I actually enjoy being here. It is a fact that many students transfer away from Albright and very little transfer in from other schools. Making people want to stay here is not going to come in the form of banners and stadiums but rather from a caring administration and some sort of reformation as to how students are treated.

The Survival of Greek Life at Albright

by Tyler Travitz
The Albrightian

Since Dec. 5, 1776, college men and women across the United States have pledged themselves to Greek organizations. Through devotion to scholarship, high ideals, athletics and their institutions, Greeks have always been leaders. Consider the following statistics courtesy of the University of Nebraska's Greek Affairs Web site:

*Of the nation's 50 largest corporations, fraternity men head 43.

*85 percent of the Fortune 500 executives belong to a fraternity.

*40 of 47 U.S. Supreme Court Justices since 1910 were fraternity men.

*76 percent of all Congressmen and Senators belong to a fraternity.

*Every U.S. President and Vice President, except two in each office, born since the first social fraternity was founded in 1825, has been a member of a fraternity.

*63 percent of the U.S. President's Cabinet members since 1900 have been Greek.

Here at Albright, Greek life has been an integral part of our history and tradition since 1900. Today, we have four fraternities, three sororities and one co-ed service fraternity that make distinct, valuable and lasting contributions to the Albright commu-

nity. However, in my nearly four years here at Albright, the face of Greek life has changed quite a bit. It seems as though the Albright environment isn't as favorable for Greek life as it once was.

This is due to a combination of factors at both the national and local levels. Nationally, recruitment numbers are down as students are more and more concerned with finances and their ability to balance numerous aspects of their lives. Parents have concerns about Greek life due to the portrayal of Greeks in popular culture and in the media. Of course, we do ourselves no favors when we are irresponsible and a death occurs or a house burns down or a chapter is closed due to drug problems.

What, then, can Greeks do to enhance the quality of Greek life at Albright? I have highlighted several options.

Greek Unity

In the spring of 2005, I was able to visit a friend who now happens to be the president of Sigma Chi fraternity at Middle Tennessee State University. While I was there, I attended an Inter Fraternal Council meeting and was amazed at their ability to accomplish meaningful things as a unified group. Members from different fraternities mingled and joked with one another. There was no squabbling, no arguments,

and the meeting lasted nearly 45 minutes.

At Albright, the situation is certainly much different.

Traditionally, there has been bad blood between organizations, both male and female, here on campus. I believe it's time to put the pettiness aside and work together so that we can further prove the value of Greek life on campus, while bettering our own organizations in the process.

In order to do so, we need more communication between Greeks. I recommend creating a Greek Council to facilitate better communication between the fraternities and the sororities. It will allow us to accomplish more at Albright and in the greater community including: recruitment, programming and service.

Leadership & Service

If we hope to remain at Albright, we need to lead by example. In addition to holding offices on campus, we must demonstrate that we do hold ourselves to higher standards. We do this through our daily routines, manners and academics. It is also important that we give back to the community that supports us, particularly as service opportunities are of increasing importance as a recruitment tool. Campus cleanups are great, although not an enormous or lasting contribution to the Albright community. Perhaps we can get involved

in raising funds for the new science center. Perhaps there is a grounds project that we could volunteer for. Whatever the case, we need to find ways to make our presence felt on Albright's campus as leaders and volunteers. As a whole, Reading has many non-profit organizations that would benefit greatly from our involvement and volunteer work. Perhaps we could start a big brother/big sister mentoring program for at-risk youths.

Housing

One thing I have noticed over my years here at Albright is a shift away from centralized Greek housing. As our system exists today at Albright, Greeks are scattered about. Some choose to move off campus into several houses in several locations, others remain on campus in a suite or in the Woods. I feel as though this is non-conducive to the Greek way of life. A centralized living location is important for numerous reasons, however, two crucial reasons stand out: a house strengthens the bonds that tie the organization together and serves as a meeting place for administration of the organization. Given the cost associated with living on campus and the restrictions recently placed upon living off campus, living together is more difficult now, more than ever. However, if we hope to keep our organiza-

tions intact, we must seek ways to live together.

I believe that the on-campus model is not so bad; as the college does its best to work with us, and all Greeks could live in close proximity to one another. One more creative solution would be to take over an entire building of Autumn Park, though it would likely take several years for that to occur. Another route to consider is a housing corporation, an option that is supported by nearly all of the national organizations represented on campus. Finally, and probably the most difficult option, the Greeks could petition the administration to acquire true houses for Greek living.

Overall, Greek life at Albright is good. We are leaders, we are committed to service and we do work together at times. That said, there is much room for improvement. I feel like we are given this great opportunity, but we don't always know what to do with it to get the most utility out of it. It's like someone gave us a Lego set for Christmas, but the building directions aren't in the box. So we build something and it's a close proximity to the picture on the box, but it's not quite right. I truly believe that we could take Greek Life to another level if we give the system a little tweaking and put forth a little more effort.

Tuning in to Students: WXAC

by Allyse Wolfinger
The Albrightian

If you've walked past the library, you have probably noticed a white door on the right of the building. That leads to Albright's radio station, WXAC, which can be heard at 91.3 FM.

During the day WXAC is a community radio station playing Spanish music with DJ Johnny V., but at 4:00 p.m., the station is handed over to the students.

Students are able to have four shows a night with four different DJ's. To become a DJ for WXAC takes four easy steps. First, you talk to the program manager, Roz. Second, you train for six hours or three shows to understand everything that goes into a putting on radio show. Third, there is a test you must pass consisting of questions about the rules of the station and the FCC and knowing what the equipment is used for. Finally, you get a time slot.

Certain days of the week are set aside for certain genres of music. Sunday and Monday are alternative music days. Tuesdays are for metal music. Wednesdays are for punk and emo. Thursdays are for any genre of music ranging from polka to a genre already played during the week. Fridays and Saturdays are for hip-hop and dance.

The station has just gotten new equipment. With the help of afternoon DJ Johnny V., the station was able to get a new high tech computer and sound board. According to student DJ's Brandon Rup-

pert and Scott Williams, the equipment is another step in the right direction that the station has taken in the past few years.

"This year has been especially progressive," said Rupert. Their show, "The BS Show," is on Monday nights from 8 to 10 p.m.

The biggest issue facing these two DJ's, is the slim number of listeners. "We definitely need more listeners," said Williams. Both Rupert and Williams are communications majors and found out about the radio station at the activities fair. They both took the necessary steps, and now have their own show.

"Any student can do it as long as they know what they're doing and pass the test," said Williams.

For most of their show, Rupert and Williams play music they like to listen to.

"We have an enthusiasm about spreading good music, unlike the pop music of today," said Rupert. "The radio station is a good way to do that and gain the experience I'll need to pursue my career."

Next year WXAC will be celebrating its fortieth anniversary of being on the air. The station is planning to bring back some of the station's founders and alumni who have worked at the station for a special celebration. "It will be cool to meet some of the people who helped found the station," said Rupert.

So next time you are looking for some good music, turn to WXAC and listen to the wide variety of student run shows on the radio!

Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3 x 3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. You can't change the digits already provided in the grid. You have to work around them.

Every puzzle has just one correct solution.

Puzzle by sudoku.com

	5	3				8		
	6		9	8				
4			7				6	9
			8			7	1	
			4		7			
	1	8			6			
1	4				2			5
				9	8		2	
						6	3	

Movie Notes

by Jolynn DiIenno

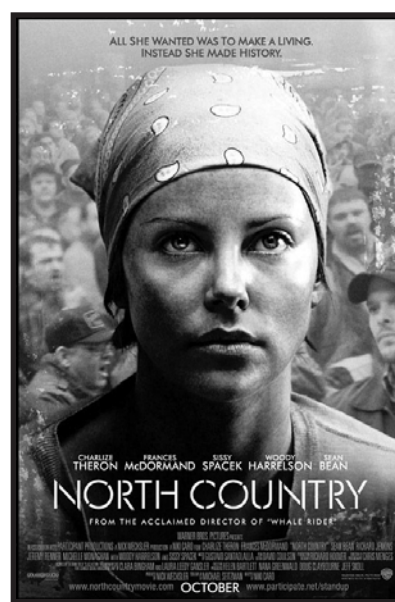
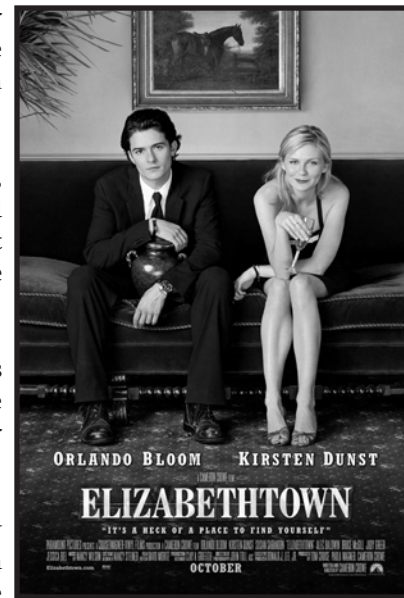
Honestly, this month is AMAZING! I got the list and literally squeaked with excitement. Lemme break it down for you.

North Country - A fictionalized account of the first major successful sexual harassment case in the United States where a woman who endured a range of abuse while working as a miner filed a 1984 lawsuit.

Elizabethtown - Much deeper than the average love-story, this movie is about the crazy road to self-discovery and how he gets there is even more insane! Did I mention it stars Orlando Bloom (I think you know what my movie pick will be.)

The Weatherman - For the second month in a row, Nicholas Cage is the leading man, more specifically a weatherman. He separates from his wife and children and debates whether professional and personal successes are mutually exclusive.

Rent - This is the film version of the Pulitzer and Tony Award winning musical (yes, musical) about Bohemians in the East Village of New York City struggling with life, love and AIDS, and the impacts they have on America.



Waiting - Young employees at Shenanigan's restaurant collectively stave off boredom and adulthood with their antics. Now, did I mention funny boy Dane Cook is in this movie?

Doom - This movie is based on the hit computer game about Marines sent to investigate what went wrong on a space station, only to face a far greater evil unlike any other. When I used to play the game with my brother, I used to scream when the "bad guys" were on the screen. Just imagine how Hollywood will recreate those nasty aliens.

Zathura - Two young brothers are drawn into an intergalactic adventure when their house is magically hurtled through space because of the board game they are playing. It is Jumanji in space.

Hoosiers - A coach with a checkered past, and a local drunk set off to train a small town high school basketball team to become a top contender for the championship.

So, can we talk? I honestly cannot pick which movie I like best, so I am just going to reiterate which movies are the greatest.

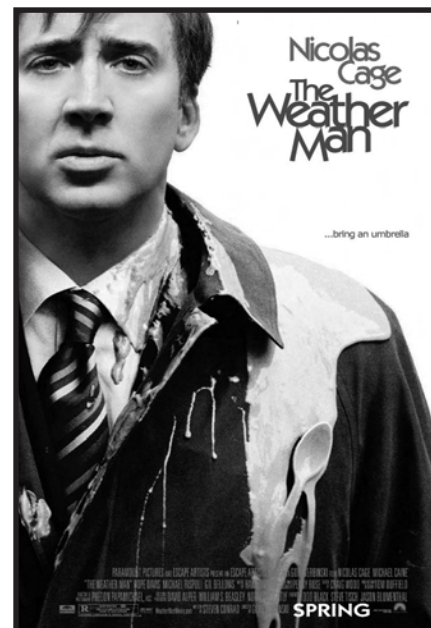
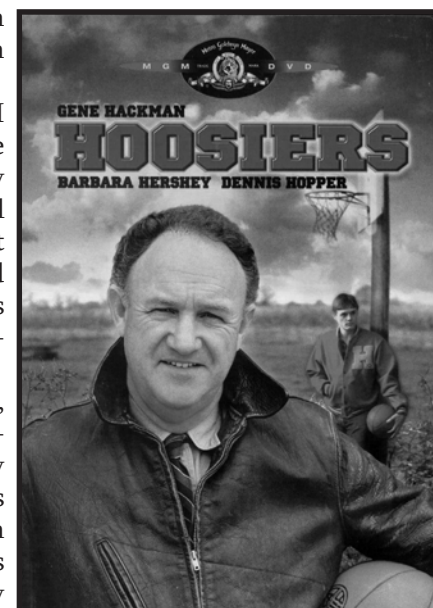
I'm going to begin with Rent. Not only have I memorized every single line from the movie, I have also repeatedly performed most of the scenes in my bedroom in front of a mirror. Don't judge... you will too after you see this film. It's more than a musical. It also has glorious messages- "No day but today," and "Forget regret or life is yours to miss." It really opens my eyes about who I am and what I want to accomplish in my life.

Speaking of self-discovery, as I mentioned before, Elizabethtown is all about learning what is important in life. Orlando Bloom is very important to my

life, so that is another reason why I enjoy this film. It is very cute and really touching. It is recommended to everyone! It is just what a quiet day calls for. It's better than going out to dinner at Shenanigans.

Shenanigans is the restaurant that Ryan Reynolds and the very funny comedian Dane Cook work at in Waiting. It is honestly disturbing, yet quite hilarious. Waiting shows you just what happens when you are rude to "the help."

This month, Albright is giving you just what you need to pass the time for spring break. I plan on watching every movie offered over and over again. I hope you will as well. Have a wonderful spring break and when you get back, we'll be ready to start April, my birthday month! I'm sure Albright will provide magnificent movies for my birthday.



Students Have Many Options When it Comes to Spring Break Plans

by Heather Epstein
The Albrightian

Spring Break for most college students means a time for relaxation and partying. Destinations for Spring Break typically are the Bahamas, Florida, Acapulco, Cancun, and Jamaica. Some destinations for Albright students are Acapulco, Myrtle Beach, and home.

Traveling plans are usually made by students in advance. This way they have their hotel reservations settled and if traveling out of the United States they have their passports ready.

If you have yet to make Spring Break plans and are willing to travel and spend

Break Web sites such as, springbreaktravel.com.

Try cheaptickets.com for cheap airfare and hotel prices.

Those of us who are staying home for Spring Break can still have fun while home. Make plans with old high school friends that you haven't seen in awhile. Get together and go out to dinner or go bowling.

If you live in or near a city, like New York or Philadelphia, get some friends together and play tourist. Go around the city and do all the tour activities like ride the double decker buses or go visit the Statue of Liberty.

For those who are willing to go against the traditional Spring Break plans and want to help others, there's a volunteer program that runs short term volunteer services ranging from a week to 24 weeks. The program is called i-to-i Volunteer Travel. It is an international volunteer organization that

helps disadvantage communities around the world. You can travel to places like Costa Rica, Guatemala, Ecuador, or Honduras. Projects go from conversation programs to building to teaching. If you are interested in learning more call 1-800-985-4864 or visit their Web site i-to-i.com.

You can also visit the Volunteer Center if you are interested in doing volunteer work.



File Photo

Places like Cancun are popular destinations for students traveling for spring break

money, then seek a friend who is will let you come along on the trip and let you stay in their hotel room. You will have to pay for your own flight and some of the hotel fee.

If you want to make plans to travel with your group of friends, try to visit a travel agency. They can help get special rates on hotels and food. Ask to see package deals for places you are looking into. If you want to try and do it yourself, look online for Spring

Horoscopes

by Meg Hurst

Aries- March 21 - April 19

Good time to get your finances in order. Luckily, in your case, that simply means putting the one dollar bills in front of the fives in your wallet (or are you not even that lucky?).

Taurus- April 20 - May 20

Your requests are being ignored. Often you can get people to pay attention by simply adding a few words to the end of your request, such as, "Fill the Brita, dear, or die screaming."

Gemini- May 21 - June 20

Beware the Ides of March. Also, if you have a friend named "Dorcas," it might behoove you to be a trifle more selective...

Cancer- June 21 - July 22

While looking through comparative salary figures, you will discover that the job of "Village Idiot" in many metropolitan areas pays better than that of the mayor. Don't even consider a career change, though -- it's a lot harder that it sounds.

Leo- July 23 - August 22

If you love someone, let them go. If you hate someone, grab 'em and hang on like a dog with a stick. Snarl a bit, too -- that's always fairly effective.

Virgo- August 23 - September 22

It's okay to whistle while you work. Your co-workers will draw the line at yodelling while you work, however. They're probably just jealous.

Libra- September 22 - October 22

When you've got it, you've got it; and you've got a lot. Like pumpkin pie, carrot cake and Ben & Jerry's ice cream; not to mention 50 other things that were brought to your attention. So, have a nice week (and spend some time in the gym).

Scorpio- October 23 - November 21

You will get a postcard from the Forbidden City today, containing some very unsettling news. You won't realize that, of course, since it will be written in a language you don't understand, so no worries.

Sagittarius- November 22 - December 21

You will finally get the television exposure you've been wanting by organizing a group of protesters to block the entrance to a physics lab, holding crudely-lettered signs saying, "Down With Gravity!"

Capricorn- December 22 - January 20

So where would you like to spend your spring break? Florida? Arizona? New York? Connecticut? Choose wisely, and take into consideration anyone you may wait to avoid in each state...or hunt down.

Aquarius- January 21 - February 18

You'll have a brilliant idea, but nobody will take you seriously, as usual. You should be able to will them over with pure logic, however. That is, if you possess any (don't hold your breath).

Pisces- February 19 - March 20

A tricky situation will arise today, but you will rise to the challenge and draw it to a satisfactory conclusion. Oddly, you will hit upon the right thing to do by suddenly recalling an old Gilligan's Island episode

A Fresher Perspective

by Andrew Holets



Insert Dick Cheney Joke Here



Thought Provoking Films Should Inspire Viewers to Question Issues

by Andrew Holets
The Albrightian

Controversy is rooted in the majority of any poignant entertainment, stimulating conversation or article of intrigue. The entertainment industry, at least the independent sections of some studios, have asked the social question in order to leave viewers watching and discussing socially-relevant material.

"Crash," "Brokeback Mountain," "Syriana," "Capote," "The Constant Gardener," "Hustle & Flow" are some of the films honored for their subject matter during this year's film award season, all thanks to their artistic expression of real-life issues.

With the passing of the Academy Awards, we can see that social issues, through unabashed approach, can lead to opening a national dialogue, which is a good thing.

There must be some sort of desire in today's society for Americans to take the time to view such films. Entertainment factor is obviously a large portion of that consumerism,

but perhaps it is a greater desire for Americans to search out the truth regarding many controversies riddling our nation at this time.

When movies gain nota-



Films like "Good Night, and Good Luck" challenged audiences in 2006
File Photo

ble media coverage and audience response for discussing a war in the Middle East, ("Jarhead") homosexuality, ("Brokeback Mountain") racism, ("Crash") female proprietorship, ("Hustle & Flow") corporate corruption, ("The Constant Gardener") investigative journalism, ("Good Night, and Good Luck"/"Capote") bureaucratic misdeeds, disturbing economic ties, suffering societies ("Syriana") or more, people tend to pay attention and remember what flies across the screen

more than Beau Bridges' daydreams about Chuck Norris.

It is comforting to see these types of movies being produced in an industry known for its own vast addition to the decay of society. The presentation of controversy in popular medium is an odd comfort to many.

This approach to art elaborately examines falsities and wrongs in our society, as it isn't too difficult to stumble upon with the way things are.

In this Albrightian issue alone, the special feature by Schwartz emphasizes a local artist Keith Haring, who was expressive in his art and in his life. His intent to get people's attention carries on years after his death, all because people are talking about his art and expression. That intent was what was important when he was alive and remains meaningful after his death.

But as for the recent swoon in political and socially conscientious moviemaking, the awards or notoriety are not what are most important

to these films, at least when it comes to what we remember from them. We can remember the actors', actresses' and directors' names, (Dare I forget the producers and receive a court summons?), but no means of ego should trump itself to be of higher significance than its intent to examine the greater wrong existing within our even greater society. What could be a truthful work aimed at stimulating pertinent societal conversation could easily digress into a trivial pop culture anecdote.

To clarify, the movie "Crash" should not be heralded in conversation between a black woman and white woman in a sensible manner only to have them forget the movie title until they play an innocuous round of Trivial Pursuit in 2010. If minimized as just another movie, people could still joke about lack of rhythm in the white or the pronunciation of "ask" by the black when they're not within earshot of one another.

If the lesson is not applied, or at least thought of from time to time following

the post-view/award ceremony glow, then we might as well kiss these social questions goodbye until a VH1 special comes on to show some third-rate celebrity explain to us exactly how breakthrough the movie was at the time.

Spoon-fed history through basic cable can be quite insulting. Could you imagine a 63-year-old Boy George sitting in front of a green screen wearing a leopard skin beret saying, "Heath Ledger truly showed what it is to love another man, and America embraced it."

These films were welcomed by a vast majority of our country, particularly within the youth, but I fear that the nation will not continue asking these social questions on such a large scale if our popular culture ceases to produce two-hour edited versions of thought-provoking material.

It is simply my hope that our conversations regarding the social question not stop if the movies in 2007 fail to start them for us.

Andrew Holets is a senior columnist for the Albrightian

The City of Reading: It's Not so Bad After All

by Jackie Seigle
The Albrightian

While the campus of Albright College is intimate and close-knit, it is not in isolation. Albright is situated just a few blocks away from downtown Reading, Pa. While many naysayers will tell you that Reading is a dirty and crime-filled city, there is much more to it that often goes unnoticed.

Reading is currently a city of about 80,000 citizens. It encompasses nearly 10 miles of Berks County. It is true that the city has been struggling with many issues in recent years including declining population and high crime rates among others.

However, these are not issues unique to only Reading. Drive around Philadelphia for a day and you will surely see homeless people, abandoned buildings and graffiti covering city walls. These problems are common to urban areas everywhere. Reading is not particularly worse than most.

One of the biggest gripes voiced about the city is the crime rate. All the time, statistics are thrown out about the murder rate. Many regularly claim that Reading has one of the highest murder rates in the country. This simply just is

not true. While it is far from the safest city in America, you are far more likely to be murdered in a city like Philadelphia, Baltimore, or Washington D.C.—all of which have a higher murder rate per 100,000 people according to data from 2004.

There are a number of factors to look at when examining Reading aside from its population and crime. It may surprise you to learn this, but Reading actually has a number of great attractions that make it worthwhile, besides the shopping outlets.

Reading is in a period of cultural growth as we speak. While Albright's own Community Cultural Center is preparing to close its doors, there are still a number of places eager art fans can get their fill.

The recently-opened Goggle Works Center for the Arts is a beautiful addition to the city. It features hands-on workshops, demonstrations and exhibits. Renovated from an old goggle-manufacturing plant, the center also houses studio space for local artists. Visitors can observe the artists at work, getting a new perspective on the creative process.

Another cultural benchmark in the community is found in the Reading Public Museum. The museum is currently hosting Keith Haring's exhibit, "The Journey of the Radiant Baby." For a mere \$5



Reading's famous Pagoda is one of many things to see in the city
File Photo

admission fee, you can spend all day roaming the halls of the museum. In addition to the remarkable Haring exhibit, the museum also features historical and archaeological displays, and even has its own mummies and sarcophaguses. The museum even has fun events like the recent New York City Cultural Festival.

In addition to these visual art displays, Reading also claims many auditory attractions.

The impressive Reading Symphony Orchestra offers concert performances each season. If orchestral movements aren't your music of choice, you can catch artists of almost any other musical genre performing at the nearby Sovereign Center, or even at the Silo. These venues draw both local and national artists to Reading, bringing in many big name acts. Even Kenny Rogers, the Gambler himself, makes regular appearances at the Sovereign Center.

Another musical event of note is the annual Berks Jazz Fest. The 16th year for this renowned festival will take place from March 17-26. This celebration of jazz always brings in the biggest names in the genre together.

Even if you aren't interested in music, history or art, there is something for you in Reading. The city has several great spots for the explorer, photographer, or nature enthusiast.

Antietam Lake, for example, is surrounded by trails that offer spectacular scenery.

There are even two waterfalls surrounding the lake. For an even more amazing view, you can head over to the famous Pagoda on Mt. Penn. Constructed in 1908, this landmark was once home to a hotel and restaurant. Currently, this Japanese style structure stands as a museum. The entire city can be seen from atop its mountain location.

The list could go on for more space than is provided here. There are great places to shop, eat, and enjoy yourself throughout the city. These attractions and positive attributes are unfortunately overlooked in most cases.

It is certainly the norm to hear Albright students complaining about Reading. The city has become the butt of many jokes. However, we should not be so quick to judge. Reading is not quite the crime-ridden wasteland many claim it to be.

While Reading certainly has its problems, there are a lot of great things the city has to offer. Be it arts or entertainment or beautiful landscapes, the city is not void of culture and things to do. So maybe instead of complaining, we should get out there and experience all the truly positive things Reading has.

Jackie Seigle is a senior columnist for the Albrightian