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Class of 2010 prepares for Fall Fest

by Alex Quirtis
Albrightian

Albright College has always had fun seasonal activities for the winter and spring months, such as the holiday fair and the beach party, but to the class of 2010, fall seemed to be a time of year that could do with some spicing up. With this in mind, class officers Simon Foster, Stephanie Bunce, Alexis Malin, and Patricia Price held a meeting, and came with the idea to host a night full of fun fall activities for the student body.

The night will consist of lots of pumpkin pie, apple cider, candy corn, music provided by a DJ, and many other fall goodies. Fall Fest will be a good time for all students to socialize, relax, and enjoy a night with their classmates. The festivities will be held on November 14 in the campus center main lounge starting at 7 p.m.

The main event of the night will include something never done before at Albright. The class of 2010 has received a pre-released copy of the blockbuster hit "The Dark Knight," and will be showing the film during the night's festivities. All students are encouraged to come hang out and enjoy a night of fall fun with their peers.

Alpha Sigma Phi Gets Poned

Fraternity brothers brave the cold to raise money for the Lance Armstrong Foundation

by Allyse Wolfinger
Albrightian

During the brisk week of October 22, the brothers of Alpha Sigma Phi held their second annual Pond-a-Thon to raise money for the Lance Armstrong Foundation. The brothers braved the cold of both the air and the water to raise 650 dollars over their three-day effort.

Vice President Brandon Ruppert, who was in the pond for a substantial period of time, said holding the Pond-a-Thon earlier in the school year "wouldn't have had the same impact. Getting into the pond in warm weather isn't a challenge. It wasn't supposed to be easy."

The purpose of having the Pond-a-Thon in such cold temperatures is to encourage more people to donate to get the brothers out of the pond.

"It helps to get us out or to do ridiculous things like handstands, cannonballs, or going under water," said Ruppert. "Faculty stopped by to donate, which was cool and showed they can get involved, too."

The logic worked; dona-

tions exceeding the amount of money raised at last year's event, where the money went to Canine Companions, Inc. According to President Jared Epler, nationals voted



Brothers of Alpha Sigma Phi pond their president, Jared Epler
Photo by Allyse Wolfinger

to change their philanthropy from Canine Companions Inc. to the Lance Armstrong Foundation.

"We decided to switch to a philanthropy that was more worthwhile," said Epler. "We voted on five different philanthropies and the Lance Armstrong Foundation won."

The brothers barely missed their goal of 700 dollars, and that may have been due to the construction fences around the science building.

"We were disappointed by the fences because we couldn't get the students going to the science building," said Ruppert. "It hurt us because students had to take a

Ruppert.

Sophomore Pam Swope, who attended the Pond-a-Thon to encourage the brothers, thinks the event is a great idea. "I think it's a fantastic idea to raise money for a great cause," said Swope. "It's really fun to see the guys suffer in the cold. It's also great because they are so enthusiastic about it, which generates a lot of attention and gets people to come over and donate. It's good publicity for the Albright community because it shows that the fraternities here are active on campus and with other philanthropies."

The pond was so enticing that four pledges braved the cold and got in despite not needing to.

"It's a great bonding experience with the fraternity," said pledge Andrew Brehm. "I wanted to show I was part of the fraternity. It's a fun thing to do and a good way to raise money. It's only [the] second year doing it and [we] raised so much money. It's actually a great idea and can't believe no one thought of it before."

Overall, despite the cold temperatures, the brothers and pledges helped to raise a lot of money for a great cause.

AC² to Host Broadway Overnight Event

by Kim Thompson
Albrightian

If you have ever attended an AC² event, you know that they are always popular and full of enthusiastic students. Every semester, Albright College Activities Council sponsors a trip to New York City to see a show on Broadway. Tickets are sold for 20 dollars for Albright students and 40 dollars for non-Albright students.

The trip has shown its popularity by students who often begin camping outside the Campus Center to make sure they receive a ticket the next morning. Last semester, students formed lines as early as 5 p.m. the previous day. Why is this event so popular? For one the event is inexpensive. Albright provides transportation to New York City and a Broadway ticket for a low price.

In an attempt to give students a warm place to camp out and a new, fun experi-

ence, AC² will be sponsoring a Broadway Campout Night on Friday, November 7 at 10 p.m. in the Campus Center Main Lounge. The event will consist of food and games, as well as movies and other activities. Students will be placed on a list when they arrive, which will guarantee their place in

line for the next morning. Ticket sales will begin the following Saturday morning at 8 a.m. In order to be eligible for a ticket the next morning, you must stay overnight for the entire event. Students can bring their own blankets and pillows.

"It's a tradition for Albright students to camp out the night before Broadway tickets go on sale; we figured we would give them a warmer place to stay with fun things to do," said Greg Wolfenden, and AC² E-board member

The Broadway trip will take place November 15. Tickets will be offered for the shows "Gypsy" and "Boeing Boeing."

A "Spooktacular" fundraising fair

by Anne Rhodes
Albrightian

As many students were feverishly watching their favorite horror films and indulging in a variety of mouth watering treats, in preparation for Halloween night, a small number of Albright students chose to delay their candy indulging and costume hunting to participate in a collaborative fundraising project.

For the first time ever, more than a dozen campus organizations, hoping to raise money for their favorite causes, participated in a "spooktacular" Halloween-themed fundraiser known as the Halloween Fundraiser Fair. This two day event ran from 11 a.m. October 30 until 7 p.m. on October 31 in the Campus Center South Lounge.

There were booths ranging from MEISA's delicious apple cider table, to SHADOW's tarot card reading booth, to Alpha Sigma Phi's "bobbing for pickles," there were plenty of activities to delight students.

Some of the fundraising promotions at this event included hot apple cider, baked goods, lollipop giveaways,

Halloween trinkets, as well as t-shirt sales for the Thespian Society and Agon, Albright's Literary Magazine. Those who participated in Alpha Sigma Phi's "bobbing for pickles" fundraiser were awarded a Wawa gift card if they were able to seize the pickle within a limited time frame. The Albright Environmental Association (AEA) had its own unique fundraising activity selling water bottles to students hoping to become more environmentally conscious. As an added bonus, the environmentally friendly water bottles were filled with organic candies.

Overall, this event turned out to be quite a success. Elise Tarrens, a junior at Albright, was the administrator and sole creator of the Fundraiser Fair. Due to her creative mind and ingenious idea, the participating clubs were enthusiastic about the proceeds they raised in this two-day period.

Tarrens, a member of both AEA and WXAC, is a profound advocate of Albright organizations working in unison. After overhearing at the latest SGA meeting that many clubs de-

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Fair cont'd from pg. 1

sire to fundraise in the near future, Tarrens realized that a fundraiser fair would be the perfect way for them to not only raise money, but to also interact with other organizations with which they might not be familiar.

"I know, when I work with my two organizations, I try to involve other groups because I feel it is a lot more fun and beneficial when people work together," Tarrens commented.

The Halloween Fundraiser Fair was created and it became a true reality when some organizations positively responded to her proposition and offered to become a part of this event.

The Fundraiser Fair would not have been as successful without the support of all the organizations in attendance. With a bit of luck, the Fundraiser Fair will hopefully soon become a recurring event on Albright's campus.

News in the Brief

compiled by Jessica Bilello
Albrightian

China destroys infected animal feed

Over the past weekend, China has thrown away 3,600 tons of animal feed that was tainted with melamine. Melamine is chemical that is used to make plastic and fertilizer, and it has been the cause of recent contamination of dairy products and food supplies in China. It has also been reported on Saturday that 238 illegal feed makers have been closed down.

Over the past week, eggs produced in three different locations were infected with this chemical, and in September, milk supplies containing melamine caused 50,000 children to be sick and killed four. The Chinese government has responded to this by firing regulators, as well as arresting those who may have added the melamine to the milk products.

Head of rap label dies

Shakir Stewart, the executive Vice President of Def Jam Record, committed suicide on Saturday, November 1. Stewart was responsible for signing artists such as Rick Ross, Young Jeezy and relative newcomer to the rap scene Karina Pasian.

Stewart took over the vice presidential spot, succeeding rap legend, Jay-Z. In addition to this position, Stewart was also the senior VP of A&R at sister company Island Def Jam.

Def Jam Records stated, "Shakir was an amazing man in every sense of the word. A truly incredible friend and father who was an inspiration to not only our artists and employees, but to his family, and the many people that had the privilege of counting him as a friend."

Alpha Delta Pi's Rock-a-thon

by Danny Nester
Albrightian

With the arrival of fall, we enjoy the smell of leaves, the glorious changing colors, and the sound of rocking chairs. Yes, the sound of rocking chairs. Monday, November 3 at 10:00 p.m., Alpha Delta Pi began their 3rd annual Rock-A-Thon, which will continue until 4:00 p.m. Thursday, November 6, as part of their philanthropy week.

All week Alpha Delta Pi has been raising money for their national philanthropy organization, the Ronald McDonald House, by rocking non-stop for almost three days. Every sister participates in the Rock-A-Thon, with each rocking a minimum of three hours. The sisters will have rocked a total of 68 hours at the end of the event, with all donations and pledges received being mailed to the Ronald McDonald House Foundation.

Each year the sisterhood raises the amount of rocking time to raise more money for the Ronald McDonald House. This year's financial goal was set at 2000 dollars. Money is raised through the generous donations from the student body, the faculty, and the friends and family of the sisters of Alpha Delta Pi. Many businesses have also donated to help support Alpha Delta Pi and their cause.

Alpha Delta Pi has been very excited about this event. They hope to keep the Rock-A-Thon an annual event for years to come, and would like to thank all their sisters and everyone who has donated to the Ronald McDonald House. The sisters would also like to thank all the campus organizations for their on-going support towards their philanthropy.

Freedman Gallery opens new exhibit

by Kaila Hawriluk
Albrightian

The Freedman Gallery had a successful opening on October 30. A variety of works were on display, including pieces by Salvador Dali, Lee Krasner, and Romare Bearden.

All of the pieces were collected and donated by Dr. Alex Rosenberg, an Albright graduate, class of 1938, and a dedicated patron of the arts.

His support for the arts does not stop at donating works of art to the permanent collection. He has also made very generous donations to Albright's campus, including the printmaking studio.

While each piece of work was very impressive, but what

Trick-or-treating - quad style

by Christopher Frank
Albrightian

Expanding on a program that was done last year by the Optimist Club at Albright, as well as programs done by both Alvernia College and Kutztown University, Albright College welcomed children to campus to trick-or-treat in the dormitories a few days before Halloween. Sponsored by the Student Government Association (SGA), the Resident Student Association (RSA), the Optimist Club, and the Housing Office, this program had two components.

To begin the night, the Optimist Club held a costume contest in the Campus Center Main Lounge, which was then followed by the separation of the children into four groups before going over to the Quad to begin trick-or-treating. The trick-or-

treating was confined mainly to the lounge area of each dorm and was not door-to-door, as to avoid disturbing students who may have been studying.

Some residents had wondered why the trick-or-treating was only kept to the dormitories in the Quad and not to the other housing facilities on campus.

"It comes down to logistics mainly. The Quad is all fairly close together and it will be easier to escort the children between the four buildings in a small area, than eight buildings over a half a mile apart," explained Nikitta Dietrich, assistant director of housing.

This does not mean that residents from other dormitories were barred from participation; in fact, plenty of students helped decorate the facilities according to certain themes. Court and Walton worked on a

Disney theme, while Krause and Mohn worked on a mad scientist theme; North and Crowell did a pirate theme and Smith Hall and the Woods worked on a carnival theme.

The only guideline that had to be followed was that the decorations should not be too scary for the children.

As Dietrich commented, "Most of the children we hope will come are under twelve years old, and we want them to have fun, not pee their pants."

Prizes were awarded to whichever residence hall had the best decorations. The Housing Office and the Student Government Association provided everything and financed the entire program, including supplies, decorations and candy for the children, so students did not have to rush out to buy these items themselves.

Rocking for funds: Battle of the Bands

by Tom Spincic
Albrightian

This year, Albright College's radio station WXAC sponsored a Halloween Battle of the Bands, which was held on Saturday, October 25 at 7:30 p.m. in the Campus Center Dining Hall. In addition to WXAC, the Music and Entertainment Industry Student Association (MEISA), Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA), and the Albright Environmental Action (AEA) helped support the event. The panel of judges was volunteers from club MODE/VOGUE.

Five bands came out and participated: A06, Trunks and Tales, the Danger O's, Wolfdogbirdman and the Voyage North and Promising Attempt.

Along with their respective performances, the bands distributed a multitude of promotional items, such as posters, CDs, t-shirts, and buttons. These items were also awarded as prizes later.

Tickets were sold for 3 dollars before the event, and 5 dollars at the door. A notable problem with last year's show was the advertising, which the collaborators aimed to fix by promoting it heavily as an open event. Students were encouraged to draw in a large percentage of people not affili-

ated with the college.

In conjunction with Halloween, attendees were strongly encouraged to show up in costumes—the more elaborate, the better. Prizes were also awarded to the contestants, regardless of whether or not they won. The Halloween Battle of the Bands was a success; it helped a variety of causes, gave some musicians a gig, and offered an entertaining alternative to the rest of what the Reading area has to offer.

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The voice of Albright College since 1904

Why one Phillies hater is happy they won

by Allyse Wolfingerr
Albrightian

I despise the Phillies. I always have and I always will. There is nothing they can do to make me a fan or to have me admit that they deserved to win the World Series. But I'm happy they won because it saved the Rays.

Since their inception into Major League Baseball in 1998, the Rays have been the laughing stock of the sport. They have finished in last place all but two times. In fairness, they belong to a tough division, the American League East, with both the Yankees and Red Sox, but they were never a threat against which teams would seriously compete. In fact, the Rays were targets on both teams' schedules because they were thought to be easy wins that would help them stay atop the division. It wasn't until this year that the Rays warranted any kind of media coverage for something other than losing or former manager Lou Piniella throwing a fit.

When the Rays started winning at the beginning of the season, most thought it was fluke. Eventually, the wins would cease and they would be in last place when the Yankees and Red Sox got hot. The Yankees never did get hot and the Red Sox put up a fight, but the Rays remained strong and won+ the American League East. Now the doubters thought they

would for sure fail in the post-season, as it was such a foreign concept to a team that hadn't even come close to the playoffs in their first nine seasons.

The Rays defeated the Chicago White Sox in four games and made it look easy. They had to put up a fight with the Red Sox, playing all seven games of the American League Championship. In the end, the Rays proved to be as good as they have ever been, defeating the Red Sox and advancing to the World Series to battle the Philadelphia Phillies. The Rays had literally gone from worst to first in the matter of one season.

I was rooting against the Phillies from the minute they won the National League East title. I didn't think they were the best team in the National League and I certainly didn't think they were the best team in baseball. Despite the win, I still don't. The best thing they have going for them is starting pitcher Cole Hamels, who on any other team would be second in the rotation at best.

In the end, however, they played respectably, but they beat a team that finished last in their division last season and who most people doubted would be able to pull off such a Cinderella season.

For that reason, I'm happy the Phillies won. If the Rays had gone from worst in the majors to best in the matter of one season, it would only be heralded as a Cinderella story. They wouldn't get the respect of the media, the fans, or their fellow teammates. They would get the "how long 'til they're back at the bottom?" reaction. The Rays needed to lose the World Series in order to gain respect, and by playing well and denying a shut-out, I feel they gained that respect.

Joe Maddon has taken a group of talented young players who were lost just a couple of seasons ago and molded them into a team. The play of Carlos Pena and

BJ Upton greatly improved to become stars worthy of mention in the same articles as players like Maglio Ordonez and David Ortiz. Even the new uniforms and name fit into the new and improved image of the team.

Now I understand going to one World Series won't eliminate all the years of losing and the Rays could very well come back next season and finish last. However, if they won the World Series and finished last next year it would be even worse. This team has the potential to be strong for many seasons to come. If Maddon can continue

to teach his young players and keep them controlled in the playing environment, they will continue to thrive and improve. Players like Pena and Upton must grow into their leadership roles and new additions will have to be made because, after all, they didn't win the series.

If the Rays walked away with anything this season, it was with respect and knowledge. They now know what it's like to be in both divisional battles and playoff situations. They aren't just the Cinderella story and they garnered respect for turning their organization into one worthy of making the playoffs.

So thank you, Phillies, for winning and giving the Rays the loss they needed to earn yours and everybody else's respect. Just don't expect me to praise you for anything more than that.

"If the Rays had gone from worst in the majors to best in the matter of one season, it would only be heralded as a Cinderella story."

- Allyse Wolfingerr '09

Feminism and nonviolence

by Amy Defibaugh
Albrightian

Before discussing ways in which feminism and nonviolence complement each other, I feel I should briefly explain them, calling on bell hooks' feminist theory and Gandhi's philosophy of ahimsa. According to hooks, "[feminist] struggle takes place anytime anywhere any female or male resists sexism, sexist exploitation, and oppression." Its uprising, in the 1960s, manifested itself in diverse areas; many groups of women were unaware of each other, while others operated in a singular realm, such as politics.

Similarly working against oppression, Gandhi developed the concept of ahimsa as the leader of Indian independence movement in the 1940s. Simply stated, ahimsa means "action based on the refusal to do harm." Not only did Gandhi show the world that nonviolent action could work, he showed it could work as a way of life and without perpetuating the cycle of violence (which is seen when violence responds to violence). Gandhi's ahimsa had three elements: self-improvement, constructive work to create possibilities for a new social order, and active resistance against oppression.

We have now reached our first crossroad. Feminism, since its beginning, has never stopped being self-critical; the movement is constantly being revised, reevaluated, and transformed just as our lives are not fixed, unchanging. Revolutionary feminism is actively working to transform society, to overthrow oppressive forces, "white supremacist capitalist patriarchy." In addition, Gandhi's third element for nonviolence can apply to the feminist movement as it works, actively and theoretically, against the oppression of not just women, but all human beings. There are many different types of feminism. However, revolutionary or visionary feminism compliments the nonviolent philosophy better than, for example, reformist feminism. Reformists operate within the existing system, only altering it, instead of a complete transformation of society.

Feminist revolutionaries and nonviolent activists seek to break down hierarchical systems of power and containment. However, both face a common crisis. In Western society, more specifically the United States, we are conditioned to accept hi-

erarchy, oppressive dualism, and restrictive stereotypes as natural. They are glamorized, romanticized, and supported by our government, our religious institutions, our education system, our entertainment industry, and our sociopolitical-economic ideology. We must be critical of our surrounding society while keeping in mind the need to analyze and reassess the Western ideologies of domination, capitalism, imperialism, materialism, and consumerism. These undermine feminist and nonviolent movements as they seem all pervading and difficult to escape. Therefore, breaking down and restructuring these systems are necessary if we are to make any progress towards social and political equality.

So, what is needed for revolution? What does it take to create a new social order? Explained by hooks, "New social orders are established gradually. This is hard for individuals in the United States to accept. We have either been socialized to believe that revolutions are always characterized by extreme violence between the oppressed and their oppressors or that revolutions happen quickly." Gandhi also expressed the difficulty not only in living nonviolently, but in attempting to create a completely different social world. Feminists and nonviolent visionaries must come together. We must reorganize our efforts towards a cultural transformation. We must be both "makers of theories and leaders of action." We must make a conscious break with this limited system and begin to create a new social order based on equality and the importance of each individual's experience, whether they lie on the margins or in the center of society. We can do this through revolutionary feminism and nonviolent action.

Gandhi and bell hooks have been extremely influential when it comes to the discussion of social change. Not only do their concentrations complement each other, they are inherent within one another: feminism, as a movement to end sexism, sexist exploitation, and oppression, is crucial to nonviolent philosophy while nonviolent action, as a mode for active resistance against domination and hierarchical power, is vital for the feminist struggle. We must always be willing to connect, to combine forces on our journey for peace. We must recognize our friends.

We must recognize love.

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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.

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

Campus Calendar

Thursday, November 6
Concert-Black Violin
Chapel 8 p.m.

Thursday, November 6
Looking at the Johnstown, PA Flood
CFA 235 4 p.m.

Friday, November 7
International Student Association Dinner
Dining Hall 8 p.m.

Saturday, November 8
Football vs. Widener
Shirk Stadium 1 p.m.

Monday, November 10
Speed Networking (for Juniors and Seniors)
CCSL 5 -7 p.m.

Tuesday, November 11
Resume 201: Finalizing the Draft Workshop
Career Development Center 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 11
United Way Campaign Chili Cook-off
CCSL 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Submit entries to Tim Steinrock

Wednesday, November 12
Alexandra McHale- Comedian
CCSL 8 p.m.

Wednesday, November 12
Blame It on Fidel-Film
CFA 235 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, November 14
PA Liberal Arts College Tour for College Counseling Professionals

Thursday, November 14
OnLine Job Resources Workshop
Library Media Classroom 4-5 p.m.

Friday, November 14
Native American Month Event
CCSL 4 p.m.

November 14, 15, 20, 21, 22
Love Labour's Lost Theatre Production
Wachovia Theatre 8 p.m.

Horoscopes

compiled by Jessica Bilello

Aries (March 21-April 19)

Today you should try talking to someone you never would have considered talking to before -- you do not have to have a long conversation. Just saying hello is all it takes for you to open up your attitude about different cultures and different beliefs. It is not that you do not have an open mind; it is just that you do not always exercise it. You have to get more proactive about experiencing new things and different types of people.

Taurus (April 20-May-20)

Putting effort into minimizing your risk does not always pay off -- sometimes, you just cannot avoid it no matter how hard you try. You could be paralyzing yourself by focusing so much on what could go wrong -- because a million things could go wrong, and you cannot prevent all of them! Instead, you need to start focusing on what could go right! That will help you swing into a healthier, more productive gear.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

It looks like one of your more shallow friendships is moving to a much deeper level -- this is wonderful, but some of your older friends might be getting a little bit jealous that this newer person is taking up so much of your free time. This is a tough time for juggling people, and it could be stirring up some resentment. Try to integrate this new person into group activities so that everyone can spend more time with you -- and get to see how wonderful this person is.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Your energy flow will be nice and easy, today -- you will be perky when you need to be perky and mellow when cooler heads need to prevail. This is the perfect day to just relax and go with the flow, because that flow will take you to some wonderful places. The day is yours to mess up -- in other words, the less you try to control the people and events around you, the better everything will be. Trust the people around you to make the right choices, because they most certainly will.

Leo (July 23-August 22)

A vibrant and good energy is coming into your world, today -- and it could ignite your urge to travel once again. If you have the time, then take it! This is a wonderful time in your life to go out and explore new cultures, foods, and vistas. And if you cannot take the time off, then try to explore the more foreign aspects of your own neck of the woods.

Virgo (August 23-September 22)

Despite how much you love your family, you will have to let go of some of your family obligations today -- there simply is not enough time in the day. They love you, so they will understand. But make sure it does not happen again. Investigate some new time management technique so you will not have to let down a parent or sibling again in the near future. You will do yourself no favors by dwelling on their disappointment. Just do what you need to do and then get back to your family as soon as you can.

Libra (September 23-October 22)

Being idealistic is not the same as being stupid -- so do not be afraid to hope for the best and wish for a more peaceful world. When you focus on making things better, you influence other people to do the same. So it is never a waste of time to talk about what is wrong and how to fix it. Yes, there are certain things you cannot change. But there is so much that you can change! For starters, you can turn a blue friend happy again just by giving them a call. Start with that.

Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

Today, an impulse will be your saving grace! In the midst of any action, you might suddenly have an urge to make a different choice or go another way. And if you do, you should obey that urge! Switch your lunch order if the mood hits. Take a different way home from work if you feel like it. Buy a different brand of coffee than you usually buy. By introducing more spontaneity in your life, you are encouraging more unexpected (and exciting!) things to start happening.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

Fulfill your responsibilities as early as you can, today -- and then spend the rest of your day exploring the things that interest you, whatever they may be. Being happy should be first priority today -- after all, if you are not happy in your life, how can you be a good sibling, friend, partner, student or employee? As long as you are not ignoring someone who really needs you right now, your free time should be yours today.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

No one is perfect, and that includes you! So why are you holding yourself to such an impossibly high standard? You think that anything is possible if you just persevere, but that is simply not the case. Today you have to be smart enough to know what you do not know -- and get help with the things you cannot do alone. There is no harm in asking for help.

Aquarius (January 20-February 18)

Despite the negative attitude of one of your more uptight friends, you love hanging out with your favorite people more than ever, right now. Even that grouchy pal will seem amusing to you -- you love everyone's foibles just as much as you love their charms. This level of acceptance is exactly what makes you the great, non-judgmental friend you are. People know they can be themselves around you.

Pisces (February 19-March 20)

There is a heightened level of sensitivity around you today, which means that your words have extra weight. So be aware that what you say will have a bigger impact than you may intend. Any feedback you give will be treated like a directive, so make sure you offer constructive criticism instead of just focusing on what is wrong. Overall, you will have to put more thought into how you communicate and make a bigger effort to be diplomatic. It is a good skill to master anyway.