

#ForTheCulture

The College of Saint Rose



BRIANA SPINA

Spectrum Hosts its Annual Fashion Show

By **BRIANA SPINA**
News Editor

Fifteen Saint Rose student models took to the runway in St. Joseph's Hall on Friday, Mar. 16 at the multicultural Fashion Show hosted by Spectrum. Among the designers were current students and alumni, and they each used their own unique cultural backgrounds to create clothing lines for the models to show off to the crowd.

The night was emceed

by student Ahmed Diarra. He introduced the event by affirming the purpose of the theme.

"We want to celebrate everyone's culture tonight," he said. "That's why it's #ForTheCulture."

Miaija Jawara, the Public Relations officer of Spectrum, explained further why she and the e-board—comprised entirely of women for the first time in the club's history—decided on this theme.

"#ForTheCulture was a re-

ally important theme for us this year," she said. "With the Black Student Union trying to get SA approval, Spectrum found itself having to explain once again that we are NOT just a club catering to the black folk."

Jawara emphasized that the fashion show "was a celebration of all the cultures that Spectrum aims to represent here on campus." By picking #ForTheCulture, she hopes that they "send the message of inclusion and ac

SEE FASHION /A2

Cosmic Cinemas to buy Madison

By **JACKSON MURPHY**
Staff Writer

Upstart movie theater chain Cosmic Cinemas is moving into the former Madison Theatre on Madison Avenue in Albany.

Madison Theatre owner Gunther Fishgold confirmed the sale exclusively to the Chronicle this morning. He says the deal will be finalized in a week

or so, at which time an official announcement will be made. Fishgold says Cosmic's goal is to have the new theatre open in June or July.

"It's the absolute right thing. I'm very excited," Fishgold said, "They came in November. Bow Tie Cinemas looked at it at the same time."

SEE CINEMAS /A2

Activism with a Side of Mac and Cheese

By **KATE PIERCE**
Executive Editor

You could have your mac and cheese and advocate too at the annual bake off on campus to benefit the Homeless Action Committee. A new addition to the Saint Rose tradition is the addition of an information fair.

"I feel like it makes the event more meaningful and provides more ways to get involved," said Joan Horgan, the director of campus ministry.

The annual event raises money for an organization that works with people who are homeless in Albany County. Students and faculty served mac and cheese with community members providing donations to the cause to enjoy the unique variations on the dish.

Over \$900 was raised for HAC, from donations and purchases of homemade ceram-

ic bowls made by volunteers through the office of spiritual life.

Among the presentation and eating of mac and cheese - students and community members set up tables as part of the information fair. Issues encompassing hunger, living in poverty, and access to necessary resources were represented at the event.

Representatives from the Albany province of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Carondelet also attended the event. They strove to uphold the mission of the sisters that helped to found Saint Rose in the fight to help "thy dear neighbor."

"We try to push social justice," said Sister Francine Dempsey "Food is a human right is a slogan that has been the focus of the local province of the Sisters of Saint Joseph over

SEE MAC /A2



Cosmic Cinema will purchase Madison Theater, and there will be some changes for the reopening

Students Rally for their Lives

By **KYLE PRATT**
Managing Editor

Students, Faculty, and administration officials took to Saint Joseph's auditorium on Mar. 14th for a "Gun Reform" Rally and walk out.

The event was organized by Seniors Elizabeth Valentin and Taylor Farnsworth in response to the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School a month earlier. Both students spoke at the rally.

Farnsworth held back tears throughout her speech as she battled her fear of public speaking.

"My anxiety gets the best of me in big crowds," she told The Chronicle, "But it was a topic I feel passionate about

because too much blood has been spilled at the hands of someone with a gun."

Valentin also fought back tears as she spoke about her younger brother.

"There is no reason I have to try convincing my mother to homeschool my four-year-old brother because I'm afraid that sending him to school will mean he won't come home," she said in her speech, her voice quivering.

This fear is what helped motivate Valentin, as well as Farnsworth.

Their goal is what is often referred to as "common sense" gun regulation: stricter background checks, preventing mentally ill people from having guns, and the banning of bump stocks and

AR-15 style rifles.

Farnsworth also emphasized that although the Parkland shooting was at a high school, college students are also at risk.

"I wanted to organize the event because it's something that affects everyone, not just high school students," said Farnsworth, "There's no reason that our college shouldn't have participated."

Administrators agreed. Lisa Haley Thomson, President Stefanco's Chief of Staff appeared at the event, and spoke to the crowd of over 70.

"My daughter is a teacher," Thomson said to the crowd,

SEE RALLY /A2



KATE PIERCE

Alexander Wheeler and Mathew Vincent at the Mac and Cheese Bake-Off

FASHION cont.

ceptance and also showcase the beauty of different cultures.”

The fashion show always draws a large crowd, and Jawara said that she and the other women who lead Spectrum spent months preparing. Their hard work clearly showed in the seamless flow of the night. The designs were presented in the order of the acronym ALANA (African, Latino/a, Asian, Native American). Each set was preceded by a poem or speech from a member of that culture and an announcement of the designer(s). Halfway through the show, two musicians performed: Joey Jordan, a rapper from Brooklyn, and Saint Rose’s own Pink Nois.

After all of the walks, several people representing their cultures read original poetry from backstage before walking out down the runway together.

Whitney Jones, President of Spectrum, began the reading.

“Tonight,” she said, “was a movement for the culture... Tonight, we rise for the culture.”

She continued on to share her experiences within her culture.

“My ancestors had a dream bigger than MLK: me,” Jones said. “They went through unspeakable things...but look where we are now. We are afraid, but hopeful... We can take on any challenge that they throw at us.”

The next poet, Quan Higs, addressed those who are not confident in their skin color, saying “this is a message to all my people who don’t believe that black is beautiful.”

Jyothi Kavil followed this up by saying that she is “proud to be different.”

“I am proud of my name,” she continued, “even if you can’t pronounce it.”

At the end of the event, Diarra introduced the Spectrum e-board, and they each walked down the runway.

“Without them, this wouldn’t have been possible,” he said. He also pointed out, “we have the first all-female e-board of Spectrum in the building!”

Despite there being “a lot of stress backstage,” Jawara said that “overall, the night was amazing.”

“I’m so happy that we decided on the theme that we did,” she continued, “because I know that at one point, everyone in the audience saw themselves on stage through the clothing.”

See
Photo
Spread
A4

MAC cont.

the past five years.” Dempsey is a graduate of the class of 1959 who also taught at taught American studies courses at the College for 30 years. She will be celebrating 60 years as a sister in the coming weeks.

A few of the sisters and representatives passed out letters addressed to Representative Paul Ryan and Senator Pat Roberts that advocate for investment in programs to reduce hunger and poverty in the nation.

The letters were presented to students to sign, and Dempsey and other volunteers sent them. The group believes that signing letters is an important way that students can participate in activism.

“We would send them to Schumer and Gillibrand, but they already fight for these rights,” said Dempsey.

The two branches, or “feet,” of social justice are advocacy and direct service, according to Sister Sean Peters, the director of mission experience at the College.

“This comes right out of our roots,” said Peters. “I think that most of our students probably have or have had family members in poverty, or know people who are currently living in poverty.”

Peters said that a key example of a problem in serving people in hunger are food pantries. Food pantries were founded in the 1960s as a temporary measure as legislation designating food as a human right was pending.

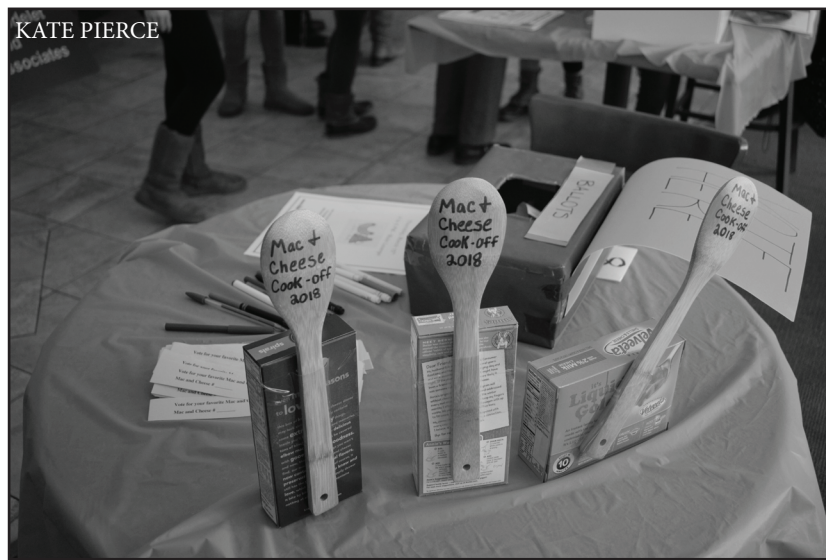
However, since the legislation never passed food pantries have become organizations run by primarily religious organizations, which are limited in consistent support. Being able to support organizations like our local food pantries and organizations like HAC are a way to provide direct service.

One opportunity for students to participate in both facets of social justice is the service trip to Washington D.C. Students are able to volunteer to serve people in need of food, as well as visit senators to advocate for investments in support of ending large scale issues of hunger in the country.

“The trip is immersive in terms of learning about hunger and poverty,” said Elizabeth Ajagbe, a student who attended the trip this past semester. “On campus you can avoid these issues.”

Another issue that was brought to light at the information fair was the intersection of homelessness in the experience of veterans.

“People don’t realize that the amount of veterans that are a part of the homeless com-



Prizes for the winners of the bake-off



Students serve Mac and Cheese

munity,” said Joshua Collins, a student veteran who served in the United States Army for five years, and is currently in the army reserves.

Collins is studying forensic psychology in hopes of continuing to serve in the army as a social worker.

“I have a desire to help other people,” said Collins. “And instead of working in law enforcement and putting people into the criminal justice system, I would rather help them to navigate the system.”

There is a chapter of Student Veteran Association at Saint Rose, which is a part of a national organization that allows a social and informational outlet for students. Collins is one of the students to attend the SVA meetings at 3 p.m. every Wednesday in Casey Hall.

Collins works with the offices of spiritual life and community service to bring the perspective of veteran students into conversations and programming.

“I think it’s a good way to get information out,” said Collins, of the mac and cheese bake off and information fair.

Marina Ferrari, the graduate assistant for the office of spiritual life, presented and spoke about the Poor People’s campaign. The organization focuses on raising awareness of poverty and the issues it creates. Additionally, it works to include members of the lower class in their advocacy and campaign efforts.

“This is an effort to put people in poverty in the center,” said Peters. Instead of advocating for people in poverty, advocating with them.

The office of spiritual life

is hosting “Speak Out: Telling Our Stories, Raising Our Voices, Calming Our Worth” from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on Mar. 27, with the location to be announced. The event provides an opportunity for students and employees to tell stories of how poverty impacts their lives.

“It’s a good opportunity for our students to reflect on how poverty affects people,” said Peters.

Additionally, the office is organizing a march as a campaign to the attention of the region. This is the first walk from a college campus to support this specific cause, and it will start at 1 p.m. on April 13.

“The issue of poverty is not far away for our students,” said Horgan.

At the end of the mac and cheese event, the votes were counted up for each dish to determine the winners. Each winner took home a prize of a wooden spoon attached to a box of macaroni and cheese.

Alan Martell, assistant director of counseling and psychological services took home the “gold” for his buffalo mac and cheese. Luke Lavera, a coordinator in the office of intercultural leadership, also won an award for his mac and cheese.

The third place winner, Mathew Vincent, a graduate student and area coordinator for the office of residence life received the “bronze.”

“I think the mac and cheese cook off is a fun way to see people’s passions and what they are advocating for,” Vincent said.

RALLY cont.

“And I cannot imagine her facing this.”

She continued: “We as a country need to look hard at ourselves.”

The rally was sponsored by the Office of Spiritual Life as well as the Student Association.

Vito Van Dunk, who is president of the student association, also spoke to the crowd.

“This is just the outrage that we need,” he said, “We need to hear from the living because there are too many voices that have been silenced.

Van Dunk said later that now is the time for students to make change.

“I think too many times we as students and student leaders stay quiet about issues that affect us,” he said, “It was a time that I felt I needed to use my voice for those gun violence has silenced.”

Much like Van Dunk, Valentin thinks now is the time for change.

“I just want to live in a country where I don’t have to be afraid of being shot at school, a concert, or a movie theater,” she said, “I want every child to feel safe at school.”

While Farnsworth and Valentin are editors at The Chronicle, the newspaper played no role in the planning or execution of the rally.

CINEMAS cont.

The Cosmic deal came together in December. Fishgold has been sitting on the news for three months.

The Albany Cosmic Cinemas will feature first-run movies, a full bar and restaurant and has special restrictions: No infants, no children under 17 unless accompanied by a parent/guardian and no cellphones. Talking during movies is also prohibited. There will be at least three screens. The Madison had four when it closed on Jan. 1.

The man behind Cosmic Cinemas is Terrell Braly, former CEO of Alamo Drafthouse. He also created the Cinebarre Theatre chain, along with Regal Cinemas.

“Cosmic is disrupting the movie experience,” said Fishgold, who’s going to keep his Tierra Farm Cafe, which is located next door.

There will be no parking added, said Fishgold, but he doesn’t think it will be a problem.

“There’s a tremendous amount of walking traffic,” he said, “We’ve put 600 people in this theatre.”

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We're Hiring!

The Chronicle is currently seeking students to fill open positions for the 2018-19 academic school year.

Applications for all positions are open.



If interested, please send a resume and cover letter to Executive Editor Kate Pierce at piercek966@strose.edu

*Applicants for section editor positions must also submit three writing samples

All application materials are due:

**Before 11:59 p.m.
on Friday, April 6th**

Email Kate Pierce with any additional questions.

In Brief

What's happening in the community

Student Ethics Forum

Environmental racism is the topic that students will discuss at this year's Student Ethics Forum. Presented by the Saint Rose Office of Spiritual Life, the Integrity Committee, and the Ethics Roundtable, the Forum will take place on Wednesday, Mar. 21 from 2:30-4:00 p.m. at the Hubbard Interfaith Sanctuary. Often grouped under the umbrella of environmental justice, environmental racism looks at how racially and/or economically marginalized people are frequently exposed to dangerous living conditions, whether the people are placed in polluted areas or pollutants are introduced to the neighborhoods in which they already live.

The forum will specifically analyze a case study conducted in New York City entitled "Jobs... At What Cost? The Case of FreshDirect." The study investigated both sides of a 2012 decision for FreshDirect, an online grocer, to relocate its trucking facility to the South Bronx.

The South Bronx is comprised mainly of African American and Hispanic res-

idents, and they live among waste facilities, power plants, a massive food distribution center, and very frequent truck traffic. These high rates of environmental damage correlate to the high rates of various health problems, including asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, cardiovascular disease, and more.

FreshDirect has told residents that it plans on going green in the near future and that the company will create 1,000 new jobs within the next decade. Still, residents fear that FreshDirect will only cause more damage to their health. Many of them have protested against it, forming a resistance organization called South Bronx Unite.

The student panel of five will address this situation from moral, ethical, and logical perspectives. All are welcome to attend the event. Any questions can be directed to Michael Brannigan, Dean of Spiritual Life, at michael.brannigan@strose.edu or Ashley Morales at moralesa714@strose.edu.

Time to Unwind

The Counseling Center has started a weekly therapeutic knitting group. Every Monday until May 7, students can get together to knit, crochet, cross-stitch, or embroider, or they can learn how to do so. All of these activities have

de-stressing qualities.

It takes place from 12 to 1 p.m. in Quillinan Hall, which is right next door to the Counseling Center. Materials for knitting and crocheting will be provided.

Game Corner

Take a break to solve some puzzles!

Answers posted online at strosechronicle.com

Spring is here!

Across

3. Ancient Egyptians built this monument so it points directly toward sunrise on the first day of spring.

5. In literature, spring often symbolizes new life, or _____.

9. Scientists believe that the excitement we call spring _____ is a result of the impact of increased light and exercise on hormone levels.

10. This yellow plant will grow quickly across people's yards as the weather gets warmer.

Down

1. In Old English, the season of spring was known as _____ (Hint: It is also the name of the Christian holiday that lasts for the 40 days before Easter Sunday)

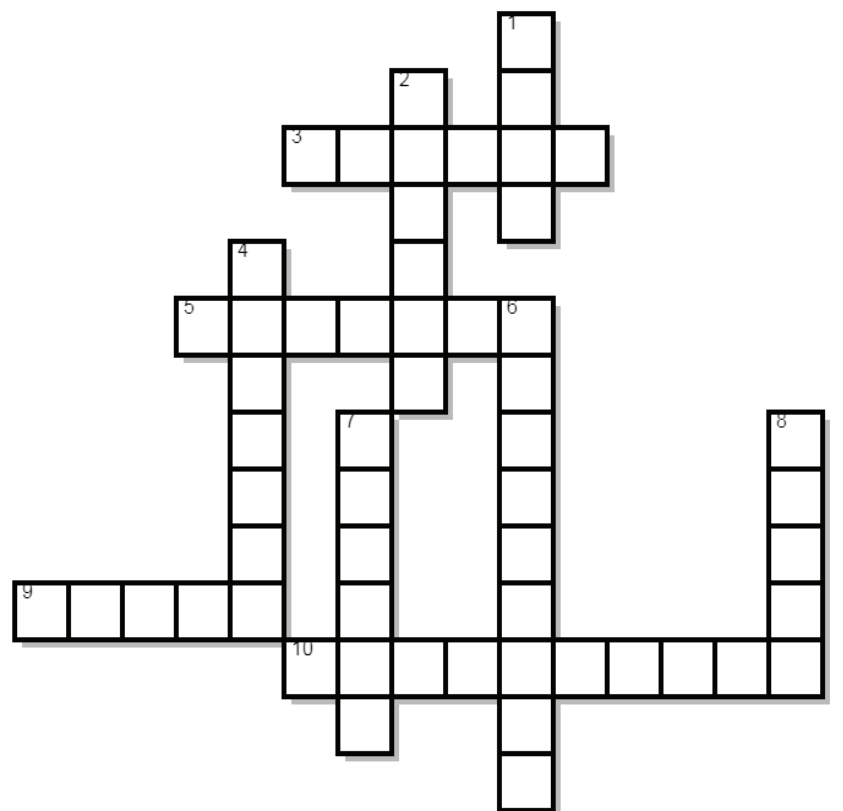
2. In Japan, the beginning of spring is marked by when the _____ blossoms bloom.

4. In Greek Mythology, spring began when Persephone returns from the Underworld and reunites with her mother, _____.

6. These insects are the friendliest during spring because they are trying to create new colonies.

7. The official name for first day of spring is called the _____ equinox.

8. It is most helpful to put a feeder out for these creatures during the spring for their return migration.



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Culture Shines at Spectrum Fashion Show



#ForTheCulture
Annual Fashion Show
Friday, March 16



All Photos Taken By:
Briana Spina
News Editor



The College of Saint Rose

CAREER CENTER UPCOMING EVENTS

Employer Information Tables

Events and Athletics Center, Outside of the Camelot Room | 11am-2pm

Wednesday, March 21

The College of Saint Rose Graduate Admissions

The College of Saint Rose Learn about how graduate study can help you further your career goal or shift into a new area altogether. Don't miss this opportunity to learn more about applying for admission and funding your studies.

Thursday, March 22

Commission on Economic Opportunity (CEO)

CEO is hiring for opportunities including Universal Pre-Kindergarten Teachers, Preschool Teachers, Infant/Toddler Teachers, Teacher Assistants, Substitute Teacher Assistants, & Family Advocates.

Events

ASK AN EDUCATOR:

Resume & Interview Tips from Teachers & Administrators
Thursday, March 22, 2018 • 5:00pm
Lally School of Education, Touhey Forum

The Career Center and Council for Exception Children, will offer students interested in a career in education an opportunity to hear from a panel of current teachers and administrators about tips on resume/cover letter preparation and interview suggestions. After the discussion, students will have the opportunity to ask questions of the panelists as well.

ED expo 2018 MARCH 27

Education Expo gives students and alumni the opportunity to connect with employers recruiting for Pre-K through Grade 12 Teachers, School Counselors, School Psychologists, Social Workers, Speech Language Pathologists, Administrators, and more.

See more details, a complete list of the 70 attending employers, and pre-register by March 22 at www.strose.edu/edexpo.

Resume Critique Week

Monday, March 19 - Friday, March 23
11:00am - 4:00pm

Stop in to have your resume reviewed and receive feedback on ways to improve how you market your education, skills, and experience for your future internship, practicum, student teaching experience, full- or part-time job, graduate school application, etc.!

Interested in chatting about topics other than your resume?

We can also provide assistance with:

- Job & Internship Search
- Cover Letters
- Mock Interviews
- LinkedIn
- Career Planning
- Graduate School
- Networking
- Overview of Resources

Photographers Needed!

Do you like to take pictures?

Are you interested in having your photos published in The Chronicle?

If so:
Contact
News Editor
Briana Spina

spinab625@strose.edu

Tuesday March 20, 2018

Should “Roseanne” Even Bother Coming Back?

By MARK O’CALLAGHAN
Staff Writer

Nostalgia can be a very powerful factor in today’s entertainment. We’ve seen throwbacks to a decade like “Stranger Things” or full-on revival of shows that were canceled years ago. On March 27, the popular show from the late 80’s and early 90’s, “Roseanne” will be back on our screens for one season. This brings up the question of should ABC even bother bringing back the hit show.

Now, this makes sense from a pure business decision. It’s hard to set up new shows and get an audience for it. Only a few can really get a following that will last a lifetime. So, bringing back a show that has a big fanbase does make sense. Besides being aired on its initial run, “Roseanne” is huge in syndication. For myself, I always watched the show on Nick at Nite or on TV Land. We already know these characters and most people want to see them again.

A lot of fans still have

a bad taste in their mouth with the final season. The show turned its back on their blue-collar roots by having the Connors win the lottery, then in the series finale, it turns out them winning the lottery was all a part of a fictional book by Roseanne. In fact, it was a coping mechanism because her husband Dan (John Goodman) died. This left a lot of fans confused and disappointed with how the show ended so depressingly.

This new season could be a redemption for the show and might finally end on a high note. Fans can finally say that the ending of Roseanne was great. Now we don’t know if the tenth season will just be a limited run or might lead to a full revival with more seasons. It will all depend on how popular the show will be and if it stills bring the fanbase.

However, there’s just one big problem about season ten. What if the show just sucks and leaves fans disappointed once again. It wouldn’t be as bad as season nine but it could be all unnecessary.

Then once more news

came out the most of the original writers and cast including John Goodman were coming back, my hype started to go up. They even brought back the two actresses playing Becky with Sarah Chalke (the second one) playing a new character. The only expectation is Glenn Quinn who died in 2003.

Promos have been playing recently and it looks like the revival might capture the old spirit after all. It doesn’t feel like they have forced the Connor family in 2018. Everything feels natural and just feels updated with more current references. If the writers can achieve the wit and commentary they wrote in the old show then we have something good.

Going back and watching a couple of the old episodes, it is interesting to see how relevant some of the issues they tackle relate to the world today.

Things like gay rights or struggling with money are talked about very often. This isn’t just fluff like “Full House,” but a show that can actually address an issue without turning into a “very special epi-



Star of “Roseanne,” Roseanne Barr in 2010

sode.” The first new episode will mention how Roseanne voted for Trump while her sister Jackie voted for Hillary.

Maybe this whole thing will be a disaster and dampen “Roseanne” even further, but I’m optimistic. It absolutely should be back on TV again.

The majority of the creative team and wonderful cast are coming back in full force and I couldn’t be more excited.

Even if you never watched the show before, check it out and see for yourself. For me, it’s great to see the Connor family back together again.

“I’m afraid, Dave:” 2001: A Space Odyssey 50 Years Later

By TJ GIBSON
Contributing Writer

In the modern cinematic age of cheap thrills and hackneyed plotlines, where every major studio is too busy striving to be the next this or the next that to worry about making anything genuinely original, one has to wonder if there could ever again be another truly great piece of cinematic art awaiting us. There are certainly recent directors who’ve attempted to make one — Guillermo del Toro’s “The Shape of Water” being a strong example — but very few, if any, have indisputably succeeded. Thus, I contend that it’s worth taking a moment to look back on one classic example of a now-legendary director’s success at exactly that: Stanley Kubrick and his seminal 1968 sci-fi escapade, “2001: A Space Odyssey.”

Perhaps one of the greatest technical achievements ever committed to celluloid, Kubrick’s film is virtually perfect and still holds up half a century after its theatrical release. That’s not only in its near-flawless practical effects (which preceded Star Wars by nearly a decade) that still pass as realistic enough in a now CG-dominated art form, but even more so in its absolutely unorthodox approach to nearly every established film convention of its time and ours. It’s these differences, far more than the effects or anything else, that really make “2001: A Space Odyssey” special.

Don’t get me wrong, the effects are fantastic, groundbreaking, and light years beyond their time, but they are ultimately designed more to assist the narrative in inspiring our imaginations — to make us really think about what we’re

seeing — than they are to stimulate our senses or excite us on a purely superficial level. This is the case with far too many of today’s cinematic spectacles.

Where a standard contemporary blockbuster is meant to function as a distraction

from our lives and the troubling nature of the human condition, 2001 does the opposite. It forces us to think deeply about our existence, to philosophize in earnest on the meaning of life itself. And because Kubrick stays so uncompromisingly focused to this end, the film never loses its contemplative moxie by trying too hard to also be a blockbuster, much like Ridley Scott’s divisive Prometheus did.

Likewise, the film’s soundtrack also stands in stark contrast to anything we experience in today’s big-ticket films. As opposed to the rousing scores presented to us by composers such as John Williams, Danny Elfman, Hans Zimmer, and the like, Kubrick envelops his film within a bouquet of classical pieces, imbuing the proceedings with an unusual combination of intimacy and majesty.

Thus, when we see a larger-than-life spacecraft floating through the void in 2001, it feels far more like some pirouetting dancer in a cosmic ballet than it does some cold and imposing behemoth. Even with all of the film’s other elements notwithstanding, this alone elevates “2001” beyond the others of its ilk — that is, while other films have surely claimed themselves space operas, this is one of the few films that actually proves it, in all of its sublime, mythic glory.

Though, perhaps the film’s most unique departure from its peers is its thoroughly unconventional and deeply perplex-

ing narrative. As a film that is technically seated in a genre known today for over-explaining every single part of itself in a long series of failed attempts to avoid convolution, “2001” seems far more content to simply let you forge your own path to understanding it in its paradoxically dense sparsity than almost any other film ever made (much less any other science fiction film) would even dare to be.

Granted, one can forgive other filmmakers for their trepidation; after all, the film’s unusual narrative form did earn it more than a little bit of negative press upon its initial release. Reviewers, it seemed, begrudged the film for its infrequent and emotionless dialogue, it’s (at times) painfully slow pacing, the confusing and open-ended closing, and of course, it’s utter unwillingness to spoon-feed its audience anything.

Over time, these elements

have become recognized as some of the film’s greatest strengths. For example: the characters’ cold dialogue serves to reinforce the suggestion that the murderous AI system HAL is ironically more “alive” than the technology-dependent human characters. The slow pacing helps the audience to digest every gorgeous shot instead of being ripped away before they can take it all in. The deliberately ambiguous ending leaves the film and its characters’ journeys up to interpretation by the viewer, and the ambiguity of the rest of the film does likewise, which inherently boosts the film’s rewatchability by forcing a need for a few additional sittings to fully grasp it.

Thus, what “2001” really proves, at the end of the day, is that some art simply needs time to soak in the cultural consciousness before it can be truly appreciated. That, along with unconventionality

is not just often an indicator of great art, but also an essential precursor to wider shift in the tides for works of art that were once shunned for possessing that very same characteristic. It would seem, ultimately, that directors and studios alike could learn a lot from a closer study of this film, now fifty long years into its illustrious life cycle.

From the stunning practical effects to the deep philosophical implications, “2001: A Space Odyssey” shows that a film doesn’t need to dumb itself down or stick to a proven formula in order to be successful, as evidenced by the fact that it is still very worth looking back on an entire half a century after it was made. Simply put, “2001” is more than just a science fiction film. It is a truly transcendent, revolutionary work of art, which continues to serve dutifully as a timeless masterclass in visual storytelling.



Stanley Kubrick, director of 2001: A Space Odyssey, in 1948

“A Whole New World” for Aladdin

By KAYLA DEMICCO
Staff Writer

If you loved the soundtrack for “The Greatest Showman,” “La La Land,” and “Dear Evan Hansen,” you’ll love the soundtrack for Disney’s upcoming 2019 live-action film adaptation of “Aladdin.” The masterminds behind these well loved soundtracks, Benj Pasek and Justin Paul, are at it again in putting together a couple new songs for the anticipated new Disney movie. According to Hollywood Reporter, they’re in the works of penning new songs for a live action version of a 1937 classic, “Snow White,” as well.

The songwriting team have been nominated and won multiple awards over the past few years for their notable works and several other awards over the past decade. They are holders of 2 Golden Globe Awards (for Best Original Song for “City of Stars” in “La La Land” and “This Is Me” in “The Greatest Showman”), and a Grammy Award for Best Musical Theater Album and Tony Award for Best Original Score for “Dear Evan Hansen.”

According to Billboard, the duo had the opportunity to work with composer Alan Menken, who happens to be a musical hero of theirs and was given the honor of the Oscar for Best Original Song four times.

“We’re real excited for this and really thrilled to be a part of the Disney family,” Benj Pasek said. Menken made the announcement at the D23 Expo over the summer in Anaheim, California saying that, “For the new songs in the live-action ‘Aladdin,’ my lyricists are the amazing young talents, who this year won the Oscar for ‘La La Land’ and the Tony for ‘Dear Evan Hansen,’ Benj Pasek and Justin Paul.”

Directed by Guy Ritchie and produced by David Lin, the film will have Mena Massoud as Aladdin, Naomi Scott as Princess Jasmine, Will Smith as Genie, Marwan Kenzari as Jafar, Navid Kenzari as The Sultan, Nasim Pedrad as Dalia (Jasmine’s handmaiden), and Numan Acar as Hakim (Jafar’s right-hand man). All of these people are among the lead roles who are from countries of the Middle-East/In-

dia or have descendants from those countries, excluding Will Smith. Ritchie and Lin had expectations to have a diverse cast for this movie by having a worldwide, four month long casting call as he had no plans to whitewash this classic.

However, the Washington Post shed light on the fact that Billy Magnussen (who is set to play as Prince Anders, a suitor and potential husband for Princess Jasmine) was white and all the criticism it received. According to BBC, Disney admitted to “making up” some white actors in order for them to “blend” into Asian crowd scenes for its upcoming Aladdin film. Translation? Using makeup on them to make their skin much darker (also known as “brownface”) and putting them in clothes meant for Arabians. An extra in the cast, Kaushal Odedra, said that “Aladdin was the perfect time to show diversity but also be accurate [but] they’re being out of touch with what’s going on around them.”

Unfortunately, this step that the team for this movie isn’t progressive to getting proper representation in the cinema.

Since the movie wrapped up filming early this year, it might be too late to reshoot things the way they should be. Since the movie is set to release in

May of next year, there is a long wait to see what the ending result will be and if it will satisfy the moviegoers and Disney fans all over.



Aladdin Director Guy Ritchie at the 2017 premiere of King Arthur: Legend of the Sword

“Jessica Jones” Beats the Sophomore Slump

By MARK
O’CALLAGHAN
Staff Writer

One of the best things about the Marvel Cinematic Universe is how many different aspects it can touch. From different genres to tackling issues in a clever way. The first season of “Jessica Jones” nailed both characteristics in such a compelling direction. A detective show about a private eye with powers dealing with PTSD proved to be easily one of the best shows on Netflix. Despite a few hiccups, season two still delivers a very thrilling show.

Season two follows Jessica Jones (Krysten Ritter) after a long battle with Kilgrave. She’s back to being a private eye until one case opens something up.

It leads her to investigate a company that is responsible for people getting powers, including her own. Now she must dig deeper into her past from the car accident that killed her family and the company that gave her powers.

Easily one of the best things about “Jessica Jones” is Krysten Ritter herself. There’s just this rawness about her that comes out in every scene. She’s just this harden badass but not in an obnoxious way, and sometimes we see that façade get dropped for just a bit and it’s chilling. Ritter really feels like she pulled Jessica Jones straight from the comics.

I’m happy to see that some of the issues that Jessica faced in Season 1 aren’t resolved here. Some fans complained that she didn’t completely change at the end.

The show does a fairly realistic job portraying someone dealing with PTSD and anxiety. It’s not all magically gone when an episode or threat is over.

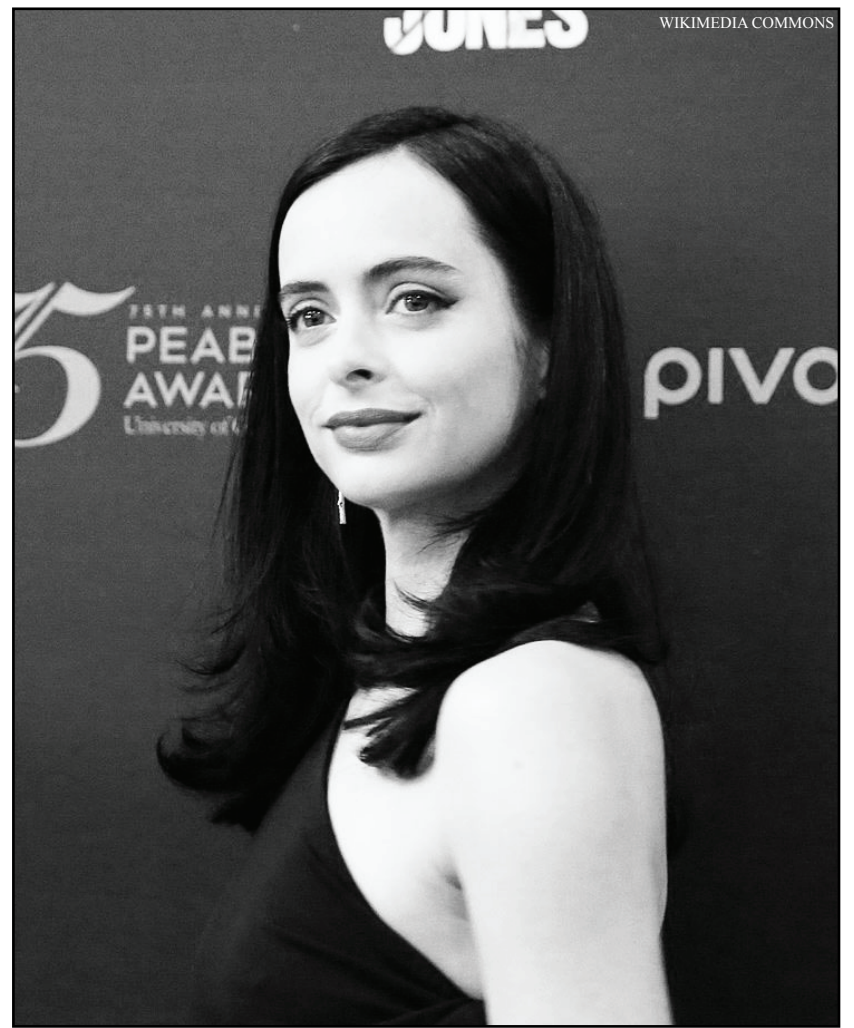
This season also deals with addiction in a metaphoric and literal sense with Trish (Rachel Taylor). People might find some of her actions unlikable but I think that’s what the writers were going for. Plus, Taylor’s performance helps to guide some of the bumps.

Really getting to binge it all in a short period of time works for this show because it’s a compelling mystery. Each episode leaves with a little thread or cliffhanger that makes you want to dive into the next episode. Like all of the other MCU Netflix shows, the episode count needs to be shortened. With 13 episodes, there’s quite a bit of fat that you can trim off. An eight to ten-episode season could do wonders.

The biggest issue is there isn’t a big compelling villain. When there was Kilgrave (David Tennant), he was downright scary but immediately just a tad bit sympathetic in his motivation. There isn’t anyone close to that in the villain department.

Later on, in the season we find out the antagonists and they’re good but not as memorable than David Tennant’s performance.

Season two of “Jessica Jones” is a great show to binge right now on Netflix. Everything you loved about season one is back with some great



Actress Krysten Ritter, who plays Jessica Jones in a Marvel series by the same name.

new elements.

While the villain isn’t as compelling as Kilgrave and the show runs a bit too long,

that shouldn’t stop you from watching. If you like the first season then immediately start watching it.

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Tuesday March 20, 2018

Pick a Side, DeVos: Students or Guns?

By **BRIANA SPINA**
News Editor

The U.S. Department of Education published a press release regarding Betsy DeVos's visit to Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School (MSD), where the deadly school shooting occurred last month. It stated that DeVos had conversations with students and teachers, laid a wreath, and "greet[ed] support staff." The release could have been more accurately depicted by this tweet from user *@_Archaide_*, a student of MSD: "Betsy DeVos came to my school, talked to three people, and pet a dog. This is incase the press tries to say something else later."

The visit was designed to adhere with Principal Ty Thompson's request to not cause too much commotion, for the day of DeVos's visit was the students' first full day back at school since the massacre. It ended up going too far in the opposite direction, making very little impact and leaving the school confused and frustrated at why she even made the trip. English teacher and student newspaper advis-

er at MSD, Melissa Falkowski, said that DeVos did not come with the intent to open up a dialogue between the Department of Education and the Parkland community, because "she didn't meet formally with any teachers or students."

A member of the small group of MSD student press allowed to accompany DeVos, Alyson Sheehy, said that the visit was a pointless "publicity stunt." Sheehy went on to say that DeVos was largely unresponsive to her and her fellow students. The answers DeVos gave to their questions were basic and roundabout, and when students pressed her about policy change, she said that she does not "think this is the time to really ask those types of questions."

In the brief press conference following the visit, DeVos seemed to have an attitude opposite of the one she displayed while at the school, declaring that she and her department "are committed not only to listening but to action." Based on the accounts of the MSD community, this is simply not true. (Further, giving the Education Secretary bad press would not help

the school safety cause in any way; therefore, their accounts were not published as libel.)

DeVos's hypocrisy—as well as which side of her is shown in each situation—indicate that she is detached from the tragic school shooting and its grander message on the gun violence crisis. In the media's presence, she conveyed compassion for the students and educators, but that compassion was absent when she stood in front of them. She told the press that she wants to start a conversation with the MSD community and enact change, yet she shut down the students who asked about her plans for action. DeVos walked through the school just to go through the motions of being there, and the students and teachers were angered and perturbed by this. Sheehy "expected that to happen," but was "still frustrat[ed] that [DeVos] made the trip...and made it a big deal but didn't do anything."

DeVos seems to have viewed her visit as a ceremonial one, while the people affected by the tragedy hoped for something more. The struggles being faced by their community are heavy, and the

healing process has barely begun. Though brokenhearted, students and faculty have risen up to demand change that will save other schools from the horrors they have experienced. The sheer amount of emotion within the school is astounding: grief, fear, determination, anger, ambition, passion, empathy—and that is only what I have discerned as an outside observer.

Considering the above, the way DeVos acted during her visit is appalling. Where her heart was I cannot say, but it certainly was not with the Parkland community. Her heart was not reaching out to the students who have lost their friends and teachers, the teachers who have lost their students and colleagues, or the parents who have lost their children. She did not offer comfort or listen to anyone's unique grieving experience. She did not take the students seriously. DeVos walked above the horrors haunting those hallways and dared to tell the people who just witnessed a massacre to wait to talk about gun violence and political change.

When Former President

Obama visited Sandy Hook in the aftermath of the deadly 2012 shooting, he spoke with many, many people. He embraced them, listened to them, and cried with them. DeVos's arms were crossed, her ears were plugged, and her eyes were dry. Maybe it's because MSD is a public school; everyone knows how much DeVos hates public schools. Or maybe it's because she likes guns too much, or perhaps because her party likes guns too much.

Whatever the reason for her apathetic persona while visiting Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, the ultimate point is that DeVos must pick a side. Will she choose the safety and well-being of students and educators, as would be her inferred pick since she is the Education Secretary? Or will she choose to appease the too-powerful National Rifle Association and the Republican politicians it funds? Put more simply, DeVos must choose between saving the lives of children and educators, or supporting a grotesquely warped interpretation of the second amendment.

Tennessee's Outrageous Reason to Not Outlaw Child Marriage

By **KAYLA DEMICCO**
Staff Writer

Back in June 2015, the United States Supreme Court ruled that same sex marriage would be legalized nationwide. However, since then, some states are going out of their way to make a separate bill in order to go against the Supreme Court.

In Tennessee, the Republicans are trying to pass a bill to repeal gay marriage. To the lawmakers in Tennessee, taking away marriage rights is the most important thing right now. To focus on taking away same sex marriage, they put off the process of trying to outlaw child marriage.

A 16 or 17 year old can get a marriage license in Tennessee with parental consent and anyone younger just simply needs a judge to sign off okaying the marriage. Apparently to Republicans, it's more important to make sure it is illegal for someone who is gay to get married than a child.

The individual to blame for this mess is David Fowler, president of the Family Action Council Of Tennessee (a conservative, Christian based advocacy group). Fowler said that "the bill would interfere with his lawsuit against the U.S. Supreme Court challenging the court's 2015 decision to legalize gay marriage."

Child marriage became a concern back in 2001 when it was reported that three 10 year olds were married to men in their 30s. Two Democratic lawmakers have proposed bills to prevent marriages when someone is under eighteen years of age and again last year when statistics came out saying that in 2016, 42 men and 166 women under the age of eighteen in Tennessee were married in



A young girl posing in a white wedding dress.

the state. Apparently, there is a loophole that people have been using that "allows a judge to waive the age requirement and does not state a minimum age".

Republican and sponsors the ban on child marriage, Darren Jernigan, said that "What has happened is the Family Action Council wants to continue to let 13-year-olds get married in the state at the sake of their court case against same-sex couples".

MetroWeekly speculates that if the Supreme Court didn't make same sex marriage legal back in 2015, Tennessee lawmakers never would have even considered to allow it in their state. In fact, it has been in discussion to try to "defend natural marriage" since a few months after the legalization of same sex marriage.

After Fowler intervened, Republican lawmakers in the state sent the proposal to some-

thing called "summer study" in the House Civil Justice Subcommittee, which has been known to kill bills.

Recently, the State House has been considering the unnecessary hold on the ban on child marriage and might not put it back in the works until 2019. On top of that, last year, LGBTQNation.com stated that there was another bill being talked about to try to have public schools to "require that a student use student restroom and locker room facilities that are assigned for use by persons of the same sex as the sex indicated on the student's original birth certificate" (aka "The Bathroom Bill").

Only in Trump's America is it deemed okay to ignore the real issues going on and allow children to get married to grown adults instead of letting two people of the same sex walk down the aisle.

Walk Out to Save our Lives

By **BRIANNA ROBLES**
Staff Writer

On Wednesday March 14, 2018, students of all racial and ethnic backgrounds from around the country came together in order to fight against the National Rifle Association (NRA) and Congresses ignorance to gun control laws. The Walk Out was a non-violent protest where students at 10 a.m. decided to walk out of their classes in order to silently honor the 17 students who lost their lives due to the mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School.

First, I would love to celebrate everyone who participated in this event because of how revolutionary and important it was and will always be. Believe it or not, the school shootings that have happened around the country psychologically affect us all. Whether we see it or not, it ignites fear into students of all high schools and college campuses.

The fact that the Walk Out was organized by young people, in my opinion makes it much more relevant and effective. This generation specifically is judged and belittled for many of the things we do; whether it be for our "privileged lifestyle" or our excessive use of technology.

However, we are rarely celebrated for actions like this. We are hardly recognized for our retaliation against what is seemingly destroying our country. Not only did young people plan the walk out but we also successfully participated in it in order to bring awareness to an issue that affects everyone of us in some way.

This generation is a force to be reckoned with because

of how strong we are as a unit. We are the future and to know this country is in the hands of young adults who seek change and will do anything necessary to make it better is comforting.

It however, is quite sad that we have to non-violently protest in order to save our lives. Moments after students walked out of their classrooms on Wednesday, the NRA posted a picture of a AR-15 style weapon on their twitter account with a caption saying "I'll control my own guns, thank you". When I saw that this was posted, I was absolutely disgusted because it was as if they were mocking the protest that was organized.

It was a slap in the face because they weren't even trying to take into consideration the 17 lives that were lost in the mass shooting. Forget the gun control laws for awhile, by posting the picture the NRA openly disrespected the families and loved ones of those who recently lost their lives. They didn't have enough decency to allow students to commemorate peacefully.

America has shown us constantly that our lives, when compared to the economic prosperity of the country does not matter. If America actually valued its citizens and took into account their worth this would not be a problem. Money cannot take the place of many people losing their lives. I hope something changes because if it doesn't this generation will make sure protests like this keep happening.

*Want to write for Opinion?
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Albany's Building an Empire

Opening Night is Saturday April 14th @ 7 p.m.

By **DAVID MEISTER**
Staff Writer

The city of Albany has had a long history with the Arena Football League (AFL).

Beginning back in 1990 with the Albany Firebirds, then the Albany Conquest of the af2 (the AFL's minor league), and now the Albany Empire, which is set to debut on Saturday April 14 at the Times Union Center.

The team was announced back in October and fans have been getting excited.

Albany achieved great heights back in 1999 when the Firebirds won ArenaBowl XIII, and have been looking for success ever since.

But it hasn't always been easy for the city. Sports lately have been limited.

The River Rats of the American Hockey League (AHL) were a part of the city from 1993-2010 before they relocated to Charlotte.

The Devils came to town from 2010-2017 before their relocation to Binghamton. So, that left Albany with no professional sports for the first time in many years.

Sure, they had the Siena Saints but that was only for basketball season, many peo-

ple wanted to see the return of professional sports to the capital city for New York.

Then the announcement came in October, arena football was returning to Albany. Excitement started brewing after the initial press conference.

The team is owned by media mogul George Randolph Hearst III who is the publisher and CEO of the Times Union, Dan Nolan, and Ed Swyer.

The team also has partner owners from the Philadelphia Soul, another AFL team and two-time defending ArenaBowl champions.

Notably former ESPN personality Ron Jaworski, former NFL head coach Dick Vermeil, and former New Orleans Saints Jahri Evans and Marques Colston.

So right from the beginning, the hype was high. With a star-studded ownership team, the bar was set high.

But the team didn't have a name or coach yet. Rob Keefe was named head coach in November. Keefe, a former AFL and af2 player, won titles with both the Spokane Shock and the Philadelphia Soul.

When it came to the name, they took suggestions and nar-

rowed it down to four which led to a fan vote between the Machine (a nod to the city's role in politics), the Phoenix and Fire (both of which pay homage to the original Firebirds), and the Empire (which is recognition of New York's official nickname as the Empire State).

The vote began in November with results being announced in January that the Empire would officially be the name of the new Albany AFL.

Then there was a lull for a bit, the team still didn't have any players.

They held open tryouts and that was all anyone heard. No one knew who made it or if there'd even be a season since no collective bargaining agreement was in place between the league and the player's union.

But just as recently as last week, news started to roll in again, and the Empire continued to build.

The league announced that a four-year agreement had been reached last Friday. In addition, free agency and player signings could begin on Monday and training camp would open on Saturday.

So where does that leave

the Empire right now? In a pretty exciting place.

With a roster set to be announced this week and practices to start this weekend, things are really starting to come together before the inaugural game next month.

But let's take a step back and look at what the Empire is getting in to.

Last season, the AFL celebrated its 30th season and it had five teams: the Washington Valor, the Baltimore Brigade, the Cleveland Gladiators, the Tampa Bay Storm, and the Philadelphia Soul. Going into 2018, the Gladiators have announced that they are going on a two-year hiatus while their arena, the Quicken Loans Arena, is renovating.

The Storm have officially ceased all operations and are gone. So, it leaves the Valor, Brigade, Soul, and now the Empire. A four team league, which hasn't been seen since its founding back in 1987.

Here's a little primer of how this season will work for those of you who want to follow the Empire's inaugural season. All teams will play each other four times over the course of the 13 week season, everyone gets one bye week.

The Empire will have the most home games with seven. At the end of the season, all four teams will advance to the playoffs.

The top finisher will play the bottom team, and the middle two will face off against each other.

The semifinals will be a home and home series, meaning that every team gets the chance to host a playoff game.

And the team with the highest aggregate score after the two games will move on to Arena Bowl XXXI, which will be hosted by the highest ranked team based off of the final regular season standings.

So the stage is set, and the race for ArenaBowl XXXI is on.

The Empire have been building since October and will hope to catch Fire as they begin their Conquest of the AFL.

One thing is for sure, they have the hype, now will they deliver?

*Want to write for Sports?
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Hockey Uniting a Community

An AHL fan's perspective on how hockey has the power to bring the community together and why the AHL shouldn't have left Albany

By **Lauren Kaszuba**
Staff Writer

As a Syracuse native, I'm no stranger to hockey, more specifically the American Hockey League.

Syracuse takes their hockey seriously, trust me. It's no joke when you're surrounded by a sea of blue and white at The War Memorial Arena at OnCenter in downtown Syracuse.

Typically, you'd find me in that sea of blue and white.

Growing up, I went to a great amount of hockey games, from AHL to NHL.

However, after I became a season ticket holder for the Crunch at age 16, I noticed something different about the crowds. Something I've never noticed before.

After a goal horn went off, the sea of blue and white would rise to its feet, shaking the arena.

Fans hugged other fans they didn't even know.

They shared high-fives and smiles. Multiple chants were heard, making sure the opposing team knew that they were in Syracuse and like mentioned earlier in this article, the city takes their hockey seriously.

At age 16, I found myself sitting in section 20 of the arena each Friday and Saturday night of the season.

Those people I hugged and high-fived eventually became my second family.

I wasn't the only one who had this thought process, either.

"[Hockey] gives people an outlet for almost every emotion, and even though you could be with thousands of strangers, it still feels like they are family. Being able to have someone to share the joys of victory and the agony of defeat with make it that more memorable," Syracuse Crunch fan and section 20 veteran Zak Warner said. "The people I've met through hockey are some of the most important people in

my life."

Hockey has the power to unite a city like nothing else can.

I've seen this with my own eyes. Whatever any fan is going through, they can step outside of the real world for a moment and step into the arena to forget about anything that's causing them stress and/or anxiety.

Everyone can be united as a whole, cheering for their team for a couple of hours.

I can clearly recall some of my worst days being fixed by sitting down in the arena and watching hockey.

It's not just a game, it's a passion.

A passion that not only runs through the veins of the biggest hockey fans, but passion that a whole city can get in on.

I can provide two examples here, with the first being that I've taken multiple people to their first hockey game.

No one has ever said it was boring, or that they didn't like it. Second, I've lived in a city



Players from the Syracuse Crunch celebrate a goal.

in which their team has made it to the Calder Cup Finals. When your city's team makes it into the finals, it is unification of a city to another extreme.

With that being said, after my spring break trip filled with as many hockey games I could fit in, I thought about the empty void in my hockey-dedicated heart that Albany couldn't fulfill.

After seeing what Syracuse hockey did for its city, I wish I was able to see what hockey did for Albany.

To provide some background, the Albany Devils of the AHL moved to Binghamton during the 2017-18 season, to fill the gap that the former Binghamton Senators left.

They were (and still are in Binghamton) the affiliate of the NHL's New Jersey Devils. The Albany Devils played their home games at the Times Union Center.

Maybe it's just me, but as I walked by the Times Union Center about a month ago, I felt a bit bummed. Maybe it was just me as a hockey fan, but that venue seems to be a great arena for hockey games.

Though the Albany Devils left due to having low attendance (it was reported that, during their last season in Albany, they had the lowest average attendance at their home games out of all the teams in the AHL), I think the city lost out on the amazing unification capability that hockey brings.

Of course, I'm not a Devils fan, but it sure would be nice to have some professional hockey in this city and I surely can't be the only one who feels this way.

Any city losing their team is almost always a misfortune.

Don't get your hopes up about a return, though. While teams have made comebacks to certain cities (often under a different name), the probability of an AHL team coming back to Albany is slim due to the low attendance rates they once had.

In conclusion, I will say this: if you've never been to a hockey game, go to one, even if you're not a fan.

I guarantee you'll have a memorable experience and it will open your eyes to a whole new definition of "unity."



Staff writer Lauren Kaszuba (left) sits with Syracuse Crunch fans at The War Memorial Arena at OnCenter.