Snow, Snow, and More Snow

By Roberta Lane

This year has been the snowiest on record; it seems the snow is never going to stop. On campus there are some mounds of snow that are piled more than 7 feet tall. Campus snow removal has tested the patience of students and staff.

Weather services are reporting the winter of 2010 - 2011 as shaping up to be one of the snowiest winters on record for residents on Long Island. Typical snowfall totals run an average 42 inches, as of February 1; totals have reached 52.9 inches this season.

On Groundhog Day, Punxsutawney Phil predicted that spring is just around the corner, yet on Long Island Groundhog Day with Malverne Mel was canceled. He never ventured outside his burrow due to inclement weather.

Officially, spring is still more than 6 weeks away. Long Islanders think the weather is more like SUNY Buffalo in upstate New York. Up and down the east coast cities are reporting record snowfalls.

The students are afraid the snow will never go away, and this is making them shudder.

FSC Professor Goes to Rwanda

By Nicole Beyer

Kathleen Casserly, a counselor in the Health and Wellness Center at FSC, took a trip with six other women to Rwanda. The women met in 2006 at a women’s conference and wanted to create a Long Island chapter of the Department of Peace. They now call themselves the Amahoro women, which means peace in Kinyarwanda, the language of Rwanda.

Casserly had become involved later on. “I just felt compelled to go,” she said. One woman she traveled with, Marie Ukeye, is from Rwanda. She suggested the trip and wanted to get back to her family and community. “We’re all activists interested in peace and healing,” said Casserly.

Ukeye was excited to show the women Rwanda. “My favorite moment was to see the Amahoro ladies discovering the Rwandese culture of love and hospitality,” said Ukeye. “Regardless of what the people of Rwanda went through, we still love one another and we open our homes and hearts to friends, friendship, and laughter,” said Ukeye. “It is not easy to know where family starts and where it ends, everyone is family and everyone is welcomed.”

The goal of the trip was to assess the needs of the women and children and then find a way to help. They network with people in need such as those traumatized by the genocide, those infected with HIV, and children caring for households. They visited an orphanage in Nyarugunga and a hospital in the Congo. The group also sponsors four students from Rwanda to go to college.

Casserly’s favorite part of the trip was seeing how physically beautiful Rwanda was as well as how open, forgiving, and warm the people were. “They are extremely generous in spirit; it was very inspiring,” said Casserly. She packed 15 deflated soccer balls to give to the children. When she gave her last one to a young boy she was worried his friend would get jealous. A woman there informed her they do not get jealous, he will simply be happy for his friend. Casserly found this inspirational. Although they have very little in Rwanda, Casserly felt they were happier than most Americans.

Students at FSC have found Casserly’s story moving. “I always find it inspiring that people can take time from their regular lives to help others thousands of miles away from comfort zones,” said Onochie Modebe, a student from Nigeria. “Being from Africa myself, just knowing that non-Africans

Continued on Page 4
Atomic Tom Plays at Farmingdale State College

By Matt Holder

On December 10, the alternative rock band Atomic Tom played a concert at Farmingdale State College. The concert was held in Roosevelt Hall’s Little Theater. The Brooklyn-based band performed the hit “Take Me Out” and other songs from their new album, The Moment.

The band Dance Party opened for Atomic Tom. “I thought the show was very entertaining and I enjoyed their music a lot,” said Farmingdale student Chrissy Watson. This was Atomic Tom’s first college appearance ever. “I never heard of Atomic Tom, but it was worth seeing them play music,” said student Anthony Cangiano.

The band began in a small apartment and their first record was recorded with microphones in the kitchen, bathtub, and wherever they could find room. “I am buying the album as soon as possible,” said Mike Cangiano. “Their music was very enjoyable.” Atomic Tom’s album, The Moment, was released on July 26, 2010, and is available for sale on iTunes for $7.99.

A Place for Veterans

By Daniel Rivette

Come spring of 2011, the second floor of Laffin Hall will become the home of one of Farmingdale College’s newest offices: the Office of Veterans Affairs. One of the most fascinating details about this project is that the staff is expected to be comprised of veterans. “Nobody understands veterans like veterans,” said the registrar office’s Cindy McCue and U.S. Army veteran Staff Sergeant Khabiyrat Smith. Indeed, the Vice President of Student Affairs, Dr. Tom Corti, knows this all too well. He too is a veteran.

There has been an exponential increase in the number of veterans attending and returning to school. Two reasons for this are the lack of jobs for individuals who do not hold degrees, regardless of their experience, and the generous changes to the G. I. Bill regarding how much tuition the Department of Veterans Affairs will cover.

“The new G. I. Bill has really increased our veteran population,” said McCue. Unit patches and all types of recent veteran-related items can be seen on students walking the halls of Farmingdale College buildings. Some students asked, “Are they all veterans?”

The Office of Veterans Affairs will go beyond the administrative side of the house, something the veteran’s representatives have wished they could do, but could not. They can help with housing and veteran benefits issues that no other department on campus is equipped to handle.

Dr. Corti said, “Studies have shown that student veterans are more likely to remain and feel connected to a college or university if they can network with other veterans who are employees.”

Veterans, regardless of their branch of their service, have a degree of silent understanding among one another.

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Dr. Vicki Janik
Chairperson of Professional Communications

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Parking Permit Problems

By Mark Sheiman

Regardless of the ownership of the vehicle, all staff and students who drive on campus must register their vehicles with the campus business office. Official college identification decals will be issued for the current academic year or summer session upon payment of a fee approved by the chancellor or (his) designee,” (Part 569.3 Registration Of the Farmingdale State College campus Guidelines).

The Farmingdale State Guidelines are signed by incoming students during orientation at FSC. However, as of Fall 2010 Semester, the process for registering your motor vehicle on campus has changed from past years. In the past, one had to go to the campus police station and fill out a form to receive a registration sticker on the spot. Starting in the Fall 2010 semester, persons to register their motor vehicles on the SUNY Farmingdale website under the parking section for a fee of $30.00.

SUNY Farmingdale student Fred Bauer said he had a difficult time acquiring a sticker online because the site states on the Farmingdale website “Sticker still valid,” making Bauer unable to purchase a new one for the current term.

Bauer then went to the campus police station to inquire about his problem where he was told to print the page that said he had a valid sticker and then he would be able to purchase a new sticker through the campus police.

After this occurred, Baer said, “This process was just made so difficult now this year. I have to go so far out of my way just so I won’t get a ticket for parking at a school I pay to attend.”

A new transfer student to this school, Faye Kudisch, said “I haven’t even been to the campus yet, and I received a sticker in the mail just by filling out my car’s information online, and I received the sticker in the mail within a week.” This was surprisingly easy for her as a new incoming student to the college.

According to the billing department in the Registrar’s Office, located in Laffin Hall, students had multiple issues with obtaining parking stickers.

“The majority of problems were with returning students who tried to get their stickers before the first day of school,” said one employee.

Another issue was that new students weren’t aware that you cannot pay for the sticker with a credit card at the campus police station.

“Since this was the first year to purchase parking stickers online, it was expected to have some minor problems.”

A new decade means new beginnings. In regard to Nold Hall, that includes the completion for its long overdue renovations.

Official renovations for the new and improved Nold Hall will begin after senior commencement in May 2011. “An estimate of $12 million dollars was put into re-building Nold Hall,” said Farmingdale Athletic Director Michael Harrington. A majority of the funding will be coming from state appropriation and school capital budget.

“The last renovations to Nold Hall were made back in the 1970’s and it was time to change things up,” said Vice President of Institutional Advancement Patrick Calabria.

Some of the renovation process for Nold Hall began when the school built the baseball field in 2007. In 2009, the school added an outdoor track field, new tennis courts, and a new turf soccer lacrosse field. “We are trying to bring a Division I look to a Division III school,” said Calabria.

“The renovations are going to be sick! Being that I work here almost every day, I am pumped to work in a new environment,” said Farmingdale Athletic Trainer/Facility Coordinator Shawn McNamara. McNamara has been working with Farmingdale for the past seven years.

The renovation of 2011 will entail new locker rooms for men and women, moving the equipment room from the back area of the building to the lobby area, and a new weight room facility. The indoor pool facility will be removed. In addition, the floor in the main basketball court will be replaced with a hardwood floor.

“The new hardwood floors in the basketball court are good because that’s what a basketball court is supposed to be made of; plus we won’t have players complaining about knee and back injuries,” said former Farmingdale basketball player Shahee Martin.

“These new renovations will bring more school spirit to the sports here at Farmingdale,” said senior point guard Jasmine Davis.
FOURbidden Loko

By Annie Greco

Four Loko, the alcoholic energy drink, also known to many as “blackout in a can,” despite its controversial ingredients, is purchased and enjoyed by many students at Farmingdale State.

The drink is said to have the equivalent of four cups of coffee and three bottles of beer all wrapped up into one colorful graffiti-covered can. Its name came from its original four ingredients which are alcohol, caffeine, and two acids found in all energy drinks—taurine and guarana. The dangerous part of that equation is caffeine. With the pressure of the Food and Drug Administration, politicians and several colleges, the makers of Four Loko, Phusion Projects, LLC, have agreed to stop manufacturing the drink with caffeine.

“The caffeine in these drinks can mask the signs of intoxication and lead people to drink more alcohol and become more intoxicated than they realize,” said N.Y. State Senator Charles Fuschillo Jr. Fuschillo said the FDA did the right thing by making it clear to the public and Phusion Projects just how lethal mixing these ingredients can be. But even though most students know the potential dangers, they drink Four Loko anyway.

“Everybody I know drinks it religiously,” said Frank Caccioppoli a Farmingdale State student who turned 21 last week. Caccioppoli, whose favorite flavor is lemonade, loves Four Loko because, “It gets you drunk really, really fast,” he said. Although he has never gotten ill from drinking it, he knows how dangerous it can be and agrees with the FDA that it should be taken off the shelves. But he will continue to drink it until it can no longer be purchased.

Caccioppoli isn’t alone. The Hess gas station on Route 110 in Farmingdale, across the street from Farmingdale State’s entrance can’t seem to keep enough of the popular drink in stock. Hess’s general manager, M. Yousuf Quadri, said, “It is very common for the young people to buy this drink because it is so cheap.” Hess sells one can for less than $3.00. Quadri follows the orders of his corporate offices. He is expecting an e-mail this week that will require him to empty his shelves of Four Loko and cease selling it. He realizes his sales are going to decrease substantially.

Despite the popularity of Four Loko among many students, there has not been an increase in alcohol related incidents on campus. Keri Donohue, a Farmingdale State University Police Officer said, “We’ve been really lucky and haven’t had any issues with students getting sick, or RA’s calling the station more often. I know a lot of other campuses have seen problems, but the students here are really good.”

Some students will not go near it. Basketball player, Angelique Thomas tries to stay away from sugary drinks like Four Loko. “There are just way too many weird things in it. I just don’t trust it,” she said. Thomas is not yet 21, but has many friends who drink it often.

Phusion Products has now stopped shipping Four Loko with caffeine to New York retailers after two years of distribution. In addition, they have agreed to fund alcohol awareness programs in order to educate consumers about the dangers of alcohol and binge drinking.

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Since 2006 the idea for a Student Center was brought up for discussion. Almost five years and $29 million dollars later, all funded by the state, the idea of the Center is coming to life. The Student Center is being funded through the State University Construction Fund (SUCF).

Money for these large projects comes from a central pool of capital funding in Albany, and is not a direct expense to the individual campus. The SUCF administers these contracts. Issues dealing with time frame, scheduling, and selection of contractors are procedures taken from NYS laws.

The Campus Center groundbreaking began at 11a.m. on Wednesday, October 13. Construction is expected to take 18-24 months and ideally, will open doors by fall 2012.

“I always considered a Student Center like a student’s living room,” said Dr. Tom Corti, Vice President for Student Affairs. “It will drastically and dramatically change the campus.” The Center will consist of a bookstore, one-price dining, buffet, lounge, and a multipurpose room that can be divided into three separate rooms. The old bookstore will be knocked down because it holds no historical value.

The staff parking lots by the old bookstore will be cleared and moved in front of Horton Hall.

Some disagree “It’s unnecessary because they already have all of that [bookstore, eating area, etc.] and it’s not going to be like students will go out of their way to attend this [the student center],” said Joe Kurtz, a 19-year-old transfer student from C.W. Post.

Others believe that the Student Center will help bring together the students and will serve as a relaxing place to go after class. “It will bring students together if they fill the lounge with entertainment,” said Brian Sullivan, a 19-year-old sophomore.

Dr. Corti wants to reach out to students and make them part of the interior decisions. He talks of having different furniture companies come in and having students make the final decision. Dr. Corti hopes that the Center will bring students together.

“It’s nice to come to a small campus and have a place to hang out. You can get lost in a big campus, but having a common place makes you feel a part of the school,” said Julianne Fairbrother, a 20-year-old transfer student from Hofstra University.

After construction on the Student Center is complete, construction on Conklin Hall will begin. An architectural firm has been selected. Representatives from the campus completed the consultant selection process last week.

It takes approximately 30 to 90 days for a contract to be executed with the selected firm through Albany. Once this process is complete the final design will begin, usually taking a year to complete. When the design is complete, a construction contract will be bid. When a construction contract is awarded, the renovations will start and take 18 months to a year to complete.

Conklin Hall will “create a true nucleus for student and staff dining and activities that are currently fractured about the campus,” said John Dzinanka, Director of the Physical Plant. This building will contain Student Activities offices, recreational spaces including a workout gym, lounge spaces, Student Government offices, and club spaces, all at an estimated amount of $6 million dollars.

Dzinanka believes that Farmingdale’s future has never been brighter. “Enrollment is strong, Albany is making a considerable investment in buildings and infrastructure, the quantity and quality of academic offerings continues to grow at a very healthy pace, and the student population is strong and has a high success rate after graduation. All very positive,” said Dzinanka.

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Sprinting Towards Success

By Alexandra Dauphin

This year the Women’s Indoor Track team is off to an exciting start. They have had two meets so far this season. The women’s team placed fourth of 16 teams to tie their highest relay carnival finish in school history. The team won one event, placed second in three, third in two others, and broke the sprint medley school record.

Sophomore Vicky Mandat ran fast enough to qualify for the national meet in the 60 m Hurdles. Her performance converted to 55 m for the NCAAs, resulted in a time of 8.50, which breaks her previous record.

Sophomore Corine Magee ran 7.67 to win the 60 m dash and qualified for the NCAAs for the second straight year. Her 60 m time converts to 55 m for the NCAAs, in a time of 7.12, which breaks her previous school record. Corine also broke her own school record to win the 200 m dash in an ECAC qualifying time of 25.95.

One of our new additions to the team is freshman Katherine Huskins 60.00 in the 200 meter which was her first time competing. She made the finals and was very excited. Her motto is “You are not finished when you lose, you are finished when you quit.”

Emmanuel Thervil, also a freshman at Farmingdale, said, “Milestones are at one stride at a time” about the winning season for the women’s track team.

Coach Minkof feels the women are having an excellent season thus far. He said they have had only two meets, but they are off to “[they] great start, and look forward to the rest of the season looking just as great.”
The Farmingdale State Rams Girls Softball team is motivated and ready to begin the 2011 Spring Season with their annual week long training in Orlando, Florida, on March 11. Their motivation for the 2011 season is anger.

“We are really angry and all we want to do is play softball,” said Nicole Farber, senior and player of the year in 2009 and 2010.

The Rams are one of the top two teams in Division III, but lost the Skyline Championship Series, 8-7, to rival Polytech in extra innings last season. “It’s one thing to be good; it’s another to play as a team. We shouldn’t have lost. We are a better team, but we weren’t there together,” said Farber.

The 2010 Rams had 34 wins with only 11 losses and ended the season breaking school records with most hits (438), most runs (350), and most home runs (46) in any single season.

Hope Zino pitched her first college game no hitter against Polytech in game one of the Skyline Championship, helping to win the game 11-0. “The team is just as strong, and we know what it’s like to lose, and we’re ready to take over in the conference,” said player Amanda Maass.

For Nicole Farber and other seniors, this is “last chance to win,” said Farber, and they are ready to bring their A games. For Farmingdale State students looking to be on the team, Coach Mooney invites them to try out. “We have 10 returning players and 4 new recruits,” said Coach Chris Mooney. “Anybody is welcome to try out,” added Mooney.

Their first game is at Farmingdale State on March 21 at 3:30 p.m. against Lehman College.

Farmingdale State’s Ice Hockey Club is ranked top five in the country. The 25 team members are very dedicated. While they receive money from student government, they each pay over $2,000 a year to play. The money goes towards travel, ice time, and uniforms.

The team has an automatic bid to go to Nationals this year in Holland, Michigan, since they have gone the past three years. But that doesn’t mean they have been slacking off. The team practices September through March with games on the weekend. They will be up against the number one team from the South along with Florida Gulf Coast, the team that beat them the past three years.

After losing last year by only one goal in the last minute, the team has been practicing extra hard with a lot of shooting drills. “We want to beat them this year,” said Dale Iannuzzi, a forward on the team. “We’re trying to make sure we’ll win this year. We’re doing as much as we can.”

After their first loss against Florida Gulf Coast, Captain Joe Mazzie could tell they were up against a hard team to beat. “That team’s gonna be a tough team the next couple of years,” said Mazzie after their first loss. Mazzie still feels confident the team will prevail this year with all the hard work and new additions to the team.

Mazzie was picked to play for a national league, and he is going to Europe this winter.

The ACHA Division III team takes the best players from across the country, and Mazzie was picked to be captain of their U.S.A. team.

“I was always taught that hockey is a privilege,” said Mazzie. “So this is just another privilege, to go out there and lead the team. I just want to make a lot of memories and friends. I’ll be playing for those that can’t.”
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<td>Indoor track at ECAC championships TBA</td>
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<td>13</td>
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<td>Men’s Golf at Spring Trip (March 16-20) TBA</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Men’s Lacrosse vs. Wesleyan 3:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Softball vs. Skidmore (Rebel Spring Games, FL) 3:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Women’s Lacrosse vs. Wesleyan 4:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Baseball vs. Mount Saint Vincent 12:00 p.m.</td>
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For more information and updates, visit www.farmingdalesports.com
By Onochie Modebe

MARCH

20

Softball vs. Lehman 3:30 p.m.
Softball vs. Lehman 5:30 p.m.
Softball vs. Merchant Marine 3:30 p.m.
Softball vs. Merchant Marine 5:30 p.m.

21

Men’s Tennis at Suffolk CC 4:00 p.m.

22

Men’s Lacrosse at Chris. Newport 4:00 p.m.

23

Mens Tennis at Purchase 5:00 p.m.

24

Softball vs. Staten Island 3:00 p.m.
Softball vs. Staten Island 5:00 p.m.

25

Baseball at Old Westbury 12:00 p.m.
Men’s Tennis at Mount Saint Mary 1:00 p.m.
Men’s Lacrosse at Vassar 2:00 p.m.
Baseball at Old Westbury 3:00 p.m.

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Softball vs. Sage 1:00 p.m.
Women’s Lacrosse at Bard 1:00 p.m.
Softball vs. Sage 3:00 p.m.

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Baseball vs. Purchase 12:00 p.m.
Baseball vs. Purchase 3:00 p.m.

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Women’s Lacrosse at Vassar 4:00 p.m.

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Baseball vs. Oneonta St. 3:30 p.m.

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Men’s Tennis vs. Brooklyn 4:00 p.m.

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Women’s Lacrosse vs. Mount Saint Vincent 4:00 pm
Softball vs. Ramapo 3:30 p.m.
Softball vs. Ramapo 5:30 p.m.

2011

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