

April 1, 2016
Volume 5 Issue 6



Observer

Bringing News Close to Home

EPIC RAP BATTLE

Brett Favre Returns?



OJ Simpson Case Update

Trump Building a Wall!?!?

Coverage of the new wall that is being built by Donald Trump



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Letter from the Editor

Dear Readers,

On behalf of the *Observer* staff, I would like to thank our readership for their continued support and sustained excitement for our monthly publication.

In the spirit of April Fool's Day, we made this issue lighthearted, humorous, and maybe even a bit *untrue*. As you read through this issue, try to distinguish between fact and fiction. To help you evaluate the credibility of what you read, we have included some useful tips on page 19. As a disclaimer, we would like to emphasize that no content is intended to offend, only to entertain.

So, in this mysterious and somewhat distorted *Observer*, I challenge you to not be gullible. Remain skeptical and read each and every article with a critical lense. When you think you have figured out what's fake and what's not, check the puzzle page to find out how discerning you were!

Have an idea for the paper?

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Mission & Vision

Bringing News Close to Home

Our mission as *The Alfred-Almond Observer* is to become a high quality source of informative and entertaining news that relates to the members of the Alfred-Almond community. The goal for the paper is to expand the knowledge of our readers and to contribute to the development of a more informed community.

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Announcements

By: Gracen VanDyke
- Copy Editor



On March 8, a group of Alfred Almond students went to Alfred University to attend Youth Summit. This event is designed to help young teens be informed about positive and negative health habits. It is a lesson to teens to keep their life on track and make wise decisions.

Spring Break! April 25-29

Have a fun, safe, and enjoyable break away from school!



Hot Dog Day April 30

Come out to the Alfred State campus in Alfred, N.Y. and treat yourself to a day full of activities starting at 9a.m. There will be music, amusement rides, crafts, a parade, many vendors and even a hot dog eating contest.



Project Prom Dress! April 20

Alfred State hosts a yearly prom dress collection and fundraiser for teenage girls in need of prom dresses. Come check it out, and see if you can find your prom dress for this year! 10 am- 2:30 pm in Pioneer Center. Any questiones can be emailed to: projectpromdress2013@gmail.com



Spring Fling! April 8

Come out and enjoy a spring dance at the school in the high school gym! It's sure to be a great way to spend a night with friends and music!



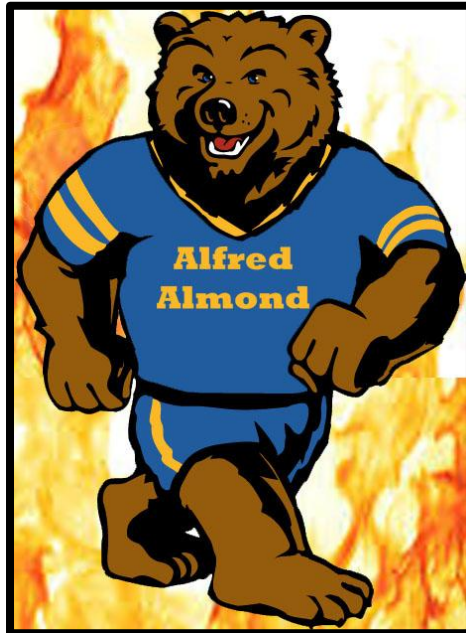


THE EAGLE HAS FLOWN

By: **Hannah Henderson**
Photo Editor

This past month, the Alfred-Almond administration received some tragic news; the Alfred-Almond mascot will be retired. A member of the World Society for the Protection of Animals spoke with the school's Board of Education about the new rules against using endangered species as mascots.

By 2018, Alfred-Almond will be introducing a new school mascot. The Alfred-Almond eagle will have the amazing opportunity to



How do you feel about the new mascot that will be appearing in 2019?

- ~ **Aven Sage**: "I think it is great and a welcome change to our school."
- ~ **Aeowyn Kendall**: "I don't really like the idea of the future mascot change because I like our mascot as the eagle because it is the same as the United States bird."
- ~ **Jarid Barron**: "The new mascot will make us look tougher, and it is also pretty decent."
- ~ **Alan Minder**: "I like the eagle so I don't want the mascot to change."
- ~ **Abby Fancher**: "I wouldn't like the mascot changed because the eagle is an Alfred-Almond tradition."
- ~ **Paige Schmidt**: "I think it will be an interesting change."
- ~ **James Steere**: "I don't like it because the eagle is more manly, and the bear is big and clumsy."
- ~ **Jordan Fleishman**: "I prefer the Eagle because we help stand for America and being the American Eagles."



cross the stage and graduate with the class of 2018. For the past 300 years, our student body has had the opportunity to create many memories with our beloved mascot, some of which are displayed on this page. What will the mighty eagle be replaced by? While there were several contenders for the position, Alfred-Almond will be home to the Alfred-Almond Bruins after the 2017-2018 school year.

THE ALFRED- ALMOND MASCOT WILL BE RETIRED!



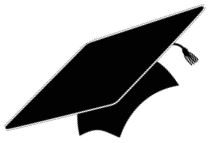
Photo Courtesy of Alcen



Photo Courtesy of Alcen



Photo Courtesy of Alcen



Third College to be Built in Alfred



By: Noah Holmok-Sports Advisor

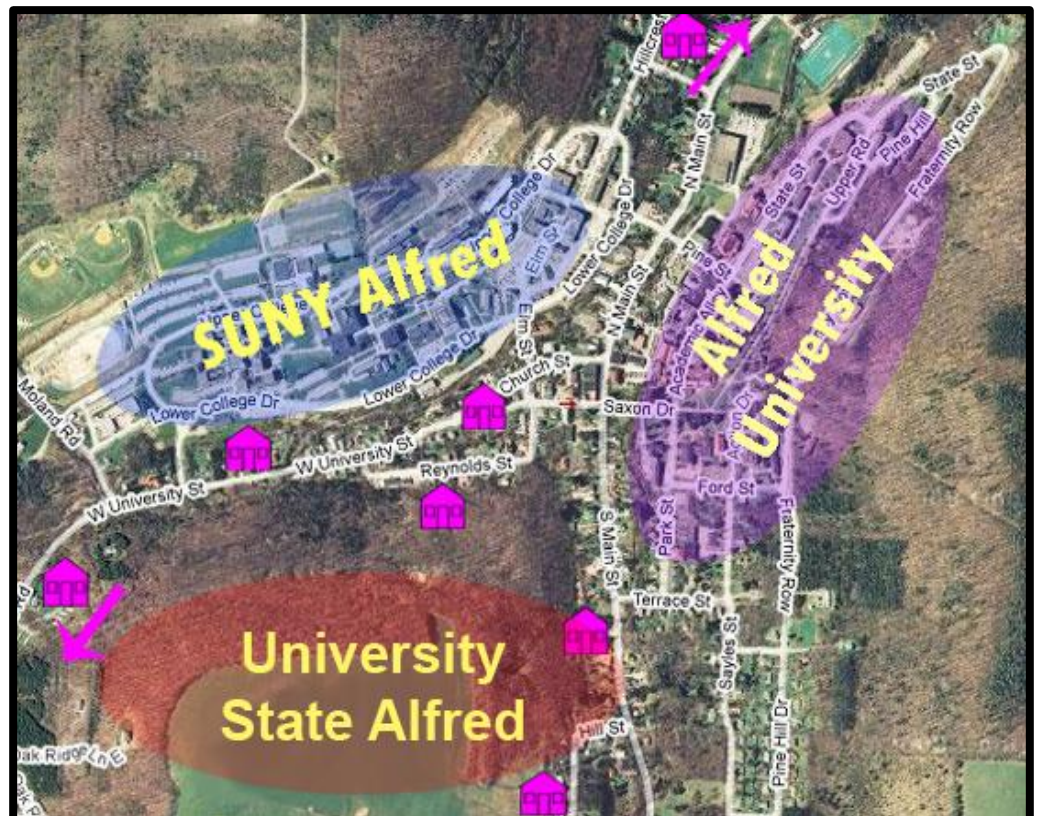
You thought two colleges were too many for a small town such as Alfred? Well you were wrong! Get ready for University State Alfred. The name may sound clunky, but that's to show that this new college is meant to have the best blend of the two other colleges. With the mix of Alfred's art programs and the quality of A-state's specialty programs such as nursing, the college will draw in just as many students as the other two. The real difference from the other colleges is that it will be a college that goes all year long, so students can graduate quickly and get into the real world with an education that is just as good, if not better, than other colleges.

You may ask, *where can you possibly fit a third college in such a small town?* Well the answer to that is the large fields just off the road of South Main Street. While currently, there is a farm there, the investors of the college are prepared to pay the owners a generous amount in order to support them for a lifetime. All of the animals will be safely transported to the Alfred State agricultural center. The college plans to be able to fully support students all year round, so the campus will include a grocery and clothing store. Also, its cafeteria will have several different chefs from around the globe to reach the taste of every student.

A possible problem that people may see with building a new college is that there is no room for students to live. Well, don't worry, because the founders have thought of this. They are going to build brand new dorms to house over 5,000 students. There will be a bathroom for every two students. The downside is that they will have to share a room, but on the brightside, the rooms will be 50% larger than that of Alfred State and Alfred University, so there will be plenty of room.

There will also be several sports teams for the new college, such as soccer, football, basketball, lacrosse, and any other

sport that can be played in or on the new gym and turf field being built. With the addition of sports a mascot is needed to support them. The founders of the new college voted and decided the mascot will be the hawk. The school colors will be silver, red, and white. Obviously the college can't just appear out of thin air so you can expect the new college of U.S.A. to be finished in the summer of 2018. So, if you're graduating in a few years or just looking to finish your college career, look no further than Alfred. I'm sure one of the three colleges can give you what you're looking for.



The new campus fits right in The red circle shows the area of U.S.A.
Original photo from alfredapartments.com



Volleyball Returns to AA



By: Elizabeth Allen - Staff Writer

Alfred-Almond's annual "Bump-a-Palooza" volleyball tournament is a popular event that several A-A students look forward to each year. The tournament raises hundreds of dollars for the Ronald McDonald house and is always a successful, fun, and exciting day for students and teachers. Many students enjoy the volleyball gym class unit over any other unit. Due to this sport's popularity among students, and with the support of donations made by staff members, the school has officially decided to add both boy's and girl's volleyball team to the Alfred-Almond sports program. Both teams will be added to the program next year; the girl's team in the fall of 2016 and the boy's team in the winter of the 2016-17 season.

The school's only concern is numbers - will there be enough interested students to create both a girls and boys volleyball team? With A-A having such a popular fall soccer season, the Board of Education debated on whether or not to add both a boys and girls team, or just a co-ed volleyball team in the world winter sports season. But after several meetings and debates, the Board came to the conclusion to add both teams to A-A's program, as long as

enough students are signed up to participate.

Alfred-Almond intends to make the volleyball team successful and enjoyable, while providing a competitive atmosphere for athletes and coaches. Another question many people are asking is, "Who is going to coach these teams?" Miss Reedy, a fourth and fifth grade special education teacher, has volunteered to coach the 2016 girls volleyball team. The A-A sports program is still in search of a boys varsity volleyball coach for the 2016-17 season. Applications are being accepted until September 19, 2016.

When asked, several students said they would be more than willing to switch from their current sport to the volleyball team next year. Both teams will be a part of the Steuben County league and will participate in

Class D1 sectional competition.

Other A-A coaches believe that the volleyball program will make a big impact on section V, and that a lot of the players here have the potential to contribute to a successful team.



Jake J. Going up for the dink
Photo courtesy of ALCEN

Local schools with volleyball teams that AA would potentially play against include:

Girls

Addison
Arkport
Avoca
Bolivar-Richburg
Campbell-Savona
Cuba-Rushford
Fillmore
Genesee-Valley
Hammondsport
Prattsburgh

Boys

Addison
Arkport
Avoca
Bolivar-Richburg
Campbell-Savona
Cuba-Rushford
Fillmore
Genesee-Valley
Hammondsport
Prattsburgh



BRETT FAVRE RETURNS

By: Levi Bayus - Photo Editor

Brett Favre was born in Gulfport, Mississippi, in 1969. He attended the University of Southern Mississippi where he had a very successful college football career. Brett set several school records and was drafted by the Atlanta Falcons in 1991, as the 33rd overall selection. After one season with the Falcons, Brett was traded to the Green Bay Packers. There, Favre went on to have 16 very successful and record breaking seasons. He led his team to two Super Bowls, including Super Bowl XXXI, where the Packers were victorious. Brett also became the first National Football League (NFL) player to win three straight MVP awards. While on his run with the Packers, Brett set the record for most consecutive games started, with 297 games. This streak started September 20, 1992 and ended on January 20, 2008. In 2008, the Packers traded Favre to the New York Jets where spent one season. Brett Favre ended his career with the Minnesota Vikings for two seasons. Brett Favre retired for good in January 2011. He finished with two NFL records, one in passing with 71,838 yards and one in touchdowns with 508. Favre was one of Green Bays greatest players and will be inducted into the Packers Hall of Fame in 2016. His number was retired in 2015.

After five years of retirement with plenty of commercials for Wrangler, Micro Touch, Tough Blades, Wix, and Copper Fit, Brett Favre is coming back to the NFL!



Youngster Brett Favre in his prime
Photo from jsonline.com



Arm of a God Brett Favre throwing a touchdown
Photo from officialbrettfavre.com



Hall of Fame Brett Favre will soon enter the NFL Hall of Fame
Photo from cbssports.com



Brett Favre has signed a new contract with the Pittsburgh Steelers as the back-up quarterback. He has agreed to a \$15 million contract over four years with \$5 million guaranteed. Brett says his arm feels "Better than ever" and he is looking forward to breaking more NFL records. Brett's biggest reason for signing is that he wants to reclaim his passing yards record that Peyton Manning had passed this last season. Brett also feels the Steelers have the best chance of

making the Super Bowl in next few years and he wants one more chance at winning the big game.

When asked for a reason why the Steelers signed Brett Favre they replied, "Brett has many years of experience and can act as a coaching player on and off the field." Brett showed great quickness, strength, and accuracy at his day in the NFL Combine. The Steelers have high hopes for Brett and believe he can help the organization get their seventh Super Bowl win.



O.J. Simpson Murder Case

By: Bailey Comer - Project Manager
1995

According to Doug Linder, an American author, the trial of Orenthal James Simpson was said to be a “trashy novel comes to life.” O.J. Simpson, the famous football star for teams USC, Buffalo Bills, and 49ers, had been acquitted of murdering his wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her acquaintance Ronald Goldman. With no evidence of a weapon, O.J. tried to argue that he had not killed either Nicole or Ronald, but his story just didn’t add up. O.J. had been ordered to pay compensatory damages of \$8.5 million, and punitive damages of \$25 million to the families of Nicole and Ronald. However, after one year, three months, and 20 days, O.J. walked away free of any charges.

2016

Members of the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) are now on their toes, as they were introduced to new evidence; a knife has recently been discovered on the, now demolished, property of O.J. Simpson. A construction worker found the knife and immediately turned the newly found evidence over to the 1995 case’s investigator.

After obtaining this new information, the current supervisor collected the knife and had a team begin to conduct DNA tests and any other evidence that could help solve the case. Norma Eisenman, a speaker for the LAPD, told *The Independent*: “We are confirming that conducting tests on a knife that was recovered.”

A murder weapon had not been found nor presented to the jury during the trial in 1995. Captain Andrew Neiman expressed that the forensics team is currently conducting tests and stated, “We [the LAPD forensics team] have to determine whether it is evidence or not.”

The police department is unsure of whether this is just a bogus story from a man who wanted attention, or if it truly is the weapon that was used to kill Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman.

Recently, Neiman has come to the conclusion that the discovery of the knife is quite a coincidence. There is a TV series documenting the facts and events of Simpson’s case. So of course, Neiman thought it coincidental that the knife was found during the middle of the popular TV series.

The Captain still believes there needs to be valid evidence to support this new finding, but the LAPD is ready to take the necessary actions to solve this case.



Photo from thetimes-tribune.com

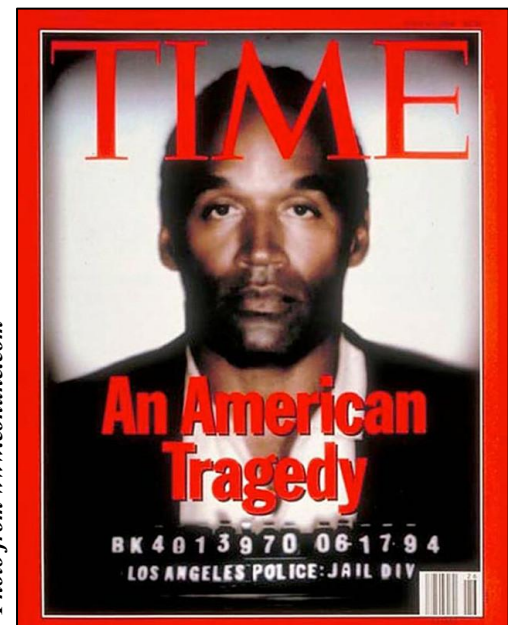


Photo from www.eonline.com

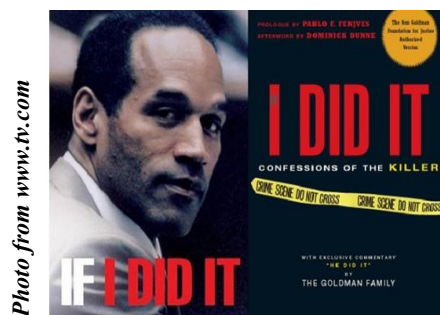


Photo from www.tv.com



By: Caitlin Cook - EIC

Just last year, presidential candidate Donald Trump made the statement, “I will build a great, great wall on our southern border, and I will make Mexico pay for that wall. Mark my words.” In just the past week, Trump has put his words into action. Construction of a wall has begun, not only where the U.S. is bordering Mexico, but also around the entire contiguous United States. Trump played a major part in the building of this wall. The presidential candidate started out his career with just a small one million dollar loan from his father, but it is now worth over eight billion dollars. He has generously forked over 500 million dollars, just a small chunk of his fortune, to put towards the cost of the wall.

The wall is a whopping 500 feet tall, and billions of cement blocks will be necessary for its production.

Originally, Trump stated that the wall would be around 55 feet tall, but he later decided that the United States needed *much* more protection. The wall was put up in an attempt to stop Mexicans from coming to the U.S. Trump claims a high amount of American violence and drug problems are a direct result of Mexican immigrants. In order to deter such immigrants from coming to our great nation, the only logical solution is to... well, build a wall.

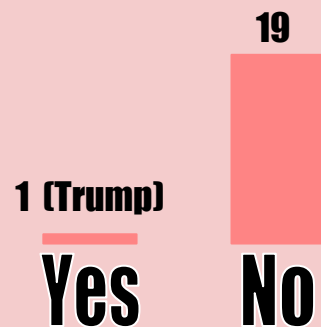
How do our southern neighbors feel about this development? According to Mexican government officials, President Enrique Peña Nieto is overjoyed, saying the “Trump Wall” will provide a much needed severance from the United States.

Nieto, along with government officials from our

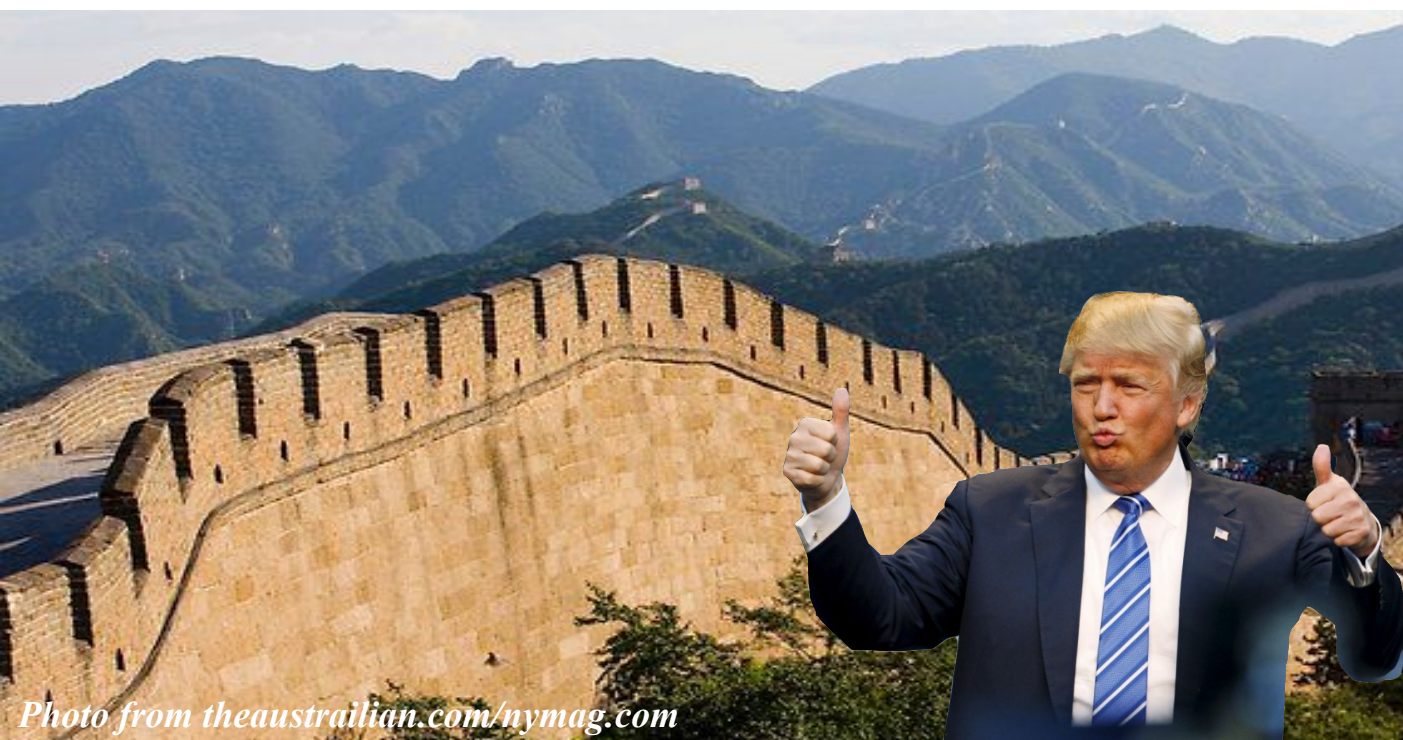
northern neighbor Canada, agree that the wall will prove useful if Trump is victorious in the 2016 election. Millions of dollars from both Mexico and Canada have been donated to the development of the wall, as both countries are extremely grateful for the partition from the United States that will occur as a result. Construction of the Trump Wall is expected to be completed by March of 2018.

Is the Trump Wall a good idea?

(This information was gathered from a survey of 20 random Americans)



TRUMP ACTUALLY BUILDS A WALL





EPIC RAP BATTLE

By: Joe Kenyon - Editor in Chief



DONALD TRUMP



KIM JONG UN



There has never been a more monumental rap battle than the one that took place last weekend between Donald Trump and Kim Jong Un.

Kim Jong Un, the leader of North Korea, was unexpectedly challenged to a rap battle by who else but presidential candidate, Donald Trump. Kim Jong Un did not want to seem like a "coward," so he accepted Trump's challenge and prepared for the battle.

Donald Trump and Kim Jong Un both began to get ready for this historic battle of free flowing. Trump hired tons of rappers including: Eminem, 50 Cent, Tupac, Vanilla Ice, Drake, and many more. Kim Jong Un only requested Katy Perry to help with his vocals because he felt confident in his rapping ability and just wanted to make sure his vocabulary was immense.

They both met in Detroit, Michigan on Eight Mile Road to begin the rap battle. After meeting, Donald Trump refused to shake Kim Jong Un's hand, out of disrespect, and then the rap battle began.

The beat dropped, and they both went at it. Donald Trump began with "Yo, I got a lot of money and some perfect hair, look at the size of my hands, there's no problem there." Kim Jong Un came back with an insult, saying "Trump you're a messed up chick, my rhymes are superb, and yours make me sick." After four hours of back and forth, Trump said "I'm sorry for what I said I didn't mean it, you're an inspiration to all, and I believe it." Kim replied "You'll never be this great, my flow is fire. I'll fly and I'll fly and always get higher."

Trump couldn't believe the outcome of the battle. He was heartbroken, and ran home to his mother and father. They wiped away his tears with \$100 bills, tucked him into his racecar bed, and told him a bedtime story until he fell asleep.

After his victory, Kim Jong Un went back to his mansion and was pampered by his maids, while he had a feast fit for a king. Kim later received a message from Malcom Turnbull, the leader of Australia, requesting another epic rap battle.



CRAPPY TRICK

By: Darnell Love Watson- Project Manager

The dung beetle is a beetle that is known for rolling dung (animal droppings) around on the ground. The dung beetle is found worldwide on all continents except Antarctica. Their habitats range from deserts to forests. A dung beetle uses the collected dung to feed from, and they also lay their eggs into it. The dung beetle belongs to one of three groups; the rollers, the tunnelers, and the dwellers. The rollers shape dung into the shape of a ball, and then roll it away so they can bury it. The tunnelers bury their dung by tunneling under the pile of dung. The dwellers live inside of the dung pile. Dung beetles feed on dung primarily from herbivores. Their larvae eat liquid dung while adults eat solid dung. Dung beetles come in various colors, but most are black.



The Ceratocaryum Argenteum Plant
Photo from sanbi.org

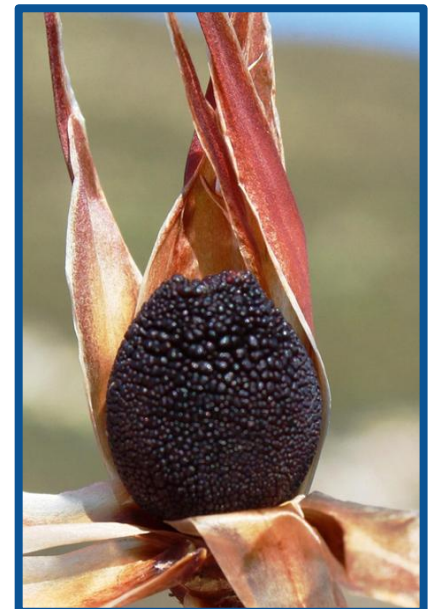
Most plants use wind, water, hitchhiking, or some type of luring method to spread their seeds, but not the Ceratocaryum Argenteum. The Ceratocaryum Argenteum is a plant that uses trickery to plant its seeds. The seed of the plant has a **HUGE** resemblance to an antelope dropping. The seed is the size and shape of antelope dung and it also smells like dung. The seed and dung have so much in common the seed tricks dung beetles into rolling it like dung. By rolling and burying the seed the dung beetle actually plants the seed. Now that is a *crappy* trick.



The Dung Beetle
Photo from naija247news.com



Photo from imgflip.com



Ceratocaryum Argenteum Seed
Photo from africageographic.com



The real thing

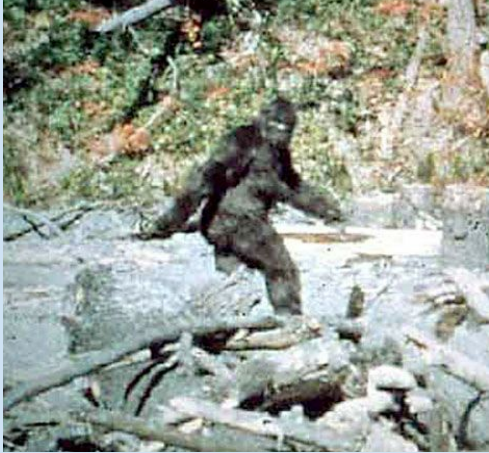
The trickster

The dupe

The Crappy Trick
Photo from sciencenews.org

Stuff that you probably didn't believe existed...

SASQUATCH SIGHTING?



Sasquatch Sighting *Gettin' some grub iPhone 6*

For decades, people from various countries, cities, villages, and pretty much everywhere else on planet earth have had a burning question on their minds, and are looking for answers. Does Sasquatch exist?

The very simple answer to this question is most certainly yes. There is a collection of first hand photos, and a large amount of legitimate research to support his existence. A majority of the people that watch *Finding BigFoot* on Animal Planet openly deny that the show is a complete set of false or "set up" recordings. If you don't believe that the BigFoot exists, why are you wasting your time watching the program?

You obviously know he exists. As a matter of fact, Sasquatch has recently been seen roaming around the state of New York. The picture above is Sasquatch himself sunbathing in the Cohocton River, which runs through Addison, NY. The picture was recovered further down the river alongside the mangled body of the unfortunate photographer who will remain nameless.

ALIENS ON EARTH...



Alien *Catchin' some rest Aliens.com*

Yes, you read the headline correctly. Aliens are in fact a very real entity, and are currently inhabiting the earth that we all live on! The question of aliens even being a real occurrence has been around since Columbus crossed the ocean blue back in the year of 1492.

We know this is true because Columbus himself recorded events in a personal journal that he brought with him. In his writings, there were sketches of small bodied figures with very large heads. This is truly solid evidence, and as of 2017, is going to be added into all world history books in the U.S.

You might be wondering about the photo above, and if it is legitimate. The answer is yes. This photo was taken with an iPhone 6S somewhere in California, and was uploaded to Google Images. You won't be able to find the picture online now because the president had it removed for confidential reasons.

By: Levi Lawrence
Advertising Manager

TRUE SIXTH SENSE!



Julia Green, *Doom-Sayer memegenerator.net*

Julia Green is a very rare individual. To the average person, she looks like every seven year old girl out there: small, full of energy, and innocent. However, she is very far from being innocent. When Julia was born, she was gifted with the ability to see into the future, except she doesn't need a crystal ball.

After interviewing little Julia myself over a delicious piece of cinnamon toast from the Collegiate restaurant in Alfred, I am completely convinced. This girl is no joke. The photo above is a selfie that Julia took at her friend's house in Canisteo.

About two hours before Julia went home, she told her friend that an electric line was going to fall on her house. Exactly two hours later, the line came crashing down, and the house went up in flames just seconds later! Just to rub in her fortune telling skills, Julia took her own picture by the house, and sent it to her friend. The photo was boastfully captioned, "I told you so!" What a handy skill to be able to look into the future. I would love to have this girl as a friend for sure!



Life Hacks

By Matty Mayes



Buy as many lottery tickets as you can afford in order to increase your chances.

Talk in emojis so the NSA doesn't know what you're saying.

Avoid wasting time brushing your teeth by adding toothpaste to your food.

If you see someone crying, ask if it's because of their haircut.

Save money on binoculars by just standing closer to the object you want to look at.

Forgot someone's name? Call them Muhammad. This is the most common name on the planet so your chances are good.

Glue a tiny mirror to your driver's licence picture. When you get pulled over and hand it to him the police officer will become confused and arrest himself.

Flat tire? Pop the other three tires and your car will drive like normal.

Double the battery life of your phone by not using it.

Add a touch of magic to your cold by putting glitter in your mouth before you sneeze.

Tired of boiling water? Boil a large amount of it at the beginning of the week and freeze it for later use.



By: Dylan Dirlam - Technology Advisor

In March, Disney released its latest movie, *Zootopia*. *Zootopia* is a fun animated movie for the whole family to enjoy. In a world full of walking and talking animals, a rabbit by the name of Judy Hopps pursues her dream of becoming the first rabbit in the police department of the city of Zootopia.

As the first rabbit to become a police officer, Judy is faced with many problems. Her first being that her skills are doubted by Chief Bogo, who is an African buffalo. He doubts her skills and capability to do the job due to her small size. With this uncertainty, Chief Bogo puts her on parking duty as her first task. That doesn't stop Judy's outgoing attitude, however, as she puts herself out in the world and attempts to solve the mystery of the missing-mammal epidemic.

Though *Zootopia* may seem like it's just a kids movie, it alludes to many social problems within the world. It faces the problems of stereotyping, corruption, and discrimination, amongst others.

The movie accurately portrays how many cities in today's times are put together. For example, throughout the film, the characters travel to different parts of the city known as "districts." The districts hold different types of animals like a tropical district, rodent district, and many others. These relate to how in modern society, there are different areas of cities where different ethnicities may tend to live.

On the issue of stereotyping, *Zootopia* does a great job at representing how it can affect people's lives. This is not only shown by Judy's challenges regarding her size, but also many other animals in *Zootopia*. In a scene during the movie, Nick Wilde, who is a fox, is told he is not allowed to purchase food from a store simply because he's a fox. This scene is a great example of what it is like to struggle with discrimination. The way that *Zootopia* incorporates these comparisons to the real world shows how an animated movie can truly have lots of meaning behind it.

Although *Zootopia* may be difficult to find in theaters now, I would highly recommend picking it up when it comes out on DVD during July of this year. I enjoyed every moment of the film and you will too.

Ratings

IMDb	8.4/10
Metacritic	78%
Rotten Tomatoes	99%

New York Times

"As the first rabbit police officer in *Zootopia*, Judy Hopps is stuck writing parking tickets, but the ambitious bunny pokes her nose into a missing-mammal epidemic."

Neil Genzlinger, New York Times

[Read the full review here.](#)

Washington Post

"The genius of *Zootopia* is that it works on two levels: it's both a timely and clever examination of the prejudices endemic to society and an entertaining, funny adventure about furry creatures."

Jen Chaney, Washington Post

[Read the full review here.](#)



Zootopia The *Zootopia* movie poster.
Image from disney.wikia.com



Judy and Nick Two of the main characters of *Zootopia*. Image from disney.wikia.com



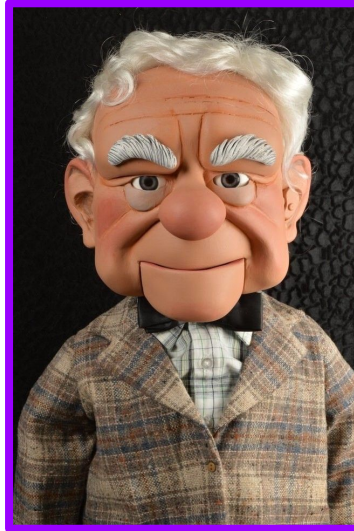
Paisley the ventriloquist!!

By:
Paige Schmidt
Staff Writer

Paisley Evans is an eighth grader who moved from Kansas City, Missouri, to Almond, New York about a month ago. Her family decided to move to New York to be closer to relatives. Paisley said "It's quite a change living in Almond as opposed to in a big city; I'm still trying to get used to living in a such a small town." Paisley finds Alfred - Almond to be a bit different from her old school. She said "It's a lot smaller than my school in Missouri."

Some of her hobbies include fishing, hiking, singing, performing for an audience, and making people laugh. The way Paisley makes people laugh is quite simple; all she needs is a puppet! Paisley became a ventriloquist because she found puppets fascinating. Her father, who is a comedian, encouraged her to pursue her passion. Paisley draws inspiration from Jeff Dunham, her favorite ventriloquist.

Paisley is part of a ventriloquy club. They meet once a week, and they call themselves *The Laughing Fools*. The main mission of the club is to work towards making audiences laugh and to enjoy the art of ventriloquism. Anyone is welcome to join or just sit in on a session. John Carter, the president of *The Laughing Fools* says, "If you are new to ventriloquism then joining this club will help you perfect all the essential skills that are necessary for this talent."



The Laughing Fools has been part of Paisley's life for the past five years. The club is extremely popular across the country, and the closest venue is located in Rochester, New York. Paisley hopes to start a local ventriloquy club, but has been too busy with school and settling from the move.

Miss Evans has five puppets that she uses for performances. Each puppet has its own personality and voice. "If they didn't have their own voice or personality, then there would be no point in having multiple puppets," says Paisley.

Her five puppets are Angelica, Wilbur, Alfred, James, and the Madd Hatter. When Paisley performs, she doesn't always use all five puppets. She uses Alfred most frequency during performances because he tends to be an audience favorite, however, Paisley's favorite is the Madd Hatter.

"Alfred's personality is very bipolar; he is either very sensitive or very harsh, it all depends on my mood that day. The Madd Hatter's personality is very fun and silly. He is my favorite because I have more freedom to play around with how strange he acts compared to the other puppets," explains Paisley.

Paisley's first performance since her arrival in Alfred - Almond will be at Alfred University's Powell Center on April 16. Come watch Paisley and her fabulous puppets!

Paisley's puppets!

Alfred, Angelica, and The Madd Hatter
Photos from [pinterest.com](https://www.pinterest.com) and [ebay.com](https://www.ebay.com)



By: Kelsey Cline - Design Manager

What should I do when there's a zombie apocalypse?
-The One Survivor

Dear One Survivor,

You need to make sure you are prepared for anything that could happen during a zombie apocalypse. The best way is to have an emergency supply kit prepared before the outbreak. Your kit should include food that's easy to eat and is non perishable, water, clothing that is bite proof, a tent, bedding, matches, batteries, tools and means to defend yourself. Don't forget a first aid kit and other first aid supplies.

You also need an emergency plan. Your emergency plan should include an escape plan so you will know where to go to find safety and shelter. It should also include who you will team up with for support when the time comes. Having a group or team will help to be more successful in finding life saving resources and defending yourselves. An emergency plan is important so there will be no hesitation on where to go and what to do for safety when the zombies do come.

Sincerely, the *Observer* staff

Where can I buy a peacock?
-Anonymous

Dear Anonymous,

There are many websites that have peacocks for sale. A simple Google search could help you find a hatchery. Depending on the breed and age of peacock you are looking for, the price could range from \$50 to \$200. There is even a breed that sells for upwards of \$600. Most of the time peacocks are sold in pairs.

There are many things that you need to take into consideration if you would like to own a peacock; you should do your research. They must have a lot of space to roam around, and have shelter where they can get warm. Peacocks can also be kept in a pen, so you would need the space to have a large enough shelter.

Sincerely, the *Observer* staff

My girlfriend just told me she's a tortoise, what should I do?
-Anonymous

Dear Anonymous,

First of all, is she really a tortoise? If she is, I would recommend you find a human girlfriend. If you are really that fond of her, even though she is a tortoise, then maybe you could keep her as a pet. Just be sure you treat her as an equal, of course...

If she is in fact *not* a tortoise, then you need to decide if you want to understand her belief that she is a tortoise or cut your losses and move on in life. It is important to remember that you should accept people for who they are and to not be judgemental of their life choices. On the other hand, nobody would really blame you for breaking up with a girl who thinks she is a tortoise...

Sincerely, the *Observer* staff

Have a question or need advice? Visit the link to submit a question to the *Observer* staff.

<http://goo.gl/forms/pVQ6sKKfyX>



April Birthdays

By: Kylie Faulkner - Copy Editor

Seniors with April birthdays were asked a series of questions in order for readers to get to know them better! Answers are provided below.

1. What kind of question would you ask the President?
2. What do you want to be when you grow up, and how did you decide?
3. What superpower do you wish you had and why?
4. If you had to be stuck somewhere for a year, where would it be and why?

Kelsey - April 1

"Do aliens exist?" "With what you know now, do you regret ever running for President?"

"I haven't figured out exactly what I want to do yet but I'm considering a career in psychology because I like to help people with their problems."

"I would like to be able to read people's minds. I feel like it would just be a benefit to know what everyone around you is thinking."

"Europe, so I could visit many different countries"

James - April 8

"What are your plans for economic growth and stability in my state?"

"Welding. I decided through job experience."

"I wish I could make nature grow instantaneously so that it can endure."

"Denver, Colorado. It's a beautiful city."



Photo courtesy of Kylie Faulkner

Justin - April 13

"What do you plan to do about ISIS?"

"Actor. It's what I am good at."

"Fly so I didn't have to drive"

"Texas because everything is bigger in Texas"

Alyssa - April 16

"If he has used every bathroom in the White House"

"After having some enjoyable experiences with my nurses at the hospital, I have decided to also be a nurse"

"Mindreader"

"Paris because I would like to sight-see"

Logan - April 26

"Why is he for the TPP?" "How are his daughters doing?"

"I decided it by choosing a job that follows my interest, a game designer"

"Cold War Era Soviet Russia"

"Montreal, Canada"



Batman v. Superman



By: Tyler Vecchio - Staff Writer

Setting: Metropolis

What could cause two superheroes to go against one another? One will have to watch the new film *Batman v. Superman* to find out. Starring Henry Cavill as Superman and Ben Affleck as Batman, the film is sure to amuse fans as characters must find a way to get over their differences in order to save Metropolis from Doomsday, a character created by Lex Luther. The movie won't be without Wonder Woman, played by Gal Gadot.

Batman v. Superman is set to be released in the United States on March 25, 2016 and is marked with a PG-13 rating.

Wellsville Showtimes:
April 1 - 7 (6:45pm - 9:30pm)

Geneseo Showtimes:
April 1 - 5 (6pm - 9pm)

Olean Showtimes:
April 1- 12 (6pm - 9pm)



Photo from moviepilot.com



Photo from IMDb.com

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

All acknowledgements are anonymous.

Thank You

Kids that egged
my house

Golden Girls' theme
song: "Thank you
for being a friend"

The Fairly Odd
Parents, for proving
magic is real

Michael
Jackson, for
the
moonwalk

Mom, for ignoring me
when I said you didn't
have to give me a
birthday gift

Eddie Hall, for
being a gigantic
man "World Record
Deadlifter" at 1,016
lbs

Ricky Bobby, for the
quote:
"If ya ain't first,
you're last"

Spongebob, for
giving me a
sense of humor

By
Brooke Jefferds
Public Relations Manager



Questioning Credibility?

These days, it seems like information is all around us. Between our devices and the internet, we have a wealth of knowledge at our fingertips. However, not everything we read and see is always true. It's up to us as individuals to evaluate a particular resource, using clues (and a little bit of common sense) to help us determine whether or not the information is **credible**. Below are several questions you can ask yourself when deciding what's true and what's not.

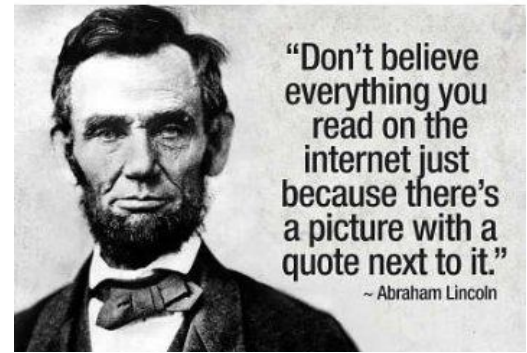


Image from relatably.com

1. What is the purpose of the information? Is it to inform? Persuade? Entertain?

Inform = Should include clear facts (Is the evidence backed up/from a reputable source? Is the author an expert? Does it sound like they did research?)

Persuade = This means an author is trying to convince you of something, which usually involves opinions. Are these opinions supported with evidence? Are both sides of the issue considered?

Entertain = If something is written in order to be entertaining, there is a chance that information may be exaggerated or skewed in order to appeal to a certain audience. It's always a good idea to check the facts.

2. Is the information you read considered fact, opinion, or propaganda?

3. Does the information appear to be well researched? Is clear, specific evidence used to back up claims?

Facts = You should be able to confirm facts through your own research/knowledge. Evidence and cited sources should be present.

Opinion = Is what you're reading a proven truth, or is it just the author's personal viewpoint?

Propaganda = This is used to persuade people to think or act a certain way. Remember to check the facts!

4. Are the sources of the information used clearly identified?

Information that has been well researched is usually specific and thorough. If details seem to be left out, or no proof is offered to support statements, then you should be wary.

5. Can you **verify** the information with your own knowledge or outside research?

Any time the source of information, quotes, facts, statistics, etc. is not directly provided, you should do more research/question the reliability.

6. Are there general statements that may be overstating or understating the issue?

It doesn't hurt to look for outside information! Look up the topic/fact that you are questioning, and get a "second" (or even third) opinion.

If broad, vague statements are being given instead of providing specifics, you may want to do more research.

7. Looking over the entire source, is there any indication that the information may be unreliable?

Are there any clues that the source is meant to be taken lightly? Is humor/satire included? Are there any disclaimers that accompany the information? If so, tread carefully.

In conclusion, while the internet can be a great source of information, it is always a good idea to be skeptical when viewing anything found online. Check the facts, use your best judgement, and take the time to evaluate the credibility of your source. Doing so will make you a responsible, critical digital citizen, rather than an [April] fool!

Puzzles Page!

By:
Michelle Feenaughty
Staff Writer

Happy April Fools
Day!

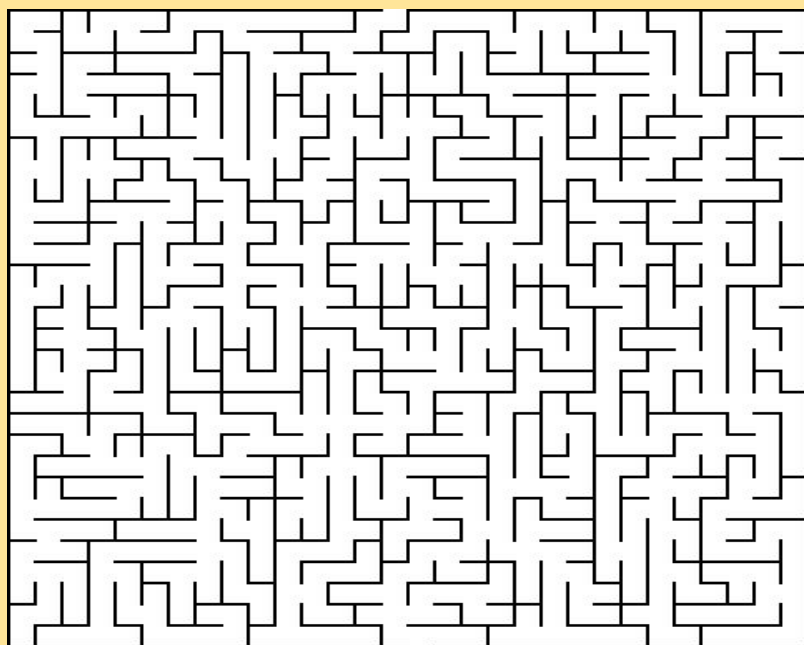
Can you find the
following items?

- ☐ 2 bananas
- ☐ 1 purple crown
- ☐ 6 pairs of eyes
- ☐ 4 Smiles
- ☐ 2 Balloons
- ☐ 6 Stars
- ☐ 3 Clowns
- ☐ 1 Hello Kitty Face
- ☐ 2 Chatty teeth
- ☐ 2 Ice cream cones
- ☐ 4 Hearts
- ☐ 1 Rubber Chicken

Image Credit : Amni K.



Finish



Start



In light of April Fools Day,
some of the articles in this issue
are completely made up. Were
you able to guess which ones?