



The Almanian

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Joyce Howarth and Bill Voska, juniors, sort clothing collected in pre-Christmas campaign of the Alma Christian Association. This drive is sponsored every year in an effort to provide needy migrant families with winter clothing.

A. C. A. Clothing Drive Succeeds

Sixty Families Helped Already This Semester

This year, as in the past, a drive has been in progress to collect clothing for the many needy Mexican families in this area. The response has been so satisfactory that at least sixty families have been provided with clothing this semester.

The Alma Christian Association, through one of its projects, made several boxes to collect contributions and then sorted, washed, and mended the clothing received. All remaining clothes are neatly stored on the third floor of Clizbe. Many families have been fitted at Clizbe, while others have received bundles which were boxed and delivered by students to their homes. The sizes and any other necessary information are secured from survey sheets provided by the sociology department.

This last Christmas Eve, two students interrupted their vacation for several hours to come back and distribute food, toys and clothing packages to approximately fifteen families.

A.C.A. and the sociology department have been working together successfully during the many unexpected emergencies that have occurred. This cooperation is greatly appreciated and necessary for success in the work.

It is hoped that you will continue to donate clothing and toys. The drive will go on all year, and clothing will gratefully be accepted at any time. There is an urgent need for children's wear and children's shoes at present.

The help which has been received from students, faculty, and townspeople in their generous donations is certainly appreciated by all those involved in this ceaseless work.

Debate Teams Travel to Chicago

Two Alma College teams participated in the University of Illinois undergraduate division debate tournament held at Navy Pier, Chicago on Saturday, December 13. Participating for Alma on the affirmative were Bill Franch and Gene Schnelz, on the negative were Ron Nicoson and Walter Lovell.

The affirmative team of Franch and Schnelz defeated Wheaton and Lake Forest while losing to the University of Illinois and Marquette. The negative team of Nicoson and Lovell defeated Notre Dame and Wayne University while losing to Lake Forest and the University of Wisconsin.

One hundred and fifty debaters participated, representing 28 colleges and universities. All debates were on the national intercollegiate debate question, "Resolved: That the Congress of the United States should enact a compulsory Fair Employment Practices Law."

Bob Wheatley Returns From Univ. of Edinburgh

Rev. Mr. Robert C. Wheatley, formerly assistant professor of religion at Alma College, has returned from Edinburgh, Scotland, with his wife, and is again in New York state. Mr. Wheatley went abroad to study at New College, Edinburgh University, which is a Presbyterian seminary. While abroad, he traveled in England and on the continent. A baby daughter was born to the Wheatleys while in Scotland.

State Pictorial Magazine Features Alma College

The current issue of the *Michigan Tradesman*, a publication dedicated to the state's business, devoted twelve pages of pictures and text to the story of Alma College. The rest of the issue also gave much space to the city of Alma itself, its schools, churches, and businesses. The front cover bore a picture of the Alma College chapel, and inside were pictures of all the faculty members, campus buildings, and pictures representative of college life. An editorial by the publisher gave high praise to the college and its Christian emphasis.

BULLETIN

The Alma Scots were defeated 72-50 by Central Michigan's Chippewas Wednesday night in the Chips' huge field house. The half-time score was 24-20, with the Scots on the lower end of the ledger. High scorers for Alma were George Fox with 18 and Gordie Macdonald following up with 12.

Coffee Cup Essays



Bill Farris

V — The Temple of Friendship

Among the more beautiful words in the English language, I would rank one which is the epitome of the good and true in life: friendship. Samuel Johnson has written: "Friendship, peculiar boon of Heaven, The noble mind's delight and pride, To men and angels only given, To all the lower world denied."

In the practical style in which Emerson did things, he wrote; "The only way to have a friend is to be one." Friendship is not only liking someone, it is the willingness to help and defend that someone when the hours of darkness come. True, sincere friendship springs from the Fountain of Spiritual Love, is nurtured by Hope, and lives through Tolerance and Understanding. Of all good things on earth, an honest friend, I think, is the best.

Emerson tells us in an essay that "there are two elements that go to the composition of friendship. These are Truth and Tenderness. With an honest friend there is no need to act; we can "let our hair down," if we so desire, and be as we really are. As for the element of tenderness, it need not be dainty; in fact it is much more sincere if it is not, but it is tenderness combined with the roughest courage.

I have spoken of one's willingness to help and to be a defense for those whom he calls his friends. Cicero, I feel, has stated this—and perhaps the whole conception of friendship—best in his "De Amicitia." He believes "that friendship can only exist among the good; for it is the part of a good man to observe these two rules in friendship . . ." His first rule is reflected by Emerson, for it is this: that nothing should be pretended; and secondly, that not only does he reprove charges against his friends, but is not suspicious himself. A suspicious mind has been the cause of unhappiness and disaster since the beginning of history.

Among the essays and books and poems written on this subject, there is a verse from Proverbs that expresses concretely the importance and the blessing of a good friend. "Take heed of thy friends. A faithful friend is a strong defence, and he that hath found such a one hath found a treasure."

Faithful friends are few, actually, and we must face the fact. There are those we like and associate with and whom we may call our friends, but when we need those persons most, there is no one about. Then, when everything seems hopeless, someone steps from the shadow, and we know there is one, at least, that we can count on.

It has always been my belief that the

No Fatal Resolutions Asked; Just Interest

The job of getting out this sheet is getting to be a bigger one that it is fun to face. The compliments are cozy, but even nice words are no more pleasing than nasty ones if they are not followed by interest and honest work. And very little work is being done; almost none at all that could be classed as "creative." So we admit that the stuff we've printed has not been verbally inspired; but we are waiting for the seers to sharpen their pencils if they are among us. There is room for any budding Pulitzer on the staff of the **Almanian**. There is also room upstairs in the library for typists and translators.

It may be that we need courses in journalism at Alma before this paper can take its place with the Albion **Pleiad** as a really worthy newspaper. Some think that the **Almanian** should devote itself to news if it is to accomplish this. Perhaps, then the establishment of a small literary quarterly or annual would encourage the campus aesthetes to agree. Some people like the new format, some do not. This controversy can be a sign of salutary interest in the progress of the paper. And some progress, we hope, is being made. (A friend advises that we not let our swan dive turn into a belly smacker.) The **Almanian** has begun to print something finer than the dim innuendoes of private half-jokes. The tragic flowers of the gabbies are still with us, stultifying us with their "true reflection of college life," but even their tediousness is waning. The insipid shall pass away!

The news style is picking up a professional tone, though we hope for a larger coverage. The feature writing has tried to be well-balanced, and the editorials have succeeded in being, if not literature at least unread. We trust that, in this environment, the sports coverage has been "well-received."

To begin a closing paragraph with a "let us then be up and doing" would be preachy. And it has been preached to us that we must not be preachy. But our optimism is flagging. Nothing can resurrect it but a show of adult interest, on the part of the student body, in the building of an outstanding school newspaper. Good resolutions would be fatal. All we ask is interest.

G.M.G.

greatest blessing of sincere friendship is that you have someone to whom you can tell your innermost secrets, someone who is both confessor and guide. In fact, the same person can rely on you. Shakespeare has written it this way:

"The friends thou hast and their adoption tried,
Grapple them to thy soul with hooks of steel."

Build upon a foundation of affection, crowned by understanding, and dedicated to service, the Temple of Friendship is erected as an everlasting symbol of man's humanity to man.

Looking Backward in the ALMANIAN

Tell me not in high-flown language
College life is all a snap!
For just when you want to slumber
Study breaks your peaceful nap.

Not enjoyment and not pleasure
Is our destined lot or way;
For the record of the class book
Finds us worse off every day.

Lives of freshmen all remind us
Things are green when in their prime,
All they lack is growth and culture
They'll come out all right some time.
—From the Feb, 1904 Almanian

Graduate Scholarships Are Worth Looking Into

For the past few weeks there have been many announcements of scholarships and assistantships being offered to those who are interested in doing graduate work in various universities around the country. Among those schools offering them are Ohio University, Pennsylvania University the University of California and the University of Detroit. Of special importance is the Danforth Foundation Fellowships, which can be used in any recognized graduate school. They are designed for the use of students who are preparing for college teaching and Christian service.

Besides the opportunity of studying in America's foremost universities, the scholarships award, in many cases, very generous financial grants to those students whose applications are accepted. More information about the scholarships mentioned above and others not listed, as well as applications for all of them, may be obtained by students in the office of Dean McKeefery or from Mrs. Johnson in the personnel office. New announcements of the scholarships arrive frequently and students interested in doing graduate work are asked to inquire about them.

The Almanian

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Charles R. Sligh, Jr.

Trustee Elected N.A.M. President

Charles R. Sligh, Jr., member of the board of trustees of Alma College, has been elected 1953 president of the National Association of Manufacturers.

Nationally known because of his feat of starting a business on a shoe-string and making a profit at the bottom of the depression—1933—the year that the industry as a whole suffered its greatest loss, Mr. Sligh is now president of four companies: Charles R. Sligh Co., Holland, Mich.; Sligh-Lowery Co., Zeeland, Mich.; Grand Rapids Chair Co., Grand Rapids, Mich.; and Sligh Furniture Show Rooms, Inc., New York City.

At 46, Mr. Sligh is the youngest NAM president in 30 years and the second youngest since the organization was founded in 1895. He was a regional vice-president in 1952, and has been a member of the board of directors since 1946.

Mr. Sligh is NAM's first "flying" president, with a log of more than 1,500 solo hours as a pilot.

He is NAM's first water-skiing president, having been that sport's national champion from 1941 through 1945.

He is NAM's first president from the furniture industry and its first president from Michigan.

Married in 1926, Mr. Sligh is the father of four children and has two grandchildren. His father was a builder of fine furniture, but that business failed after his death.

Mr. Sligh attended Colgate for a year after graduating from Grand Rapids high school. Quitting college to take a job,

young Sligh got into construction work as a laborer. His next job was as a blacksmith's helper in Tacoma, Washington. In 1927 he returned to Grand Rapids and became a laborer in his father's furniture factory. Next he went on the road as a salesman, and later became treasurer.

In 1933, Mr. Sligh and O. W. Lowry picked up a defunct company in Holland, Mich., and launched the Charles R. Sligh Co. They had \$14,000 capital, and the city agreed in view of the unemployment situation, to give them \$1 credit for every \$7 of payroll they created. Mr. Sligh's salary as president was \$35 a week. The company showed a profit the first year.

In 1940 Sligh and Lowry bought another company. In 1944 Mr. Sligh established the Grand Rapids Chair Co., to help furnish jobs for war veterans.

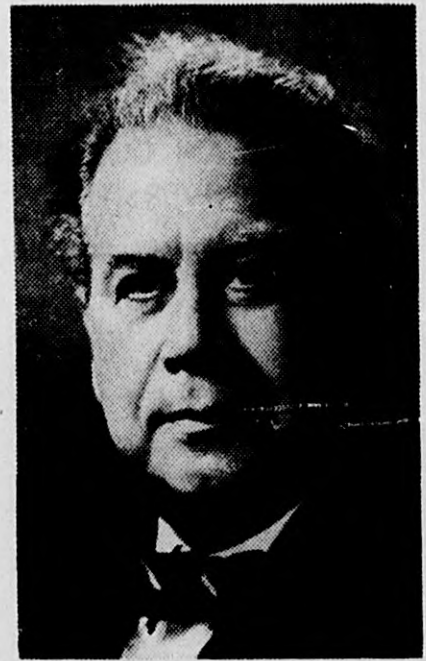
Mr. Sligh is a member of Grace Episcopal Church, Holland, Michigan, and an active worker in many church organizations. He is a past president of the Holland Chamber of Commerce and the Ottawa-Allegan Boy Scout Council. He has helped lead many community drives, and was especially active in Grand Rapids hospital building fund campaign in 1950.

Mademoiselle Editors Choose Six Best Women's Colleges

After several weeks of careful research, the editors of **Mademoiselle** magazine have chosen six women's colleges as being what they consider America's best institutions of higher education. They are: Bryn Mawr, Barnard, Radcliffe, Vassar, MacMurray and Mount Holyoke. The colleges were judged according to basic requirements for graduation, faculty members, and "atmosphere that's favorable to learning."

Robert H. Knapp, of Wesleyan University and chairman of the research committee, stated in his report that none of the colleges have national sororities. All but one are small liberal arts colleges, and all are privately controlled and non-denominational, though three were founded by church groups. Students are chosen not only for their scholastic aptitude and what they have learned, but also for what they are desiring to learn.

In summarizing his report, Mr. Knapp stated, "A college that turns out only five scholars is certain to turn out a hundred other graduates who are not afraid to ask questions and to learn, and to read: and I assure you that each of these schools turn out at least five true scholars every year."



Dr. Preston W. Bradley

Bradley Contest Gives \$100 in Prizes

Finals in the sixth annual Anna Elizabeth Bradley Oratorical contest for Alma College students will be held at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, January 20, in the college chapel. This contest has been endowed with \$100 annually by Preston W. Bradley, pastor of the People's Church of Chicago, in his mother's name. Dr. Bradley has for many years been one of the foremost Unitarian ministers in the country, and is the author of several books. He attended Alma College in 1905-6 and was a member of Phi Phi Alpha fraternity.

The women's preliminaries will be held on Tuesday, January 13, and the men's preliminaries will be held on Wednesday, January 14. Both of these contests will be held at 4 p.m. in room 100 in the administration building. Three finalists from each group will be chosen for the contest on January 20. This contest is open to the public without charge.

Judges for the finals will be Alfred Fortino, Kenneth Plaxton, and Mrs. Kenneth Montigel.

The prize money will be divided between the two divisions of the contest, the first, second, and third prizes in each section being \$25, \$15, and \$10 respectively.

Winners in the finals of each division will represent Alma at the state contest of the Michigan Intercollegiate Speech League on Friday, March 6, at Ferris Institute.

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Who's Who

IN AMERICAN COLLEGES
AND UNIVERSITIES



Lois Howell

by Jody Lilley

If I were asked to, I believe I could write a book about a certain petite and very active senior: Lois Howell. I am out of breath trying to keep up with her. I found her working on layout for the college yearbook, the **Scotsman**, of which she is the editor. She was in a hurry, for besides that job and her own class studies, she spends time practice teaching American literature at the high school.

A busy schedule is nothing unusual for Lois, however. In her freshman year, she was secretary-treasurer of her class. Last year she was an assistant editor of the **Almanian**. She has always been active in speech work, winning first place for two years in the college extempore contest and capturing first place for two years in the peace extempore contest held in Kalamazoo in 1952. As a debator, she was awarded a certificate for excellence at the state tournament last year, and has been pledged to Tau Kappa Alpha, national honorary speech fraternity.

Like most women, Lois likes to talk, but she usually has something to say. She has frequently been called upon to speak at social functions, and to be mistress of ceremonies. When she is not writing to her fiancée (that diamond is for real), she likes to curl up in her room on the fourth floor of Wright Hall with a book on psychology or a good murder mystery.

You may not have known it, but Lois shows talent in art and writing. Her interest in people is helpful in her chosen career, teaching English in high school. Here at Alma she has minored in French, science, and education, so she is well versed in many subjects.

West Branch high school can be very proud of its 1949 salutatorian, and Alma

Delt Data

Everyone survived even though several of our members do not yet realize it. Study habits reappeared after the annual gabfest on holiday activity. A few of the fellows seem to have been quite active. Bill Fretz' activity will be limited soon by a member of the fair sex.

Report came from the Newberry chapter of our fraternity that those members may be late on returning because of the expected late snowfall. Talcot is cracking the whip and his huskies and dog sled will be here this week.

Knobby returned after his southern tour. He didn't get a tan but his stiff neck has a new kink in it.

Fretz' hungry look returned as soon as Ron Black came back to the house. The Black bird has returned for the winter.

George Lawrence has left the ranks of the true bachelors and has set the date for some time in June.

KAPPA KAPERS

Finished unpacking yet? Thought I'd never get done. Santa certainly was wonderful to me. The best thing he left me was a bus ticket to Manistique. I hear I wasn't the only one traveling. Dee Combs took a little trip to Bay City where one Bob King lives. Ron Black visited the home of Toll House Cookies in Illinois. My comrade de chambre, Carole Cummings, went to Caro for Carole Rolf's wedding. These old K. I.'s are surely tying the knots.

Sunday night we sang congratulations and threw Jo Pruyne into the shower. She received a beautiful ring during the holidays.

Some people just have brains: can you imagine letting the water fill the Bendix and then opening the door and trying to shove your clothes in before the water comes rushing out? Luckily, everyone could swim! Poor Carole, not too many troubles!

If you hear some queer noises, it's just the Dog Pond of the second floor. Angie and Jo have quite a collection.

The K. I. Kalendar for '53 is really packed. The coming year is going to be eventful. The K. I.'s wish you a very Happy New Year.

Sig Sez

Well, well, well, here we are again after another vacation. Let's have a run-down of the sorority members since we left.

Tricia made the long trip to Texas and

college can be very proud of the only girl to be chosen to our "Who's Who" this year. It wouldn't surprise us to see Lois Ann Howell listed one day in "Who's Who in the United States," if she does as fine work after graduation as she has done at Alma College.

back without any excitement—she claims! Gordie, on New Year's Eve, apparently had a little trouble with a self-appointed policeman. She'll be glad to tell you all about it. In contrast to that excitement, Jeannie claims that she didn't do a thing up in the frozen north.

Bev, it seems, went to a couple of good parties. Lois traveled to Bay City; and Charlotte went to Mancelona. My, my, what a traveling group.

From all reports, Betty and Mary Alice were both very confident that the fleet was in, Betty with her sailor and M. A. with her coast guardsman.

Sue had quite a tame vacation, and Rick seems to have attended various parties. Then to prove that Christmas runs all year long, Kay got her Christmas present from Doug Monday—it came all the way from Korea.

PHI LIP

It was quite a vacation, and everybody has reported back. Some Phis are still limping and treating shoulder bruises. We hear that a meeting was held each morning at the Hazel Park post office.

Our new officers are: Sam Stafford, president; Larry Waggoner, vice president; Walt Roman, recording secretary; Bill Francis and Gene Schnelz, the corresponding secretaries.

Following this week's meeting, Gene Schnelz was given the traditional cold shower. Best wishes, Sally—the pin looks great on you.

We are proud of our Pheiffers. The first basketball game of the year looked good, and we are behind them all the way.

In the future look for the revealing of the date of "On the Town." Nobody should miss it.

We will see you at our open house on January 16.

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Prof Profile

DEAN, DOCTOR, AND DON



Dr. William J. McKeefery, his wife, Ruth, and two daughters, Virginia and Carol Ann.

by Grant Gallup

Dr. William James McKeefery is a man with an interesting and variegated history. He has had a remarkably unusual preparation for the particular Christian ministry which he has chosen, and as excellent as it is unusual. Born and raised in Philadelphia, he was a precocious young man. At the age of 13 he got his ham radio operator's license, and communicated in short wave with all five continents. At the age of 15 he was a junior member of the Franklin institute, a private scientific organization named for Benjamin Franklin. He graduated from high school as valedictorian of his class, and was offered scholarships to three different universities. He chose one for four years' study at the University of Pennsylvania. He received a B. S. degree there, with study concentrated on electrical engineering. He took so liberal a course, however, that he piled up 162 hours credit, though only 140 were required.

While in college he had a brief escapade into the field of the Thespian. When a New York company played **The Student Prince** in Philadelphia, it advertised for a substitute for a member of the cast who had become ill. Bill jumped at the chance, and

commuted to New York to fulfill the engagement. He later had a bit part in "Abe Lincoln in Illinois," on the same stage with the great Raymond Massey.

After college he worked for General Electric, taking two years of free advanced training at Schenectady, New York. Though he had grown up in the Church of the Brethren, young Bill became interested in a Presbyterian young people's group at the church of Dr. Herbert S. Mekeel (who was the Spiritual Emphasis Week speaker two years ago at Alma.) Bill was one of a quartet of young men, all engineers, who went out from that church and served as a singing-and-preaching unit; all four of the boys later entered some form of Christian service, two of them going as missionaries to Iran.

From Schenectady, the G. E. company sent him to Bridgeport, Connecticut, to work with radar. While there, he began to think of the importance of doing constructive things with peoples' lives, instead of work affiliated with war and destruction. When the opportunity came for him to go to Princeton, New Jersey, to teach naval officers the electronics of radar, he seized it, and became a member of the engineering staff of the university. He had in mind to take a Bachelor of Divinity degree at the seminary there, which he did in the short space of two years. Entering the navy, he was commissioned a chaplain, and spent 14 months aboard ship in the Pacific. After VJ day, he and a buddy drove to Alaska in a 1940 Ford, spending the nights in sleeping bags and the days in braving

the hazards of the new Alcan highway.

After Alaska, he enrolled at Columbia university to do research for his Ph.D., under the faculty of Philosophy and Pure Science. While in classes there he found himself continually sitting next to a young lady who was studying for a Master's degree in Christian education. The young lady became Ruth McKeefery on a day in June, 1948.

In the fall of that year the McKeeferys came to Alma, where W. J. was appointed assistant professor in the department of religion. For a while in 1949 Dr. McKeefery was doing the work of Dean of the College, Dean of Men, and Dean of Religion. This record should qualify him for a title like "the dean of deans," or "the dizzy dean."

At present, in addition to his fulltime position as Dean of the College, he is a coordinator for the liberal arts committee of the North Central Association, a job which takes him to various colleges all over the country. He is also teaching in the religion department. His classes, while sometimes difficult, are always interesting and popular.

He lives in one of the Georgian brick faculty homes west of Wright Hall, with his wife and their two daughters. He is however, personally building a home of his own in Scottis Heights. He has already built his own TV set.

Dr. McKeefery has been called one of the "brains" of the campus. That much is obvious from the foregoing. He is surely one of the most interesting and dynamic personalities at our college.

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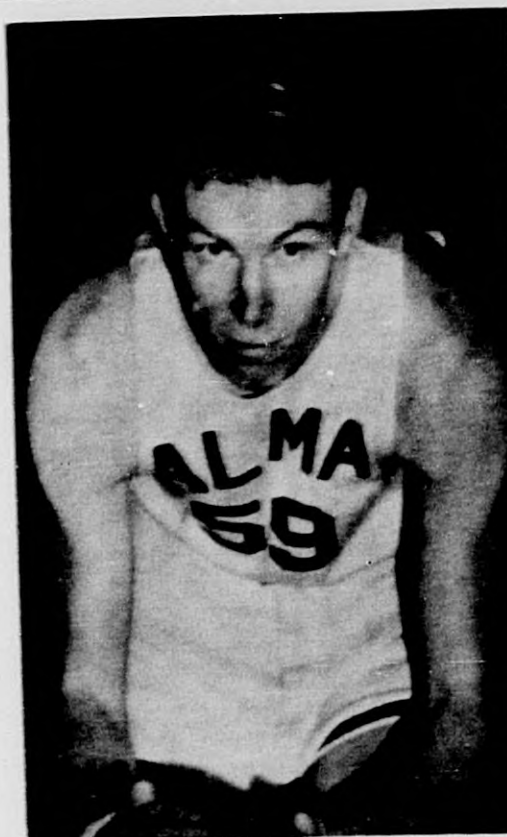
Hillsdale Quintet to Challenge Scots Tomorrow Night

This Saturday, January 10, the Hillsdale quintet will be here to challenge the strength of our freshman-packed team of Scots.

Although the Hillsdale squad has a comparatively veteran team, the spirit and hustle of the Scots can make a difference in any game. Hillsdale will probably be without the services of Walsh, their high scorer of last year's team. They hope that he will be available for the latter part of the season this year. They will miss him this Saturday!

The Scots, although winning only one game thus far, have been playing a better brand of basketball than their record indicates. The Scots have lost their first two starts in the MIAA, and should like to make Hillsdale their first victory in the league.

Coach Lawrence is pleased with the steady improvement of his crop of freshmen and will count on several of them in the game Saturday. There is a J. V. game at 8:15 and the varsity game at 8:00.



Scot Cagers

First of a Series

John Sawyer is the only first team veteran returning from last year's basketball squad. The lanky forward was a standout on defense for Coach Lawrence's 1951-2 quintet, not scoring often, but garnering a reputation for his rebound work and his hindrance to opponent shot-makers. Sawyer has been the top point-getter for Alma in two out of the first three games this season, thus proving his worth offensively.

The six-foot-two, one hundred sixty-five pounder came to Alma from Hazel Park High, where he played two years of varsity basketball, captaining the team in his last year. After scoring near the 200 point mark in his senior year he was picked on an All Southern Oakland County team chosen from among such class "A" schools as Ferndale, Royal Oak, and Berkley. Following his high school career he played two years for Gage and Drummy Oldsmobile, an independent class "A" team which won the championship of the Suburban "A" Loop.

John is in his third year of basketball for Alma, and also plays a little tennis on the side. His major is in economics, and he ultimately plans to become an accountant for some Detroit firm. The slim Sawyer has one more year of college competition before graduation day, and is a valuable asset to the college quintet.

Scots Nipped by Albion 62-57

The Alma basketball squad journeyed to Albion on the last day of school, before going home for vacation, and almost had a victory for a Christmas present.

Having lost two in succession, before the Albion game, the squad was all keyed up, and did play an exceptionally good ball game. The Scots played on even terms with Albion for the first quarter, but slipped a little in the second quarter to trail 36-28 at the intermission. Gordie Macdonald paced the scoring in the first half with twelve points.

The third quarter found the Albion quintet getting off to a flying start and piled up a 15-point advantage midway through the period, when Alma's Bud Miller started racking up the points to put Alma right back in the game. Miller's consistent scoring was a menace to Albion right to the last whistle. The Scots fought back to within only one point of the Albions, 56-55. Then, with but two minutes to play, a couple of foul shots and two baskets put Albion in front to stay, and the final score was 62-57 for Albion.

Alma had the high scorer for the game, Miller having rolled up 18 tallies. Porter was high for Albion with 17 points. Next to Miller in the scoring was Macdonald with 14, and Fox with 9 points.

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