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Anonymous Letter Attacks President

Administration, Students Meet for "Panel Discussion"

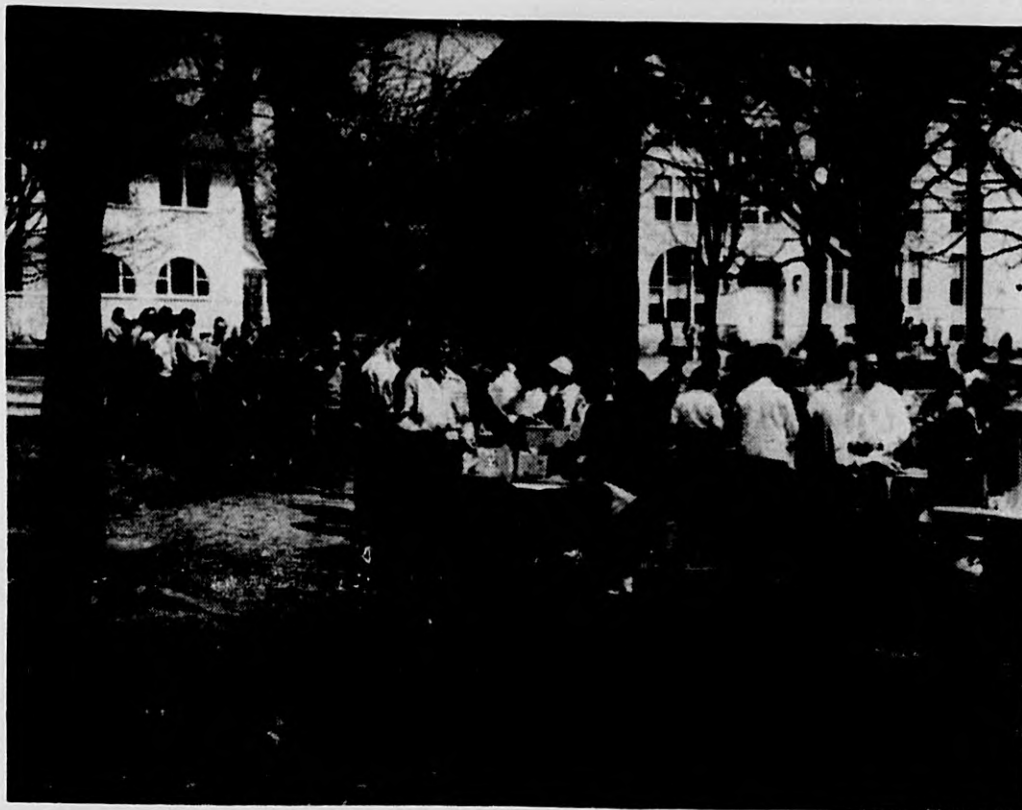
Almost simultaneously with the appearance of the last issue of the **Almanian**, there were distributed on campus copies of an anonymous letter to the Board of Trustees and the Women's Advisory Board. The letter, dated April 16, charged that "the essential fundamentals that this Christian College was based on have been sorely neglected."

The letter was mainly an attack upon certain statements in a brochure entitled, "Ivy Grows Here Too," which has been published in connection with the development program of the college. In the attack, it objected to removal of the chapel window to accommodate the new organ, to the losing of "a number" of faculty members "who are well loved and respected on campus," and to "the incorporation into the college curriculum of high school courses as Mathematics 01 and English 01." The letter also objected "that the present administration should take credit" for a student-purchased microfilm collection and for a policy of requiring activity units which "has been in effect for some years."

The most alarming thing in the letter probably was its assertion that "morale on the campus is at an all time low."

As a result of the tension and rumoring which followed in the wake of the publication of this letter, the Student Council and the Alma Christian Association, in constructive effort, jointly sponsored a meeting between students and members of the administration. The meeting, held Wednesday evening, April 22, was announced over the public address system in the dining hall shortly before six o'clock, and in about an hour over half the student body had gathered in the chapel to attend the session. The meeting was to have been a panel discussion, but it soon developed into a free-for-all question and answer period, with most of the questions directed to President Harker. Much of the discussion centered around issues mentioned in some way in the anonymous letter.

The meeting closed in a better spirit than that in which it convened, for the group of students and administrative officers sang together the "Alma Mater" and President Harker closed the meeting with prayer.



Students line up for picnic lunch in the Grove on Clean-Up Day, April 23, after spending the morning raking, spading, and cleaning up debris about the campus.

Clean-Up Tradition Revived on Campus

Alma College revived an old Campus day tradition on Thursday, April 23, in the form of a separate clean-up carnival. Classes were dismissed for the day, which began with a tour of Pat Shaw and Bob Kenrick in a sound car, awakening the campus neighborhood with invitations to breakfast. Breakfast was served late, from eight until nine o'clock, and the rest of the morning was spent in the cooperative efforts of students and faculty members to rake leaves, spade hedges, and pick up debris. Some groups worked in painting and cleaning laboratories and classrooms. Guile Graham, director of admissions, was busy with a color moving picture camera.

A picnic lunch was served in the Grove and a faculty-student softball game was held in the afternoon. In the evening the freshman class sponsored a dance at the Tyler center.

The tradition of cleaning up the campus and even planting trees was originally a part of student activity in the spring, formerly associated with Campus day.

The revival of the practice of student and faculty participation was a real success last week, and the good results will help future Student Councils with similar plans.

Seniors Submit New Exam Petition

The senior class has submitted a new petition to the faculty, requesting that all its members "be excused from final examinations, upon the discretion of each individual professor, in the courses in which they are enrolled, regardless of their averages."

A letter to Dr. W. J. McKeefery and the faculty, signed "The Senior Class of 1953," said in part that "at Alma College in the past there has not been much importance placed on final examinations as there are classes until 5:00 p. m. on Thursday and then finals begin at 8:00 a. m. on Friday, with as many as four scheduled for that day. This arrangement does not give sufficient time for adequate preparation, plus the fact that the assignments in the last week preceding finals are not lightened in any way."

Another of the reasons for the petition was that "a large majority of the men in the senior class have their deferments ending the first of June and would need that time between the closing of classes and graduation to get home and settle their personal affairs before entering into the service of their country."

News in Brief

Prizes Awarded Goodhousekeepers at Wright Hall Open House

Students and faculty members were welcomed at the Wright Hall Open House, held Sunday, April 26, from three to five in the afternoon. Refreshments were served to guests and prizes were awarded for the most ingeniously decorated, neatest, and homiest room on each floor of the residence hall. Winners of the prizes were Joan Case, second floor; Tricia Hewitt, third floor; and Marilyn Gordon and Alice Welsh, fourth floor. Judges were Mr. Harold Thompson, Miss Frances Hughes, and Mrs. Esther Vreeland.

Student Council Favors Seniors

The student council, meeting Tuesday evening, April 28, at the Tyler Center, voted to recommend that the faculty vote to grant the request of the senior class that its members be excused from final examinations at the discretion of the individual professors.

Alma Musicale Sponsors Scholarship Benefit Concert

Miss Frances Hughes and Mrs. Glen Stewart will appear in a duo piano recital sponsored by the Alma Musicale for music scholarship benefit. Proceeds of the concert will be used for scholarships at Alma college and at the Interlochen music camp. The recital will be held on Sunday, May 3, at 4:00 p. m. in the college chapel.

Tickets are available in the business office of the college and from members of the music department. Adult tickets are one dollar, and student tickets, sixty cents.

High School Forensic Contests Held Yesterday at Tyler Center

The region D speech contests of the Michigan high school forensic association were held at Alma college on Thursday, April 30, from 1 p. m. to 6 p. m. All contests were held in the auditorium of the Tyler student center.

Contests were held in declamation, with Bill Franch as chairman; in extempore speaking, with Lois Howell as chairman; in oratory, with Peggy Thibedeau as chairman; in interpretative reading, with Gene Schnelz as chairman; and in humorous reading, with Ron Nicoson as chairman. Judges for the contests were Dr. E. C. Beck and Professor Emil R. Pfister of Central Michigan college, and A. Westley Rowland, Alma college. Schools participating were Coleman, East Tawas, Elsie, Gladwin, Harrison, Hemlock, Reed City, Shepherd, St. Louis, and Whittemore.

THE EDITOR'S LETTERBOX

Wedding Invitation

Art Turner, '52, and Johann Jordan, who was a student at Alma last year, wish the **Almanian** to share with the entire Alma college community the following invitation to their wedding:

Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Paul Jordan request the honor of your presence at the marriage of their daughter Johann May to Mr. Arthur Edward Turner on Sunday, the tenth of May, nineteen hundred fifty-three, Alma College Chapel, Alma, Michigan.

Art is associated with Mr. Guile Graham in Alma college promotion, with headquarters in Detroit, where the couple will make their home.

Woman Is Hired as Associate Math Professor

Miss Helen M. Heater, of Weston, West Virginia, will become Associate Professor in Mathematics at Alma college in September of this year. Both she and Professor Clack will teach next semester.

Miss Heater has both M.A. and M.S. degrees, which she received from West Virginia university at Morgantown, and she has completed all the work on her Ph. D. at the University of Michigan, except for her thesis, which she is currently writing.

She has taught engineering students and was a Link trainer operator during the war at the Naval training stations at Atlanta, Georgia, and Pensacola, Florida. Since 1952 she has been a teaching fellow at the University of Michigan.

She is a member of Sigma Xi, Kappa Delt Pi, Pi Lambda Theta, and Alpha Psi Omega.

Freshmen Please Note

The next issue of the **Almanian** will be the campus day edition, traditionally written and edited by the freshmen. Gene Pattison has been invited to be guest editor this year. Freshmen who want to help out with this issue should see Gene as soon as possible for an assignment.

The Almanian

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EDITORIAL

"Hamilton! Thou shouldst be living at this hour! Alma hath need of thee!"

The campus had a good emotional outlet in the meeting between students and the administration held last week in the chapel. The exhaustion of all that hot air, however, by no means left the orators in a vacuum where opinions no longer exist. The issues remain, and the meeting merely left them etched in clearer detail. Enter: the matter of personalities.

It is quite natural that some folks want to leave personalities out of the discussions, because personalities after all constitute the problem, and to overlook them is conveniently to overlook the major issue.

Personalities, according to our philosopher, come in patterns, and so long as the personality can recognize its faults and either work to change the pattern or learn to live more maturely within its framework, the personality remains helpful and useful in its environment. When it ceases to do so, and turns to irrational devices, that is no longer true.

The day of leadership by fiat is almost over everywhere; we should favor its demise here. Courageous leadership, yes, but founded upon intellectual and ethical superiority. Behind such leadership the faculty and students would quickly rally. Just now it is folly to suppose a wholly united front on this campus, though, for the sake of the future, we sincerely hope for it, and pledge to work for it. Pietistic banalities, however, do not accomplish Christian higher education, and bludgeoning students and faculty into unanimity of opinion and intellectual philosophy will not accomplish a good united front; that kind of united front would not be worth having. The college would have ceased to serve the purpose for which educational institutions exist.

A college whose motto is so fine and basic as "In the Name of God, Amen," ought to have no real qualms about riding out this teapot tempest, that is true, but it is not true that if we ignore the problems they will silently steal away.

"Oh! raise us up, return to us again, and give us manners, virtue, freedom, power!"

Tyler Center Dedication Set

Dr. and Mrs. Leon L. Tyler Will Attend May 12 Service

Dr. and Mrs. Leon L. Tyler, donors of the new Jerry Tyler Student Center, have returned to their home in Niles, Michigan, after a winter in Florida, and will be present for the formal service of dedication of the building on May 12, at two in the afternoon.

The service has purposely been set on the day when the Board of Trustees and the Women's Advisory Board meetings will be held on campus. A joint luncheon for the Trustees and their wives, the Women's Advisory Board and their husbands, and faculty members and their wives, will be held at 12:30 in the basement of the chapel.

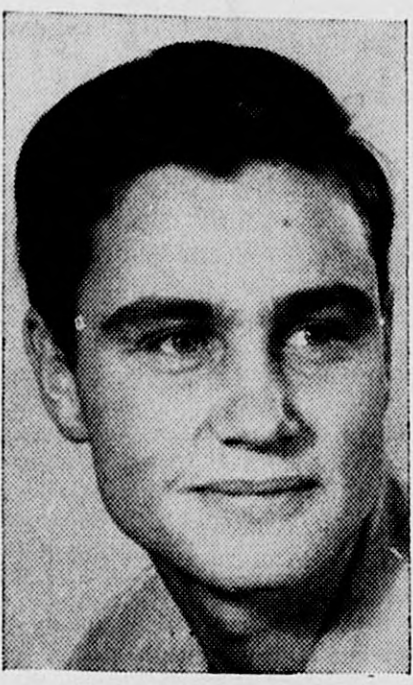
In accordance with Dr. Tyler's request that the dedication be a religious service, Dr. Ross Miller, dean of the chapel, has arranged the service, with ministers from the faculty participating. They include Dr. Robert W. Clack, Dr. W. J. McKeefer, Dr. Joseph R. Harris, and Dr. Claude D. Dicks. The prelude will be played by Mrs. Mae Nelson Stewart, who will also accompany the singing of the Alma Mater. The A Cappella choir, under the direction of Professor Eugene F. Grove, will sing two numbers, **Credo** (The Nicene Creed), by Gretchaninoff, in which Phillip Long, base-baritone, will sing the solo part, and **Arise, O God, and Show Thy Might**, by Haydn Morgan.

Dr. Leon L. Tyler will make the presentation of the building, with responses from the trustees by Dr. Stephen Nisbet, chairman of the board, from the faculty by Dr. John Stanley Harker, and from students by Robert A. Willits, president of the Student Council.

A brief dedicatory address will be delivered by Dr. Henry W. Fischer, a trustee of the college, and pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Saginaw.

Alumni Clubs Meet Throughout Michigan

During the past three weeks, alumni association meetings have been held in Alma, Bad Axe, Alpena, Lansing and Detroit. The largest meeting was held in Detroit on April 24, where, under the guidance of the Detroit club president, Dr. W. Victor Crittenden, 150 alumni gathered at the Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian church. President Harker addressed this and the other alumni groups to explain the Alma college development program, and Mr. Guile Graham attended the meetings to show colored films of recent campus activities.



Gene Schnelz, Hazel Park

Gene Schnelz Elected Nat'l Pres. of TKA

Gene Schnelz, outstanding Alma college debater, was elected national student council president of Tau Kappa Alpha, honorary speech fraternity. The election took place at the thirteenth annual TKA national conference, held at the University of Denver, in Colorado, on April 23, 24, and 25. The society is composed of 95 chapters, including some of the largest universities and colleges in the country.

Five Alma college students participated in the conference, including: Gene Schnelz, Hazel Park, Bill Franch, Ionia, Ron Nicolson, Owosso; Lois Howell, West Branch; and David Cornell, Custer.

The debate team of Schnelz and Franch defeated the University of New Mexico and Indiana State Teachers college while losing to Southern Methodist university, Montana State university, and Alabama Polytechnic institute. Schnelz and Franch were the only team to defeat the University of New Mexico.

Participating in a group of thirty extempore speakers, Lois Howell achieved a rating of ninth. Miss Howell was the highest rated woman in the national conference in extempore speaking.

In the field of discussion, Ron Nicolson was rated one of the highest ten participants and was awarded a Wachtel certificate for excellence in discussion.

One hundred and nine students participated, representing 23 colleges and universities.

As national president of the national student council of TKA, Mr. Schnelz will preside over the national congress which will be held next spring. As a part of his duties, he will be a member of the national council which meets next December in New York.

WSSF Drive Opens With Carnival

Speaking in chapel last Monday morning at eleven o'clock, Miss Mary Pat Dowl of Michigan State college gave the first invitation for student participation in the annual drive for contributions to the World Student Service Fund. Her subject was "Your Part in WSSF." She described the needs of students in destitute university and college communities everywhere overseas, and emphasized the importance of any contributions that students in America can make, through World Student Service Fund, to the World University Service. She read a letter from President Eisenhower which heartily endorses the work of the WSSF.

This year, the drive for funds is being spread over three separate weeks, in the hope that a goal of \$200 to \$250 can be raised. Last year, the campus drive raised \$179.

On Wednesday a carnival sponsored by the various campus organizations was held in the basement of the chapel. The second major event will be held on May 6, when a Variety Show will be presented, and the third event will be on May 13, when the A. C. A. sponsors the annual faculty auction in the basement of the chapel.

Chairman for World Student Service Fund is Judson Joyce. Sub-chairmen are Sue Hopson, Barbara Hoeflin, and Paul Finchem.

Eight More Seniors Placed in Teaching Jobs

Professor Harlan McCall, in charge of placement, released the names of eight more seniors who have been placed in teaching jobs.

Bob Bacon, Farmington, has accepted the position of assistant football coach, and tennis coach at Traverse City. He will also teach social studies.

John ("Mike") Bramble, Dimondale, will teach history at Austin. George Lawrence, Palmyra, N. Y., has signed to coach and teach in the junior high school at Charlotte. Frank ("Pete") Martin will coach and teach social studies at Akron. Richard Moore will teach junior high at the Atherton school, Flint.

Barbara Lawrence, Flint, will teach first grade in Royal Oak. Dolores Metcalf, Detroit, will teach early elementary in Berkely. Anne Gettel, Bay Port, will teach home economics at Lakeview high school.

SINGER SEWING CENTER
301 East Superior 1268 Phone

A Symposium of Campus Opinion

EDITORIAL

It would be unfair to the student body and to the constituency of the college to permit the events of the past few weeks to go undocumented in the student newspaper. But in reporting the newsworthy aspects of the controversy which has been and is taking place, the truth must be separated from the fiction, and facts and opinions carefully labeled in separate columns.

In order to accurately and impartially represent the thinking and feeling of the student body, the editor has invited various campus leaders, and some students chosen at random to write their answers to a provocative question.

"What steps, in your opinion, should be taken toward the reestablishment of a wholesome school spirit?"

Contributions to this symposium of opinion were requested of presidents of all classes, the president and members of the Student Council, and all students listed in "Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities." In addition, a number of students were invited at random to submit replies.

If Alma college were noted as the best small college in the U.S.A. all would be proud of her. I say that with the students we have, we can make Alma nearly the best.

Everyone knows that when team spirit reaches its peak, things are done that were thought impossible. These apparent impossibilities can be accomplished on the campus as a whole, as well as on the football field or any sports field. The most insignificant student may become one of the most noticed, and things that are or seem bad may be made good.

Only when a person completely understands a thing can he be all for it or all against it. So, I say, educate every student to every action that is behind the functioning of Alma. Explain the job of every officer from the members of the board of trustees, president and vice-president, down through the director of admissions, business manager, etc. This will aid the executives through the students, and vice versa.

Then when the students see something in the college that to them looks bad, instead

of turning their backs, they can offer suggestions for improvements and play their adult role as adults rather than being treated as naive kids in short pants.

I seriously believe that in this way spirit could be built, and so could Alma.

Suggestion: that chapel services be used for informing students.

Eldon Bailey

Eldon Bailey is president of the junior class.

* * *

To the Editor:

The topic of discussion is what can be done about school spirit. The situation now present on the Alma campus is far from being healthy, both from the standpoint of the students and the faculty.

School "spirit" of course goes much deeper than the cheering of a crowd at a football game. It is actually the total attitude of students, faculty and administrative officers.



As things stand now, we are all divided on certain issues, and the whole of the problem has centered about the person of the president.

The student position in

such a situation is a difficult one. There is very little that we can do as one individual. It has already been proved that discussion accomplishes nothing.

To those who have the best interests of the school at heart, a certain narrow choice is evident. The alternatives are:

1. Support the president and hope things can be worked out for the best.
2. Support the resignation of the president, and assume that Alma will become unified.

The ultimate decision rests with the Board of Trustees. It is my hope, however, that the Board will weigh its decision carefully. Things, as they exist, are wrong. If they continue, Alma will not only lose faculty members but students as well.

The only thing that can aid the Board in making its decision is **complete** honesty on the part of the President, the faculty, and the students.

Let's face it, Alma College is at stake. The Board has an obligation to do justice in making the choice.

Sincerely,
Donald H. Gordon

Donald H. Gordon is president of the Alma Christian Association.

* * *

Has Alma lost its spirit? No! Recent events proved by the sheer numbers of students involved that a strong spirit exists. But nothing can destroy a healthy spirit more quickly than party politics. We can do very nicely without a Civil War. If we must act, let's do it on facts, not rumors. Keep informed.

Al Bowman

What steps should be taken toward the re-establishment of a wholesome school spirit? The union of all students in a common cause: the creation of greater friendliness and the end of "unfounded" gossip. The maintenance of a practicality: a greater Alma college.

How this can be accomplished in the



present situation, what practical steps can be taken, I do not know; but as someone has put it, crudely but effectively, "What is done in the dark will come to light." Let's work toward the

Common Cause, but also let's maintain a semblance of propriety. If commitments have been made, it's too late for the leopard to change its spots.

If a change is needed, let that happen also. But Evolution may be the process. Let's hope that whatever happens promotes the highest good of Alma college. Pity any adverse effects!

Nelson Ray

Nelson Ray is president of the senior class.

* * *

Alma College . . . "Where friendliness links learning to living." This phrase has been the expression of life at Alma College for years, and has become not only a tradition, but a distinguishing feature of Alma College which sets it apart from other Michigan colleges. At the present time this "Spirit of Friendliness" is being threatened by malicious and sometimes unfounded gossip. The student body is forcing itself into rival camps and thus creating a definite spirit of "Unfriendliness" which may become the prevailing atmosphere at Alma College. In my opinion the spirit of friendliness at Alma among the student body and the faculty is one that is too important and vital to be destroyed by the actions of one individual when it has been built up by so many over the past years. Will we as students so continue to conduct ourselves that we too will be guilty of tearing down and destroying such a distinctive feature of our college?

Secondly, in any college or university, the office of President is one of honor, which is to be respected, and not one which is to be torn down and degraded by any person or persons who do not happen to agree with the decisions of the man in that office. The office of President should not, in any instance, be lowered in status. Are we as students at Alma College also going to be guilty of defiling and degrading the office which should command our respect?

William H. Taylor

William H. Taylor is president of Delta Gamma Tau fraternity, is a member of Tau Kappa Alpha and Phi Sigma Pi, and is listed in "Who's Who among Students in American Colleges and Universities."

FIRST STATE BANK OF ALMA

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Serving this Community for 72 Years
Your Banking Needs Always
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MEMBER F. D. I. C.

The problem of dissension on our campus, complaining and bad feelings, which causes a weak and negative spirit, is due to wrong motivation in the way we do things. For example, my reason for studying is to get marks that will keep my folks happy and my draft board quiet. This purpose that I have results in an "education" that is like peanuts when compared to the



kind of education I might get if I were a student with a real hunger for knowledge.

If our purpose in life is a worthy goal which requires our very best ability, our attitudes and conduct at Alma will be on a higher plane. This goal in life is completely our own choice. I would suggest that the only worthy goal is something that is unattainable in our earthly existence. Spiritual goals are better than humanitarian goals, and the latter are better than material goals.

Dalton Love

* * *

"He was despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief."

Last Wednesday evening I attended a meeting in the chapel which was supposed to typify—"democracy in action." I came, as did many others, in order that I might gain a better understanding of the present administrative situation at Alma College. I had hoped that men such as John Stanley Harker, William McKeefery and William Stielstra would be able to clarify several issues in question. Instead, and with due respect to all there, I found but one theme prevalent: to mock, criticize, and rebuke a man who, some two and one-half years ago, "struck out with the bases loaded" when he said to the students at Alma: "I want to be your friend."

I was neither shocked nor surprised by the outcome of this meeting; for, in my opinion, this largely represents the type of school spirit at Alma—destructive. For almost four years now I have listened to students complain about the food, the social life, the faculty, the administration, etc.; and yet each year I have witnessed some improvement in both facilities and faculty at Alma—largely due to the efforts of the present administration.

Last Thursday morning, for the first and only time, I witnessed Alma school spirit as it should be. "Campus Clean-Up Day," with faculty and students working and playing together, should have been, and in many aspects, was the highspot of this school year. It was an excellent example of what can be accomplished through co-operation.

My criticism here is not against the administration; nor the faculty; nor the student body. Rather, it is against our so called "school spirit." Therefore, I would ask:

"Why can't every day at Alma be Campus Clean-Up Day?"

Larry Waggoner

Larry Waggoner is vice president of the Student Council, treasurer of the Alma Christian Association, a member of Phi Sigma Pi, and is listed in "Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities."

In my opinion, there is only one real solution to the present situation on campus. I believe this to be the resignation of President Harker.

To me, the basic problem is the personality of this man. How could a perfectly normal individual be so rude, so tactless, so lacking in perception?



Indeed the man has worked hard, I give him credit for that. In truth, however, he has lost the respect of a great part of the student body, the faculty, the staff and the ministers of the state. I feel that as long as he is President, the morale and quality of the school I love can do nothing but go down.

This is a hard stand to take, but it has been thought out seriously. I believe this to be the only way.

Ronald Black

Ron Black is vice president of the senior class. Last year he was editor of the college yearbook, the Scotsman.

* * *

I sincerely hope before starting this letter, the reader will realize that it is an attempt at constructive thinking rather than destructive maliciousness. It is obvious that there has been a great deal of unrest and gossip on this campus for quite a while, concluding in some cases with bitter feelings by all those involved. Individually the points of discussion that have been cast about so freely during the last week or so are relatively small, or even petty. The point is, why have they started at Alma, what do they mean, and what can be done? It would be nice if we could just look at the situation from a little ways off and hope that it would pass. But somehow after seeing it build up during the last year and a half, I can't honestly see where it is going to do anything but slowly fester and grow until more people are hurt and more bitter feelings are born. This, however, is only a personal opinion, as is the rest of this letter. There are contrary feelings I know. I just hope that both sides may be looked at objectively and a decent conclusion may be reached by all those involved.

Trying to find out why this situation has started at Alma is not too difficult, when the conversation whether "pro" or "con" has almost without exception returned to the personality of one man. And when one starts discussing the personality of another he has no choice but to say "What right have I?" Perhaps to some there is no "right" present. But when the question is concerned with Alma as an educational unit, and its future among the Presbyterians of this state, I feel that we are obliged

to look at the situation as it is, or at least as objectively as possible. With the continued reference to our President in the various conversations, it appears that the situation that we now have has risen almost directly from conflicts arising from his personality as an administrator. This is not stating that he has not worked industriously and sincerely. I don't believe that there is a person that will deny the credit due to the man for his unceasing efforts. However, the other fact still remains and continues to become more and more evident; industry and sincerity, strong as they may be, will come in direct conflict almost continually where understanding is lacking. Why this understanding is lacking (or appears to be) could be due to any number of reasons.

It has been said that because of his work and ceaseless efforts he has become fatigued and the added strain has brought about the conflicts. If this is so it still doesn't make the situation right, nor does it show that it will become any better in the future. And if continued, the future appears to be little more than the continued gathering of storm clouds.

As to "What can be done?", I must still rely on personal opinion. One suggestion that might be considered would be a dual-presidency with two men handling the now mountainous task cast on one. Each man would work with equal authority in a designated field to which he is best suited, i.e., administration and field work. The second suggestion, which will rightfully be condemned by those that feel the previous conclusions and opinions are wrong, is that the present president withdraw, both for his own personal health, and the future of Alma college. What might be done if such an action were to take place, no one really knows. But what might happen if some action were not to take place, I am afraid to venture.

As I have previously stated I hope this letter will be taken as an attempt at something constructive. Liston Pope, of Union seminary has stated: "... today's choices weld chains around tomorrow's decisions. Freedom of choice always results in bondage to something, or else sheer anarchy. Every act of freedom must be exercised within some framework of loyalty lest it become meaningless and self-defeating." The loyalty that I hope I have expressed here is to the future of Alma college. I don't ask that anyone agree with this letter or the suggestions, but that there be a clear judgment with the college's future foremost in any decision.

Stu Friesema

Stuart Friesema is listed in "Who's Who among Students in American Colleges and Universities."

DON ELSEA'S
"Dairy Star"

Giant Cones, Malts, Shakes
Hot Dogs — Hamburgs

"Family Portrait" Opens Next Week

First Performance at Midland; To Show at Tyler May 7, 8

"Family Portrait," a three act religious play presented by the Alma college Drama club under the direction of Professor W. A. Gregory, is scheduled for three presentations next week. Opening performance will be at the Strosacker Memorial Presbyterian church in Midland on May 6; following performances at Tyler center on May 7 and 8.

The playwrights, Lenore Coffee and William Joyce Cowen, have given a simple, eloquent, moving picture of the family of Jesus as composed of ordinary people possessing human emotions, using ordinary language, and striving to lead normal lives. The story encompasses the three years of Christ's ministry leading up to his crucifixion. The final scene is several years later when the family is still suffering under the blind delusion that they have been disgraced. Only Mary in her long struggle to understand Jesus, is comforted by the belief that some of his followers are carrying on his work.

Leone Riggle plays the leading role as Mary. Assistant director is Nancy Leece; stage manager is Bob Fritch. Tickets are on sale from Drama club members at eighty-five cents, adult; and sixty-five cents, student.



Mrs. H. O. Abernethy, who for twenty-five years was secretary to the president of Alma College. Her resignation becomes effective June 1. She has decided to resign for reasons of ill health.

New Government Tried by Women

Senate Inactivated for 3 Weeks

A new system of government for Wright hall residents, inactivating the Senate and establishing a Judicial council, is now in a three-week trial period. The Council consists of eight members: one member from each of the four classes, and one member from each of the three sororities and the Independent Women. The new system was voted into being April 24 by the Wright hall residents, and at the end of the trial period another vote will be taken to continue the Council or to go back to the former system.

The members of the Council are: Betty Anderson, freshman; Barbara Hoeflin, sophomore; Betty Fowler, junior; Joan Case, senior; Barbara Wisniewski, Alpha Theta; Joanne Pruyne, Kappa Iota; Sylvia Nelson, Independent Women; Marilyn Gordon, Sigma Phi.

Dr. Howard Potter Surprised at IWO Ball

A surprise feature of the Cotton Ball, sponsored by the Independent Women's organization on last Saturday evening, April 25, was a party in honor of Dr. Howard Potter, professor of chemistry. Birthday gifts included a pitchfork with a broken tine, for his farm work; a burlap bag to catch his bees in when they swarm, and a rake, that he might do a better job on Clean-up day next year. Dr. Potter was suffused with smiles and received these tokens of admiration with grateful words.

Mr. Charles Skinner, assistant professor of chemistry, baked a cake for the party, "a handmade chocolate cake with pink icing."

Student Council Plans Campus Day

The Student Council has been working steadily on plans for the annual Campus day, May 20, and they are now near completion.

The day's festivities will include the traditional daisy chain of freshman girls, the coronation of the Campus day Queen, and a program which will include such royal entertainment as tumblers, dancers, fencers, minstrels, uke players, and court jesters.

Other events of Campus day will include a band concert preceding the pageant, a girls' softball game, the Frosh-Soph tug of war, and a baseball game with Percy Jones. A picnic lunch will be served in the Grove.

The traditional freshman edition of the *Almanian* will appear the day before Campus day, and will carry the complete program of activities.

Two one-act plays, directed by Ron Black and Dave Cornell, members of the play production class, will be presented sometime late in May.

The traditional art exhibit will be held on Campus day at the Arts building, under the direction of Professor Julia Roecker, and the work of student artists will be open to the appreciation of the public.

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Scot Cindermen Begin Long Season

The Scot track squad is preparing for a long season, with hopes of making a good showing at Kalamazoo at the final meet of the year on MIAA field day.

Although Coach Eaton could use more candidates for the track squad, he has started a rather good schedule with the material on hand. The team has already two triangular meets under its belt. While Alma did not win either meet, they showed quite well in a few events. All of the Scots' meets will be away, as the track has been torn up to make room for the new building on campus.

Point winners for the triangular meet with Hope and Calvin were: Spencer 3rd (100), Hansen 3rd (220, 440), Immer 4th (2 mile), Graham 2nd (L. H. and H. H., Gilbert 4th (B. J.), Huckle 3rd (pole vault).

The next meet was a triangular meet with Kalamazoo and Calvin. The men winning places were: Hamilton, tie 1st (H. J. and pole vault); Graham, tie 1st (high jump and 4th shot, discus); Holloway, 3rd (880); Graham, 2nd (L. H. and H. H.); Spencer, 3rd (L. H.) and Hansen, 4th (440).



Standing (L. to R.): J. Hill, F. Wood, V. Hansen, R. Graham, Ed Baldwin.
Sitting (L. to R.): L. Huckle, C. Kelley, F. Immer, R. Spencer.

Baseball Team Wins 2 out of First 3 Games

The Scot baseball team, 1952 MIAA champions, started off the new season with a grueling 3-2 loss lasting thirteen innings to Hope college at Holland. The game lasted nearly four hours, and the second half of the scheduled double-header was cancelled because of the impossibility of its conclusion. In extremely cold weather Mike Bramble turned in an excellent pitching performance, allowing an insignificant five hits. The Scots outhit the Hollanders, blasting out nine hits with Westerhof, Naru, and Rich Garrett knocking out two apiece. The score was 2-0 in Hope's favor in the ninth inning when Stolz singled and was scored when Garrett got on base through a Hope error. Then Len Gadzinski promptly singled in Garrett with the tying run. However, the Scot rally went for naught when Hope scored in the thirteenth and eked out the 3-2 victory. The Scots will play Hope at Grand Rapids, a neutral field, on May 20, and look for a hard-fought battle with Alma seeking revenge for this loss.

The Scots slugged out a 10-4 triumph over the University of Detroit at the Detroit home field. The contest was fairly even until the eleventh inning when the Alma ball club caught fire and let loose with six runs to put the ball game on ice. Big Bob Bruce, a Tiger signee, struck out nineteen Detroiters and pitched the entire eleven innings. Bob also led the squad in hitting with three hits. Jack Westerhof, Garrett, Noud, and Penner with two apiece paced the Alma attack. The longest hit of the day went to Captain Len Gadzinski with a screaming triple to right center only to be thrown out at the plate trying to stretch it into a homer.

Against Calvin, at the Grand Rapids' field, the Scot hitting attack really clicked as Alma bats boomed out thirteen hits for fifteen runs to out-blast Calvin 15-12.

Jack Westerhof and John Noud each solved the slants of Calvin's hurlers for three hits, while Len Gadzinski and Den Stolz slammed out another two. Westerhof and Garrett both smacked long home runs to register the first homers of the campaign. Gordie Rutherford was the starting pitcher and pitched six innings before being replaced by Jack Bennett who finished the game. Rutherford received credit for the win.

The Scots' next ball game will be against Olivet tomorrow at the St. Louis high school field. A good crowd will certainly be appreciated by the Scot team which has expectations of another MIAA crown. Incidentally, this is the last chance for an Alma team to win a MIAA championship in a major sport this year. For some good, polished ball-playing, come out to see the 1953 edition of the Alma Scots.

Following is a list of the Scot batting averages:

1. Noud, John	.....5	8	.667
2. Bruce, Bob	.....3	6	.500
3. Westerhof, Jack	.....6	13	.461
4. Naru, Bob	.....4	10	.400
5. Gadzinski, Len	.....4	12	.333
6. Garrett, Rich	.....5	15	.333
7. Rutherford, Gard	.....1	3	.333
8. Stolz, Den	.....4	15	.267
9. Bramble, Mike	.....1	4	.250
10. Lambert, Bob	.....1	5	.200
11. Penner, Ron3	16	.187
12. Luchritz, Elton1	15	.066
13. Godfrey, Don0	7	.000
14. DePue, Bruce0	1	.000

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Almanian Sports Page

Walt Roman, Sports Editor
Howard Wiley, Assistant

Golfers Trounce Adrian; Two Matches Cancelled

In the only meet of the new year, the Alma Scot golf team trounced Adrian links team 11-1/2 to 3-1/2. Led by medalist Doyle McIntosh with an 86, the Scots easily turned back the Bulldogs on the Pine River Country club. Bob Weaver turned in an 87, Bob Knobloch a 91, Gerry Mayer a 90, and Sam Stafford with a 98 rounded out the team scoring. Bud Bennett of Adrian was the low man for the visiting team with an 87. The match was played under severe weather conditions, a cold wind and stinging rain, which accounts for the high scores. Matches against Central Michigan and Ferris were called off because of poor weather conditions also. The next match will be against Olivet, May 5, on the Alma home course. Much improvement is expected as the season progresses.

President Harker Returns Today from N. Y.

President John Stanley Harker returns today from New York, where he has been attending a meeting of the committee on nominations for the forthcoming general assembly of the Presbyterian church, to be held in Minneapolis late in May. Dr. Harker, who has previously served as member of this committee, is this year's chairman. The committee nominates all the officers of the general assembly except the moderator.

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Faculty Athletes Play Four Innings

by Walt Roman

On Alma college Clean-up day, April 23, an interesting array of athletes entered upon the field of play in an exciting exhibition of major league calibre softball. The contest pitted the talents of the Alma college faculty against the abilities of the senior class.

The faculty, led by such renowned and feared sluggers as Murderous McKeef, Fireball McCall, Eager Eyer, Meager Meyer, Cloutin' Klomp, and Steady Stielstra, played an excellent brand of softball against a rugged senior ball club and lost 17-9. Dashing Dicks started the game on the mound for the faculty, and was promptly blasted back into the shortstop position. Dashing Dicks made a tremendous play at shortstop and, as fans and spectators alike will agree, really used his . . . head as he gathered in a hard hit ground ball to throw out senior Larry Waggoner. Murderous McKeefery replaced Dicks on the mound and lasted one inning before getting relief from Meager Meyer who was replaced once again by Chuckin' Claude Dicks.

The seniors, led by such stalwarts as Ray Carless, Bob King, Nels Ray, Dave Hol-lar, Bob Willits, Paul Finchem, and Dick Wylie had no trouble solving the slants of the faculty hurlers and boomed out many hits. The errorless game proved to be a crowd-pleasing contest with Fireball McCall and Nate Nichols making stupendous saves in the outfield.

The contest ended after four innings, called because of tired arms and aching backs.

Tennis Team Faces Uphill Battle Tomorrow

The Alma college tennis team has played four matches this year and have gone down to defeat in every match. The Scot racquet swingers have faced the Chippewas of Central Michigan twice and have tasted the bitterness of defeat both times by the score of 5-2. Against Albion, Alma lost its first MIAA league encounter to the tune of 5-2. Facing Calvin, the Scots once again could do no better than lose once again by the identical 5-2 score. With an ever-improving squad the future looks rosier as the boys are beginning to shape up and hit that ball with greater accuracy. The mainstays of the team this year are Gordie Macdonald, John Fields, Renny Bacon, Bob Harrison, Stan Herbst, John Sawyer, and Mo Arnold.

The team faces Hope next on May 2, on the Alma courts.

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