

Christmas In The Air - Decorations, Festivities

Christmas is in the air at Alma College. There are... The campus takes on a special glow with all the decorations.

Each resident hall has a decorated tree in the lounge and so do the lobbies of the Reid-Knox Administration and Dow Science buildings, as well as Tyler Student Center.

The chapel has special decorations. The inside has decorated greens across the chancel and wreaths hang on the outside doors.

At night the outdoor tree in the quad is all lit up and the blue lights on the Chapel steeple raise it to the sky like a hymn in the night.

The Alma Choral Union and A Cappella Choir each year contribute a program. This year it was "America." The A Cappella Choir gives a Christmas concert each year. It is one of the highlights of the college activities.

The Alpha Sigma Tau society and Sigma Phi Gamma fraternity have an annual "Halls House" Christmas party in the traditional "Halls House" Christmas party at the Student Center.

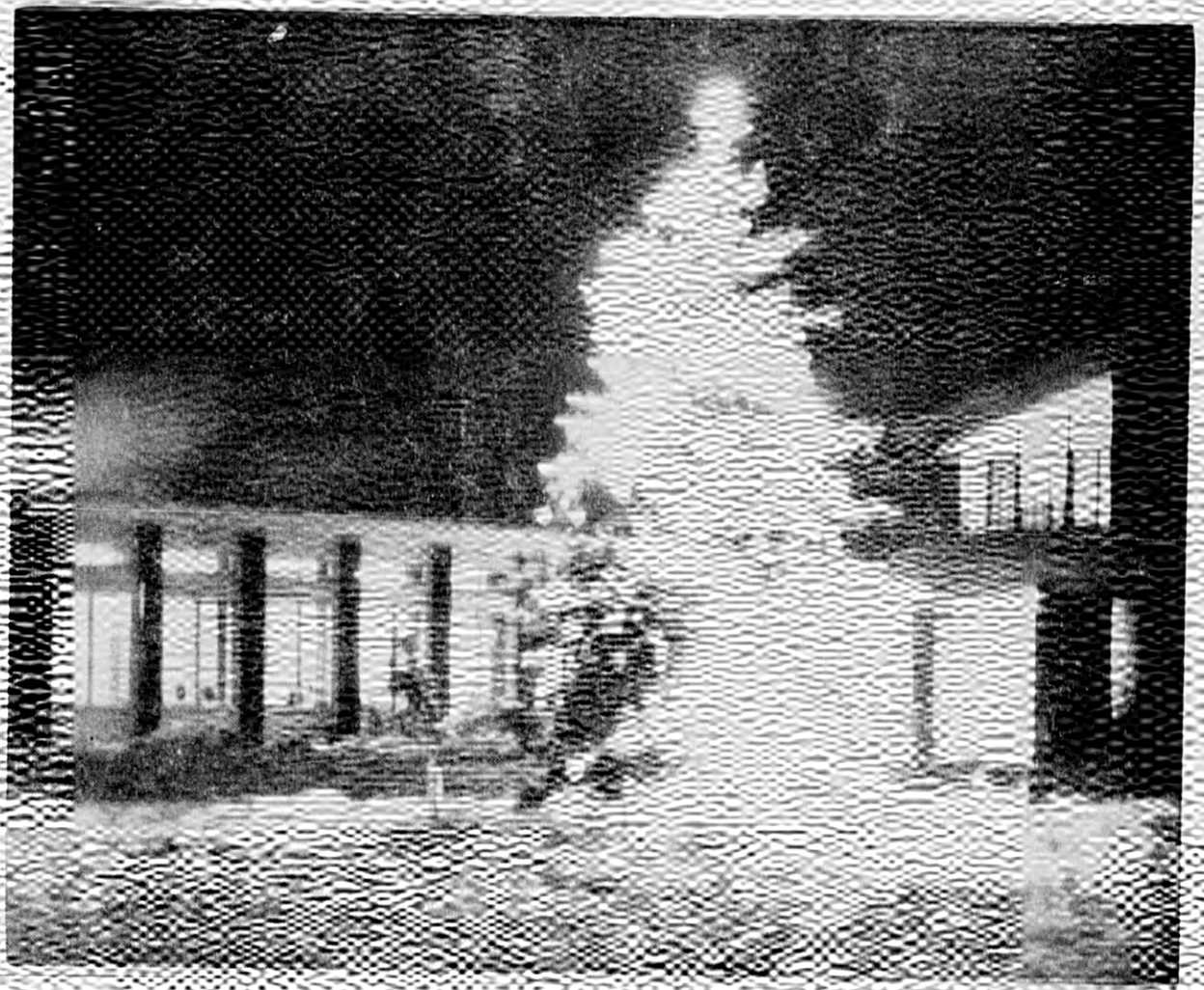
The ACCU vesper are an other part of Christmas at Alma. The ACCU also carols at the Masonic Lodge each Christmas.

The AWS party is a social event of Christmas on campus. Gelson Hall and Newberry Hall continue to have this party each year. Buddies are chosen and small gifts are exchanged by the girls.

For the girls, the closing note of the Christmas season comes with the Christmas caroling. The seniors in Newberry and the seniors in Gelson go through the halls caroling.

Caroling with the spirit of the season will be brought to by two choirs. The A Cappella Choir's annual Christmas concert will feature a candlelight procession, a brass ensemble and the instrumental group.

The other concert was presented by the Alma College Choir. The program included "Colonel Bogey March," Handel's Suite from the Water Music and a medley of Christmas tunes entitled "A Christmas Festival." (photo by Sa'di)



34-85
Permit No. 87
Mailed under PS-CR
Alma, Michigan

the almanian

Volume 55 Number 12

Alma College, Alma, Michigan

Friday, December 14, 1962

Festival Of Lessons And Carols Is The Traditional Theme Of Christmas Vesper Service

Next Tuesday night a special Christmas vesper service will be held in the Chapel at 7:00. This service is being planned by the vesper committee and the College Chaplain. All students and faculty are invited to attend.

The service which is being used is known as the "Festival of Lessons and Carols." It is a traditional Advent and Christmas observance in a number of Universities in England. Many American colleges also use the service, and it has become traditional at Alma.

The service has its origin in the ancient liturgy of the English Church. It has been adapted for use in college Chapels where members of non-conformist denominations worship.

The order of worship consists of a cycle of Scripture lessons

tracing the advent and birth of Jesus from the messianic prophet of Isaiah to John's interpretation of Christ as "The Word Made Flesh" in whom we behold the glory "as of the only Son from the Father."

The lessons are read by members of the college community in ascending order of academic rank. A carol by the congregation or an anthem by the Choir is sung in response to the reading of each lesson.

Students who have participated in the service in past years have described it as a very beautiful and a meaningful service.

Because of this special service both Sunday evening vesper and Monday morning Chapel have been cancelled.

The service will be over in time to allow students to get to the basketball game at 8.

Greek Ball Is Tomorrow

Tomorrow night the IFC and the Pan-Hellenic Council will present the Greek Ball. This is a closed dance for all Greeks and their dates. No tickets will be sold at the door; they must be obtained through friendly and serious presidents. Members of Greek social organizations from other campuses may also obtain tickets from fraternity or sorority presidents.

Bobby Stevens will provide the music for the dance. There will also be skits for the entertainment of those attending. The theme of the dance, according to Terry Marino, is "Christmas Trees, Christmas trees, and more Christmas trees."

Marino said that one of the main purposes of the dance, besides the social function, has been to promote unity among the Greek organizations. According to Marino this is already being accomplished to some extent by work on the dance.

Choir Chimes In; Concert Coming

Carradines Carry On

Last Tuesday night at Tyler Center, "The Carradines" presented four sketches from prominent plays. The first meeting between Elizabeth Barrett and Robert Browning from the play "The Barretts of Winfield Street" was dramatically portrayed. The Gentleman Caller Scene from Tennessee Williams' "The Glass Menagerie" was performed with much effect. The encounter between Joan and Charles from the play "Joan of Arc" and a similar scene with Queen Elizabeth and the Lord of Essex from Maxwell Anderson's "Elizabeth the Queen" were portrayed.

An informative introduction to each scene was given by Mr. and Mrs. Carradine.

The Alma College A Cappella Choir will present its annual Christmas concert on Sunday at 8 p.m. in Dunning Memorial Chapel.

A French carol with chimes, played by Sally Shepard, will provide the music for the candlelight procession, led by the Choir, according to the Director, Dr. Ernest Sullivan. A full concert of Christmas music, both old and new includes "The Song of Mary" by Pachelbel and Jean Berger's "Glory Be to God."

In response to many requests from last year, the modern dance group will again join the chorus for two numbers. The Orchestral dancers will be featured in Randall Thompson's "Gloria God in the Highest" and in "The Three Mummings." The members of Orchestral are Christine Casey, Naarah Crawford, Mary Donaldson, Jackie Harper, Nancy Raymond, Lenette Schickel and Beverly Stelzer. They are directed by Miss Maxine Hayden, a faculty member of the physical education department.

Another feature of the concert is the brass ensemble. The ensemble consists of Phil Holland, Jim Larke, Bob Miner, Lou O'Brien and Vaughn Quaddorf. Miss Miriam Belleville will be accompanying the Choir on the organ in Gabrieli's "In Ecclesiis."

The 60-member choir has been selected as the 1963 "Official Broadcast Choir" by the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. They recently completed a series of recordings for the NBC Protestant Hour and can be heard on NBC's "Voices of Christmas" program on December 24, from 10:05 to 10:25. Their program, televised on Flint, last year will be repeated this year on Sunday, December 23.

The Choir has just completed a fall tour, presenting concerts in Jackson, Birmingham, and Saginaw.

Thinking Of Pre-Registering?

Departments Offer Information

Pre-Registration for Semester 154 will take place January 7 through 19. Students should make appointments with their advisers to fill out their election card for classes for next semester. The election cards will be returned to students in the mail on Sunday, February 3, along with other materials for registration and final grades from this semester. Town students will pick up these materials at the registrar's office in the Reid-Knox Building.

The schedule for classes for Semester 154 will be available at the Registrar's Office on January 3, 1963.

Several departments wish to give students information concerning prerequisites, new or revised courses, and other information useful in planning class schedules next semester. This information follows:

Philosophy 214, "Origins of Western Philosophy" — This course is assigned to be an introductory course in philosophy. As such it is an appropriate "first course" in this area and is open to all students. The course will deal with the beginning of speculative thought in the Western world and with its development especially in the works of Plato and Aristotle. A goodly number of the so-called "big questions" with which Western thinkers have dealt are raised by these early thinkers.

Philosophy 316, "Recent and Contemporary Philosophy" — This is open to all students interested in recent and contemporary thought. The course will focus on a select few of the important thinkers of the period.

Religion 318, "Near Eastern Philosophy and Religion" — is one of a couple of courses dealing particularly with non-Western thought, both philosophic and religious. It is open to all students who are interested in exploring some ideas arising outside of the specifically Western tradition.

Philosophy 446, "Seminar" — This course will deal (in Semester 154) with Existentialism, with special concentration on Jean Paul Sartre. The course is open to students interested in this subject, whether or not they are majoring in philosophy. It will deal with both the philosophic and the non-philosophic works by Sartre.

Philosophy 324, "Ethics" — It will deal with both Christian ethics and general or "middle school" ethics. It will aim to examine each in its own right and to show the relationship of the two.

It is important that all students planning to take student

teaching in the 1963-64 college year plan their remaining three semesters of college work with their advisers when pre-registering for the second semester of this year. Juniors will be making application for their student teaching experience between Christmas vacation and the end of this semester. Since applications call for an indication of the semester in which students wish to take student teaching, this pre-planning with advisers is essential.

Spanish 228, "Introduction to Spanish and Latin American Civilization" — Students may enter this course without Spanish 227, upon consent of the instructor, or three units of high school Spanish.

Spanish 236, "Introduction to Spanish and Latin American Literature" — Students may enter this course without Spanish 235, upon consent of the instructor, or three units of high school Spanish.

Spanish 336, "Nineteenth Century Spanish Literature" — This is an advanced course open only to students who have completed the civilization course.

Spanish 412 — This is equivalent to the second year of Spanish. Prerequisite: Spanish 411 or two units of high school Spanish.

French 228, "Introduction to French Civilization" — Students

may enter this course without 227, with the consent of the instructor, or three units of high school French.

French 238, "Introduction to French Literature" — Students may enter this course without 237 with the consent of the instructor or three units of high school French.

French 236, "French Diction" — Open to students who have completed French 111 and with permission of the instructor or who offer two units of high school French.

French 111, This course is the equivalent of second year French. Prerequisite: French 111 or two units of high school French.

German 223, "Introduction to German Civilization" — Students may enter this course without German 222 with the consent of the instructor, or two units of high school German.

German 112, This course is the equivalent of second year German. Prerequisite: German 111 or two units of high school German.

The Executive Committee and the Faculty of the College have acted favorably on a Student Council request that school be dismissed at noon on Wednesday rather than at five p.m.

Library Project Gathers Interest

During the past week a great deal more interest has been generated on the part of students in the possibility of soliciting funds for the library.

Wright Hall Dorm Council discussed the matter last week and decided that dorm council members would distribute materials (pledge card-receipts and brochures) to residents and encourage them to use them. The IFC also discussed the possibilities for encouraging Greek participation in the project.

In addition to three free dinners for two offered by the Washburn Room to those students who solicit the most funds, the Washburn Shop has offered to the next ten students high chairs, or any paperback or Modern Library Book in the store — excluding Modern Library Classics.

The managers said that they felt the library was important to the college and that their action might encourage students to help their funds.

the library but also because other buildings, especially the gym, cannot be built until the library is completed.

The way the project is set up at this point is: Students may pick up library brochures, and pledge-card receipts at Tyler Office before vacation. All Students are encouraged to make some effort to interest friends in their home communities to contribute some amount, however small, to the library fund. A receipt should be filled out for each gift and the remainder of the pledge card retained by the donor.

Contributions and pledge cards may be mailed in pre-addressed envelopes to the office or may be brought to the office immediately after vacation.

The amount solicited by each student will be tabulated and the names will be announced in the almanian.

Terry Davis stated that he felt encouraged by the student response to the idea. "A lot of students are all lined up over the project. I feel that it will be a big success. The money we collect will greatly influence others to give."

nothing new . . .

It's time for a few traditional wishes. Merry Christmas. Also a Happy New Year.
Enjoy as many of the "Christmas in the air" campus events as you have time and inclination to. And may your vacation be restful, refreshing, and yielding

of new energy for starting out again on the 3rd. May all needed papers be written, or corrected, all reading done, all lectures prepared. Or let studies be forgotten for two weeks or part thereof.

Merry Christmas. Happy New Year.

Pen of a Scot



by E. F. S.

Things done half-heartedly—as though we aren't sure either what we're doing or if we ought or really want to be doing it—are ugly. At any time. Certainly so at this Christmas time when beauty, jolly and sublime, is perhaps in the thoughts of even those who do not daily through the year revel in the beauties of earth and spirit.

Half-hearted Christmasing is no exception. It's pretty repulsive.

Christmas may be for you, among other things, the joyous celebration of the birth of an almighty god made man through love of you. If it be such, then whole-heartedly celebrate. What's ugly is the pious call for "more Christ" in Christmas—and then a "Christ-back-in" celebrating so shallowly felt as to be completely satisfied by a dressed-up attendance at church on Christmas Sunday, a sweetly smiling sparkling-

golden-haloed baby in the arms of a beautifully serene Madonna on a card—sent to the minister, a little crech-scene set amidst the reindeer and holly, a sentimental tug felt in the heart as "Ave Maria" or "O Holy Night" is sung with TV solemnity at the end of a gaudy spectacular, or a special blessing over the Christmas dinner.

If you choose to make Christmas joyous religious celebration, keep from the ugliness of practices which are only done as after-thoughts and with no accompanying joying celebration at the center of your personality; that, or don't bother to say you're choosing a Christ-centered Christmas.

Or Christmas may be something else—either in addition to or without the religious exulting. It may be carol singing and red-cheeked jollity and fellowship around a blazing fire. Well, then, carol lustily—not with half-opened mouth and

the vigor of an unfamiliar hymn limped through in chapel. And make the fire massive—warming cheeks genuinely red from exposure to the much-sung-about "winter wonderland."

Perhaps it is a time of special expression of love for family and friends. Ugly are even the most expensive gifts purchased perfunctorily for a name on a list—and wrapped exquisitely by the store's professional wrapper. If things made by the giver's own hand are out of the question (it's a pity that's too often the case), let the gifts at least show choice based on some amount of caring thought.

Christmas may also be a time of special recognition of concern for "peace and goodwill" coming among all men. Then let there be no blithe and blissful scanning of headlines or a few nickles and dimes dropped into a Salvation Army cup or a special Care offering, or some un-

See Scot Pen P. 4

With The Geeks

Kappa Iota

Butter toffee and party nuts are the holiday specials offered by the KI's this week. Priced at \$1 a can, these delicious treats can be purchased from any KI.

Tau Kappa Epsilon

Several Tekes will be leaving the snow and cold behind this Christmas to spend their vacation in Jamaica. Tony Taylor, who will be returning home for the first time in 2½ years, will be taking seven happy Tekes with him to enjoy a Jamaican holiday.

If you see Santa tonight, please direct him to the Teke House, where Tekes and their dates will be anxiously waiting for his visit to their annual closed Christmas Party.

The unseasonal Spring weather ended last week, but the lower temperatures seemed to have little effect on the couples-population. In fact, the pinnings of Dwight Lowell to Sally Fuhrman and John Barrowman to Martha Melms, and the lavaliering of Cobe Colwell to Liz Gorman may be evidence that cold weather is conducive to cuddling.

Sigma Tau Gamma

Last night, along with the ASTs, we held our annual Baptist Children's Home Christmas party. Santa Claus was there with gifts which were provided for by donations. Christmas caroling and refreshments topped off a very wonderful evening.

Another party was held at our house Sunday night. The purpose of the party was to

decorate our Christmas tree. Coffee and cookies, singing, and the usual Sunday night pizza were available.

This cold weather has not hampered the actions of our friend cupid. Glen Anderson is now pinned to Judy Petti and Paul Voelker is now lavaliered to Connie Mann.

Don't forget about Holly House this Sunday night at 9 p.m.

Alpha Sigma Tau

Every year just before Christmas the Alpha Taus and Sig Taus have a Christmas party for the children at the Baptist Children's Home. Presents are given, and some form of entertainment, usually in the form of Christmas carols. This party was held yesterday.

Sunday, the two groups will give their Christmas "Holly House," a Christmas party for the whole school, held at the Sig Tau house.

Delta Sigma Phi

The remaining days of classes will be busy ones for the Delt Sigs. Last Monday we had a serenade for our sisters, the Alpha Thetas. On Monday we are having our annual Christmas Party with the Thetas, at which the two groups traditionally exchange gifts. On Tuesday we will further celebrate Christmas with a party at which the Brothers exchange humorous gifts.

Most of us are spending the vacation at our homes, with the usual amount of skiing, parties, studying, and other vacation activities. Some of us are saving our money for jaunts to New York, Florida, and Europe in vacations to come. Our housemother, Mrs. Yonkman, is travelling to Gladstone, Michigan, to visit relatives.

Delta Sigma Phi would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very merry Christmas and best wishes for a profitable 1963!

Student Council

Student Council Minutes Dec. 10, 1962

The President called the meeting to order, the invocation was given, roll was called and the minutes were read and approved. He announced that a petition had been turned in concerning a noon closing of December 19 and the decision on the matter will be finalized Wednesday morning. He also announced the Library Fund Drive is under way and that brochures were available on the subject. He said there will be an appointment to the Elections Board and any interested persons who are not members of a publications group may obtain a petition. He stated that, as previously announced, the Scotsman issue was defeated. He also said that Tyler Lounge can now be used more freely and food may be eaten in that area if students will comply by carrying their own dishes back to the snack bar.

The Judicial Committee announced its complete membership and that a recent judicial action has been taken.

Lou Ferrand spoke about changes in the calendar scheduling recently completed by the Student Affairs Committee and gave us a clarification of policies.

Dave Todd announced the location of the new bulletin boards in Old Main, Dow, and Van Dusen. He stated that anyone wishing to place an announcement should turn in three written copies to Tyler Office by 10:30 a.m. and that these will be posted by 11 every day. Any turned in after 10:30 will be posted the next day.

The Buildings and Grounds Committee said plowing of the entire parking lots did not seem possible as it is unlikely that everyone will have their car out at the appointed time. It was requested that any students who do not use their cars over the winter, park them near the tennis courts, rather than in the parking lots.

Lee Sumpter presented some proposed Constitutional amendments which were tabled until next week. Respectfully submitted, Janis Cash Recording Secretary

Letters To The Editor

There are times when man is not a social animal. These are when he is in love and when he wants to think. Naturally these may coincide, but both are extremely difficult if one has no solitude. It seems very difficult to obtain solitude on this campus. There is simply no place one can go to be alone. It is almost as if someone did not want us to be alone.

This can be very frustrating, for there are times in the acquaintance of one sex with another when two people must be absolutely alone, just the two of them. How else can one really know a person other

than experiencing that person completely apart as an individual. Yet it is this more profound knowledge that is so important in a romantic relationship. Perhaps there are some people who could help this situation who have forgotten this, for it is difficult to believe they never realized it.

The consequence of not being able to be alone is the frustration of furtive moments taken in embarrassing circumstances, the conflict of the stigma on being alone, elicited by its prohibition, with personal values, and the conflict of the consci-

ence of the student with that of the college.

It seems something could be done to alleviate this conflict. Some re-evaluation of restrictions could be considered by responsible persons. Until this is done, students will constantly wonder what is wrong with talking with a girl for a couple of hours somewhere, or kissing a special person good night, or simply contemplating for a length of time in solitude. At present we must constantly seek places to hide, or display that which was meant only for one person.

Signed, Lee R. Sumpter

Around The Campus

"Readings in Christmas" will be featured tonight in Dow Auditorium at 8. Dr. Samuel Cornelius, Mr. Louis Miner, Mr. Lawrence Porter and Mr. Paul Storey will participate.

John Goodwin, District Director for Boy Scouts of America, will be on campus on Monday, January 7, to interview any senior men interested in careers as professionals with the Boy Scouts. Majors in any fields may apply; please make your interview appointment through the placement office.

The movie for tonight and tomorrow night, "King of Kings", is Cecil B. De Mille's spectacular filming of the Life of Christ, beginning with the conversion of Mary Magdalene through the Resurrection. It is fully subtitled and with a complete musical score. There is no dialogue. It is considered by many to be a film classic.

The Michigan Federation of College Young Republicans' Board meeting is to be held at Alma, Saturday, December 15 at 2 p.m. Representatives from most of the college Y. R. clubs in Michigan will attend. Resolutions on many of the current issues will be made, election results discussed as well as the coming C. Y. R. convention which is to be held in February. Alma's two state board representatives are Lou Ferrand and Judy Keith. Louise Yolton also has a vote, since she is the recording secretary.

Tri-Beta continues its projects for earning money with the sale of sandwiches four nights a week in the various residence halls.

Saturday, December 8, Dr. Howard Potter and Dr. Jacob DeYoung attended a meeting of the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society at Delta College. The keynote address was given by Robert H. White-Stevens of the American Cyanamid Company. His topic was "The Facts and Fallacies of the Silent Spring." Besides papers of general scientific interest a symposia on Gas-Liquid Phase Chromatography Maintenance Engineering was featured.



Kat Tales

I see by the snow and Christmas trees that it's that time of year When that round and jolly Santa Claus, with his sleigh and tiny deer,

Flys through the night with "goodies"

For anxiously waiting kiddies—

And I'm reminded of a story of a lonely little kitty Who'd been deserted and forgotten in a cold and empty alley. For days he lived on garbage scraps and slept beneath a chair; And as he shivered every night he'd say a little prayer:

He'd say his thanks for what food he'd found and then his prayer would end

With the same final plea: "The hunger I can stand but please, Lord, send a friend."

But no friend came and weeks went by until, on Christmas Eve, He was awakened by a laugh and lifted by a glove; And there stood, tiny and smiling, a bearded old man, Who lifted the kitten with a scoop of his hand.

With a laugh he set him in the back of his sleigh, Calling to his team, they were on their way.

The kitten cried when he saw the rooftops disappear, But a friendly pat from Santa quieted his fear;

So, from the city they flew like the wind Till all the tall buildings were left far behind.

Then, as they neared the river, the sleigh began to slow, And then ol' Santa pointed to the roof of a shack, below. In a spiral they glided toward the weather-worn shanty. When they reached the roof Santa lifted the wide-eyed kitty

And stuffed it into his sack, Which he swung up on his back. Since the shack lacked a chimney Old Santa used the back way.

The shack's interior boasted only four bleak walls and little more. Two people were sleeping on a table—their child lay on the floor. With a glance ol' Santa spotted his work:

A stocking near a window—hanging by a spike. So, reaching into his sack he started to fill the sock, But on that ragged stocking was a note stuck with a tack:

"Dear Santa," it read, "It's no fun to play alone;

Instead of toys, I want a friend of my own."

That jolly elf winked and reached into his sack, And stuffed the lonely kitty into the sock.

"Meow" cried the kitty and he started to purr—"Merry Christmas!" whispered Santa as he roughed its fur. Then he leapt to the roof and mounted his sleigh;

With a shout and a whistle they were on their way. And now I'll echo the greeting he was heard to deliver

When I sincerely wish you the merriest Christmas ever.

Last week three faculty members of the biology department and four biology methods students attended the BSCS (Biological Sciences Curriculum Study) in East Lansing.

Dr. Lester Eyer, Dr. Arlan Edgar and Mr. Ronald Kapp studied the new approach to teaching high school biology. It is the result of a 3-year study of leading scientists.

Two days ago the special showing of a Van Gogh collection opened at the Detroit Institute of Art. It will be at the Institute until January 27—making it possible for any interested Alma students or faculty to visit it during either the Christmas holidays or the break between semesters.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

December 14—Friday	7:30 p.m.	Film "King of Kings"	Dow Bldg., Room 100
	8 p.m.	English Department Program of Christmas Readings	Dow Auditorium
	8:30 p.m.	Mary Gelston Open House	Mary Gelston Hall
	9 p.m.	TEKE Closed Christmas Party	TEKE House
December 15—Saturday	7:30 p.m.	Film "King of Kings"	Dow Auditorium
	8 p.m.	Pioneer Hall Closed Christmas Party	Pioneer Hall
	9 p.m.	Fraternity-Sorority Dance	Tyler Auditorium
December 16—Sunday	8 p.m.	A Cappella Choir Christmas Concert	Dunning Chapel
	9 p.m.	Alpha Sigma Tau-Sigma Tau Gamma "Holly House"	Sig Tau House
December 17—Monday	7 p.m.	Faculty Christmas Dinner	Tyler Center
	8 p.m.	Delta Sigma Phi-Alpha Theta Christmas Party	Delt Sig House
	10:30 p.m.	AWS Christmas Party	Helen Newberry Residence
December 18—Tuesday	7 p.m.	Christmas Vespers	Dunning Chapel
	8 p.m.	Basketball — Albion	Phillips Gymnasium
	10:30 p.m.	Christmas Caroling	Mary Gelston Residence
	10:30 p.m.	Candle-Light Service	Helen Newberry Residence
December 19—Wednesday	Noon	CHRISTMAS RECESS BEGINS	
December 28-29—		Basketball Tournament	Marshall
January 2—Wednesday	8 p.m.	Campus Wives Dime Dance	Tyler
		Basketball — Olivet College	
January 3—Thursday	8 a.m.	Classes Resume	

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ALMA COLLEGE
ALMA, MICH.

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All news items, Monday, 7 p.m. except by prior arrangement with the Editor-in-chief. All photographs to be used in the paper must be in by Tuesday Noon of the week of publication desired.

Subscription Price

Students, faculty members, administrators, employees of Alma College, \$2.50 per year; \$1.25 per semester. All others, \$3.00 per year; \$1.50 per semester. Single copies 10 cents. Single copies mailed 15 cents. Make checks payable to "The Almanian."

Alma Factor? Western Civ. Unifies Campus

by Lee R. Sumpter

An attempt to express the significance of the Western Civilization course is like answering an essay question on a semester exam in that very course. Yet, Western Civilization is, perhaps, the greatest unifying factor on the campus, for it combines the significant aspects of all departments and disciplines, as well as providing for the expression of the objectives of Alma College in the academic curricula.

The following two articles will discuss the history of the course, some changes the course has undergone, and the results of student criticism of the course.

The Foundations of Western Civilization Department is the result of a three year examination of the program of studies at Alma College which was part of a post-war concern for education prompted by the inquiry into American education after the launching of the Russian satellite, Sputnik. Alma was specifically concerned with the fragmentation of the curricula and wished to bring this curricula closer to the aims of the college.

An idea of the degree of fragmentation of courses may be obtained from a list of the graduation requirements that the Western Civilization course supplanted. These were as follows: eight hours of philosophy or religion, six hours of freshman composition, nine hours of sophomore literature and humanities, and three hours of history. This system of coordinate departmental curricula was considered unsuccessful, because students seemed to fail to obtain an appreciation of the actual unity and wholeness within these fields. Instead, they were simply taking courses.

Thus, in the summer of 1959 the faculty met in workshops to present a plan to solve this dilemma. Resulting from these conferences was a package of departmental changes which included the Senior Studies program, the All-School Reading program and the Senior Thesis.

Some of the purposes of this change were to relate the fields of history, religion and literature, as well as science and arts, to emphasize the importance of a liberal arts education in a mechanized age, and to demonstrate the effects of individuals in the course of history.

In planning the course no model of another similar course was consulted and no attempt was made to consult such a model, according to Dr. Samuel Cornelius, who prepared a history of the course for the College and was active in the formation of the course. Our Western Civilization course is unique.

Each professor is asked to lecture on subjects within his field. Sometimes heads of departments present lectures, and even the Dean of the Faculty has presented lectures. An attempt is made to show the relationship between the wholeness of events in history.

Supplementing these lectures are two discussion periods a week. At first one discussion period was held with a particular professor, as our discussions are now, and on Friday the professor lecturing that week held an open discussion. This system was abandoned for the present system of one combined discussion group meeting on Thursday and smaller groups meeting during the week with a professor of the department.

An examination of the objectives of the College as outlined in the College Bulletin and a reading of the introduction to the course in the freshman syllabus will show how the grandiose objective of the course is directly related to the purposes of Alma College as a Christian liberal arts college. Doctor Samuel Cornelius has stated, "I think the course structurally and in its content offers both student and faculty a tremendous challenge . . . to the extent that students and faculty do not fulfill the curriculum, it is their own fault." The introduction to the syllabus reminds us that "ultimately the value of the course will be found by each student within himself."

After vacation some of the recent changes in the course and the results of a student questionnaire will be discussed.

Dave Rolfe Both Amuses And Confuses Sumpter

by Lee Sumpter

A conversation with David Rolfe is sure to be an experience that will cause one to come away with a sly smirk, yew know. I found it difficult to interview him however, for I found myself conversing with him instead.

Dave is from Lyminge, which is near Folkestone, both of which are in Kent County, England. County Kent is southeast of London and looks over the historic chalk cliffs of Dover. Dave says that on a clear day one can look thirteen miles across the channel and see the coast of France.

Lyminge, a comparatively small town, is the location of the third oldest church in England. The patron saint of the town is buried under its walls. "She's very useful sometimes," says Dave, who was very active in the church. You should have him describe to you the system of "change ringing" of the bells. Dave is quite the expert on church bells and the methods of ringing them. It seems there is a certain technique for each type of bell.

Dave came to the United States because there is more opportunity to work one's way through college. On the subject of work, there was considerable discussion. It seems Dave sells encyclopaedias or, better encyclopaedias, and his experience with customers is a subject in itself. He has sold encyclopaedias in England and Canada, and if you ask him, he may sell you a set or, at least, give you a "presentation."

Much was said under education also, for Master Rolfe was educated for eight years at a church boarding school run by a combination of Lutherans and Baptists, of all things. Here everyone was in bed at "half past ten every night, and one could not leave the premises without a considerable rigamarole with the headmahsta and house mahsta. Dating was dis-



David Rolfe Photo by Sa'di

couraged, and, in fact, any association with girls at all was discouraged, but Dave was not discouraged. The tradition of the "chaps" at this school Dave described as "oily and nauseating."

Dave is a chemistry major here, and he has worked for some time in a biochemical lab of the British government. He intends to continue in the field of biochemistry after graduation. There is no anecdote to this statement, although, if prompted, I am sure Dave could produce one.

The description of how Dave found out about Alma and how he came to the United States is a long and sometimes riotous story. He has a cousin who lives in Midland, and this cousin recommended Alma to Dave while visiting in England. From here on I will leave the story to Master Rolfe, for we must travel to New Brunswick, Canada, rent an apartment in Montreal, and sell encyclopaedias all over Canada — by then I had forgotten to ask him how he came to Alma from wherever he was last in Canada.

My usual questions of how Dave likes Alma and Americans were anticipated by him, so I did not obtain a definite statement from the ensuing discussion. Besides, asking David Rolfe how he likes Americans is like asking Winston Churchill how he likes cigars. Aside from being a little unsure about our latest dance steps and the proper length of Bermuda shorts, Dave is a stimulating addition to our campus, in fact, very stimulating.

Dr. Sam Jones Directs Biggest Alma Concert

Combined Effort Produces Christmas Concert; Draws High Praise from Reviewers; Described As "Unforgettable"

by Steve Colladay

One of the biggest concerts ever given in Alma was the Christmas Concert performed by the Saginaw Symphony, the Saginaw Choral Society, the Alma College A Cappella Choir, and the Alma Choral Union. Directing the symphony and chorus was Dr. Sam Jones—well known in this area for his unusually fine performances.

The first half of the concert featured four well-chosen works for orchestra — "Polonaise" from "Christmas Eve" by Rimsky Korsakov, Concerto Grosso in G Minor by Corelli, An Advent Chorale: "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" by Brahms, and Menotti's Three Excerpts from "Amahl and the Night Visitors."

Of these selections, the Corelli Concerto and Menotti's "Three Excerpts" were particu-



Photo by Davis Dr. Sam Jones

larly outstanding. The Corelli number was a showpiece of exact counterplay between the solo strings, with harpsichordist Marg Gray (who was a last minute replacement, and thus had to sight-read all the numbers) doing a fine job. I'm in complete agreement with reviewer James W. Henderson of the Saginaw News when he said (of the Saginaw performance Dec. 3): The Corelli number "bore the indelible Jones stamp: Precision of timing, shading and balance."

The Menotti number was also impressive — especially the flute and oboe passages, which were brilliantly played.

However, the really BIG (literally!) number of the evening was the tremendous performance of Bach's "Magnificat" by the combined choirs. While the full impact of the 200 voice chorus was greatly reduced by the horrible acoustics in the

gym, the performance nevertheless was unforgettable.

While the 5 soloists gave, as reviewer Henderson said, "special emphasis to the Magnificat," the massed chorus really gave the work brilliance. That such a large group was able to so ably perform "one of the most difficult works for chorus in existence" (according to Jones) was quite an accomplishment. Director Robert Klepinger, of the Saginaw Choral Society, and Ernest G. Sullivan, director of the Alma Choral Union and Alma College A Cappella Choir, certainly deserve praise. Henderson rightly praised ". . . the polish, precision and interpretative splendor . . ." of the chorus.

But if one person is responsible for the excellent performance, that man is, of course, Dr. Sam Jones. That he expertly led the orchestra and chorus was easily seen. But Jones provided that "something extra" to the performance—and, as most of us know, that "Jones extra" really packs a wallop!

The next concert in the Alma Series of the Saginaw Symphony will be the long awaited Pops Concert, January 6. The music will range from Bach to Sousa, from Tchaikovsky to Richard Rodgers, and featuring a performance of Gershwin's immortal "An American in Paris."

Faculty Convinced Of Value

The FAG (Faculty Advisor Group) program, developed over the summer, is a new freshman advising system being tried this year at Alma.

"Faculty members involved are convinced that it is a valuable one," said Dean Boyd, "and if properly used can be of value to students."

Rather than the former more random selection of advisees, under the new system, each of the 16 faculty members involved in the program work with about 20 freshmen, and each group of students are those living together in a certain corridor or floor of a residence hall. "Looking for a more meaningful relationship between advisee and advisor," the new system "provides entrance into the residence hall," said Boyd. "Since all the students are living together, the professor can more quickly know the students, can see all of them fairly readily, may hold meetings in dorm lounges, and is fairly certain that messages will be delivered," he added.

The 16 faculty advisors are: Richard Allen, Arlan Edgar, Richard Fuller, Maxine Hayden, Earl Hayward, Charles House, Musa Hussayni, Gunda Kaiser, Ronald Kapp, Florence Kirk, Earl Morgan, Ray Miner,

Molly Parrish, Charles Ping, Charles Skinner, and Paul Storey.

Boyd feels that the aspect of the program of professors working with students who live together is a useful one. "We will make more of that relationship, extend it," he said.

About problems in the program, Boyd said, "We wish now we had provided more time for students to meet in small groups with advisors. This would have to be at the expense of some of the large lectures. Next year, my guess is that there will be fewer lectures, and we will have more contact of advisee with advisor."

Apart from regularly scheduled formal lectures, held in Dow Auditorium, there are alternating discussion groups on Monday mornings at 10. In addition there are periodic meetings of the 16 professors. As always, there are individual meetings with students during the professor's office hours.

Boyd makes no secret of the fact that the new system is "based on the Princeton program, which is highly regarded in the East. It is modeled on the way Princeton handles advis-

ees, with 35-40 students for each advisor. We started with 20 students, realizing that next year we will have 35-40 also." (Freshmen now involved will keep their advisor as sophomores until they declare their major.) "It has proved reasonable at Princeton, and we hope it will here."

Boyd listed general aims, things the new program is "trying to do." The program aims at bringing students to an earlier understanding of just what a liberal arts education has as its objective, with the hope that they will become more effective students as a result of understanding the program they are a part of," said Boyd.

"We are also," said Boyd, "trying to introduce students as freshmen to the life of scholarship—what scholars try to do and how they do it."

"We want to make residence programs more closely related to and supportive of the academic program," Boyd stated. Along this line, Boyd cited the fact that "in the residence halls, we have moved to professional people interested in educational programs."

"Another goal," stated Boyd, "is to improve the quality of the planning program for each student."

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Acton Clinks Armor As The Knights Fall

by Jim Martz

Alma's cagers scored a stunning 74-59 victory over the Calvin Knights last Tuesday evening. It was the first victory over the Knights in several years and it marked the first win in MIAA competition for the Scots this season. This brought the season record to three wins against one setback.

The Scots led all the way with Bud Acton pouring in 32 points to take game scoring honors. Alma led 33-23 at half and built up a 17 point margin late in the game.

Two other Scots scored in double figures. Ray Moore and John LaRue each added 11 points. Don Phillippi's 8, Bill Pendell's 6, and Jim Ralston's 6, rounded out the scoring. The Scots shot well from the foul line making 26 of their 32 attempts.



O Come All Ye Faithful . . . To The Game

Cagers Cut Christmas For Courts

Alma's cagers will cut their Christmas vacation short to participate in the Marshall Invitational Christmas Tournament, December 28-29.

Central Michigan University has been installed as the pre-tournament favorite, which includes Taylor College of Indiana, Olivet College, and Alma College, in addition to CMU.

"The tournament was a real success last year, and the prospects for a bigger and better tournament this year are good" says Coach Wayne Hintz.

Pre-tournament drawing pits Alma against Central Michigan University at 7 p.m. Friday, and Taylor College against Olivet at 9 p.m. The losers will play a consolation game at 7 p.m. Saturday, with the championship game slated for 9 p.m.

SCOT PEN

cont. from p. 2

pressed old clothes tossed into a box for relief of distant peoples. If you can't make Christmas concern worthy of the name, then don't pretend Christmas is such for you.

Is it maybe holly and evergreen boughs and scarlet poinsettias? Then let them be real—not easy-to-care-for, deceptively exact in imitation, entirely cold and lifeless plastic substitutes. I suppose I'm old-fashioned and against scientific advance, huh. A question just came into my head: do you suppose plastic mistletoe is just as efficacious in justifying the holiday embrace as is the organic stuff? I wonder who decides.

Is it Christmas tales of the Child or of old Ebenezer Scrooge told to children? Then let them hear and enjoy the whole things—not all-at-one-quick-sitting modern abridgement or even more easily and less time-consuming giving and assimilation—for parent and child—by means of a hi-fi (plastic) record.

To say a cultural event such as our Christmas has or ought to have only one or some one set of the meaning above or others is to overlook its complexity or to demand narrowly and selfishly. So "Merry Christmas" all. And let that Christmas be to you whatever you will. But whatever it be, know what it is that you chose to make it. And then go about your Christmas as if you really mean it.

If, that is, you also see things done with half a heart as disgustingly ugly.

Alma Against Albion

Britons Are Acomin'; Scots Revengeful

Alma's Scotsmen continue their quest for revenge in the MIAA. Tuesday night the Albion College Britons come to town to test the Scots' strength in the first of two meetings between the clubs.

Albion College's head basketball coach, Dean Dooley, will bring a relatively inexperienced squad to Alma, a squad which numbers seven freshmen and five sophomores in its ranks. Inexperience will not be much of a factor though, as Albion will have returning lettermen at four of the five starting positions.

Co-captains Emil DeGrazia and Jim Papefus, Jerry Chandler and Charles Clark form the nucleus of the Albion squad. DeGrazia and Papefus collected 32 and 20 points respectively against the Scots in two games last year.

The only big loss Albion suffered through graduation was Denny Groat, a high scoring guard who poured 47 points through the hoop against the Scots.

Alma's quintet will be looking for their first victory over Albion in three years. The game will start at 8 p.m.

Big City Foes Don't Frighten Scots; DIT Slips Down, LIT Slips By

By Jim Martz

A weekend in Detroit provided more of the excitement which Scot fans witnessed at home against Eastern Michigan. The first of the two games saw Detroit Tech as the opponent. The Scot's offensive machine bombed home 83 points to win 83-78. The game was an old-fashioned "barn burner" which saw the Scots roar back from a 74-73 deficit with only three minutes remaining.

Leading the way and playing his finest collegiate game was 6-5 forward Bill Pendell. The Muskegon sophomore collected 27 points, 19 of them in the first half. Pendell also led the rebound blitzers, hauling down 16 off the backboards.

The Scots, led by Pendell, Don Phillippi, and Bud Acton, opened an early lead. The visitors led 26-18 at the ten minute mark and held a 48-45 margin at intermission. DIT was not to be denied as they moved to a 70-65 lead midway through the

second half and held on until the closing moments.

As in the Eastern game four Scots scored in double figures. Acton's 20, Phillippi's 13 and Ray Moore's 12 gave the Scots a balanced inside and outside offensive attack.

The second Motor City game found Lawrence Tech as Alma's opponent. As in the DIT game the Scots found themselves on the short end of the score late in the game. This time the margin was too great to overcome as the Scots dropped their first game, 64-63.

The Lawrence Tech game found Ray Moore as the offensive mainstay in the Scot attack. The junior guard popped in 24 points, most of them coming from long range and at key moments in the game. Bud Acton who was playing in his old stamping grounds, Troy High School, chipped in 17 points.

The Scots jumped to an early seven point advantage. Wayne Hintz's chargers lead 25-18 with

nine minutes left in the half when Lawrence Tech began to close the gap. Alma could muster only three more buckets in the half while LIT landed 18 points.

Trailing 57-44 with seven minutes remaining, the Scots "fired-up" for a come back only to lose by one point. Eighteen personal fouls were charged to Scot players while only eight were assessed to LIT. Alma had nine chances from the charity stripe and cashed in on seven.

Great Scots!



by Jim Ralston

After my outstanding success at predicting the football standings this fall, I can hardly let basketball slip by without giving it a whirl.

The MIAA race appears as if it will be a real scramble for the top spot this year. The league will have better balance because the powers of last year suffered heavy losses through graduation and the second division teams have a year of experience in their rebuilding process.

This is how I feel the MIAA basketball standings will look at the completion of the up and coming league race:

1. Hope
2. ALMA
3. Kalamazoo
4. Calvin
5. Adrian
6. Albion
7. Olivet

The top spot should be a dog fight between Hope, Alma and Kalamazoo—with any of the teams capable of taking it all. The reason Hope has a slight advantage can be summed up in one word: Vanderhill, a big Dutchman who has an uncanny knack of putting the ball through the basket. However, the Flying Dutchmen of Hope will not be as strong as last years' squad which tied with Kazoo for the title.

This COULD be the year for Alma to break loose and win the league title. But it must be remembered that, although Al-

ma has a very strong squad, they are still perhaps the youngest team in the league with two-thirds of the players being freshmen and sophomores.

Kalamazoo will be the third team locked in the three way struggle for first place, but it looks like last season's co-champs have lost too much through graduation. Thus, they will have to settle for the third rung on the ladder.

Calvin will be considerably weaker than last year's team, if their one-sided loss to Central Michigan earlier this season is any indication. But Calvin still should manage to take fourth place over Adrian, Albion and Olivet—all of which are stronger this year, but still operating in a rebuilding program.

The Scots only split in their Detroit swing, but they proved their ability to come back in both games. At Detroit Tech they were behind by as many as eight points late in the second half and finally won by five. At LIT the Scots picked up a total of 12 points late in the game, but still lost by one.

Alma will have another crack at both of these Detroit teams, for they both will journey to Alma later this season. On the home court and before home fans, our cagers should win both games. The strange courts and playing back to back games seemed to cramp the Scots style.

Lafferty All Stars Sporting 50 Game Winning Streak; An Alma Novelty

by Jim Martz

In this age of academic pressures, losing football teams, and no library, an undefeated sports squad exists on the Alma College campus. The team? They call themselves the Lafferty All Stars. The All Stars play volleyball in the intramural leagues and have never been defeated.

A 50-game winning streak and two championships have been compiled over the past 2½ years. Jerry Lafferty, a graduate last spring, was the team's founder and coach. Although Lafferty graduated, the returning players wanted to continue the tradition. And so they did, remaining undefeated so far this year.

Three members of the current squad were on the initial team, which had been comprised mostly of Delt Sigs. The three are Jim Burnham, Dave Ellsworth, and Chip McClellan. When asked about the key to the team's success, they answered all together, "Teamwork!"

The All Star's success is paralleled by the success of the intramural program this year.

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Delt Sig Mows Down Opponents As Volleyball Playoffs Approach

With play-offs coming up soon the action in Class A volleyball is increasing. The Delt Sig I is emerging as the team to beat. Led by Dick Waluk they have mowed down nine straight opponents. Delt Sig I, Faculty, Took-ems, Take-ems, Vets, and Delt Sig II are the only teams that still have a possibility of making the top four teams which are eligible for the play-offs.

In Class B Lafferty's roll on with their only serious threat being offered by the Trick-ems. Interest has taken a severe drop in Class B with a great majority of the games being won by forfeit.

- Trick-ems 9-1
- McPherson I 9-2
- Bruce 7-2
- Fudge's Folly 6-3
- Pioneer I 5-3
- McPherson II 4-6
- McKenzie 4-6
- Pioneer III 3-5
- Sutherland II 3-5
- Stuart 3-5
- McDougal 3-7
- Spastic 3-7
- Pioneer II 2-9
- Sig Tau III 0-9

Standings Class A

- Delt Sig I 9-0
- Faculty 7-1
- Took-ems 7-2
- Take-ems 6-3
- Vets 5-4
- Delt Sig II 5-4
- Sig Tau I 2-7
- Sutherland 2-7
- Rebels 1-8
- Sig Tau II 0-8
- Class B
- Lafferty's 9-0

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