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## Tradition carried on as Stones dine with seniors

By Karen Suber  
Staff Writer

"Mrs. Swanson and I (President Robert Swanson) are planning a series of dinners..." A statement which began the Alma College tradition of holding "Senior Dinners" during the months of March and April. President Swanson organized the first dinners in 1966 to honor the graduating class, and this year as seniors sit down to dine at the President's House, the Stone's will be continuing a 24 year tradition.

President and Mrs. Stone planned the six dinners for the second and third weeks of March. The dinners were Mar. 11-14 and will be Mar. 21 and 22. To add a twist to the traditional Senior Dinners, Mrs. Stone planned a variety of international meals. Each set of two meals features, respectively, cuisine from Mexico, Italy and Greece. According to Mrs. Stone, the occasion offers the chance to share good food, "to talk one-on-one with students" and to properly acknowledge seniors for their efforts at Alma College.

As Mrs. Stone explains, she and the President considered the importance of the Senior Dinners to alumni

when deciding to continue the event last year. It is the impression of the Stones that alumni value the experience very much. In fact, many of the alumnus have remarked to the Stones, "I've had dinner at the President's House. Who else can say that?"

Nadine Cain of Elwell, secretary of the Class of 1966, may have been one of those alumnus. Cain remembers the first set of Senior Dinners and how impressed she was with the gestures of President Swanson. According to Cain, it was the goal of President Swanson "to know everyone personally and everyone to be honored by him for their achievements." Most of all, Cain remembers the bond with Alma College and President Swanson that the Senior Dinners formalized. The bond has survived 24 years.

Several members of the Class of 1990 have echoed the same sentiment. Each has appreciated the efforts made by President and Mrs. Stone to organize the dinners. Carl Grant, a senior from Detroit, "thought it was very nice that the Stones opened up their house to the Senior Class." He also added, "I have never heard of other colleges (maintaining such a tradition)."



Seniors line up at President Stone's house for the traditional Senior Dinner.

Photo by Eric Lepard.

## Student authors preview *Pine River Anthology*

By Lisa Neddo  
Staff Writer

Where does the *Pine River Anthology* get its talent? The answer was displayed by readings from student authors at Common Hour last week. The literature was primarily poetry with some prose.

Approximately 250 entries were submitted for this year's publication.

basis of writing quality and diversity in relation to mood and art. Only 20 entries were chosen to appear in the Anthology.

Carol Bender, English professor, served as the advisor to the Anthology, while Louis Cubba, sophomore, served as editor. Additional acknowledgements go to the English Department and to Student Congress for providing

the quality of the publication.

The poetry readers for Common Hour were seniors Jodie Blankenburg—"As We Walk We Listen to the Earth" and "Someone is Showing", Becky Baily—"We Held the Innocence" and "Is There Pain in Your Heart?", Lisa Wooton—"Men and Tennis Shoes" and "Late November", Sara Amell—"Sex Life" and "A Nun By the Road",

cence", sophomores Joanna Beals—"Cacoethes Scribendi (The Irresistible Urge to Write)" and "Fear of Freezing" and Erin Fenner—"Safety Pin" and "Mother's Ear" and freshmen Nedret Avci—reading her short story "Abla" and Laura Poyner—"The Hour Glass" and "Nixema".

Reading "Backyard Burning" by junior Becca Turner was English

First place winners of the writing contest were chosen by a committee comprised of members of the English Department: Professors William Palmer, John Ottenhoff, Joseph Napora, Department Chairman Eugene Pattison, Joe Sutfin and Robert Wegner.

"Pine River Anthology" will be made available in the Rotunda Wed., April 4 at the 9 p.m. reception.

## Recycling program progresses

By Mike "Bernie" Collins  
Staff Writer

On Thursday Mar. 15, the Student Congress meeting featured a report from the Constitutional Review Committee and a report on the newly implemented recycling program on campus.

Congress passed two revisions to the Constitution concerning vacated offices; the only debated point being the number of votes be required for approval. The debate sparked the members to request that the Constitutional Review Committee look into amendments that would provide for a more stringent and effective attendance policy.

Emily Shaw reported that the majority of campus is now joining in the paper recycling effort. In response, some Congress representatives expressed concerns about the recycling drive: the receptacles are overflowing and some corridors still do not have containers. Shaw agreed to investigate the source of the problems.

Union Board President Alyson Crabtree announced the 1990-91 Union Board Staff. President Jeff Hyames, Michael Stargardt, Erika Soderholm, Missy Cross, Brad Geiger, Dennis Polsgrove, Lisa Thauvette, Audrey Gillespie, Kay Mathers, Erik Davidson and Andy Sutton.

The next Student Congress meeting will be Thursday, Mar. 22 at 7 p.m. in AC 113. Student Congress will present the budgets of various campus organizations and decide the Student Activity Fee for 1990-91.

## Marriott food service under student scrutiny

By Stacie Herriman  
Staff Writer

"The food is gross. There is nothing to eat in this place!"

These are frequent comments that one hears while dining in Hamilton Commons. The need for an investigation of the food situation is apparent. Why are the "customers," the Alma College student body dissatisfied?

The following is the first part of an interview with John "JR" Reid, Director of Marriott Food Service for Alma College, designed to provide the answers.

Q: What are the daily food requirements that must be provided for the students?

A: The daily requirements are based on a national average. The menus are put together by registered dietitians who take suggestions and

then go back and assemble the final product to ensure that all the nutritional requirements are met. This process becomes very difficult at times because the nutritional requirements that must be met daily are not the popular food choices with the students. The Alma College system is based on choice and variety. The menu provides the nutritional requirements, but it becomes a question of choice.

Although the nutritional requirements are out there in various forms, there is no absolute way that one can be assured that the students are meeting them. This is the reason for all the variety in Hamilton Commons. If one is not getting protein from the hot entree line, one can go to the deli line.

Q: How are the food menus determined?

A: The menus are based on a

national menu cycle for over 500 colleges and universities that Marriott operates. The base menus are put together with representatives across the United States and Canada. On the committee that creates the menus, Reid represents nine states in the Midwest area. The regional Vice-president has said, "Alma College runs a good food service program, therefore, the director of Alma College should be on this committee and best represent the Midwest." Reid represents 94 schools, and the committee meets every six months to create a new menu. Next fall's base menu was just completed approximately one month ago at Georgetown University in Washington, DC. Each school adds items—more variety—to that base menu based upon the students wants and needs.

Q: Why, if this is National Nutrition Month, is there nothing good to eat?

A: Just because food is nutritious doesn't mean that it is popular. Part of our goal here is not only to feed students food that they like, but it's also educated them. To say, here are some new items that are nutritious that you have probably never been fed at home or seen in a restaurant. So during National Nutrition Month, we're saying all of our food variety is nutritious in nature. This is an awareness month to remind students that our food is nutritious, to think nutritiously when they make their selections, and to give them new information (Menu Hotline—

"Nutrition Tip of the Day"; boxes—"Ask a Dietitian"). We are very lucky because on our staff we have a registered dietitian, Jennifer Sibel, a manager in Van Dusen.

Q: With all the people eating soup, salad and deli bar every day for each meal, don't you get the idea that the students don't like the food?

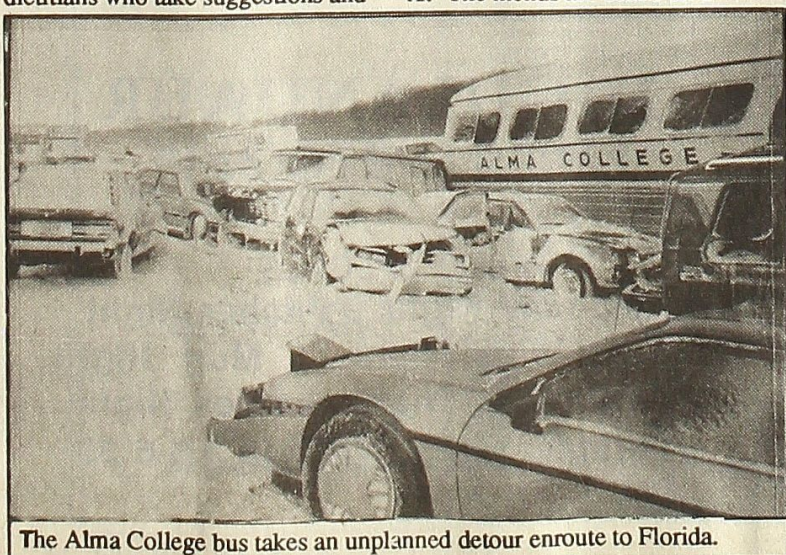
A: The impression can be that the students don't like the main entrees. But to be quite honest, the majority of the students take a main entree when they go through the line. Then they supplement that with soup, salad and deli. On the entree portion, we found that we serve over 1 portion per person of the entree that meal and then the additional entree percentages are made up by the deli and salad bars. On the average, a student takes two portions per meal whether it is an entree, soup, salad or deli. Hopefully you'll recognize the home-cooking on the hot entree line, such as the macaroni and cheeses and the roast turkey and dressings. We found that students like variety and want variety, but in the things they like, so we're getting away from a lot of different menu items that people have not seen before. You will always see items that you don't know what they are or what they're made with in the vegetarian section because at home most never had this option. Therefore, in coming to college, you are forced to grasp this new concept which you may want no part of. However, the vegetarians have complimented us for our excellent

menus which have gotten away from strictly eggs and cheeses. There are more vegetarians on campus now than ever before.

Q: If people don't like and are not eating the entree food, why don't you change the menu incorporating a wider and different variety of entrees?

A: We have changed the menus every other week serving chicken nuggets the other week. We have changed the menus to satisfy the student needs and give them the variety that they want. The food you like may not be nutritious for you; it's an educational process. When you come to school it's part of the total concept of learning; you're learning academics, social skills by living in the residence halls, and healthy eating habits that will carry with you the rest of your life. This is the first time in a student's life that the student is allowed to make his/her own choices as to what to eat because before, at home, the student had to eat what was cooked. The reason that there is so much choice and variety is that you are forming eating habits that will follow you into your adult years so we have to See page 2

Questions and answers



The Alma College bus takes an unplanned detour enroute to Florida.

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### Questions and answers

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give you a wider scope of food knowledge.  
Q: Don't we, the students, as paying customers, have a say in the matter as to what is served?  
A: Yes, you do. There is a food committee that meets every other week with a representative from every residence hall, an IFC member, a PanHel member, a off-campus student, a French House representative and a vegetarian. These individuals are selected by their various organizations. This committee discusses what went on during the past two weeks and what will happen during the next two weeks; items that we liked and didn't like, how the monthly specials worked and how the pace-changers, such as the pretzel and cupcake bars, are going out front.  
Q: What do you do with the left over food?  
A: Hopefully, there is not a lot of left overs, therefore, that is our number one goal: to cut down on the amount of food left over. With the small amount left, we can "rework" or reheat them one more time; state law says that food can be reheated once more, but then it must be thrown out. For example, roast beef can be incorporated into soups or it can be used in the deli. Most of the food gets put together right as the meal goes out and there is generally only a little bit left so typically you will not see the left over in the same form.  
This concludes the first part of the interview. Look for questions focusing on meat quality, Saturday night meals and spicing your food up. As Reid said, "The aim of our program is one of variety and choice."

# Community faces abortion dilemma

By Karen Suber  
Staff Writer

"Abortion Is Murder." "Abortion Kills." "Adoption Not Abortion." These are phrases that one might expect to see on placards held by members of the Right -To-Life Movement at a protest in Washington, D.C. or some other metropolis. However, four members of the Mt. Pleasant Right-To-Life Movement boasted these phrases on placards Thurs., March 15 in an attempt to detour Dr. Jack Stack, Alma Family Practice, from performing abortions at his office.  
Jim Conway, one of the four protestors, wishes "to draw attention to the fact that pre-born babies, 1.5 million per year across the nation, are being murdered."  
Stack's views concerning abortion contradict Conway's opinion. Abortion and murder are two separate, non-synonymous terms. According to Stack, abortion is a medical term which means "the termination of a pre-viable pregnancy... Murder is a legal term which means 'the unlawful and malicious killing of a human.'"  
Why should a college community, our college community, be concerned with the issue of abortion? Simply because one in 10 college women have had at least one abortion to end an unwanted pregnancy. According to Alma College health care director William

### NEWS COMMENTARY

Clark, the incidence of unintended pregnancies and abortions on the Alma College campus is substantially lower than the above statistic may suggest. Nevertheless, several women on this campus have had to directly face the issue of abortion.  
Obviously, the abortion controversy affects the town in which we reside during a large portion of the year. In addition, the issue influences the political atmosphere of every state, particularly in light of the Supreme Court ruling handed down in Webster V. Reproductive Health Services. The Webster decision, which opens the paths through which states can restrict the availability of abortion, has already been an issue in the gubernatorial elections in New Jersey and Virginia.  
As more and more governors and state legislatures address the issue of abortion, they will come to realize its importance to their female constituencies. After all, the enigma of abortion surrounds the presence of an unborn child in the uterus of a woman. As we evolve from students to adults, we must be able to meet the multi-faceted challenge needed to confront this issue in the future. It will be necessary for each to form an opinion: Pro-Life or Pro-Choice; there are not many shades of gray.  
What are the questions involved with the Abortion Issue? A brief

glance through any new magazine can provide this information: Is an unborn child a human being whose right to life deserves to be protected? Should an abortion procedure be considered as murder or as a routine medical procedure such as an appendectomy? Should abortion be allowed in certain situations? Does a woman have the right to control her body in all situations?  
The two primary set of responses to these questions are equally well-known: the Pro-Life response and the Pro-Choice response. Adhering to the Commandment put forth in The Bible, "Thou Shalt Not Kill," the members of the Right-To-Life Movement advocate the protection of unborn children and vow to continue their efforts until they have won rights for the unborn. According to Conway, members see abortion as "a matter of life and death. No one has the right to go into the womb and take the life of another human being."  
Conway said he blames the large number of abortions which are performed each year on a "misconception about fetal development."  
Many people who advocate abortion consider an unborn child to be a "blob" of tissue. Dr. Bernard Nathanson, a gynecologist who no longer performs the abortion procedure, disagrees. In his video of an abortion monitored through an

ultra sound, The Silent Scream, he describes how the body of a 12-week fetus is suctioned from the uterus, piece by piece. According to Sidney Callahan, associate professor of physiology at Mercy College, "A fetus, like an infant, or a mentally impaired or retarded individual, counts as a human being."  
Members of the Pro-Choice Movement are equally obstinate in the of positioning of their beliefs. Members rest these beliefs on the principle of self-determination, the right of every woman to control her own body. According to Faye Wattleton, President of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, "[Reproductive Freedom] should not be seen as a privilege or a benefit, but a basic human right." PPFA considers the proliferation of views other than Pro-Choice tied to the subjugation of women to men; without the right to self-determination in all aspects of life, a woman necessarily assumes an inferior role in society.  
Stack seems to be at the center of the abortion controversy in Alma. In a letter-to-the-editor of the Morning Sun (February 28, 1990), Stack discusses an interpretation of The Bible which differs from that employed by Conway and the Right-To-Life Movement. In fact, Stack describes the women, using language found in Proverbs (24:11),

who obtained illegal abortions before Roe V. Wade in 1973 as "those who were being led away to death and staggering toward slaughter."  
On Thursday Mar. 15, the "battle" between the Pro-Life and the Pro-Choice groups was played out before my very eyes. The scene reminded me of a small scale version of the Nov. 12 March for Women's Rights in Washington, D.C. The protestors waved at the passers-by, and the passers-by motioned a "thumbs-up" or a "thumbs-down." One man said to the protestors, "I think you're making a mistake..." One woman stopped to commend the activities of the protestors and to say, "God Bless You."  
It is up to you, the reader, to decide how you feel on the issue of abortion. Do you consider yourself Pro-Life or Pro-Choice? If you are female, try to think of what you might do if you became pregnant. As Bill Clark explained, "An individual cannot say 100 percent what she might do until such a situation arises." As I end this article, I call each reader to contemplate on the points of view presented here. Also, I would like to add that the Alma College Medical Center pledges its support to women, men, and couples as they make decisions about their lives. "An informed decision is the best decision."

## Student Judicial enforces pet policy

By Sharonne O'Shea  
Staff Writer

In the past week, the Judicial Committee heard two cases. One case was in violation of alcohol and quiet hours policies. The other case was in violation of the pet policy.  
The Alma College alcohol policy

published as part of the Student Life Handbook is, "in compliance with approved State, Federal, and local laws." In addition, the use of alcoholic beverages on campus has a few other restrictions. Alcoholic beverages must be consumed "in the privacy of a student's room" with no more than eight people in the room

at a time. Furthermore, those present under the age of 21, "must not possess or consume any alcohol."  
The policy has further stipulations concerning kegs, alcohol consumption in small housing units, campus advertisement and athletic facilities.  
The all-too familiar quiet hours policy for residence halls also

published in the Student Life Handbook forbids, "excessive noise which is disruptive to campus life in any way." Extra regulations may be devised by each residence hall concerning noise levels between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. to assure students time for studying and sleeping.  
Found guilty of on both charges,

the party was fined \$35.  
The pet policy according to the Student Life Handbook says that "...the only pets that can be kept in a residence hall are tropical fish."  
The party found guilty of violating the pet policy was notified that they must get remove the animal from campus.

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### Model UN

## Delegates gain the St. Louis experience

By Dr. M. Monshipouri  
Assistant Professor  
Political Science

Celebrating its 30th Anniversary of Model UN excellence (1960-1990), Midwest Model United Nations (MMUN) hosted 77 delegates from the 50 schools this year.  
Alma College represented the PLO and United Arab Emirates delegates. Opening plenary session took off with a conventional motto: "Making Today's Dream Tomorrow's Reality." The air was replete with enthusiasm, excitement and anxious awaiting. Shortly thereafter, everyone got to work.  
In general, the Model UN experience includes three interrelated parts: a practical comprehension of the recent and most pressing issues of international relations; an intercultural exposure; and a socialization process through which the proper conduct and attire in the

context of diplomatic intercourses will be learned.

The annual meetings of the MMUN are designed to furnish a forum for students to gain these exposures and experiences. Unde-

nately, the most relevant aspect of this convention is the experience of articulating political positions and statements.

...the most relevant aspect of this convention is the experience of articulating political positions and statements.

--Mahmood Monshipouri

This year's surprise player was Todd Hildreth. The most valuable partner proved to be Steve Lindeman. Lindeman served as the head delegate keeping everyone on schedule. Kathy Farrel, distinguished player in this year's MMUN, will be head delegate next year. Other delegates were David Woodruff, Leslee Bartrem, Jim O'Toole, Nicole Chittick, Phil Haar, Kirk Everett, Susan Hoppe, Kim Kaczmarek, Dale Price, Chris Rappley and R. J. Webber.

Daniel Raleigh, Director of Alumni and Community Relations, and Burnet Davis, Chair of the Political Science Department, also contributed to the success of Alma College at MMUN.

The Model UN case for next year is Poland. Anyone interested in joining Model UN and contributing to the student-diplomat exercise is welcome.

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## Stillman Choir sings at Alma

By David Engelman  
Assistant News Editor

"Breathtaking, excellent, the best choral singing I've ever heard." These are some of the comments I heard while squeezing my way out of Dunning Memorial Chapel on Monday, March 5 after the Stillman College Choir Concert at noon.

The 45 person choir literally blew the top off the building, filling it with the sounds of classical, spiritual and contemporary black church music.

Alma was the third lucky host of its sister college as part of the Stillman Choir 1990 Spring Tour, their program listing fourteen appearance dates in all.

Arriving 15 minutes before the concert, I stole a seat close to the front of the Chapel. By the time the choir had begun to sing, not a seat was left to be found, leaving several students, faculty and administration standing during the 90-minute concert. But there was not a frown in the house.

Several Alma College Choir members attested to the skill and professionalism of their sister choir. Junior Nick Roster said, "They were excellent. Their conductor (James Arthur Williams) commanded their respect and produced a flawless performance."

Williams, a native of Columbia, South Carolina, "is considered an authority on black choral music and is widely sought after as a lecturer and consultant on the subject," as it says in Stillman Choir's Spring Tour Program. I would be the last one to contest the man's authority; with the flick of a finger, or a slight tip of the head, he elicited astounding variations in sound quality from his singers. The choral group hung on their conductor's every move in perfect unity—it was truly a group performance.

Not to say that individual talents did not shine through; this choir was a whole made up of a variety of parts. Each soloist exhibited not only expertise singing, but a personalized interpretation of their piece and a formidable stage presence.

Individual singers displayed their ease with such songs as Manuel's "Alleluia" and MacFarlane's "Ho, Everyone That Thirsteth", not to mention crowd-pleasers like the all men's rendition of "I'm Building Me a Home" or "Who'll Be a Witness" and a touching presentation of "His Eye is on the Sparrow".

The choir concert ended with a spirited joint-effort, "The Battle Hymn of the Republic", sung by both the Stillman and Alma College Choirs.

Posters around campus, unfortunately, billed the choir concert as a "once in a lifetime event". I doubt those who attended the performance will let that happen.

## 'The Time of Your Life' hits Dow

By Karen Pawlowicz  
Assistant Feature Editor

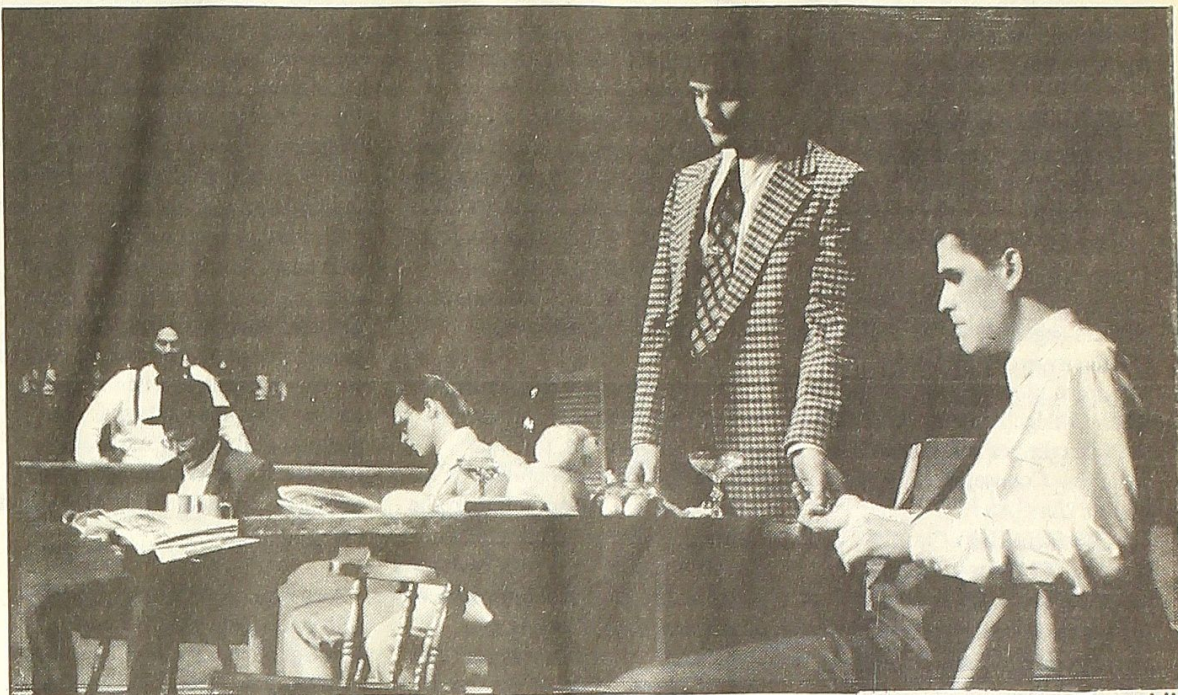
The Alma Players are currently presently "The Time of Your Life," a comedy-drama by William Saroyan. The play is set in a waterfront saloon in San Francisco where anything can happen, and does. It is sort of dramatic vaudeville show, not really held together by a realistic plot but kept constantly racing along by a parade of the most colorful characters ever put in the same play together.

Some of the personalities that come to life on the stage are: a story teller who looks like he stepped out of the Old West, an aspiring tap dancer, a prostitute whose wistful dreams clash with the unhappy life she leads, an anxious policeman, a friendly bartender, a boy in love constantly trying to call his girlfriend on the telephone, a slumming

society lady and her husband, and a slot machine addict.

The cast is under the direction of Philip R. Griffiths and includes: David Engelman, Andrew J. Kartsounes, David B. Kinsworthy, Kirk Yodzevicis, Jeremy John Evans, Bradley Weidemann, Nick Roster, Karen D. McDonald, Jim Sherman, Hans Stephen Reimers, "Ivory" Wil Shapton, Ruth Clendenin, Fred Feleppa, Rebecca Martien, Bill Eremia, Ty Parent, Scott M. Bouldrey, Mike Thompson, Jessica McDaniel, Mindy Stadt, Julie K. Weigold, Sandra Martens, Lori Stein and Jeff Sevensen.

The play opened last weekend and will run again this Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. in Dow Auditorium. Admission is \$5.00 for adults and \$2.00 for students at the door or \$4.50 and \$1.50 in advance. For reservations and ticket information call 463-7306 from 1-5 p.m.



A scene from the play "The Time of Your Life."

Photo by Stuart Tannehill.

## Springfest 1990 starts with Art Appericiation Day

By Sara Rowland  
Feature Editor

The performing arts students and the Faculty Committee of Alma College will be presenting Springfest 1990.

The program, which runs from March 20 thru April 8, will entail such things as Jazz band concerts, the senior art show and the Orchestras Dance concert.

To kick off the festivities will be

what creative arts coordinator, Brad Guigar calls Art Appreciation Day.

Art Appreciation Day will be held in the Alma Community and is scheduled for Tuesday, March 20 from 6 p.m.-9 p.m. Many types of art will be on display and for sale during this time. There will also be performing artists, including singers, dancers, and musicians. The location of this event will be at various stores throughout the Alma Community.

The ceramics exhibition and demonstration will be led by senior Jim Ledyard at the JCPenny's store, a printmaking and demonstration led by Mike Barnes and Jason Reed will be at Spurgeon's on Superior St., Beth Ann Short and Tricia Carney will lead the painting and painting demonstration at Van Attens, both Chris Nixon and Laura Poyner will be at WalMart to exhibit photographs, and David Cummings and Brad Guigar will do caricatures on

Superior Street.

The Art Appreciation Day comes about by the Alma College Art Society which has recently formed. All the people involved in this day are members of the Art Society and will be able to talk about the work being put on display.

"This is the first official public relations that the Art Society has had," said Brad Guigar co-chair of the society.

The Art Society does certain things, such as discuss issues in art, talk about individual works, and critique movies. The campus and the community should also be aware that people can bring free lance art work to the society for art students to do, including fliers and photographs.

"The Art Appreciation Day is going to be a good time," said Guigar. "As soon as you get done with supper come on out."

## Circulation manager reflects on changes at Alma

By Rachelle Reinhardt  
Staff Writer

Have you ever walked up to the circulation desk in the library and asked Bette Fox a question, thinking that she was a librarian? Surprise! Bette is the circulation manager at the library.

This job requires her to check books in and out, to register patrons, supervise the student assistants, insure that the shelving is done, and act as a receptionist when the secretary is unavailable. In addition, as many students are aware, she offers assistance to patrons using the PACs and the computer system.

Before Bette worked at the library, she attended Alma College, majoring in speech. She also minored in

English education and biology. After completing her degree, she moved to Wisconsin to become a teaching assistant at a high school. She worked with the math, foreign language, home economic and special education departments. Then Bette decided to move back to Michigan to be near family members and for a change of pace.

In the ten years that Bette has worked in the library, she has seen many changes take place on campus. One change is the number of supervisors Bette has worked under. Marcia Witt is currently Bette's fifth supervisor, and she has had to adapt to each of their different personalities. A second change she has seen is the expansion of the lower level of the library. The most recent change

she has witnessed is the new automation system, including the addition of the rainbow system for student use.

Besides the changes Bette has seen in the library, she has also observed changes on campus form when she attended Alma. "Women had to be in the dorms at 7:30 p.m. each night. The only way you could get out of the dorm on weekdays was to go to the library if you were a freshman." No men were allowed in the women's rooms. In fact, men weren't allowed above the reception

area unless there was an open house.

Bette was a member of the Sigma Philo sorority which later became the Alpha Xi Delta chapter. Sororities weren't as strong on campus when Bette attended; partly because all of the women lived in one dorm. "It didn't really matter in you were in a sorority. The sorority lines weren't drawn as clearly," she said. On the other hand, the debate and forensics team which were very active when Bette attended classes have disappeared.

When Bette isn't working at the

library, she keeps busy making baskets, knitting, reading and babysitting her 14-month-old grandson. Her other three granddaughters live out of state and unfortunately, Bette doesn't see them as often.

Despite the many changes Bette enjoys "being back on the Alma campus, the campus life, the interpersonal relation with the faculty, staff and students, and the cultural activity." In addition she enjoys "the community of Alma itself."

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# Lombard prepares to leave Newberry

By Sarah Houghton  
Staff Writer

"It's going to be hard to leave Alma," states Anne Lombard, Newberry Hall's current Resident Hall Director.

Lombard, who is leaving Alma College after the end of this year's spring term, recently received her masters degree from Michigan State University in Student Affairs Administration. Newly married to Alma College Alumna, Art Rathjen, she will take her new job as Resident Hall Counselor at Eastern Illinois University.

As Resident Hall Director of Newberry Hall for the past three years, Lombard's job has been very demanding. Seventy-five percent of her job entails working as Hall Supervisor for the Resident

Assistants, advisor of the Newberry Hall Council, and supervisor of switch.

She also works with the housekeepers in maintenance of the hall, deals with judicial matters such as noise or alcohol, coordinates hall programs such as study breaks, and Newberry Nights, and acts as a personal counselor in roommate conflicts and homesickness.

The other twenty-five percent of her job involves auxiliary assignments. For instance, this year Lombard resided as coordinator of judicial affairs. As coordinator, she worked with the student judicial committee in dealing with violations more severe than hall violations but less severe than subvention or expulsion. Lombard was also this year's advisor of the Homecoming

Committee and in past years has sat on several other committees.

Lombard, a graduate of Mt. Pleasant High School, attended Western Michigan University where she received a bachelors degree in Public History. At Western, she was a Resident Assistant for a year as well as an Assistant Hall Director for a year. It was during her undergraduate studies she decided to pursue a major in the area of college student personnel. When interviewed by Alma College for the position of Resident Assistant Director and after visiting the campus, Lombard, "fell in love with the school."

As a result, she became Newberry Hall's Resident Hall Director. Throughout her three years at Alma College, Lombard has experienced

many things. When asked about her most interesting experience as Hall Director, she described a power failure in Newberry during her first year here.

"It was really scary. All the R.A.'s in the building and I had to patrol the hall throughout the evening in shifts."

Her worst experience is dealing with drunk people who become violent.

"Nobody likes to deal with those situations, but you have to," she said.

When asking Anne Lombard's overall thoughts about her time spent at Alma College, she replied, "Alma has given me the chance to get a lot of experience to work with and for some wonderful people. I have a lot of memories here."

# Women's History month displays feminist struggles

By Maria Stephens  
Staff Writer

"Women's efforts have routinely been dismissed as inconsequential, if not comic..."

by those who compile the records of the past." ("Remember the Ladies": New Perspectives on Women in American History, p. 2)

March is "Women in History" Month, and the above quote expresses the opinion of those who see the study of women's history as necessary to supplement our standard texts, which these advocates say are biased toward the white male point of view.

While some skeptics are quick to point out that "history is history" and that the facts of our past are objective realities, June Sochen, author of *Her-story: A Woman's View of American History*, rejects true objectivity as an unattainable goal in history, and therefore feels that to arrive at the truth one must examine all points of view (p.5).

One such point of view which feminist historians feel is lacking in standard textbooks is the woman's. Feminist historians assert that historical records lack any account of the woman's role in society and in the building of our nation, save for the few mythic, caricatured figures such as Betsy Ross.

With the new strides made in the last two decades in our nation in the area of women's rights and roles, there has also been an increased interest in researching the before-mentioned role of women in history. The new self-image women have gained as a group has led them to no longer accept the belittlement of their duties and hardships in the past. These feminists seek an identity for a group of people whose efforts have long been considered dispensable and insignificant. In this way, the study of women's history encompasses much more than simply a few biographies of important women's "firsts." It is a revision of the way we view the past which sees the woman's role as essential and which recognizes the hardships women as a group have suffered.

Dr. James Schmidke, who teaches European History at Alma, says that he is very aware of the strong male bias which existed during many of the time periods about which he teaches.

"I try to point out the blatant discrimination which existed, so they (the students) can see how far we've come," he explained.

Dr. Schmidke cites the Middle Ages especially as a time of blatant discrimination against women, who

the society saw as the source of all evil, based on the creation story in Genesis.

Dr. Schmidke also says that he is careful to eliminate sexist references both from his own lectures and from his students' writing: he encourages the use of he/she, "humankind" rather than "mankind," and the "nature of human beings" rather than the "nature of man."

Historians not only find evidence of discrimination in European History; many feminist historians feel that the account of our own nation's history has a strong white male bias. They assert that the view of our nation's history as one of "triumph" and "progress" is told exclusively from the white male point of view and ignores the realities of wilderness destruction, and the oppression of blacks, Native Americans, and women. These historians feel that the study of the history of women and of other oppressed groups could alter the way we view our nation's growth.

Sophomore Laura Ober agrees that women have consistently been overlooked in the account of our nation's history.

"We hear all about our 'founding fathers' in our nation's history, and the only thing we hear about our 'mothers' is women who baked pies and sewed flags," she stated.

But Freshman Brian Haara sees a simpler explanation than a "white male bias" to explain why women appear less in history books.

"The reason women in general have failed to appear in history books is not because the textbooks are written from a white male biased point of view — it is because women just didn't (for one reason or another) play a very significant role in our history compared with men," he stated.

Senior Scott Perkins, on the other hand, feels that "while the objective facts may be that men did more, these facts have been exaggerated by our Judeo-Christian, patriarchal society to reinforce the idea that men are dominant." Perkins feels that throughout the ages our society, our language, and our religion have strongly reinforced the idea that man is superior to woman.

Sophomore Margaret Hall feels that the study of women's history is important for the women's movement but that it is only the first step.

"The increased interest in women's history is a good change; the real change, however, will come as women are able to become more influential and thus make more decisions," she stated.

For more information on prominent figures in women's history, see the display in the library.

# Seniors present art exhibit in Clack

By Ann Fuller  
Staff Writer

After four years of many long dedicated hours, ten seniors are finding themselves in a position to show off all they have done. The Senior Art Exhibition is a conglomeration of work done by David Cummings, Elizabeth Robertson, Anne Warren, Robin Roller, David Estrada, Jamie Halvorsen, Tim Hoover, Shelley Miller, Laura Poynor and Beth Ann Short.

Cummings' work is emphasized mostly on fantasy illustration, and he uses a variety of media in his work. Robertson does a lot of drawing and painting, which is often figurative and concerned with environmental and feminist issues. Roller is a photographer using black and white and color. She freelances as a concert photographer. Warren works on drawings, paintings and printmaking. She works primarily with the figure and her works are often intensely subjective. She likes to add hard lines to soft, natural objects. Estrada creates drawings and paintings and his emphasis

comes mostly from Mayan and Aztec cultures and Catholic religious symbolism. Halvorsen is a biology and art major and shows a lot of interest in nature and natural forms. She frequently uses textures in her work. Hoover works a lot with pottery making strong, clean simple forms. His interest is how glaze surface relates to forms. Miller is an education and art major and she does a lot of work with shapes, patterns and colors. Poynor works with drawings, paintings and photography. Her emphasis lies mainly within popular culture, films and media. Short is an English and Art major working frequently with figurative drawings and paintings. Her recent work involves figures isolated in settings.

The show is required for all senior art majors as it is their version of a senior thesis. It is planned and publicized through the seniors and everyone is expected to put in their share of the work as well as prepare their individual art for display. Presentation of art is taught in every art class and now is the time for the seniors to show what they have

learned.

As a supervisor to the seniors, Carrie Parks-Kirby feels that her role is to help make it possible for the seniors to work together. "The most difficult type of show to do is a group show," said Parks-Kirby. "I help to keep the group focused on their responsibilities and make sure everyone's works is displayed to their best advantage."

Kirby feels the show is tremendously important for the students to go through and the students agree.

"I am trying to look at my work with a cohesive view and pull everything together so it looks like a complete show," said Warren.

"The show forces me to look at my work as a whole and make connections between the things that I have done," said Roller.

Miller said she is going to use the experience of putting together a show to help her with her teaching.

"I will need to know how to correctly hang my students work because I think it will be important for them to see their work displayed," she explained.

The show opens on Friday, March 23 and will be previewed during Common Hour on Thursday, March 22 by the seniors who are participating. There will be a reception on Saturday March 24 from 2-4 pm. The show will remain open until April 21, graduation day.

Thursday, April 12 is another big day for the seniors. On this day, an outside advisory board has been invited to critique the show. It is at this point where the seniors will be asked questions about their work and will have to defend it. The board consists of Sally Rose, art professor at CMU, Susan Goethel-Campbell, an Alma College alumni teaching art at the Center for Creative Studies and Peter Glendenning, professor of photography at MSU.

Although they may be a little nervous about being critiqued, the seniors feel it will be advantageous for them. Said Estrada, "You have to learn how to take criticism. It can be helpful and it can be painful, but you can learn from your mistakes and your successes."

# Springterm offers fun for those enrolled

SPRING TERM 1990  
By Robin Olsen  
Staff Writer

As students continue to brave the harsh weather and the seemingly endless stream of work from their winter term classes, everyone looks forward to the sun, the fun, and the relaxation that lay ahead. Yes, spring term is only a month away. Whether students take spring term to fill their distributive requirements, to enhance their major, or to work on their tan, most everyone loves it.

Spring term is an opportunity offered by Alma College that

requires each student to take one four credit class for four weeks in May, and each student must take two spring terms in order to graduate. This condensed period of study allows the students to become centralized and knowledgeable on one topic in a short amount of time.

This unique experience was put into effect in 1973, and since then Alma has been the only college to offer this exclusive program. Spring term not only offers programs on campus, but also classes that venture to various parts of the country and also worldwide.

As Carlee Olson commented on her trip to New York City, "The dance trip gave me the opportunity

to learn on campus for two weeks and then to travel off campus as well."

Spring term also offers opportunities for travel abroad to Jamaica, England, Spain, France and the Soviet Union.

Those who choose to stay on campus for spring term have fun as well, since most students see spring term as a chance to wind down from the pressure of winter term. As Beverly Brown suggests, "Everyone should stay for spring term because it is so relaxed."

Also, many students seize the opportunity to become involved in such rigorous activities as playing baseball, volleyball and basking in

the sun.

No matter what you choose to take or do during spring term, it's definitely a change from the rigorous schedule which binds us now.

In addition to the change in learning style, many of the courses are taught outside. As Steve Hicks commented, "My spring term was an archeology class, and we spent four to five hours outside in the sun anyway."

Regardless of the class, spring term is bound to be one of the best parts of the school year at Alma. As Mary Sweet stated, "I've always enjoyed my spring terms and its almost impossible not to have fun."

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## Common hour

On March 29, at the Common Hour, the Department of Speech Communication will sponsor the 25th Annual Preston Bradley Speaking Contest.

"The Contest is open to all full-time students," said Professor Robert W. Smith of the Speech Communication Department. "At

## Preston-Bradley speech contest to be held

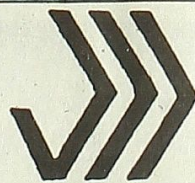
these annual events we typically hear some of the best student speeches we hear all year," he added.

Further information will be forthcoming but those who enter must select a topic controversial for Alma students, prepare a typed or word-processed outline, using complete sentences, with bibliography, and present it before a screening

jury. Those who satisfy the jury will participate in the finals, with six participants as the maximum.

Winners will receive a gavel and have their names emblazoned on a plaque housed in Reid-Knox.

More details of the Contest, named in honor of a former Alma student, will appear next week.



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# Classified

The Almanian  
Page 5  
March 20, 1990

All classified information must be submitted to the ALMANIAN office, Newberry Basement, by the Friday prior to the date of the desired publication. All classifieds are printed on a first come, first serve basis, and are free to members of the Alma College community.

OX-

Congrats to our new actives!!! X-tra special congrats to Drew and Skronk for their creative use of a bottle. Pure genius guys. A big thanx to Dallas for the "Astroids Delux"...now we have something to do when we're (not)studing. Let's gear up for "Beach party" this weekend...I hope the neighbors like NOIZE!!!

-Auf Leben

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Attention Campus Community: Don't forget to mark Saturday March 31 on your calendars. It is Mardi Gras. Tickets go on sale Monday, March 26 in Saga, \$4.00 per person and \$8.00 per couple. The dance will be from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. in VanDusen. Semi-formal dress is required. Everyone is welcome.

Alpha Xi's: Fire up for Mardi Gras! You have only two more weeks to get those dates...This will be the best Mardi Gras ever.  
TfJ

Dear Mom & Dad, Last Saturday night during a "Study Session" in my room at the house my stereo shorted out when something was spilled in it. The repair shop said it wasn't worth fixing so I need to get a new system so that we can continue to study here at Alma. I checked at Main-street Audio & Video and they got a kickin' system for only \$497 + tax!! It is a Kenwood Home Stereo system with KR-A4010 Receiver, LSK-503 Speakers, and KX-48C Cassette Deck or DP-48 CD player! It is regularly \$607, but it is on sale for only \$497 thru the end of April. PLEASE SEND MONEY!! It greatly aids my G.P.A. **MAINSTREET AUDIO & VIDEO** 116 W. Superior in the Heritage Town Square 463-5523. Students always get 2 for 1 on movie rentals.

Alpha Gams, Y'all having a relaxing week? Fire up for Songfest!!!! So, who's gonna get the squirrel this week? Any volunteers? Congrats to Prof. Garvey on a job well done! Good luck to all scheduling classes and finding a place to live next year. Fire up 1990-91 housies and congrats to ya! Have a great week! The Pub Crew

Mardi Gras is right around the corner so don't forget March 31. The whole campus is invited. It is a great time. It's a night filled with laughs, good memories and close friends. See you there!


Sigs I

"I, state your name..." Scoot dee doot keep your raincoats in your own closet. Also you should let your wine and women age properly. Happy Birthday to me!! Rusty, even though it's a Champion, that pea green sweatshirt is too ugly to wear more than one day a week. Stoli and Amy, you have to stop dressing alike—you and Rusty's sweat-shirts are making Turtle sick. Trigger, I hear you are in the McGinnis Book of World Records for broad jumping. Fanorris, I hear you had a Long weekend. Quin-Sig-A-Mond. Z

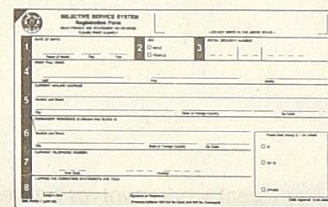


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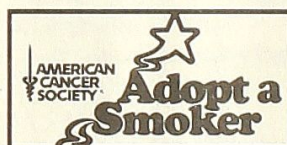


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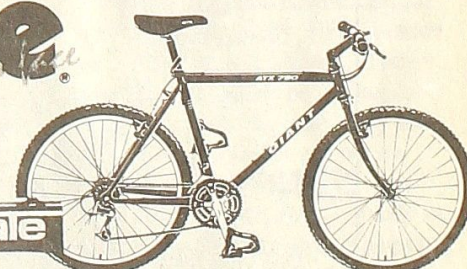
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## Adam talks Tournament

I, as are many other Wolverine fans, am in mourning. Let it be known that the pain I feel cannot be expressed. That is why I decided to interview Jay Burmeister, hoping that maybe together we could make our way through the trauma.

Q: Jay, could you see upset written on the wall?

A: Well Adam, if you are referring to the third stall in the bathroom of Gelston's ghetto, then yes I did.

Q: Jay, I want to pick a player of the game, but I'm not sure which weasley, whimpy, surfer punk to choose?

A: Adam, that's a tough call. I couldn't tell one of those J-Crew, no-tan California boys, from the other, but just glancing at my stat sheet....oh, here's an obvious choice,

61 points, shooting 20 for 21 from three-point land. But, I am an intangible guy, so let's not look only at the stats. There are some players on LMU that may have scored only 35 points with a less than average performance from three-point range of 82%, who played tremendous defense.

Q: Jay, I don't mean to stray from the game to much, but were you aware that Loyola Marymount outscored Golden State, Phoenix, and the Los Angeles Lakers in points per game?

A: That's incredible Adam, considering the tremendous competition that these Marymount kids were presented with every week of the regular season.

For those of you who did not get to bear witness to the horrifying extravaganza that Jay and I did, we have ran through our own brief depiction of the game. I will be playing the part of CBS announcer Greg Gumbel, and Jay will play his CBS colleague Quinn Buckner.

Greg (Adam) : Michigan with a nice three on one break away, pass, and a slam dunk.

Quinn (Jay) : But, hold on a minute, as we await the call by the official.

Greg (Adam) : Why, Quinn you caught that call quite early. There will be a charging call on Michigan, no bucket, technical foul, on those dirty Wolverines.

Quinn (Jay) : I believe that an unusual rule will come into play in this case. Loyola will receive six

foul shots, and the next three possessions of the ball. With the three point play that could mean a 16 point swing.

Greg (Adam) : No, that's a possible 17 point swing.

Quinn (Jay) : Like I said, that's a really big play for Loyola. Loyola takes the ball in bounds, the ref dribbles through the Michigan press, passes to a squirrely boy. He takes the turn around, double pump, fade away jump hook, off the bottom of the glass and nothing but net.

Wow a shot like that makes me hungry, Vendor!

Vendor: You said you wanted three beers, two hotdogs, and a Michigan State loss by eleven to Georgia Tech. I've only got one hotdog, but the beers and the State loss are no problem.

## Campus reaction to NCAA tournament

By Scott Alexander  
Assistant Sports Editor

Along with the promise that warm spring weather is just around the corner, March also brings, to basketball fanatics throughout the country, an unexplainable fever known as "March Madness". Television sets all over the country are being tuned to CBS as fans are treated to a plethora of hardwood excitement all culminating with the Final Four in Denver, Colorado, and the eventual crowning of a National Champion. In the spirit of the event we asked some Alma students who they were picking to capture the coveted championship crown, and here are some responses:

Todd Butorac: "Minnesota because Dave Gilkey looks like their mascot (a gopher)."

Tim Bailey: "Michigan - Everyone thinks they don't have it any more so when they do win, I'll laugh at everyone."

Eric Cook: "I don't care. Real men play tennis anyway."

Eric Davidson: "Michigan - They're studs."

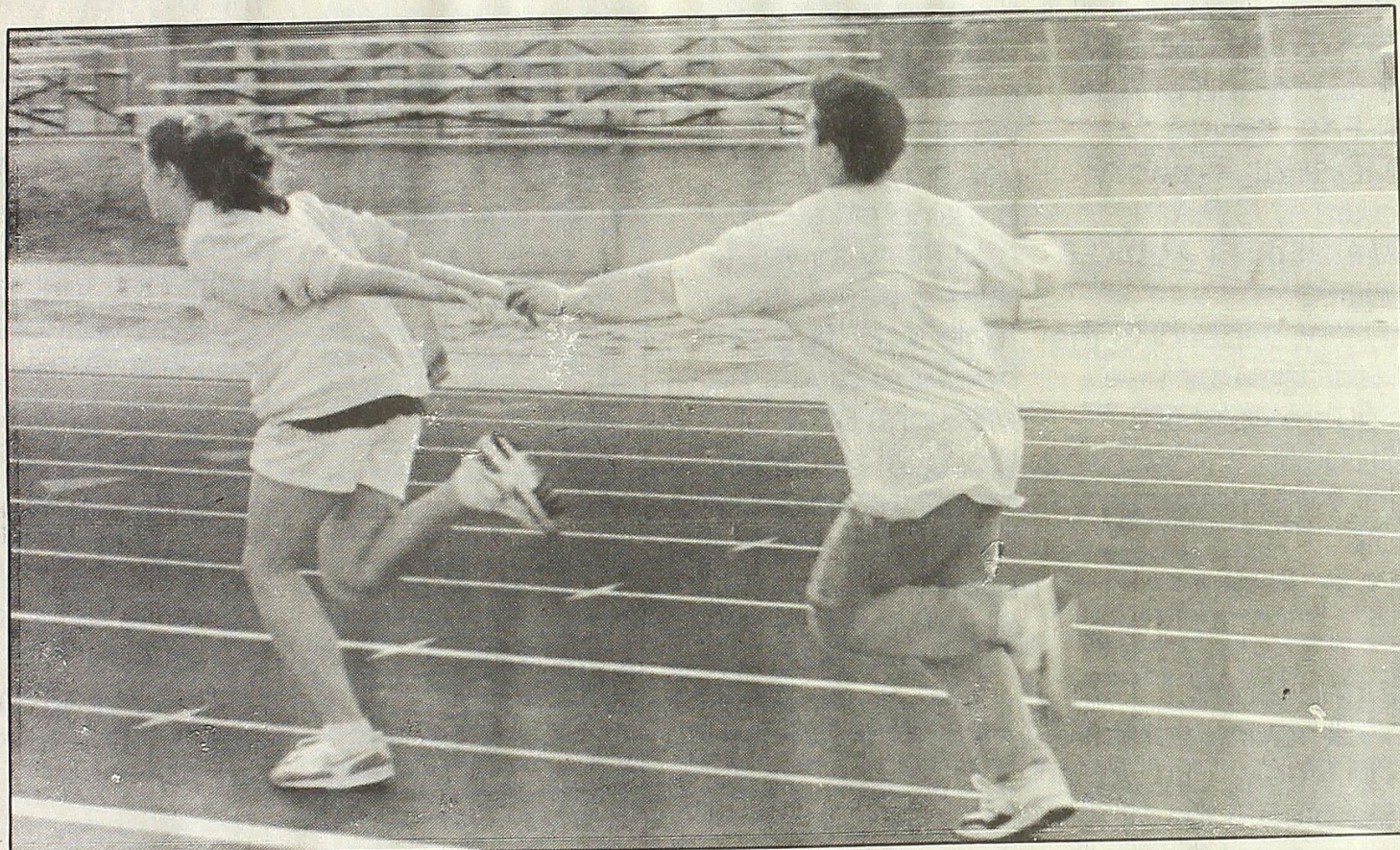
Jill Ruttan: "I hope MSU wins because they have waited along time, and I would

love to see a Michigan team do it."

Mike Skinner: "Michigan State because they haven't been there in a while, and I'd like to see an area team win it."

Lee Dewitt goes up and over.

Photo by Scott Rea.



Passing the baton in the 400m relay.

Photo by Scott Rea.

Darren Kalina goes over a pitch at practice.

Photo by Stuart Tannehill.



Softball practice is in full swing.

Photo by Scott Rea.





'The Time of Your Life' gives insight to human nature

By Jennifer Gilchrist  
Staff Writer

When I was a child, my mother forced my family and I to go to a play every two or three months. I found this culturization to be a slow and painful process. Plays to me were like bad movies—limited sets and unrealistic, overzealous acting. There seemed to be a very small connection between how the characters acted and how people behave in real life. Musicals were worse—people breaking into song in the midst of ordinary events without surprizing anyone around them.

While I still think musicals tend to be a bit corny, plays as an art form

are steadily gaining integrity in my eyes. A good play doesn't just represent an angle of life, but becomes *more* than life. All plays start with the playwright's philosophy of how life works, and what it is made up of. If the production is successful, then the audience is able to see parts of themselves in the characters, and the essence of the main characters is made clearer than a two-hour real life encounter would reveal.

Such was the success of the Alma College Players' production of William Saroyan's "The Time of Your Life".

Basically, the play deals with how people interact with each other, and

how individually they work against the fulfillment of their own dreams. The characters are patrons of a bar in San Francisco in the fall of 1939. 1939 is, of course, when World War II was being fought, and the pain of the characters is reflective of that event.

The lead of the play, Joe, a rich alcoholic loafer with a soft heart, brilliantly portrayed by David Engelman, verbalizes what he believes to be the pathetic human condition in Act II. He says, "Twenty-four hours. Out of twenty-four hours at least twenty-three and a half are—my God, I don't know why—dull, dead, boring, empty, and murderous. Minutes on the clock, not time of living." Thus the play

receives its title.

Nick Roster gave a great and believable performance as Tom, a man whose sole purpose is to run errands for Joe, and love Kitty Duval. Kitty is a farm girl from Ohio turned pathetic prostitute, played by Karen McDonald. She did a superb job of showing the little girl in the two dollar harlot.

In addition, there were excellent performances by Scott Bouldrey as the hilarious, pathologically lying, old cowboy, Kit Carson, Ty Parent as the intellectual longshoreman McCarthy, and Andrew Kartsounes as Nick, the sympathetic bar owner. Jim Sherman, as the love-sick Dudley R. Bostwick, and Hans Steven Reimers as Harry, the

energetic, unsuccessful comic were also outstandingly well- portrayed.

Perhaps the only disappointment which was evident during the St. Patrick's Day performance was an unfortunate incident in the last scene. Concentration was broke by a few main characters when the door of the set unexpectedly fell to the ground. However, despite the audience's obvious reaction to this, the actors quickly gained their composure, and proceeded with the remainder of the play.

All in all, the Alma Players put on a production that escalated smoothly into a complex, funny, moving, and thought-provoking statement about human nature.

Stillman Choir impresses Alma College

By Michael Stargardt  
Staff Writer

This past Mon., March 9, the Stillman College Choir performed in the chapel at noon. Although the scheduled time was an awkward one for most students, the concert was reasonably well attended by both the campus and community.

Stillman's concert choir was made up of forty-four young singers who were selected from the one-hundred voice college choir. Under the direction of James Arthur Williams, Chairman of the Stillman Fine Arts Department, the choir's repertoire includes a wide variety of music encompassing all periods and styles. The choir is well-traveled, appearing in concerts in thirty-five states, the District of Columbia, the Republic of Mexico, and the Bahama Islands. Stillman College, founded in 1876, is a four-year, liberal arts college of the Presbyterian Church similar to Alma. The largest and most obvious difference between the two colleges is the minority ratio on both campuses. While 98% of Alma College's students are white, Stillman College's campus is 98% black. The concert carried much significance as it stood to signify the opening of a sisterhood relationship between the two colleges.

The first half of the performance consisted of several classical pieces all of which were powerful and dramatic in sound, regardless of their complexity. Impressive was the control held by conductor James Arthur Williams as he carried out his interpretation of F. Mendelssohn's *Rise Up, Arise*. The singers performed with great individual and group intensity while following the conductor's direction. Following intermission, the choir sang a series of traditional Negro spirituals which contained phenomenal performances by several soloists, in particular those of soprano Brunilda Bultron. The concert was closed with the singing of *The Battle Hymn of the Republic*, in conjunction with the Alma Choir.

Those of us who attended attended the concert were awestruck by the talented singers from Stillman College. Their musical interpretation and emotional intensity was unmatched to anything I've seen performed by a choir. I regret that many students and faculty were unable to attend the concert due to their busy schedules. The quality of the performance warranted skipping class, and I think that those of us who missed their 11:30 and/or 1:00 classes found the experience to be truly worthwhile.

Studying overseas proves worthwhile to college career

By Heather McPhillips  
Staff Writer

As a senior biology major, going overseas twice was probably unusual. People are constantly asking me, "Why go overseas? Is it scary? Is it hard to make friends or keep the friends back home? Are classes difficult?" My experiences in Austria and Scotland provided me with some of my best memories and unique friendships. I learned more about myself, our culture, different cultures, politics, history, art, music and religion by living and travelling through Europe for five months than I had learned in the previous

nineteen years of my life.

The extraordinary people I met and the famous places I visited made almost every day a rich learning experience. During my stay in Vienna, Austria, I traveled all over Europe. I danced with the Italian national hockey team in a disco in Budapest, rode forty hours in a train with at least half of the Yugoslavian army, walked through the streets of Venice during Mardi Gras, crammed with elaborately costumed Italians, went to a Viennese costume ball, attended the Opera, the symphony, and met controversial President Waldheim of Austria.

In Scotland, I lived in a flat with five British women. I did not travel

much, but instead enjoyed going to the pub or having tea with my flat-mates and friends. Emma is English, and had taken two years out before going to the university to do volunteer work in India and work at a ski resort in Northern Italy. Sharon was almost thirty, half Jamaican and half English. She had lived in London for a few years, worked as a type of lab technician, and decided science was not for her, so she is pursuing a degree in German and History of Art. Alison is from a small town in Scotland, very proud of her heritage and a great fan of football (soccer). Tanya was born in America, but had lived in Scotland for the last eight years.

Each of these women are unique in their backgrounds, goals, and values. Sitting up until three or four a.m. talking with them was always exhilarating.

The experiences I have had through going overseas enriched my education immeasurably. Part of the attraction of a liberal arts education is learning about subjects outside of your major and using this knowledge to help you relate to people from all different backgrounds. Alma College offers many programs in different countries, and any major can go overseas for at least a term if they plan to take distributive requirements or languages over there. Courses that I took in Austria

and Scotland were comparable to similar courses at Alma in work and level of difficulty. Financial aid and most scholarships transfer, so financially it is just as affordable as a term at Alma.

There is really no reason not to take advantage of what the International Office has to offer students here, and the benefits of a term overseas are tremendous. I encourage all students to spend time in a foreign country or at a different university in the United States to gain an understanding of people from different backgrounds, grow in self-confidence and independence, and gain an understanding of our country and our culture.

'Blue Steel' guaranteed to be fast paced action thriller

By Jennifer Bork  
Staff Writer

Thump thump. Thump thump. With a pounding heart, clenched fists, and gritted teeth I was captivated by the movie "Blue Steel." This fast-paced cop story was suspenseful, exciting, and coherent.

Jamie Lee Curtis portrays a tough, aggressive, rookie cop, Megan Turner ends up being the obsession of a psycho-killer. Along with the everyday turmoil of being a New York City police officer, she struggles with the fact that her father beats her mother and with the

negative attitude men have towards women cops. Eugene Hunt, played by Ron Silver, is an affluent trader on the New York Stock Exchange who witnesses Megan shooting an armed burglar. Fascinated by her strength and ability to kill, he somehow views the two of them together, as kindred souls. Hunt begins murdering people and considering it somewhat of a sacrifice to her. To make matters more complex, Eugene and Megan date each other until she suspects him of the murders. Tension builds as Curtis and her partner Ted, (Clancy Brown), are confronted by many eerie circumstances in their

desperate search for substantial evidence.

The only difficulty I had with this film was that the audience never really discovers what is the matter with Eugene. Breaking out in bouts of intense, sweaty, shaking he would claim to hear voices, although I had no idea what they were saying. He seemed mesmerized by the glint of the gun and felt that death was the ultimate achievement. Other than this slight mental disorder, he carried on a routine day to day life.

During one of his dates with Megan, his obsession for her and lack of concern for others is re-

vealed. While viewing the city from a helicopter he states, "You can barely see the people on the sidewalk, it's as if they're not even there and you and I are in our own private world." This scene from the sky is flashed again, later in the movie which helps to keep the plot connected. Interestingly enough, Megan dreams that she is falling out of the helicopter as Eugene watches—perhaps foreshadowing the future of their relationship.

Jamie Lee Curtis should be commended for her fine performance. The combination of curiosity, adventure, independence, and sexiness seem to be the perfect

recipe for Megan Turner. Her casual and rather unbecoming style of dress accentuate the character she is playing. At times she seems almost larger than life, such as the final encounter and chase between Eugene and Turner; but it is not pushed beyond the limit of believability.

The music and sound effects sent shivers up my spine as I grasped my seat in terror. The plot took many twists and turns, but never lost me in the process. I was thrilled throughout the entire film, and left the theater with wide eyes and white knuckles!

CREATIVE CORNER

By Shannon Smith

Growing Up on Torch Lake

The summer I was five years old, I kissed Grandma on the cheek, waited for the adults to "catch-up", and finally was allowed to go to the beach. I couldn't run on the dock, or go into the water without my mother.

At eight, I learned that wearing your swim suit under your clothes made the process go faster. I could go down to the lake by myself, but not into the water "without an adult present."

When I was ten, my mother came out of the water with a long liver-colored sea worm attached to her leg. She called it a "blood sucker" and I knew then the horrible way in which the creature survived. I learned to watch for them and small white crabs.

At the age of fifteen, I discovered that the water was cold. I wanted a boat and water-skis and a tan like the girl in the Diet-Pepsi commercial.

Difficult lessons learned through the eyes of children

By Melissa Eveleth  
Staff Writer

Carried away by the Chapel sermon I had just received on the subject of serving others, I found the perfect opportunity to do so when the announcement was made that the Presbyterian Church needed a babysitter. It was made clear that it was only for one hour a week and someone else, a "grandmother" as it was described, would be helping out. The conditions didn't matter much to me because I was "moved by the spirit of volunteerism."

As the week progressed farther from Sunday and closer to Wednesday morning, I wondered what I had gotten myself into. Little did I know it would be more than just keeping a group of incorrigible youth under control.

Ironically enough, I found out that a pack of kids could teach me more lessons than I could ever impose upon them. They did it so slyly I didn't even know what they were doing until my lesson was almost over. The gist of their message was simple: The more you know, the less you know. Remember to be pure of heart, with child-like innocence, lest you forget the important things in life.

Here's a little background on the

kids who taught me such profound things. First, there's Michael, the baby, who tests the importance of everything by one of two criteria-its chewability and its hurlability.

Then there's Erin, "the destroyer," as she can be so affectionately called. Whenever Erin sees anyone laboriously building anything (which she can spot 10 miles away) she gets that shifty Jack Nicholson look in her eyes, crouches, gets a good speed up, and, throwing her whole body into it, leaps gracefully into the project. In one swift move she destroys any evidence that anything was ever there, and removes everything in her path. When the occasion calls for it, she'll even knock over a kid or two, just to show them who's territory it is.

When Erin gets talked to by the grandmother who's on duty (I wouldn't know what to say-I was the same way when I was a kid), I get more out of it than she does, since she's knocking down kids again within two minutes. The grandmothers words to Erin, "You wouldn't want someone to do that to you, would you?" translate in my mind into, "Keep from hurting others as much as is in your power to do so." Something we often forget when we pursue our own desires.

There's Katie, who is a constant

reminder that silence really can be a virtue. She has a good time playing alone or with the group, and I think there's a hidden lesson in there somewhere. When playing games, she loves acknowledgement but is just as happy being a spectator. Competition isn't for everyone, I guess.

Kimmy is the one that you can't understand a word of, but although she can get very frustrated, she never gives up trying to get across what she wants to say. This shows me that even little things, which may seem insignificant, are very important to the person expressing them.

Lastly, although all of them mean a great deal to me, I do have my favorites. They are Wilson and Elizabeth, brother and sister, and they never fail to make me smile. Aside from being cute and outrageously funny, they also have a way of adding an air of reality to things. They're both intelligent and comprehend what's going on around them. For example, Wilson was telling me one day about his loose tooth and the money he receives from the tooth fairy. He told me how he got a dollar for each one he lost, while explaining that he used to get less. Talking to me in a very straightforward manner, he said, "I think the nickel and dime days are over."

Something I always wished I had the

guts to say to my employers but never could.

He also brought me back to the basics of perserverence when one day, as we were building with the blocks, they fell over for no apparent reason. He soberly described his philosophy on the matter. Whenever this kind of thing happens, he just says, "Let's build them back up again."

These two alone have taught me a lot about originality, consideration, and compassion in general. They taught me to always be willing to give someone a hug when they ask, and many times even when they don't. All of these children have taught me about sharing, not only of material things (like when I want to say, "Get your hands off of my puzzle-go get your own), but also of myself. Along with this goes creativity without inhibition, and the fact that although everything isn't always as neat and organized as you would like it to be, with the right combination of individuals, you can work together to find some common ground.

Above all, when I find myself becoming confused about my own morality, I look to these or any other children, because through them and their lessons in the basics, I find it again.



Editorial

The Almanian encourages diversity efforts

Diversity, as defined by Webster's Dictionary, means varied and unlike. To be diverse is to be different—to change—and that is precisely what Alma College is currently undertaking in its attempts to raise minority enrollment in order to ensure a more ethnically diverse campus.

Alma President Alan J. Stone's five-year plan calls for just this through the infiltration of more minorities into the predominantly white student mainstream. After months of discussion, the plan is finally in motion and *The Almanian* would like to commend the positive steps which have recently taken place in order for the diversity process to finally begin.

Examples of this are evident in the minority recruits touring campus almost daily and even last Friday's all-campus dance, which drew a diverse group of people. But perhaps the most positive step thus far in the college's quest for diversification was the Stillman College choir concert which took place in Dunning Memorial Chapel last week. That event, probably more so than anything else, really set the wheels of diversity in motion through the excellent performances given by the Stillman college students.

*The Almanian* then wishes to applaud the choir's performance and to also recommend that similar events take place in the future. If Alma College wishes to diversify, then surely well-received events such as the Stillman concert are among the most appropriate vehicles with which to open up people's minds to newer, more different channels.

Letter to the Editor:

Black History Month passes unnoticed

To the editor:

I just wish to express how dissatisfied I was with the amount of recognition given to February as Black History Month on this campus. National Condom Week got more attention from the student body. I saw only *one* solitary display tucked neatly away in the library. I saw *one* sign placed in the window at the book store. I saw only *one* article written by one liberated, informed and sensitive soul representing a sparse number of cognizant students on this. I saw no other articles, signs, or posters relating the fact that it was Black History Month. I saw no assemblies or speakers relating the importance of black history. I know of several other schools which gave this month the recognition that it should have had here.

What I want to know is, why has not this "learning institution" done the same? People claim that they want to diversify this school. Why then are they apathetic to the simple task of recognizing Black History Month? Why is not more being done to educate people about the achievements, the contributions, the history of the black race? Is bringing such things into light too burdensome or menial a task for this institution? Is this school *genuinely* concerned with the diversification of this campus?

I once ran into a young man who complained that there should not be a Black History Month. He felt black history was covered sufficiently in history class. He also felt (as stated a previous writer for *The Almanian* in the Nov. 7 issue) that making distinctions between the races was racist.

I agree that there should not *have to* be a Black History Month, but because of the past and present of America—the loss of individuals and their insistence upon imposing ignorant generalities, stereotypes and beliefs on society—Black History Month has been instituted. Because of the ineffectiveness of history books relating known black history, because of the unimportance placed on the accomplishments made by blacks and the manner in which this country continues to bury and degrade blacks and their history, Black History Month *has to* be instituted in the hope of changing and brightening the future—the lives and interactions among blacks and whites through attempting to educate the masses.

There is nothing wrong with making distinctions between the races. There is nothing wrong with noting cultural differences and making an effort to understand or learn from these differences as long as one does not try to use these differences to point out the superiority of one group over the other. What I feel is wrong is to ignore these differences, and to be apathetic of individuality and the importance of each culture.

With the cries of certain students who state that diversifying this campus would lower the standards and quality of this school, I think Alma is making a detrimental choice by overlooking Black History Month. Maybe if students realized the important roles blacks have played in America, these students would not make such unfounded statements. Are these students aware of the contributions Blacks have made to American society? The accomplishments are too numerous to mention. The dedication of one month out of the year is not asking too much although it will never compensate for the 250 years of slavery or sufficiently recognize the black race for their accomplishments and contributions to this country.

The overall apathetic attitude of this campus is discouraging and very aggravating at times; fortunately, I do know that there are a few people who are not apathetic and who are genuinely interested in what is going on.

If this letter provokes some people to anger or causes some to question the state of affairs at this school, then the letter has fulfilled its intended purpose. Wake up and smell the coffee! Life is not only about you. It is about you and everyone else around you.

Sincerely,  
Eunice Rowe

The ALMANIAN Letter Policy

All Letters to the Editor must meet the following standards for publication: The letter must be signed and include the Author's campus phone number and address; it must be pertinent to the Alma College community as a whole and relate to the ALMANIAN in some manner, and it must be received by 5 PM the Friday before requested publication. Address letters to;

The Editorial Board,  
The ALMANIAN,  
Newberry Basement,  
Alma College,  
Alma, MI 48801

Pattison disappointed by stereotyping

By Dr. Eugene Pattison  
Chairman, English Dept.

In recent weeks *The Almanian's* columns (as summarized last week by my colleague Dr. Palmer) have shown that we may grapple with important issues through reasoning, disputation, and, Dr. Palmer adds, creative thinking. I would like to make some modest applications of these principles.

In many instances, I think, we do not face current issues squarely because we do not use the creativity of memory, or because we do not recognize the plethora of stereotypes that shape our responses. My examples may not be very profound, but I think they are significant on this campus.

Take, for instance, the now nearly forgotten flap over the Confederate flag at runouts, and the *Morning Sun's* contrasting news of Zeta Sigmas early morning salutes to the American flag. In that case one symbolic act may have attenuated the symbolism of the other, yet using earlier memories might yield praise to the same fraternity for a 1971 action in dropping a national affiliation that once required exclusion of all but white males. One might note among their brothers of the 1970's a black student from Grand Rapids, active in the jazz band and on *The Almanian* staff. Those memories could be a more vital tradition than a flag-wearing custom that did not exist five years ago.

Memory, with the Greeks, would also remind us that once as

"literary societies" they debated public issues that were not discussed in traditional classes, so that the *Alma Record* could say "The Zeta Sigmas" (or the Alpha Thetas) "are doing good work." Memory would tell us of hosts of trophies for academically and socially outstanding senior work that went to Greeks, a memory could remain at least as potent as pouting over the new midterm eligibility rule.

The flag case might also remind us that some accusations that fly between students may arise from failure or rejection. Without wanting to deny the seriousness of concern over date rape, consider some old occasions: in Biblical times Jacob's son Joseph resisted the advances of Potiphar's wife, and found himself accused of harassment or "insult," and was put into prison. In a Greek tragedy frequently readapted, Hippolytus resisted advances from his stepmother Phaedra, and finally paid with his life. "Hell hath no fury like someone scorned," the adage runs (without its original chauvinism); how often in a setting like this is the use of accusation a tool of revenge from failure, when we have not learned to cope with our failures?

It intrigues me as a longtime member of this community, too, how often *stereotypes*, also sometimes fed by revenge, conveniently blind us to virtues of individuals or lead to a whole variety of bigotries. One such may be a prejudice about physical size or weight that comes out in shots about "Saga 15 pounds" taken near Hamilton's ice cream

machine. Another may be the word "animal" flung near someone who later ridicules dessert eaters, and who is seen as "out of his place" when being helped by a professor at a faculty office bay computer, because of his physical size.

Or the stereotype that blinds may be something besides race, gender, or size. In Greek-letter terms, it may be recognized by the name of "Tri-Beta." I am not referring to the very honorable biology society that fosters that academic discipline and sells cider and plants gardens to surprise the campus. Instead I mean an *imagined* Tri-Beta whose letters are taken to stand for "Booze, Broads, and Balls." That label, derisively hurled as insult or worn as a badge of defiance, reduces that values of social fraternities to the alcoholism, sexism and hazing that many nationals are now trying to eliminate. To that attempt, remember that a year ago we were saying we didn't need those programs at Alma, because "we didn't have a problem." Well, if so, why newspaper the windows or hold late night events in remote locations?

To counter *that* Tri-Beta, I propose a third "Tri-Beta," which I would call "Beware Behavior-Bigots" to remind us that we often create what we expect, that if we fear our own greed or our own aggressiveness or lust, or our own slovenliness, we look for these traits to reject in others and deny them in ourselves.

A few years ago, a student upset over plans for Meyer House and a fraternity corporation's cash outlay

to furnish it, asked "Why would you spend \$10,000 on furniture when they'll only wreck it anyway?" Yet if that student refused to do homework and flunked out, how much tuition money would be wasted? Could that student have recognized within the long tradition of those so stereotyped, two talented members of Orchesis, eighteen years apart in college? A skilled biological illustrator who just exhibited his work in Clack? An able counselor in alcohol abuse? Stereotypes and prejudices would have prevented one from seeing those members of a group!

Also, what do we lose by the labeling that calls faculty over 50 "old geezers" or faculty under 30 "young squirts," or that may have slandered someone into early retirement or, cooped up and cooing in a residence hall dovecote, muttered attempts to seek the dismissal of a strict teacher? Age discrimination denies abilities that may already be emerging in young and exciting promoters of new ideas or that may yet reside in the enthusiasms of older faculty. What does such discrimination cost the campus in lost opportunities to profit from diverse talents?

What we need on a college campus, it seems to me, is the capacity for memory that gives credit to old tolerance and encourages its perpetuation, and the openmindedness to see beyond the stereotypes that harden individual lives into shapes that stifle awareness of capacities for growth and rarer talent.

Buchanan questions tuition raise

David Buchanan  
Staff Writer

Every year Alma College students witness an increase in tuition. Without a doubt, students here can count on paying more each fall to attend this fine institution. It happens every year. In the February 20 issue of *The Almanian*, I read that once again our Board of Trustees approved a tuition increase of 7.67% for the 1990-91 school year, thus boosting the grand total to a whopping \$13, 478!

Along with the tuition increase each year also comes criticism and signs of frustration from virtually all students. Everyone always complains that school costs too much or asks why our education must be so

expensive and wonders how they are going to fund the additional amount. An increase in tuition, according to several enlightened students and faculty, is the result of an increase in the budget. Accounts receivable

those that pay for the education satisfied, but also forces the college to operate more efficiently. I can not believe that the 1990-91 budget has been trimmed as much as possible. If it had, then we probably would

Why must the college officials relentlessly increase tuition? Because they can.

--Dave Buchanan

must be increased to account for the increase in expenditures, in order to have a balanced budget. This seems wrong to me. It appears that the first logical step to balancing a budget would be to make several spending cuts in order to try to make the budget smaller. This not only keeps

would be furious with their representatives in council and with the city executives. Most likely that would result in several city officials jobless and a budget without a large tax increase the following year.

Why must the college officials relentlessly increase tuition? Because they can. It is difficult to tighten a budget when it is so easy to raise the cost to attend and have the students foot the bill.

Maybe the budget for Alma College is as trim as it possibly can be and the college officials have been as frugal as possible. That may very well be true. This just does not seem possible considering the fact that students have seen tuition hikes of seven and nearly eight percent during each of the past several years.

White questions Springterm classes effectiveness

By Amy White  
Staff Writer

In the hot sweltering sun, several bodies lay from goal post to goal post. Frisbees and footballs fly over our heads like birds. We hear WIOG playing those famous warm weather tunes in the background. As the sun goes down the ice cold beer comes

up. If it's not to the bar in shorts and a tank you go, then it's to a party on campus. Turn off the brain and turn on the tap. These are all visions we have of Spring Term, but for some, these are only dreams.

The Spring Term curriculum is comprised of a variety of courses from English to Accounting. The range of difficulty in classes runs the gamut. Some students need only to appear in class, asleep or awake, to receive a passing grade. Others are required to labor long and hard in order to attain a good grade.

I believe the students who decide to enroll in an upper level course such as Business are placing themselves at a grave disadvantage. Courses such as Accounting and Advertising, which normally require 14 weeks of intense studying cannot possibly be properly taught in four weeks. Students who endeavor to take such a course may not see the light of day during Spring Term and are in constant frenzy, worrying from one test to the next.

I feel Alma should look into

broadening the Spring Term curriculum. I realize that Spring Term does give some students the opportunity to take classes for their major but if they're being cheated out of a proper education in that subject how will that help them in their field of study?

If Alma claims to be such a "liberal arts" college, then why not use Spring Term as a time to offer more liberal courses. Alma does offer some great classes that provides its students with an opportunity to broaden their horizons during Spring Term. You may travel to places such as Jamaica, New York, and London, but these courses are exclusive and expensive. Students who attend Alma already pay enough money without paying another thousand dollars to study elsewhere for 3 weeks. Alma could also consider offering classes that incorporate the warm weather and nature into their study. It is a proven fact that for most people warm weather and sunshine is a natural motivator.

Not all upper level courses are impossible to teach during a four week span. However, I do believe that intense courses which normally require two hours of study a night during a fourteen week period will be double during Spring Term.

I realize that I am depicting Spring Term as a total party from the time we get up until the time we pass out, but I have done so only to make a point. The point being that we need to find a happy medium between work and play.

We are here to get an education, but when the system works against us it is virtually impossible to fight back. It is difficult to stay focused on a book all day long when you could be lying out in the sun, playing ball, throwing a frisbee, or swimming. We must work with the college to achieve a broadened and fair Spring Term curriculum, and by doing so we will all benefit. Remember; sun, beer, and biochem in moderation.